

# Yonkers Rising

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Friday September 16, 2022

## NY Cannabis Director Visits Yonkers, Says No Legal Pot for Sale Until 2023



NY Cannabis Management Director Chris Alexander, with an licensed pot farmer upstate; below the sign you will see in legal pot stores in 2023

By Dan Murphy

Chris Alexander, Executive Director of New York State's Office of Cannabis Management, came to Westchester on Aug. 25 to discuss the progress being made towards licensing individuals and businesses to both grow and sell marijuana legally in the Empire State.

Alexander and staff from the NYS OCM gave a presentation at the Will Library in Yonkers on the same day that applications for a license to sell marijuana opened online.

On March 31, 2021, the NY legislature passed and then Gov. Cuomo signed into law the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act, (MRTA), which permitted New Yorkers to possess up to 3 ounces of pot legally.



But as Alexander and other staff members explained, there are currently no approved licenses to sell marijuana in NY. So, any storefronts or trucks selling pot in Manhattan are not legal.

New Yorkers can smoke marijuana anywhere that they are permitted to smoke cigarettes, but anyone who wants to grow marijuana in their home must technically wait for 18 months, to give time for the farmers and small businesses to grow and sell pot on the market and be able to turn a profit.

August 25 was the first day that the office of cannabis management opened and launched its Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary (CAURD) program for New Yorkers to apply for a license to sell marijuana and to secure the first licenses to open dispensaries, or pot stores across the state.

The application process is lengthy and requires a \$2,000 application fee. The first round of licenses will be given to those New Yorkers who have been convicted of a marijuana related offense, and who have operated a small business.

New York State has expunged some 400,000 marijuana related convictions of residents, and it will be those same residents who will be encouraged to apply for a license to sell pot. The deadline to complete a CAURD license application is Sept. 26.

Alexander made some news at the Yonkers event by predicting that no licenses

*continued on pg 8-*

## Soccer Star Tim Howard Opens Mini-Pitch in Yonkers

Partners Include Target and US Soccer Foundation



Former USMNT goalkeeper Tim Howard, Target, the U.S. Soccer Foundation, and the City of Yonkers officially opened a new mini-pitch at Pelton Park on Wednesday with students from the local Boys & Girls Club. Participants celebrated the opening of the new mini-pitch by playing in an inaugural scrimmage on the pitch. Tim served as a guest coach and participants and their families also had the opportunity to learn new soccer moves from professional soccer freestyler Frankie FLO.

The mini-pitch opening also marked the launch of the Tim Howard Foundation, which provide resources, experiences and opportunities for children facing challenges in their families or communities, as well as those with Tourette Syndrome and associated disorders, that foster confidence and lifelong personal growth.

"We're thrilled to partner with Tim and his new Foundation to open this mini-pitch in Yonkers," said Ed Foster-Simeon, President & CEO of the U.S. Soccer Foundation. "This new mini-pitch ensures that more children have safe places to play and access to soccer programs that support their health and wellbeing. Our collaboration with Tim shows how athletes can use soccer as a vehicle to have continued positive impact in communities beyond their professional playing careers."

"Working with the Tim Howard Foundation, the U.S. Soccer Foundation and Target is a great example of the good that comes from public-private partner-

*Continued on pg 4-*

## Rally to Keep Term Limits Backfires! Five People Show Up, and Four Wanted to Change It!



The Unity Fountain outside of City Hall was empty on September 13 for a rally

By Dan Murphy

An "urgent rally" against making changes to the Yonkers Term Limits law was held at the City Hall Fountain on September 13. Whoever organized the so-called "Urgent" Rally at Yonkers City Hall should be ashamed of themselves, because only one "protestor" showed up. And it gets worse-four other people showed up in support of changing term limits!

The rally, held to show the outrage from the public against any change to term limits did the opposite: With many believing now there is no groundswell of support against repealing term limits, which would allow Mayor Mike Spano to run for a fourth term.

Mayor Spano has yet to make up his mind on whether he wants to run for a fourth term, if it was allowed. But in interviews, he has said that he wants a sign from the people of Yonkers to move forward and consider a run for a fourth term, before he moves forward. The lack of interest in the rally, could give the Mayor that signal to move forward with plans for a fourth term.

*Continued on pg 4-*

## Yonkers Will Never Forget



Yonkers Police Commissioner Chris Sapienza, with members of Yonkers Finest at the Riverfront memorial-photos by Donna Davis



Above: A YPD officer plays taps at the McLean Avenue memorial

Below: Young Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts were part of all the ceremonies



The City of Yonkers held ceremonies on September 11, 2022 commemorating the 21 anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001 that killed 26 Yonkers residents on that day, and the 9 first responders and construction workers who died in the years after.

Conor Park on McLean Avenue, and the memorial on the river with views of downtown Manhattan, are where the ceremonies are held, and the names read. Mayor Mike Spano led riverfront memorial by throwing a flower into the river for those lost. Yonkers Idol Darrin Sanders and Junior Idol Jalilah Le'Cruise sang The National Anthem and God Bless America. The Yonkers Police Color Guard

*Continued on pg 2-*

ANNUAL NEWS RELEASE - PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Charter School of Educational Excellence today announced a free and reduced price meal (Free Milk) policy for Bronx, Rockland and Westchester County school children. Local school officials have adopted the following family eligibility criteria to assist them in determining eligibility:

2022-2023 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS OR FREE MILK

Free Eligibility Scale						Reduced Price Eligibility Scale					
Free Lunch, Breakfast, Milk						Reduced Price Lunch, Breakfast					
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 17,667	\$ 1,473	\$ 737	\$ 680	\$ 340	1	\$ 25,142	\$ 2,096	\$ 1,048	\$ 967	\$ 484
2	\$ 23,803	\$ 1,984	\$ 992	\$ 916	\$ 458	2	\$ 33,874	\$ 2,823	\$ 1,412	\$ 1,303	\$ 652
3	\$ 29,939	\$ 2,495	\$ 1,248	\$ 1,152	\$ 576	3	\$ 42,606	\$ 3,551	\$ 1,776	\$ 1,639	\$ 820
4	\$ 36,075	\$ 3,007	\$ 1,504	\$ 1,388	\$ 694	4	\$ 51,338	\$ 4,279	\$ 2,140	\$ 1,975	\$ 988
5	\$ 42,211	\$ 3,518	\$ 1,759	\$ 1,624	\$ 812	5	\$ 60,070	\$ 5,006	\$ 2,503	\$ 2,311	\$ 1,156
6	\$ 48,347	\$ 4,029	\$ 2,015	\$ 1,860	\$ 930	6	\$ 68,802	\$ 5,734	\$ 2,867	\$ 2,647	\$ 1,324
7	\$ 54,483	\$ 4,541	\$ 2,271	\$ 2,096	\$ 1,048	7	\$ 77,534	\$ 6,462	\$ 3,231	\$ 2,983	\$ 1,492
8	\$ 60,619	\$ 5,052	\$ 2,526	\$ 2,332	\$ 1,166	8	\$ 86,266	\$ 7,189	\$ 3,595	\$ 3,318	\$ 1,659
Each Add'l person add	\$ 6,136	\$ 512	\$ 256	\$ 236	\$ 118	Each Add'l person add	\$ 8,732	\$ 728	\$ 364	\$ 336	\$ 168

**SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Households:** Households that currently include children who receive the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) but who are not found during the Direct Certification Matching Process (DCMP), or households that currently receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) must complete an application listing the child's name, a valid SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. Eligibility for free meal benefits based on participation in SNAP, TANF or FDPIR is extended to all children in the household. When known to the School Food Authority, households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free meals based on their participation in the SNAP, TANF or the FDPIR programs. No application is necessary if the household was notified by the SFA their children have been directly certified. If the household is not sure if their children have been directly certified, the household should contact the school.

**Other Source Categorical Eligibility:** When known to the School Food Authority, households will be notified of any child's eligibility for free meals based on the individual child's designation as Other Source Categorical Eligible, as defined by law. Children are determined Other Source Categorical Eligible if they are Homeless, Migrant, Runaway, A foster child, or Enrolled in Head Start or an eligible pre-kindergarten program.

If children or households receive benefits under Assistance Programs or Other Source Categorical Eligible Programs and are not listed on the notice of eligibility and are not notified by the School Food Authority of their free meal benefits, the parent or guardian should contact the school or should submit an income application.

**Other Households:** Households with income the same or below the amounts listed above for family size may be eligible for and are urged to apply for free and/or reduced price meals (or free milk). They may do so by completing the application sent home with the letter to parents. One application for all children in the household should be submitted. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year William Pintado. Please contact William Pintado at 914-476-5070 with any questions regarding the application process.

Households notified of their children's eligibility must contact the School Food Authority if they choose to decline the free meal benefits. Households may apply for benefits at any time throughout the school year. Children of parents or guardians who become unemployed or experience a financial hardship mid-year may become eligible for free and reduced price meals or free milk at any point during the school year.

For up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first) an individual child's free or reduced price eligibility status from the previous year will continue within the same SFA. When the carryover period ends, unless the household is notified that their children are directly certified or the household submits an application that is approved, the children's meals must be claimed at the paid rate. Though encouraged to do so, the SFA is not required to send a reminder or a notice of expired eligibility.

The information provided on the application will be confidential and will be used for determining eligibility. The names and eligibility status of participants may also be used for the allocation of funds to federal education programs such as Title I and National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), State health or State education programs, provided the State agency or local education agency administers the programs, and for federal, State or local means-tested nutrition programs with eligibility standards comparable to the NSLP. Eligibility information may also be released to programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or the Child Nutrition Act (CNA). The release of information to any program or entity not specifically authorized by the NSLA will require a written consent statement from the parent or guardian.

The School Food Authority does, however, have the right to verify at any time during the school year the information on the application. If a parent does not give the school this information, the child/children will no longer be able to receive free or reduced price meals (free milk).

Foster children are eligible for free meal benefits. A separate application for a foster child is no longer necessary. Foster children may be listed on the application as a member of the family where they reside. Applications must include the foster child's name and personal use income.

Under the provisions of the policy, the designated official will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the designated official, he/she may make a request either orally or in writing for a hearing to appeal the decision. Cindy Lopez (Superintendent), whose address is 260 Warburton Avenue has been designated as the Hearing Official. Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. However, prior to initiating the hearing procedure, the parent or School Food Authority may request a conference to provide an opportunity for the parent and official to discuss the situation, present information, and obtain an explanation of the data submitted in the application or the decisions rendered. The request for a conference shall not in any way prejudice or diminish the right to a fair hearing.

Only complete applications can be approved. This includes complete and accurate information regarding: the SNAP, TANF, or FDPIR case number; the names of all household members; on an income application, the last four digits of the social security number of the person who signs the form or an indication that the adult does not have one, and the amount and source of income received by each household member. In addition, the parent or guardian must sign the application form, certifying the information is true and correct.

Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals at no charge.

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Letter to Parents for School Meal Program

Dear CSEE Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Charter School of Educational Excellence offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$2.27, lunch costs \$3.58. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals and snacks served through the After-school Snack Program at no charge.

- DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD?** No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Admissions Office 280 Warburton Avenue Yonkers NY 10701.
- WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?** All children in households receiving benefits from SNAP, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations or TANF, can get free meals regardless of your income. Categorical eligibility for free meal benefits is extended to all children in a household when the application lists an Assistance Program's case number for any household member. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Households with children who are categorically eligible through an Other Source Categorical Eligible designation, as defined by law, may be eligible for free benefits and should contact the SFA for assistance in receiving benefits.
- CAN FOSTER CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court, are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income. Foster children may also be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other children. Including children in foster care as household members may help other children in the household qualify for benefits. If non-foster children in a foster family are not eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits, an eligible foster child will still receive free benefits.
- CAN HOMELESS, RUNAWAY, AND MIGRANT CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** Yes, children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail (school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator information) to see if they qualify.
- WHO CAN GET REDUCED PRICE MEALS?** Your children may be approved as reduced price eligible if your household income is within the reduced-price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart, shown on this letter. Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals and snacks served through the After-school Snack Program at no charge.
- SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS?** Please read the letter you get carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at [phone number] if you have questions.
- MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT ANOTHER ONE?** Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for up to the first 30 operating days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
- I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILD(REN) GET FREE MEALS?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out a FREE/REDUCED PRICE MEAL application.
- WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes and we may also ask you to send written proof.
- IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER?** Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
- WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION?** You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: [name, address, phone number, e-mail].
- MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN?** Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- WHO SHOULD I INCLUDE AS MEMBERS OF MY HOUSEHOLD?** You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children, and who pay a pro-rata share of expenses), do not include them.
- WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME?** List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$800, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
- WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE INCLUDE OUR HOUSING ALLOWANCE AS INCOME?** If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
- MY SPOUSE IS DEPLOYED TO A COMBAT ZONE. IS HER COMBAT PAY COUNTED AS INCOME?** No, if the combat pay is received in addition to her basic pay because of her deployment and it wasn't received before she was deployed, combat pay is not counted as income. Contact your school for more information.
- MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?** To find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or call 1-888-342-3086.

2022-2023 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART

Total Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$ 25,142	\$ 2,096	\$ 1,048	\$ 967	\$ 484
2	\$ 33,874	\$ 2,823	\$ 1,412	\$ 1,303	\$ 652
3	\$ 42,606	\$ 3,551	\$ 1,776	\$ 1,639	\$ 820
4	\$ 51,338	\$ 4,279	\$ 2,140	\$ 1,975	\$ 988
5	\$ 60,070	\$ 5,006	\$ 2,503	\$ 2,311	\$ 1,156
6	\$ 68,802	\$ 5,734	\$ 2,867	\$ 2,647	\$ 1,324
7	\$ 77,534	\$ 6,462	\$ 3,231	\$ 2,983	\$ 1,492
8	\$ 86,266	\$ 7,189	\$ 3,595	\$ 3,318	\$ 1,659
*Each add'l person add	\$ 8,732	\$ 728	\$ 364	\$ 336	\$ 168

**How to Apply:** To get free or reduced price meals for your children carefully complete one application following the instructions for your household and return it to the designated office listed on the application. If you now receive SNAP, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) for any children or participate in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), the application must include the children's names, the household SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member. All children should be listed on the same application. If you do not list a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR case number for any household member, the application must include the names of everyone in the household, the amount of income each household member, and how often it is received and where it comes from. It must include the signature of an adult household member and the last four digits of that adult's social security number or check the box if the adult does not have a social security number. An application for free and reduced price benefits cannot be approved unless complete eligibility information is submitted, as indicated on the application and in the instructions. Contact your local Department of Social Services for your SNAP or TANF case number or complete the income portion of the application. No application is necessary if the household was notified by the SFA their children have been directly certified. If the household is not sure if their children have been directly certified, the household should contact the school.

**Reporting Changes:** The benefits that you are approved for at the time of application are effective for the entire school year and up to 30 operating days into the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first). You no longer need to report changes for an increase in income or decrease in household size, or if you no longer receive SNAP.

**Income Exclusions:** The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care Development (Block Grant) Fund should not be considered as income for this program.

**Reduced Price Eligible Students:** Beginning July 1, 2019, students in New York State that are approved for reduced price meals will receive breakfast and lunch meals and snacks served through the After-school Snack Program at no charge.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability

**Meal Service to Children With Disabilities:** Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to children with a disability which may restrict their diet. A student with a disability is defined in 7CFR Part 15b.3 of Federal regulations, as one who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual, a record of such an impairment or being regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include but are not limited to: functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working. You must request meal modifications from the school and provide the school with medical statement from a State licensed healthcare professional. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information, as there is specific information that the medical statement must contain.

**Confidentiality:** The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the release of students names and eligibility status, without parent/guardian consent, to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of federal education programs such as Title I and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), which are United States Department of Education programs used to determine areas such as the allocation of funds to schools, to evaluate socioeconomic status of the school's attendance area, and to assess educational progress. Information may also be released to State health or State education programs administered by the State agency or local education agency, provided the State or local education agency administers the program, and federal State or local retention programs similar to the National School Lunch Program. Additionally, all information contained in the free and reduced price application may be released to persons directly connected with the administration or enforcement of programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or Child Nutrition Act (CNA), including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, the Special Milk Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC), the Comptroller General of the United States for audit purposes, and federal, State or local law enforcement officials investigating alleged violation of the programs under the NSLA or CNA.

**Recapitulation:** You may apply for benefits any time during the school year. Also, if you are not eligible now, but during the school year become unemployed, have a decrease in household income, or an increase in family size you may request and complete an application at that time.

The disclosure of eligibility information not specifically authorized by the NSLA requires a written consent statement from the parent/guardian. We will let you know when your application is approved or denied.

Sincerely,

William Pintado  
Operations Manager

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



# Yonkers Will Never Forget -photos by Donna Davis



The Yonkers Police Color Guard, led by Lt. Richard Alaimo

Mayor Spano throws a flower into the river in memory of the 34 Yonkers lives lost



Above: Young Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts in attendance



Reverend William Norman, Yonkers Director of Veterans Services, with Fire Commissioner Tony Pagano

above: members of the Yonkers Fire Department at the Conor Park memorial



Yonkers never forgets continued from pg 1-

and members of local Boy Scouts presented the colors. Yonkers Poet Laureate Golda Solomon gave a reading. It was good to see the people of Yonkers unite, and remember on this solemn

Left-members of the City Council at Riverfront memorial; Right-Yonkers Junior Idol Jalilah Le'Cruise



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## Assemblyman Nader Sayegh's 9-11 Legislation, to Find Forgotten Victims, Gains Momentum



L-R-State Sen. Brian Kavanaugh, Louis Coletti, President- CEO, Building Trades Employers Association (BTEA), Yonkers Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, 9/11 Legal Advocate Michael Barasch, Assemblyman Gary Pretlow

Thousands of civilian employees, including construction workers involved in the massive cleanup of Ground Zero 21 years ago, are eligible for World Trade Center victims' health coverage but have not registered for essential benefits. Today, New York State Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow and State Senator Brian P. Kavanaugh joined 9/11 legal advocate Michael Barasch and construction industry leadership to call for public hearings and passage of legislation requiring employers to make their employees aware of their eligibility.

While most uniformed emergency responders have enrolled in the World Trade Center Health Program, it is estimated that only 10 percent of other workers and citizens who would qualify for the coverage have enrolled.

New legislation introduced by Assemblyman Sayegh this session, the "9/11 Notice Act" (A-9715), would require businesses with 50 or more employees that were in operation between September 2001 and May 2002, and within the Lower Manhattan exposure zone, to inform their current and former employees, of their right to register under the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Reauthorization Act, which reauthorized the WTC Health Program for 75 years, ending in 2090.

This year marks the 21 st anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack at the World Trade Center. After the collapse of the Twin Towers, an estimated 1.2 million tons of debris, soot, and toxic ash laced with cancer causing carcinogens blanketed lower Manhattan and parts of Brooklyn.

The U.S. Department of Environmental Protection Agency told New Yorkers that the air was safe to breathe and encouraged more than 400,000 people in lower Manhattan to return to work, school and their homes; however, it was not safe. In fact, the air was proven to be deadly and linked to more than 4,610 deaths by 9/11 related illnesses some 20 years later—an ever-growing number that exceeds the 2,966 people who died on the day of the attacks.

Assemblyman Nader Sayegh (D-Yonkers, 90 th AD) who sponsored the 9/11 Notice Act, said: "Not all of our 9/11 heroes wore uniforms. Those who came back to their jobs south of Canal Street and got New York's economy moving again are also heroes, and they breathed the same toxic air as our first responders."

He continued, "With the 9/11 Notice Act, we can notify these New Yorkers of their right to healthcare under the World Trade Center Health Program and make sure those facing the prospect of a 9/11 related illness get access to healthcare and avoid costly deductibles. Medical expenses, especially for cancer and respiratory ailments, can be extremely expensive. Patients are often left with huge bills they cannot afford, averaging \$42,000 in the year following a cancer diagnosis. The new legislation is designed to locate lost 9/11 victims, as much as 400,000 people, to let them know they have a lifeline and do not have to drown in debt while gaining access to life-saving treatments on the road to recovery."

The 9/11 Notice Act would require companies with 50 or more employees that were in Lower Manhattan (South of Canal Street) from 9/11/2001 thru 5/30/2002 or had employees working there to notify – via letter/email/text, etc – their employees, retirees, or former workers that they are eligible to register for the World Trade Center Health Program and how to go about it. By enrolling in the WTC Health Program, all costs related to hospitalizations, treatments, and medications are fully covered.

## This and That

By Eric Wolf Schoen



I happen to like the theater in London. So it's no surprise that the queen has been preparing for her funeral for so many years and what we are witnessing is like a Broadway show. Should we have what's going on in the UK when one of our leaders die? Though there certainly have been differences in the Royal family it's nice to see everyone come together to salute a 96 year old woman who though she has limited and more ceremonial powers means so much to her people and the world.

Would I stand on a line for 30 hours to pay my respects? Some may stay for days to personally view the grand mum. I think I would be happy watching the Queen's casket pass by on the street and get a glimpse of the vehicle set with glass with her body in it covered by the flags of the lands she represents.

A funny story about my first visit to London and the English countryside. I was on a tour and we kept passing homes with 'Thatched Roofs.' It was the time when Margaret Thatcher was prime Minister, so I thought the 'thatched' roofs had something to do with Prime Minister Thatcher. I told the tour guide and she laughed telling me thatched roofs had nothing to do with Margaret Thatcher. They are a style of construction in the U.K.

Let's hope the wonderful Relationship between the U.K. and the United States continues to prosper under King Charles.

I was glad to see that the death of the Queen did not overshadow the 9-11 ceremonies at least in the New York Metropolitan area. My 9-11 story is so vivid in my mind that it needs repeating again. It seems like only yesterday that I was coming out of a Chamber of Commerce Breakfast at the Regency Extended Care when a colleague of mine yelled out that a plane hit the World Trade Center. We ran back to the office not knowing what was going to happen to the 26,000 children and staff. The word quickly got around, and we at the end of the day set into gear a dismissal with a location to bring children whose parents didn't pick them up to a central location.

Fortunately, parents and relatives picked up the students and we did not have to use the emergency facility, loaded with cots and food and staff to take care of the kids whose parents didn't pick them up. At the same time I was coordinating this operation with other administrators I was frantically trying to contact my sister who though far from the World Trade on 74th street had to figure out a way home walking to Grand Central Station and catching Metro-North, the only thing running from Manhattan to Yonkers.

After a long day I got home, my sister got home, and it hit me what had happened when I woke up in tears that next morning. I got to the office, and then Superintendent of Schools Joe Farmer complimented me on what I had done.

Let's never forget what happened on September 11, 2001 and make sure we teach the horrors of that day to our children and their children. May it never ever happen again.

Speaking of education, let's hope that the Board of Regents this week made sure that students who go to private religious schools get the same education as students in public schools. The New York Times ran an article discussing the disparities between the education students are getting in public schools and the education students are getting in private schools. This while the state is paying for a basic sound education. It is terrible the money, our tax dollars that are being spend on religious education for some students who are not getting the education their peers get in Public Schools that would lead them in productive lives. Many of these students end up illiterate.

What floored me is that the State Education Department doesn't know how many private and religious schools there are in New York State. In Yiddish this is called a 'shanda' or disgrace. If the state can't get a count the number of private and religious schools out there the administrators in charge need to find other work.

Horrible story of the mother who drowned her 3 kids in the waters of Coney Island. The woman clearly needed psychiatric care, and we will soon learn if she requested it and got it. Always a reminder that Help is available, and if you don't know the 988 number just dial 911. There is a lot going on in the world between Covid, Monkeypox, the economy and the fragile state of affairs of the nation. Fortunately our government has resources but you have to get to them and know about them to take advantage of them.

And you can be a good neighbor by helping those you see in need get the resources they may not know about. Sadly we all know someone, and we don't want what happened in Coney Island to happen to them.

It's about time that the Thruway Authority crack down on toll invaders by suspending their licenses and registrations. People like us who pay our way have to subsidize those who don't. It just isn't fair, it's been going on for years and hopefully some cars will get booted until their owners pay their fair share. The tolls are too damn high to begin with.

Glad to see there are some rational people out there fighting this absurd congestion pricing. People are not coming into New York City and working from home now. New York wants people to come back to work in the city. If they have to pay \$26 they will work from home. That \$26 hurts the car driver and the guy in the sandwich shop where he works and would pick up lunch.

Columbia University, that magical institution drops in ranking because they incorrectly reported data. Parents spending \$100's of thousands of dollars to send their kids to a school that can't do math. The Democratic Party in New York sends out Absentee ballots with Covid 19 circled as an excuse for needing the absentee ballot.

continued on pg 7-

# BUYING OLD TOYS

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## Riverfest 2022 Lineup Includes Kisstory, Afro-Dominicano, Tru Osborne,



Tru Osborne, left and Brianna Thomas, lower left are performing at Yonkers Riverfest Sept. 17.

The annual Yonkers Riverfest, hosted by the Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront Business Improvement District, has announced the full music lineup featuring several tribute bands playing all your favorite songs to sing along to and performers from practically every genre of music. Taking place on Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 12 PM to 7 PM, the festival brings together over 15,000 people along the Hudson River to enjoy musical entertainment, great food, arts, crafts, and children's activities for all to enjoy.

Some of the exciting performances at Riverfest this year will include tribute bands playing the music of Kiss, Motown, and Tina Turner. At the River Street Stage, concerts will showcase artists playing R&B/Soul, Rock, and Salsa. If you are interested in hearing a mix of Blues, Disco, Brass, and Acoustic, head down to the Waterfront Stage. And you can check out the Main Street Stage for Latin Fusion, Pop, R&B, and Oldies hits all day.



"We are beyond excited to officially announce the Yonkers Riverfest 2022 line-up," said Sara Brody, Executive Director for Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID. "This line-up was specially selected to appeal to all ages. Everyone will find something to dance to, from Disco and Blues to Latin Fusion and Oldies hits. So, join us for a Yonkers Riverfest unlike any other.

The current line-up includes  
**River Street Stage**  
 1:00 PM– 2:00 PM: Kisstory  
 2:15 PM - 3:30 PM: Forever Tina Show  
 3:45 PM - 5:15 PM: Therapi  
 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM: Hector Lavoe Tribute – Salsa

**Waterfront Stage**  
 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM: Orange Coffee and the Brass Sass  
 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM: Will O'Conner and the Live Show  
 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM: Devyn Kane & Debbie Knapper – Disco Divas and Pop  
 4:45 PM – 6:15 PM: Brianna Thomas – Blues, Soul, R&B

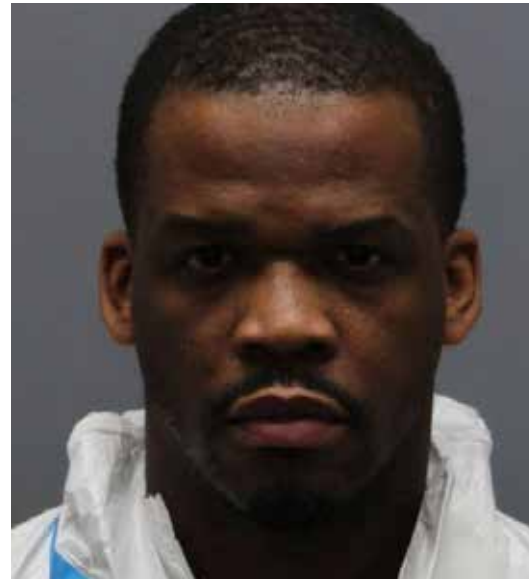
**Main Street Stage**  
 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM: DJ Tri-State Jericko  
 1:15 PM – 2:30 PM: Ladies and Gentlemen Band  
 2:45 PM - 4:30 PM: Afro Dominicano  
 4:45 PM – 6:15 PM: Motown & More Tribute feat. Tru Osborne & Charissa The Violin Diva

Road closures--To accommodate Riverfest 2022, the following streets will be closed to vehicular traffic from 7am-8pm on September 17:

- Main Street, from Warburton Avenue to Buena Vista Avenue.
- Nepperhan Street and Dock Street
- Water Grant Street/Pier Pointe Street (Waterfront)
- Buena Vista Avenue, from Hudson Street to Dock Street.
- River Street, from Dock Street to Wells Avenue.
- Alexander Street, from Water Grant Street and Pier Pointe Streets to Wells Ave.
- Peene Lane.

Visit --, visit [www.YonkersDowntown.com](http://www.YonkersDowntown.com), for more information.

## Yonkers Police Arrest Suspect in Smash & Grab Attempted Robbery of Jewelry Store



On September 8, Yonkers Police arrested 31 year old Kenneth Gustus, left, of the Bronx, for an attempted robbery at Papas Jewelers on Central Park Avenue on September 7.

The YPD issued the following statement on Sept. 7, "preliminary investigation informs that an alleged group of smash and grab thieves targeted a jewelry store on Central Avenue in Yonkers earlier today; that group may be connected to a similar incident in a jurisdiction north of Yonkers. A Westchester County Police unit observed two suspect vehicles in the area of Central Park Avenue

and Mile Square Road and attempted to stop the same – the vehicles fled: one crashed on Staunton Street. Three suspects bailed on Staunton Street; Yonkers Police have one person of interest in custody. A search for the other two suspects is on-going.

The second vehicle that fled was apprehended in another jurisdiction with additional arrests. Investigators from multiple agencies are collaborating to identify any outstanding perpetrators and bring appropriate charges. There are no threats to community safety at this time, however residents are reminded to report any suspicious activity by calling 911."

The arrest of Gustus was his 9th arrest, and before this incident he was most recently charged last Sept in NYC with firearms related crimes. He is also a registered L2 sex offender where the victim was 13 year old, according to the YPD.

The investigation is ongoing, including the identity of the others involved in this incident, and includes multiple area law enforcement agencies. The name of the Jewelry store is

### Term Limits Rally a Bust, Continued from pg 1-

"Are you telling me that you can't get 20 people to attend your rally in a City of 200,000? And the weather was great that night, so what's the excuse," asked one Yonkers democrat.

And of course the person or persons who organized this rally are nowhere to be found. But if hundreds had shown up, do you think we would know who they are? "Some claim that there was no organizer for the event, but that's not true. Someone set this up and it failed miserably. They were afraid to put their names on it before and no way they take credit for it now that it backfired," posted another Yonkers dem on social media.

One former elected official thought that maybe supporters of changing term limits to allow Spano a fourth term organized the event in the hopes that it would fail like it did. "I now wonder if the purpose was to leave it as vague as possible, have little to no turnout as a result of non-sponsorship, to have the appearance that everyone is fine with the status quo," was the comment.

We disagree because that would have left open the possibility that hundreds could have attended. Most of us thought that a big crowd was coming, and that there was opposition to making another change to the term limits law.

"I don't support or endorse any candidates but I think that the fact that NO ONE showed up yesterday in speaks LOUDER. Maybe Yonkers Residents are happy with the current Leadership and would like to the Mayor to run for another term," posted one Yonkers democrat.

The empty rally provides us one fact. Mayor Spano gets to make up his mind first, whether to change term limits and allow him to run for a fourth term. Until that happens all best are off and all candidates must wait.

"People are happy with direction of our city, and they want it to continue. If people are upset they come out. And nobody came out."

### Mini pitch soccer, Continued from pg 1-

ships," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "Tim Howard is a born leader who understands the importance of providing greater opportunities to our young people so they can grow and flourish – we are proud that Yonkers is home to his foundation's first mini-pitch. We couldn't be more excited to transform this underutilized area at Pelton Park into a recreational space for our residents to enjoy."

The mini-pitch project was made possible through funding from the Tim Howard Foundation and Target and builds on more than 100 mini-pitches the U.S. Soccer Foundation and Target have installed together since 2018. In another exciting development, Target is set to open its first store in Yonkers, New York's third largest city.

This mini-pitch marks the latest development in the U.S. Soccer Foundation's It's Everyone's Game national movement to ensure children in underserved communities can enjoy the health and youth development benefits of the game. To date, the U.S. Soccer Foundation has installed more than 500 mini-pitches nationwide. The goal is to install 1,000 by 2026.

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City of Yonkers Offers Free Deterra At-Home Drug Disposal Pouches to Senior Residents



In an effort to prevent drug abuse, protect the environment through safe, permanent disposal of unused prescription and over the counter medications, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced on Sept. 14 that the Yonkers Office for the Aging (YOFA) has received 500 Deterra pouches from the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) and New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) for local distribution. The Deterra Pouches are designed to destroy unwanted or expired medications safely and permanently, making them unavailable for misuse and accidental ingestion.

“As the overdose crisis continues to change, we must take a pragmatic, evidence-based approach to saving lives,” said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. “In the City of Yonkers, we take our responsibility to serve our seniors very seriously. It is our duty to continue to provide viable resources, such as the Deterra pouches, to our senior residents to help preserve their health and well-being.”

The pouches are easy to use at home or in a clinical setting. Each patented Deterra Pouch contains a water-soluble inner pod containing proprietary activated carbon. To dispose of prescription or over the counter medications, a user places the drugs in the pouch and adds water, which dissolves the inner pod and releases the activated carbon. The carbon binds to the active ingredients in the medications. Once deactivated, the drugs are permanently and irreversibly destroyed, unavailable for misuse and safe for disposal in the normal trash.

“Yonkers Police Department, many pharmacies and our Yonkers Hospitals offer means of disposing medications safely, however, we know firsthand how many medications remain in our seniors homes,” said Director Kelly Chiarella. “Our seniors are in danger of misusing the medications and too often these medications are misused by other family members, leading to addiction and overdose. We are a grateful to NYSOFA and OASAS for identifying seniors for this distribution.”

The Yonkers Office for the Aging (YOFA) will be collaborating with City Departments and nonprofit agencies in conjunction with the Mayor Spano’s Health Advisory Board to distribute the bags. For additional information or those who are interested in obtaining Deterra pouches, contact Yonkers Office for the Aging at (914) 377-6823.

Yonkers Office for the Aging provides services to Yonkers residents 60 years of age and over. There is no fee for any Office for the Aging service. Voluntary contributions are suggested for meals and transportation. Programs are funded by

*Eric Schoen, Continued from pg 3-*

If people can’t circle a reason why they need an absentee ballot on the form requesting one, should they be allowed to fill out the form? Let’s be fair here. I can understand if they need help. The Board of Elections Can certainly help them, as can their friends. Food for thought!

*Reach Eric Schoen at [thistooisonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistooisonkers@aol.com). Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show alternating Thursday’s from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, WVOX.com click listen or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.*

On This Day in Yonkers History...



St. Joseph’s Seminary welcomed its first class in 1896

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

Monday, September 19th  
September 19, 1945: Colonel James Seaver, Bayberry Street, was winging his way home on a nonstop flight from Japan! The weather officer of a B-29 Superfortress, Seaver landed in Washington DC about 6 pm; from there he headed home to meet his younger son, born while he was overseas. The Colonel played football at Roosevelt HS, and graduated from Dartmouth College.

One of the passengers on the flight was Captain Kermit Beahan, the bombardier who dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki.

September 19, 1945: The Yonkers Red Cross Canteen Corps, headed by Mrs. Luther McConnell, was on pier service at Piermont to meet the Aiken Victory and the 1,970 men returning from the war on the ship.

Tuesday, September 20th  
September 20, 1945: City Marshall George Donnelly and Probation Officer Theodore Murin stopped a twenty-six year old man from jumping out of a fourth floor window at City Court! Emil Pallo was arrested at his home for disorderly conduct, abusive language and threatening his mother with a knife; while waiting in the court, he bolted up the stairs to the next floor. Donnelly and Murin gave chase and found him perched on a windowsill. They grabbed him and held him until the emergency squad arrived. Judge Fay committed Pallo to Grasslands Hospital for observation.

September 20, 1946: As part of St. Joseph’s Seminary’s fiftieth anniversary celebration, Cardinal Spellman preached at a solemn high mass for Alumni Day, celebrating the several hundred former seminarians in attendance. After the mass, dinner for 601 guests was served in the students’ dining room, prepared by staff and served by seminarians. Among the honored guests were Bishop James Cassidy, the only surviving member of the original faculty, and Right Reverend Arthur Scanlon, the only living former rector of the school.

Wednesday, September 21st:  
September 21, 1896: The first classes were held at St. Joseph’s Seminary.

September 21, 1945: Although Vincent and Matilde Ragone, Morsemere Avenue, were notified their son Private Vincent Ragone, Jr., was killed in combat July 1944 in France, the family had hopes of his survival. Brother Eugene Ragone had a letter written by Vincent two months after he was supposed to have died. Even more intriguing, an unidentified soldier came to Yonkers to find the family. Since both parents were at work, he was unsuccessful. However, he told a neighbor he was looking for the Ragonas to tell them Vincent was living, had been a German prisoner of war, and was reduced to skin and bones. When the father died seven years later, his obituary reported Vincent Sr. was a Gold Star father whose son was killed in action in France.

Thursday, September 22nd  
September 22, 1946: The Senate-House Joint Committee majority decided responsibility for Pearl Harbor lay with the Hawaii Navy and Army Commanders, Rear Admiral Husband Kimmel, Bronxville Road, and General Walter Short of Dallas. They stated, “The errors made by Hawaiian commands were errors of judgment and not dereliction of duty.” The two failed to “integrate and coordinate their facilities for defense.” Kimmel was relieved of his Hawaiian command mid-December 1941, had his rank reduced, and retired from the Navy early 1942. In May 1999, Strom Thurmond dubbed Kimmel and Short the two final victims of Pearl Harbor; the US Senate passed a non-binding resolution to exonerate Kimmel and Short, and requested the president restore them to full rank. It never happened.

September 22, 1946: Twenty-five thousand men, women and children thronged the grounds of St. Joseph’s Seminary to attend vespers and benediction, part of the Seminary’s week-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of its opening! Attendees heard Francis Cardinal Spellman describe the \$750,000 library to be built on the grounds, and bestow a papal blessing on all who attended. After having supper with the faculty, the Cardinal visited the students, and gave them the next day off... to clean the grounds! He gave them a second day off, allowing the seminarians to go home to visit their families.

Friday, September 23rd  
September 23, 1926: Mayor William Walsh joined Public Safety Commissioner William Cameron criticizing Judge Boote for his leniency suspending sentences of convicted gamblers.

September 23, 1927: Stating “It is but the duty of a good Republican to accept defeat,” Ulrich Wiesendanger, defeated in by Alfred Watson for the Republican nomination for Mayor, urged his supporters to “remain loyal to the party and to assist in a Republican victory in the coming elections.” Wiesendanger had served as Mayor 1924-1925; Watson had stepped in for a few months in 1923 after Mayor Walter Taussig took his own life.

Democrat Thomas Larkin won the election. *Continued on pg 8-*

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**Legal Marijuana, continued from pg 1-**

will be given out until “the middle of next year, (2023).” While Alexander’s announcement was reported on in the marijuana media as a delay, most in attendance accept it, and overall, New Yorkers are willing to wait for the process to be completed properly, regardless of any self-imposed deadlines. And that was the takeaway of most who listened to Alexander and his staff in Yonkers: That the Office of Cannabis Management is intelligently making the rules and regulations – But it does mean that you will not see a legal Marijuana store in the State of New York until next summer. Some Indian reservations upstate are already selling pot. Alexander did explain that a number of conditional licenses were handed out earlier this year to Hemp growers, in order for them to grow pot, and build supply in anticipation of the storefront pot dispensaries -so that they could have legal supply to draw on. One attendee asked Alexander if she could grow pot in her home, make edibles, and sell those edibles to dispensaries. “You’ll see regulations come out sooner – in the next two months or so – but middle of next year you’ll see those applications open for cultivation, for processing, and to do the activities you just laid out.” New Yorkers who use marijuana for medical purposes can still purchase weed legally. The NYS Dormitory Authority has been designated to help find suitable spaces across the state for small business owners to open dispensaries. A family member of a relative that was convicted of a marijuana related offense can also apply and fall under the justice involved requirement. Convictions for marijuana offenses must also be documented and proven by the applicant and must have occurred before 2021.

Qualified business ownership experience for applicants must include a 10% ownership in the prior business experience, and that business must have been profitable for two years. Some non-profits can also apply. Only one license will be given to applicants, and for those who do not qualify for the first round of licenses, other opportunities will be made available and interested New Yorkers could get involved in the business of weed in New York in a variety of other professions and businesses.

A cannabis fund has also been set up by NY State to help provide small business loans to those who receive a license.

Alexander also explained that there are two tiers of growing licenses; one to cultivate and one to process, and one owner could have both licenses, but they are not yet available. Applications for cultivation and processing are expected to be handed out next year.

The NYS Dormitory Authority has identified and located 150 locations, to provide approved license holders with a retail space, and a lease, to help them get open.

One attendee asked Alexander what will happen in communities on Long Island, (and in parts of Westchester) where most of Nassau and Suffolk Counties have opted out and have refused to permit to have legal marijuana dispensaries. “Yes, we have localities that have opted out, but as we roll out the progress, some of those communities are getting back in. This is an evolving landscape as they see we are building out a quality program.”

Tax benefits for new marijuana owners will also be part of the plan because “it will be expensive to operate in this space. Part of this is to make sure that future entrepreneurs are created.

In attendance at the Yonkers meeting was State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and Senator Shelley Mayer. “This opportunity exists because people who you elected wanted to stop criminalizing marijuana and expunge the records of those in the black and brown and young communities who were arrested. And we wanted to find a way to give back to those communities and the people who were most disproportionately affected. It was not easy to pass, our former Governor wanted the revenues in the general fund, but we held out to build opportunities for the next generation. Chris Alexander has been working to find a way to do all of this and has looked at the way other states are doing this. It’s important to vote because who sits in these seats matter.”

Anticipated state revenues of \$245 Million per year will not be realized until 2024. Most will go into a cannabis tax revenue fund, with 40% going to education and 4% to localities.

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

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 bid opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

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

1. Bid 6870 - Opening date: 9/30/2022: 12-month contract, to purchase up to 20 Magniflood James Madison, or equal, light poles as needed (NG).
2. Bid 6869 – Opening date 9/30/2022: Purchase of one MovinCool, or equal, 36,000 BTU portable server cooler and three KwiKool, or equal, 60,000 BTU portable air conditioners (JH).
3. Bid 6868 – Opening date 10/14/2022: Purchase of 1 Police emergency services truck per Yonkers specifications (FB).
4. Bid 6867 – Opening date 9/30/2022: Purchase of various Cisco, or equal, switches, accessories, and software licenses (DC).
5. Bid 6866 – Opening date 9/30/2022: Purchase of 50 cases (1,000 rounds per case) Speer Gold Dot +P, or equal, 9mm and 30 cases (1,000 rounds per case) of PMC, or equal, .223 caliber ammunition (NG).
6. Bid 6865 – Opening date 10/14/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide emergency elevator maintenance and repairs as needed (AC).
7. Bid 6864 – Opening date 10/7/2022: Furnish and install one Allegheny Shredders model 12HD7.5, or equal, Hard Drive Shredder (AC).
8. Bid 6859 – Opening date 10/14/2022: Phase 2 City Pier Improvements 71 Water Grant Street (AS).
9. Bid 6860 – Opening date 10/21/2022: Pitkin Park Improvements, 87 Locust Hill Avenue (AS).
10. Bid 6861 – Opening date 10/21/2022: Vark Street Park Improvements (northeast of Riverdale Avenue) (FB).
11. Bid 6862 – Opening date 10/21/2022: Trevor Park Improvements (at Ravine Avenue) (DC).
12. Bid 6863 – Opening date 10/21/2022: Lennon Park Improvements (at Lake & Park Avenues) (KS).
13. Bid 6837A – Opening date 10/7/2022: 12-month contract to purchase various manufacturers, or equal, surveillance cameras and accessories (DC).
14. Bid 6871 – Opening date 10/14/2022: Boiler replacement at the Hudson River Museum, 511 Warburton Avenue (AS).
15. Bid 6829 – Opening date 9/30/2022: 6-month contract, with option to renew for 6-months, to purchase, as needed, bulk quantities of 36% phosphoric acid per Yonkers specifications (AC).

**Yonkers History, continued from pg 7-**

**Saturday, September 24th**  
September 24, 1928: The French government notified James Currie, a landscape gardener living on Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, he was awarded the Croix de Guerre for heroism on the French battlefields during the World War.

**September 24, 1953:** Children in Miss Meyer’s First Grade Class in School Eight received a letter from Buckingham Palace! Written by Rose Raring, Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth, the letter passed on the Queen’s thanks for the stories they wrote on the Coronation, and wrote the Queen was “interested to see” them. The Queen sent her “sincere thanks for their good wishes.”

**Sunday, September 25th**  
September 25, 1940: Yonkers School Superintendent William Ankenbrand proposed School Ten on Clinton Street for Yonkers new aviation mechanics’ school, claiming it was the most efficient means of launching the defense program.

**September 25, 1942:** Corporal Robert Tompkins of Knowles Street arrived home to continue convalescence. Seriously wounded June 3 when the Japanese attacked Dutch Harbor in Alaska where he served with the Quartermaster Corps, he spent three months at Barnes General Hospital in Vancouver, and then came home. After his 30-day furlough, he reported back to the hospital for additional treatment

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).

Notice is Hereby Given that a license, Number pending, for Beer, Cider and Wine, has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Cider and Wine at a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 2620 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers NY 10710, Westchester County, for on-premises consumption Ozerovskys Family enterprise Inc. Dba Ihop.

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# YONKERS IDA A Driving Force Behind the Yonkers Renaissance.

Building on a nearly decade-long economic renaissance, the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency (YIDA) under the leadership of Mayor Mike Spano has been instrumental in providing financial incentives for development projects representing nearly \$5 billion in private investment and more than 9,100 multifamily units planned, completed, under construction and approved for development.

To learn more about the financial incentives provided by the Yonkers IDA, visit [yonkersida.com](http://yonkersida.com) or call (914) 509-8651.



## YEDC

Yonkers Economic Development Corporation



Mayor Mike Spano, pictured outside of Lionsgate, Yonkers studio

**Editor's Note:**  
Mayor Mike Spano penned the following Op-Ed highlighting the movies filmed in Yonkers under consideration for an Emmy

“When NBC broadcasts the 74th annual Emmy Awards tonight, many Yonkers residents will root for the five productions that shot scenes across our city.

Whether the awards go to HBO's *The Gilded Age*, which recorded scenes at the Hudson River Museum's Victorian mansion, or Apple TV+'s *Severance*, viewers in Yonkers should understand that our city is a winner because we are successfully becoming Hollywood on the Hudson.

Since taking office in 2012, I streamlined the film-permit process to attract more film and television productions. It was these efforts that helped us attract productions that are nominated for more than 20 Emmys.

Furthermore, our media-production outreach hit the jackpot with the opening of the new Great Point Studios—the largest television recording complex on the East Coast. We expect more announcements about studio construction now that Great Point Studios focused a spotlight on Yonkers' proximity to New York City.

Beyond the possible thrills of seeing famous actors in our downtown, our efforts to become Hollywood on the Hudson have significant repercussions for residents—especially children.

In partnership with Great Point Studios, the city and the Yonkers Public Schools signed a 20-year lease to open a media arts middle/high school at the former Rising Ground property on Hawthorne Street. This new school will expose students to media careers and prepare them to potentially attend the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University, another partner in this venture.

This new school and Yonkers' emergence as Hollywood on the Hudson come at a significant time for the entertainment industry, which faces criticism for a lack of diversity.

Our new school will help the entertainment industry address its inclusion issues because our students are diverse. For example, 17% of our students are Black, 60% are Hispanic and 5% are Asian. Almost 80% of our students are economically disadvantaged.

My hope for this new school is that our children will bring needed diversity to the entertainment industry. With all respect to the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, these career opportunities are the real prizes.

I look forward to giving our city's future entertainment professionals standing ovations when their names are called by Emmy Awards presenters,” wrote Mayor Spano.

### Emmy's Update:

Yonkers celebrates three Emmys for two productions with scenes shot locally-  
Video download: <https://spaces.hightail.com/space/2dDl6uzicE>

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano watched the Emmy Awards Monday and celebrated three Emmy wins for two shows that shot scenes locally.

The two productions that won awards were:

*Severance*: Two Emmys for Outstanding Music Composition for a Series and Outstanding Main Title Design.

*The Gilded Age*: One Emmy for Outstanding Production Design for a Narrative Period or Fantasy Program.

*The Gilded Age* is a historical drama that occurs during the 1880s in New York. Some scenes for the show were shot at the Hudson River Museum's historic Glenview Mansion. The 1877 *Gilded Age* home was built by John Bond Trevor, a successful stockbroker of that era.

Mayor Spano watched the Emmy Awards on Monday night at Yonkers Brewing in Yonkers.

### Bridge to Turn Purple to Kick Off Local Walk to End Alzheimer's

**Bridge Lighting Watch Party**  
Wednesday, Sept. 21 | 6-8 p.m.  
Horan's Landing | 57 River St., Sleepy Hollow

Join us as we watch the Mario Cuomo Bridge go purple to help kick off the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Westchester and Rockland.

Westchester Walk: Sunday, Oct. 2 at Westchester Community College  
Rockland Walk: Sunday, Oct. 16 at Clover Stadium in Pomona

From 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, there will be a Bridge Lighting Watch Party at Horan's Landing, 57 River St., in Sleepy Hollow. The Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter will light the Mario Cuomo Bridge purple in support of the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Westchester and Rockland and counties, which are coming up respectively on Sunday, Oct. 2, at Westchester Community College, and Sunday, Oct. 16, at Clover Stadium (Home of the N.Y. Boulders) in Pomona. People are welcome to come to enjoy food, music and watch the bridge turn purple for Alzheimer's awareness. To RSVP, visit [bit.ly.com/HVAzWalkBridgeLighting](http://bit.ly.com/HVAzWalkBridgeLighting). To learn more about the walks, register or make a donation, visit [HudsonValleyWalks.org](http://HudsonValleyWalks.org)

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