## WESTCHESTER'S OLDEST AND MOST RESPECTED NEWSPAPERS



# Yonkers Rising

## Yonkerstimes.com

## Friday September 1, 2023

"Hidden Hero" Lucy Moreno-Casanova

Honored for Her Service to Yonkers



Lucy Moreno-Cassanova, in her community garden

## By Dan Murphy

Yonkers has many "hidden heroes" who serve their communities without any fanfare or desire for credit. Lucy Moreno-Casanova is one of those true public servants and an intergral part in making sure that the people of Yonkers have gardens in their neighborhoods.

Moreno-Casanova was recentlyh recognized for her outstanding work managing the Yonkers Family YMCA's 12 community gardens across the city.

A Garden Party was held to celebrate the work of Lucy and her volunteers. The Community Garden Program works to grow food, but also runs neighborhood clean-ups, provides fresh produce for families in need, and offers education and volunteer opportunities for our youth.

The people in the neighborhoods where Lucy makes a difference know what a treasure she is. And even though you might not care Lucy, you have a lot of friends in Yonkers who appreicate you and wanted to say congratulations, and thanks for your service to the people of Yonkers.

## Remembering A Yonkers Store Owner Who Died Over a Baseball Hat



## Mayor Spano's Backpack to School Drive Gives Out 500 Backpacks & School Supplies



Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano joined Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez, Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Luis Rodriguez, Yonkers City Councilmembers, Yonkers Early Childhood Academy Principal Stefanie Felidi and Cross Hill Academy Principal Ryan James and event sponsors to present 500 backpacks, filled with school supplies, to the students at Yonkers Early Childhood Academy and Cross Hill Academy as part of the Mayor's annual "Backpack to School Drive.

"I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our community and sponsors in making our 'Backpack to School Drive' a continued success," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "Together, we have collected an abundance of backpacks and school supplies for our students in Yonkers that helps put them on the pathway to academic success this year. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our city's future."

Donations were provided by Yonkers residents, city employees, and local corporate and nonprofit sponsors including: Nickelodeon, Heavenly Productions Foundation, Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts, Castle Royale, Rock & Rod's Collector Car Club, Ridge Hill, Elite Investigations, PCNY, Garden of Eden and Staples Connect (Tuckahoe Rd, Yonkers).

Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez added, "Giving a helping hand to those in need is an act of kindness and generosity that powerfully impacts the children and families in our schools. It was evident today by the joy on the children's faces when they received a backpack and supplies. Like Mayor Spano, donors from across our community act on their conviction to enhance opportunities for our students to continue achieving their academic and socialemotional growth."

"Mayor Spano's annual backpack drive unites the community around helping Yonkers families reduce the cost burden of sending their children back to school, particularly those families with multiple school age children," noted Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Luis Rodriguez. "By alleviating some of that pressure, this year the Mayor's backpack drive helps Yonkers Early Childhood Academy and Cross Hill Academy students begin school on Thursday, September 7th prepared for learning and focused on the exciting school year ahead."

Chairwoman of Heavenly Productions Foundation, Dr. Kathy Reilly

Ruben Martinez Campos

The recent announcement by Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah on the sentencing of Tyrese Shubrick for the stabbing murder of Yonkers resident and store owner Ruben Martinez Campos brought back the sadness that many in Yonkers felt two years ago.

The defendant, Tyrese Shubrick, 24, pleaded guilty on April 19 to Manslaughter in the First Degree, a felony.

On April 20, 2021, at approximately 5:40 p.m., the defendant threatened the victim with a knife at his store on Main Street in Yonkers before taking a hat. When confronted by the victim outside of the store, the defendant used a knife to stab the victim two times in the chest. The victim's wife witnessed the incident, which was also captured on surveillance video. The victim was transported to Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, where he died from his injuries.

During the investigation, the Yonkers Police Department identified, located, and arrested the defendant on April 21, 2021, at Elmsford Village Court, where he was appearing on another case. The knife was never recovered.

DA Rocah said: "Today, we have ensured a violent individual, who ruthlessly took the life of a man trying to protect his business and livelihood, is off our streets. Our thoughts are with Mr. Campos's family and the Yonkers community."

In a statement read in court, Mr. Campos's wife said: "You senselessly took my love's life without any reason in front of me.... This has been a nightmare from which I have not been able to wake up from.... He didn't deserve what you did to him."

The Mexican community in Yonkers has held memorials outside his clothing store to remember this hard working man. God Bless his family.

## Visit us online at Yonkerstimes.com

Fallon added, "On behalf of Heavenly Productions Foundation, we are thrilled to support Mayor Mike Spano's Backpack Outreach and donate 250 backpacks with school supplies and classroom supplies. Best wishes to all the students of Yonkers."

"Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts is proud to continue our tradition of supporting the City of Yonkers through their Annual 'Backpack to School Drive'," said Ed Domingo, Senior VP and General Manager for Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts. "We are committed to advancing education in our local community as one of our philanthropic pillars and ensure that students have all the resources, they need for a successful school year ahead."

> *Tour de Yonkers Set for October 1 see story on pg 7*

## TOUR de YONKERS Sunday, Oct 1, 2023



## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1 2023- YONKERS RISING -PAGE 2

Yonkers Celebrates Ukrainian Independence

Day with Flag Raising at City Hall

Basketball Court at Columbus Park Dedicated in Honor of John N. Romano

Mayor Mike Spano, City Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, join with members of the Romano Family, including City Court Judge Dan Romano

"John N. Romano, Esq. was a pillar in the Old 7th Ward. He often had clients pay for his legal advice with hot dogs. His family wanted to do something to honor him and his legacy of helping Holocaust survivors, new immigrants, and the Park Hill community through charity and philanthropy. We dedicated a basketball court at Columbus Park in his honor. His family says he never played sports, but he often walked in the community, passing the park, and this is where he'd want to be remembered," said Mayor Mike Spano.







On Aug. 24, the City of Yonkers celebrated the 32nd Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence with a flag raising at City Hall. In 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine heroically proclaimed the nation's independence, thus taking the first step towards establishing a free and democratic state. Sadly, after centuries of foreign domination, Ukraine to this day continues to struggle to maintain its sovereignty against the aggression of its neighbor to the north.

"At this critical juncture in Ukraine's struggle to maintain its freedom, the commemoration of the 32nd anniversary of renewed independence sends a strong message to the Ukrainian people that the United States supports their aspirations to live in a free and democratic nation, and condemns the aggressive and imperialistic actions of the state sponsor of terror who resides to the north of our homeland," said Roman Kozicky, Ukrainian Congressional Committee of America.

Yonkers has one of the largest Ukrainian populations in the United States.

Paid For Friends of Anthony Merante

# Anthony MERANTE SFOR MAYOR



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# The **RESTORE TERM LIMITS** CANDIDATE

MeranteForYonkers.com

## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2023- YONKERS RISING -PAGE 3

I Ate the Time of My Life

## The Arc Westchester Welcomes Nicole Benjamin in Corporate Compliance Role



Nicole Benjamin

The Arc Westchester announced that it has welcomed Nicole Benjamin of Yonkers as Assistant Executive Director for Quality and Corporate Compliance. In this role, Ms. Benjamin will oversee all quality improvement, corporate compliance and staff development activities throughout the organization. Additionally, she will serve as the nonprofit's Corporate Compliance Officer.

"Ms. Benjamin brings extensive legal knowledge and a passion for human services to The Arc Westchester," Tibi Guzmán, Executive Director/CEO of The Arc Westchester, said. "We are delighted to have her guiding our quality assurance and corporate compliance teams in order to maintain a high standard of services and support for people with developmental disabilities."

Prior to joining The Arc Westchester, Ms. Benjamin worked at the Westchester County Department of Social Services where she oversaw contract compliance for 400 direct service providers for private nonprofit organizations (including disability organizations) as well as for private for-profit organizations. She is actively engaged in the Westchester Community, and in Yonkers. "I am pleased and honored to be a part of The Arc Westchester team," said Benjamin,"I look forward to enhancing the agency's Compliance Department and helping to continue the impactful work they have been doing across the County.."

Ms. Benjamin holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Yale University, a law degree from CUNY School of Law, as well as Masters degrees in Social Work and in law from Fordham University and Touro School of Law, respectively.

## Letter: The Unquenchable MAGA Thirst

Many may have thought Governor Ron DeSantis' "Let me out do Trump" strategy was just an easy way to get votes. They may have been partially right.

Republican candidate Vivek Ramaswamy's doubling down -- going further right than both Trump and DeSantis -- on his "I'm best to lead that 'America First' agenda" is gaining considerable momentum.

His rocket ascension among the remaining Republican presidential candidates, as a first-time politician, reveals an unquenchable thirst for this ideology among a certain group of voters in America.

It could also explain why six of the current Republican contenders were tripping over themselves in the first debate to support Donald Trump if he were to win the Republican primary.

What's worrisome, however, is despite Trump's current legal woes, an August Marist College poll shows him in a statistical tie (47%/46%) Biden/Trump split for the 2024 general election.

The question is, given President Biden's progress on the economy (unemployment at a low of 3.5%, nationwide infrastructure investments; American manufacturing has ticked up), is the Democratic political strategy working?



**By Eric Wolf Schoen** 

Labor Day is here and with it comes the end of another summer. Summer is my favorite time of year as we would spend time as a family swimming, barbecuing, playing sports and having a grand old time enjoying the weather.

As I discussed in a previous column, the last week of summer through Labor Day my family would spend at the one of the big hotels in the Catskills Mountains aka Borscht Belt, a place where many Jews would go for entertainment and relaxation as they were not welcome in the early part of the century at hotels that catered to non-Jews. If you saw the movie Dirty Dancin' you Know what I am talking about. Dad and I would play paddleball and handball while mom and my sister would watch makeup displays and work so very hard at trivia games to win a little bottle of champagne to drink with dinner.

Around 5:30 p.m. mom, dad, my sister and I would go to our room and shower up and prepare for the evening. Dad liked to bake in the sun, not realizing how bad it was for his skin. He would be the last one to shower and change for dinner.

The hotels whether it be the Concord, Grossingers, Nevele, Browns, or Brickman, our hotel of choice were known not only for extensive activity schedules but also for their delectable cuisine. The day would start off at 6:30 a.m. with Golfers Breakfast, coffee and little pastries for those headed out for an early tee time.

Seated breakfast would start around 8:30 depending on the hotel and finish up at 10 a.m. or 10:30. The meal would start with a big plate of danish and crumb cakes to enjoy while you selected your morning choices. Just in case you would get hungry later, your waiter would bring you napkins to fill with danish to take out of the dining room, also know as 'Filata' danish (for later danish.) Appetizers available everyday included herring, pickled salmon and a host of other fishes including Nova Scotia Salmon which you would put on a toasted bagel with onions, lettuce and tomatoes and capers.

Mind you this was all you can eat. You want 5 bagels you could have 5 bagels or 10 danish you could indulge. 13 varieties of Cold cereal would be served as well as 3 hot cereals. I liked my oatmeal with a touch of sugar piping hot even on the warmest day. Five varieties of eggs were served with Baco Chips, little chips that taste like bacon but were not as the dining room was kosher. Pancakes, French Toast and Cinnamon Sugar toast accompanied beverages such a postum, a powdered roasted grain beverage popular as a coffee substitute. The caffeine-free beverage was created by Post Cereal Company founder C. W. Post in 1895 and marketed as a healthier alternative to coffee. Sanka, also caffeine free was another popular beverage but people still liked their coffee.

You could imagine how filling that breakfast was and until the mid-70's, early 80's, a dairy, lunch would be served following breakfast at 1:00 p.m. The dairy lunch would features blintzes, crepes filled with cheese and fruit toppings, fish prepared numerous ways and other non-meat dishes. Hotel operators got smart and cut out the dairy lunch so patrons would not have to run to the dining room from the pool or tennis court or interrupt their day. Let's face it, after that big breakfast finishing at 10:30 a.m. was there a need for a whole other meal 2 1/2 hours later.? It gave the staff a nice break too, and guests could relax and enjoy all the facilities the hotels had to offer.

Let's not forget that most patrons had their little napkins filled with 'filata'

By Derickson K. Lawrence A resident of the City of Mount Vernon

## Yonkers Rising

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## **Buying Comics!**

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Anyone with information on Dutch Schultz and his time in Yonkers please contact the newspaper at dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com Stories and memorabilia are welcome.



In-Home Personal Training Available. NASM, EMT and Special Needs Certified. Strength Training, Fat Loss, and Muscle Building. Virtual and online coaching available. Text or call Andrew at 914-646-1718. danish and if that didn't cut the gefilte fish most of the hotels had coffee shops. No one truly was starving.

After a long day of play and entertainment, 6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. brought on dinner. The dinner meal was for the most part meat and in keeping kosher no milk was served. Even the coffee and tea was served with a fake milk, butter was margarine and all the pastries served for dessert contained no milk or milk products.

You were full if you ate just breakfast and dinner but truly stuffed if you added lunch on the menu. Cutting out lunch also enabled hotel operators to lower prices for overnight stays, something no one complained about.

Sadly, all the hotels with these feasts have closed, burned down or were knocked down. You must admit the menu was lavish and extensive, and to this day I wonder how I could have eaten everything on the menu, washed down for breakfast and lunch with a glass of chocolate milk.

So, Labor Day is here. I will always have fond memories of my Catskills hotel experiences. And the food. I truly 'Ate the Time of My Life.'

Listen to Eric Schoen 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. Reach him at thistooisyonkers@aol.com.



## Latimer: No Crime in Westchester From Migrants, NYC Paying the Cost, Migrants Here Legally

## County Exec. Says Neighboring Counties that Tried to Keep Immigrants Out Had No Effect

#### By Dan Murphy

On Aug. 28, County Executive George Latimer held a press conference to update residents on the 400 migrants currently living at three locations, (Ardsley, White Plains and Yonkers) in motels-hotels, and to point to the facts that no crimes have been committed at either location; that the cost of the migrants are being entirely paid by New York City, and not the taxpayers of Westchester; and that the migrants are here legally awaiting a decision on their asylum applications.

Latimer said that a majority of the 400 migrants in Westchester are adults, but 125 are under the age of 18, and those individuals are eligible to attend school in each of the 3 communities they currently reside. NY Attorney General Letita James and Education Commissioner Betty Rosa, issued a statement affirming that every student between the ages of 5 and 21 has the right to a free public education in New York, regardless of the student's nationality or immigration status."The law is clear: every New Yorker is entitled to a free public education, and anyone who lives in our state is a New Yorker," said AG James.

Latimer added that Westhab is contracted with NYC to assist migrants at the Ramada Inn on Tuckahoe Road in Yonkers, and that DocGo has been contracted by NYC to assistant migrants in Ardsley Acres Hotel and the White Plains. Several complaints have been made about the food service to migrants by DocGo.

Latimer underscored three points in his video press conference.

I- "There have been no crimes committed in the locations where there are migrants.

II- "There have been no issues of outbreaks of communicable disease. Each of the migrants has been examined for vaccination status.

III- The cost for the migrants. "The room and food are contracted with NYC, and with these three hotel-motels. It is a legal transaction." Westchester County has had no direct costs for the migrants. Some costs in the Westchester Department of Health and the County police have been absorbed –"there are no additional costs."

Although Westchester County government does have direct responsibility for the homeless population, and thus the migrants, Latimer added, "there is nothing that we can do. I have asked for the Federal Government to open an immigration court in White Plains, but they haven't acted yet. I hope they do. We are trying to manage the issue."

Latimer also reiterated a point that has also been made by Westchester Congressman Jamaal Bowman. That the migrants are now here legally. "Those individual who cross the border into the US go to immigration officials and ask for asylum. Once they file, they are awaiting adjudication -they are here legally. They are not illegals

Latimer also challenged the decision by other neighboring county government to issue executive orders banning Migrants from their county. "Some of my colleagues issued executive orders and many of you applauded it. They have no effect and the some of nmy collucagues issued exec ordgers and many of you applaunded it they have had no effect--dutchess, orange-they have had migrant placements anyway.

However, in Putnam County, County Executive Kevin Byrne explained that, "On July 26th, the lawsuit from the city of New York against Putnam County was dismissed in its entirety after our emergency action expired and was formally rescinded. All of Putnam County's actions, including the passage of a local law pertaining to outside municipalities and homeless shelters which also took effect on July 26th, are Constitutional and consistent with Putnam County's authority granted to it by Municipal Home Rule Law, allowing it to adopt and amend local laws related to the government, protection, order, conduct, safety, health and well-being of persons or property therein" The Putnam County law requires "No municipality outside of Putnam County, or agent thereof, may offer or provide temporary housing within Putnam County, thereby creating a homeless shelter as defined above, without first entering into a shared services agreement with Putnam County to provide said service"

## Consumer Cellular EXACT SAME COVERAGE UP TO HALF THE COST. 844-919-1682

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Westchester's "Upon Request" Law for Single Use Foodware Takes Effect Sept. 2



To reduce waste, including plastic waste, Westchester now requires consumers to **ask for the single-use foodware items** they need. This includes when ordering in person, online or through a food delivery app.



For more information, contact the Recycling HelpLine at (914) 813-5425.

In a significant step towards environmental sustainability, Westchester County is reminding residents and business owners of its "Upon Request" single-use foodware law, which will take effect on September 2. This legislation aims to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics by promoting a more mindful approach to their usage within food service establishments by limiting the use of single-use foodware products to only when specifically requested by the customer.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer was joined by the Westchester County Legislators Vice-Chair Nancy Barr, Legislator Erika Pierce, DoH and DEF as they outline the key tenets of this new law. The Board of Legislators took up this effort and passed legislation spearheaded by Barr and Pierce and signed by Latimer.

Latimer said: "Westchester County is once again taking steps to lessen the waste we put back into the waste stream. From large scale measures to simple changes in our daily behavior, every little bit counts toward our goal of leaving a cleaner planet for future generations."

Effective September 2, no food service establishment within Westchester County may provide single-use foodware or condiment packets to dine-in or take-away customers unless expressly requested. This pertains to items such as forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks, cup sleeves, beverage lids and condiment packets.

Upon customer request, single-use foodware items or condiment packets must be

## *continued on pg* 7-Yonkers Police Arrests Male for Multiple Slashings

Just after 4:00 PM on August 24, 2023, the Yonkers Police Department received a report of several people who had been slashed in the area of 1 Palisade Avenue. City of Yonkers surveillance camera video was reviewed in real-time by Detectives as well as Crime Analysts in the AWARE Crime Control Center, obtaining a description of the suspect. Units responding to the scene located and apprehended this suspect before he could leave the area. This suspect is identified as Eric ALI, a 35-year-old Yonkers resident. A broken pair of scissors used in this assault was located on his person and was recovered as evidence.

Simultaneously, other Yonkers Police Units located two victims in the area with lacerations: A 41-year-old male with a laceration to the left side of his head, and a 61-year-old male with a laceration to the left side of his face and lip Medical aid was rendered, and both of the above victims were transported to area hospitals and are in stable condition. A third victim, a 35-year-old male with a laceration to the right side of his head, was also located at an area hospital; he left the scene prior to Police arrival and responded to the hospital on his own. He is also in stable condition. Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Digital Forensics Unit responded to the scene to investigate this incident. This investigation yielded that ALI approached the first victim inside the business at 1 Palisade Avenue, slashing this male. ALI then exited the establishment and proceeded to slash a second male, then approached a bystander, slashing this third male as well. City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano stated, "I commend our Yonkers Police Officers for moving swiftly to rapidly capture this subject. I know these isolated incidents have certainly increased public concern this week, but I want to remind residents that our Yonkers Police Department has handled these incidents with skilled training, care, and concern." "We are thankful that due to the number of Officers we have concentrated in our downtown business district, we were on the scene quickly and able to put a stop to this violent attack and apprehend the perpetrator," said Yonkers Police Department Commissioner Christopher Sapienza. "This individual will now have to answer for his heinous act in the court system."



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ingen af spikeline for a fair a statistic of the spikeling over the first Constant of the Constant of the Sourc International Constant of the Source Constant of the Source Statistics of the Source Statistics of the Source St ALI was charged with three counts of Assault 2nd and remains in custody.



## On This Day in Yonkers History...



Tuskegee Airman Lee Archer from Yonkers

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

### Monday, September 4th

September 4, 1940: The Yonkers Board of Education approved a \$65,297 budget for the Fall term of the Yonkers Defense School, which opened two days earlier at Saunders Trades School. The budget had been submitted to the NYS Department of Education two weeks earlier and immediately approved. Two teachers, Albert Kelly and Harold Hardy, were granted four-month leaves of absence to assist with the defense program.

September 4, 1940: Despite the many reports circulating that the carpet shop was manufacturing canvas for US Army tents, Harold Zulauf, General Superintendent of Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Company, firmly denied it, stating the company was only manufacturing "carpets and rugs and nothing else."

#### Tuesday, September 5th

September 5, 1926: The Yonkers Electric Light and Power Company began raising lamposts throughout Yonkers to prevent any more trucks breaking the globes of our streetlights.

September 5, 1927: Corporation Counsel Arthur Hume asked the city to change its policy when building code violations are discovered; instead of issuing a summons, Hume wanted injunctions issued. Numerous violations were just discovered in another newly built apartment house on Caryl Avenue.

#### Wednesday, September 6th

September 6, 1919: Future Tuskegee Airman Lee Archer, Jr., was born to May and Lee Archer Sr., at their home on Woodworth Avenue. During his years in Yonkers, one of Archer's favorite pastimes was reading comic books on World War I flyers! His family moved to New York City, Archer attended New York schools and then NYU. After joining the Army Air Corps and the Tuskegee program, Archer flew 169 missions over 11 countries in "Ina The Macon Belle," his red tail P51 Mustang he named for his girlfriend and later wife, Ina Burdell. After retirement from the military in 1970, he joined General Foods, rising to Vice President and chief executive of three of the company's investment companies.

September 6, 1975: Eighteen-year-old Roosevelt High School graduate Tawny Elaine Godin was crowned Miss America 1976! She attended Skidmore College where she won the local title of Miss Saratoga Springs, later winning Miss New York State. After her reign as Miss America, Tawny went on to become a reporter and news anchor, working on popular programs, including "AM Los Angeles," "Hollywood Close-up" and "Eye on LA."

### Thursday, September 7th

September 7, 1924: The B. F. Keith Vaudeville Exchange, drawn by her beauty and spirit, gave Miss Yonkers of 1924 Florence Kreisler a contract to appear in a vaudeville show with Miss America of 1924, Ruth Malcomson. September 7, 1943: Yonkers' Community and War Chest announced its new slogan and song, "All For One and One For All," would be used at all its rallies and events. Our local Chest contacted Gracie Fields of radio fame, who used the song as the theme of her show, got permission from her and its publishers to use the song!

## Yonkers Library Gets \$587k State Grant for HVAC Replacement

The Yonkers Public Library (YPL) anounced that it received a \$587,794 State Aid -Library Construction grant. The grant was awarded through a highly competitive review and selection process and is the largest annual state grant received in YPL history. It was the sixth largest library construction grant awarded in New York State this year, and will be used to help offset the cost of replacing the aging and outdated HVAC system at the Grinton I. Will Library.

The HVAC replacement is Phase One of what YPL anticipates will be a multiyear, multimillion dollar capital project in partnership with the City of Yonkers, to fully upgrade the infrastructure and interior design of the Grinton I. Will Library.

"The Will Library is an essential Yonkers landmark that just turned 60 last year. Although it's as dynamic as ever, we will need to reinvest in its infrastructure for it to remain safe, comfortable and beautiful for another 60 years," said YPL Board President Nancy Maron.

The Will Library's chiller failed in 2022 before YPL could fund its replacement, requiring the library to rent a portable unit to cool the building for the last two summers. The state award will partially fund its replacement with a modern, energy-efficient unit. Once the HVAC work is completed, YPL plans to make equally important, "once-in-ageneration" renovations to its dated interior, starting with the renovation of the 325-seat Pincus Auditorium, which is a venue for many of the city's most important civic and cultural events.

The HVAC replacement is not the only facilities project at Will Library. Thanks to city funding, work began on refurbishment of the Will Library elevator for the first time in the building's 60 year history.

"To fully modernize our facilities and give Yonkers residents the state-of-the-art libraries they deserve, it will take a combination of city, state, federal and private dollars. I applaud YPL for their energetic pursuit of state grants and other funding sources." said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano.

"We want to thank the Yonkers delegation- Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh and Assemblymember J. Gary Pretlow for their support of YPL," said YPL Director Jesse Montero. "Having strong representation at the state level helps when pursuing these grants."

## Westchester Health Department Reminds Families to Book Vaccine Visits Before School Starts

To help children keep healthy and in the classroom throughout the school year, the Westchester County Department of Health is reminding families that it's time to book backto-school vaccine visits with your child's healthcare provider, or at our free back-to-school clinics.

Westchester County Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "It takes more than pens and pencils to be ready for school. Children should keep up or catch up with the vaccines recommended for their age and grade. To avoid serious illnesses that can cause children to skip school, miss sports, play dates and activities, families should schedule vaccine visits now. Vaccines protect your child, and they also protect infants and children around them who are too young to be vaccinated, or who cannot be vaccinated because of other medical conditions."

For those without insurance, or who have Child Health Plus or Medicaid, the County Health Department can help. Besides school vaccines, the County also offers influenza vaccines for children ages six months and older.

Families with no insurance, ChildHealth Plus or Medicaid, should call the County Health Department to schedule an appointment for vaccines at no charge. Call (914) 995-5800 to find out if you qualify and to secure a spot at the Health Department clinics, at 134 Court Street in White Plains or 20 South Broadway in Yonkers. Appointments are available on Thursdays in Yonkers, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays in White Plains, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Extended hours are available in Yonkers on Thursday, Sept 7 and 14, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and in White Plains on Saturday, Sept. 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Children must have their first dose of all required vaccinations within 14 days of the first day of school. Parents and guardians must show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses within 30 days of the start of school. Ask your healthcare provider which vaccines your children need. All 7th and 12th graders must get the meningococcal vaccine, and all students must be vaccinated against whooping cough, measles and mumps. Health Navigators available through the Health Department can help families and individuals sign up for the health insurance they need. Those without a regular doctor can learn where to go for ongoing primary care. For more information, call (914) 995-6350.

## Friday, September 8th

September 8, 1942: Yonkers had its first surprise blackout. Called by Brigadier General Thomas Darrah, Deputy Civilian Defense Director for the metropolitan area, the test began at 9:08 and ended with the all-clear signal at 9:35. Although totally unexpected, Yonkers' response was deemed one of the best in the organization's history. When the air raid warning sirens sounded 4,847 volunteers responded! Hospital staff members, Auxiliary Police officers, demolition crews, first aiders and air wardens rushed to the two simulated bombing sites, one on Bedford Place and the other in Crestwood. Every off duty or vacationing fire fighter in Yonkers rushed to their firehouses. Darrah cruised Yonkers during the blackout in a radio car and said he was "more than satisfied;" his aide, Colonel Peter Malesvsky observed Yonkers from the top of the Health Center and declared "everything functioned perfectly."

September 8, 1943: The Yonkers Patrol Service of the US Coast Guard Reserve Auxiliary, working from Ludlow for two years, was suspended by the Coast Guard district office. The Coast Guard had obtained enough boats for regular patrol and did not need the hundreds of private yachts and boats painted battleship gray and wearing Coast Guard numbers. Our privately owned boats had seen active duty, with owners and crew serving as uniformed Coast Guardsmen. Many of these men entered the Coast Guard Reserve to continue regular Coast Guard patrols.

## continued on pg 7-

Formation of TRUIH LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/15/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Lawrence Rebbecchi, 550 Green Dolphin Dr., Placida, FL 33946. Purpose: Any lawful activity.





## Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!



## PAGE 6 - YONKERS RISING - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

Notice of formation of My Mind Is Magic, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/14/2023. 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, 20 South Broadway Suite 420, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of LIVE LONG LIVE STRONG FITNESS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/07/22. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 33 Sherwood Ave, apt. 3w, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Formation of LIMESMASHER LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/2/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Michael Lime-killer, 938 Saw Mill River Rd., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of True to Life Counseling Psychotherapy Services, LCSW PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/26/2023 Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC at 50 Riverdale Avenue Suite 15J, Yonkers, Ny 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of 54 TOWER PLACE LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/10/2023. Office: Westchester County. RAED M ALAMMARI designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC, 54 TOWER PLACE YONKERS, NY 10703 Purpose: Real Estate.

Formation of OFF THE MILL LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/29/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Desmond Clarke, 1271 Saw Mill River Rd., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, Plaintiff AGAINST MAXINE LANSKY-TEJADA, ALEJANDRO TEJADA, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered June 16, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Lobby of Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, NY on September 11, 2023 at 10:30AM, premises known as 94 Jervis Road, Yonkers, NY 10705. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Yonkers, in the County of Westchester, State of New York, Section 1, Block 73, Lot 30. Approximate amount of judgment \$234,256.25 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #59161/2021. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the WEST-CHESTER County COVID-19 mitigation protocols and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. Syma Funt, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221 20-001206 77099

Notice of formation of JJMB PROPERTIES LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/27/2023. Office location, County of Westchester. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to:, c/o Incorp Services, Inc - 99 Washington Ave., Suite 805-A, Albany, NY 12210. Purpose: any lawful act.

#### Classifieds

#### Attorney

DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

#### Auto Donations

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

#### Events

ANTIQUE LOVERS TAKE NOTE! BRIMFIELD IS HERE – ALL SHOWS! September 5-10. New shows open daily! BrimfieldAntiqueFleaMarket.com. 2024 dates: May 14-19, July 9-14, September 3-8

#### For Sale

Health

Privacy Hedge! Arborvitae 6-foot Reduced to \$125/each.

Free Installation, Free Delivery. Fast growing, High-quality Beautiful & Bushy! Order now to reserve for early Fall delivery. LowCostTrees.com 518-536-1367

#### SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

X Index No.

Date Summons Filed:

FENNY OKOMO-OWIDI. Plaintiff. Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the place of trial. The basis of venue is Plaintiff's residence.

-against-BRIAN OCHEING OWIDI aka CRAIG BRIAN OWIDI. Defendant.

--X

#### ACTION FOR DIVORCE

#### To the above named defendant:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorneys within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within (30) days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the notice set forth below.

Dated: 11/7/2022

Shirani Ponnambalam. Esq Pace Women's Justice Center Attorneys for Plaintiff 78 North Broadway, White Plains NY 10603 (914) 422-4069

NOTICE: The nature of this action is to dissolve the marriage between parties, on the grounds: DRL Section 170 subd. (7)-the relationship between the Plaintiff and Defendant has broken down irretrievably for a period of at least six months.

The relief sought is a judgment of absolute divorce in favor of the Plaintiff dissolving the marriage between the parties in this action. The nature of any ancillary or additional relief demanded is:

That the parties do not require maintenance and no claim will be made by either party for maintenance. The Plaintiff is not seeking maintenance as payee as described in the Notice of Guidance Maintenance.

That the parties do not require payment of counsel and experts fees and expenses.

That both parties may resume the use of any prior surname.

That the Court grant such other and further relief as the Court may deem fit and proper. The parties have divided up the marital property, and no claim will be made by either party under equitable distribution.

(Form UD-1-1/25/16)

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF AUTOMATIC ORDERS (D.R.L. 236) Rev. 1/13

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE ORDERS MAY BE DEEMED A CONTEMPT OF COURT

PURSUANT TO the Uniform Rules of the Trial Courts, and DOMESTIC RELATIONS LAW Section 236. Part B. Section 2. both you and your spouse (the parties) are bound by the following AUTOMATIC ORDERS, which have been entered against you and your spouse in your divorce action pursuant to 22 NYCRR Section 202.16(a). and which shall remain in full force and effect during the pendency of this action, unless terminated, modified or amended by further order of the court or upon written agreement between the parties:

(1) ORDERED: Neither party shall sell, transfer, encumber, conceal, assign, remove or in any way dispose of, with the consent of the other party in writing, or by order of the court, any property (including, but not limited to, real estate, personal property, cash accounts, stocks, mutual funds, bank accounts, cars and boats) individually or jointly held by the parties, except in the usual course of business, for customary and usual household expenses or for reasonable attorney's fee in connection with this action.

(2) ORDERED: Neither party shall transfer, encumber, assign, remove, withdraw or n any way dispose of any tax deferred funds, stocks or other assets held in any individual retirement accounts, 401k accounts, profit sharing plans, Keogh accounts, or any other pension or retirement account, and the parties shall further refrain from applying for or requesting the payment of retirement benefits or annuity payments of any kind, without the consent of the other party in writing, or upon further order of the court; except that any party who is already in pay status may continue to receive such payments thereunder.

(3) ORDERED: Neither party shall incur unreasonable debts hereafter, including, but not limited to, further borrowing against any credit line secured by the family residence, further encumbrancing any assets, or unreasonably using credit cards or cash advances against credit cards, except in the usual course of business or for customary or usual housing expenses, or for reasonable attorney's fees in connection with this action.

(4) ORDERED: Neither party shall cause the other party or the children of the marriage to be removed from any existing medical, hospital and dental insurance coverage, and each party shall maintain the existing medical, hospital and dental insurance coverage in full force and effect.

(5) ORDERED: Neither party shall change the beneficiaries of any existing life insurance policies, and each party shall maintain the existing life insurance, automobile insurance, homeowners and renters insurance policies in full force and effect.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: After service of Summons with Notice or Summons and Complaint for divorce, if you or your spouse wishes to modify or dissolve the automatic orders, you must ask the court for approval to do so, or enter into a written modification agreement with your spouse duly signed and acknowledged before a notary public.

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-598-5898

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BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 866-393-3636

Do you need a Roof or Energy Efficient Windows & Help paying for it? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit NYProgram-Funding.org to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs.

Secure your home with Vivint Smart Home technology. Call 866-601-1219 to learn how you can get a professionally installed security system with \$0 activation.

#### Miscellaneous

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

#### TV Internet Phone

DIRECTV. New 2-Year Price Guarantee. The most live MLB games this season, 200+ channels and over 45,000 on-demand titles. \$84.99/mo for 24 months with CHOICE Package. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/31/24. 1-866-595-6967



#### NOTICE CONCERNING CONTINUATION OF HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

#### (Required by Section 255(1) of the Domestic Relations Law

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that once a judgment of divorce is signed in this action, both you and your spouse may or may not continue to be eligible for coverage under each other's health insurance plan, depending on the terms of the plan.

Notice of guideline maintenance

If your divorce was commenced honor after January 25th 20 sixtheme this notice is required to be given to you by the Supreme Court of the county where your. Divorce was filed to comply with the maintenance guidelines law

Because you may not have counsel in this action to advise you. It does not mein that your spouse. The person you are married to is seeking or offering an award of maintenance in this action. Maintenance means the amount to be paid to the other spouse for support. After the divorces final

You are hereby given notice that under the maintenance guidelines law. There is an obligation to award the guideline amount of maintenance on income up to \$203000 to be paid by the party with the higher income. The maintenance party with the lower income the maintenance pay according to a formula unless the party's. Agree otherwise? Are. Waved. This? Right period depending on the incomes of the party's, the obligation might fall on either the plane if or defendant in the action

There are 2 formulas to determine the. Amount. Of the obligation. If you or your spouse have no children, the higher formula will apply. If there are children of the marriage, the lower formula will apply. But only if the maintenance payor is paying child support to the other spouse. Who has the children as the custodial parent period otherwise the higher formula will apply period

That the parties do not require payment of counsel and experts fees and expenses.

That both parties may resume the use of any prior surname.

That the Court grant such other and further relief as the Court may deem fit and proper. The parties have divided up the marital property, and no claim will be made by either party under equitable distribution.

(Form UD-1-1/25/16)

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(1) ORDERED: Neither party shall sell, transfer, encumber, conceal, assign, remove or in any way dispose of, with the consent of the other party in writing, or by order of the court, any property (including, but not limited to, real estate, personal property, cash accounts, stocks, mutual funds, bank accounts, cars and boats) individually or jointly held by the parties, except in the usual course of business, for customary and usual household expenses or for reasonable attorney's fee in connection with this action.

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(3) ORDERED: Neither party shall incur unreasonable debts hereafter, including, but not limited to, further borrowing against any credit line secured by the family residence, further encumbrancing any assets, or unreasonably using credit cards or cash advances against credit cards, except in the usual course of business or for customary or usual housing expenses, or for reasonable attorney's fees in connection with this action.

## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 2023-YONKERS RISING -PAGE 7

## St. John's Riverside Hospital's Riverside Talk Focuses on Drugs in Our Communities-Sept 20



Understanding the Impact of Drugs in Our Communities - Join Our Webinar!

The fight against drug-related challenges in our communities continues, and knowledge is our most powerful tool. St. John's Riverside Hospital is committed to addressing this critical issue and invites you to a special webinar.

Date: Wednesday, September 20th at 12:00 PM (EDT)

Join Dr. Stephanie Widmer, DO Emergency Medicine Physician & Director of Medical Toxicology at St. John's Riverside Hospital. With her expertise, we will delve into the complex landscape of drug-related concerns that affect our families and friends in the community.

Key topics to be covered: Understanding the current drug landscape Effects on individuals and communities Steps towards prevention and support

To secure your spot and gain valuable insights, please RSVP by registering at https://form.jotform.com/232404211615139

By participating in this webinar, you are taking a crucial step in being part of the solution. Together, we can equip ourselves with knowledge and strategies to combat the challenges posed by drugs in our neighborhoods.

## Upon Demand, continued from pg 4-

provided individually, rather than in packages containing multiple items. This initiative is aimed at curbing unnecessary plastic waste and promoting a more sustainable approach to dining.

The law applies across various ordering methods, including in-person, online and through food delivery apps. Customers are encouraged to ask for single-use items only when needed, fostering responsible consumption.

Single-use plastic beverage stirrers and "splash sticks" will no longer be permitted within food service establishments. Retail stores may still offer these items for sale to their customers.

The legislation upholds existing protocols for utensil storage within food service establishments, maintaining standards of cleanliness and sanitation. Utensils available in self-service containers for consumers must be individually wrapped or placed face-down, with single-item dispensers recommended.

All DoH requirements for health and safety remain in full effect, ensuring that the well-being of patrons is not compromised.

DEF and DoH Inspectors will collaboratively work to ensure the proper implementation and adherence to the new regulations, promoting a seamless transition for both establishments and customers.

Food service establishments are required to prominently display a clearly legible sign informing customers that plastic utensils, condiments, and straws are available only upon request. This sign, provided by the County, will serve to increase awareness and encourage responsible plastic use. DoH Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler said: "The Westchester County Department of Health is proud to support this new law. Protecting the environment and reducing waste is the cornerstone of Environmental Health. We know that this is an important step in helping to maintain a healthy environment for our residents" DEF Deputy Commissioner Lou Vetrone said: "Billions of single-use plastic items end up in our waste stream every year. Due to the small size and narrow shape of these materials, they are not easily recyclable. Fortunately, County Executive Latimer and the Board of Legislators have taken decisive action to significantly reduce the amount of single-use plastic items in our waste with the enactment of this legislation. The Department of Environmental Facilities looks forward to working with the Department of Health to educate residents and food service establishments on the new requirements and to ensure compliance." As noted by the owners of LMNOP Bakery in Katonah and Rye Ridge Deli in Rye Brook in the video HERE, this change not only lessens the waste we all put into the waste stream, but also will provide significant cost savings to small business owners. Barr said: "This legislation is a win-win, as it will help protect our environment by decreasing items in the waste stream, while at the same time lowering costs for businesses, who will no longer provide items which go straight into the garbage. Equally important is the fact that consumers will get accustomed to making a conscious choice about what they actually need. I hope Westchester residents and businesses will join with us to help spread the word, and that we will all do our part to comply to reduce waste." Pierce said: "I began working on this last fall, and I am so very thrilled to see it take effect. Up until now, businesses have often automatically provided people with single use items, many of which were unneeded and went straight into the trash. Through a simple behavior change – asking for the items we need - we can reduce waste, help the environment and save local businesses money. A win for everyone."

**Tour de Yonkers Set for October 1** The Yonkers Bicycle Club has announced that this year's 14th annual Tour De Yonkers will take place on Sunday morning, October 1, 2023.

The Tour De Yonkers, is a group bicycle ride through the City of Yonkers and parts of Westchester County. The ride is the second largest participant sporting event on the Yonkers calendar (the largest being the Yonkers Marathon). Last year the Tour had over 400 riders.

This enjoyable untimed event is open to all bike riders over the age of 18 (age 16 and 17 if riding with a parent), who can ride at least 12 miles. There are routes of 12, 25 and 50 miles. As the ride gets longer the hills get longer and steeper. The routes take us through share-the-road streets, scenic park trails, and, for the longer ride, along the closed-to-traffic Bronx River Parkway. There will be a police escort for the first several miles.

The ride will start and end in Yonkers at the Beczak Environmental Center-Sarah Lawrence Center for the Urban River, 35 Alexander Street, **located in pictures**que Habershaw Park along the Hudson River.

The Yonkers Bike Club is a cycling club which also sponsors social bike rides and an annual spring Triyakathon, which is a fun Walk/Run-Bike-Kayak event.

For more information, to register, and other information about the Tour de Yonkers visit yonkersbikeclub.org.

## Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Saturday, September 9th

September 9, 1785: More than 300 acres of Philipse Manor, including the Manor Hall, were sold to Cornelius Low. The Philipse family lost the estate because they supported the British during the American Revolution.

September 9, 1943: The defunct First National Bank and Trust Company of Yonkers finally wound up its affairs when all remaining assets were sold at a public auction. Assets totaling more than \$650,000 were sold to Fred Ehnes for \$8300. By order from Washington, a separate auction for 20,000 shares of United Piece Dye Works was sold to Fred Straus for \$6300. The bank had closed its doors during the National Bank Holiday March 15, 1933, and never reopened.

### Sunday, September 10th

September 10, 1911: School Superintendent Charles Gorton appointed eighteen of the first Yonkers Training School for Teachers graduates to positions as teachers in local schools. The remaining thirteen teachers were hired as vacancies occurred.

September 10, 1935: David Hutchison, the artist who painted the Ivanhoe mural in the Children's Room at the Yonkers Public Library, revealed the subject of his second mural, Native Americans on top of the Palisades watching the Half Moon sail up the Hudson past Yonkers. Although there was no funding for the second one, he volunteered to continue the work if the library gave him a model and the cost of his materials.

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







Hinsel and Reliable, 30+ years experises. Local Calincion/Soline (Weakbester/Putern) Calil or text: 917-699-2496 - email: amiliaLP@aoi.com Hope to hear from you! Thenis!





Make sure your holiday plans stay on track!



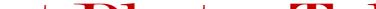
Apply for a **Passport** at the Yonkers City Clerk's Office 40 South Broadway, City Hall Room 102, Yonkers, NY 10701

Routine Passports take 10 to 13 weeks Expedited Passports take 7 to 9 weeks

\* No appointments necessary

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays, we're open from 8 am to 3 pm Tuesdays, we're open from 8 am to 6 pm







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## Email passports@yonkersny.gov or Call 914-377-8099 for our latest schedule.





Marriage Licenses



https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/departments/city-clerk







Vincent Spano **Yonkers City Clerk** 

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