Yonkers Rising

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Friday September 17, 2021

Yonkers City Hall Hacked, Ransom Demanded, City Refuses to Pay; Could Your Town Be Next?



By Dan Murphy

The City of Yonkers government was the victim of a ransomware attack and for several days last week, Yonkers City Hall and its employees have been without their computers. We have also been told by city officials with knowledge of the situation, that Yonkers will NOT pay a requested ransom to unlock their computer servers, and instead has spent the past week trying to upload as much data as possible from their backups.

Ransom-hacking is nothing knew to small governments and school districts across the country. Last year, the Yorktown and Croton-Harmon school districts in Westchester County had their computer systems hacked by a cyber security attack coming from someone seekiing to get a payment to remove the ransomware that froze both systems.

The Yorktown schools were forced to temporarily shifted from a hybrid learning model to all-remote lessons after its district shared news of a cyberattack on Oct. 12.

The ransomware attack encrypted data on the Yorktown Central School District's networks, forcing officials to restore servers from backups and go room-to-room to reimage devices. The Croton-Harmon school district also faced a similar attack in 2020. Both school districts did not pay the ransom, and insteadd were able to restore their system from data backups.

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Yonkers Election Preview: Walter-Nolan BOL, Merante-Hodges 6th Council, Big Races





above Council Legislator Ruth Walter, left, and her republican challenger, James Nolan; below Councilman Anthony Merante, right, and his democratic challenger Tim Hodges.









above: City Council President candidate Lakisha Collins-Bellamy left, and republican Ron Matten. See story on pg 7

Yonkers Students Go Back to School, **Return to Classrooms**



Yonkers students take the bus for the first time

By Dan Murphy

While flooding from Hurricane Ida delayed the first day of classes in the Yonkers Public Schools, teachers, students, administrators and staff welcomed back all students on Thursday September 9.

YPS Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quezada and Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez highlighted the upcoming school year.

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Learning Community,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! An exciting and productive year is ahead that is about to begin in September as we restore 5 days of inperson learning. We invite you to be intentional about your commitment to do your part to make this the best year for Yonkers students, families and staff. Everyone in-person, in school, every day. Our schools are ready to create conditions for ALL students' success.

The challenges of the past year and a half from COVID-19 have taught

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Yonkers Force star Khris Crawford leads the team onto the field carrying the American Flag, photo by DocWszolek see story on pg 2.

FEMA Opens Disaster Recovery Center at Will Library



The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has opened a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) at the Grinton I. Will Library located at 1500 Central Park Avenue in Yonkers to assist homeowners, business owners and renters affected by the September 2 severe storm and flooding from Hurricane Ida. Hours of operation will be open daily from 8AM-7PM. DRC's offer in-person support to individuals and small business owners. Specifically, residents may get help to do the following:

Apply for assistance.

Learn the status of your FEMA application. Understand any letters you get from FEMA. Find housing and rental assistance information. Get answers to questions or resolve problems. Get referrals to agencies that may offer other assistance. Learn about Small Business Administration (SBA) loan programs. Individuals do not have to visit a recovery center to register or receive fed-

Yonkers Welcomes Back The Force and The Brave to High School Football Field



Yonkers Force played their first game of the season at Roosevelt HS

By Phil Foley

Yonkers High School Football got off to a pretty rocky start last week with the Brave and the Force both losing their season openers. On Friday September 10th the Yonkers Brave lost to Mamaroneck HS by the score of 48-0. I did get in touch with Coach Vic Chiappa who told me that he wanted to praise his player D.J. Holmes for a great effort.

I know Vic is a great coach and an inspiration to his team and better days are ahead! The Brave play this Saturday against a very good Mt. Vernon HS team. Kick off is at 1:30 at Mount Vernon. Good luck this

weekend Yonkers Brave!

The Yonkers Force played their first game at Roosevelt HS Field on Saturday September 11th. They lost to Mt. Vernon HS 44-24. It was Coach Anthony Fava's first game as the head coach of the Force! He took over the job from Dan DeMatteo who recently retired. We have some highlights from the game. QB Alvin Martinez threw for 273 yards and 3 TD passes.

Catching the TD passes were: Gavin Thomas, Brandon Sweat and Malachi Keels. Atticus Oelkers also added a rushing TD. The Yonkers Force will travel to Mamaroneck HS this Friday night. Kick off time is 6pm. Good luck to our guys."May the Force be with You"!

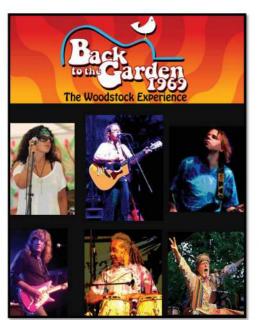
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Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

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7:00 pm Saturday September 18th

Untermyer Park 945 North Broadway Yonkers

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In case of rain, call 914-375-3435 or check our website www.untermyerperformingarts.org after 2 pm the day of the performance.

Please bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets, as we do not provide seating.

Another FREE Untermyer Performing Arts Council program!

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

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The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is full of flowers, each carried by someone committed to ending this disease. Because like flowers, our participants don't stop when something is in their way. They keep raising funds and awareness for a breakthrough in the fight against Alzheimer's and all other dementia. Add your flower to the fight. Visit HudsonValleyWalks. org today!





Westchester
Walk to End Alzheimer's
Sunday, Oct. 3
at Westchester
Community College
Registration at 1 p.m.
Walk starts at 2 p.m.

Register at WestchesterWalk.org

Yonkers Commemorates 9/11 20th Anniversary Two Ceremonies on Waterfront & Conor Park





Photos by
Donna Davis
More photos
at
YonkersTimes.



On Saturday, September 11, 2020, Mayor Mike Spano joined with the Yonkers community to remember and honor the 26 Yonkers residents who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

The solemn ceremonies were held at the City's two September 11 memorials; At the Yonkers 9/11 Waterfront Memorial on the downtown waterfront, and at Conor Park's 9/11 Monument, where the City dedicated a monument derived from a 38-foot, 4,000 lb. piece of World Trade Center steel.

The City also announced the addition of two new memorials at the monuments that will forever recognize the lives lost due to the impacts of September 11, 2001.

Thanks to Donna Davis for these photos, which show the new remembrance for those lost in the years after 9/11/01, Yonkers Police Officer Arisa playing Taps, and the ringing of the bell for those lost, with the Hudson River as a backdrop with views of where the attacks on the World Trade Center took place.

More Sept. 11, 2020 coverage at YonkersTimes.cm

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Mayor Spano Appoints Amjed Kuri to Yonkers Board of Education



Yonkers BOE Trustee Amjed Kuri, takes oath from Mayor Mike Spano

On August 22, Mayor Mike Spano swore in retired Yonkers Police Detective Amjed I. Kuri to the Yonkers Board of Education. As trustee of the Yonkers Board of Education, Kuri is part of a nine member Board, which is the official policy making body of the School District.

"As we continue to provide our students with the best education possible, I am proud to appoint Amjed to the Board of Education as he brings unique perspectives as a parent, an alumna and dedicated public servant. Amjed is a highly decorated law enforcement officer who is passionate about education in Yonkers and his experiences will be valuable assets to our District and our students," said Mayor Spano.

Serving in law enforcement for over 30 years, Kuri is the recipient of eight police commendations, seven Certificates of Excellence, the Attorney

eight police commendations, seven Certificates of Excellence, the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award, a Journal News Award and many others in recognition of his honorable service. During his tenure in Yonkers Police Department, Kuri was detailed to the Drug Enforcement Administration as an investigator and then was assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force after September 11, 2001 until his retirement in 2015. Currently, Kuri serves as a law enforcement instructor for Soufan Group, which instructs Qatari national officers in basic and comprehensive law enforcement courses. Born and raised in Yonkers, Kuri is an alumna and parent to former Yonkers Public Schools students.

"I am very proud to be appointed by Mayor Mike Spano. I look forward to working with the Yonkers Board of Education in continuing the quality education that is available to our Yonkers community," commented Amjed Kuri.

Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez noted, "On behalf of Vice President Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio and the Trustees, it's a pleasure to welcome Trustee Kuri. Every new board member appointed by Mayor Spano brings fresh ideas and broadens the collective expertise of the nine members. Trustees Kuri's knowledge of the community and personal experience as a school district parent will be a valuable asset to the Board's deliberations and policy decisions."

"Trustee Kuri's insight and perspective about our community will be important to the Central Office team in our work to restore, renew and bring hope this year," added Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin M. Quezada.

"It is a pleasure to welcome him on behalf of the staff."

Kuri will serve the Yonkers Board of Education for a new five-year term

that runs through 2026, effective immediately.

Bear With Us, Pardon Us, ForgiveUs!



By Eric Schoen

As we prepare for Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement for Jews around the world, we ask for forgiveness for our sins. Now I promise I'm not going to go all Bible on you this week. But the prayers we recite remind us of sins we may have committed during the previous year and ask for God's forgiveness.

This led me to think about sins I may have committed and sins other people I know have committed over the last year. Covid certainly has changed our lives and made everyone nervous and scared, rightly so. As we go to press there is great controversy over whether there will be a need for a third 'booster' shot. So many people have refused the vaccine for fear of putting a newly created foreign substance in their bodies. Children going back to school in New York City driven in MTA buses and trains driven by drivers who have not been vaccinated. The chance of spread of the virus from these individuals to children many too young to get the vaccine is great according to the transportation and health officials

Let's focus on some sins we and others may have committed over the course of the last year and ask forgiveness.

For the sin of getting on the 10 item limit line at the supermarket with 11 items in our shopping cart.

For the sin of overeating grapes or cherries at the supermarket to see if they meet our standards and not paying for them when we buy the items for consumption of our family.

For the sin of passing a homeless person by, or worse giving him or her money that could be used to purchase alcohol or illegal substances instead of taking the time to buy the person something nutritional to eat or bringing back a piece of clothing to help the individual stay warm or keep covered.

For the sin of passing a Salvation Army bell ringer during the holidays and not dropping a dollar or some coins into their red kettle supporting an organization that helps so many in need.

For the sin of not thanking someone who held the door open for us or holding the door open for someone behind us who may need assistance.

For the sin of parents doing their children's homework or projects instead of merely assisting or guiding the child so they have a true learning experience.

For the sin of parking in a Handicapped Parking Space without proper credentials. Or having the credentials and using them falsely just for convenience.

For the sin of drivers for Lyft or Uber or other similar services picking up food to eat and blocking cars, traffic or parking illegally just to get the food to those that want it quickly while others are inconvenienced and many others with no food on the table.

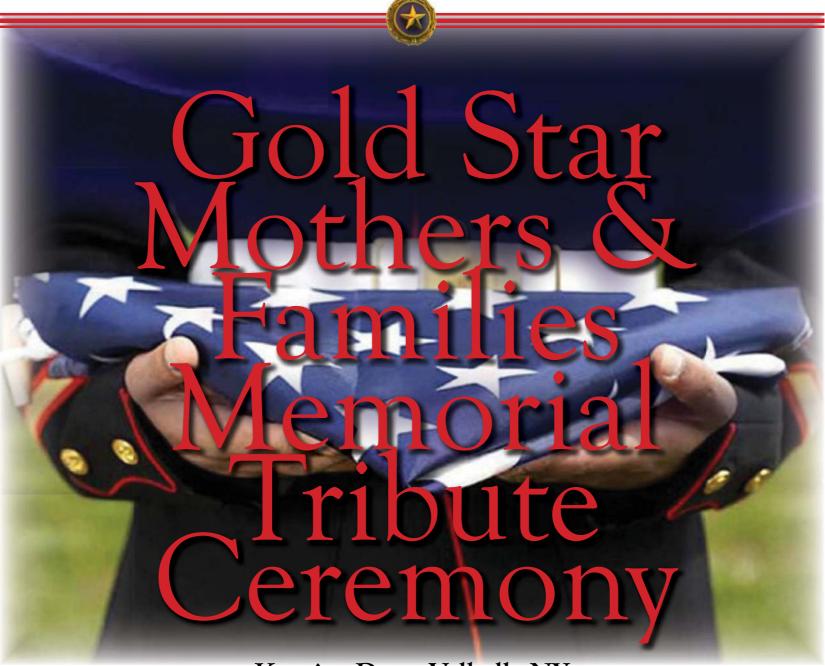
For the sin of using the self scanner in the grocery store and putting an item in your bag that you have not scanned or would not scan and not being in a it to the closer extention.

bringing it to the clerks attention.

For the sin of passing an accident and not getting out of your car to offer help or at the very least calling 911 on your cell phone requesting assistance from the authorities. Or calling the radio station you listen to and reporting the accident to them so they can tell others affected.

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First Human Case of West Nile Virus Reported in Westchester

On Sept. 13, Westchester County learned of its first human case of West Nile Virus this year, which was confirmed in a 58-year-old resident with multiple underlying medical conditions, who is hospitalized.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "This first case of West Nile Virus should remind us all to take precautions against mosquito bites by removing standing water from our property, especially after recent heavy rain and flooding, and using repellents when we spend time outdoors, especially from dusk to dawn, when mosquitoes are most active."

West Nile Virus infection most often causes a mild or moderate flu-like illness, but can be more serious particularly for people 60 and older, and those with other health complications. Last year, three people were diagnosed with West Nile Virus, and in 2019, one Westchester County resident

The Westchester County Department of Health removed standing water around the resident's home; evaluated nearby catch basins in the area and treated those with larvicide as needed.

Due to the recent weather conditions, residents should inspect their property and remove any standing water to prevent mosquitoes from breeding. Residents who notice large areas of standing water on public property should report them to the Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 813-

Throughout the season, the Westchester County Health Department traps and tests mosquitoes to track the presence of mosquito-borne viruses. For more ideas on how to reduce the mosquito population near your home, go to https://health.westchestergov.com/west-nile-virus.

Senior Law Day Returns to Westchester September 30

Free Consultations and Workshops on Legal, Financial and Care Issues for Older Adults

Westchester County Executive George Latimer is pleased to announce that the 21st Annual Senior Law Day will take place on Thursday, September 30 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Ridge Road Park, 287 Ridge Road in Hartsdale. The free event will be held outside at the park to ensure everyone's

The Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services (DSPA) will provide six educational talks on topics of interest to seniors and their families, one-on-one consultations with experienced elder law attorneys, certified financial planners, and geriatric care managers. County agencies and nonprofit organizations will also be available in a separate exhibitor tent during the event.

Latimer said: "We are offering Senior Law Day during one of the most challenging of times for our seniors, their families, and all Westchester residents. I want our older adults to remember that they are not alone during this time – we are here to help them. I encourage all of our seniors to take advantage of programs like Senior Law Day and many others, to help stay informed and active members of our County."

The program is hosted by Westchester County DSPS and the Senior Law Day Collaborative (SLDC). It is open to all County senior citizens and their families. Registration is encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome. Sign-up for the free, 15-minute, one-on-one consultations will be available when you arrive. To register in advance, call (914) 813-6300. Free parking and restrooms are available, with level areas for walking.

The talks will focus on:

Elder Law 101

Resilience for Ourselves and our Community

Advocacy for Older Adults Wills vs. Trusts

To register for this event or if you have questions, call (914) 813-6300. This is the 22nd year that Westchester County has offered the Senior Law Day program. For more information on the Senior Law Day Collaborative and resources available to support older adults in Westchester, please visit www.seniorlawday.info Visitors can direct any inquiries via a convenient "Ask Us" button.

Sprain Ridge Garale Sale Seeks Sellers

The Westchester County Parks popular Garage Sale returns to a new location, Sprain Ridge Park in Yonkers, Saturday, Oct. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is seeking families who are looking to sell their items that no longer spark joy. This sale is for individuals and families who want to sell their unwanted items, such as clothing, household items, electronics, furniture, toys, books and sporting goods. No professional antiques or collectible dealers are allowed. Spaces are limited and are available on a first come, first served

Price is \$75 for a 160-square foot space and is nonrefundable. Sellers must provide their own tables, chairs, canopies and anything else necessary for display; no electrical hook-ups are available. Gates open and set-up begins at 6:30 a.m.; booths must remain open until 3 p.m. A \$20 cash refundable deposit will be required at check-in that day; it will be returned at the end of the day, pending inspection of the site by park staff.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "The Westchester County Parks Garage Sale is a beloved tradition that residents look forward to every year. As last year did not allow for it to happen, I'm thrilled for it to reopen safely and in its new location at Sprain Ridge Park in Yonkers.'

Admission and parking for shoppers at the Sprain Ridge Garage Sale are free. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 3. Sprain Ridge Park is located at 149 Jackson Avenue in Yonkers. For more information and a registration form, go to parks.westchestergov.com or call (914) 231-3450.





Yonkers Mayor Spano Waives Construction Permit Fees Associated With Hurricane IDA

In addition to waiving electrical permit fees, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the City's Department of Engineering and the Department of Housing & Buildings is also waiving any construction permit fees for damage associated with Hurricane Ida.

"As we know, many Yonkers homes were hit particularly hard by the flash flooding caused by Hurricane Ida," said Mayor Spano. "We want to continue to help our property owners by relieving them of any additional burden and costs as they continue to recover from this devastating storm."

Permits still must be submitted and approved before any construction project can begin, and all work done must comply with current construction, safety, and zoning codes. Fee waivers will be in effect until December 31, 2021 (or until rescinded by the Office of the Mayor).

For questions or more information regarding Engineering permits/fees, residents are encouraged to call 914-377-6739 or visit https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/departments/engineering.

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

According to the State of Emergency Declaration issued by the Mayor on September 1, 2021, it directed the Department of Engineering and the Department of Housing & Buildings to waive all fees related to permits, applications, etc. for work to be performed to repair damages related to/ caused by Hurricane Ida. This directive shall be deemed to renew every 5 days until December 31, 2021 (or until rescinded by the Office of the

Fourth Precinct Community Council

The Fourth Precinct Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday September 23, in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct 53 Shonnard Terrace, as was usual before the COVID19 crisis. This is departure from our usual custom of meeting on the third Thursday of the month. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the fourth police precinct is welcome. All elected officials are welcome. Captain Michael Messar, Precinct Commander and Lieutenant Curtis will be available to discuss matters of interest.

Hudson River Audubon Society's Upcoming Events

The County and Conservation: a Legislator's Perspective Wednesday, September 22, 7:30-8:30

By zoom. Email info@hras.org for invitation. What can we do to address the complex environmental issues facing Westchester County? Legislator MaryJane Shimsky, who has been at the forefront of the County's work on environment, infrastructure, and public health for the past decade, will discuss the important role all of us play – as residents, business providers, and government—in promoting the welfare of all elements of a healthy environment.

Hudson River Audubon Society Hawk Watch Saturday, September 18, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St, Yonkers, NY 10701 We will search the skies for hawks migrating South. Meet behind the Lenoir Mansion See https://www.hras.org/field-trips for details.

Hudson River Audubon Society Hawk Watch Saturday, September 26, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St, Yonkers, NY 10701 We will search the skies for hawks migrating South. Meet behind the Lenoir Mansion See https://www.hras.org/field-trips for details.

Hudson River Audubon Society Bird Walk and Hawk Watch Sunday, September 26, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 noon State Line Lookout, New Jersey Meet at the parking lot for bird walk (8:30) or hawk watch (10:00). Hawks migrate sometimes at eye level. See https://www.hras.org/field-trips for

Hudson River Audubon Society Hawk Watch Saturday, October 2, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St, Yonkers, NY 10701 We will search the skies for hawks migrating South. Meet behind the Lenoir Mansion See https://www.hras.org/field-trips for details.

Hudson River Audubon Society BIG SIT and Hawk Watch Saturday, October 9, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St, Yonkers, NY 10701 The object of the "BIG SIT" is to tally as many bird species as we can in a day from a single position. Meet behind the Lenoir Mansion See https:// www.hras.org/field-trips for details.



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Council Candidate Hodges Tackles Wildlife Concerns in 6th District



Tim Hodges

Tim Hodges, a Democrat-Conservative running for the 6th City Council District seat in Yonkers, plans to tackle the concerns of residents regarding the increase in predatory wildlife such as coyotes in District 6.

In recent years, there has been a continued increase in sightings of predatory wildlife that pose a very real risk for children and pets of Yonkers residents. Numerous articles have been written about increased sightings of coyotes and attacks on residents. As a father and a dog owner himself, Tim Hodges knows all too well the risk posed by having coyotes freely roaming around in public areas in Yonkers, especially in parks and backyards.

'Many residents in neighborhoods such as Homefield, Nepera Park, and Beech Hill have made it known to me that this is an important issue, as it directly impacts the safety of their neighborhoods and families. These residents have told me their first-hand experiences of near-misses with coyotes, raccoons, and skunks." Tim said. "No resident in District 6 should be fearful when leaving their homes, having their children or pets play in their backyard, or being at the park. Neighboring towns such as Greenburgh have an integrated animal control division within their police department, and I think that Yonkers should follow suit. I want to implement a plan to resolve this issue, and when I am elected as your next Councilman, I will do everything to continue my service to the people of Yonkers to take these concerns and turn them into concrete policy. I believe that a study into the matter is the first crucial step in this process."

Tim Hodges is a Democrat-Conservative running for the 6th City Council District seat in Yonkers. As a lifelong Yonkers native living in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood with his wife and child and thirty-four year veteran of the Yonkers Police Department, Tim Hodges has the vision and experience necessary to help Yonkers succeed. He is involved in and on the boards of numerous organizations in Yonkers, including the Yonkers Rotary Club, the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society of Westchester, and the Gift of

Life International.

Hodges in running against Councilman Anthony Merante in the 6th District on Nov 2.

FEMA, Will Library, continued from pg 1-

eral assistance. These centers provide a location for applicants to submit documentation or discuss their case in-person with a FEMA or SBA representative.

Additional federal, state and local agencies will be onsite to assist residents,

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

New York State's Department of Financial Services

Department of Motor Vehicles

Westchester County Department of Health and Department of Social Services City of Yonkers Office Constituent Services

The Grinton I. Will Library will continue to offer other library services during its normal hours of service: Monday-Thursday: 10am-7pm, Friday/Saturday: 10am-5pm, and Sunday: 12-5pm.

Visit www.ypl.org/fema for more information.

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On This Day in Yonkers History...



Tim Hodges

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

Monday, September 20th

September 20, 1935: Board of Education Trustee Dr. Oscar Bohn, former president of the Yonkers Academy of Medicine, announced legally, schools were not allowed to engage in "any medical procedures, preventative or curative." He said this meant our school diphtheria immunization clinics were illegal. This raised the question as to the legality of some of the other medical services offered by the schools.

September 20, 1952: Ed Durham, Head groundskeeper of Ebbets Field in Brooklyn, met with parents from Beech Hill School Twenty-Six to discuss and advise parents on laying out a baseball diamond on school grounds, a project funded by the School 26 PTA. Why did the head man from Ebbets Field travel to Yonkers? Emil (Buzzie) Bavasi of Wyndcliff Road not only was dad of School 26 fifth grader Peter, he was Executive Vice President of the Brooklyn Dodgers!

Tuesday, September 21st:

September 21, 1935: Dr. D. F. Smiley, the NY State Education Department Director of Health and Physical Education, strong rebutted School Trustee Dr. Oscar Bohn's assertion school immunization clinics were illegal. Smiley stated, "There is no law which forbids immunization clinics in the schools, provided parents consent."

September 21, 1936: Sounds of romance filled Larkin Plaza early in the morning. Two couples parked their car; one couple sat on the running board; the fellow pulled his harmonica and began playing "Love Is Everywhere." The other couple immediately began dancing, waltzing all around the plaza... at 12:25 am!

Wednesday, September 22nd

September 22, 1934: An air raid from the west halted the Pelton Field Baseball game between the Eighth Warders and the Irwins! Hundreds of the 10,000 fans packing the grandstand, bleachers and standing room areas around the field rushed onto the field during the fifth inning trying to get away from the huge swarm of flying ants, halting the game. The umpire officially called time out, while most of the brave fans began smoking, handing lit cigarettes to children in an attempt to drive off the insects hovering over the field. After 15 minutes, the attack ended as quickly as it started. The insects flew away and the game resumed. The Eighths won the game, 10-3. Afterwards, Boyce Thompson entomologist Albert Hartzell was called in to identify the perpetrators, but no specimens were left for him to study.

September 22, 1945: Lieutenant June McElwaine, an Army Nurse who received her training at the Yonkers General Hospital School of Nursing, was featured on the cover of Liberty Magazine as "Flying Angel of Mercy!" Before entering the Army, McElwaine had been a member of the Yonkers General Nursing staff.

Thursday, September 23rd

September 23, 1911: Alderman Frederick Stilwell, acting at the request of members of the DeWitt Taxpayers and Bronx Manor Association, asked the City Engineer to start preliminary work to erect a bridge over the Bronx River on Palmer to connect Yonkers streets with Bronxville.

September 23, 1912: The American Real Estate Company sold homes in the Park Hill neighborhood to playwright Owen Davis and his attorney brother William.

September 23, 1927: More than 100 people in cars and on foot searched Yonkers for four missing boys. After a seven-hour search, the boys were found asleep in the Monastery of the Sacred Heart on Shonnard Place, just a few hundred feet from their homes.

Friday September 24th

September 24, 1905: A staff of 25 people were hired for the new Park Hill Inn opening on the grounds just south of the Park Hill station of the Putnam Railroad. The three-story building had 36 bedrooms, reception rooms, a

continued on pg 6-



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Back to School, continued from pg 1-

us how to be resourceful, flexible and brave. Most of all, we learned that this virus does not discriminate, it affects everyone, and we must continue to be vigilant to keep our community as healthy as possible. Please consider getting vaccinated, it is your best defense. To maintain a healthy safe school environment, to the best of our ability, everyone is required to wear a mask/face covering inside schools, on District transportation and in District facilities. Temperature checks will be done daily. There will be random COVID-19 surveillance testing screening of students with parental permission who are unvaccinated and vaccinated, and vaccinated staff with consent.

Unvaccinated staff must provide COVID-19 testing results as required by Board of Education policy. No COVID-19 Attestation Questionnaire are

required this year.

Teaching and learning will be robust, enriched and grounded to address the academic and, most importantly, the social-emotional needs of students, staff and families. Everyone has been significantly impacted over the last year and a half. The Yonkers Public Schools 3 Year Strategic Plan 2019-2022 reminds us that our objective as a learning community must be educational equity and access for all children. The District's mission, core values and goals, as identified in our 3 Year Strategic Plan, remain constant. Our students today more than ever need to be surrounded by caring adults ready on day one to address their educational needs and growth. Together, we can transform learning to transform our children's lives.

Restoration, Renewal and Hope will drive our efforts over the next several years. Restoration begins with our instructional programs prekindergarten through grade 12 that in recent years consistently fostered 90% high school

graduation rates.

Our budget restores over 160 employees including administrators, school counselors, psychologists, social workers, nurses, teachers including art, music, physical education, career and technical education, special education and English language learners, as well as clericals and custodians. We restored proper ventilation in all schools and the windows are as operationally designed. In addition, we have expanded our technology capabilities.

The next step is to renew our commitment to make the school system better for students, families and our staff, and to renew a collaborative mindset among all stakeholders. The result is hope for new beginnings for our students and community; we accomplish this by building on our District's proven strengths. This is our charge; our students depend on us to ensure that restoration, renewal, and hope leads to a bright future for ALL children," writes Dr. Quezada and Rev. Lopez.

Notice of formation of iFantasy, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 6/8/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228 . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

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

Notice of Formation of MultiUniverse, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/21/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 28 Jean Lane, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Joyful Ventures LLC. Filed with the SSNY on 06/07/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 145 Valentine Lane apt#4E, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

Notice of formation of Tint Skincare, LLC filed with the SSNY on 8/23/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 137 Alexander Street, #2269, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

large banquet hall, a grill, dining room and a barbershop. Experienced hoteliers J. F. Deering and M. W. Van Tassell were to manage the Inn; the Inn had special accommodations for automobile parties including a gasoline pump installed close to the Inn.

September 24, 1947: J. W. Studebaker, United States Superintendent of Schools, selected Yonkers Schools Superintendent Benjamin Willis to serve on the new ten-member Commission on Life Adjustment Education for Youth. Their task was to design a realistic program for students who did not want to continue their education in either college or vocational programs.

Saturday September 25th

September 25, 1914: Carl Wiederhold, Sr., longtime resident and former glue manufacturer passed away at his Linden Street home at the age of 85 At one time, his glue, manufactured in his factory on Yonkers Avenue, was considered to be one of the best in the country, and it was feared he took his recipe for making excellent glue to the grave.

September 25, 1932: Trans-Atlantic flyer Captain Lewis Yancey of Yonkers set a new world record; he reached an altitude of 21,500 feet in an autogiro, the predecessor of a helicopter, breaking the record set by Amelia Earhart (18,415 feet) the year before.

Champion Spark Plug Company purchased an autogiro in 1931 they named Miss Champion; they hired Yancey to fly it on a publicity tour around the country. Besides traveling around the US, he went down to Mexico and used the unique flight characteristics of Miss Champion to aid an archaeological exploration of the Mayan pyramids. This became a publicity dream for Champion as it got international attention for its sponsorship of this research.

Sunday, September 26th

September 26, 1906: The Board of Police Commissioners issued an order to stop all patrolmen and roundsmen from using YPD horses and wagons for joy riding!

September 26, 1916: When Yonkers truck drivers threatened to walk out in sympathy with striking trolley drivers, Yonkers imbibers realized they may have a beer shortage! Local bartenders said they would not accept any deliveries from nonunion drivers.

September 26, 1926: The Corporation Counsel ruled owners of property bordering Nepperhan Creek were responsible for the cost of cleaning the stream. If not done, the city would do the work and then sue owners for the cost.

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com. For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit its website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

Classifieds

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Notice of Formation of Sol Hairstylist, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 06/25/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 92 Halstead Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Sosa Cleaning Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/10/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 40 Post Street, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.



Yonkers Election Preview





Christine Sculti, left, and County Executive George Latimer, will appear on top of the Yonkers ballot this year

By Dan Murphy

Election Day in Yonkers, Nov. 2 2021, will feature races for City Council President, City Council, County Legislator, and NYS Supreme Court Judge.

The Yonkers election contest that many in Westchester will be watching is the race for County Legislator in the 15th District, which includes East Yonkers and Bronxville. Democratic Legislator Ruth Walter is running against republican James Nolan. This race is identified by both parties as the most competitive in 2021. Walter narrowly defeated republican legislator Gordon Burrows in they are not of your faith. As my mom use to say, 'Cover all your bases!' 2019, after narrowly losing to Burrows in 2017.

Walter, a small businesswoman from Bronxville, has worked over the past 2 years to reach her constituents in the East Yonkers portion of the district. But with COVID keeping most of us at home since the spring of 2020, Walter continues to get out her message of what she has done for the residents and voters in all the

James Nolan is from Yonkers and making his first run for office. His call to public service, has originated from his activism following the death of his brother, Oakland A's baseball star Michael Nolan, who was shot and killed in Yonkers in 2015.

James Nolan has worked on issues related to gun violence and drag racing through the Michael Nolan foundation. He has also volunteered in many community outreach programs in Yonkers during the pandemic. And most of all, he is actively campaigning in Yonkers.

Walter is ready for the challenge and is proud to run on her record. "I have a record of accomplishment that I'm proud to run on and look forward to sharing with the voters. Yonkers, and all of my district has been well served for the past 18 months," said Walter.

The race for City Council in the 6th District is another hot contest in Yonkers this fall. Republican Councilman Anthony Merante is facing a serious challenge from democrat Tim Hodges. Both are actively campaigning, as Merante tried to hold onto his seat. Expect a knock on your door from one or both if you live in the district.

The race for City Council President has democrat Lakisha Collins-Bellamy running against republican Ron Matten. Collins-Bellamy defeated the incumbent Council President Mike Khader, who is serving until the end of the year, in the democratic primary in June. That victory has pushed Collins-Bellmany into the spotlight of many Yonkers voters.

Matten is running an active campaign and on behalf of the Yonkers GOP, is running citywide. Four years ago, republican councilman Liam McLaughlin lost to Khader by 10 points. Matten faces an uphill battle to

win this race, but we applaud his entry. Another issue that Matten and Nolan face is that Demcorat County Executive George Latimer is running on the top of the ticket. Many believe that Latimer, who has effectively brought Westchester through the pandemic, kept county property tax increases at 0 and supported progressive initiatives, will help his fellow democratic candidates on the ballot Nov. 2.

Republican Christine Sculti is Latimer's challenger and is actively cam-

paigning.

The unknown in the BOL races and the election of 2021 is turnout. With Yonkers residents having issues like COVID, back to school and flooding on their minds, and with no race for Mayor, Governor or President to increase turnout, nobody knows what the vote totals will look like.

Ransomware Hack of Yonkers City Hall, continued from pg 1-

That is what the City of Yonkers is doing, but it is a tedious process. The City of Baltimore, Maryland has fallen victim to cyber-ransom attacks more than once. In 2019 Baltimore refused to pay a \$100,000 Bitcoin ransome, resulting in city employees locked out of their accounts and for two weeks. Homeowners were unable to pay their property tax bills and parking tickets. A 2018 attack on Baltimore froze the City's 911 emergency call center,.

Ransomware attachs on US corporations have occured over the past few years, the biggest one coming in 2017 called WannyCry, which the US Government blamed on North Korea, who according to published reports, has a government sponsored ransomware operation that gets payments in Bitcoin.

There is no standard playbook for local governments and school districts on how to handle ransomware attacks and demands. Some pay and some don't pay. Daniel Tobok, CEO of Cytelligence, said that in his experience helping 500 municipalites, sometime the ransom is paid off, sometimes it is not. But after a certain number of days, "you don't have a choice and you have to make a business decision."

Sometimes that business decision is to hire a cybersecurity expert to negotiate with the cyber criminals. The other option, which the City of Yonkers and the Croton and Yorktown school districts, is not to pay and to try and recaputre as much data as possible.

We have been told by the City of Yonkers that no senitive information has been taken. Several residents contacted us when they were unable to view their water bills for several days.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

For the sin of not greeting a Pastor or Sister wearing a collar or habit even if

For the sin of knocking something over in the grocery store, making a mess and not bringing it to the attention of those responsible for remedying the situation. Or breaking something in a store and at least offering to pay for it or at the very least

For the sin of in the middle of a pandemic not washing ones hands as we were taught as a child rinsing with soap and water for 20 seconds and possibly spreading germs to others because we are in a hurry to go someplace. For the sin of double parking, parking in front of a fire hydrant even if it is for

30 seconds or blocking a crosswalk where people must cross causing a dangerous situation for all those involved. For taking an over abundance of food at a buffet that we will not possibly be

able to consume hogging the line before others have had the opportunity to be served. Wasting food while others are hungry.

For the sin of not wearing a mask where the proprietor requires or suggests one be worn in the midst of the crisis before us.

For the sin of leaving shopping carts at the grocery store in handicapped parking spaces, blocking cars whose drivers are shopping, in parking spaces blocking other people from parking and not bringing them to the cart corral or to the front entrance

For the sin of driving like a maniac, 60 mph in a 30 mph zone endangering our lives and the lives of others. For not making sure everyone in our car is 'Buckled Up' properly as required by law and for safety purposes.

For the sin of not voting in elections where many people in the world would do anything in their power for such a precious right. For not picking up the phone to bring to the attention of our elected officials a problem that could affect many people just because we don't have the time. And for elected officials not responding to problems brought to their attention allowing the homeless to roam the streets, those that commit crimes to go free without bail, and for doing favors for friends that are not always for the common good.

For the sin of crossing over yellow lines on the street that are not made to be crossed over. Going through red lights. Speeding through yellow lights to beat the red light.

For all these sins which we have committed we ask our God, whoever he or she may be to Bear With Us, Pardon us and Forgive us. And from my home to yours, to Jew and non-Jew alike greetings for a Happy, Healthy New Year in a World of Shalom, Peace.

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@aol.com. Follow him on Twitter @ ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen and Dan Murphy on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.



Presents A Virtual Webinar

Best Practices for **Improving Black Maternal** Health and Birth Outcomes in Westchester County

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Convener Cheryl Brannan, MS Sister to Sister International, Founder



Panel Moderator Cheryl Hunter-Grant, LMSW Leader & Maternal Health Consultant

Champions for Change





Andrea Stewart-Cousins







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Christopher Johnson and Ruth Walters



Sherlita Amler, MD, MS, FAAP Commissioner, Westchester County Department of Health

Esteemed Panelists

Ashanda Saint Jean, MD, FACOG

Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth) Clinical Associate Professor, New York Medical College Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Amida Castagne, MPH, CHES

Deputy Director of Community Initiatives NYC DOH Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health **Maternity Hospital Quality Improvement Network**

Folake Eniola, MPH Senior Evaluator, NYC DOH

Maternity Hospital Quality Improvement Network Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health

Change Makers

Register

Sister to Sister International (STSI) Maternal Health Partners: Dr. Angela Campbell, Executive Director Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network; Nubia Earth Martin, MS Midwifery, President, Birth from the Earth; Barbara DiNoto, RN, Director of Maternity Services, St. John's Riverside Hospital

Thanks to our collective impact partners: Westchester County Office for Women, National Council of Negro Women (Hudson Valley & Westchester Sections), Westchester Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta, Westchester Women's Agenda, Westchester County LINKS NY, Westchester County Youth Bureau *Partial Listing

> For Info Call: 914.207.0368 Visit us at www.S2SI.org

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Eastchester Attorney Arraigned on Child Pornography Charges

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that Eastchester resident Androsky Lugo has been arraigned for promoting and possessing child pornography and unlawful surveillance of a minor. Lugo, 51, was charged on August 27, 2021, in Eastchester Town Court with Promoting an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, Possessing an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, and Unlawful Surveillance in the Second Degree, all felonies. The Westchester County District Attorney's Offi ce's High Technology Crime Squad made the arrest, with assistance from the Eastchester Police Department.

On dates in 2019 and 2020, Lugo, an attorney, obtained images of nude children who were approximately three to 10 years old on Microsoft Bing. He also possessed an image of a nude child who was approximately eight to 10 years old and took lewd photographs of an approximately 12-year-old child that captured the child's genital area underneath the child's clothing.

Certain images possessed by Lugo included those of non-relative children taken at the defendant's Eastchester home. "The conduct alleged against Mr. Lugo is very disturbing and we will continue to do everything we can to protect minors from adults who seek to manipulate or exploit them or put them in harm's way," DA Rocah said.

"Our investigation is ongoing and any individuals who may have relevant information concerning Androsky Lugo or any potential victims are ask to contact our office."

Lugo is scheduled to appear again in Eastchester Town Court on September 15, 2021. The case is being prosecuted by the Trials and Investigations Division Cybercrime Bureau. If anyone has been a victim or has further information on this case, please contact the District Attorney's Offi ce at 914-955-TIPS.

The charges against the defendant are merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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