

# Yonkers Rising

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Friday September 10, 2021

## Future of Glenwood Power Plant Redevelopment at a Standstill over CBA



*A rendering of redevelopment plan for Glenwood Power Plant*

**By Dan Murphy**

As the City of Yonkers continues to move forward with its development “Boom” of more than \$2 Billion in projects completed or underway, the future of the Glenwood Power Plant and its proposed redevelopment remains in doubt. That is because members of a Yonkers Community Coalition are still waiting for a promised Community Benefits Agreement, CBA, that the developers, The Plant, have agreed to provide to the residents, taxpayers and concerned citizens of Yonkers.

The Glenwood Power Plant is located directly on the Hudson River in Northwest Yonkers. And the proposed redevelopment of the property is impressive. The plans call for a 157,000 square foot, mixed-office, banquet space-catering hall, and “a global home for climate solutions.”

A pedestrian bridge from the Glenwood Metro North station is also included in the plan, which according to the Environmental Assessment submitted by the developer, would “transform this historic building into a center for resiliency with co-working space, business incubators, maker spaces, and a grand convening space for events, workshops, public art, and gatherings that engage entrepreneurs, innovators, scientists, artists, youth and government engaged with climate solutions.”

The major problem with any redevelopment of the old power plant is that there is no parking on site, and two attempts by the developer to try and secure parking at nearby Trevor Park and at JFK Marina were met with vocal opposition and were dropped.

Now a third proposal to build additional parking at a small portion of Trevor Park where city greenhouses currently stand appears to have the support of the City, because the new garage would be operated by the Yonkers Parking Authority. The greenhouses, which are rundown, would be relocated to another location. The garage would also provide much-needed new parking spaces designated for residents on Glenwood and Ravine Avenues.

As The Plant moves forward with a submission to the Yonkers Planning Board, one major obstacle remains: support from the Yonkers community. That support was supposed to come in the form of a Community Benefits Agreement, CBA, between The Goren Group and several residents who were picked by the developer to represent the Yonkers community in negotiations on the CBA.

*continued on pg 5-*

## Woman Kills Boyfriend Who Was Hanging Onto Roof in Car Crash



*the family of Miguel Pena, left, is demanding Justice for his death*

**By Dan Murphy**

On Saturday, September 4th, 2021, at approximately 1:24 AM, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to the north side of the Eugenia Maria De Hostos Microsociety School off Stanley Place on a report of a motor vehicle accident with injuries. Upon arrival First Responders discovered that a 2012 Subaru Forrester had crashed through the Stanley Place access gate to the school property and struck a concrete barrier before impacting the north wall of the school building. A male accident victim was located on the ground adjacent to the barrier; a female accident victim was in the operator’s seat of the Forrester. First Responders rendered medical aid to both parties, including CPR to the male accident victim, but he was pronounced deceased at scene. The female accident victim was taken to a local area hospital. There were no other injured parties at scene. Police cordoned off the area and initiated accident and criminal investigations.

Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Digital Forensics Unit, along with Accident Investigators, responded to the scene and interviewed subjects and witnesses, recovered surveillance video, processed forensic evidence, and reconstructed the accident events.

Investigation yielded that the male victim and female operator were in a domestic relationship, and allegedly prior to the accident were drinking at a residence on Stanley Avenue. An argument ensued between the couple, and the female operator attempted to leave in the Forrester. The male victim, either through his actions or hers, or a combination of both, ended up on the hood the Forrester; investigators believe that the male victim may have been trying to prevent the female operator from driving in her inebriated

*continued on pg 4-*

## Governor Hochul Visits Flooded Yonkers, Commits to Help City & Those Displaced



*The Sprain Parkway Southbound the day after Ida flooding, photo by Phil Reisman*



*Governor Kathy Hochul in Yonkers with Mayor Mike Spano, State Senator Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Congressman Jamaal Bowman and Assemblyman Nader Sayegh*

**By Dan Murphy**

Governor Kathy Hochul visited the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in Westchester County on Sept. 3, going to Yonkers and then to Mamaroneck. The Governor visited a flooded portion of Warburton Avenue in Yonkers that resulted in a landslide of a parking lot and a cancellation of MTA service on the Hudson River line.

“I can commit here today that the state will provide the resources for this project to get the engineering and design phase underway. My heart goes out to the first responders here representing those all over the State of New York. They teamed up with our State Police to literally save people from the raging waters that had turned their streets into rivers,” said Hochul.

“So when people talk about these 500-year events, 1,000-year events, none of us are buying it anymore. Mother Nature has changed because of what man has done – man-made, man-induced climate change, the extent of greenhouse gases that have destroyed our environment have left us vulnerable, and we all stand together – local, state, and federal officials – to build the resiliency while we can, but also to address the specter of climate change with a greater sense of urgency because the future of climate change is right now,” said Hochul.

## Assemblyman Sayegh Honors Yonkers Restauranteur for a Lifetime of Service



*L-R-Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, Miltaiadis Theodoropoulos, Dr. Alfred Liotta*

Yonkers restauranteur Miltaiadis Theodoropoulos has been awarded the New York State Assembly Exemplary Citizen Award by Assemblyman Nader Sayegh for his commitment to his community and lifetime of illustrious service.

“The Hastings Center Diner and Homefield Deli are community institutions that provide classic diner and deli dishes, while showcasing the American Dream that you can come here to Yonkers as an immigrant, work hard, and succeed,” said Assemblyman Sayegh in presenting the award. Theodoropoulos is originally from Karpenisi, Greece.

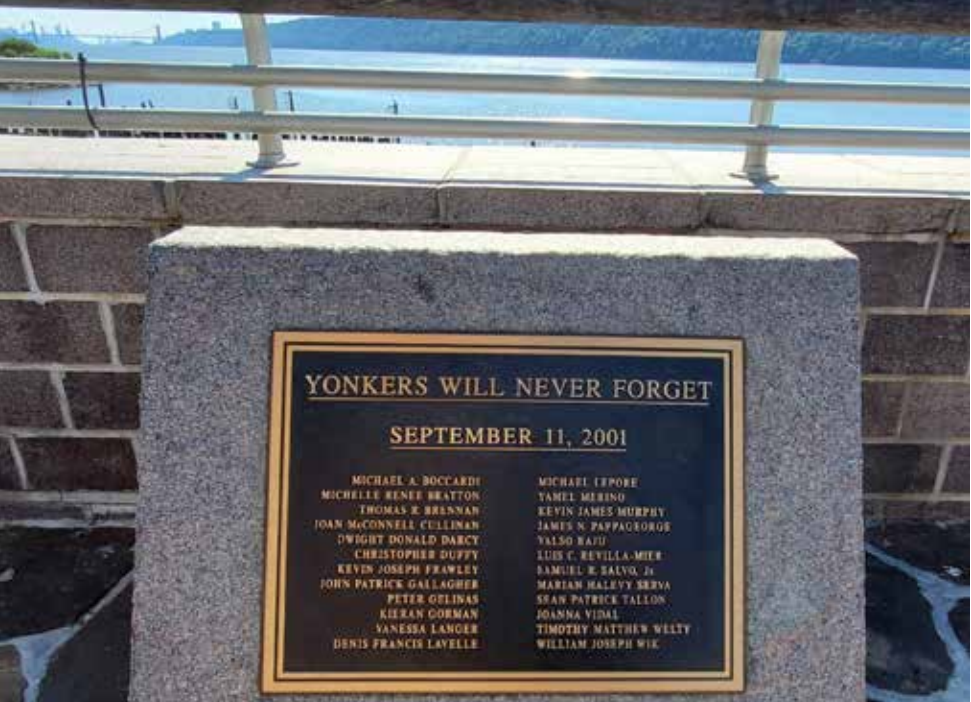
Joining Assemblyman Sayegh for the presentation was longtime friend and Mercy College Adjunct Professor Dr. Alfred Liotta.

**September 11-20 Years Later in Yonkers, Page 2**

# On the 20th Anniversary of September 11, 2001 Yonkers Will Never Forget, photos by Donna Davis



The two Yonkers Memorials; Conor Park, on McLean Avenue, with a steel beam from the World Trade Center, and the memorial with the names of those from Yonkers lost that day. On a clear day you can see lower Manhattan from the riverfront memorial.



The names of the Yonkers men who lost their battles to 9/11 related illnesses: John LoBianco –Yonkers Fire Department, Firefighter Eduardo Rivera – Yonkers Fire Department, Fire Commissioner Peter Guyett – Yonkers Fire Department, Lieutenant Roy McLaughlin – Yonkers Police Department, Police Officer Anthony Maggiore – Yonkers Police Department, Firefighter Neill Tyndal Jr – Yonkers Fire Department, Firefighter John Peteani – Yonkers Fire Department.



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## Yonkers High School Football, The Force & Brave Returns This Week



summer football practice for the Yonkers Force. Photo by Doc Wszolek

By Phil Foley-

Yes folks Yonkers HS Football is back this Fall. The Yonkers Brave coached by Vic Chiappa will travel this Friday night to Mamaroneck to play Mamaroneck HS! Kickoff is at 6PM.

Coach Anthony Fava and the Yonkers Force will open their season at home this Saturday September 11th hosting Mt. Vernon HS. (At Roosevelt HS Field) Kickoff will be at 1:30 PM..

Good news for all fans this year Section 1 will be letting all fans attend games. So lets go out and have a great time supporting our Yonkers football teams! Go Brave!!! Go Force!!! Check out nex't weeks Rising for results of the games played.

We have the schedule for the Yonkers Brave. After this Friday's game at Mamaroneck, they will play:

- Saturday, September 18-at Mt. Vernon-130PM
  - Friday, September 24, -Brave vs. Force, Roosevelt HS 5pm
  - Friday October 1, at New Rochelle -5pm
  - Saturday October 9, at Port Chester-130 PM
  - Saturday October 16, Scarsdale at Home -130PM
  - Saturday October 23, Spring Valley at Home --3PM
- We hope to give you the Yonkers Force schedule next week

### Yonkers Rising

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## Remembering Willie Faulkner



Willie Faulkner, 2nd left, with Left, NBA's Gus Williams, Melvina Lathan and Howard Berman, from the Yonkers PAL. Photo by Ed Whitman

Deacon Willie James Faulkner Sr. a longtime resident of Pelham, NY, departed this life on August 21, at the age of 80. Willie was born in Gadsden Alabama on April 5, 1941 as the only child to Henry James Faulkner and Mary Mae Butler.

Willie graduated from Carver High School in Gadsden Alabama in 1959. He attended Jackson State University where he played on the football team as an offensive lineman. He graduated with a degree in education

Willie served in Vietnam as a member of the US Army. After relocating to New York, Willie attended NYU, where he received a Master's Degree in Education. Willie met and married the love of his life Bessie Mae Harvey on June 30, 1964, they had two children, Willie Jr. and one daughter Munester.

Willie had a long career in the Yonkers Public Schools where he was remembered and loved. He also served as a Board member for the Yonkers Police Athletic League, where he never stopped helping young adults. He liked to give back to the underprivileged by giving and exposing them to sporting events and Broadway plays. "I don't know what else to do because this is what I was put here to do."

Willie was a long time member of Shiloh Baptist Church in New Rochelle where he was ordained as a Deacon. His loving compassionate spirit, generosity and devotion to others exemplified the tenets of Christianity.

Willie was an active member of James Farrell Lodge, and was a founding member of "Minority Athletes Networking" (MAN), where he worked with members of the NY Giants Football team to raise money for scholarships for underprivileged young black men. He was close friends with NY Giants, George Martin, Pepper Johnson and Harry Carson, who attended several PAL fund raisers with Willie.

Willie is survived by his wife, Bessie Mae, son Willie Jr. and daughter Munester, and three grandsons who live in Yonkers.

Editor's Note: As a young board member of the Yonkers PAL, I can remember how Willie used his connections to the NFL to help the PAL hold a raffle for two Super Bowl tickets year after year, and that fund raiser brought in tens of thousands of dollars, to help the PAL.

We spoke to former PAL President Howard Berman who said, "Willie was very involved with the PAL, going way back to when he was a counselor at Roosevelt High School. Many of the students at Roosevelt would come to the PAL and Willie got involved then."

"Willie raised thousands of dollars for the PAL by obtaining two Super Bowl tickets that we would raffle off. He never stopped working for kids and he helped a lot of kids change their lives for the better."

God Bless Willie Faulkner

Please Join Us



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## Yonkers Riverfest Postponed to 2022 for COVID-DELTA Variant Health Concerns

After thoughtful consideration, the Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront Business Improvement District, in conjunction with the City of Yonkers, must regretfully announce that the 28th Annual Yonkers Riverfest has been postponed due to concerns of the continuing rise in cases of COVID-19 and the Delta variant. The annual festival, held along the majestic Hudson River, has always been a free event that attracts thousands of people from across the county and has been a Westchester staple since its inception in 1992.

"Making the decision to postpone Yonkers Riverfest was difficult but ultimately it is the decision that is best for the health and safety of our community. We are just as disheartened to make this announcement as I am sure many of our community members will be to hear it," said Sara A. Brody, Executive Director, Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID. "We are looking forward to coming together once again for a celebration in 2022."

"While cancelling Riverfest is a disappointment to all of us, we must be sure the health and safety of our residents and visitors is held a priority," said Mayor Mike Spano. "This was a difficult decision, but I am optimistic that we will gather again soon to celebrate our diverse and vibrant Yonkers community."

For more information on happenings in Yonkers, visit [www.Yonkers-Downtown.com](http://www.Yonkers-Downtown.com).

## Girlfriend Kills Boyfriend in Car Crash, continued from pg 1-

condition. The female operator then drove south on Stanley Avenue at high rate of speed – with her partner still on the hood – crossed Ludlow Street onto Stanley Place and crashed through the access gate before striking the barrier and school wall – a total distance of approximately 260 yards. As a result, the male victim suffered fatal traumatic injuries to his head and body, and the female operator suffered injuries consistent with a vehicle collision; she is expected to recover. Responding police officers further detected evidence and indicators of alcohol consumption by the female operator; she did possess a valid NYS driver's license. Investigators continue to actively develop information and enhance the case.

The female operator was placed under arrest and charged with one count of Vehicular Manslaughter 2 – DWI, a Class D Felony in the New York State Penal Law. She is identified as Mercedes VARGAS, a 43-year-old resident of Stanley Avenue this City. VARGAS was arraigned in Yonkers Criminal Court yesterday and remanded into the custody of the Westchester County Department of Corrections; her next court date is scheduled for September 10th. The case is being prosecuted by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office. Additional information may be released as it becomes available.

The male victim is identified as Martires SUSANA-PENA, a 42-year-old resident of Stanley Avenues this City. The City of Yonkers and Yonkers Police Department offers its sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Miguel Pena's family in the Dominican Republic "want justice" for his death. They have also created a GoFundMe page to raise funds to have his body flown home for a proper burial. That link is

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/ayuda-para-enviar-cuerpo-de-miguel-a-rd?utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp%20share-sheet&fbclid=IwAR28yP7tyeL7RuOw9HVhBwvADgSIFJKTBTjC15eT8VmwPSZ7D8ismnZiSI](https://www.gofundme.com/f/ayuda-para-enviar-cuerpo-de-miguel-a-rd?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=p_cp%20share-sheet&fbclid=IwAR28yP7tyeL7RuOw9HVhBwvADgSIFJKTBTjC15eT8VmwPSZ7D8ismnZiSI)

"Greetings everyone, today my heart is filled with sadness for the news we received about our friend / brother Miguel. Miguel lost his life in an unfortunate event which is being investigated by detectives and police where Miguel lives in Yonkers, NY. Many people who knew Miguel know that he was a former player from Sabana Del Puerto. Known by many people who know that he was not a man of evil, Miguel was a person well loved by all those who knew him. He came to the United States some time ago leaving his whole family in the Dominican Republic, so here he only had friends from the DR and what he was getting to know in NY. And that is why today I dare to open this fundraising page to be able to send Miguel's body to Bonao where his family can give him the grave that he deserves. Porvafor I need each of you to achieve this goal, your help will be immensely appreciated, and no matter the amount, you can even help us by sharing the gofund link. Later we will put here documents and invoice of said funeral home that will be in charge of sending his body to Bonao RD. A thousand blessings and the most important to keep Miguel's soul in prayer and to his relatives peace and conformity," writes Jose Luis Rosario Vargas.

## Yonkers Mayor Spano Waives Electrical Permit Fees for Hurricane Ida Damage

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the City's Department of Housing & Buildings is waiving any electrical permit fees associated to damages from Hurricane Ida.

"Many Yonkers homes were hit particularly hard by the flash flooding caused by Hurricane Ida," said Mayor Spano. "As we continue clean-up operations across the city, we want to relieve our property owners of any additional burden and costs as they struggle to recover from this devastating storm."

According to the Yonkers City Building Code, any replacement of electrical systems and equipment that have been exposed to water must require a city permit. A homeowner in need of electrical repair due to damage from Hurricane Ida must contact a licensed electrician to file a permit with the Yonkers Department of Housing & Buildings. The standard fee that typically starts at \$175 for one-to-two family homes will be waived when filing for the permit.

For questions or more information regarding Housing & Building permits/fees, residents are encouraged to call 914-377-6500 or visit <https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/departments/housing-buildings>.

## Latimer, County Government Recognize Sept. as Suicide Prevention & Awareness Month Month-Long Messaging Campaign on the Importance Suicide Prevention and Overall Mental Health

Upholding Westchester County's Commitment to suicide prevention, awareness and the importance of overall mental health, Westchester County Executive George Latimer, the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) and several community partners recognized the month of September as Suicide Prevention & Awareness Month. The month-long messaging campaign was created to help educate Westchester County residents on the appropriate ways to discuss mental health crisis in identified communities, and remind them of the resources available to them.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: "Throughout the month of September, the County will be encouraging residents to participate in a variety of workshops, training courses and task force initiatives to help our communities engage in suicide prevention efforts, and help them to practice good mental health. It is not always easy to speak up if you think a family member or friend is struggling or dealing with a mental health crisis, and we want to give you the tools to start that discussion. Helping those around us is everyone's business, and we want everyone to know about the support and services that are available to them in Westchester."

Westchester County's Suicide Prevention and Awareness Plan includes: **Westchester County Suicide Awareness Pinwheels Display and Reflection** For the first time in Westchester County, in partnership with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), the County will display one pinwheel to represent every suicide in Westchester from the year prior. The pinwheels will be displayed at Glen Island Park New Rochelle throughout the month of September, for visitors to pause and remember those we lost to suicide.

**DCMH Social Media Awareness Campaign:** Daily social media awareness information and activities related to Suicide Prevention and Awareness.

**Soul Shop Faith Based Training:** On September 29, DCMH in partnership with AFSP and Calvary Church, will be offering "Soul Shop: Ministering to Faith Communities Affected by Suicide." It's estimated that one out of every two people in a given congregation has personally been affected by suicide. Soul Shop trains faith community leaders to offer support, hope and connection to those in their congregations. Soul Shop equips participants with the resources and guidance they need to foster hope and healing in their community.

**Mental Health First Aid Training:** DCMH will provide Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training to Westchester County's communities. Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHA) is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Adult Mental Health First Aid Training offers training to address the needs of adults. Westchester will also be launching Teen Mental Health First Aid Training targeting adolescents and young adults in the near future.

For more information and a complete list of resources and services, please visit us at: <https://mentalhealth.westchestergov.com/>, or call 914-995-5220. Please visit our interactive online directory and map of services: <http://dcmhservices.westchestergov.com/DCMHServices/login.jsp>.

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## The Kensington Assisted Living to Host Comedy Night Sept 16 to Benefit Alzheimer's Association

The Kensington Assisted Living Facility will host a Comedy Night from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, to benefit the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter. A Longest Day fundraiser, it will feature a virtual performance by comedian J Smiles. As a caregiver for her mother who has Alzheimer's, J Smiles has deep personal experience that she draws upon for her act. She also hosts a podcast that offers support and levity for family caregivers of those with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

With all the uncertainty still surrounding the pandemic, especially for dementia caregivers, she said making it a virtual event made sense. "We don't really know when this pandemic will end, and even when the pandemic may be over for non-caregivers, all the caregivers I know will still have trepidations. So I thought, let's not wait, let's do something virtual. I described the virtual shows that I've been doing since the pandemic started, and they thought that would be a fantastic approach," she said. "We put together a program specifically for caregivers. We're leading with levity. It will be a safe space where all the material I use in the show will be relatable to caregivers, their families and friends. It will not be a seminar, a workshop or a lecture."

Anyone who wants to tune in can, and all proceeds will go directly to Alzheimer Association to help its mission of care and support for families living with dementia as well as research seeking a cure. Admission is a \$20 donation on The Kensington's Longest Day page.

Before she became J Smiles, she was Janay Smith, an engineer, product designer and lawyer. Things changed dramatically, however, following her father's abrupt death nearly 10 years ago, which thrust her mother into early-onset Alzheimer's disease. "The disease crippled my mother in less than six months. She was fully functioning, running her own forensic accounting firm in January. By six months later, I was in charge of what she ate, getting her clean and managing all of her money. She was 62 when it happened," she recalled. "The shock and trauma of my father's death sped up what the neurologists said would likely have taken 10 years. Prior to this, I didn't know that an event like this could trigger Alzheimer's."

She said the Alzheimer's Association has been very helpful to her. "I'm mostly connected with the Georgia Chapter — I have the app, and I use the services to find resources, that has been very useful to me. As an only child, a single person and a primary caregiver who didn't see it coming, I'm often anxious as to if I am doing it correctly, and the Alzheimer's Association to me is the standard bearer of information. I've been able to contact the office when I have specific questions when I am confused, and that's been helpful."

For more information visit , visit [alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://alz.org/hudsonvalley).

### Glenwood Power Plant, continued from pg 1-

That group, called the Yonkers Community Coalition is currently comprised of Steve Simpson, Effie Philips, Hector Santiago, Christine Peters, Ryan Crews, Jamal Epps, and Terrence Hamilton. The commitment from the developer called on the CBA to provide certain incentives to the community in exchange for their support.

The Plant wanted to be the first developer to agree to a CBA in the history of Yonkers development projects, and their suggestion was met with hope and anticipation by members of the community and the Yonkers public. The Plant hired a consultant, Yonkers resident Jeni Wallace, to draft a CBA to present to the coalition. Yonkers Rising has confirmed that Wallace was hired to finalize the agreement and write the CBA. Mrs. Wallace stated she was hired on a three-month contract, which she fulfilled, with the contract ending in August. She would not comment on the status of the CBA, stating she is no longer privy to those negotiations, but Wallace's proposed CBA never made it to the YCC.

The developers asked the Yonkers Community Coalition "what benefits do you think the community needs?" The Yonkers Community Coalition answered job opportunities for Yonkers residents who will be paid a living wage, access to the Plant's resources, job training in renewable energy, a guarantee that a percentage of construction jobs would be awarded to local Yonkers residents through an apprenticeship program, and the construction jobs would be paid at prevailing wage. And finally, that a percentage of the profits would go directly to the Yonkers Public Schools.

The third request is the most unusual but comes from the theory that over the past 16 years of development in Yonkers, developers have been able to avoid paying their fair share of property taxes through a PILOT, (payment in lieu of taxes) through IDA incentives. And this lack of payment of property taxes has resulted in an ongoing shortfall in the Yonkers Public Schools.

These suggestions by Christine Peters and other members of the YCC have gone unanswered from the developer, who has yet to submit a CBA to the group and appears to have done an about face in their commitment to a CBA and support from the community, according to members of the YCC that we spoke to.

"At this point, as a parent with a child in the Yonkers Public Schools, it's time we make sure that everyone is paying their fair share of taxes, starting with the developers. The PILOT programs that we have given away to developers are not responsive to the needs of YPS students. All developers, large and small, should be held responsible to the local community as part of their mission. And it was the developer's idea to come up with a CBA. They asked me to volunteer on the YCC and I have done so for months. They wanted a buy in from the community and the community has told them what we want," said YCC member Christine Peters.

YCC member Hector Santiago said, "There has been a lot of progress with this development project on all aspects except a CBA. It appears that the developer is using the possibility of a CBA for their investors but, we are at a standstill. They want to be innovative, but they are not taking the opportunity to do it. I believe that a CBA was handed in to them but none of us have seen it."

"We want to see Yonkers folks as part of the long-term employment for this project. All I have asked for is some type of number, some type of percentage of Yonkers residents who would be employed there, but there is nothing that they will commit to. This is not inclusive-ness."

The Plant has changed its Yonkers representation during the attempts at a CBA. Desiree Dismore was the first, and now Ray Wilcox, who also serves as the head of Yonkers Arts, is now their liaison.

We spoke to Wilcox, who explained, "Some of the items in the CBA we can't substantiate because we are not that far along in the process. We are currently working on a community commitment letter with the intent to turn it into a CBA. I am a part of this community, and I want equity for this community and we are listening to the community."

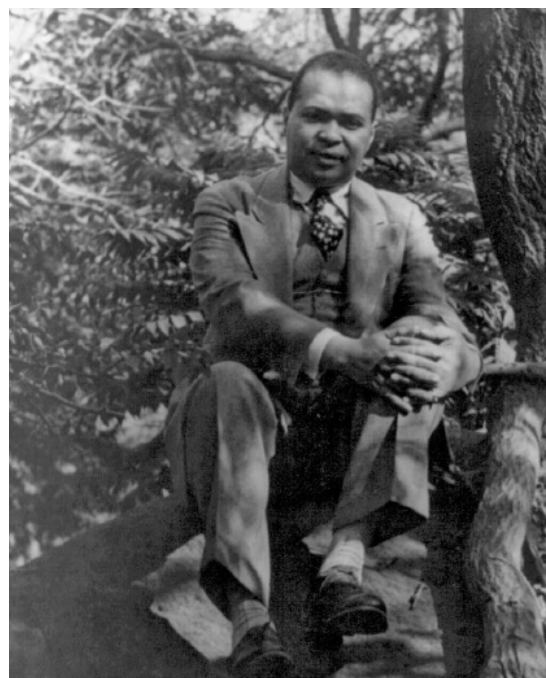
One Glenwood neighborhood resident asked, "We won't give them the appearance of equity in our community without accountability and actually contractually committing to equity in our community. The big question now is will the Yonkers City Council stand behind these remaining Coalition members to protect our residents or allow another developer to reap the tax advantages of the IDA without any consideration to the local community?"

Others are concerned that the developer will simply create another community coalition that will sign off on a diluted CBA. In addition to the Glenwood Power Plant, the Goren Group also owns Alder Manor, a mansion on North Broadway used for movie filming and special events.

City Councilwoman Shanae Williams, who represents the Glenwood neighborhood and the power plant, said, "I support what the plant wants to do, which is to be environmentally sound and to provide opportunities for the community to work on climate change. However, I stand with the community in their request to have a CBA. It is my understanding that The Plant is working with community leaders on a CBA, and I look forward to *seeing what it* looks like."

Four votes on the City Council will be required to alienate and de-alienate any public green spaces, or if The Plant needs any zone changes. And without a CBA, the outcome of that council vote is no guarantee for The Plant. The Westchester Business Journal, on Aug. 31 wrote about how The Plant had filed paperwork with the Yonkers Planning Board to being the process.

## On This Day in Yonkers History...



*Yonkers Poet and Author  
Countee Cullen*

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

Monday, September 13th

September 13, 1946: Twenty Latin American countries learned about Yonkers' 300th birthday celebration, learning how we were a "city of contrasts," both a city of gracious homes and of industries. Mary Spaulding of the State Department Radio Branch devoted her shortwave broadcast to the topic, relating the background of the city, our history and the highlights of the Tercentennial celebrations.

September 13, 1940: Bournedale Lincoln's Patsy, a registered cow owned by Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial Home on North Broadway, set a production record for a registered two year-old; Patsy produced 8,580 pounds of milk and 503 pounds of butter in a year! The record was supervised by Cornell University, who reported the record to the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Tuesday, September 14th

September 14, 1947: Before several thousand spectators at Glen Park, Mayor Curtiss Frank threw out the first pitch for the PAL Eastern Seaboard Senior Championship game; he threw a perfect strike right over the plate to open the match between the Yonkers PAL versus the NYC 43rd Precinct team. During his pregame speech, he praised both teams, but ended "And I hope our boys win." They did!

September 14, 1951: The 135th Street Branch of the NY Public Library was renamed the Countee Cullen Branch Library in honor of the late Yonkers poet and author, the first time in the history of New York City a library had been named for achievements and not a donation. The opening exhibit included 50 illustrations from "the Lost Zoo," Cullen's children's story about the animals lost forever because they did not get on Noah's Ark, pictures of the author, manuscripts, and illustrations for his other books. Cullen lived at 41 Grandview Boulevard in Colonial Heights; his widow presented a collection of her late husband's manuscripts and materials to the library.

Wednesday, September 15th

September 15, 1942: Former Herald Statesman reporter Jack DeSimone's wartime work made national news; the 24-year old, at Camp Croft, SC, to do PR for the camp, USO clubs, movies and recreation centers, joined with newspaper cartoonist H. H. Clay to produce a regular feature for the Spartanburg Journal. The "most interesting and popular features packed the punch of reader interest," both for civilians and soldiers.

September 15, 1944: Seaman Second Class Henry Trama of College Place was in a nationally published picture as the unidentified sailor with Lt. General Omar Bradley, Commander of the US Ground Forces in the invasion of France, and Rear Admiral Alan Kirk, USN, Commander of the Invasion Task Force. The leaders were discussing the invasion while cruising along the French Coast. After learning the photo had been published in the McKeesport PA paper, his dad Nicholas Trama managed to get a copy. After graduating Franklin Junior High School, Trama had worked at the Riverdale Glove Mills.

Thursday, September 16th

September 16, 1945: The Washington Post reprinted the proposal made by Navy Lieutenant William Schollmeyer to create a Naval militia headquarters complete with boating docks, a warship for training, and additional facilities at Trevor Park. The plan, printed in The Herald Statesman with a sketch of how it could look, generated great interest in the nation's capital. The Navy announced they were seriously considering reestablishing militia, and it was "feasible" smaller warships could be used.

September 16, 1946: According to Ray Kelly, President of the Yonkers Civil Service Employees Association that represented hundreds of municipal workers, the organization voted to rejected the "strike, sole collective bargaining, the union contract and the closed shop." This was in direct conflict with the CIO who had recently organized its own union for Civil Service employees, United Public Workers of America.

Friday, September 17th

September 17, 1902: After a meeting in the City Clerk's office attended by Commissioners and medical personnel, it was announced new buildings could not be occupied until plumbing had been inspected by a Health Commission member and a certificate of health granted.

September 17, 1945: McLean Avenue's Yeoman Second Class Charles Kemp, serving on the battleship Wisconsin, received a citation for "courage, discipline and endurance," he showed during the seventeen hours he and other survivors awaited rescue while drifting in lifeboats. A veteran of the Philippines, Okinawa and Iwo Jima campaigns, Kemp wore the Philippine Liberation ribbon, the Purple Heart and the Good Conduct medal.

Saturday, September 18th

September 18, 1943: Four little girls from Yonkers wrote, produced and starred in "The Enchanted Rock," and presented the play in a backyard. The girls profit of four dollars was donated to the Yonkers Chapter, American Red Cross, "to have some work done for a soldier who needed it." Organizers were Ann Lee Gensch of Hillview Avenue, Carol Ann Hoyer, Betty Broderick and Joan Lewis, all of King Avenue.

September 18, 1943: Eight Nodine Hill children organized into "junior commandos" as they performed extremely successful raids on their neighborhood households for tin cans. The kids went from house to house and any store not an official collection center, and then brought what they collected to the basement of DeDivitis' Grocery Store on Oak Street, storing it all until the salvage truck collected it. The kids were so successful that many times the salvage truck filled up at the "youngsters' depot," then had to drop off the load and return to the neighborhood to continue collection. The group also collected waste fat, sold it to the butcher and invested the money in war stamps. The "junior commandos" were Raymond Ferucci, Lucille Kennedy, Frances Placquadro, Marie Alfini and siblings Frank, Angelo, Theresa and Carmine Forlenza.

Sunday, September 19th

September 19, 1922: William Bleakley of Yonkers received a rare honor when the Democratic Party endorsed him for County Judge. Bleakley, a Republican, already had been named as the Republican candidate.

September 19, 1928: Less than twenty minutes after the airplane Roma took off from Old Orchard Beach, Maine, attempting a non-stop flight to Rome, it was forced to return with engine trouble. On board was medical observer Dr. Leon Pisculli of Park Hill Avenue. When the flight finally was made a few weeks later, it took off without Pisculli. Pisculli later financed the trans-Atlantic flight of the American Nurse.

*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).*

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Notice of Public Real Estate Auction City of Yonkers, New York  
Notice is hereby given by the City of Yonkers (the "City") of the public auction of the surplus City properties listed below (the "Properties"). All Properties are located in Yonkers, NY.

The public auction will be held Friday, September 10th, 2021 beginning at 10:00 am in the Community Room AB of the Yonkers Riverfront Library located at One Larkin Center, 2nd Floor, Yonkers, NY.

The auction and sale of the Properties will be conducted in accordance with certain terms and conditions (the "Terms and Conditions"); by participating in the auction, participants agree to be bound to the Terms and Conditions. The Properties may be offered for sale subject to certain express terms, conditions or restrictions imposed by the City, which will be disclosed prior to the auction. The Terms and Conditions, will be available prior to the auction at www.williamsauction.com/Yonkers.

THE PROPERTIES

SECTION	BLOCK LOT	ADDRESS
1	451	10 70 Yonkers Ave
1	6050	371 70 Sweetfield Cir
2	6050	65 78 Sweetfield Cir
2	3215	27 13 Suffolk Trl
2	3215	25 17 Suffolk Trl
2	3215	23 21 Suffolk Trl
2	3270	192 1212 Saw Mill River Rd
2	211	110 240 Oak Street
1	461	76 146 Oak Street
2	2089	2 43 St Josephs

For online bidding, the Terms and Conditions, and more information, please visit: williamsauction.com/Yonkers or call 800.801.8003.  
Philip R. Heiliger RE Lic 10301207074 --Williams & Williams RE Lic 109911428

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR AMENDMENT TO ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF YONKERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned has applied to the City Council of The City of Yonkers for an amendment to the Zoning Map of the City of Yonkers to change the zone district classification of the property located at 612 E. Grassy Sprain Road, Yonkers, New York, also known as Block 4391, Lot 435 on the Tax Assessment Map of the City of Yonkers from "S-100" to "S-60," and that, pursuant to Section 43- of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Yonkers, a public hearing on such application will be held by the City Council on September 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chamber, located at 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York. Those interested in speaking at the public hearing should contact the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Yonkers for instructions to speak at the hearing.

Dated: Yonkers, New York, August 20, 2021  
612 SPRAIN BROOK LLC, Applicant  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

Joseph E. Royce, Managing Member  
BLEAKLEY PLATT & SCHMIDT, LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant  
One North Lexington Avenue  
White Plains, NY 10601

AGENDA FOR YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 AT 6:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN YONKERS CITY HALL, 4TH FLOOR. CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES SHALL CONTINUE TO BE OBSERVED REGARDING ATTENDANCE BY THE PUBLIC. PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV, THE DAY OF THE MEETING IF VIEWING/STREAMING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE.

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)

# 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 & 150 Ridge Avenue, Block: 2170, Lots: 9, 78, 82, 84, 85, Zone: M (B23753)

# 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)

# 5758 – Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, Esq., on behalf of The Plant Powerhouse LLC, owner, on premises known as 45 Water Grant Street, Block: 2635, Lot: 1, Zone: IP (B27856)

# 5759 – Area Variance – Daniel D. Tartaglia, Esq., on behalf of Verus Development LLC, contract vendee, on premises known as 345 McLean Avenue, Block: 59, Lot: 75, Zone: A (B27461)

NEW HEARINGS

# 5760 – Area Variance – Jacob E. Amir, Esq., on behalf of Dagro Associates II LLC, owner, on premises known as 165 North Broadway, Block: 2094, Lot: 25, Zone: BA (B23338)

# 5761 – Use & Area Variance – David Steinmetz, Esq., on behalf of 60 BV Yonkers AMS LLC, owner, on premises known as 60 (56) Buena Vista Avenue, Block: 511, Lot: 30, Zone: D-MX (B27880)

# 5762 – Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Ashley Tabi, owner, on premises known as 34 Vermont Terrace aka 4 Healy Place, Block: 4559, Lot: 3, Zone: S-50 (B28236)

# 5763 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Woodycrest Yonkers LLC, owner, on premises known as 33 Woodycrest Avenue, Block: 2207, Lot: 23, Zone: T (B24199)

# 5764 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Woodycrest Yonkers LLC, owner, on premises known as 37 Woodycrest Avenue, Block: 2207, Lot: 21, Zone: T (B24208)

# 5765 – Area Variance – Stephen A. Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of AC & Sons 671 Yonkers Ave, LLC, owner, on premises known as 671 Yonkers Avenue, Block: 6086, Lot: 56, Zone: B (B27588)

# 5766 – Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, Esq., on behalf of Hudson Regency Ventures LLC, owner, on premises known as 56 Prospect Street, Block: 509, Lot: 1, Zone: UR-MD (B18347)

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

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 We R.I.S.E. New York, LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 7/3/21. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 309 North Broadway, #3C, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Tint Skincare, LLC filed with the SSNY on 8/23/2021. 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, 137 Alexander Street, #2269, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Sosa Cleaning Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/10/2021. 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, 40 Post Street, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**The Mothers2016 Butterfly Release at Yonekrs City Hall**



Photos by Anissa Latif



On August 28, TheMothers 2016 gathered at Yonkers City Hall for their annual "Light the Sky" Butterfly Release Ceremony "Light the Sky." The Butterfly Release Ceremony is in memory of the children who were lost under various circumstances. The Mothers2016 is a diverse group of mothers, living with the impact, effect and aftermath of one of life's most devastating events.

This event has been held for the past 4 years, including through the pandemic last year. The Mothers2016 was founded by Hope Hollinsworth Coaxum and Lisa Clark- Norman. Dr. Joyce Corpas of Community Baptist Church. Introduction – Hope Hollinsworth Coaxum Words of Reflection – Mrs. Jeni Wallace The Mothers that spoke – Hope Hollinsworth Coaxum, Clarissa Keith, Michelle Degree, Nancy Khader-Maldonado, Jeni Wallace, Shantel Byrd, Robin Mckeithen, Carolyn Newton, and one father spoke – Warren Shealy. Two singers Liz Cooney and Zaina Shleiwet provided a musical interlude.

The Mothers2016 want to continually support, embrace and encourage one another and others who have endured this life changing experience, to create collaborative partnerships with like-minded organizations, groups and families who have been affected by the loss of a child. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/TheMothers2016/> or email at [themothers2016@gmail.com](mailto:themothers2016@gmail.com)



Left: L-R-Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Uplife Foundation Founders Reginald Joseph, Robert Salkey, and Gennaro Battiloro esq.

Below Three young students enjoying Uplife Foundations BBQ-giveaway



On August 29, Uplife Foundation Inc. hosted its 3rd Annual Back to School Giveaway and Barbeque At John F. Kennedy Marina Yonkers. Over 100 people and over 20 local businesses and organizations participated, giving away hundreds of groceries, book bags, school supplies and more. In addition there were photo booths, a bouncy house and a dunk tank to enjoy.

Congressman Jamaal Bowman was present as well as representatives from Mayor Mike Spano's office, Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins and County Legislator's Christopher Johnson and Jose Alvarado's offices. Councilwoman Tasha Diaz and City Council President Candidate Lakisha Collins-Bellamy were also present, to show their support. The organization was presented with a host of proclamations and citations to commemorate the event but more importantly, the work that the organization is doing.

Uplife Foundation Inc. is a Yonkers-based non-profit organization that focuses on strengthening, unifying, and building up urban communities. The organization was started by a group of young black men who aim to be the image they want to see in their communities by leading by example. They host workshops and job readiness training to help uplift those who are looking to rejoin the workforce. Many of its members work in the construction industry bringing life to its slogan "Constructing the community."

Its co-founders Reginald Joseph, who owns Cafe 2.0 On The Hudson , a new coffee shop in Yonkers, and Robert Salkey, collectively feel great about doing exactly what they set out to do when they founded the organization. "When we say constructing the community we are talking about leaning into urban neighborhoods and providing access to jobs, and resources needed to live a decent life," says Reginald. Robert adds " It's all about constructing, building , and connecting the dots for families who need it. That's what this annual event does."

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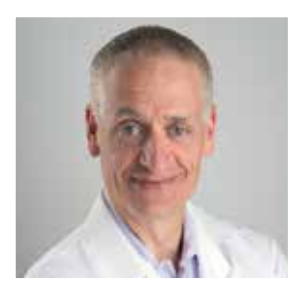
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