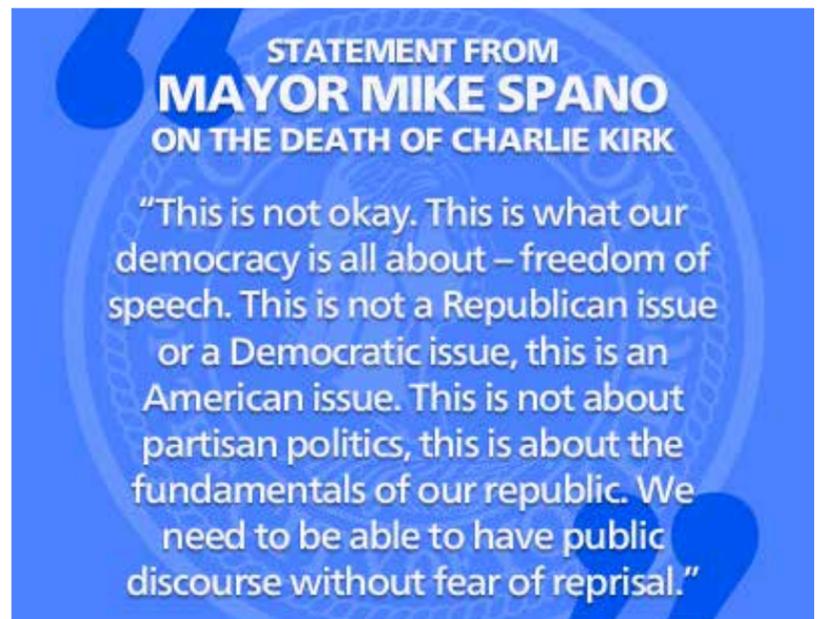


## Yonkers Girls Flag Football League to Start at Lennon Park



L-R: Savana Vazquez, Dayleen Isuiza, Jeviah Thompson, Sophia Ramos and Coach Nuryel Benitez.-See Story on Page 14

## Mayor Spano Gets it Right on Charlie Kirk

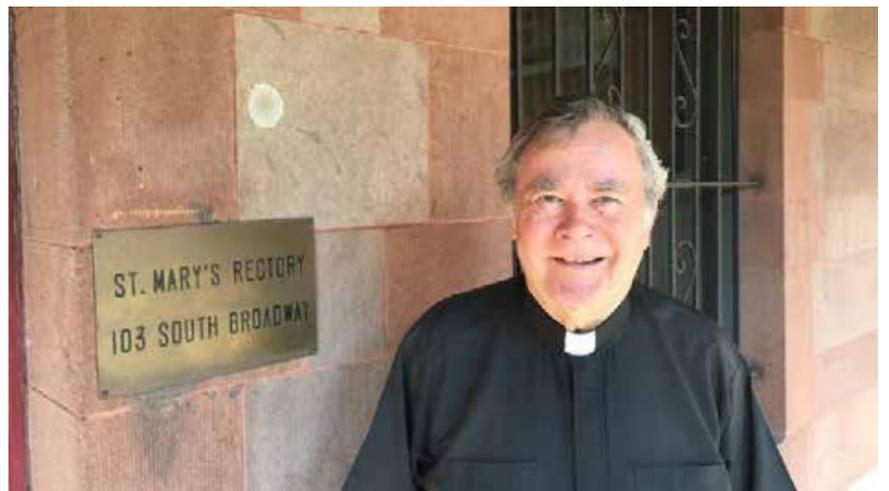


By Dan Murphy

One of the topics of continued discussion with my political friends, including Delfim Heusler, who we recently lost, is how can Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano do it? How can he run for four terms in this hyper-partisan political

*continued on pg 12-*

## Yonkers Remembers Monsignor Hugh Corrigan



Monsignor Corrigan served at St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Church, Yonkers, for 31 years, as pastor from 1987 to 2013 and administrator from 2013 to 2018

Reverend Monsignor Hugh J. Corrigan entered eternal life on September 7, 2025, at Calvary Hospital at the age of 86.

He entered eternal life in the Bronx, where he was born on December 24, 1938. He was raised by his Irish immigrant parents, Hugh Corrigan, born in County

*continued on pg 11-*

## Social Media Influencer Shot to Death on The Cross County Parkway



By Dan Murphy

A murder investigation is underway after 33-year-old Ariela Mejia-Polanco, a social media influencer and mother of two, was found shot dead in her car on the eastbound Cross County Parkway in Mount Vernon on August 18.

But more than 3 weeks after her death, there have been no updates or announcements of arrests made in the case.

On Aug. 18, the Westchester County Police Department posted, "The woman found deceased in her car on the Cross County Parkway on Sunday died as a result of gunshot wounds, the Westchester County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed today.

"Ariela Mejia-Polanco, 33, who has addresses in Westchester and Rockland

*continued on pg 15-*

## MGM-Empire City Community Advisory Committee-Last Public Hearing -Sept. 16

## Attention All Yonkers Students: Take Advantage of Free Tutoring Services

DOMINICAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF YONKERS, INC.  
*Serving the Community for Growth and Enrichment*

See Story on Page 11

## Yonkers Comic Con September 27-Free Event



Get ready to assemble, Yonkers—Comic Con is back and bigger than ever! Yonkers Public Library is thrilled to announce that Yonkers Arts will serve as the official presenter of Yonkers Comic Con 2025, returning to the Riverfront Library on Saturday, September 27, 2025.

Now in its third year, Yonkers Comic Con has grown from a grassroots celebration into one of the city’s most anticipated cultural events. With Yonkers Arts at the helm, this year’s convention promises a dynamic fusion of creativity, community, and inclusivity, featuring new programming, expanded space, and immersive fan experiences for all ages.

“The origin story of Yonkers Comic Con began with Yonkers Arts in 2022-23. Having the support of Yonkers Arts again will prove to be a great addition to the trajectory of our hero’s journey,” said Evan Bishop, educator, artist, and founder of the event.

“This partnership with Yonkers Arts takes Comic Con to a whole new level,” said Jesse Montero, Director at Yonkers Public Library. “Both our organizations, and comics fandom as a whole, are dedicated to creativity, expression and storytelling. It makes the collaboration a great fit and we’re thrilled to be a part of it.”

What’s New in 2025?

HEROES & VILLAINS Fashion Show featuring superhero/villain-inspired designs by local creators

Children’s Cosplay Parade and Power Pose: Cosplay Showcase with fan voting and photo ops

Superhero Storytelling Station with mask making, face painting, and interactive tales

“I AM A HERO” Talk Show spotlighting creators, artists, and industry pros

Expanded Artist Alley & Talent Showcase highlighting rising stars in comics and illustration

Fan-favorite return: Hall of Heroes Art Exhibition

Whether you’re a lifelong comic enthusiast or new to the fandom universe, this year’s Comic Con invites you to celebrate storytelling, identity, and imagination—all through the lens of community art.

Location: Yonkers Riverfront Library

Date: Saturday, September 27, 2025

Admission: Free, but we are encouraging attendees to register at EventBrite.

Follow: @YonkersComicCon on Instagram | #YonkersComicCon2025 Let the countdown begin—Yonkers Comic Con 2025 is ready to make history.

About Yonkers Comic Con Founded by educator and artist Evan Bishop, Yonkers Comic Con began as a classroom comic book project in 2020 and has grown into a city-wide celebration of creativity and community. What started with empowering students through storytelling has evolved into an annual event that brings fans, artists, and families together through cosplay, comics, and culture. Now in its third year, YC continues to spotlight local talent and inspire everyday heroes. To learn more, visit [www.yonkerscomiccon.com](http://www.yonkerscomiccon.com)

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## Reading and Writing Matter; Here Are Some Strategies



By Dennis Richmond, Jr.

In today’s world, reading and writing are not just school subjects—they are life skills that determine how far a child can go in school and work. The National Center on Improving Literacy notes that children who grow up in literacy-rich environments demonstrate stronger language development, better school readiness, and greater long-term confidence. The payoff lasts into adulthood. A 2022 study published by the National Institutes of Health found that adults who read more than three and a half hours per week were 20 percent less likely to die during a 12-year period, underscoring just how valuable literacy is for lifelong well-being.

Yet the gaps are clear. According to Reading Is Fundamental, the nation’s largest literacy nonprofit, nearly 25 million children in the United States cannot read proficiently, and national testing shows eighth graders are performing nearly a year behind where they should be. These numbers are not just statistics—they represent children at risk of falling behind permanently if adults do not intervene.

Caregivers often want to help but may not have the strategies. Fortunately, research-based techniques can be used at home, on weekends, and even while traveling on buses, trains, or in cars.

### At Home: Building Weekend Habits

One of the most effective practices is shared reading. The National Early Literacy Panel stresses that reading aloud while asking questions—“What do you think happens next?”—improves comprehension and vocabulary. Labeling objects around the house (“door,” “table,” “cup”) builds print awareness, a step the National Center on Improving Literacy highlights as critical for emergent readers. Caregivers can also write with children, whether it’s helping make a shopping list or leaving notes for family members. The National Association for the Education of Young Children points out that even scribbles are meaningful practice because children begin to understand that marks on paper carry messages. Adding rhymes and songs makes learning fun and, according to Vail Public Library’s literacy resources, strengthens phonological awareness.

### On the Go: Turning Travel Into Learning

Travel time can be literacy time. The Ohio State University’s College of Education and Human Ecology reports that audiobooks and read-aloud apps expose children to complex language and support vocabulary growth, even if the child is not yet reading independently. Caregivers can also turn commutes into games: playing “I-Spy” with letters or words on street signs (“S is for Stop”) strengthens print recognition. Another activity is storytelling—taking turns to build a story sentence by sentence. According to the National Center on Improving Literacy, these narrative practices boost imagination and help children organize ideas.

### Everyday Moments Matter

The truth is simple: caregivers don’t need expensive materials to make a difference. Talking, reading, labeling, and playing with language turn everyday routines into literacy lessons. As Reading Is Fundamental emphasizes, small daily actions compound into big academic outcomes.

Reading and writing are not only important—they are invaluable. With consistent caregiver support, every child can be on the path to literacy, opportunity, and success.

*Dennis Richmond, Jr. (@NewYorkStakz) is a journalist, historian, and educator from Yonkers, NY. He writes to uplift unheard voices, honor history, and inspire change.*

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## Senator Mayer and Colleagues Oppose United Healthcare's 18% Premium Increase Proposal for Supplemental Medicare Plans



On September 4, State Senator Shelley B. Mayer and 25 of her State Senate colleagues sent a letter to Superintendent Adrienne Harris, New York State Department of Financial Services, to express their strong opposition to United Healthcare's proposed 18% premium increase on supplemental plans for Medicare.

"I have heard from seniors and families, who rely on Part B Supplemental Plan specifically, who are concerned they will no longer be able to afford healthcare and medication they need to lead healthy, independent lives," said Senator Mayer.

"An 18% premium increase – five times the current inflation rate in New York – is completely unacceptable. New Yorkers are seeing their bills go up – food, housing, healthcare. All the while their social security checks are staying the same. If this proposed increase is approved, New Yorkers will suffer and not receive the healthcare they need and deserve."

United Healthcare states this increase is necessary in order to "maintain the financial integrity of these plans" and to offset the increased cost of providing benefits to its members, including the cost for medical services, medicare deductibles, medical equipment and services, and more. If approved, new monthly premium rates will begin January 1, 2026 and will affect 400,000 New Yorkers that hold Standardized or Pre-Standardized Medicare Supplement plans.

"We believe such steep increases are unreasonable and excessive under New York Insurance Law § 3231, and we urge the Superintendent to disapprove or substantially reduce the requested rate hikes. We also note that other insurers across New York have filed for similarly significant hikes, which would compound the burden on seniors and further undermine the affordability of essential coverage," the Senators said in the letter.

The Department of Financial Services has a duty to all New Yorkers to ensure that rates are not "unreasonable, excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory." The requested 18% increase in all UnitedHealthcare Supplement Plans exceeds inflationary trends and is more than five times the current inflation rate of approximately 3.2% in New York, and more than six times the national average of around 2.7%.

The letter continued, "Many older New Yorkers already wrestle with the rising cost of housing, utilities, food, and prescription medications. Excessive increases in supplemental coverage could force them into untenable choices—potentially sacrificing care and risking worse health outcomes.

"Our constituents who rely on supplemental Medicare coverage are often seniors on fixed incomes. They carefully budget their Social Security checks and modest retirement savings to cover daily expenses. An abrupt 18% increase by United Healthcare in its supplemental insurance premiums would impose a severe financial hardship that could force many to choose between paying for needed medical coverage and covering other essentials such as food, rent, and heating costs.

"We also point out that supplemental coverage is not a luxury. It is essential to protect older adults from the 20% coinsurance under Medicare Part B, which has no out-of-pocket maximum. Without reasonably priced supplemental coverage, seniors will be exposed to unpredictable and potentially catastrophic medical bills, undermining the very purpose of our state's commitment to affordable and accessible health care.

"In light of the statutory criteria, this proposed increase appears neither justified nor equitable. We respectfully – but strongly – urge DFS to exercise its authority to deny or substantially reduce this filing, ensuring that premiums remain fair, actuarially sound, and affordable for those who need this protection most," the Senators concluded in the letter.

## Summer is Over, But Bargains Continue!

By Eric Wolf Schoen



The calendar says September 1, which means for most of us summer is over. This was a good summer, with ample amounts of food such as chicken, meat, fresh produce and fruits available at your local supermarkets. You can thank the good weather in most areas of the country.

Plus price reductions promised by Trump never came about. Many stores I visited during the summer reduced the prices on items with a few days until expiration. Items like bagged, dressed salads have several good days to expiration. So the consumer gets a good bargain, and the store is not throwing away good edible products.

You will see more of this which benefits supermarkets and shoppers in the coming months as tariffs increase and stores look for ways to increase the bottom line with minimal impact on their cherished guests.

In the meantime be like my sister. She knows the managers of many of the departments in the supermarket so when she shops she will ask the boss to select the best items for her!

Reach Eric Wolf Schoen at [ewschoen@icloud.com](mailto:ewschoen@icloud.com).

**Editor's Note: Help Eric and all of us, find some bargains in Yonkers and we will share them. Email Eric or us at [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)**

**No, the Republican and Democratic Parties are not One Big Happy Family, quite the Opposite!**

To the Editor:

I write in response to Eric Wolf Schoen's column appearing in Westchester Rising (9/5/2025).

While I empathize with his frustration over career politicians felt by many people, I believe he misses the mark about this year's race for Mayor of New York City.

Before residing in Westchester County over 20 years ago, I grew up in Brooklyn, New York. Most of my career was spent in managerial and executive positions in four Mayoral administrations (Koch, Dinkins, Giuliani and Bloomberg), so I have a unique perspective on the demands and limitations placed on the occupant of that office, where there are no "heirs apparent" and there is no "throne."

The City of New York's authority comes from a municipal charter granted by New York State, so the Mayor cannot unilaterally raise property, income and sales taxes without Albany's blessing. A mayor might be able to make changes to the NYPD, but that would depend on the political climate next year, which is not a guarantee. Also, NYC currently receives 16% of its operating budget from Albany. If Mr. Mamdani prevails this fall, a reality check will set in on him by New Year's Day.

Our two major parties cater in large part to the populist/hard right in the GOP and the progressive/quasi-socialist flank among Democrats, so moderate-minded voters are hard pressed come election day. Independent/moderate voters now account for 43% of the electorate, with both major parties receiving 28% each.

Here are some reforms that need to be passed that would make our elections more democratic and saner:

1. Rank choice voting (RCV)
2. Open up party primaries for public offices to all registered voters, thus giving independents a greater voice in primaries which would enable more moderate

*continued on pg 7-*

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Read it all Online at [Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)

## NYPD Cop Suspended, Arrested for Road Rage Incident with a Gun in Somers



*drawing from Grok of John O'Connell*

On Sept. 2, Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that a New York City Police Department Warrant Squad detective was arrested and charged with multiple offenses for allegedly menacing three 16-year-olds in a road rage incident last week.

John O'Connell, 36, of Patterson, N.Y., was charged with one count of Menacing in the Second Degree, three counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child and one count of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Fourth Degree, all class A misdemeanors.

He was arraigned on the charges in Somers Town Court, where he pleaded not guilty. He was released on his own recognizance as none of the charges are bail-eligible. Justice Michael McDermott provided temporary orders of protection on behalf of the victims.

O'Connell was off duty at the time of the incident. He has been temporarily suspended from the force.

DA Cacace said: "It is unacceptable for anyone to turn a traffic grievance into a lethal threat. My office will now hold this defendant accountable for his outrageous behavior, as we have outlined to the court. The teenage victims in this case demonstrated a laudable measure of composure in navigating a dangerous situation to safety, and I commend them for their courage."

As alleged in a misdemeanor information and supporting depositions filed with the court, on Thursday at approximately 8:30 p.m., three 16-year-old Westchester and Putnam residents were traveling east on Rte. 6 in the Town of Somers when they came to a sudden halt due to changing traffic patterns.

O'Connell, operating a 2024 Honda that had been driving behind the teens and had also been forced to brake suddenly, then pulled up alongside them and rolled down his passenger-side window. The defendant then yelled, "I have a gun" and pointed a loaded Glock 19 pistol at the victim-driver, according to court records.

The defendant continued to drive in an aggressive manner toward the teens before they were able to break off and call the police, their depositions allege.

The case is being investigated by the New York State Police.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Brittany Rios of the Northern Westchester Branch and Branch Chief Stephen Ronco.

## Yonkers NAACP -Housing Forum Know Your Rights-Sept. 15-Free Event

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!**

NAACP-Yonkers Branch #2188-B hosts  
Kiana B. Skipper, President • George Kevan, Housing Committee Chair

**Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and Tenants & Neighbors**

- **Learn your rights as a tenant, including how to deal with landlord-tenant disputes and organizing a Tenant Association.**
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With thanks to our co-sponsors:  
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**For more information or to RSVP:**  
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P.O. Box 614, Yonkers, NY 10702  
914-294-4913 • [YonkersNAACP@gmail.com](mailto:YonkersNAACP@gmail.com)

**HYBRID MEETING: VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON**

NAACP-Yonkers Branch #2188-B hosts "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS" Housing Forum on 9.15.25! For more info: [housingyonkersnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:housingyonkersnaacp@gmail.com) or [yonkersnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:yonkersnaacp@gmail.com).

### Third Precinct Police Community Council Meeting

Wed., Sept. 17th – 7:30 PM.

Chema Community Center, 435 Riverdale Avenue, Yonkers, NY

Special Guest Speaker: Hon. Mayor Michael Spano And

Ms. Kelly Chiarella, Director of the Yonkers Office Of The Aging

Please Join Us In Welcoming Our Newly Appointed Captain Jamie Dumser!

Usual Quality Of Life Issues Will Be Discussed.

Residents And Merchants Of South-West Yonkers Urged To Attend

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Lucy M. Casanova, Vice President At 914 426-6668 Or

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## Gun Control is Suicide Prevention



*Assemblywoman  
Amy Paulin*

*By Assemblywoman Amy Paulin*

September is Suicide Prevention Month. What many people don't realize is that firearms are the leading cause of suicide in the United States. More than half of all gun deaths each year are suicides. This reality underscores why we must address suicide prevention and gun control together.

We hear about shootings so often it's almost numbing — in supermarkets, office buildings, churches, schools, synagogues. My heart breaks for the innocent victims and their families in the most recent tragedies at the 345 Park

*continued on pg 14-*

## Why Is Robert Kennedy Acting Like My COVID Big Brother?



*HHS Secretary*

*Robert F. Kennedy Jr.*

*OP-ED By Michael Gold*

Robert Kennedy's restrictions on access to the new Covid vaccine for anyone not over the age of 65 or who has an underlying health condition is Big Brother at its worst.

The vaccines were developed by two private companies — Pfizer and Moderna, to help people protect themselves from this vicious illness. The government of the United States authorized the development and use of these vaccines.

So, why is a government official now taking away American citizens' ability to decide for themselves what is the right thing to do for their own health?

Conservatives should be screaming in the halls of Congress and on the airwaves about the Federal government's usurpation of an individual's right to decide on their own what is and is not in their best interests.

Back in the 1990s, I remember extreme right-wingers who were paranoid that the Clinton Administration would let the United Nations take over the country. We heard a lot about black helicopters invading and taking away Americans' rights.

Well, at least one black helicopter has finally arrived, and Robert Kennedy is the pilot.

I'm over the age of 65, so Kennedy, in all his beneficence, has decided I can get the vaccine. But my wife, who is younger and healthier, cannot. The same goes for my daughter.

There is a huge contradictory hole here, through which I can drive a school bus. Kennedy has said, without any evidence of course, that the COVID-19 vaccine is the "deadliest vaccine ever made." If that's true, why are seniors and vulnerable people allowed to get the deadliest vaccine ever made? Won't it kill us?

I've gotten COVID-19 vaccines multiple times and I'm still alive and as healthy as it's possible for me to be. Why are hundreds of millions of Americans who got the vaccine still walking around? Shouldn't we all be dead?

Before the vaccine came along, my entire family contracted COVID. This illness was like nothing any of us ever suffered before. I was once hospitalized with pneumonia, and it wasn't as bad as COVID.

## On This Day in Yonkers History...



*John F. Kennedy campaigning in Yonkers in 1960 with YPD Officer Joe Greco*

*By Mary Hoar, City of Yonkers Historian, President Emeritus Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History, Yonkers Landmarks Preservation Board Member, Chair of Revolutionary Yonkers 250 and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council*

Monday, September 15th

September 15, 1943: Aranya Smart, Women's Division Chairman of Yonkers War Finance Committee, announced Yonkers School Children would finance a "Yonkers product" through bond purchases; the children promised to sell war bonds and stamps totaling \$164,000 to fund a US Maritime Tug built at Arthur G. Blair shipyards in Yonkers!

The Committee wanted a Yonkers student to launch the boat, and hoped the Government would allow our students to name the tug.

September 15, 1943: Although rumors circulated the statute of limitations might prevent Rear Admiral Husband Kimmel's trial, Secretary of the Navy Knox declined to discuss it. Kimmel, who lived at 280 Bronxville Road, was Commander in Chief of Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked. War Department officials refused to discuss similarities between Kimmel's case and Major General Walter Short's case; Short was Commander of the Army's Hawaiian Department during the attack. Both men retired after ordered to stand trial by courts-martial.

Tuesday, September 16th

September 16, 1952: Purl Wightman, owner of the Hudson River Country Club, petitioned the Common Council to change the zoning ordinance of her property. She wanted her 22,325 acres (south of Odell Avenue) changed to MG for garden apartments; this property was the golf course, a clubhouse and a caddie house. The change would "protect the residential character of that part of North Broadway."

Her attorney, former Mayor Wallin, said this would protect the property, and she had no intention to build on the golf course or sell the property.

September 16, 1952: Detectives Alexander Forbes and Harry O'Neill arrested sixteen-year-old Francis Huen, who admitted committing 22 burglaries at gas stations, grocery and candy stores, pharmacies and private homes. More surprising, after escaping from the State School of Industry, he lived in Tibbetts Brook Park. First he lived in a foxhole, then in a tent stocked with stolen food.

After escaping from the correctional institution, he walked 12 miles to Rochester, robbing money from a parked car. He took a bus to Buffalo, where he broke into homes and cars. He then took a bus to NYC, returned to Yonkers by subway and trolley. Although his family lived on Mansion Avenue, he didn't return there; he knew his father would tell YPD.

Wednesday, September 17th

September 17, 1930: Henrietta Livermore, President of the Women's National Republican Club, announced the organization was considering supporting repeal of the 18th Amendment and the return of power to regulate manufacture, sale and transportation of intoxicants to each state.

September 17, 1942: The Army Quartermaster Depot announced Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company received a contract for 155,000 wool blankets, on which would keep the blanket-making department running full time into the next year.

Thursday, September 18th

September 18, 1943: Eight children from Nodine Hill organized themselves i

*continued on pg 10-*

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Notice of Formation of Beautifully Hauled LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/15/2025. 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 28 Chestnut Street, Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Name of formation of THEOAK LLC. Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 6/14/24. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 669 Main Street, Unit 605, New Rochelle NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. 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 Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. 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, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of JUST SHIPSHAPE LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on [07/17/2025]. Office location: Westchester county. ENTITY PROTECT REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES LLC is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. ENTITY PROTECT REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES LLC shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 1 ALEXANDER STREET APT 314, Yonkers, New York, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of 155 ROUTE 202 LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/10/2025. 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, 401 Broadway, Suit 1111, NY, NY 10013. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Create With Vero LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/06/2025. 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, 16 Forster Ave, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of PRINCE & BROADWAY PROPERTIES LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/22/25. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 172 Rockne Road, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. 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, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Super Smart Future LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Super Smart Future LLC, 58 Valley Rd, Katonah, NY 10536. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. 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, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

Notice of Formation of SteenShotz LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. 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, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of 1M Consulting LLC filed with the SSNY on 11/05/2024 with the existence date as 01/01/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of FUSE WORKS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/11/2025. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 54 Brosnan Pl, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Math Power LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY On 07/12/2025. 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, 35 Florence St, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of BLUEPRINTS AND BEYOND LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 4th, 2025. 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 the process to the LLC: 70 Ashburton Avenue, Apt. 7H, Yonkers, New York, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room.

The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will contact Purchasing to meet the individual at the 3rd floor elevator.

Those interested in listening to the Sealed Bids opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

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

1) Bid No. RFB-7522 – Opening date: 09/26/2025: Twelve-Month Contract for the purchase of up to One-Thousand (1,000) Cisco DUO Hardware Tokens and Subscriptions (or Yonkers Approved Equal) (NG).

2) Bid No. RFB-7519 – Opening date: 09/26/2025: Twelve-Month Contract for the initial purchase of Stryker Lucas 3 v3.1 Chest Compression systems/accessories and trade ins, for Fire and YPD (or Yonkers Approved Equal) (VB).

3) Bid No. RFB-7521 – Opening date: 09/26/2025: Twenty-Four (24) Month Contract with option to exercise for an additional Twelve (12) Months for the purchase of Ferrara Fire Apparatus Parts and subsequent repairs (FB).

4) Bid No. RFB-7524 – Opening date: 09/26/2025: Purchase of assorted pumps, generators and hose kits for Yonkers Fire (VB)

5) Bid No. RFB-7525 - Opening date: 09/26/2025: Twenty-Four (24) Month Contract with option to renew for Twelve (12) Months for Maintenance and Repair Services of US Pipe Travel Cutter and Mueller CL-12 Machine, as needed (KS).

6) Bid No. RFB-7518 – Opening date: 09/26/2025: Station 14 generator removal-replacement (FB).

7) Bid No. RFB-7528 – Opening Date: 09/26/2025: Vehicle Rentals for Yonkers Police Department (VB).

8) Bid No. RFB-7502A – Opening Date: 10/10/2025: Twelve-month contract for Universal & Hazardous Waste Removal & Disposal (KAS).

9) Bid No. RFB-7514A – Opening Date: 09/26/2025: 12-Month contract with an additional 12-Month option to provide parts, repairs, truck and car springs for the City of Yonkers Department of Public Works (FB).

10) Bid No. IFB-7527 – Opening Date: 10/03/2025; Thurton Place Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project (MM).

11) Bid No. IFB-7526 – Opening Date: 9/26/2025; General Construction Contract; Classroom Floor Repair and Asbestos Tile Abatement” at Las Hermanas Mirabal Community School (KAS).

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Letters to the Editor:

**End Solitary Confinement and Decarcerate Now**

Solitary confinement is torture. Every day in New York, people are locked away in isolation for up to 24 hours a day, often for months or years at a time. The devastating mental and physical harm of solitary confinement is well-documented—leading to extreme trauma, self-harm, and higher rates of death post-release. It does nothing to improve safety and instead perpetuates cycles of violence and harm.

New York has taken steps to limit this practice through the HALT Solitary Confinement Law, but the reality is that solitary—under different names—remains rampant in state prisons and local jails. Now because of the illegal work stoppage, thousands of people have been locked down in solitary confinement in life threatening conditions for weeks, all to try to distract from the brutal killing of Robert Brooks at Marcy Correctional Facility and Messiah Nantwi at Mid-State Correctional Facility.

We need real accountability, full enforcement of the HALT Solitary Confinement Law, and bold action to decarcerate. The only way to stop this inhumanity is to stop locking people away.

*Lena Dal Santo, Shenorock*

**No, the Republican and Democratic Parties are not One Big Happy Family, quite the Opposite, continued from pg 3-**

candidates to be nominated. Currently, 19 states – including Colorado, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin and Washington - permit some form of an open primary. New York would be wise to adopt open primaries.

3. Allow more parties and candidates to run in general elections. In last year’s Presidential election, only 4 parties (GOP, Democrat, Conservative and Working Families) appeared on the New York ballot – the first time since 1946.

4. Mandate restrictions on the amount of funds candidates can raise and spend in elections. In my view, the 2010 Citizens United decision of the U.S. Supreme Court was wrongly decided.

As voters we naturally get disappointed if our candidate doesn’t get elected. But it does not mean that we take our marbles and go home, in this case don’t vote – this is a sacred right which our forebears fought for many years ago, and we should take voting seriously.

Stephen R. Rolandi, Larchmont

*(Mr. Rolandi is currently an Adjunct Professor of Public Administration at Pace University and City University of New York and active with Principles First and Our Republican Legacy).*

Westchester County Proclaims September 8 as 988 Awareness Day-Suicide Prevention Month



County Executive Ken Jenkins is recognizing the month of September as Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month in Westchester, and proclaiming September 8 as 988 Awareness Day. Every September, Westchester County comes together as one community help stop the stigma associated with suicide and mental illness, and highlight the many resources and services that are available to residents who may be struggling. This year, Jenkins is highlighting the success of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, which provides 24/7 support to individuals experiencing crisis, emotional distress, or thoughts of suicide.

Jenkins said: “Having the 988 Call Center here in Westchester has proven to be a significant help to thousands of people. Nearly 18,000 individuals accessed this free and confidential service in 2024, and I thank St. Vincent’s Hospital, a division of Saint Joseph’s Medical Center, for running the program in partnership with our Department of Community Mental Health. Today, as we declare 988 Awareness Day, we want to educate our residents about the Lifeline and ensure those in crisis take advantage of it. We are bringing together our business community, education leaders, non-profit partners along with County Departments to find ways to expand our current efforts, and inform our residents of the importance of seeking help when needed.”

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers immediate crisis intervention, emotional support, and information about local resources. In Westchester County, callers are connected to trained professionals who can provide confidential support, local to them. The 988 Lifeline is open to everyone facing a crisis regardless of age, background or circumstance. Whether it is you or a loved one struggling with thoughts of suicide, dealing with addiction, or feeling overwhelmed, 988 is available. The Lifeline also provides support to LGBTQ+ individuals and veterans by connecting them to professionals trained in these areas.

Commissioner of the Department of Community Mental Health Michael Orth said: “I want to thank our County Executive for providing funding to the 988 Lifeline, which allows calls to be answered by professionals right here in Westchester. With language translation services providing help in more than 150 languages, we have seen the growth year by year of the number of calls 988 is receiving. Using 988 means you reach a mental health professional who can provide compassionate response for any emotional distress one may be experiencing, and it is encouraging to see so many people reaching out for help.”

Senior Vice President of Behavioral Health Services at Saint Joseph’s Medical Center Bernadette Kingham-Bez said: “The importance of being able to simply dial 988 to get support during a behavioral health crisis, or to help avoid a crisis, cannot be underestimated. We are deeply grateful for the County’s partnership and funding which has made our Westchester 988 call-center available 24/7.”

For more information about the Department of Community Mental Health’s programs and services, call 914-995-5220 or visit our website. <https://mentalhealth.westchestergov.com/>

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Westchester County Health Department  
Distributes Farmer's Market Coupons to Families



Throughout the growing season, the Westchester County Health Department's WIC Program will distribute seasonal Farmer's Market Coupon booklets to help eligible families purchase farm fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmer's markets. More than 1,600 of the \$25 booklets, provided by the New York State Department of Health, have been distributed to WIC families served by the County's Port Chester and Yonkers WIC offices, and there are more available to be distributed through the end of September. To learn more about eligibility, contact WIC in Yonkers at (914) 231-2510 or Port Chester at (914) 813-7244. The coupons can be used at farmer's markets in Bronxville, Hastings, Irvington, Larchmont, Katonah, Mount Vernon, Ossining, Pelham, Pleasantville, Rye, Scarsdale, Sleepy Hollow, Yonkers and Yorktown.

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**FREE PAINT RECYCLING DAY**

Saturday, September 20th, 2025  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Sprain Ridge Park  
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[www.circular.eco/event/Westchester](http://www.circular.eco/event/Westchester)

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Untermeyer Performing Arts Council Presents The KEYpers

“REV FEST 250” To Bring Revolutionary War History to Life at Croton Point Park Sept. 27–28



**Arts Council**  
Samuel Untermeyer Memorial Park  
945 North Broadway, Yonkers

Presents....



**The KEYpers**  
13 September, 2025 5:00 PM

In case of rain, please call 914-375-3435 or check our website [www.untermeyerperformingarts.org](http://www.untermeyerperformingarts.org) after 2 pm the day of the performance.  
Our rain site this year is Saunders High School, 183 Palmer Road, Yonkers.

Our events are admission free and open to the public.  
Please bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets, as we do not provide seating.

This program is done in cooperation with Mayor Mike Spano, and the Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation. Funding for our programs is received from Arts Westchester with support from Westchester County Government, the City of Yonkers, Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh, Empire City Casino by MGM and our loyal arts patrons.

**LIVE MUSIC**  
World Fest 2025



Westchester County announced details for REV FEST 250, a free, two-day outdoor festival commemorating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, to be held Saturday–Sunday, Sept. 27–28, 2025, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. at Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “We’re proud to welcome visitors and residents to experience the living legacy of Westchester’s pivotal role in America’s founding. REV FEST 250 is an immersive large-scale festival that’s great fun for the whole family – which kicks off a multi-year commemoration, connecting our County’s roots to the modern day, showcasing how Westchester is a place where history lives on.”

Programming will feature live battle reenactments, musical performances and historical storytelling on two stages, hands-on demonstrations, children’s activities and crafts and local food vendors including Grey’s Donuts and Captain Lawrence Brewery. Thousands of attendees from across the tri-state area are expected as well as more than 50 reenactors alongside two dozen exhibitors. Highlights include a Hamilton sing-along, Westchester Symphonic Winds, Daisy Jopling with Indigenous Enterprise, storyteller Jonathan Kruk and the Sankofa Drum & Dance Ensemble.

Croton Point Park – known as Teller’s Point during the Revolution – holds special significance. On Sept. 22, 1780, American forces fired on the British sloop Vulture from the point, precipitating British officer John André’s overland flight and capture that exposed Benedict Arnold’s treason.

Director of Westchester County Tourism & Film Natasha Caputo said: “As

*continued on pg 14-*

*continued on pg 11-*



Ana Androne, MD  
Primary Care – Internal Medicine

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nto “junior commandos,” raiding neighborhood households for tin cans. The kids went from house to house to stores that were not official collection centers; they stored their collection at the Joseph DeDivitis’ grocery store on Oak Street, where the salvage truck collected it. They were so successful, the truck frequently filled up at the “youngsters’ depot,” dropped off its load and returned to pick up more. The group also collected waste fat and sold it to the butcher; they used the money to buy war stamps. The “junior commandos” were Raymond Ferucci, Lucille Kennedy, Frances Placquadio, Marie Alfini and siblings Frank, Angelo, Theresa and Carmine Forlenza.

September 18, 1944: Anna Meade of Palisade Avenue received upsetting news from the US Navy; her son, Yeoman Second Class William Meade, US Coast Guard, was” lost at sea in the performance of duty;” fortunately, William was home on leave and standing next to her while she read the telegram!

His ship, the Bedloe, was lost in a hurricane.

Friday, September 19th

September 19, 1927: Alderman John Kinney, Council for hot dog vendor Walter Mahon, accused Public Safety Commissioner Cameron of persecuting his client.

Cameron had ordered Mahon to close his wagon on Central Avenue for blocking the sidewalk. Kinney reminded the court Judge Broderick allowed Mahon, in business on the spot for three years, to continue operating until it was determined whether he was on city property.

Cameron ordered Second Precinct Captain Cashin to arrest Mahon, saying he didn’t care what the judge said. Allegedly the Commissioner stated if Mahon went on his own property, he would install “No Parking” signs. The case adjourned until the City Engineer’s office could determine the exact border between Mahon’s property and Yonkers property.

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 returned with engine trouble. On board was medical observer Park Hill Avenue’s Dr. Leon Pisculli. When the flight took off a few weeks later, it was without Pisculli.

Saturday, September 20th

September 20, 1853: Elisha Graves Otis opened a small factory on the banks of the Hudson River to manufacture elevators equipped with his automatic safety equipment

September 20, 1921: Star basketball center Joe Lapchick signed to play with the noted New York Whirlwinds.

Sunday, September 21st

Sept. 21, 1666, Mary Doughty, widow of Adriaen Van der Donck, and wife of Hugh O’Neale, by right of her late husband, claimed "all that land upon the maine not far from Westchester, called the Younckers land;” to support her claim, several Indians testified to the authenticity of her late husband’s claim and her rights.

September 21, 1960: Mrs. Robert Kennedy and Mrs. Robert Wagner substituted for Democratic Presidential candidate John F Kennedy at a 200-person “Meet’n’Greet” at the Polish Community Center in Yonkers!

**Questions or comments on this column? 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 [info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org).**

## Rep. Latimer & Harlem Hellfighter Descendents Lay Wreath at Arlington National Cemetery



L-R-Commissioner Terrence Horton, Rep. George Latimer, Dr. Larry Spruill.



On Sept. 3, U.S. Representative George Latimer was joined by local and state officials, servicemembers, and family members and descendants of the Harlem Hellfighters for a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The wreath laying was held to honor the Hellfighters, who received the Congressional Gold Medal earlier today in a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol.

“As a proud son of Mount Vernon, it is my honor to recognize the service and achievements of 22 fellow sons of Mount Vernon who answered the call to serve during World War I,” said Rep. Latimer. “These brave men are finally receiving overdue recognition of their extraordinary valor, unwavering service and critical place in our country’s history. It is too late for them to see it, but I know their families and descendants here today cherish this honor and will carry on their legacy.”

Simultaneously, the City of Mount Vernon and Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard held a wreath laying ceremony at the “Warriors Way” in Brush Park.

“Today we honor the Harlem Hellfighters, brave African American soldiers who left Mount Vernon and communities across New York to fight for democracy abroad, even as they faced injustice at home. Their courage and sacrifice helped shape history, and this Congressional Gold Medal ensures their place will never be forgotten. Mount Vernon is proud to have been home to men who served in this legendary regiment, and we will continue to honor their legacy of service, sacrifice, and the unyielding pursuit of equality,” said Mayor Patterson-Howard.

The 369th Infantry Regiment, commonly referred to as the Harlem Hellfighters, was an infantry regiment of the New York Army National Guard during World Wars I and II. The regiment contained mostly Black Americans and is known for being one of the first African-American regiments to serve with the American Expeditionary Forces in WWI. The regiment fought alongside French forces and spent almost 200 days in the front-line trenches, more than any other American unit and suffered the most losses of any American regiment, with close to 1,500 losing their lives. The City of Mount Vernon produced 22 Harlem Hellfighters.

Today the descendants of these brave men were presented with the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award Congress can bestow.

This morning Rep. Latimer recognized the service of the Harlem Hellfighters on the House floor.

### Yonkers Rising

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**“The key to the future of the world is finding the optimistic stories and letting them be known.”**

**-Pete Seeger-**

# COMMUNITY JOB FAIR

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*Msgr. Corrigan, continued from pg 1-*

Longford, and his mother, Anne Higgins, born in County Leitrim, who predeceased him. He had three younger sisters: Joan, Maureen (who died in 1966), and Peggy. He grew up in the parish of St. Nicholas of Tolentine, listening to the radio, playing stickball and basketball, reading, selling newspapers after Sunday Mass, and hiking with his father and sister. He graduated from St. Nicholas of Tolentine Elementary School in 1952.

Drawn to the priesthood from a young age, he attended the Cathedral College, the archdiocesan minor seminary in Manhattan. He graduated in 1958 and completed college at St. Joseph's Seminary and College in Dunwoodie, Yonkers. In 1960, he was sent to Rome, residing at the North American College and attending classes at the Pontifical Gregorian University. This was the time of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council and the pontificates of Pope John XXIII and Paul VI. On December 18, 1963, he was ordained a priest in the church of St. Ignatius in Rome, and in June 1964, he was granted a licentiate in theology.

He was assigned as assistant chaplain to Willowbrook State School, Staten Island, in 1964. He was parochial vicar of St. Charles Borromeo, Harlem, from 1964 to 1973. This was during the 1960s: the era of civil rights marches, the beginning of anti-poverty programs, the Vietnam War, peace marches, and assassinations. He met the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. at Brown's Chapel in Montgomery, Alabama, and marched with him the next day, March 17. It was a time when everything seemed possible, and his passion for social justice grew.

He also held a master's degree in sociology from the New School for Social Research. He was chairman of the sociology department at Cathedral College, Douglaston, Queens, where he also served on the faculty from 1973 to 1987.

He was at St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Church, Yonkers, for 31 years. He served as pastor from 1987 to 2013 and administrator from 2013 to 2018. He was president of the Interfaith Clergy of Yonkers from 1991 to 1993 and regional vicar of the Catholic churches in Yonkers from 1993 to 2010. He was named monsignor in 1995.

His love for gardening started in the early 1980s at his sister's home in Connecticut. His first official garden was at St. Mary's Immaculate Conception. He retired from St. Mary's Immaculate Conception in 2018 to the Cardinal Egan Residence in the Bronx, where he continued to create and maintain beautiful gardens, enjoy his love of reading and learning, and explore his newfound interest in the cosmos.

Reverend Monsignor Hugh J. Corrigan is survived by his sisters Joan McGhee of Nanuet and Peggy Maher (Peter) of Alexandria, Virginia; his eight nieces and nephews, Maureen, Peggy Anne, Stephen, Kristina, Francis, Peter, Hugh, and John; and his 15 great-nieces and great-nephews.

**RECEPTION OF THE BODY AND WAKE LYING IN REPOSE**

Friday, September 12, 2025 2-6 p.m.

Church of the Immaculate Conception

103 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701, 914-963-0156

Entrusted to the care of the Flynn Memorial Home, Yonkers

Saturday, September 13, 2025 10 a.m.

Church of the Immaculate Conception

103 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701, 914-963-0156

His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, principal celebrant

Reverend Edward Byrne, homilist

INTERMENT-St. Mary Cemetery, Yonkers

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano said, "Saddened to learn of the passing of Rev. Msgr. Hugh Corrigan. He served as regional vicar of Yonkers as well as pastor of St. Mary's, where he was an administrator for many years. He held a Master's Degree in sociology from the New School for Social Research and taught the subject for 13 years at Cathedral College in Douglaston, Queens, before arriving at St. Mary's. He was so dedicated to our beloved St. Mary's, he wrote and published a book about its history in 2016. Our sincerest condolences to those who knew him. May we continue to support St. Mary's now and always."

**Rev 250, continued from page 9-**

we commemorate the 250th, we're excited to offer new ways for travelers and locals to connect with history and explore the beauty of Westchester. Our mission is to create programming that extends well beyond 2026 and delivers lasting impact."

RW250 President Constance Kehoe said: "REV FEST 250 is a unique opportunity to bring the history of the American Revolution to life in Westchester—engaging people of all ages and interests through immersive experiences, dynamic storytelling, and a deeper appreciation of our nation's roots."

Rooted in Westchester is a dynamic digital collection of resources and itineraries designed to highlight Westchester's historical significance, amplify diverse stories and enhance the visitor experience at historic sites across the County.

Support for the 250th anniversary commemoration events is provided through a Market New York grant from Empire State Development and I LOVE NY, New York State's Division of Tourism.

**ABOUT REV FEST 250:**

What: REV FEST 250 – living-history festival commemorating America's 250th

When: Sept. 27–28, 2025, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. daily

Where: Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.

Admission: Free; families encouraged to bring chairs/blankets, dogs permitted

Hotel Partner: Windrose on Hudson

Transportation: Free shuttle service from the Croton-Harmon Metro North Station.

More info, lodging and dining: [visitwestchesterny.com/250](http://visitwestchesterny.com/250)

REV FEST 250 is part of a multi-year commemoration that will culminate with a large-scale Battle of White Plains reenactment Oct. 24–25, 2026, at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, in cooperation with RW250 and leading reenactment organizations.

**Read it all Online at [Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)**

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Riverfront Library  
During the school year, for GRADES K-7.

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Hours  
Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 4-6:30 PM

Grinton I. Will Library  
During the school year, for GRADES 1-6

1500 Central Park Avenue  
Yonkers, NY 10710  
914-771-9616

Hours  
Mondays – Wednesdays: 4-6 pm  
Thursdays: 4-5:30 pm

Crestwood Library  
During the school year, for GRADES 1-6

16 Thompson Street  
Yonkers, NY 10707  
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Hours  
Mondays – Thursdays: 3:30-5 pm

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**Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano Gets it Right on Charlie Kirk**

climate and win again, and again, and again and again? Part of the reason can be found in the Mayor’s statement regarding the shooting death of Charlie Kirk.

Kirk was a wildly popular conservative podcaster and lecturer, who was also very influential in the election of President Donald Trump in 2024.

So usually, in our divided nation, most stay on one side of the fence or the other. Republicans had a lot to say while democrats for the most part remained quiet, or blasted Kirk for his views and comments.

Mayor Spano was one of a few Westchester Democrats who took the time and comment on the shooting of Charlie Kirk in a reasonable way.

“This is not OK. This is what our Democracy is all about-Freedom of Speech. This is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. This is not about partisan politics. This is about the fundamentals of our republic. We need to be able to have public discourse without fear reprisal,” said Spano.

Not only do I agree with what the Mayor said, but I am glad that he had the political Chutzpah to say it.

And these comments are one of the reasons, in my view, why Mayor Spano has been elected Mayor of Yonkers for a record, four -four year terms.

He has his pulse on what the vast majority of Yonkers residents are thinking and feeling, and he is unafraid to say it.

Spano has a cross over appeal to democrats, republicans and independents, that we no longer see not only in Westchester and NY State, but across American politics.

I looked at the comments on Facebook below the Mayor’s post. Most were sad about Kirk and supportive of the Mayor’s thought. Some questioned why there wasn’t the same outcry over the shooting death of a democratic state legislator in Minnesota.

“I’ve never been so devastated & sickened by the cruel, senseless assassination of an innocent public figure as this of Charlie. He was devoted to open dialogue, to our youth, to God, and treated all with respect and civility, in the face of hostility. RIP Charlie This was a man of faith and servitude to the public. This was a brave man who sat straight and stood tall in the face of a very tumultuous and uncertain time in our lives. He was no coward. He was brave and he gave completely of himself

Charlie Kirk had a lot to say-and he spoke his mind, and at the age of 31, was one of the most influential americans of his generaion. Most of you have never listened to Charlie Kirk, or have joined his organizations, or attended his speeches.

Yes he was a Conservative and a Christian. But Charlie also spoke about the younger generation of Americans who are struggling to live the American Dream, who can’t afford to buy a house and are living on the financial edge with --more

And Charlie warned us that when you have a generation of 40 million Americans who don’t own anything and can’t afford to have investments in our country-they are not invested in our country and our future, and that is dangerous.

I haven’t heard anyone speak about this problem in such a non-partisan way.

Charlie also enjoyed and sought out discussions with opposite political views. That is why he was so often speaking at colleges across the country. He was unafraid to go into the belly of the beast, and have the debate but also take the heat. And that is how he died, engaging in this American discourse that we no longer see any more and is what Mayor Spano felt it important to highlight.

So if you ever wonder why Yonkers has a Mayor who has been elected for 16 years, this is one reason why.

**2025 Tour de Yonkers Set for September 28**



The 16th Annual Tour de Yonkers will take place on Sunday, September 28, 2025. The ride is the second largest participant sporting event on the Yonkers calendar (the largest being the Yonkers Marathon). Last year the Tour had over 400 riders. This enjoyable untimed event is open to all bike riders over the age of 18 with routes of 12, 25 and 50 miles. The routes include share-the-road streets, scenic park trails, and, for the longer ride, along the closed-to-traffic Bronx River Parkway. There will be a police escort for the first several miles.

The ride will start and end at the Beczak Environmental Center- Sarah Lawrence Center for the Urban River, 35 Alexander Street, located in picturesque Habershaw Park along the Hudson River. There is food provided at rest stops and at the finish.

For more information and to register visit [yonkersbikeclub.org](http://yonkersbikeclub.org)

*RFK Jr, continued from pg 5-*

COVID had so thoroughly penetrated my lungs that I It felt as if I could never get enough breath, like I had been a two-pack a day smoker for 30 years.

My teenage daughter was flattened. She was in so much pain she couldn’t sleep. She asked me to sit up with her one night on our living room couch, as we were relentlessly assaulted by fever and the raw body aches of the disease.

I would rather have been forced to watch the “Mean Girls” musical on Broadway twenty times in a row before getting COVID again. It took three days for us to shake it off. It wasn’t until I was prescribed Paxlovid that I started to feel better.

Other people around me were not as fortunate. A former work colleague and friend died from COVID. Her daughter told me Alison had literally turned blue. She went to the hospital, but the doctors couldn’t save her.

A friend of my parents died from COVID. My sister-in-law’s father, who was suffering from Parkinson’s, caught COVID and died. We heard from friends who lost relatives.

The New York City public school where I taught shut down, as did every other school around the country.

We conducted classes and assigned homework over Zoom. I’m not sure much real learning actually occurred during those last five months of the school year. The mother of one of my students told me on the phone that her little daughter used to run around their apartment singing, “No school, no school.”

The TV news was filled wall to wall with images of hospitals overwhelmed with patients, some of whom had piles of the dead enclosed in body bags stored in refrigerated units.

And the economy crashed, with 22 million jobs lost.

So, yes, I was one of the first people on line to get the COVID vaccine. There were hundreds of people with me at Westchester Medical Center ready to get a needle in our arms. I didn’t want to get COVID ever again. I’ve gotten an updated vaccine several times since. My wife and daughter have also received the vaccine and multiple boosters.

The country recovered, thanks to the vaccines, a program President Trump initiated.

What did Robert Kennedy do at the time? He filed a petition to stop the Food and Drug Administration from approving and licensing the COVID vaccine.

And now, here he is, somehow voted in by the U.S. Senate to be the Health and Human Services Secretary, telling us we cannot protect our families from this awful disease.

My daughter is in college now, with thousands of other kids, huddled together in classrooms both large and small, ripe locations in colder weather for contracting all manner of illnesses. And Kennedy is saying she can’t get the current vaccine. He has no credible evidence establishing that the COVID vaccine will harm people.

As Secretary for Health and Human Services, Kennedy is supposed to be in charge of the physical health and general welfare of the nation. Right now, he’s providing neither.

*Michael Gold is a Westchester based reporter whose work has been published in The New York Daily News, The Albany Times-Union, The Hartford Courant and other newspapers.*

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## Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290

Low-Tide Hike, 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Explore Croton Point's shoreline with the park naturalist and learn about estuarine ecology, glacial geology and the deep history of this beautiful Hudson River promontory. Meet at the RV Park entrance. Ages six and up; some difficult terrain.

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Fall Bird Migration Exploration and Observation, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.. Observe our feathered friends as they prepare to head southward. Please bring binoculars.

Merestead Estate, Mount Kisco: (914) 864-7958

Mosses of Merestead, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Come appreciate Merestead's beautiful mosses during a gentle walk through the forest and along the stream. Meet at the carriage house parking area on the south side of 455 Byram Lake Road in Mount Kisco. The program will run in light rain, but worse weather will cancel.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Muscoot Farm's 50th Celebration Weekend, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Celebrate with us! Join us today and tomorrow for live music, hayrides, entertainment, kids' activities and a lot more! Also: Sept. 14. Get details: <https://www.muscootfarm.org/programs-events/50th-celebration-gala-and-weekend.html>

Saxon Woods Park, White Plains: (914) 995-4480

Garage Sale, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Browse second-hand treasures such as clothing, household items, furniture, toys, sports equipment, books and more. Admission is free. Rain date: Sept. 14, at the same time and location. Get details <https://parks.westchestergov.com/saxon-woods-garage-sale>

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050

Tastings in the Field, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Come with us into our field to use your taste to note the similarities and differences within the family, genus and species of one of our crops. Each class in this series will highlight a different seasonal crop and explore how and why tastes vary and the benefits of these distinctions. For ages 6 and up. \$10 per person. Register <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tastings-in-the-field-tickets-1374759415419?aff=oddtcreator>

Miller House, White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Open House, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Drop in to visit the former home of the Ann and Elijah Miller family, an average colonial Westchester family whose lives were changed forever when George Washington and his army fought for American independence. Located at 140 Virginia Road in White Plains.

Saxon Woods Park, White Plains: (914) 995-4480; Sprain Ridge Park, Yonkers: (914) 231-3450. Pools Are Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Also: Sunday, Sept. 14. Weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is required for admission, with a County Park Pass, a valid New York State driver's license or a valid New York State ID with a Westchester County address. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/pools-and-beaches>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

"The ABCs of Muscoot Farm," 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Celebrate Muscoot's rich legacy and community spirit. The exhibit is on display in the Main House on weekends in September.

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Ecotherapy: The Benefits of Nature, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Master naturalist Bruce Rosenberg will lead a guided "ecotherapy" walk to explore different areas of Lasdon and experience the benefits of nature up close. Meet at the garden entrance. Register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/echotherapy-the-benefits-of-nature-6/>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720. Monarchs and Other Matriarchs in Flight, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Observe the fall migration of monarchs and other insects in flight. Please bring binoculars. All other tools will be provided.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Naturalist's Choice Hike, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Join us for a walk through the trails at Marshlands as we interpret the wonders that nature is showing us today.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Invasive Removal Volunteer Day, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Ages 12 and older can pitch in to protect Lenoir from the spread of invasive plants. We will learn simple plant identification and work to cut and pull invasives to give native plants a fighting chance! Bring gloves if you have them; all tools will be provided. A signed waiver is required.

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Fall Open Art Studio, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. In this workshop for ages 4 and up, children will follow their own creative path, working in a variety of different materials with an art educator guiding them along the way. \$5. Get details and pay: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/fall-open-art-studio/2025-09-13/>

*continued on pg 14-*

**Read it all Online  
at Yonkers Times.com**

## Yonkers Girls Flag Football League to Start at Lennon Park

*First games to kick off Sunday, September 28*

Alpha Elite Sports, a local nonprofit dedicated to empowering youth through athletic opportunities, proudly announces the launch of the Yonkers Girls Flag Football League, set to debut on Sunday, September 28, 2025, at Lennon Park in Yonkers. Games will run from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, offering high school girls from Yonkers and surrounding communities an exciting opportunity to compete, learn, and grow in one of the nation's fastest-growing sports.

Registration is now open and closes on September 13, 2025. All Yonkers high school girls are welcome to register and be part of this historic first season. Players can register now at [www.yonkersgirlsffl.org](http://www.yonkersgirlsffl.org).

This groundbreaking league aims to open doors for female athletes in Yonkers by providing a direct pathway to official school teams and beyond. With colleges and universities nationwide expanding their women's flag football programs and the sport officially included in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games, opportunities for young women in flag football have never been greater.

"As a community, we have a responsibility to ensure that our young women have access to the same opportunities as everyone else," said Kris Areche, President of Alpha Elite Sports. "The Yonkers Girls Flag Football League is more than a game — it's a platform for leadership, teamwork, and future athletic advancement."

The league is officially licensed by NFL FLAG, providing players with a high-quality, nationally recognized program while laying the groundwork for Yonkers schools to become part of an official NFL FLAG league in the near future.

Alpha Elite Sports invites the public, local schools, families, and community leaders to join them at Lennon Park on September 28th to celebrate this historic first step for girls' flag football in Yonkers.

For more information on registration, sponsorship, or partnership opportunities, please visit [www.yonkersgirlsffl.org](http://www.yonkersgirlsffl.org) or contact [areche@alphaelitesports.org](mailto:areche@alphaelitesports.org) and [alphaelitenyc@gmail.com](mailto:alphaelitenyc@gmail.com).

### *Gun Control is Suicide Prevention, continued from pg 5*

Park Avenue office building in New York and Annunciation Catholic Church in Minnesota. No one and nowhere is immune.

What we know is that when we limit gun access, we limit gun deaths. Japan proves this point. A nation of more than 120 million people, it sees roughly 10 gun deaths in an entire year. By comparison, the United States, with a population of 340 million, suffers nearly 40,000 gun deaths annually. Ten versus forty thousand. And suicides represent the majority of those deaths. Between 2018 and 2024, approximately 57% of gun deaths in the U.S. were suicides.

New York has some of the most stringent gun control laws in the country, but we must do better when it comes to preventing suicide. And it comes down to one thing: access.

I've introduced two bills to restrict gun access. A.1210 would establish a mandatory ten-day waiting period for all firearm purchases. This "cooling-off period" would give people time to reconsider impulsive actions, including suicide. Research shows most suicide attempts are made within hours of the decision, and states with waiting period laws have significantly lower suicide rates.

I've also introduced A.198, which would establish a voluntary waiver of the right to purchase a firearm. This approach, already in place in states like Washington, has proven highly effective in reducing suicides by allowing individuals to impose a self-selected pause. By delaying access to guns, we save lives.

As Chair of the Assembly Health Committee, I'll keep fighting for stronger state gun laws, and I'm confident New York will continue to lead. But we face a Congress that prioritizes gun manufacturers over people. Blood is on the hands of those in Washington who block meaningful federal gun control laws and limit what we can do in Albany.

How many times can we send "thoughts and prayers" while innocent people are killed? In honor of Suicide Prevention Month, let's hold accountable those in elected office who allow easy access to guns — and demand real solutions instead of empty words.

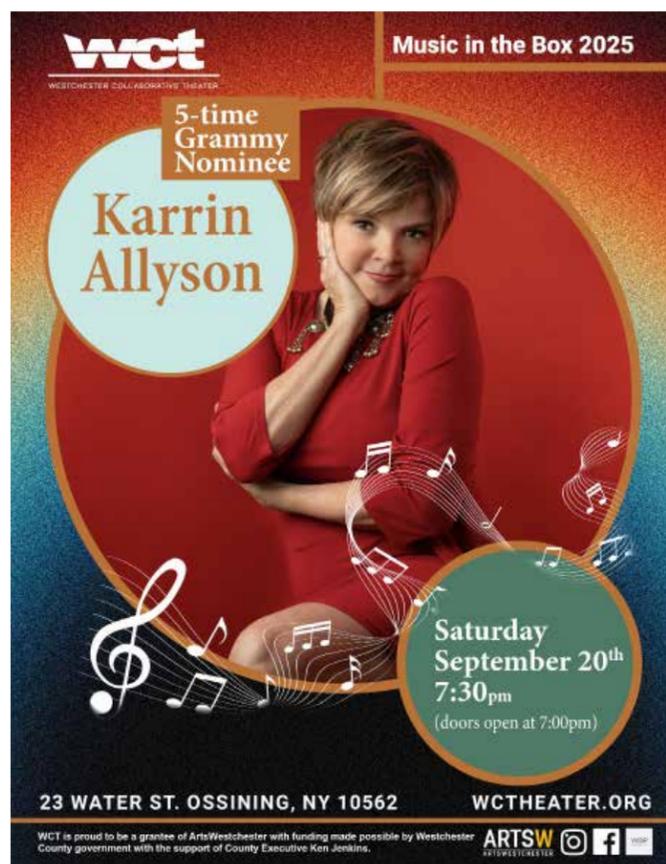
Assemblywoman Amy Paulin represents New York's 88th Assembly District.

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## Five-Time Grammy Nominee Karrin Allyson Makes A Special Appearance At WCT-Sept. 20



On Saturday, September 20, Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT), located at 23 Water St., Ossining NY, will present a performance by the internationally renowned jazz vocalist Karrin Allyson. The New York Times called Karrin "a singer with a feline touch and impeccable intonation." Her WCT appearance will be followed by a singing date at NYC's long-time jazz venue Birdland the following Tuesday.

Allyson has delved into bop and blues, Great American standards, and written her own songs. Her highly regarded 2001 album *Ballads: Remembering John Coltrane* was a beautiful rendering of the songs on Trane's 1963 classic, plus three other numbers associated with him. Her 2004 album, *Wild for You*, is a collection of singer-songwriter pop tunes—by the likes of Joni Mitchell, Yusuf Islam (Cat Stevens), Carole King, and Carly Simon. On 2015's *Many a New Day*, she paid tribute to Rodgers and Hammerstein in the distinguished company of pianist Kenny Barron. More recently, she was the star of the ambitious 2019 concept recording, *Shoulder to Shoulder*.

Allyson sings in English, French, Portuguese, Italian, and Spanish. The songs she performs are drawn from a variety of genres. She has recorded 12 original studio albums for the Concord Jazz label, and in 2009 she released a career-spanning "best of" collection. Five of Allyson's albums have received Grammy nominations for Best Jazz Vocal.

Allyson will be joined by the legendary guitarist Joe Cohn. Son of legendary tenor saxophonist Al Cohn and vocalist Marilyn Moore, Cohn is one of the most inventive and sought after guitarists in jazz today. He has performed at major jazz festivals and clubs around the world and recorded countless CDs as sideman along with several as leader and co-leader. In 1982, he joined the revived Artie Shaw Orchestra and after a six-year tenure went on to play with the bands of many other notable musicians. He has performed with Tony Bennett, Bob Hope, Mel Tormé, Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, Dizzy Gillespie, Vic Damone, Hank Jones, Freddie Hubbard, Clark Terry, Warne Marsh, Wynton Marsalis, Dave McKenna, Lee Konitz, Tommy Flanagan, James Moody, and Eddie Daniels among others.

Tickets, \$30 per set, can be purchased online at: <https://wct-presents-karrin-allyson-sept-20.eventbrite.com>.

### *UPAC, continued from pg 9-*

give them a great time.

The driving musical force of the group is the dynamic interplay between the supporting instrumentals and the vocal stylings of the singers, Shari, Pete and Mike. From high energy to soulful renderings, rich duets and solid background harmonies, the KEYpers are your KEY to an enjoyable time.

All Untermyer Performing Arts Council's performances are free and open to the public. We do not provide seating at the park, so please bring your chairs or blankets.

In case of rain, this performance will be held at Saunders High School, 183 Palmer Road, Yonkers. If the weather looks bad, please call the Untermyer Performing Arts Council's Arts Line (914-375-3435) or check ([www.untermyerperformingarts.org](http://www.untermyerperformingarts.org)) our website after 3 pm the day of the performance to determine where the performance will be held.

This program is made possible by Arts Westchester with support from County Executive Ken Jenkins, the Westchester County Government, Mayor Mike Spano, the City of Yonkers, Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, and our many supporters.

For further information, please visit our website [untermyerperformingarts.org](http://untermyerperformingarts.org) or call the Untermyer Performing Arts Council Arts Line at 914-375-3435.

**Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos  
and story ideas to [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)**

## Puppy Yoga Selling Out in Westchester!



County Executive Ken Jenkins posted, “My wife Deborah represented us both at this weekend’s puppy yoga event at the Kensico Dam, and came home with nothing but good things to say. Special thanks to our Westchester County Parks staff for putting together such a relaxing and fun community event.”

Puppy yoga is a type of yoga class where participants practice yoga poses while interacting with puppies. The puppies are typically from local shelters or rescue organizations, and the classes aim to provide socialization for the puppies and a fun and relaxing experience for the participants.

The benefits are stress reduction and relaxation, Physical activity and movement, Social interaction and bonding with other participants, and Opportunity to socialize and play with puppies.

The first, Puppy Yoga, was a one-hour yoga class held at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla. It featured eight French bulldog puppies freely interacting with participants during the session, followed by a 45-minute play period. Praised for its physical and mental wellness benefits, the program continues with the next one scheduled for Sept. 22 SOLD OUT. The cost is \$50.

## Free Rabies Clinic for Westchester Residents and their Dogs, Cats and Ferrets-September 14

### **FREE** **Rabies Clinic** **for Dogs, Cats and Ferrets** **of Westchester County residents**

Sunday, September 14, 2025

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Stamen Animal Hospital  
61 Quaker Ridge Road  
New Rochelle, NY 10804



**Please Call (914) 632-1269 to reserve vaccine for your pet at this walk-in clinic.**

- All Westchester County residents can bring their dogs, cats and ferrets in for rabies vaccinations FREE of charge.
- No examination will be given.
- Cats and ferrets must be brought in carriers.
- Dogs must be on a leash.
- Aggressive dogs MUST BE MUZZLED.
- All pets must be supervised by an adult.

**In Home Personal Training**  
In-Home Personal Training Available. NASM , EMT and Special \ Needs Certified. Strength Training, Fat Loss, and Muscle Building. Virtual and online coaching available.  
Text or call Andrew at 914-646-1718.

### *Cross County Shooting, continued from pg 1-*

counties, was found deceased about 8 a.m. behind the wheel of her car on the eastbound Cross County Parkway near the Broad Street exit in Mount Vernon. Preliminary investigation determined that the woman was likely targeted for violence, and her death was not a random act.

“The homicide remains under investigation by detectives from the General Investigations Unit. Assistance has been provided by other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies during in the continuing investigation. Due to that ongoing investigation, additional details are not being disclosed at this time.”

#### Timeline:

Polanco was driving alone in her Mercedes SUV in the morning of Aug. 18. She left her job at Ikon New York, a cocktail lounge in Washington Heights on Sunday morning around 4:30 a.m.

Westchester County Police were notified that her car was pulled over on the Cross County a few feet from the Broad Street Exit in Mt. Veron. She was found slumped over the driver’s side of the car, with gunshot shells in the car and in the street.

Because Polanco was found on the Cross County Parkway, Westchester County Police are taking the lead for local law enforcement and are working with the FBI on the case.

#### Successful Businesswoman:

Ariela Mejia-Polanco, 33, a social media influencer and nightlife personality-hostess. She had over 550,000 followers on Instagram. Each one of her posts generated \$10,000 in income for her, and combined with her nightlife work and other enterprises, made Ariela the Lobster, and ariella.lalangosta, her screen names, a multi-millionaire.

Her final Instagram post was at 117 AM from ikon where she posted she was “happy and blessed.”

She was one of the more popular Dominican-born influencers known for her daring personality, modeling, and dance content. She joined Instagram in 2018, around the same time she became a rising star in hip-hop circles and was a close friend of the rapper Tekashi 6ix9ine.

According to the social media site True Crime Unravelled, during her friendship or relationship with Tekashi, Mejia-Polanco was kidnapped by the 9 Trey Ganster Blood gang, who was entangled in a violent feud with Tekashi.

Released on the same day, Ariela later testified in Federal racketeering case against the gang members who kidnapped her. This courageous decision has some wondering if, 7 years later, her shooting was somehow linked to her testimony.

Five years after her kidnapping, Ariela appeared in a Tekashi video in 2023.

#### Questions Remain:

After leaving ikon at 403am, she was found dead on the Cross County parkway at 8am. How long was she on the side of the road? Did she go somewhere else after ikon or was she driving directly to Mt. Vernon?

Most of the focus of the media is on the guess that Ariela was killed as part of a gang feud. Most believe that it was a hit, but by who and for who?

Others say that because of her fame, and notoriety and wealth, that this was a robbery gone bad. If that was the case, how much money and jewelry could she have had on her at the time of her death?

Are there robbery gangs working in Westchester? Or did they follow her from Washington Heights if this was a robbery?

Mejia-Polanco leaves behind two children, ages 13 and 14. She was looking forward to celebrating her daughter’s quinceañera birthday celebration.

What we take away from the life of Ariela Majia-Polanco is that we celebrate her success in living the American Dream. She was a Dominican immigrant mother of two who built an empire from nothing. She was a true 21st century capitalist.

But with the millions she earned, one question we ask is that when she leaves the NYC nightclubs at 4am, why didn’t she have a driver-security-bodyguard protecting her?

She had the money to do so. Perhaps she wanted to live like a girl from the streets to earn credibility to her half a million followers.

So why is it taking so long for law enforcement to find her killers? One of our law enforcement friends say that it may be a good thing that it’s taking so long, and that we have heard nothing from law enforcement in 3 weeks.

They don’t want to tip off their suspects. Be patient. But we also want to report on an unsolved murder in Westchester, which are few a far between.

**“Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter**

**.-Thomas Jefferson**

**send us your letters,  
announcements, opinions,  
photos and story ideas to  
dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com**

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YONKERS CITY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 6

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**EARLY VOTING: OCT. 25 – NOV. 2**  
**ELECTION DAY: TUES. NOV. 4**

**RE-ELECT**  
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**MERANTE**  
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