

Yonkers Rising

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Friday April 30, 2021

Yonkers Student Excellence: Val-Sal Lincoln High School



Lincoln High School Valedictorian Kleanthis Plakas, right, and Salutatorian Ledia Hoxhaj

By Dan Murphy

Each year, Yonkers Rising is proud to report on the student excellence in Yonkers High Schools by highlighting the Valedictorian and Salutatorian from each HS. The past year has been a challenge for students during COVID, but please enjoy and appreciate the hard work and effort of these students.

Meet the Valedictorian and Salutatorian from Lincoln High School. Kleanthis Plakas is the Valedictorian and will graduate with a 98.91 GPA. He was a member of the National Honor Society, Science National, Honor Society, English National Honor Society, History National Honor Society, Math National Honor Society Treasurer, and played trombone in the School Band.

Extracurricular activities include School Band, Chess Club, Volunteered at Sunrise of Crestwood Senior Living. Academic achievements include the Superintendent's Honor Society Club 90, High Honor Roll and Principal's List 2017-2021.

Kleanthis' favorite teachers are: Emmanuel Tchanguou (Pre-Calculus), Kumari Johal (Chemistry), Steven Mulqueen (Finance). He will have completed 7 AP course upon graduation. Accepted into 8 colleges, including Rochester Institute of Technology, RIT, Plakas will be attending Manhattanville College in the fall. His older brother also attends Manhattanville.

Dr. Plakas could certainly be in the future of this young man, as he plans to student biochemistry and become a pharmaceutical scientist, with a love of science and labs.

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Yonkers Police Make Arrest in Fatal Stabbing of Store Owner Over a Baseball Hat



Ruben Martinez-Campos

On Tuesday, April 20th, 2021 at approximately 5:40 PM, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to 240 New Main Street at the Premier Fashion clothing store on a report of a stabbing incident with the victim at scene and the suspect having fled on foot. First Responders located the male victim with apparent stab wounds to his chest and rendered medical aid; he was transported to a local area trauma center where he ultimately died of his injuries. The victim is identified as Ruben Martinez-Campos, a 47-year-old resident of New Main Street, Yonkers.

At the same time, police officers began canvassing for the suspect and cordoned-off the crime scene. A criminal investigation was initiated. Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Digital Forensics Unit responded to the scene to interview subjects and witnesses, process physical evidence, and recover surveillance video.

Investigation has yielded that the male suspect was involved in a physical altercation on New Main Street with a local cab driver; the suspect then entered the Premier Fashion clothing store and allegedly attempted to steal a baseball cap; he was then approached by the store owner who attempted to stop him; an altercation ensued outside the store on New Main Street when the suspect allegedly stabbed the store owner in the chest more than once and fled the scene.

Detectives quickly developed information identifying a person of interest. Within 24-hours of the incident, investigators located the suspect in the village of Elmsford yesterday morning and placed him into custody without incident.

The suspect is identified as Tyrese L. Shubrick, a 21-year-old resident of Yonkers Avenue in this City. Shubrick was booked on one charge of Manslaughter 1, a Class B Violent Felony in the New York State Penal Law; he is scheduled to be arraigned later today.

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A Great Primary Contest as Three Democrats Run for County Board



Yonkers Democrats London Reyes, and Virginia Perez hope to defeat County Legislator Jose Alvarado on June 22

By Dan Murphy

Three democrats are running in the June 22 primary for the county board of legislators in District 17, Southwest Yonkers. Two of the candidates have already served on the county board: Legislator Jose Alvarado is the incumbent seeking re-election and former Legislator Virginia Perez is looking to return to White Plains.

The third candidate is community activist London Reyes, who came within 300 votes from winning this county board race two years ago. Reyes points out that, "For the past 20 years, this district has been represented by two people on the county board, Virginia Perez and Jose Alvarado. I ask the people, are you satisfied, or do you want to make a change?"

Legislator Alvarado has been out and about, working hard trying to win the primary and win re-election. In 2011, Alvarado lost to Virginia Perez. Perez served for 7 years on the county board before stepping down in the middle of her term to start up an online pet supplies company. Alvarado then took back his county board seat where he continues to serve.

Perez is said to be knocking on doors and actively campaigning but has not publicly made a statement kicking off her campaign, and she has not created any kind of campaign social media account. All of this had many Yonkers democrats scratching their heads.

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City Council Votes 4-3 in Favor of Reparations



By Dan Murphy

The Yonkers City Council voted 4-3 in favor of a resolution that supports efforts in Washington DC to study Reparations proposals for African-Americans, at their meeting on April 27.

HR 40 in the US House of Representatives would recommend appropriate remedies for slavery, and is meant to memorialize the promise made by Union General William Sherman in 1865 to redistribute land to former slaves, also known as 40-acres and a mule.

Councilwoman Shanae Williams said, "it is so important for us on the local level to stand in support of our congressional representatives who support this. Its not going to do anything jmore than provide a study and find if reparations are a good step. My constituents support this."

Minority Leader Mike Breen voted no, explaining, "My ancestors had no part in slavery and 364,000 union soldiers died in the war to end slavery. Some think that this number of casualties is not enough. Perhaps the democratic party should pay for reparations. I think we should just move on."

Councilman John Rubbo was the only democrat to vote no. "While I do agree with the establishment of a commission, what I don't support is the redistribution of property. I do not agree with all of HR 40 and for that reason I will be voting no."

Majority Leader Corazon Pineda-Issac said, "I think that especially given the rise of white supremacy and active racism in our country and the history of slavery and Jim Crow and the structural racism that still exists in our socitey, i think esp given the rise of whie suprem and active racism , I support this. American has never attoned for the lingering affects of slavery. Its America's biggest sin.

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City of Yonkers Partners with Sustainable Westchester & Groundwork Hudson Valley to Launch Solar Initiative



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Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the City of Yonkers is launching an outreach initiative, in partnership with nonprofits Sustainable Westchester and Groundwork Hudson Valley, to bring the benefits of Community Solar to Yonkers residents. Five new Community Solar projects - the first of their kind in the city - are being constructed by solar developer, G&S Solar, on buildings owned by Robert Martin Company in the Executive Boulevard Area.

The initiative provides benefits for Yonkers residents as Community Solar offers savings of up to 10% off electricity bills while greening the local electricity supply. Promotion of the program by the City of Yonkers, in partnership with Sustainable Westchester, will prompt the development of more Yonkers-based solar facilities and will aid in the state's ambitious climate goals to triple solar energy production by 2025.

Groundwork Hudson Valley, also part of this effort, is engaging its youth conservation employment program, the Green Team (comprised of Yonkers public high school students) to engage and educate residents about the benefits of renewable energy and to offer enrollment opportunities for financial savings. Sustainable Westchester has already enrolled the Municipal Housing Authority of the City of Yonkers (MHACY) in Community Solar.

"Renewable energy sources like solar continue to be on the rise in Yonkers and this Community Solar project leverages the city's commitment to further greening our energy supply," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "Thank you to Sustainable Westchester and our partners Robert Martin Company and G&S Solar for supporting our efforts to build a more sustainable city while providing savings to Yonkers residents."

"We are proud to bring Community Solar to Yonkers. Community Solar makes the benefits of solar available to everyone - not just to homeowners who can afford solar installations on their own homes," said Nina Orville, Executive Director of Sustainable Westchester. "We are thrilled to collaborate with the City of Yonkers, the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers and Groundwork Hudson Valley to encourage Yonkers residents to take advantage of the opportunity to save money while supporting local renewable energy. We're so pleased to partner with G&S Solar and the Robert Martin Company in this effort."

Westchester residents, houses of worship, eligible organizations, and small businesses can save up to 10% on their electric bills each month by enrolling in Sustainable Westchester's community solar program. Residents who already have solar on their property are not eligible for Community Solar. Con Edison customers throughout the county are eligible and can learn more at www.SustainableWestchester.org/Solar or by calling 914-242-4725 ext. 112.

On March 9, The City Council adopted legislation that allows Yonkers to join Sustainable Westchester's renewable electricity supply program, Westchester Power. Westchester Power will allow residents to source renewable electricity supply at a competitive fixed rate and is complementary with community solar. When residents participate in both, they double their support for renewable energy while benefiting from the savings that Community Solar offers.

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Westchester County Parks Prepare To Open: New Parks Pass Offered



Westchester County Parks are Beginning to Reopen for the 2021 Season. Beginning Memorial Day: Playland Beach will be open during weekends through June 25th, and will be open seven days a week after June 25th.

Croton Point Beach will be open during weekends through June 25th will be open Wednesday-Saturday after June 25th

Beginning June 25: Saxon Woods, Tibbets Brook, and Wilson Woods Parks will be open seven days a week

Playland Park will reopen to the public beginning June 26th, and will be open as follows: Wednesday to Sunday between 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The 2021 summer season will run from June 25th to Labor Day. Park reservations are recommended the day of, as park capacity will be 25%. Please note that Playland Pool will be closed for renovation until Summer 2022.

Westchester County has also launched a new park pass. With the same great benefits as before, the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation has redesigned its classic park pass to improve branding and generate repeat business.

Park passes are now full color, feature the Parks' logo, and include a traditional credit card-sized pass as well as a smaller card that can be attached to a key chain. Both cards include a barcode, which identifies the user. While there is no photo on the card, the user's photo, account number and information will appear on screen when scanned at park entrances.

Park passes can be purchased at the following locations:

Blue Mountain Reservation, Cortlandt Manor

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson

Dunwoodie Golf Course, Yonkers

Hudson Hills Golf Course, Ossining

Maple Moor Golf Course, White Plains

Mohansic Golf Course, Yorktown Heights

Saxon Woods Golf Course, Scarsdale

Sprain Lake Golf Course, Yonkers

Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River

Westchester County Parks Department, Ardsley

Park passes are valid for three years and can be purchased for \$90 by Westchester County residents over the age of 18. Junior park passes are available for those age 12 to 17, for the same price, with additional rules surrounding guests. Senior citizen park passes for those over age 60 are valid for six years.

Westchester County park passes entitle holders access to the tennis courts at Tibbets Brook Park in Yonkers and all County pools and beaches. They also provide discounts for camping, boat launching, picnicking, golfing and parking where fees apply, except for at Playland.

Valid park passes will still be honored and should be replaced with the new card upon expiration. For more information, visit <https://parks.westchestergov.com/park-passes>.

So Much to Chat About!



By Eric W. Schoen

There is so much going on in the news that we will explore this week. Some good, some bad, some truly sad!

Our country has come to the point where we have to screen members of Congress before they enter the House chamber? The No. 3 House Democratic leader, Rep. Jim Clyburn, has been fined \$5,000 after Capitol Police reported he avoided being screened before entering the House chamber, the House Ethics Committee said last Friday.

The 80 year old South Carolina congressman is serving his 15th term in the House. He is the first Democrat to be fined under security screening rules the House imposed this year after the violent Jan. 6 storming of the Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump. Three Republicans have been fined, most recently Kentucky Rep. Harold Rogers, who is 83 and has also appealed. Clyburn's fine, which he is appealing is \$5000.

If our elected officials have to go through this screening, imagine the screening you and I will have to go through if we want to go to their respective offices and greet them or lobby them in person on issues important to us?

As we go to press, a Queens highway cop diverting traffic from a fatal Long Island Expressway crash was run down and killed early Tuesday by a drunken hit-and-run driver with a suspended license. NYPD Highway Officer Anastasios Tsakos, 43, was directing cars away from a single-car crash near Francis Lewis Blvd. in the eastbound lanes when he was struck "head on" by a passing red Volkswagen Passat.

By the way, the driver of the single-car crash also had a suspended license. One person in that car was killed. Do we really think that with the legalization of recreational marijuana things are going to get better on our roadways. Tsakos leaves behind a wife and 2 children. We pray for them.

People have been driving crazy on our roads particularly since the start of the pandemic. If you are doing the speed limit chances are you will be honked at by the driver behind you who will also flash their lights. With more people going back to work driving their cars this crazy behavior better stop or we are bound to see more senseless tragedy.

89 people short on the Census and New York will now lose a Congressional seat. This as a result of national population shifts according to census data released Monday. The loss might have been avoided if just a few dozen more people in the state had been counted!

New York's population grew by more than 4% over the past decade, according to the 2020 census figures, but that increase didn't keep pace with larger gains in other parts of the country. If just 89 more people had been counted in New York, and no other states counted more residents, it would have held on to all 27 of its current seats in congress, according to Kristin Koslap, senior technical expert for 2020 Census Apportionment.

According to the person who ran New York's Census operation, President Trump is to blame for closing down Census operations 2 weeks early and Governor Andrew Cuomo is also to blame for not providing promised funding for census operations. Well, here we go again! Another investigation! When does it stop?

Plenty of Covid vaccine and only 43% of Americans have received a dosage. And of those who received Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, 5 million people didn't go back for the second dose. Those in the know are saying that people are fearful of the supposed bad reactions that people have had to the second dose.

One dose will give you some coverage but you really need the two doses of Pfizer and Moderna and to wait two weeks until after your second dose to be fully covered. Didn't we see and hear of all those people who died when there was no vaccine available. And now because of the fear of a slight reaction that a friend of a friend had people are afraid to get fully vaccinated! Makes no sense to me.

By the way, 8 million people received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine before the pause which is now over. Of the 8 million people, 15 people developed the blood clotting conditions and 3 have died. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, the Death rate is 869.7 deaths per 100,000 population every year in our country. You don't want to see anyone die, but 3 out of 8 million is certainly not a reason why you shouldn't get the needle with the Johnson and Johnson vaccine in your arm! And with Johnson and Johnson you get 1 needle not two!

The Yonkers Office for the Aging (914-377-6822) and Scarsdale Am-

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Four Yonkers County Legislators Split on Playland Settlement



“Public parks don’t have to make money.”

-Legislator Damon Maher

By Dan Murphy

On April 12, The Westchester County Board of Legislators, by a vote of 13-4, approved a bankruptcy court settlement with Standard Amusements over the future management of Playland, the county owned, and taxpayer funded amusement park.

Five years ago, former County Executive Rob Astorino proposed a public private partnership for Playland. Standard Amusements was chosen to be the manager-operator in 2015, but lawsuits and a bankruptcy filing by Standard stretched out the transfer of power.

The current County Executive, George Latimer, elected in 2017, sought ways to get Westchester County out of the Playland agreement with

Standard, citing failure to comply with a number of requirements. Standard sought federal bankruptcy protection to enforce the 2016 contract, but the judge urged both sides to negotiate an amended agreement.

The settlement agreement gives Westchester County more protections, oversight and better financial terms. That agreement was approved by the County Board but not without objection by four legislators who wanted more discussions, negotiations and what they see as required approval by NY State government over the transfer of parkland.

Westchester County and its taxpayers will now share in any profits over \$12 Million, and if Standard cannot generate at least \$12 million in gross revenue per year for four straight years, the County may terminate the contract.

Standard Amusements will begin management at Playland starting in December of 2021, so this summer families can enjoy Playland as it always has been operated, as a Westchester County run park.

Those who voted for the agreement did so with the understanding that this was the best of two unpopular choices: to come to the best agreement for the county or continue the fight in court and in Albany.

Legislator Jose Alvarado, a former Chair of the BOL Parks Committee, voiced his uneasiness over the vote, but he expressed his hope that Standard could work with the County and perform in a manner that would elevate the park, considering the bickering of the recent past. “The legislation before us is the result of an unfortunate set of circumstances. In my heart, I believe it was a serious mistake for the previous administration to abandon its responsibilities to Playland by outsourcing its management. After all, let’s not forget the County has managed and cared for Playland for some 92 years. During the course of that time, Playland has created magic for millions of children and their families while establishing lifetime memories. Under the County’s care, Playland has been an award-winning park, famous throughout the country and the industry.

“The 2016 management agreement was not a good one for the park in terms of County input and involvement, as well as in other areas. I applaud our current County Executive George Latimer’s efforts to forge a new path. Despite his best efforts, that path led to bankruptcy court. That court now brings us here. While I still believe we should not be outsourcing management of Playland, I recognize that due to the legal proceedings we have no choice. In fact, failure to vote for this agreement will return us to the 2016 agreement, which we all know would be a giant step backwards. While I am not pleased by this, the only responsible thing to do is to vote ‘yes’ for the new agreement,” said Alvarado.

Legislator Ruth Walter said, “I do have lingering concerns. I’m very concerned about the numbers that were presented by our partners, and if they add up, including a 40% increase in attendance which as we heard today from the Mayor of Rye will increase parking and sewage and law enforcement costs to the city. I’m also concerned about protecting full time union jobs at the park. We also need to protect affordability at Playland for those families in Westchester who can’t afford to go to Disney.”

Legislator David Tubiolo said, “This has been quite the discussion, and now we can vote our peace and our mind.”

Legislator Christopher Johnson voted yes.

Maher raised a different point in the Playland debate, whether the State of NY has to approve the agreement because Playland is a county park. “Only the highest official, the State of New York, can give away or sell parkland. This kind of transaction needs to be approved by both houses of the state legislature and the Governor through an alienation of parkland. If you don’t ask for approval by the state, you open yourselves up to litigation and we have already spent \$6 Million in legal costs on this agreement for Playland,” said Maher.

“This may be the most important vote that any of us take. Playland is the Jewel in the Crown of Westchester Parks. How absurd would it be to have a 35-year exclusive lease with someone for another county park? What if this were happening at Memorial Field, or Scout Field, or the Hudson River Museum. Those are the terms of this agreement.

“Can we legally get out of this agreement? I don’t think we have explored it enough and the people of Westchester deserve that. The job of an equity firm is to make money for their investors, and that is not a great model for Playland. Public parks don’t have to make money,” said Maher.

Many Westchester residents on social media thanked County Executive George Latimer for his efforts to, at least, make the Playland settlement the best that it could be. Remember, that it was Latimer, upon taking office as County Executive, who cancelled the Playland agreement in 2019 that Astorino negotiated, only to be stymied by Standard’s legal maneuvers which included Bankruptcy protection. And that was the primary reason why 13 members of the county board voted for the settlement.

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Reparations, contnued from pg 1-

Councilmember Williams encouraged Rubbo to reconsider his no vote. “This is a necessity, to have a study so that we can discuss this. So many African-Americans had their properites taken from them. We have to look at that.”

Council President Mike Khader said, “I will be supporting this, and it has been a heavily discussed topic. This is only to approve a study, which will provide some raw data so that future conversations can be had.

Council President Khader, Majority Leader Pineda-Isaac, Councilmember Tasha Diaz and Councilmember Williams voted yes, with Minority Leader Breen Councilman Anthony Merante, and Councilman Rubbo voting no.

Yonkers Rising

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LSHV Thanks State Lawmakers for Investing in Civil Legal Services



Front Row l. to r.: Assemblymember Sayegh, Assemblymember Burdick, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, LSHV Board Vice President Fran Pantaleo, Senator Shelley Mayer, LSHV CEO Rachel Halperin; **Back Row l. to r.:** LSHV staff members Joanne Sirotkin, Alexandra Schweitzer, LSHV client Renee Campbell, LSHV Board members Paul Adler and Amber Juenegens, and Assemblymember Ken Zebrowski.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV), thanked State Lawmakers for their continued support in the recently passed State Budget and for recognizing the growing need for civil legal services in our communities.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins joined LSHV to announce the over \$2.6 million allocated in various contracts throughout the Hudson Valley in the recently enacted State Budget to provide free civil legal services.

The list of NYS funding:

- Disability Advocacy Project (DAP) – \$558,493
- Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP) – \$642,000/year for three years
- Legal Services Assistance Fund (LSAF) – \$151,667
- AIDS Institute – \$288,305
- OCFS Kinship Legal Project – \$92,400
- Westchester Eviction Prevention and Kinship Project – \$400,000
- Rockland Domestic Violence Project – \$90,000
- Veterans and Military Families Project – \$380,000 (\$50,000 increase for Westchester/Putnam)

LSHV is grateful to the State lawmakers who have recognized the critical need for civil legal services. Rachel Halperin, CEO, LSHV thanked those present and stated: "Our representatives have a deep understanding of the important role civil legal services played during the pandemic and the essential role it will play in our region's recovery." This funding from the State comes at a critical time as we face mounting need and support families in recovering from the past year. COVID hit the most vulnerable among us the hardest. Rachel continued: "By funding Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, our elected officials have shown that equal access to justice is a cornerstone of our democracy and our society. It is a wise investment in our communities and it puts people first."

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins announced: "The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted, more than ever before, the need for free legal services for low income residents. We thank the hardworking team of attorneys and staff at Legal Services for their commitment to ensuring more Hudson Valley residents have access to fair legal representation. The funding secured in the budget will help Legal Services continue to fight for our most vulnerable."

Senator Shelley Mayer said, "I am so pleased our enacted NYS budget provides much needed funding to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV). Too often low-income residents are in court fighting to maintain housing or secure benefits, and they must do so without representation and the knowledge and protection of their rights that representation provides. As we rebuild from the pandemic, LSHV's services will be more important than ever."

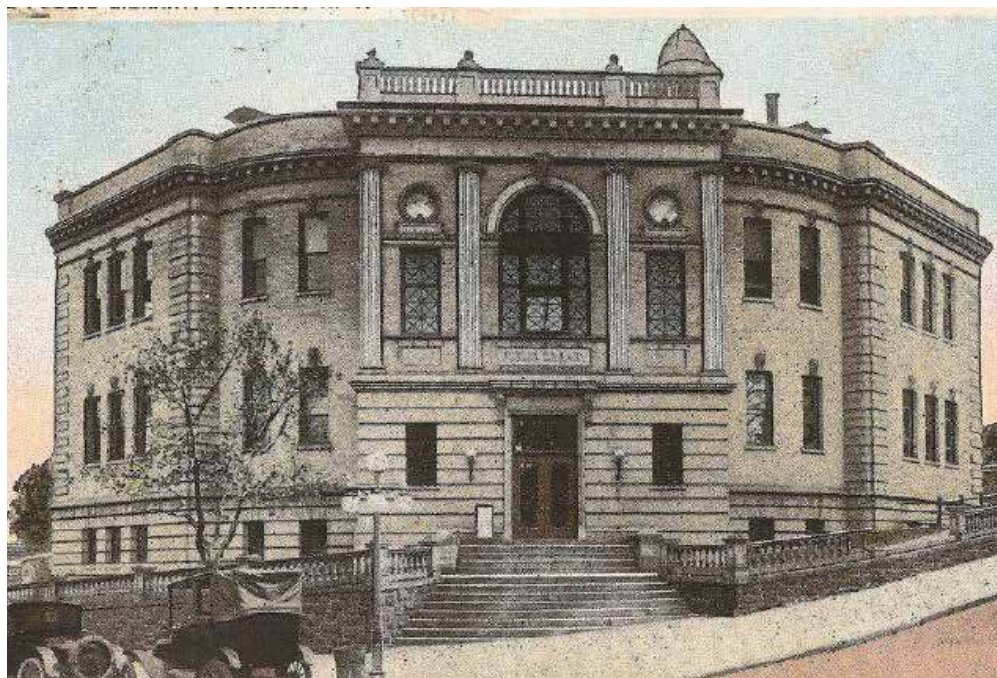
Individuals living paycheck to paycheck were unable to keep up and are now facing evictions, foreclosures, loss of benefits and health issues like never before. These funds will allow us to provide free civil legal services to the individuals living in crisis within our community. It supports the work we do with individuals and families who are disabled, living with AIDS, LGBTQ, veterans and military families. It supports individuals and families facing eviction, foreclosure, fighting for rights and protections in family court, and survivors of domestic violence. Overall, the funding supports LSHV's ongoing effort to seek legal equity throughout our region for all individuals. We recognize the tireless commitment of our NYS elected officials to those in greatest need and are grateful to them for securing this funding.

"I applaud Legal Services of the Hudson Valley for providing many of my constituents with critically needed legal assistance as the pandemic hit the most vulnerable in Yonkers," said Assemblyman Nader Sayegh. "I supported providing \$2.6 million in the State Budget for Legal Services of the Hudson Valley because the pandemic leaves so many living in crisis in Yonkers who desperately need legal services."

"Without Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, I could be homeless, on the street with no place to go. Legal Services does a job not all can do. There are so many people, just like myself, that could never afford to pay for an attorney to represent them and have nowhere else to turn. I am forever grateful," said LSHV client Renee Campbell.

For more information about Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, visit <https://www.lshv.org>.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



The Yonkers Carnegie Library, which was demolished

By Mary Hoar, 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, May 3rd

May 3, 1945: Dr. Lawrence Ashley, Director of the Yonkers Program of National Defense Vocational Education, announced the program closed because of "abrupt curtailment of funds." Ashley stated, "Thus ends a long period of training in which thousands of Yonkers citizens, as well as those of adjoining communities, were trained to participate in war industries production." He stressed two major results the program brought: bringing a monthly payroll of thousands of dollars to Yonkers, eliminating the need for relief, and gave people a new outlook on life, an outlook that would continue after the war. It more than accomplished its main goal of providing streams of workers to area war industries.

May 3, 1945: Three Yonkers girls took the top honors in the countywide American Legion Auxiliary essay contest. Danita Gill of Gorton High School authored the winning essay, Marion Hinkel of Sacred Heart High School received second prize, and Alicia Nowicki, also from Gorton, wrote the third place essay.

Tuesday, May 4th

May 4, 1916: The Common Council, for the first time in history, approved naming streets after Aldermen. They sanctioned the designation of Miller Street to recognize First Ward Alderman Charles Miller, and Blackford Avenue, designated to honor Seventh Ward Alderman John Blackford.

May 4, 1944: The Swedish liner Gripsholm anchored in the Hudson off Ludlow Street for several weeks. Chartered to sail to Barcelona to pick up seriously sick and wounded prisoners of war and to repatriate Americans who had been living in Germany, it was waiting for the clearance to leave US waters.

May 4, 1954: David Becker was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship in Fiction; a Yonkers High School graduate, Becker had the distinction of being one of the first Rotary International's Good Will Ambassadors, and spent a year in China on behalf of the organization.

Wednesday, May 5th

May 5, 1936: Mrs. Thomas Ewing, Jr., donated one hundred sets of encyclopedias to Yonkers Schools in memory of her husband; before his death, Thomas Ewing, Jr. was President of Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company.

May 5, 1936: Olga Petruzzi, representing the Italian-American Civic League, was elected as Recording Secretary of the Council of Yonkers Civic Associations, the first woman elected to be an officer.

May 5, 1956: Four Yonkers teens won four of the six top awards in the junior competition at the International Philatelic Exhibition held at the New York Coliseum. Barry Ettinger took first in Latin America group and Kenneth Florey, first in miscellaneous groupings. Martin Weisel took third in the Europe group and Carole Johnson won third place in the United States group.

Thursday, May 6th

May 6, 1923: Yonkers Police announced they avoided a riot in Getty Square by refusing to allow Captain Tudor Dimitrijevic, a former Captain in the Austrian Army, to speak at a meeting in Radford Hall; the meeting was to be sponsored by twenty Slavonian societies in Yonkers.

May 6, 1934: Edward Hart of Yonkers was one of 40 guests of President Franklin Roosevelt at the White House; the highlights of the gathering was the announcement of how much money was raised for infantile paralysis patients at the Warm Springs Foundation.

May 6, 1943: Former Councilman Robert Goodwillie, Chairman of the War Price and Rationing Board and Manager of the Yonkers plant of Otis Elevator, was elected "Outstanding Yonkers Man of 1942" by a special committee of judges.

continued on pg7-

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AGENDA FOR YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 AT 5:00 P.M. WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A MANNER PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR CUOMO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.1; IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.
PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV, THE DAY OF THE MEETING FOR LOG-IN AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

CONTINUED HEARINGS

5715 – Area Variance – Tom F. Abillama, R.A., on behalf of 1969 Central Park Avenue LLC, owner, on premises known as 1969 Central Park Avenue, Block: 4385, Lot: 206, Zone: BR (B19994)

#5716 – Improvement and Intensification of a Non-Conforming Use – Gibbons Engineering, PC, on behalf of 687 Nepperhan Corp, owner, on premises known as 687 Nepperhan Avenue, Block: 2420, Lot: 12, Zone: I (B22644) *pending revised BAR

5727 – Area Variance – Andrew Maniglia of Ginsburg Development, on behalf of Pier LLC 70, owner, on premises known as 70 Pier Street, Block: 146, Lot: 1.4, Zone: M (B24085)

5730 – Area Variance – James J. Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of 2700 Central Park Avenue Partners LLC, owner, on premises known as 2592 (2700) Central Park Avenue, Block: 4877, Lot: 60, Zone: BR (B24536)

5732 – Area Variance – Shahin Badaly, P.E., on behalf of Oluwatosin Shokeye, owner, on premises known as 45 Elizabeth Place, Block: 3075, Lot: 104, Zone: T (B22555)

5740– Area Variance – Janet J. Giris, Esq., Esq., on behalf of N Broadway LLC, owner, on premises known as 316 North Broadway & 315 Palisade Avenue, Block: 2155, Lot: 59 & 16, Zone: M (B22920)

5741– Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use & Area Variance – Jennifer Porter, Esq., on behalf of Silver Bell Company, owner, & JP Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., lessee, on premises known as 1222 Nepperhan Avenue, Block: 3182, Lot: 15, Zone: I (B22243)

5743– Area Variance – David Steinmetz, Esq., on behalf of Miroza Tower LLC, owner, on premises known as 40 aka 44 Hudson Street, Block: 502, Lot: 1.10, Zone: DWD (B26744)

NEW HEARINGS

5736– Area Variance – James J. Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of 26 West 5th Street LLC, contract vendee, on premises known as 83-94 Vineyard Avenue, Block: 2170, Lot: 84 (78, 82), Zone: M (B23753)

5744– Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Martin J. Loftus, Jr., owner, on premises known as 118 Kingsley Drive, Block: 4412, Lot: 54, Zone: S-60 (B22712)

5745– Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Croton Terrace Enterprises Inc., owner, on premises known as 14 Orchard Street, Block: 2076, Lot: 17, Zone: MG (B22842)

5746– Area Variance – Jacob Schofield, owner, on behalf of himself, on premises known as 17 Livingston Avenue, Block: 163, Lot: 54, Zone: M (B24021)

5747– Area Variance – William S. Null, Esq., on behalf of Parkview Equities LLC, owner, on premises known as 15 Parkview Avenue, Block: 5652, Lot: 43, Zone: A (B27258)

5748– Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Smerlin Cuello, owner, on premises known as 212 Warburton Avenue, Block: 2097, Lot: 60, Zone: M (B23151)

5749– Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of CSAR Holding LLC, owner, on premises known as 782 North Broadway, Block: 3021, Lot: 5, Zone: S-50 (B26664)

JOSEPH CIANCIULLI, CHAIRMAN, ZBA

FOR FULL AGENDA, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
<https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/meetings-agendas/-selcat-97/-toggle-all>

Legal Notices

THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and in line with the directives issued by the Mayor of Yonkers regarding public safety, there is limited access to One Larkin Center. The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must wear face coverings and see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will clock in the bid and then contact Purchasing to pick up the bid. Sealed Bids will continue to be opened and read on the dates below, however, there will not be a public opening of bids. Those interested in listening to the bid opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1. Bid 6638 – opening date 6/4/2021: Yonkers Avenue Streetscape Project. (AS)
2. Bid 6637 – opening date 5/20/2021: Redmond Field reconstruction and drainage improvements. (FB)
3. Bid 6644 – opening date 5/20/2021: Bernice Spreckman Center ADA Improvement Project. (FB)
4. Bid 6645 – opening date 5/21/2021: 2021 Highway Improvement Contract. (KS)
5. Bid 6640 – opening date 5/21/2021: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repairs to diesel engines as-needed for the Water Bureau. (AS)
6. Bid 6639 – opening date 5/21/2021: Twenty-four-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repairs to chlorination equipment as-needed for the Water Bureau. (AS)
7. Bid 6652 – opening date 5/14/2021: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase Cascades, or equal, EcoLogo Certified Singlefold Paper Towels as need. (NG)
8. Bid 6653 – opening date 5/14/2021: Purchase of 48 Combat Medical Systems, or equal, Rescue Task Force Kits. (AC)
9. Bid 6642 – opening date 5/21/2021: Twelve-month contract, with options to renew, to provide repair and maintenance services as needed for HVAC control systems throughout the Yonkers School District. (KS)
10. Bid 6643 – opening date 5/21/2021: Twelve-month contract, with options to renew, to provide repair and maintenance services as needed for air conditioning systems throughout the Yonkers School District. (DC)
11. Bid 6636 – opening date 5/14/2021: Twelve-month contract to provide various paper goods and cleaning supplies as needed to the Yonkers Public School District. (JH)
12. Bid 66597A – opening date 5/14/2021: Purchase of 95,000 Examination Grade and NFPA Approved Nitrile Gloves. (AC)
13. Bid 6613A – opening date 5/21/2021: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repair services as needed for Mohawk vehicle lifts. (FB)
14. Bid 6611A – opening date 5/21/2021: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide parts and repair services as needed for John Deere equipment. (FB)
15. Bid 6654 – opening date 5/21/2021: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase 4560 pairs of Lion Commander Ace model LPG928BK, or equal, structural firefighting gloves as needed. (KS)
16. Bid 6655 – opening date 5/21/2021: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide laundry services to Yonkers Fire Stations as needed. (KS)
17. Bid 6627 – opening date 6/4/2021: Construction of the Phase 2 Inter-zone water main connection at Warburton and Lamartine Avenues. Funding for this project is provided by a grant administered by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. Bidders shall document good faith efforts to satisfy the following goals for involving NYS-Certified businesses: MBE: 15% & WBE: 15% (combined - 30%); SDVOB: 6%. (AS)

CITY OF YONKERS CITY COUNCIL
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF DRAFT GENERIC EIS/Notice of Public Hearing
LUDLOW TOD PLANNING STUDY

March 26, 2021

The City of Yonkers City Council issues this notice pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations pertain to SEQRA (Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law). The Yonkers City Council has completed and accepted a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement. This notice has been prepared pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law.

Project Title: Ludlow Transit Oriented Planning Study

Project Location: Ludlow Street Corridor
City of Yonkers
Westchester County, New York

SEQRA Type: Type I Action

Project Description: Amend the Yonkers zoning ordinance by the creation of new zoning districts for the Ludlow Street corridor neighborhood and amendment of the zoning map to locate these zone districts.

Potential Environmental Impacts: The proposed action will change the development potential of certain parcels within the study area, will increase permitted heights in some locations and may have impacts upon existing buildings and site in the community as well as potential impacts to traffic and other infrastructure systems.

The Draft Generic EIS is available on line at <https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/departments/city-clerk/city-council-documents>

A public hearing will be held via virtual meeting on May 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM. Access to the public hearing can be found at <https://www.yonkersny.gov/home> <https://www.yonkersny.gov/services/virtual-public-meetings>

Comments will be accepted by the Lead Agency until 4:30 PM on May 27, 2021 and should be directed to the contact person Lee Ellman via mail or email.

For Further Information Contact Person:
Lee J. Ellman, AICP, Deputy Planning Commissioner
City of Yonkers Planning Bureau, 87 Nepperhan Avenue, Suite 320
Yonkers, New York 10701, (914) 377.6558, FAX (914) 377.6552
Lee.ellman@yonkersny.gov

A Copy Of This Notice Sent To: Mayor Mike Spano, City Council of the City of Yonkers NY, All involved and interested agencies
Environmental Notice Bulletin

Notice of Formation of Bratdog LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/26/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Shantell James, 11 Lanark Road, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of LIB Scholastics Sources, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/06/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as an agent of the LLC upon whom the process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 20 Water Grant Street, Apt 324, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Notice of formation of Street Meatz, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 28 Frazier Place, Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

bulance Corps (914) 722-2288 are working to provide Covid vaccinations for the homebound.

We hear of more juvenile Covid cases. We see more kids playing sports. Don't get me wrong, sports are an important part of a young adults high school experience. But if your kid is playing sports remember Pfizer vaccines can be given to young people 16 and over and Moderna is authorized for those 18 and over. Participation in sports is a decision parents and their children have to make but a friend of mine who is a doctor doesn't recommend it.

We are hearing reports again of people putting off routine doctor and dentist visits out of fear of contracting Covid-19. Not smart. In terms of dentists they have been practicing sophisticated hygiene practices for years. It's never fun going to the dentist, but you should have no fear if your dentist is following all the proper protocols. It's rare you see a doctor who isn't masked up and gloved up in an office constantly sanitized.

Finally, lessons for the candidate in Yonkers 4th District who was recently removed from the ballot. And a lesson for all candidates. #1. No palm cards (the card that tells you their miraculous accomplishments) on car windshields. This candidate put a card on my sister's windshield, it rained and she spent a half hour scraping it off. #2. Don't drop a bunch of your palm cards in the entrance hallway of a building you can't get into. They end up blowing all over the place, the Super throws them in the garbage and will never vote for you.

#3. Don't dump palm cards in shopping bags or put them in bags you are distributing. In an apartment building push them all the way under the door. Better yet, hand them to people. And pray they will read them!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com. Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. 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.

BOL District #17, continued from pg 1-

Alvarado has picked up two big endorsements in the race, from Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and from County Executive George Latimer. “During the pandemic, Jose rallied his neighbors to get food and PPE to those in need,” said Latimer. “He helped get vaccine appointments to those who needed them. I was proud to join him in establishing the funding for a new waterfront park in the community.”

Mayor Spano said, “Jose is an important partner for me as we expand Yonkers renaissance. Jose and I created the Yonkers Youth Bureau and will always work together for a better Yonkers. Jose Alvarado has kept his promises, now its time to support him with our votes in the upcoming primary.”

Reyes has come out with a progressive agenda for change, calling for an affordable housing ordinance of 20% or higher, calling for northern Westchester to keep their own sewage, and

“We need somebody that will stand up to the developers. I’m offering a choice to the people instead of the same thing that we have gotten for the past 20 years.

Reyes, who is well known in the community from the AAA All-Star program, which offers young students number of after school activity options, has an answer about how to keep kids of the streets and from joining gangs. “We need more programs, services, activities and jobs for kids. I said this back in 2007 and it’s the same answer today.”

One of Reyes’ strongest points is on the Westchester County Water Treatment facility, located in Southwest Yonkers. The plant has been a constant source of odors to residents in the district for years. A recent plan was announced to use federal dollars to remediate the fumes and build a park at the same location.

“Do you think its wise, in the middle of COVID, to spend millions on a park in Ludlow, when the money is desperately needed for food and PPE, for the people in the district. Let’s help the people in the community now, and not focus on re-election. And let’s not spend millions more here, build another plant in northern Westchester,” said Reyes.

Reyes says he is the true progressive in the race. He was an early supporter of Senator Bernie Sanders for President, and a supporter of Jamaal Bowman for Congress. “I think the Virginia and Jose have had their change to represent us for the past 20 years.

“It’s a different time now. If you want things to continue like they have for the past 20 years, and you are better off today, then vote for Jose or Virginia. If you have to work multiple jobs and don’t have health care, then vote for London Reyes.”

Perez is the wild card in this democratic primary. She is one of the strongest, door to door campaigners in Yonkers. That is how she defeated Alvarado 10 years ago.

We have always respected Virginia Perez for getting involved after the tragic death of her brother. This time, she has two strong opponents who both ran two years ago.

The Yonkers Democratic Party is supporting Alvarado for re-election. Yonkers Democratic Chair Tom Meier said that Alvarado is the progressive in the race. “Jose has proven himself as the progressive. He is getting things done and working with County Executive Latimer, he was working on a plan for the water treatment plant. We are supporting Jose,” said Meier.

Meier said that Virginia Perez had not contacted him, or anyone in the Yonkers democratic party, to announce her candidacy. Meier said that while Perez will attract votes as the only woman in the race, it will be up to Alvarado to remind voters that Perez joined with republican county executive Rob Astorino to form a working majority on the county board made up of republicans and Perez.

Classifieds

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Stabbing for a Baseball Hat, continued from pg 1-

Mayor Mike Spano stated, “Job well done by our men and women in blue for their work in apprehending this individual. Their swift and accurate work can now ease the minds of the area businesses and residents. We will continue to invest in measures that will keep our neighborhoods safe and secure to help prevent incidents like this happening again.”

Police Commissioner John J. Mueller stated, “Great job by our Yonkers Police Officers, Detectives, and Supervisors in apprehending this criminal in short order, who will now be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and face the consequences of his actions. I hope this arrest brings some degree of relief to Mr. Martinez-Campos’ family and community; and sends a clear message to those individuals who would perpetrate violence in our City, that the Yonkers Police is ever committed to quickly finding you, arresting you, and delivering you into the Criminal Justice System.”

Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah said, “I am heartbroken by the tragic and senseless death of Ruben Martinez-Campos, a store owner in downtown Yonkers who was stabbed to death after confronting a man who stole a baseball cap from his store. I know that the community shares my relief that suspect Tyrese Shubrick was apprehended within 24 hours thanks to the diligent work of the Yonkers Police Department in partnership with our office, and is currently in custody. Shubrick will be arraigned on a manslaughter charge and the DA’s Office is committed to ensuring that he is held accountable for his actions to the fullest extent of the law. The Assistant District Attorney prosecuting the case has been in contact with Mr. Martinez-Campos’ family members, and all of us in the DA’s Office extend our deepest condolences to them on this terrible loss.”

Lincoln Val-Sal, continued from pg 1-

Kleanthis was able to continue his academic excellence through COVID. During all four years of high school, he was #1 on the GPA list at Lincoln, and he earned it.

“I would advise students to focus more on academics for freshman and sophomore year, then focus on their social lives for junior and senior year,” said Plakas, who thanked his parents, “who valued education as #1, that that it should come first. After that I became self-motivated.”

Salutatorian Ledia Hoxhaj will graduate with a GPA of 97.59. School activities include the National Honor Society, Science National Honor Society, Social Studies National Honor Society, Math National Honor Society Awards, Honors and Scholarships, the Superintendent’s Honor Society Club 90.

Her favorite teachers are Dr. Johal, Dr. Saghafi and Mr. Tchangou. Dr. Johal teaches CH and AP Chemisty, Dr. Saghafi teaches Science Research and Mr. Tchangou teaches Algebra 2 and Pre Calc.

Her favorite subjects are science and math, and has taken 2 AP courses, all while taking care of my brother and tutoring other students in math and science.

Accepted into 12 colleges, Ledia will attend Union College in the fall. “I enjoyed the trip to visit the campus and they gave me a generous financial aid package.”

Hoxhaj only attended Lincoln for two years. She moved to Yonkers and America, two years ago. I have loved these past two years, being part of the Lincoln community. What I like most about Lincoln is that all the teachers I have had were all so supportive. They always went the extra mile to make sure that me and my peers were understanding the classes and that they were always going to be there for us.”

Ledia said that there were some stressful times during COVID over the last year, but she overcame it and the adjustment to speak a new language and succeed in high school.

She hopes to become a Pediatrician so that she can help kids. “I’ve had a lot of support from my parents and teachers. And there was a lot of studying involved. My grandfather also set a good example for me. Gishhe means grandpa in Albanian. We hope that he gets a paper. Congratulations!

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Friday, Thursday, May 7th

May 7, 1919: The three hundred soldiers camped at Van Cortlandt Park were given free privileges to the Yonkers YMCA and its swimming pool to get relief from the May heat wave.

May 7, 1936: WPA zone manager Joseph Ryan announced roughly three hundred men from Yonkers were dropped from WPA rolls; the updated NYS policy was to eliminate all men were physically disabled or unwilling to work.

May 7, 1953: Yonkers Rotarians paid respects to the Otis Elevator Company on its one hundredth birthday, and also saluted its Otis member, George McRae.

Saturday, Friday, May 8th

May 8, 1945: Staff of the Yonkers Public Library took pity on the hungry and homeless strawberry blonde they found crying sadly outside their window. Custodian James Kane took her in, and staff members gave her food and shelter, love and attention. Not able to tell her name, this beauty was dubbed Victory. She remained at the library in the basement rooms, keeping the place free of mice, for she was a ginger cat!

May 8, 1947: DeWitt Mackenzie of Normandy Road, syndicated columnist and dean of the AP foreign correspondents, authored the “The Associated Press News Annual 1946, published by Rinehart and Company. A running account of the events of the world, the book featured both articles and pictures submitted by AP correspondents. Mackenzie joined the AP in 1910, and wrote a foreign affairs column published in many newspapers around the world.

Sunday, May 9th

May 9, 1916: The Aldermanic Committee on Police, Fire and Water approved the elimination of the Lake Avenue high service station of the Water Bureau, and proposed the Lake Avenue Reservoir be made into a public park.

May 9, 1936: Reverend Wilbur Caswell, Rector of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Yonkers, suggested to the Episcopal Diocese of New York they should allow women to hold the office of Vestrymen.

May 9, 1955: Although he had no idea when they would be delivered, Health Commissioner Ralph Sikes announced he would start administering the Salk vaccine as soon as it was delivered to Yonkers; our city was prepared to start inoculations as soon as possible. More than 8500 school-children, grades one through four in Yonkers public and parochial schools, were to receive the shots.

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

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