

# Yonkers Rising

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Friday September 29, 2023

## “Yonkers Safe Stop” Will Fine Drivers \$250 for Not Stopping for School Buses



Verra Mobility’s Crossing Guard Video Cam, Largest School Bus Safety Program in Westchester, to Launch October 12

On Sept. 20, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced its collaboration with Verra Mobility to launch the “Yonkers Safe Stop” School Bus Safety Program. To create a safer environment, the “Yonkers Safe Stop” program will implement Verra Mobility’s CrossingGuard™ school bus stop-arm enforcement solution to effectively capture stop-arm events and reduce the number of violations and injuries caused by people who disregard the school bus stop-arm.

Nearly 200 Yonkers school district buses throughout the City will begin issuing warnings to registered vehicle owners on October 12. In the first 30 days, warnings will be issued, and no fines will be assessed. Beginning November 13, registered vehicle owners, whose vehicles are observed passing the school bus while the stop-arm is extended and lights are flashing, will receive a Notice of Liability in the mail. There will be approximately 450 school bus stop-arm safety cameras implemented in phases through the end of the year.

Approximately 12,000 students in the Yonkers School District are transported to and from school in school buses every day. This partnership aims to prioritize the safety of the District’s students ensuring every school bus stop is a safe stop.

“Ensuring the safety of our children is our top priority. The partnership with Verra Mobility and the Yonkers School District is a testament to our commitment to their well-being, reminding us that every journey to knowledge should be a safe one,” said Mayor Spano.

Melba Rivera-Irizarry, Global Director of Product Management at Verra Mobility, expressed her enthusiasm for the partnership, stating, “At Verra Mobility, we are dedicated to creating safer streets for everyone. The ‘Yonkers Safe Stop’ Program exemplifies our commitment to protecting our most precious passengers. We are honored to work alongside the City of Yonkers on this vital initiative.”

“About 50,000 drivers illegally pass a stopped school bus daily in New York. Yonkers Safe Stop stands as an additional safeguard in our mission to protect our children as they head to and from school. We want to send a clear message to violators that they need to stop for the school bus stop-arm,” said, Dr. Luis Rodriquez, Interim Superintendent, Yonkers Public Schools. *continued on pg 4-*

## Middle School Teacher from Yonkers Talks Politics with Nikki Haley



Presidential hopeful Nikki Haley with Dennis Richmond Jr

Author and Yonkers resident Dennis Richmond Jr. recently appeared on a panel discussion on FOX and Friends with former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. and Presidential hopeful Nimarata “Nikki” Haley. Richmond is an advocate for HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and writes about topics in the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities.

After explaining to Haley, the former Governor of South Carolina, that his family comes from South Carolina, he is a graduate of Claflin University, an HBCU in SC, and that he student taught with a teacher who taught her, Richmond asked, “With folks shouting names in New York City like Trump and DeSantis, why should we be going for you?”

“I have executive experience, I was a two-term Governor, but I also have United Nations Foreign Policy experience. I had to negotiate with Russia and China. I had to deal with Iran and North Korea. We need to be ready. Also, it’s time for a new generational leader. We’ve got to get rid of the past, we’ve got to get rid of the negativity. We need to start focusing on someone who is tough and can make America strong and proud again,” said Haley. <https://www.foxnews.com/video/6337491033112>

Richmond, an independent voter, and author of He Spoke at My School: An Educational Journey, made his fourth FOX appearance by also showing support for law enforcement. “There’s a lot of folks in our country who like to think that our police officers, who are doing a wonderful job by the way, are all bad. Our police officers are us. We are the police. They are people of color, women, and they identify in different ways. If you look around New York City, police officers are diverse. So, we can’t paint people with one brush.”

*Dennis Richmond Jr. is an author and journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ Communities. He lives in Yonkers. Follow him on X at @NewYorkStakz.*

## Spano and Merante to Hold Virtual Mayor Debate -LWV-Sept. 28-Nolan-Walter Forum Oct. 4

**Hear Candidates for Mayor of the City of Yonkers Discuss the Issues Affecting Our Community**  
Escuche a los candidatos para Alcalde de Yonkers Discutir los problemas Afectando a nuestra comunidad



The League of Women Voters of the Rivertowns announces a virtual Candidates Forum for candidates for Mayor of the City of Yonkers. Incumbent Mayor Michael Spano, running on the Democratic line, is being challenged by Anthony Merante, who is running on the Republican and Restore Term Limits Party lines.

The Forum is scheduled for Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 6 p.m. The Forum can be viewed live by pre-registration at [https:// bit.ly/yonkersmayor](https://bit.ly/yonkersmayor). The event will be recorded and made available on the Rivertowns League website [lww-rivertowns.org](http://lww-rivertowns.org).

The League of Women Voters of the Rivertowns also announced a virtual Candidates Forum for candidates for Westchester County Legislator in District 15. Incumbent Legislator James Nolan, running on the Republican and Conservative lines, is being challenged by Ruth Walter, who is running on the Democratic and Working Families lines.

The Forum is scheduled for Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 7 p.m. The Forum can be viewed live by pre-registration at [https:// bit.ly/legdist15](https://bit.ly/legdist15). There will be no audience participation. Questions must be submitted ahead of time either at registration or by email to [info@lww-rivertowns.org](mailto:info@lww-rivertowns.org). The deadline for submission of questions is 9 am Monday, October 2. This forum will also be recorded and available at [lww-rivertowns.org](http://lww-rivertowns.org).

## Enjoy the Tour de Yonkers and the Columbus Day Parade This Weekend!

### TOUR de YONKERS Sunday, Oct 1, 2023



The 14th annual Tour de Yonkers will be held on Oct. 1 Hosted by the Yonkers Bicycle Club, the Tour encourages riders of all skills to participate. Last year the Tour had over 400 riders participating in one of three routes; 12 miles, 25 miles, or 50 miles, through the City of Yonkers and surrounding areas. The 50-mile ride will begin at 8:30 am and the 25 and 12rides immediately after. The Tour will kick

*continued on pg 4-*

### COLUMBUS DAY FESTIVITIES



- Columbus Day Parade Line Painting** ..... Tuesday, September 26 – 11:00 AM  
885 Midland Avenue
- Italian Flag Raising & Italian Coffee Reception** ..... Wednesday, September 27 – 4:30 PM  
Yonkers City Hall
- Columbus Day Dinner Dance** ..... Friday, September 29 – 7:00 PM  
The Westchester Manor
- Columbus Day Mass**..... Saturday, September 30 – 4:00 PM  
St. Ann’s Church
- 96th Annual Columbus Day Parade** ..... Sunday, October 1 – 2:00 PM  
Seminary Avenue to Mile Square Road
- Columbus Day Street Festival**..... Sunday, October 1  
Following Columbus Day Parade  
Midland Avenue

**Gronowski Endorses Merante for Mayor**  
**Merante Proposes Youth Initiatives to Prevent Gang Violence**



*Former Councilmember Joan Gronowski, with Mayoral candidate Anthony Merante*

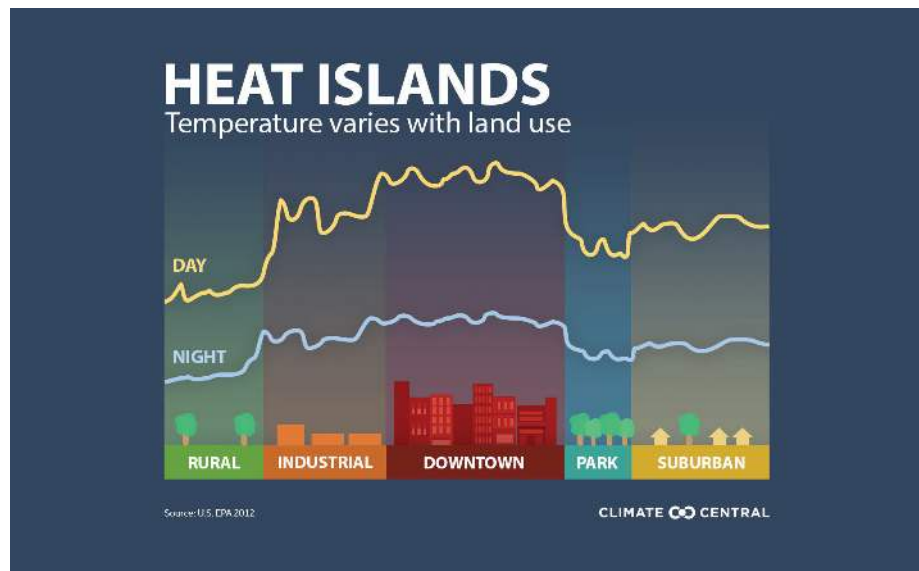
Joan Gronowski the former outspoken Councilmember from District 3 has endorsed Anthony Merante for Mayor of Yonkers. Joan, currently Independent and unaffiliated with any political party stated, "I don't judge candidates based on their party affiliation but on the content of their character. Anthony Merante is an honest man with integrity. He has proven this by taking on the fight to Restore Term Limits in Yonkers and has taken on powerful special interests to protect our neighborhoods. He fought for Grassy Sprain residents to stop UPS from building a dangerous 24,000 gallon above ground gas tank next to their community and has stood with homeowners to fight a Chick-fil-A location that would create a traffic nightmare for residents. As a councilmember for almost six years, Anthony Merante has been a tireless worker for his constituents. He is an independent fighter with the business experience and community involvement needed to be a great mayor for the City of Yonkers."

Anthony Merante stated, "I'm honored to have the support of Joan Gronowski. Joan was always a fierce fighter for the people she represented while on the Yonkers City Council. I have long admired Joan's tenacity, her courage in standing up for what's right, calling out injustices and demanding change. I'm very appreciative of her endorsement."

Merante also called for proactive Youth Initiatives to Halt the Growth of Gang Violence in Yonkers. He commended the police on the great job in apprehending perpetrators but stated, "Gang violence is a growing cancer, and we must cut it at its roots. It has spread to our streets and even to our schools with stabbings and shootings. The growth of our drug addicted population affects businesses and communities everywhere but especially in Southwest Yonkers, North Yonkers, and Nodine Hill resulting in "snatch and grabs", shoplifting and collateral violence. We must be proactive with our kids to keep them from being lured into gangs. In recent years, youth programs like D.A.R.E, PAL and sports programs have seen cutbacks. Our youth need activities but most importantly jobs to earn money, so they don't get involved in the drug trade. As mayor, saving our youth from gangs and a life of crime will be a top priority in my administration."

Merante believes Albany's "catch and release" bail bond laws are handcuffing our police and must be repealed. He intends to fight them vigorously. Merante wants to increase our community policing efforts to rebuild and strengthen the relationship between the community and our Yonkers Police. Merante said, "Building a strong partnership with communities and law enforcement will aid in identifying individuals at-risk of violence. A proactive initiative is needed to place police presence in at risk neighborhoods and reinstating foot patrols, which would foster better relations with locals and provide valuable intelligence for crime prevention."

**Yonkers Granted \$1M to Plant Trees, To Reduce Heat Effects**



Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service granted the City of Yonkers \$1 million to plant and maintain trees, and combat extreme heat and climate change. The funding supports Yonkers' recently released Climate Action Plan, which outlines significant measures to reduce the heat island effects in southwest Yonkers, where additional tree plantings will improve air quality, cool streets and promote greater public health and safety.

"This investment made by our federal partners, combined with our local share, is an acknowledgement of the nation's underserved communities who suffered from decades of environmental injustice," said Mayor Spano. "Increasing our urban tree canopy and providing more green space will vastly improve the quality of life of our residents and create healthier generations to come. Yonkers is committed to be a more sustainable, greener and equitable place for our families to live, work and play."

Yonkers is one of 385 communities in the nation awarded funding through the Urban and Community Forestry Program. The Urban and Community Forestry Program is the only program in the federal government dedicated to enhancing and expanding the nation's urban forest resources.

Groundwork Hudson Valley, one of Yonkers' local partners in addressing climate change and achieving sustainability goals in the city, also received a \$5.5 million grant from the U.S. Forest Service to expand their programs that offer education and job training toward careers in environmental sustainability.

"This is a pivotal moment for the City of Yonkers," said Groundwork Hudson Valley's Executive Director, Oded Holzinger. "We have been working together for several years to get to this point and we are now positioned to pick up our shovels and tools and work together across the city to create a more climate resilient Yonkers."

Studies show that trees in communities are associated with improved physical and mental health, lower average temperatures during extreme heat, and increased food security, and create new economic opportunities. This historic funding will help the Forest Service support projects that increase tree cover in disadvantaged communities, provide equitable access to the benefits of nature, and deliver tangible economic and ecological benefits to urban and Tribal communities across the country.

For more information on the Yonkers Climate Action Plan, visit [www.yonkersny.gov](http://www.yonkersny.gov).

**Visit us online at [Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)**

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## Yonkers Housing Authority's Sustainable Initiatives Getting National Attention

Alexis Pelosi Visits Yonkers housing sites and new construction



L-R: Ron Gugliotta, Construction Manager - The Fresnel Group, YHA Board Vice Chair Denise Egiziaco, Jenny Freeman, Managing Director of Buildings, Group PMX, Brian Sweeney, CEO Fresnel; Kara Magoolaghan, Mulford Environmental Consultant; Wilson Kimball, YHA's CEO; Alexis Pelosi, HUD Senior Advisor for Climate, Justin Scheid, HUD Office of Field Policy and Management, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Carlos Laboy, YHA's COO and John Drinkwater, Construction Project Manager for La Mora, Group PMX.

The Yonkers Housing Authority was visited by Alexis Pelosi, Senior Advisor for Climate, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, who toured several housing authority sites on September 19 including the new La Mora Senior Housing now under construction.

The \$44 million development in the Hollow neighborhood of South Yonkers will create 60 energy efficient and affordable homes for seniors. The project is one of the few modular housing sites in the country using the Passive House model which conserves energy and is self-sufficient and hardened against weather emergencies.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, YHA CEO and President Wilson Kimball, YHA COO Carlos LaBoy and Mulford Environmental Consultant Kara Magoolaghan, CPHD, were among the group touring the properties. Pelosi and Justin Scheid, HUD's Office of Field Policy and Management, also visited Loehr Court and Palisade Towers to see major renovations undertaken under the Rental Assistance Demonstration program (RAD) and the Ridgeway VI, currently in design phase.

Groundwork Hudson Valley, a nonprofit partner of YHA, spoke about the green infrastructure upgrades planned on the properties and the many ways that the partnership is promoting equity and youth leadership. At Palisade Towers, the group learned about efforts to replace the building's outdated gas-fired heating and hot water systems, which are at the end of their useful life, with more efficient, all-electric heat pump systems, which will decarbonize the 7-acre property that houses more than 400 families.

The tour concluded at the Ridgeway development, which sits at the former Cottage Place Gardens public housing site. A product of a decade-long partnership with The Community Builders, Ridgeway serves as an inspirational example of a successful and beautiful affordable housing development, serving more than 400 low-income families in Yonkers. The buildings benefit from substantial resiliency measures including rooftop solar and emergency generator power, as well as social programming including an on-site day care facility.

Ridgeway VI, the sixth and final phase of the site, is currently in development, and will create 92 new senior apartments that meet the rigorous energy efficiency standards of Passive House certification and will be all-electric with a natural gas emergency generator.

"The Yonkers Housing Authority was proud to welcome HUD to Yonkers to see the many ways our Mayor and the Housing Authority are preserving affordability while striving to meet the future needs for new, resilient, climate friendly affordable housing," said Wilson Kimball, President and CEO of the Yonkers Housing Authority.

## A Prayer for Our Emergency Workers



By Eric Wolf Schoen

Sometimes when I go to synagogue, a particular prayer hits home with me. This Yom Kippur during our Service of Healing and Hope, a service to give us strength everyday to overcome obstacles before us, a particular prayer made me think of what goes on in the world around us and what we should be doing but may not be.

I'd like to share the words with you:

Whenever we hear the sound of a passing ambulance, instead of being annoyed because we are delayed, we offer a prayer that the ambulance arrives in time. We should pray to God that the fire trucks arrive in time to save the endangered people and home. We should also pray that no firefighter be injured. And when we hear police sirens, we should implore God that the police respond in time for the emergency. Thus, we become better, more loving people. The very act of praying motivates us to empathize with those who are suffering and in need of our prayers. Loving one's neighbor is usually carried out through tangible acts. (Joseph Telushkin, Jewish Values).

The prayer encourages us to relax, take our time and worry about those that need to be worried about. Think about this next time you fall into one of the situations or anytime an emergency occurs!

### Hot Topics:

When my sister heard that migrants were being housed at the Roosevelt Hotel, she said to herself that hotel sounds very familiar. Then we both remembered that was the hotel where our parents were married. Now neither of us were there on that July 4 summer day, but it is sad that one of the most fashionable hotels in New York City is not being put to its original use as one of the most glamorous wedding venues of New York City!

I think it's time Senator Bob Menendez gives it up. Gold bars in this stash? He may not be our Senator but like the Senator who wears hoodies to work and now has the approval of the Senate, his repeated indictments reflect poorly on the institution and our country. At press time the junior Senator from New Jersey, Cory Booker has called for his resignation. He should!

Several people have written to me that the Red Light Camera at Midland Ave and Yonkers Avenue is sending out tickets to people who never crossed the intersection. Make sure before you pay that you review the ticket online to make sure it's your car and the correct intersection where the infraction took place.

Congestion pricing in New York City is scheduled to start in the spring and no one has told the people of Westchester including those of us in Yonkers what it will mean to us. This is the big mystery. In fact the whole program is one big mystery that will truly spring on us. Will we have to pay \$23 to cross 60th Street in New York. Will discounts come with paying the toll on the Henry Hudson Bridge. Kudos to the Yonkers City Council for challenging this in court.

The big news in Yonkers is of course the October 22 Target opening. I was talking to a member of the overnight crew who told me the staff is as excited as Yonkers area residents are.

Can you believe fentanyl is being sold out of a Day Care Center. And the drug was being stored on the mats the children were resting on? Let's be real here there are a lot of places where drugs are being sold illegally camouflaged as other types of businesses. If you know something say something so another poor baby doesn't get killed.

Years ago Yonkers had a League of Woman Voters that would not only study issues and present position papers but around Election Day serve as moderators for candidate debates at civic groups all over town. Sometimes 2-3 debates in one night. Now Yonkers is part of the Rivertowns League, and the one Mayoral candidate debate will be online. My have things changed!

I'm tired as you probably are of those disgusting spotted lanternfly pests flying around, quite often landing on our car windshields. And they don't move when the car moves, they are like stuck to the windshield. They are big and disgusting. WESTCHESTER County will try to eliminate them with high powered vacuums. Kudos to County Executive George Latimer. But remember, the best way to get rid of them is to step on them. They seem to be easier to catch and slower than other pests, and stepping on them, well gets rid of them!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistoosyonkers@aol.com, follow him on Twitter (X) @ericyonkers or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

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# Letters:

*Letter: JUSTICE*

A child dies because day care workers and a one of their spouses are storing fentanyl in a day care center in close proximity to the children for whom these individuals are supposed to be caring. Furthermore, once the deadly effects of the drug start manifesting, these heinous individuals conspire to remove the drug from the premises before seeking to acquire life saving aide for the stricken children.

The question this tragedy poses is NOT what is wrong with society. Rather, the question is to what extent have low life, subhuman criminals been empowered to inflict their greed and moral bankruptcy upon the innocent, in this case upon the most precious of the law abiding, upon our society's children. We, the law abiding, are sick and damned tired of ourselves and our loved ones being viewed as acceptable collateral damage for an agenda of criminal empowerment that wrong thinking, misguided politicians have inflicted upon us.

We are tired of lenient plea bargaining protocols which empower criminals to continue their reign of terror instead of facing the full consequence of their dastardly acts. There should be no doubt and no question that the criminal subhumans among us should see the same harm they have inflicted upon others be inflicted upon themselves.

It is time for an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. Those whose murderous actions steal/ destroy the lives of innocent others should be sent to hell as expeditiously as possible. They should no longer be permitted to stain, to mutilate, to harm the society that they have so grievously violated. It is time to send those whose premeditated, self-serving, vile acts have resulted in the loss of innocent life to be compelled to forfeit their own lives.

Victims should not merely be compelled to be the recipients of thoughts and prayers. Rather, they and all who are law abiding should see justice, swift and sure. The law abiding deserve no less. Those whose actions clearly demonstrate a depraved indifference to humanity do not merit inclusion in the human race.

They have definitively forfeited the rights of humankind. Their soulless actions prove that they are subhumans. Their continued existence makes a mockery of the tears and agony of those who they have victimized. Their continued existence is therefore unacceptable. Let their fate send a message to those who harbor atrocities in their hearts and minds. You will be held ACCOUNTABLE.

Jerry Longarzo, Yonkers

## Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra Presents Free Family Friendly Concert on October 15



*With New Music Director, Ariel Rudiakov,*

What do you get when you combine a boy from Yonkers, who's a classically trained violist, raised with the HipHop beats of the 70's and 80's and the Yonkers Philharmonic: our new Music Director, Ariel Rudiakov. His eclectic love of music shines through our Family Friendly concert: Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed and Something Blue presented on October 15, 2023 at 3:00 pm at Saunders Trade and Technical High School, Yonkers.

Edvard Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite No. 1 puts emotion front and center. In Morning Mood evokes a Moroccan desert sunrise. Åse's Death depicts the tragedy of losing a mother. Anitra's Dance will seduce you right along with Gynt. The Hall of the Mountain King fills the auditorium with the noises of the trolls, goblins, and gnomes who inhabit the dark underground cavern.

Mozart's 40th Symphony is one of his best-known works and most beloved. Operatic in nature, Mozart's mastery of his art form is on full display with contrasts of dynamics, pacing and rhythm.

A protégé of Elgar, British composer and conductor Samuel Coleridge Taylor overcame prejudice against his mixed-race heritage to become enormously popular during his lifetime. His Ballade is music of drama and heart, beginning and ending in urgency with a respite in the middle.

Bohemian Rhapsody, the song by the British rock band Queen, is a six-minute suite, consisting of several sections without a chorus: an intro, a ballad segment, an operatic passage, a hard rock part and a reflective coda. Add in an electric viola soloist, our very own Music Director, and you have the ending to a concert your family and you won't forget.

### FREE CONCERT INFORMATION

Yonkers Philharmonic "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed and Something Blue"  
Sunday October 15th, 2023 at 3pm  
Saunders Trades and Technical High School, 183 Palmer Road, Yonkers NY

## Westchester County Parks to Loan Local Governments Vacuums to Kill Spotted Lanterflies

Earlier this year, the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation acquired high-powered vacuums to help reduce the number of Spotted Lanternflies in County Parks and has since acquired 10 more designated to loan to local municipalities.

Municipal employees can request vacuums through a request form; equipment is given out on a first come, first served basis.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Westchester County is taking proactive steps to combat the Spotted Lanternfly invasion, from equipping our parks with high-powered vacuums to supporting our local municipalities in their efforts. We're working together to combat this threat to our environment."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Kathy O'Connor said, "Our parks have seen tremendous success in utilizing vacuums to help reduce the number of Spotted Lanternflies. I'm thrilled we have acquired additional vacuums to help other parts of the County do the same."

Westchester County is collecting data from the municipal employees who use the vacuums to help track exact locations of Spotted Lanternflies. Information can be shared with the County by scanning a QR code that is placed on the vacuums. Data that is being compiled includes the municipality, exact location, number of canisters used and life-stage of the Spotted Lanternfly.

The County is continuing to urge homeowners to kill the invasive and report them via iNaturalist.

## American Irish Association of Westchester

49th Anniversary Dinner Dance, Sunday 29 October 2023, at The Fairways at Dunwoodie, 1 Wasylenko Lane, Yonkers, New York 10701.

1pm - Mass of Remembrance & Thanksgiving; 2pm - Cocktails  
3pm to 6pm – Buffet Dinner, Program and Dancing

### Honorees

Irish Woman of the Year-Meagan Hartnett  
Irish Man of the Year-Thomas Fitzpatrick  
Irish American Community Service Award-Christine McCarvill  
Spirit of St. Patrick Award-Most Rev. Gerald T. Walsh  
Music-Celtic Mikes

Tickets-\$90.00. Reservations are strongly recommended & appreciated by 10/21/2023 Please mail checks payable to A.I.A. c/o Eileen Carey, 100 De-Haven Drive #109, Yonkers, New York 10703, Telephone: (914) 963-1407

### Tour de Yonkers, continued from pg 1-

off and end at the Bezak Environmental Center at 35 Alexander Street in Yonkers and will travel through some of the most breathtaking views of the Palisades and the majestic

The routes wind along the river passing some of the city's historic old carpet mills and parts of the newly re-developed downtown area including the day-lighted Saw Mill River. The longer routes wind through east and northeast Yonkers, along the Bronx River Parkway, through tree-lined neighborhoods, the Sarah Lawrence College campus, and includes sections of the Old Putnam rail line that connected NYC with Northern Westchester, now a Rail-Trail bike path. The ride culminates with food and drinks on the Hudson shoreline.

Visit [Yonkersbikeclub.org](http://Yonkersbikeclub.org) for more information.

### Yonkers Safe stop, continued from pg 1-

In 2019, the New York Legislature passed legislation to permit schools to equip their buses with camera technology to catch drivers who illegally drive by school buses when they stop to pick up or drop off students. Under the law, the fine for passing a school bus ranges from \$250 for a first violation, \$275 if a second offense occurs within an 18-month period, and \$300 for every following offense, if within an 18-month period. The registered owners of vehicles captured illegally passing a stopped school bus with the stop-arm extended and lights flashing are liable for a Notice of Liability. Points will not be assessed against vehicle owners' driver's licenses, information will not be sent to vehicle owners' insurance companies, and Notices of Liability will not be reported on driving records. Violation videos and license plate images are reviewed by a City of Yonkers Parking Violations Bureau technician for approval prior to a warning or Notice of Liability being issued.

The City of Yonkers contracted Verra Mobility to administer its School Bus Safety Program. For more information on Yonkers Safe Stop, visit [www.yonkersny.gov/safestop](http://www.yonkersny.gov/safestop).

For more information about Verra Mobility's CrossingGuard™ school bus enforcement solutions, visit: <https://www.verramobility.com/government/crossing-guard/>.

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## Hochul Signs Bill-Any Registered Voter Can Vote by Mail in 2024



By Dan Murphy

Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law a bill that allows any registered voter in the state to cast their vote by mail, starting in 2024. Voters would be able to request a mail ballot through their Board of Elections. The BOE would be required to create an online system where voters can apply and review their application.

The legislation, included in a package of election related bills, is similar to a referendum to the state constitution that failed in 2021 Article II, Section 2 of the New York State Constitution states that voters are only allowed to cast an absentee ballot when they are physically absent from their county of residence or unable to appear at their polling location due to illness or disability.

Republicans immediately filed a lawsuit challenging the validity of Hochul and the legislature to pass a law without a Constitutional Amendment.

“By safeguarding the integrity of our electoral process and ensuring equal access to the ballot box, we empower every New Yorker to have their voice heard,” Governor Hochul said. “New York State remains committed to strengthening our democratic process, championing the right to vote for every citizen and cementing our place as a national leader on voting rights.”

“New York is a better place when more people vote, and the legislation signed into law today will help get votes counted and increase turnout and participation in elections, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie said. “The Assembly Majority will continue to work with our partners in government to safeguard our democracy and to ensure every eligible voter has the opportunity to cast their ballot and have their vote counted.”

Hochul signed a number of election law related bills, including:

S. 7394-A (Gianaris)/A. 7632-A (Reyes), establishes a system for early voting by mail. This legislation will create a process allowing all eligible, registered New York State voters the opportunity to vote early by mail in advance of an election. A new application process will be developed to facilitate voter requests for early mail ballots pursuant to this legislation. Voters will be able to request mail ballots up to ten days prior to the election in which they would like to vote early by mail; boards of election will then provide mail ballots with postage paid return envelopes to all eligible and registered voters. Early mail ballots must then be mailed back to the appropriate board of elections no later than election day and must be received by the board no later than seven days after election day. This legislation represents a significant expansion of ballot access in New York State and will provide millions of New York voters with an easy, safe, and secure means of voting early by mail ballot.

S. 6195 (Myrie)/A.1177 (Paulin) allows absentee ballots to be counted if they have been taped and show no signs of tampering, to ensure these absentee ballots can still be counted despite minor defects.

S. 1733-A (Mayer)/A.5180-A (Wallace) requires local boards of education, BOCES, charter schools and non-public schools to adopt policies to promote student voter registration and pre-registration.

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, “I applaud Governor Kathy Hochul for her commitment to strengthening the future of our democracy in New York State by signing this legislative package, including my bill to establish a school voter registration and pre-registration programs. It is critical to the future of our democracy that children and young adults learn the habits and importance of civic engagement and are encouraged to participate fully in our democracy.”

S. 7550 (Stewart-Cousins)/A. 7690 (Heastie) schedules the Presidential Primary Election for April 2, 2024.

NY GOP Chair Ed Cox said, “When Democrats can’t compete, they cheat. This cynical attempt to overrule the will of the voters and undermine the Democratic process is being challenged in court. Rather than work to stem the flow of our most productive taxpaying citizens out of the state, radical progressives are working to manipulate elections in their favor in their pursuit of power at all costs.”

## On This Day in Yonkers History...



Earl Browder  
Communist  
Party  
Candidate  
for President  
Twice, 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, October 2nd

October 2, 1941: City Hall employees were overjoyed by the news... the City Hall elevator was running once again! Building Superintendent John Brady had closed it down early summer because it was unsafe. The elevator cage door was replaced, but defense priorities delayed replacement of the steel doors on the building's five floors. Since it was estimated it would take at least two months to get the doors, City Manager Whitney told DPW Commissioner Chris Sheridan operating the elevator would be just fine.

October 2, 1941: Following orders from Attorney General John Bennett, Jr., Locust and Atherton Streets were closed to public use to protect Otis Elevator's defense work. The first barrier at Atherton Street, heavy street and sidewalk gates, was put into place. The second barrier for Locust Street was delayed by defense priorities! Otis' armed guard corps would guard the barriers and open the gates only to Yonkers Police and Fire Departments, the US Navy, the US War Department or other Federal departments who might need to use those streets.

Tuesday, October 3rd

October 3, 1949: DPW Commissioner Matthew Kelly announced Yonkers trucked ten to fifteen truckloads of refuse to the county dump at Croton every day; our incinerator could not handle of the size of Yonkers' daily collections. He pled with building managers and homeowners to separate burnable trash from ashes and other non-burnables, vowing in the future to make separate collections so ashes could be hauled to the reclamation project on Central Park Avenue.

October 3, 1951: The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service requested both sides of the Otis Elevator Company strike meet with a Service commissioner to resolve issues. Otis Personnel Manager Summerhayes published an article in The Herald Statesman stating the company was ready to “resume discussions... for an amicable settlement.” Edwin Pattison, president of the union, stated the union had been ready to meet for five days, (two days before the strike began) but would not recognize “bids to resume negotiations submitted to the newspapers... Mr. Summerhayes is well aware of the address and telephone number of the union.”

Wednesday, October 4th

October 4, 1922: Thousands of men, women and children gathered in front of the Yonkers Statesman building on Main Street to watch the graphic presentation of the first World's Series game at the Polo Grounds between the Giants and the Yankees on the newspaper's giant magnetic game board. The Giants won.

October 4, 1940: City Manager Raymond Whitney was questioned for two hours before a Grand Jury investigating a Yonkers pinball licensing operation.

October 4, 1943: Yonkers was abuzz because First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt mentioned Yonkers in her column, “My Day.” While speaking about her recent trip to the South Pacific, she mentioned sitting with a “youngster from Yonkers” who attended Colgate. She was charmed when he mentioned he passed through Hyde Park traveling back to school. Unfortunately, she didn't say who the student was!

Thursday, October 5th

October 5, 1915: For the first time in Yonkers history, women were allowed to act as watchers at the election polls!

October 5, 1942: Because it was such a quickly growing industry in Yonkers, five leading glove manufacturers formed a trade association to further mutual interests. Members of the Yonkers Association of Knit Glove Manufactures, Inc. were Becopa Glove Mills, Hega Knitting Mills, Jerome Knitting Mills, Riverdale Glove Mills, and Sternwald Knitting Mills. They planned to work together and exchange information to improve its members, to protect the industry from unjust and oppressive taxation, and to justly settle differences between its members. All Yonkers glove firms were producing goods for defense work.

Friday, October 6th

October 6, 1906: The Common Council met to hear public grievances  
*continued on pg 6-*

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# The Picture House Offers Seniors Free Films on Tuesday Afternoons

## The Picture House Film and Cinema in Bronxville & Pelham

Moviegoers 65 and Older Enjoy FREE Films and Popcorn on Tuesday Afternoons at 2:30pm from September 2023 through June 2024

SENIOR CINEMA has kicked off at The Picture House Regional Film Center (www.thepicturehouse.org). Moviegoers 65 and older enjoy a great afternoon of film and friends at the theaters in Bronxville and Pelham on Tuesday afternoons at 2:30pm starting September 19th, 2023 and running to June, 2024.

“We are excited that Senior Cinema is back at both our Pelham and Bronxville locations,” said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director of The Picture House. “Screenings will feature a wide selection of first run movies, including box-office hits, Indy flicks, documentaries, and international cinema. This is not just a free movie; it is an important quality of life element for Seniors in our community spaces as both a cultural and a social experience.”

For free admission on Tuesdays, Seniors should head to the box office before showtime to pick up their ticket. Annual membership holders (\$55 for those 65+ ) will also enjoy free popcorn every time they visit the theater along with discounted tickets every day of the year.

Senior Cinema is made possible by grants from NY State Assembly member Amy Paulin, Con Edison and the Bronxville Community Foundation. As a reminder, The Picture House Regional Film Center offers half-priced tickets on Tuesdays for all other movie goers.

Dates for Senior Cinema:

FALL 2023

October 3,10,17,24,31

November 7, 14, 21, 28

December 5, 12, 19

WINTER/SPRING 2024

January 9,16,23,30

February 6, 13, 20, 27

March 5, 12, 19, 26

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

For more information about The Picture House, please visit www.thepicturehouse.org, call (914) 738-7337, or email info@thepicturehouse.org.

### Yonkers History, coninuted from pg 5-

against the telephone company. Several Aldermen charged employees were working too many hours, the company did not employ enough operators, the service was not uniform throughout the city and connections between New York and Yonkers were deplorable.

October 6, 1922: American golf champion Gene Sarazen underwent emergency surgery for appendicitis at St. John’s Hospital! He was visited by many sports luminaries who stopped by his hospital room to wish him well.

October 6, 1940: An unnamed Yonkers Republican election official blocked Earl Browder, Communist Candidate for the President, from registering for the election. After the Highland Place resident consulted his attorney, he returned on another night and had no problem.

Saturday, October 7th

October 7, 1917: Thirty Yonkers Civil War Veterans escorted a group of men leaving Yonkers to report for Army service on their march from City Hall to the Yonkers Train Station.

October 7, 1918: Yonkers Public Schools were ordered closed for two weeks and all persons under 18 were barred from local theaters as a result of the Spanish influenza epidemic in the Eastern United States. More than 2500 cases had been diagnosed in Yonkers, with three deaths reported by Chief Health Officer Dr. Clarence Buckmaster.

Sunday, October 8th

October 8, 1939: The Westchester Lighting Company, in its efforts to prevent sabotage on its facilities because of the unrest in Europe, hired trained watchmen for its substations and important facilities in the company system.

October 8, 1941: After reminding the Board of Education that Yonkers teachers had “returned” over two and a half million dollars over eleven years, the Yonkers Teachers Association asked the Board of Ed trustees to put the actual full salary schedule on file with the State Education Office in their 1942 budget.

Questions or comments? Email [YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com](mailto:YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com).

For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit our website [www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org](http://www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org), call 914-961-8940 or email [info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org)

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Notice of formation of GLOW N GLAMOUR LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/14/2023. 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 Faisal Butt - 117 Wickes Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of Westchester Renal Hypertension and primary care, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/15/23. 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, 32 Hays str, Pleasantville , NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ENH Assets Limited Liability Company Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/28/22 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : ENH Assets Limited Liability Company 465 Tuckahoe Road #1189 Yonkers, NY 10710 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Hanyst RX Consulting LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 9/2/23. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 35 Florence Street, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Pharmacy Consulting

Notice of Formation of RyPlunk LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 104 Seminary Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of Pro-Ductiv Exhaust System Services LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (09/04/2023). Location: (Westchester County). SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: (70 Hillside Avenue Apt. 1R, Yonkers, NY 10703). Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice is hereby given that a license, 1359665, 1359666 for beer, wine, & liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine, & liquor at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at the business known as Via Veroli LLC located at 2150 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10710 for on premises consumption.

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**Riverfest Got Postponed Due to Rain, But at Philipse Manor Hall The Troops Carried On**



The heavy rains last weekend washed out a lot of events, including Yonekrs Riverfest. But at Philipse Manor Hall, the Harvest Festival carried on. Pictured above are Revolutionary War re-enactors.

**Family Fun Day at Untermyer Gardens Oct. 8**

Discover the magic of Untermyer Gardens on October 8 for Family Fun Day. Sara Crasson and Bamberg the Bear kick off the magic show at 1:00 in the outdoor amphitheater, captivating audiences with innovative magic. Following the show, enjoy activities from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.: go on a hayride, learn a magic trick, create recycled art, take a garden tour, and fly a kite.

Tickets available for each event at on our website at <https://www.untermyergardens.org/family-fun-day-2023.html>, providing a day of delight and creativity for all ages.

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