

# Yonkers Rising

PRESORT-STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
White Plains, NY  
Permit #7164

Yonkerstimes.com

www.RisingMediaGroup.com

Friday July 23, 2021

## Mayor Spano Officiates at Wedding of First Openly Gay Yonkers Firefighter



Yonkers Firefighter Devon Chisholm, right, and Giuliano Turitich are married by Mayor Mike Spano in Untermyer Gardens, photo by Donna Davis

By Dan Murphy

On June 24, Yonkers firefighter Devon Chisholm married Giuliano Turitich in the walled garden of Untermyer Gardens Conservancy. The wedding was officiated by Mayor Mike Spano and more than 60 friends and family members attended and celebrated the union.

We spoke to Firefighter Chisholm, who has been a member of Yonkers Bravest for 8 years and serves on the Executive Board of the Yonkers Firefighters Union, local 628, about his life experiences, and how the public can learn from his story.

"I came from a foster family in Yonkers. I grew up in Runyon Heights. I'm a black, gay firefighter in the City of Yonkers," said Chisholm, who has been "pleasantly surprised" by the support he has received. "Yes, I wanted to marry the person that I love, but I was not sure how that would affect my relationship with my fellow firefighters and the administration."

"But everyone has been more than supportive, and the fact that Mayor Spano officiated our wedding I think means a lot and says a lot, about how far we have come."

How the Mayor came to be at Untermyer Gardens officiating at the wedding of a gay Yonkers firefighter came about with the help of City Councilwoman Shanae Williams. "As a member of Local 628's Executive Board, I have attended many political functions in the city, and I met Councilmember Williams, and she suggested that I ask the Mayor to marry us. When he said that he was more than happy to do it, we ran with the idea and with the help of Parks Commissioner Steve Sansone, we were able to walk the grounds of Untermyer Gardens and decided to have the ceremony in the amphitheater section.

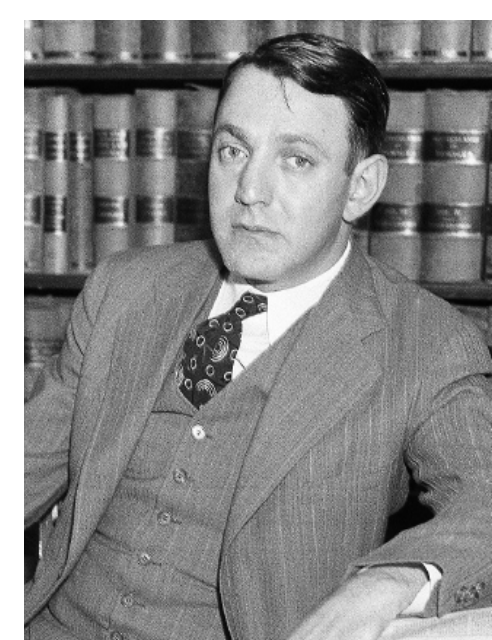
Even though the wedding was held on a Thursday, Chisholm was appreciative that "all of my friends dropped whatever they had going on and came at a moment's notice and showed their support. And two of my family members who are my half-brothers, they met at my wedding."

"And many of my fellow firefighters were not afraid to congratulate me. Many came up and shook my hand and congratulated me; others wanted to know why I didn't invite them.

Giuliano Turitich is from Paraguay, a country that is very catholic and still very conservative when it comes to Gay Marriage. His mother flew up and attended the Yonkers wedding, but the couple is hoping to have a ceremony in Paraguay for the rest of Giuliano's friends and family.

continued on pg 7-

## Beer Flowing Under the Streets of Yonkers, The Real Story?



**How is it possible for all of this to be done without being seen? Is everyone is Yonker blind? Or is everyone in Yonkers in on the secret? -US Attorney Watts,**

-Mobster Dutch Schultz, left, ran an illegal beer operation out of Yonkers during prohibition. According to Yonkers author Avram Davidson, Schultz paid \$2,500 per week, in hush money, meant for the Yonkers Police, but it never got there. Who got the cash?

By Dan Murphy

A few months ago, we wrote about Avram Davidson, a famous Science Fiction author who grew up in Yonkers. In addition to his Sci-Fi books, Davidson wrote a short story titled "Beer Like Water," about the case in Yonkers in 1930 when hoses of beer were discovered running under the streets of Yonkers.

A young Avram Davidson would have been 8 years old at the time, when prohibition was the law of the land and beer barons like Dutch Schultz sold illegal alcohol to the public. Here are parts of Beer Like Water, which was part of a book of Davidson's short stories titled, Crimes and Chaos, 1962.

"The day was September 29, 1930 and a man was lucky to have any job at all. There was a depression going on and the three main industries of Yonkers, the Otis elevator Company, the Alexander Smith carpet factory, and Spreckels sugar refinery, were all hard-hit. Only bootleggers were doing well. Repeal of Prohibition was still three years in the future. But not everyone had good luck to work for a bootlegger."

Note: Avram writes about a character called Joe Horvath, who worked for the DPW in the underground and who with a team of workers uncovered the pipes flowing with beer in the city's sewer lines, on September 30, 1930. "He found a copper wire with no beginning and no end, and together with the other DPW men Joe gave the hose a hard tug and they broke the line. "That can't be what I think it is can it be? Maybe,

continued on pg 7-

## Yonkers Force Coach DeMatteo Steps Down for More Time With Family



By Phil Foley-

Last week the Yonkers high school football world learned of the retirement of the head coach of the Yonkers Force, Dan DeMatteo. It came as a real surprise to many Yonkers football fans, but when we found out why it really made complete sense.

After 25 years of coaching football, first as an assistant under his Dad the Legendary Donald DeMatteo and then, as the head coach of Gorton HS and then, three years ago, when the City merged into 2 teams, he became the head coach of the Yonkers Force. (The Force is named after the Yonkers Police Department the second team the Brave is named after the Yonkers Fire Department: a tribute to two great Yonkers Public Safety Departments)

Coach Dan decided to retire because knew that he wanted to spend more time with his family especially with his son, who is ready to embark on his athletic career. His son will play in a 8 and under youth football team in Yorktown this Fall. Rumor has it Dan will be the head coach of his son's team.

From all the years that I have been writing for the Rising I have always seen his love and devotion to his family. This is the most important thing in his life!

I reached out to Dan for a comment about his pending retirement. He sent me this statement which I will print in full. "This was one of the hardest decisions in my life. In the end I thought this was the right time. During the pandemic I had time to reflect on all the things I was missing all these years with my family. My children are getting older and I will never get this time back. I am proud of the fact that I was head coach in Yonkers through some very difficult times and that I stayed the course. Football in the city of Yonkers is in a much better place today, thanks to having a Junior Varsity feeder program, Athletic Directors, a great connection with the YPD/YFD, a very talented rising senior class and a superintendent who will do whatever it takes to support our kids. With the enormous talent on the team and a very supportive administration, the program is poised to be successful this year and years to come. I will miss my kids so much and as I told them I will always be there for them. GO FORCE!!!"

Lets look back at the highlights of Coach DeMatteo's career: 25 years as a coach in Yonkers-.17 years as the Head Coach at Gorton HS and the Force-4-2 Bowl Games- 2005 Section 1 Coach of the Year- 2015 Section 1 Service Award Winner - Hudson River League Champs 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Tributes have been coming in for Coach DeMatteo on his retirement. Yonkers Deputy Police Chief Joseph Monaco said: "Dan is a friend and a mentor to many young athletes. He comes from a long line of Yonkers Football coaching legends. Congrats Dan and best wishes in your new chapter".

continued on pg 2-

## Former Police Commissioner Gardner Under Fire for Sourcing Against His Fellow Officers



Former Police Commissioner named as a source for false stories against current Commissioner John Mueller

By Dan Murphy

"Say It Ain't So Chuck" is the response from some of our readers to the fact that former Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner was named as a source by Hezi Aris for his Blue Truth series of columns which defamed the current Police Commissioner John Mueller, and PBA President Det. Keith Olson.

Our story, "Judge Rules That Online Blogger Hezi Aris -Yonkers Tribune is NOT a Journalist," which ran in the July 16 issue and which can be found online at YonkersTimes.com, has been the talk of Yonkers.

We received a dozen emails and letters about the story, most

Former YPD Commissioner Charles Gardner

of which focused on the fact that Aris, in court papers, revealed that former Police Commissioner Gardner was one of his two primary sources for the Yonkers Tribune's series of stories ironically titled **Blue Truth**. In fact, most of the Blue Truth stories were not true, as Aris also had to admit in court papers that he had no sources for some of the most harmful stories to the reputations of both Mueller and Olson.

One letter titled, "Say it Ain's So Gardner, Yonkers resident Gene Tierney writes, "Mr. Murphy, I am a reader of your newspapers, and all media in Yonkers and across Westchester County. I knew that Mr. Aris was being sued by three Yonkers Police officers for defamation, from the story that you wrote last year. And, as a reader of the Yonkers Tribune over the years, including the Blue Truth series of stories, I was actually not surprised to hear that Aris is in legal troubles, because I did not believe some of the Blue Truth stories that I was reading. But what did surprise me and actually shock me, was that former Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner

continued on pg 7-

## Yonkers Public Library Welcomes Haifa Bint-Kadi as Riverfront Art Gallery Curator



On July 19, the Yonkers Public Library welcomed Haifa Bint-Kadi as the Riverfront Art Gallery Curator.

“YPL is thrilled to bring Haifa on as its full-time Art Gallery Curator,” says Jesse Montero, Yonkers Public Library Director. “With this hire, YPL will be able to expand its arts programming and further establish itself as a pillar of the thriving Yonkers arts scene. I encourage all Yonkers residents to look to the library for art exhibitions, education, and events.”

Haifa holds an M.F.A. from Istituto d’Arte per il Mosaico in Ravenna, Italy, and a certificate of curation from Sotheby’s in New York City. She is a certified art educator for NYC BOE, and has been inspiring young artists through arts education for the last 23 years. Haifa also received the esteemed Kennedy Center Award in 2013 for dynamic STEAM arts education. Haifa is and will always be a working artist as in her words, “she creates to live.” She has been designing and fabricating public art mosaics since 1993. Haifa focuses on projects that archive community, history, and lived experiences.

Some of her successful projects include a commission in 2012, The Eel’s Journey, a large-scale in-ground public art mosaic for Groundwork Hudson Valley and the City of Yonkers’s daylighting of the Saw Mill River, her project with the Children’s Museum of Manhattan to design and create an installation for their 2014 Muslim Cultures installation and in 2010, Bint-Kadi received the award to complete a sculpture park for the State of New York at Suny Oneonta symbolizing the university’s commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Most recently, Haifa was commissioned to create a set of sculptures for the gateway to the Yonkers Greenway, a path that will ultimately connect Yonkers to New York City, and recently repaired and restored the Temple of Love and other mosaics at Untermyer Gardens. Haifa also works as an Adjunct Professor for Suny Purchase teaching Arts for Social Change. Haifa is the mother of two daughters, one granddaughter and a staunch advocate for access to the arts throughout the Yonkers community.

“I am honored and excited to be in the position to expand access to the arts to our community,” says Haifa. “I look forward to extending opportunities to artists through professional development and exhibitions, youth programming in all of the arts through music, poetry and visual arts and increasing public art and exhibition opportunities at all three branches of our library system. I’m most excited to shine a light on our extensive fine art collection at the Will branch and increasing partnerships with our local non-profits and cultural organizations, and most importantly, with Yonkers Public Schools.”

## 28 New Officers Join “Yonkers Finest” as YPD Investigates Fatal Shooting on Cliff Street



Just after 9:00PM on July 17, 2021, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to the area of 53 Cliff Street in the confines of the 3rd Precinct on a report of shots fired. Responding officers located a victim at that location with an apparently fatal gunshot wound. The area was cordoned off as units initiated a criminal investigation.

Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Digital Forensics Unit are currently continuing that investigation. No arrests have been made at this time. The victim is identified as an 18-year-old resident of the State of North Carolina. The investigation is ongoing at this time and more information may be released as it becomes available.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the Yonkers Police Detective Division at (914) 377-7724 – all calls will remain confidential. 100% anonymous tips can be sent by texting the key word YPD plus the tip to 847411. Anonymous tips can also be sent to us directly through the Yonkers PD Tips app which can be downloaded for free to any Apple or Android device.

On July 15, Mayor Mike Spano and Police Commissioner John Mueller presided over a ceremony yesterday which added 28 new Police Officers to the Yonkers Police Department while elevating 3 members to positions of higher authority and responsibility within the department. The event took place at the Riverfront Library in the presence of family, friends, and peers. The new hires include 27 recruits that are scheduled to enter the Westchester County Department of Public Safety Police Academy where they will attend Basic Recruit School; a 20-week program including courses in police science, law, physical fitness training, and more. One new hire is of prior Police service and will be assigned shortly after internal training. The addition of these new officers reinforces the City of Yonkers’ commitment to public safety.

Appointed as Police Officers: P.O. Devin Ali, P.O. Damen Bonis, P.O. Molly Boyle, P.O. Rafael Cabral-Estevez, P.O. Jeffrey Carreira, P.O. John Casale, P.O. Danielle Dinardo, P.O. Alexandra Farucci, P.O. Michael Hannon, P.O. Brandon Hernandez, P.O. Shane Hogan, P.O. Khayer Hussain, P.O. Andrew Kolibabek, P.O. Ashley Lucena, P.O. Samuel Mateo, P.O. Dennis McKeever, P.O. Keith Melnik, P.O. Raul Mendez, P.O. Charles O’Neill, P.O. Enza Palanca, P.O. Demery Poloniato, P.O. David Rodriguez, P.O. Stephen Sklany, P.O. Michael Soto, P.O. Andrew Torres, P.O. Jason Vargas, P.O. Christian Zaccaro, P.O. Richard Zolli. Promoted to Sergeant: P.O. Jeremy DiSalvo. Det. Jon-Michael Dolce. Appointed as Detective: P.O. Thomas Bennett.

### Westchester County Offers Free Back to School Vaccine Clinics

The Westchester County Department of Health will now book appointments for its free back-to-school vaccine clinics in Yonkers on Mondays and Thursdays from July 26 through the end of August and on Friday in White Plains from July 23 through the end of August for children to have the vaccines they need for school.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: “Our clinics have the vaccines children need to start their in-person learning on time, including COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 12 and older. I also encourage families with their own healthcare provider to call now and avoid the September rush, because there are many families who must catch up on visits they missed during the past pandemic year.”

All children who do not have their required immunizations must have their first dose of vaccinations within 14 days from the first day of school. This requirement follows legislation enacted in 2019 that removed non-medical exemptions for children in public, private or parochial school through 12th grade as well as childcare programs. Parents and guardians of these children must show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses within 30 days of the start of school.

The County Health Department can help. Families with no insurance, ChildHealth Plus or Medicaid, should call the County Health Department to schedule an appointment for vaccines at no charge. Call (914) 995-5800 to find out if you qualify and to make an appointment at

--the County Health Department, 20 S. Broadway, 2nd floor in Yonkers, Mondays, July 26, through Aug. 30 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursdays, July 29 through Aug. 26, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.,

--and at the County Health Department, 134 Court Street in White Plains, Fridays, July 23 through Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, call (914) 995-6350.

### DeMatteo Steps Down, continued from pg 1-

The Yonkers Brave Head Varsity coach Vic Chiapa also said: “ Danny is a very good coach, I really enjoyed working with him in the past few years. We became close friends and enjoyed each others company. I am going to really miss him and I know the kids will as well”.

After each football season, Yonkers Rising gives out a Player of Award to a member of the Force and Brave teams. That award will now be called the Dan DeMatteo Player of the Year Award! All of us at Yonkers Rising want to wish Dan a very happy retirement and the best of luck in his future!

“Dan DeMatteo has positively affected the lives of hundreds of young men, many of them who were in dire need of a good male role model. He is a great coach and mentor and will further his amazing work through his role in the school system. I support Dan 100% in his decision to step away from football and wish him all the best in his future endeavors. I am proud to call Dan DeMatteo my friend,” said Det. Keith Olson.

### County Board Approves Senior Exercise Equipment for County Parks

Westchester County seniors will soon have a new reason to get outdoors and get some exercise in Westchester after the Board of Legislators approved \$1 million in funding for a program to bring outdoor fitness equipment and workout stations for seniors to Westchester County parks, in a unanimous vote on July 12.

Legislator Ruth Walter (D- Bronxville, Yonkers), chair of the Board’s Environment & Health Committee, requested the equipment. With the passage of the measure, the Parks Department will begin to identify potential locations and work with consultants to determine the equipment that fits the needs of the park users.

Having accessible places with equipment specifically designed for seniors to get out and get moving is becoming increasingly common in places like Japan. Having these spots in our County parks will be a great resource for seniors in their local communities, especially for people who may be concerned these days about going inside to a gym or senior center for an exercise class.

**GENERAC**

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

877-516-1160

**FREE**

7-Year Extended Warranty\*  
A \$695 Value!

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

Special Financing Available

Subject to Credit Approval

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



**COMPUTER PROBLEMS?**

Friendly Certified Computer Repair Experts

Simply mention coupon code **42513** and get **\$20 OFF** any service you need!

**Geeks on Site**  
Call Now for a FREE Diagnosis  
**1-866-848-0045**

# Chabad of Yonkers Rabbi Celebrates Birthday by Serving the Community

# Get the Dam Vaccine Already!



**Yonkers Police Dept. Chaplain Det. Autumn Edwards enjoys cotton candy celebrating Rabbi Hurwitz's birthday at the North Broadway synagogue. Photo (c) Robert Kalfus**

*By Eric W. Schoen*

*By Robert Kalfus*

Chabad Yonkers Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz celebrates his birthday in July, and for the last decade, has invited the community to enjoy a lavish kosher BBQ at the Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center synagogue, where Yonkers residents, synagogue members, friends and family, elected officials and those running for office attended, meeting and greeting, and pressing the flesh – a practice which in the past pandemic year, we knew to spread infectious disease.

I apologize to those of you who have already received your COVID vaccinations. I hope you still find this column informative. Sadly, over 30% of your friends, your neighbors, your relatives, people you love dearly have not gotten their vaccines. In some parts of the country including right over the Mario Cuomo-Tappan Zee Bridge the number of unvaccinated is much greater.

Preventing the spread of Covid-19 became the overriding concern for all meetings, classes, birthdays, family gatherings, parties, graduations, and all social interactions. Rising to those concerns, last year Rabbi Hurwitz literally served the community, having a drive-through Grand BBQ celebration, delivering an extensive menu of kosher hot dogs and hamburgers in buns, French fries, watermelon, cotton candy, a bottle of water, and birthday cake for dessert, to about 100 people in about 40 cars, who drove in and through the synagogue's driveway, for three hours on the Sunday of his 37th birthday.

Isn't it a shame that after the early shortage of vaccines we have more vaccines and we are not using them? Remember the scramble to get an appointment for a vaccine, sitting for hours at your computer and spending hours on the phone to get an appointment. That craziness is all gone now.

But this year, most New Yorkers and almost all of his synagogue members have received Covid-19 immunizations, which allowed an outdoor yet still socially distanced BBQ. The Fourth of July's lovely summer weather encouraged an outdoor event in the shade of Yonkers trees, with summer breezes providing the best ventilation, celebrating our nation's Independence, Freedoms, and due to personal and medical vigilance and perseverance, our freedom from the previously necessary Covid-19 safety restrictions. Rabbi Hurwitz sweated over a hot grill, serving up a kosher BBQ wearing a birthday present from Robyn Fullerton, a blue apron stating in Hebrew and English "Mensch", meaning a good, caring human being. Rabbi Mendy remarked that "Now I must earn this!" as he cooked the fresh and tasty meals on an Independence Day which fortunately was not one of the hottest days of this summer, and rain did not interrupt the pleasant festivities. With the help of his brother Yoel, and his two oldest daughters, who helped serve and distribute the food, a steady stream of friends celebrated his birthday.

Simply no one can say they don't know where to get the vaccine. CVS, Walgreens, even many small, old school pharmacies that are not part of a conglomerate offer the vaccine free of charge. Many organizations like the Yonkers Office for the Aging and Scarsdale Fire Department have partnered with health organizations to bring vaccines to the home bound elderly. You can get a vaccine at Grand Central Station while you are waiting for a train!

His friend Leah Katz, renowned as an excellent seamstress and dressmaker at her store LaRobe by Leah, also displayed her well-known skills as a chef as she cooked, allowing Rabbi Hurwitz to mingle and greet guests, who enjoyed kosher franks, hamburgers, corn on the cob, relish, cole slaw, tomatoes, and several birthday cakes for dessert. Rabbi Hurwitz spoke about how we should best manage difficult times and experiences, quoting the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, who said, "We need to recognize what brought about sad times was lack of kindness to one

I'm tired of the politicians saying people don't know where to go for a vaccine. Maybe that's a problem in Arkansas, one of the states with the lowest vaccine rate. But no one in this neck of the woods can say they don't know where a vaccine is available. Sadly, at press time Governor Cuomo closed the vaccine facility at Jones Beach due to lack of business. I was hoping that sun worshipers would be able to get the vaccine as they worked on their tan.

*continued on pg 4-*

Let me be clear. If you have a medical reason why you can't get the vaccine I hear you. Religious reasons I'm a little skeptical about. But the numbers of people who claim they can't get vaccinated because of religious reasons are very small.

I think President Biden's key Covid advisor said it best. "If we had had the pushback for vaccines that we're seeing in certain media ... we probably would still have smallpox and we'd probably still have polio in this country if we had the false information that's being spread now," Fauci told CNN's Jim Acosta in an interview over the weekend. "If we had that back decades ago, I would be certain that we'd still have polio in this country."

The internet. A wonderful device to get information. Sadly there is a lot of misinformation out there. Don't blame former President Donald Trump. He got vaccinated. Don't blame President Biden. He got vaccinated. Don't blame Conservative television and radio host Sean Hannity. As we go to press he is encouraging his minions to get vaccinated.

*continued on pg 6-*

Blame idiots like Robert Kennedy, Jr. for spreading the anti-vaccination message. His poor father who we lost so young and his uncles are rolling over in their graves when he tells people not to get the common vaccines that have kept this country safe. Sadly because he is a 'Kennedy' (and I have



# A Diverse Workforce for a Diverse County



Dr. Dial Hewitt and his colleagues in the Westchester County Department of Health have been on the front lines of the Covid-19 pandemic for the past year, working exhausting hours and putting their own health and safety on the line to serve others.

The virus spread through houses of worship, congregate care settings and other locations – and the Health Department staff mobilized swiftly to respond.

Despite the risks and the challenges they face, the Department's doctors, nurse practitioners, public health nurses, lab techs and support staff remain firmly committed to their mission: protecting the health and safety of the people of Westchester.

"They were willing to put their lives on the line when we didn't know very much about this disease," Hewlett said of the entire Health Department team. "Whatever we have asked of them, they do it."

"You go into this field because you care about people and you get gratification from helping them," said Hewlett, who is board certified in Internal Medicine and in the sub specialty of Infectious Diseases.

Dr. Hewlett has also been involved in outreach to Westchester's minority communities to provide "accurate, scientific information" and encourage people of color to get vaccinated. He said he hopes to alleviate the hesitation of some Black and Latino residents to get the vaccine.

"I am fortunate and blessed to work with such dedicated professionals," he said of his colleagues at WCDOH. Most recently, he has been helping oversee the County's vaccination clinic on Court Street in White Plains.

The executive team at the Health Department has been praised for its leadership during the pandemic, including: Dr. Sherlita Amler, commissioner; Renee Recchia, first deputy commissioner; Dr. Hewlett; Dr. Marisa Montecalvo, Dr. Ada Huang and Lori Smittle, PhD (doctor of nursing).

Hewlett noted that Westchester was ground zero for the Covid-19 pandemic, where an outbreak occurred in New Rochelle.

To receive notifications of all upcoming civil service exams, people can sign up to receive email notifications at <https://exams.westchestergov.com/webexam/emailSubscription/subscribe.htm>.



## Yonkers to Host Three Mobile Tax Office Locations for Residents

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the 2021 schedule for its Mobile Tax Office locations. The Mayor's Office of Constituent Services and the City's Tax and Assessment Departments will be available at three locations July 21st-23rd to assist Yonkers residents with their City property tax payments. The first installment for the 2021-2022 City property tax is due Friday, August 6th.

Yonkers Mobile Tax Offices will be available at:

- Spreckman/Coyne Center (777 McLean Ave, Yonkers, NY 10704) on Wednesday, July 21st from 9AM to 7PM
- Homefield House (911 Saw Mill River Rd, Yonkers, NY 10710) on Thursday, July 22nd from 9AM to 7PM
- Grinton I. Will Library (1500 Central Park Ave, Yonkers, NY 10710) on Friday, July 23rd from 9AM to 5PM

"I understand the hardship the last year has put on Yonkers residents. Therefore, our easy-to-access Mobile Tax Office is here to help all residents with any problems and provide a location that's close to home and in your neighborhood," said Mayor Mike Spano.

Additionally, the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services will be on hand to assist Yonkers residents with any questions or concerns. For more information, residents are encouraged to contact the Office of Constituent Services at (914) 377-6010 between 9:00AM-5:00PM or contact the 24/7 Mayor's Help Line at 377-HELP (4357) for assistance.

## UPAC Presents Got the Picture? Free Photography Class July 24



**Yonkers Rising Photographer**  
**Donna Davis**

The Untermeyer Performing Arts Council will present Got the Picture???, a free two-hour Smartphone Photography Class at 10 am on July 24th at Untermeyer Park. The class will be taught by well-known local photographer Donna Davis. Untermeyer Park is located at 945 North Broadway, Yonkers.

This course is geared toward those who are new to smartphones, want to learn the basics of taking cellphone photos or are looking to improve their skills. The class also will cover sharing and uploading photos.

Ms. Davis, a well-known Yonkers based freelance photographer, works for Yonkers Rising, Yonkers City Hall and many community organizations and associations.

Course attendance is by reservation only; reservations are limited. Call 914-375-3435 to leave your name, phone number and email address on the voice mail. Reservations per call are limited to four people. We will return your call only if you have a seat in the class.

The Untermeyer Performing Arts Council is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to bringing free entertainment to the people of Yonkers.

Our programs are admission free and open to the public. This program, done in cooperation with Mayor Mike Spano and the Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, is made possible by the Ira Goldman Memorial Fund and Empire City Casino by MGM. Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh and our generous supporters provide additional support for our programs.

For further information, please call the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council's Arts Line at 914-375-3435 or visit our website at [www.untermeyerperformingarts.org](http://www.untermeyerperformingarts.org). For updates, check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/upac1976/>, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Instagram or follow us on Twitter.

MDG Design + Construction is currently seeking construction Section 3 eligible applicants for a moderate rehabilitation project, Calcagno Homes Located in Yonkers, NY.

Section 3 eligible applicants are invited to submit a resume for the work in the following trades:

- Electrician Mechanic, Junior Foreman, & Helpers.
- Duct Installer & Refrigeration Piper.
- Plumber
- Elevator Repair and Maintenance (union)
- Roof Laborer
- Masonry Laborer
- General Laborer

Work is to be performed in Westchester County under Davis Bacon Act (pre-vailing wage) requirements.

Section 3 residents are:

- Public housing residents or
- Persons who live in the area where a HUD-assisted project is located and who have a household income that falls below HUD's income limits.

For more Section 3 information: <https://www.hud.gov/section3>

Eligible applicants must have an active Osha 30 card. If interested in applying, please send a resume with the position desired to:

Jeffrey Goritz; [jgoritz@mdgny.com](mailto:jgoritz@mdgny.com)

## Yonkers Rising

PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-833-1588.

Proudly Yonkers with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association.

Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com). Bayan

Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief [risingmediagroup@gmail.com](mailto:risingmediagroup@gmail.com).

Legal notice inquiries to: [risinglegalnotice@gmail.com](mailto:risinglegalnotice@gmail.com).

Advertising requests to the Editor: [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)

## City Carting Employee Charged With Concealing \$135K in Strip Club Payments-\$40K in One Visit!



**Christopher Oxeer**

The manager of a company that provides solid waste removal and recyclables processing for Westchester County and the company itself were arraigned today on charges related to the filing of false financial data with Kroll Associates, a monitor overseeing the company's contract with the county, Westchester District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced.

City Carting of Westchester receives more than \$20 million annually under its contract with the county. The charged false filings were made in 2018 and 2019 and were meant to conceal payments to strip clubs. The total amount of the false filings charged today comes to \$135,000, including one instance in which \$40,000 was spent in a single visit to one such establishment. The investigation is ongoing.

Christopher Oxeer, 35, of Darien, Connecticut, the manager of City Carting of Westchester, and the company itself are charged with six counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a felony. Oxeer paid for services at the strip clubs with a City Carting of Westchester credit card, but the expenditures were entered into the company's accounting records as legitimate business expenses for items such as tires, maintenance, and tolls.

"The Westchester District Attorney's Office has zero tolerance for public corruption and misuse of public tax dollars by government employees or contractors," DA Rocah said. "The actions of Christopher Oxeer and City Carting of Westchester represent a brazen attempt to rip off county residents by including expenditures for items that clearly are not covered under their contract."

*continued on pg 6-*

## Rabbi serves community, continued from pg 3-

another. The best way to reverse that is to exhibit kindness to all!" Added Rabbi Hurwitz, "Every day you can do a mitzvah, a good deed, helping another person. You can at least put a smile on your own face, and bring a smile to another person," as he toasted a "L'chaim" (to Life!) with a fine single malt Scotch.

Noting his latest birthday, Rabbi Hurwitz said "As you age and get older, you need to continue your education and acquire knowledge and wisdom. You also do not lessen your activities, but you instead increase all the good that you can do and accomplish, and you never stop helping others. Chabad of Yonkers has programs for religious instruction, spirituality, outreach, education, and we seek the health and well-being of the entire Yonkers community." In addition to Rabbi Hurwitz' regular Wednesday night Torah discussion and learning class on ZOOM, the synagogue is adding additional activities and classes. Please contact the Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center for info on upcoming activities, religious services and dinners, Hebrew school and Bar Mitzvah preparation, Shabbat morning and the upcoming High Holiday services, at (914) 963-8888, or [www.JewishYonkers.com](http://www.JewishYonkers.com).

**Leaf Filter**  
BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

CHALLENGE US FOR THE BEST OFFER:  
15% OFF & 10% OFF  
5% OFF  
NO INSTALLATION COSTS

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!  
Please Credit 30%  
\*Subject to credit review for approval

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-855-478-9473  
We'll show you how to protect your home with Leaf Filter. We'll provide a free estimate and show you how to protect your home with Leaf Filter. We'll provide a free estimate and show you how to protect your home with Leaf Filter.

**HOMEOWNER FUNDING**

Please Help!  
When you need a new roof, windows or doors and need help paying for them, call us.

**800-736-9629**  
**NYImprovementFund.com**  
PROGRAMS AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW FOR NEW YORK RESIDENTS

Roofing | Windows | Siding | Insulation | Walk-In Tubs

**Owner of Recycled Paws Rescue Arrested for Stealing Money Meant for the Rescue of Dogs**



On July 14, the SPCA Westchester announced that their Humane Law Enforcement Unit (HLE), under the direction of Ernest Lungaro and in a joint investigation with The Economic Crimes Bureau of the Westchester District Attorney's Office, arrested and charged Lisa Marie Birdsall, 55, with Grand Larceny on July 13, 2021.

Birdsall's Recycled Paws Rescue operates out of 1851 E. Main Street, Mohegan Lake, NY. From January 5, 2020 to December 31, 2020, Birdsall stole over \$3,000 from Recycled Paws Rescue, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit dog rescue organization, without permission or authority to do so. More specifically, Birdsall stole over \$17,000 from Recycled Paws Rescue by taking monies intended for the not-for-profit organization and instead spending it for her own personal purposes. Her next court appearance in Yorktown Heights is scheduled for August 03, 2021.

If you suspect animal cruelty or neglect, call the Police or SPCA Westchester's Confidential Animal Cruelty Hotline at 914-941-7797.

SPCA Westchester is a no-kill animal welfare organization located in Briarcliff Manor. The SPCA is not affiliated with the ASPCA. Visit us at [spawestchester.org](http://spawestchester.org)

**TWO BRONX MEN PLEAD GUILTY FOR IDENTITY THEFT AND FRAUD IN TJX STORES**

Two Bronx men pled guilty for their part in a more than yearlong scheme that included using fraudulently obtained credit cards to steal from several Westchester County TJX Companies, Inc. stores, including TJ Maxx, Marshalls, and Home Goods, Westchester District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced July 16.

Patrick Onogwu and Asanimo Riesa, and their associates stole more than \$50,000 opening TJX Rewards credit cards by using victims' personal identifying information, including Social Security numbers, forging victims' signatures on credit applications, and presenting forged United States passport cards and driver's licenses as identification. The defendants then used these fraudulently obtained credit card accounts to purchase merchandise and then returned some of the stolen merchandise to other TJX stores to obtain cash refunds.

"This fraud scheme was detailed and extensive," DA Mimi Rocah said. "But thanks to our law enforcement partners from the Westchester Department of Public Safety, the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the victim's retail crime investigative team, the fraud scheme was stopped."

Onogwu and Riesa have been ordered to pay restitution to the TJX Companies and Synchrony Bank and forfeited a 2013 Mercedes Benz SUV that was used to travel from store to store committing the fraud, as well as various electronic devices used to commit the fraud, and monies in bank accounts that were used in connection with the scheme.

Other defendants in the case, Hassan Miller and Dawn Anderson were sentenced in September to 1.5 to 4.5 years each in state prison after pleading guilty in November 2019.

The case was before Judge David S. Zuckerman, AJSC, in Westchester County Court, and was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Stefanie DeNise.

**On This Day in Yonkers History...**



*golfer Doug Ford, right, with Bobby Jones after winning the Masters, may be the greatest golfer from Yonkers*

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

Monday July 26th

July 26, 1933: After five days of complaints about strange tasting water in North Yonkers, with water becoming the drink of choice for some who never "touched the stuff." Results from the Yonkers Health Department were confusing as something beyond their lab's testing ability was in the water. New York City's Prohibition headquarters sent Agent Walter Tobias to investigate. He took one swallow of the North Yonkers water, and commented, "This would go swell in a highball!"

Heading to the reservoir, he traced the source to the Sprain Brook; there the odor was so strong, he exclaimed, "Holy smokes, wild gin!" He followed the brook to Greenburgh, only to find an elaborate still operation, in production for just 5 days! Plumbers, instead of connecting the outlet for mash and byproducts to the local sewer line, instead cut into a drain emptying into the Sprain Brook. Releasing the high power mash directly into the babbling brook, sending it directly to Yonkers homes! Two 5000-gallon copper stills valued at \$50,000 were disabled and seized and Claude Adam of Riverdale Avenue and Joseph Mazzo of Manhattan were arrested. Tobias charged both men with possession and manufacture of intoxicating liquor, doing the honors at the Yonkers' Wells Avenue Station.

July 26, 1955: Yonkers' own Doug Ford became the new Professional Golfers Association champion after defeating Cary Middlecoff in Detroit. The Ford family lived on Hartman Place.

Tuesday, July 27th

July 27, 1935: J. Anthony Drexel Biddle of Yonkers, husband of William Boyce Thompson's daughter Margaret Thompson Schulze Biddle, was delayed leaving for his new post as American Minister to Norway. A large riot at the NY dock for the SS Bremen pier prevented the ship from leaving; two thousand Communists rioted and tore down a German flag with a swastika hanging over the ship's bow.

July 27, 1935: The Yonkers All-Stars Baseball Team was roundly defeated by visiting team who came with beards and "buffoonery." The House of David team defeated Yonkers' best by 8-2 in front of a record crowd of 4,000 at Pelton Field!

Wednesday, July 28th

July 28, 1924: Chairman Ben Kempler announced an interesting assortment of contestants for the Palisade Avenue Merchants Association Popularity Contest. Among the twelve entries were" well-known Yonkers pugilist Al Norton; Fireman Harry Clad of Engine One; Traffic Squad Patrolman William Parker; Fourth Precinct Police Officer Frank Mackay; and Homeopathic Hospital (Yonkers General) nurse Mary Sewick.

July 28, 1945: Yonkers resident Peter Raglan witnessed the crash of an Army bomber into the top of the Empire State Building! He described it as "the most terrifying sight I ever saw." Raglan, Assistant State Veterans' Employment Representative for the War Manpower Commission, was in his office on West 42nd Street; while looking out the window at the low flying plane, he saw the plane directly hit the top of the structure.

Thursday, July 29th

July 29, 1927: Yonkers members of the American Society for the Promotion of Aviation met with Public Works Commissioner William Goldsmith, a passionate supporter for establishment of an airfield in the Yonkers area.

July 29, 1936: Alderman Bill Slater, known nationally for his crusade against women's shorts, was running a boat ride for local Democrats. He became quite upset hearing the orchestra leader announce, "shorts are being shown on the upper deck." Slater rushed upstairs, only to find movie shorts being run.

Friday July 30th

July 28, 1925: YMCA Secretary Walter Haskett began showing outdoor movies in the most densely populated neighborhoods of Yonkers. The projector equipment was mounted on a small truck so it easily could travel around our city.

July 30, 1943: Detective Sergeant Patrick Christopher took a lot of kidding because of current events. Christopher took over the Detective Division when his boss Captain Herman Schall went on vacation. Just fifteen minutes after Christopher officially was in charge, Benito Mussolini resigned! The men ribbed him "on getting such speedy results" minutes after taking the reins. Not one to miss a beat, the good Sergeant informed those kidding him that he had just "sent a squad of detectives out to get Hitler!" His terms? Unconditional Surrender!

*continued on pg 7-*

**Donate Your Car & Help Grant A Child's Wish**  
 Help Local Children And Get Free & Easy Towing  
 Visit [WheelsForWishes.org](http://WheelsForWishes.org) or call (877)-798-9474  
 Car Donation Foundation d/b/a Wheels For Wishes. To learn more about our programs or financial information, call (212) 948-2000 or visit [www.wheelsforwishes.org](http://www.wheelsforwishes.org)

**Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES**  
*I'm never alone*  
**Life Alert® is always here for me.**  
 One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.  
 Help at Home | Help On-the-Go  
**Life Alert®** Batteries Never Need Charging.  
 For a FREE brochure call:  
**1-800-404-9776**

**DENTAL Insurance**  
 from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.  
 Call to get your FREE Information Kit  
**1-855-225-1434**  
[dentals50plus.com/inquiry](http://dentals50plus.com/inquiry)

Includes the Participating On the Outpatient Procedure and Procedure Benefits Rider. Product not available in all states. Insurance provided by one licensed policyholder of Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. This product is not available in CA and HI. For more information call 1-855-225-1434. THE FURTHER YOU KNOW, THE BETTER OFF YOU WILL BE.

## Classifieds

### Auto Donations

Drive Out Breast Cancer: Donate a car today! The benefits of donating your car or boat: Fast Free Pickup - 24hr Response Tax Deduction - Easy To Do! Call 24/7: 855-905-4755

### Buying / Selling

Buying diamonds, gold, silver, all fine jewelry and watches, coins, paintings, better furs, complete estates. We simply pay more! Call Barry 914-260-8783 or e-mail Americabuying@aol.com

### Education / Career Training

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! (844) 947-0192 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

### Education / Career Training

TRAIN AT HOME TO DO MEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 855-543-6440. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

### Health

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-855-579-8907

### Help Wanted

\$18.50 NYC, \$17 L.I. up to \$13.50 Upstate NY! If you need care from your relative, friend/ neighbor and you have Medicaid, they may be eligible to start taking care of you as personal assistant under NYS Medicaid CDPA Program. No Certificates needed. 347-713-3553

### Help Wanted

HOTEL CLEANING NYC- QUEENS- WHITE PLAINS. T&L Cleaning is looking for Housekeeping Staff for various Hotels. Room Attendants, Laundry Attendants, House-persons and Supervisors. Apply on-line at: tlcleaningservices.com/apply or call 1-800-610-4770

### Home Improvement

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-888-871-0194

### Home Improvement

Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF + 2 FREE Months! 866-440-6501

### Home Improvement

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-763-2379

### Miscellaneous

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 888-508-5313

### TV Internet Phone

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 7/21/21. 1-888-609-9405

Notice of formation of Daphne Cuts, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/10/2021. 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, 59 Fairmont Ave, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

Notice of Formation of The Vision Junkie LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 5/14/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The Vision Junkie LLC, 100 Riverdale Ave., Apt. 8C., Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of SaucyGuava, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/21/2021. 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, 332 Palisade Ave Apt C1, Yonkers, NY 10703-2918. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of iFantasy, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 6/8/2021. 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, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228 . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of THE LAST PACK LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/05/2021. Office: Westchester County, New York. SSNY has been designated as Agent of the LLC upon whom the process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, Joseph A. Candelario 74 Radford Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of Capital Efficient Strategies LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on May 10, 2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 128 Fuller Road Briarcliff Manor NY 10510. Purpose: any lawful act or activity

Notice of Formation of Pumpkin Vine Publishing, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/11/21. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Pumpkin Vine Publishing LLC, 22 Boulder Trail, Bronxville, New York 10708. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of MJV Construction LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/29/2021. Office location: 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, 455 Tarrytown Road, Mailbox 1135, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: TRUCK & CAR REPAIR CENTER LLC, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/01/21. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: United Corporate Services, Inc. 10 Bank St Ste 560. White Plains, NY 10606. Purpose: any lawful business activity.

Notice of Formation of Joyful Ventures LLC. Filed with the SSNY on 06/07/2021. 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, 145 Valentine Lane apt#4E, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of SUHANA HOLDINGS LLC. Filed with the SSNY On 05/10/2021. Office location: Westcheter 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, 27 Ravine Avenue, Apt. 2B, Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR the Rapid Road to Housing Project for eligible homeless individuals residing in Westchester County

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (“MHACY”) is soliciting proposals from qualified firms for the Rapid Road to Housing Project for eligible homeless individuals residing in Westchester County.

This RFP package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This RFP is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter “Responders” or “Respondents”) and is available online starting July 12, 2021 at [www.mhacy.org/about/procurement](http://www.mhacy.org/about/procurement).

Any and all questions must be emailed to Denise Wesley, Ph.D., MHACY Compliance Monitor at [criminodoc@aol.com](mailto:criminodoc@aol.com) by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

Proposals must reach the MHACY no later than 3:00 PM (EST) on August 13, 2021. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B. Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the RFP. Negotiations may be conducted with contractors who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award. After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to the MHACY.

The MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is in the MHACY’s best interest to do so. The MHACY reserves the right to cancel this RFP or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of MHACY. The MHACY is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. The MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of the MHACY’s Board of Commissioners, or MHACY’s officers and/or employees other than the contact person show above, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball President & CEO

Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers

1511 Central Park Avenue Yonkers, New York 10710

RFP No. 2021-05

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

(and I have great respect for the rest of his family) he gets media coverage far beyond what he deserves.

Before we put some myths to rest, let’s take a moment to thank the scientists and medical professionals who so quickly developed the Covid 19 vaccine. Do you remember how many lives were lost before the vaccine was widely distributed. And a big thank you to the health care professionals and those who put their lives at risk to keep us healthy, safe and secure. Everyone who was honored at the ticker tape parade in New York City deserved the accolades they received.

Now let’s put some myths to rest. Misinformation you may have gotten off the internet. Or from someone you know. If you get the Covid vaccine you are not going to grow 2 heads. You may need a booster shot after 6 months or a year. Do you get a flu shot every year. It’s the same thing.

If you had the coronavirus you still should get vaccinated to protect you from the new variants. Vaccines can not make you infertile or cause issues in pregnancy. People who are pregnant are at much higher risk of severe symptoms or death if they get COVID-19. That’s why specialists recommend anyone who wants to conceive in the future get the shot now, as well as anyone currently pregnant or breastfeeding.

The vaccine can make you sick. Yes, you might not feel good--but that's just your immune system at work. “It's a small one to two day sense of illness. It is usually lasts about a day and it is far, far, far better than having a disease,” said Patsy Stinchfield, head of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. “Those things are to be expected. And what is happening is your immune system is responding. It sees the bad guy. It's making the good guys.”

The vaccine does not change your genetic makeup. It does train your cells to respond to infection, but it doesn’t change your DNA. Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine does not cause you to be magnetic. For females, your menstrual cycle cannot be affected by being near someone who received a COVID-19 vaccine.

None of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the United States shed or release any of their components. Vaccine shedding is the term used to describe the release or discharge of any of the vaccine components in or outside of the body. Vaccine shedding can only occur when a vaccine contains a weakened version of the virus. None of the vaccines authorized for use in the U.S. contain a live virus. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

Some feel The vaccine was developed too quickly to be safe. There were no shortcuts in the vaccine process, but Operation Warp speed (occurring during the Trump administration. Again, he took the vaccine) made it more efficient. “The emergency use authorization, all it did was speed up the administration and production parts, it actually did not cut any corners on safety,” said Dr. JoAnn Jose, St. Louis University Hospital infectious disease specialist.

If you have been vaccinated and by chance are around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to get tested or stay away from others unless you have symptoms.

Companies can mandate employees be vaccinated. Fine with me. As far as I am concerned they should have that right. The Bruce Springsteen Show was the first show to open on Broadway. Want to see it? You better bring proof of vaccine when you go to the theater. As far as I am concerned, you want to go to theater, attend concerts, attend indoor and outdoor events with large crowds? The organizers should demand proof of vaccination.

I am not a doctor. You need to contact yours to see if there is any reason you should not be vaccinated. Do we really want to be ‘locked down’ as we were a year ago. Do you care about the health of the ones you love? And your own health?

As the Governor of New Jersey said, ‘we have a pandemic among the unvaccinated.’ Get the damn vaccine already!

**Reach Eric Schoen at [thistooisonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistooisonkers@aol.com). Follow him on Twitter @ericynkers. 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.**

### *40K in Strip Club Charges in One Night, continued from pg 4-*

Under a contract with the county that has been in place since 2004, City Carting of Westchester operates transfer stations; operates and maintains a materials recovery facility for recyclables and hauls recyclables to that facility from certain locations in the county; and provides landfill capacity and other services relating to solid waste removal.

Per an agreement with the county, the monitor, Kroll Associates, ensures that City Carting of Westchester complies with criminal and civil laws and is not under the influence of organized crime. City Carting of Westchester and Oxer were arraigned before Judge John Collins, Jr. in White Plains City Court.

The case was investigated by the DA’s Office and is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Celia Curtis and Steven Vandervelden.

An attorney for City Carting, Bruno Goffre told CBSNY, “From what our investigation has entailed and what we know, City Carting of Westchester, the actual company, did nothing here. I can’t speak on behalf of Christopher Oxer.”

Oxer faces up to five years in prison.

**Wedding of Gay Yonkers Firefighter, continued from pg 1-**

Giuliano is also a “semi-celebrity” in Paraguay, from his appearance on a noted game show, and becoming an Instagram sensation. “He is known, and this is going to be big news when it comes out there. It has already generated a lot of buzz because we livestreamed the wedding for those who couldn’t be there-the next day 2,000 people watched,” said Chisholm.

So why is this event important? “I think one of the big fears is having to be judged in a male dominated profession like a firefighter. The fact that the Mayor married us is important because it sends a message that the Mayor of our City has helped bridge the acceptability of the fact that we have a gay firefighter working for the citizens of Yonkers, and that this is OK. Mayor Spano performed a small act of kindness which spoke volumes and reverberated to the gay community and even the fire department,” said Chisholm.

When Chisholm returned to work the following week, “It was an avalanche of well wishes and smiles, I couldn’t have asked for a better reaction. As a gay many I have experienced the negative side and the negative reaction, so I’m guarded, and I was prepared for it. But the positive takeaway from the Fire Department was that this is alright, he is one of us, and he’s gay. I understand that everyone may not agree with your lifestyle, and that’s OK, as long as its not malicious. People are entitled to their opinion.”

“The Yonkers Fire Department has long been known for their lack of diversity. I am proud to say that the diversity amongst the department has slowly but surely grown. For example, we will have our first female firefighter who just happens to be a woman of color and you have me, as the first openly gay firefighter in the City of Yonkers. These are all positive things but there is absolutely room for growth and things that can be done to enable diversity within the department so that we can reflect and serve our city better.”

Chisholm also wanted to send a message to young people who may be unsure about coming out with their sexuality. “I’m 36, so it can take a lifetime to find yourself. But when you find someone that you want to spend the rest of your life with and they balance you out, whether you are straight or gay, then you should take that opportunity to be happy and have a pleasant life.

“Things are changing, either hop on board or get left behind. If anyone is scared about coming forward, look at me and know that a person like me exists in Yonkers, we have to put forward change.“  
Congratulations!

**Say It Ain’t So Gardner, continued from pg 1-**

was revealed by Aris as one of his sources for the anti-police columns that he wrote. I actually doubted the story that you wrote, Mr. Murphy, so I contacted some of my friends in Yonkers law enforcement, who verified this fact. Now I want to know how far did Gardner go in trying to ruin the careers of two of his fellow police officers in Yonkers? Did he confirm some of the stories that Aris has now admitted were not true?

Has Gardner been called in for a deposition in this case? I’m sure that he is hiding under a rock after this fact was revealed. My friends in Yonkers law enforcement told me that he is now considered ‘A Rat’ by his fellow members of the YPD.

Back in 1919, after members of the Chicago White Sox were found guilty of throwing the World Series, a little boy went up to Shoeless Joe Jackson and said, Say it Ain’t So Joe! I would have to add Say it Ain’t So Chuck! Why did you try to ruin the careers of two leaders in the Yonkers Police Dept.? One of who is now Commissioner? **Gene Tierney, Yonkers**

Another one of our readers wanted more facts about Gardner. “Your story about Hezi being sued for defamation does not include enough facts about former Commissioner Gardner. I would like to see the proof that he indeed was a source for the Blue Truth stories written against Commissioner Mueller and Det. Olson, thanks Kathy Quinn, Yonkers.”

Ms. Quinn, thanks for your letter and thanks for reading. I can refer you to court documents concerning this case, which can be read online or at the county courthouse. One document, titled, Defendants responses to Moran’s Discovery Demands, item #34-reads “Former Police Commissioner Gardner so reported to Mr. Aris but did not share with him documents.”

In another document, titled, Defendants Responses to Mueller Demands, item #8-Defendants have communicated with Ray Montero, former Police Chief Gardner and Kenneth Davis.” There are several other instances in court documents which reference Gardner as a source.”

A few City Hall insiders were shocked that Gardner would betray his fellow officers in blue. “At first I didn’t believe it but I guess that Chuck is a wolf in sheep’s clothing and he fooled us all. The question is why would he do this to Mueller and to Olson? He only had a few years left before he retired. Imagine the damage he did to these two and their families, to be accused of things that never happened. I guess Gardner lied to a lot of people and led a double life.”

Several of our readers have asked what was Gardner’s motive? “Mr. Murphy, it has been out there for some time that Ray Montero clearly had an axe to grind against Mueller and Olson and that is why he was a source for Hezi and Blue Truth. But Gardner? Why would Gardner do such a stupid thing? Just like any Cop, and any criminal case--what’s the motive?” asked Katie Holmes. Some say it was for power, some say it was jealousy aimed at Mueller, who would replace him as Commissioner.

“It is irrefutable that Hezi Aris has admitted that former Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner was a frequent source for his “Blue Truth” stories. This comes as no surprise to those who’ve followed this series of defamatory articles, especially to those of us who’ve been unfairly targeted and harmed by them. I think it’s an understatement to say that Chuck Gardner and a few others owe the public an honest explanation of their roles in this fiasco,” said Det. Keith Olson, a defendant in the suit.

Some of the other claims posted online about this lawsuit claim that it is a “Slap Suit,” that has no merit. To those I would ask them to read the decision from Judge Lefkowitz, most of which is printed in our story from last week. Judge Lefkowitz ruled in favor of the officers, and also ruled that Hezi Aris is not a journalist. She also permitted the suit to continue, and its headed towards damages against him., That is not a slap-suit, but it is real trouble for Mr. Aris, and many in Yonkers are saying ITS ABOUT TIME!

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

Saturday, July 31st

July 31, 1926: Police blamed a huge cross found burning on the Tuckahoe-Yonkers border, the second in just a few months, on “mischievous boys, stating it was “not the work of the Ku Klux Klan.”

July 31, 1931: Palisades Interstate Park officials, working with Yonkers, announced the best place for the Yonkers side of the proposed Hudson River pontoon bridge would be at the intersection of Hawthorne Avenue and Downing Street.

July 31, 1951: City Manager Donald Wagner announced his belief that 145 parcels of “unusable” property owned by Yonkers should be sold for 20% of its assessed value.

Sunday August 1st

August 1, 1903: The Common Council voted Washington Park to be the site of the new City Hall. The building would be built on the crest of the hill in the park, and command a striking view of Yonkers, the Palisades and the Hudson River.

August 1, 1936: Twenty thousand people gathered on the streets in Getty Square to watch a driverless “Magic Car” weave in and out of traffic; the safety demonstration was sponsored by The Herald Statesman. The car’s elaborate “robot electrical device” worked by telegraphic code; the “Magic Car” could stop and start, beep its horn, stop for lights, make left and right turns!

August 1, 1956: Seven-year-old Joey Alfid of Aqueduct Place, Yonkers youngest orchestra conductor, led the 60-member New York Philharmonic Orchestra at a Long Beach, LI, concert!

**Questions or comments? Email [YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com](mailto:YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com). For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit our website [www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org](http://www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org), call 914-961-8940 or email [yhsociety@aol.com](mailto:yhsociety@aol.com).**

**Beer Under the Streets of Yonkers, continued from pg 1-**

can’t be, but it is it’s beer, it’s beer!” said Horvath.

“The happy word was passed from person to person from house to house. It was carried by men passing cars, and by people who rush to the telephone thoughtful children inform their parents. The cry went up along Park Hill Avenue and school Street where the discovery was made- beer beer it’s running in the street -free beer through Main Street, New Main Street into Getty Square the heart of downtown Yonkers, up North Broadway, down South Broadway beer, beer, beer come get it free beer. When the citizens heard they came and they got it.”

“They came with cups and glasses, bottles and buckets, jugs, jars, pots, pans, pails, basins, cans, anything that would hold liquid, and they were very, very happy. And then just when the singing and dancing commenced the steady flow began to slacken died down to a trickle, stopped dead. A great groan of disappointment went up.

“The beer, to be sure, had had a faint taste of rubber to it. But after 11 years of Prohibition everyone was used to beer tasting strongly of much worse things than rubber. Anybody in Yonkers in 1930 who objected to a mild flavor of latex in his brew was liable to stand accused of being a communist, or what was much worse, an Englishman.

“So no one complained about the beers taste, only that there was more no more of it. The crowd stood around waiting hopefully until finally, the police arrived and began to move them on.

Eventually, Joe Horvath told DPW Commissioner Kearns, who then told the Mayor of Yonkers, John Fogarty, who was a republican. “As a former FBI man and former US attorney as well, Fogarty was familiar with the ins and outs of Prohibition law enforcement – and nonenforcement. Fogarty listened as Kearns blurted out the story. Everyone loved Jack Fogarty and agreed that he was on the threshold of a great career, unfortunately it was his conviction that he could drink up all the liquor Westchester County all by himself, and he died broke, still trying. The mayor asked Kearns, who else knows?

Yonkers Police Chief EJ Quirk also knew, and in a few days the story would be printed across the country. But Davidson references the curious fact that the local daily newspaper in 1930, The Herald Statesman, buried the story inside. “The Yonkers Herald September 30, 1930, inside on page 2, had a tiny paragraph entitled Police are Probing Sewer Liquor Hose.”

“The Department of Justice men, led by Capt. O’Connell, arrived on the scene. Chief Quirk and his men were already there. Another squad of DPW men was sent underground with strict instructions not to sample the merchandise, but the trace to hose. It led to a garage at the junction of School and Harriet streets..The garage had a door of reinforced steel. It was locked. No one, apparently, was at home. A large crowd of people gathered to watch as law enforcement forced the garage door open.”

The next logical question was where did the other end of the hose come from? Could it be from a brewery in Yonkers? “But the officers and the Feds decided to wait a day to find out. “At 4 o’clock in the morning a man was found by the police fiddling with the cover of a manhole at the corner of new Main Street and Brooks streets, a few blocks from the garage. He gave a New York City address and said that he was a truck driver’s assistant and come back to look for a missing package.”

“You expect to find it in the sewer? Asked the Police? The man was questioned and released and the address he gave proved to be a false one. And in the morning, when the forces of law turned up to trace the other part of the hose – surprise, surprise – it had disappeared. The police professed themselves utterly mystified.”

How good of a location was Yonkers, both to make beer and transport it? Davidson writes, “The city of Yonkers was located on the lower Hudson River, a large body of easy easily navigable water. Contained, on and Street, a permit brewery – one which was licensed to make near or D alcohol lysed beer – and was and so was able to put procurer practically unlimited quantity quantities of malt, barley, and hops. Right on the Yonkers riverfront was a huge plant for refining sugar and another one for distilling grain alcohol only for industrial purposes of course – both being essential commodities for the moonshine business.”

“The city of Yonkers is also located right next to the six or 7 million perpetually thirsty inhabitants of the city of New York – a great bottomless gullet of a market. And in addition, it was for a time at least the residence of an entrepreneur printer named Arthur Flegenheimer, also known as the Dutchman also known as Dutch Schultz, the kingpin of New York bootlegging.”

According to Davidson, Dutch owned the Yonkers Brewery, “He was joined in the business venture by a few fellow gangsters such as Owey Madden and so it was rumored several prominent Westchester citizens of good reputation---!!!”

The Yonkers Brewery: “The piece of land with a malt house was located was known as chicken Island. School Street was its main thoroughfare there were many others. If the legal authority suspected that the pipeline led from a brewery in Yonkers their puzzlement as to where the brewery was located is hard to understand. There was only the one in the whole city and its presence was perfectly legal. Had a permit from the Treasury Department to make ‘near’ beer.

“There were, indeed, a few suspicious souls who wondered wine expert German brow Meister should be hired at a fabulous salary to make near beer. But with armed and manic guards protecting the honor of the brewery, nobody was going to risk hurting their feelings by wondering out loud.”

Several days after the pipes were found, “although the garage is still being watched, police have failed to find any clues to the ownership of the beer bottling plant believed to have been operated their section of hose is still being held in police quarters.”

“For almost 2 weeks the Yonkers Herald happily forgot about the beer host scandal, even if nobody else in town did. On October 14 the Nepperhan Avenue sewer collapsed it was the oldest one in the city and how the politicians and contractors who tore everything else in Yonkers up every two years had overlooked it for four decades was a mystery. The Department of Public Works sent another crew down to repair it or at least investigated and guess what they found?”

Yes, another set of hoses and some more beer flowing underneath the streets of Yonkers. “The hose was traced from Nepperhan Avenue and Elm Street down Elm to Palisades Avenue, down Palisades to engine place and through to John Street. It stopped just short of a John Street garage which for a large vacancy for rent sign. But the peace officers forced their way into the vacant building and found an elaborate bottling plant and enough beer to crown the whole police to drown the whole police force.”

Nine men were arrested in this raid. “the nine men seemed oddly unworried, probably because they been warned in enough time to run several hundred gallons of the Nepperhan Creek into the vast with the beer. Sure enough the federal analysis reported that the liquor wasn’t even strong enough to constitute near beer and the men were released.”

Here’s the unanswered question that Davidson asks throughout his story, which has never been answered, 60 years after Davidson wrote it, and 90 years after the incident took place. “By this time more than 6000 feet, or more than a mile, a photo of hose been pulled up from underneath the Yonkers streets. And neither the local police nor the Department of Justice agents have been able to figure out where the hell it’d been cut carrying beer from. Probably come from some now brewery they kept insisting and never once took a stroll towards the one on the industry the only one in the city which was several times the site of the elephant house in the Bronx zoo, with barbed wire on top of its walls, and armed guards mounting pony patrols outside 24 hours a day.”

The Federal authorities finally came to Yonkers on October 16, more than two weeks after the discovery. “Finally on October 16, the federal grand jury SWAT swung into action. They should subpoenas for the commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, the chief of police, the captain of the first precinct, the fire chief and a deputy fire chief.”

“What I’d like to know is just how more than a mile a 4 inch hose could be run under Columbus Avenue Elm St., Palisades Avenue and John Street without any knowledge on the part of city officials or employees said assistant US attorney walls people in Yonkers thought that was a good question. They would still like to know. ...After more than 6000 feet of hose worth more than \$25,000 he said have been hauled from various manholes it was realized that one of the manholes is about 200 yards away from the brewery of the state cereal company at and and Edward streets. After the first pipeline was discovered both ends were cut who cut them?”

US Attorney Watts, who was investigating the case, is quoted as saying, “the hose couldn’t go around corners and make angles from one street to another without someone opening manholes and going down to guide it. How is it possible for all this to of been done without being seen?” Was everyone in Yonkers blind? Or is everyone in Yonkers in on the secret?--End of Part I. Part 2-The payoffs and who was the most powerful man in Yonkers? Next Week.

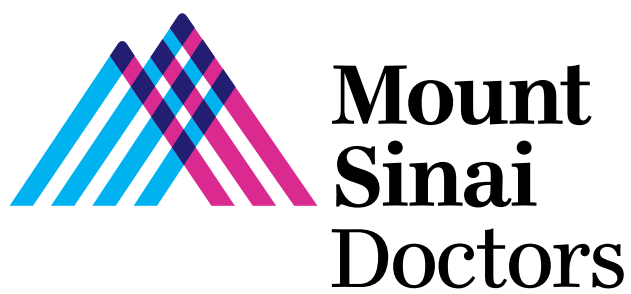
# THE RIGHT CARE, RIGHT HERE IN WESTCHESTER.



Receive high-quality care from the nationally recognized physicians at the Mount Sinai Health System. Our three convenient locations in Westchester County offer primary care and multiple specialty services, including cardiology, gastroenterology, orthopedics, breast surgery, and more.

Get the care you need safely and confidently.

Book an appointment today at  
[mountsinai.org/westchester](https://mountsinai.org/westchester)



**MOUNT SINAI DOCTORS-  
PELHAM**

116 Fifth Avenue  
Pelham, NY 10803-1504  
914-813-3133

**MOUNT SINAI DOCTORS-  
SCARSDALE**

341 Central Park Avenue  
Scarsdale, NY 10583-1301  
914-370-5000

**MOUNT SINAI DOCTORS-  
YONKERS**

1086 North Broadway  
Yonkers, NY 10701  
914-968-3535