

MGM Full Gaming Casino Plan Takes Center Stage in Yonkers



Overwhelming Support at Final Public Hearing on MGM Proposal for Full Gaming Casino at Empire City Yonkers

Jay Z's Bid for Manhattan Casino Rejected

City Council Approves -Community Benefits Agreement

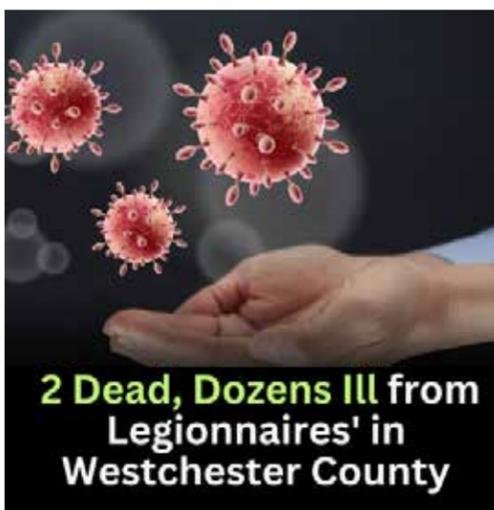
By Dan Murphy

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for MGM Resorts' application for Empire City Casino to secure one of three available commercial casino licenses held its second and final public hearing on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at Yonkers Montessori Academy. The speakers' list was dominated by local residents, Empire City employees, union members, and several area business owners. Nearly one hundred speakers delivered remarks. Nearly eighty percent of participants spoke in favor of the project, with seventeen percent opposed and four percent neutral. The hearing, slated for 6-10 PM wrapped about an hour early once the list of speakers was exhausted.

The tone of testimony was notably personal rather than scripted. One Yonkers resident and Empire City employee said his job at Empire City allowed him to stop juggling multiple jobs and purchase a home in Yonkers. He de-

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5 Cases of Legionnaires Disease in Yonkers; Testing in 2-Mile Radius



By Dan Murphy

On September 9, we received the following release concerning incidents of Legionnaires' disease cases in Westchester. However, the release did not originate from Westchester County or the Department of Health; it came from attorney Ron Katter, also known as "The Legionnaires' Lawyer."

"Why the Silence?" Legionnaires' Lawyer Demands Answers After Westchester Officials Delay Outbreak Announcement was the headline.

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Yonkers Girls Varsity Swim Team Making Waves Once Again



2025 team captains, L-R-Caroline Lopez, Eva Stern, and Monica George

The 2025 Yonkers Girls Varsity Swim Team is making waves once again, kicking off the season with a strong 2-0 record and extending their undefeated streak from last year.

The team opened their season at home on September 12th with a dominant 89-55 win over Port Chester High School. They followed it up with a 49-39 victory on the road against Brewster High School, proving their depth and determination.

Several athletes delivered standout performances in the win over Port Chester:

Junior Sara Bowden (YMA) led the charge with an impressive meet, claim-

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Next Week: Remembering Councilman Bob Stauf



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

Perfect Weather for Yonkers Marathon



Congratulations to all our runners today at the Yonkers marathon. I met Sacred Heart student Melanie Romero who came in first place in the 5K. She ran the race with her sister. I met so many amazing runners with great stories! You should all be so proud for completing the journey. Thank you to Yonkers Parks and all our city agencies for another successful year!

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YONKERS TIMES
News in Yonkers and around Westchester

Mayor Spano & YPS Address Students Attendance Rates with Pledge 182 Campaign



See Story on Page 15

Yonkers Mayor Spano to Open Mobile Tax Office Locations



Mayor Mike Spano's 2025 MOBILE TAX OFFICE 2026

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, FROM 9AM TO 7PM
Coyne Park/Bernice Spreckman Community Center
777 McLean Avenue

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, FROM 9AM TO 6:30PM
Homefield House • 911 Saw Mill River Road

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, FROM 9AM TO 7PM
Grinton I. Will Library • 1500 Central Park Avenue

The second installment for the 2025/2026 City property tax is due Monday, October 6.

For more information contact the Office of Constituent Services at (914) 377-6010 between 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM or contact the 24/7 Mayor's Help Line at 377-HELP (4357)

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the upcoming schedule for the City's Mobile Tax Office locations. Staff members from the Finance, Assessment, Water Billing and Constituent Services departments will be in attendance to collect property taxes, water bill payments, and answer any questions on Monday, September 29, from 9AM to 7PM at Coyne Park/Bernice Spreckman Community Center (777 McLean Ave.); Wednesday, October 1, from 9AM to 6:30PM at the Homefield House (911 Saw Mill River Rd.) and Thursday, October 2, from 9AM to 7PM at Grinton I. Will Library (1500 Central Park Ave.). The second installment for the 2025/2026 City property tax is due Monday, October 6.

"Recognizing the importance of convenience for the residents of Yonkers, our Mobile Tax Offices are being made available to all residents once again to help them access city services and pay their property taxes or water bill more easily. Those in need of assistance or who prefer a location close to home are encouraged to visit any of the three locations," said Mayor Mike Spano

453 Million Reasons to Check to See if You Have Unclaimed Funds



Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins and New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli are urging residents to check if they have lost money owed to them. Westchester County residents, businesses, nonprofits, religious institutions and others have about \$453 million waiting to be claimed.

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The Sharing Shelf Distributes Record Number of Backpacks to Yonkers Students in Need



Quality-checking the backpacks at The Sharing Shelf. Photo from The Sharing Shelf.

The Sharing Shelf, the nonprofit Clothing Bank serving Westchester County, announced today the record-setting results of its 15th annual "Backpacks to School" initiative. Through that initiative, hundreds of volunteers joined together to assemble, fill, and distribute – free of charge – backpacks filled with grade-appropriate school supplies for Westchester students in need. The number of backpacks filled and distributed was 1,976 – 30 more than last year's record.

The distribution of filled backpacks to students from pre-K through 12th grade began on August 19. The backpacks were distributed by The Sharing Shelf based on requests from 28 nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and public schools – benefiting students in 35 school districts in Westchester. The communities that received the most backpacks are the following: One-third of the filled backpacks (33.21%) were distributed to students in Yonkers; 15.09% went to students in Port Chester; 14.87% went to students in Mt. Vernon; 11.14% went to students in New Rochelle.

The record demand for backpacks is not surprising, as applications for clothing received by The Sharing Shelf have nearly quadrupled over the last six years: from 1,863 in 2018 to 6,764 in 2024. While Westchester is among the nation's wealthiest counties, its poverty rate for children under five was 11.1% in 2023, according to Westchester Children's Association. More than 67,000 children and teens live in poverty or a low-income home in Westchester.

"Backpacks and school supplies are essential to any student's preparation for school – and to educational success," said Deborah Blatt, Founder and Executive Director of The Sharing Shelf. "We are enormously grateful to the many businesses, community organizations, and individuals who have provided in-kind or financial support to make this record-setting outcome possible."

The Sharing Shelf is a nonprofit clothing bank serving Westchester County, NY. Founded in 2009, it operates a warehouse in Port Chester, where new and gently used clothes are collected, volunteers screen the clothes for quality, and the clothes are distributed for free to low-income children and teens through social-service agencies, schools, and other nonprofits. The Sharing Shelf also opened in 2024 (adjacent to the warehouse) a Teen Boutique, where teens in financial need, referred by schools and nonprofit organizations, can select their own clothing at no cost in a private and dignified setting that has the look and feel of a real boutique. In every case, the ultimate recipient is a child or teen in need – from newborn to age 19. The clothing is both age- and season-appropriate, fits properly, and boosts the individual's esteem and confidence.

Visit sharingshelf.org to learn more.

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Letter: The Real Risk for Yonkers Isn't Traffic – It's Losing Empire City

I live in the Lincoln Park section of Yonkers, directly across from Empire City Casino. My husband and I purchased our home knowing the casino has been part of this community's identity for 125 years, just as my neighbors did. Having lived in four of New York State's five largest cities, I chose to make Yonkers my family's permanent home, and I love it here. But I'm deeply concerned about our future.

With my daughter soon entering the public school system, I'm increasingly concerned about the Yonkers education budget, which faces an annual deficit of more than \$60 million. Our aging school buildings require billions to repair or rebuild. I also have concerns about the fiscal stability of the city as a whole. Property taxes have recently risen three times above the state's tax cap and with no other revenue streams available, it will be residents who will be left to carry the burden of filling budget gaps.

I've been surprised to read concerns from some area residents regarding the potential full casino license for Empire City. They're the same concerns expressed over 20 years ago when the casino was first being built. They didn't come to fruition then, and they won't now. New development projects bring changes, mostly for the better, but sometimes those changes require mitigation measures to reduce the impact on a community. I trust Mayor Spano and Empire City's leadership to work with the community on those measures.

But let's be clear: this site has always been an entertainment destination. Yonkers Raceway once drew 25,000 people nightly, all arriving and leaving at the same time. I've seen the photos with police officers directing traffic. With the heyday of racing long past, today's casino brings the same number of guests but spread over 20 hours. There's no dispute that the casino development brought a significant improvement to traffic.

Empire City is already Yonkers' largest taxpayer and largest private employer. With a commercial casino license, the City's tax revenue stream is projected to triple in the first year alone. No other company is prepared to invest billions in our city. Concerns about traffic or security from a concert venue pale in comparison to what's truly at stake: what happens if Yonkers doesn't get this license.

Our city of 200,000 is competing with New York City's 9 million residents and its 60 million global tourism base. If the state awards licenses based only on budget needs or the highest bidder, Yonkers will be left behind. Without a commercial license, a video lottery terminal destination won't survive against three full gaming casinos, and the consequences for Yonkers will be devastating: teacher layoffs, police and fire cuts, school closures, and even higher property taxes.

That's why I spoke at the Planning Board hearing and will submit testimony to the Community Advisory Council in support of Empire City. I urge my neighbors to do the same. It's up to us to ensure the state appointees who are scoring these applications don't pass us by. Do they understand the gaming market and our proximity to the neighboring states currently benefiting from the spending of New Yorkers and our tourists? Will they do what was done with the upstate casinos and award licenses to the highest bidders because the state has a tremendous budget deficit of its own to contend with?

My friends and neighbors, what I know for certain is that traffic and security are not the primary concern when it comes to Empire City's potential license. The thing that should keep us all up at night is that without this commercial casino license, Empire City will likely close within five years, and it will financially gut the city we call home. The families of the 750 employees will not be the only ones impacted. It will hurt us all.

Join me in getting loud and fighting for the city we call home, the children we're raising in it, and all the residents who reside in it. It will take all of us to bring this license home to Yonkers, where it belongs. Yonkers can't afford to lose this bet.

Kate Schlientz Hughes is a Yonkers resident, mother, and business owner.

This Has Been Some Year

By Eric Wolf Schoen



I asked myself several times during the course of last year
'Is there a God?'

When my sister would get deathly ill because she did not take prescribed medication exactly on time.

When I would have terrible pain in my back and legs, particularly on rainy cloudy days and feel like I was losing strength in my leg.

Then I would look down the hall, in a hospital rehabilitation center, doctor's office or other similar facility and see many people were in much worse condition than we were. It kind of put everything in perspective. We would survive.

And so we enter another JEWISH New Year, 5768 with caution. I get a phone call from a good friend at the start of the week telling me that a mutual good friend had passed away. A gentleman I have known for over 50 years as a teacher, scholar, person active in the community and in political and civic affairs like few others.

Then we hear of the death Charlie Kirk, religious leader respected by REPUBLICANS and Democrats alike. A situation that has upset the world.

So as we enter the Jewish new year, let's us hope for peace in the world, good health for you and your family and good health for my sister and her baby brother. God, please help.

Happy New Year
Eric

Girls Swim, continued from pg 1-

The 2025 Yonkers Girls Varsity Swim Team is making waves once again, kicking off the season with a strong 2-0 record and extending their undefeated streak from last year.

The team opened their season at home on September 12th with a dominant 89-55 win over Port Chester High School. They followed it up with a 49-39 victory on the road against Brewster High School, proving their depth and determination.

Several athletes delivered standout performances in the win over Port Chester:

Junior Sara Bowden (YMA) led the charge with an impressive meet, claiming first place in the 200 Individual Medley, 100 Breaststroke, and as part of both the Medley and 200 Freestyle Relays.

Senior Captain Monica George (YMA) also had a flawless day in the pool, anchoring the same two relays with Bowden and adding individual wins in the 50 Freestyle and 100 Butterfly.

Junior Olivia Quinn (LHS) powered through the distance events, capturing wins in both the 200 and 500 Freestyle, contributing to the 200 Free Relay win and placing second in the 400 Free Relay.

Senior Captain Eva Stern (YHS) took second in both the 200 and 500 Freestyle and helped lead the Medley Relay to victory.

Senior Captain Caroline Lopez (LHS) sprinted to a win in the 100 Freestyle and added a third-place finish in the 100 Backstroke.

Freshman Lindsey Andrade Marroquin made a strong varsity debut, placing second in both the 200 I.M. and 100 Breaststroke, showing great promise for the future of the program.

The Yonkers squad will look to maintain their perfect record as they head on the road to face a tough opponent in Lakeland on September 25th. With strong leadership, rising stars, and an undefeated legacy to uphold, the team is poised for another standout season.

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High Stakes Betrayal: Larry Wilson Plots Against Yonkers Casino Ahead of Key Hearing

By Dan Murphy

For nearly 20 years, Empire City Casino has stood as Yonkers' largest private employer and taxpayer, supporting hundreds of jobs and generating more than \$5 billion for the New York State education fund. Now, as the casino seeks one of three full commercial casino licenses that New York State will award this year, a local community group is organizing efforts to block the expansion, despite clear warnings from city officials that losing out would devastate Yonkers' finances.

The Hyatt Community Association, a neighborhood group representing residents off Kimball Avenue, has long opposed the casino's growth. Led by Larry Wilson, the group has taken a prominent role in mobilizing opposition. In a move many see as a glaring conflict of interest, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins appointed Wilson, Empire City's most outspoken critic, to represent her on the Community Advisory Council (CAC), the very body charged with gauging community support.

Hyatt Community Association members received an email on Thursday, sent through the association's official account but closed with the name Vice President Jerry Longarzo instead of Wilson, urging residents to oppose the project. The email warned: "If you allow it to pollute the quality of life in our neighborhood for 24 hours every day for the rest of our lives!!!!", urging neighbors to preface remarks at the upcoming CAC hearing with "I oppose because..." The message also provided scripted talking points and directed residents to immediately send written opposition to the state.

The email contained no mention of jobs, revenues, or schools, only exclamation points and panic. Critics blasted it as blatant fear-mongering, designed to scare residents rather than inform them.

High Stakes for Yonkers: The stakes are substantial. Empire City's license application is the only one outside of New York City, with seven competitors concentrated in the five boroughs. Without a license, Empire City would be unable to compete against three new full-scale casinos and would likely face closure, a fact that Empire City President Louis Therot confirmed during previous CAC meetings. A state-commissioned casino market study also confirmed that trajectory. That would leave Yonkers not only without its largest private employer, but also without a critical source of future tax revenue.

Former Deputy Mayor Jim Cavanaugh underscored the urgency during a CAC meeting earlier in August, suggesting residents could face property tax increases of up to 13% without the revenues from a commercial casino license at Empire City.

Yonkers faces a recurring school budget deficit of up to \$70 million, with local schools in urgent need of repair or replacement. Already saddled with a city income tax and hit with a 6% property tax hike last year, Yonkers residents have little room left to give, and the City has no other source of revenue. Without the \$56 million in new annual revenue projected in year one of a full license, Yonkers taxpayers will be forced to fill that gap. With New York State facing a \$3 billion budget deficit next year and \$37 billion by 2029, according to State Comptroller reports, the state will not be swooping in to save Yonkers..

Jobs and Economic Growth: Empire City currently employs 745 workers and eighty percent of the workforce is union-represented. This license would allow MGM Resorts to add 2,000 permanent jobs with an average compensation package of \$150,000, as well as 6,500 construction jobs generating approximately 4 million work hours.

The ripple effect is expected to be even greater. Analysts project thousands of additional indirect and induced jobs spurred by the \$1 billion in new annual economic activity, as well as expanded vendor spending and supply chain impacts by the casino.

Financial Commitments: Under the proposal, Empire City's annual gross gaming revenue is projected to rise to \$1.1 billion. With a license, MGM would be required to contribute roughly \$450 million annually — including \$315 million to the state's education fund, \$68 million in revenue share for Yonkers and local counties, and \$70 million for horse racing purses and breeders.

Yonkers alone is expected to receive \$34 million in direct revenue share and an additional \$22 million in property, sales, and wage tax revenues, for a total of \$56 million in year one. Westchester County would benefit from \$17 million, while Rockland and Putnam counties would share another \$17 million.

Speed and Location Advantage

Unlike its competitors, Empire City can move quickly and the project is shovel-ready. Renovations of 282,100 square feet of existing space will include the casino, food and beverage venues, a dealer school, and administrative offices. MGM plans 360,000 square feet of new construction, including three new restaurants, a 5,000-capacity entertainment venue, and event spaces. The casino would remain open during construction, ensuring continued revenue to the state. It would transition to operating as a commercial casino within 9–12 months, while entertainment venue construction would take 36 months.

Supporters argue that no other location can recapture the billions New Yorkers currently spend at casinos in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut as effectively as Yonkers, given its position at the intersection of major commuter routes and its proximity to nearly 70 million tourists passing through New York City each year.

A Divisive Debate

Despite these arguments, opposition led by Wilson through the Hyatt Community Association is intensifying. The email framed as from Longarzo cites quality-of-life concerns for nearby residents. Supporters dismiss these claims as recycled fear tactics and point to Empire City's nearly 20-year track record as a responsible employer, taxpayer, and community partner. No alternative revenue solutions have been presented by Wilson or Longarzo for the city's looming fiscal challenges.

The decision now rests with the Community Advisory Council, which will hold its second and final public hearing on Tuesday, September 16, at 6 p.m. at Yonkers Montessori Academy, 160 Woodlawn Avenue. With jobs, schools, taxes, and Yonkers' economic future on the line, the battle over Empire City's expansion has become a test of whether community voices, both for and against, can shape the city's path forward. If Wilson continues leading a campaign of misinformation instead of constructive dialogue, he could single-handedly sabotage the largest taxpayer and private employer in New York's third-largest city.

True Community Engagement Means Listening First

By Jerry Longarzo, Vice President, Hyatt Association

A Yonkers resident who was born and raised here and has been part of our community for seventy years is the kind of neighbor every city needs. A small business owner and dedicated landscaper, he can be found across our neighborhood cutting lawns, emptying grass clippings, and quietly beautifying our streets. Not all heroes wear capes. When he trades his T-shirt, jeans, and work boots for a suit to attend Hyatt Association meetings, he speaks up for a strong, safe, and beautiful southeast Yonkers. That person is Larry Wilson.

Larry has spent decades caring for our neighborhood, both as a business owner and as a committed advocate for the people who live here. Those of us who know Larry understand that he embodies the spirit of community service; steady, respectful, and dedicated. It is disappointing to see recent coverage portray him otherwise, when the real story is the process surrounding the Empire City expansion.

Our association is not opposed to economic growth. We understand that Empire City Casino has been a major employer and contributor to the state education fund for nearly twenty years. However, growth that truly benefits Yonkers requires open communication and trust.

When the New York City Department of Environmental Protection undertook the Hillview Reservoir construction project, their public outreach set a gold standard. DEP's Public Affairs lead, John Milgram, literally walked the backyards of residents, explaining the schedule, listening to concerns, and even adjusting plans to minimize disruption. By comparison, MGM's community outreach fell far short. Their representative never provided the same consistent, personal communication that John did.

The handling of key documents shows why residents felt left out. When the Hyatt Association requested a hard copy of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, members were told simply to visit the library. Later, when we asked for a copy of the statement, we received only a single chapter and never the complete document. Councilman John Rubbo stepped in to fill that gap, printing the full statement himself and making sure every community leader had it. John has kept us informed weekly, sometimes several times a week, explaining the city's commitments and listening to our concerns. That is what partnership looks like.

Larry serves not only as a neighborhood advocate but also as the representative of Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins on the Community Advisory Council. He carries a dual responsibility as a trusted community leader and a voice for one of New York State's most powerful legislators. That role demands accurate information and transparent dialogue, precisely what our community did not receive from MGM's public affairs team.

At the Coyne Park community meeting, attended by Mayor Spano, our message carried by Larry on behalf of four local community groups was clear... help us get to "yes." We know the potential benefits of this project. Thousands of new jobs, many paying six-figure salaries, and significant tax revenue for the city could result from a full casino license. We are not blind to those opportunities. However, we also live where the impacts will be felt first and most sharply. This neighborhood already bears the brunt of traffic congestion, crime concerns, flooding in areas and air/noise pollution. We simply need concrete assurances that these issues will be thoroughly and effectively addressed.

Had MGM's representative consistently engaged with residents, the way the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) did, we might already be there. Instead, we were left with unanswered questions and fragmented information. They could have helped us move closer to yes much, much sooner; instead, we were forced to organize and press for details on our own.

This is not about rejecting progress or denying the city a chance to grow. It is about demanding a process that respects the people who call this neighborhood home. Yonkers deserves partners who meet us in our backyards, who provide full information without delay, and who communicate as frequently as our councilman has.

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Ella Enchanted Author Gail Carson Speaks to Maria Regina High School Students



Author Gail Carson Levine recently spoke about her best-known fantasy book, the Newberry Award-winning *Ella Enchanted*, with members of the freshman class (2029) at Maria Regina, the renowned all-girls Catholic high school in Hartsdale, NY.

The incoming freshmen read *Ella Enchanted* as part of their summer reading and invited Ms. Levine for the rare opportunity to hear from the author herself. The prolific author of 26 books including her latest, *Sparrows in the Wind*--a retelling of the myth of the Trojan War--also shared with the students her personal journey in becoming a writer.

Following the presentation with the assembled class, Levine led a small workshop when students met with her one-on-one to discuss *Ella Enchanted* further and to have their personal copies of the book autographed.

Most of Levine's books are fantasies, but she's also written historical fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and picture books. The manuscript for her next book, *The Unusuals*, a historical medieval murder mystery that takes place in Winchester, England, in 1277, is on her editor's desk now. She and her husband David and their Airedale Tess live in Brewster.

Maria Regina High School is a Catholic school where young women are encouraged to achieve academic excellence, empowered to be compassionate leaders, and enriched with the Spirit to live a life of Charity, Truth, and Service to others. To learn more, visit www.mariaregina.org.

Fourth Precinct Community Council Meeting

The Fourth Precinct's Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, Sep 21, 2025, in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct at 53 Shonnard Terrace. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the Fourth Police Precinct is welcome to attend. All elected officials are also welcome. Captain Jeremiah Foley, Precinct Commander, and Lieutenant Robert Varley will be available to discuss your issues and matters of interest.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



1923 Pulitzer Prize winner Owen Davis, Sr. of Park Hill

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

Monday, September 22nd

September 22, 1947: The 1,000,000th motorist paid the dime toll at the Yonkers Saw Mill River Parkway toll station. The Yonkers toll station had opened August 28th, less than a month earlier, and averaged 40,000 cars a day.

September 22, 1947: Veteran families began moving into new apartments in the east wing of the "old Yonkers High School" while workers continued creating more apartments in the west wing. The families were greeted by State and Yonkers officials including Mayor Frank, Deputy State Commissioner Haugaard, Mayor's Emergency Housing Committee Chairman Morton Wekstein, Veterans Services Agency Director Melvin Kempton, Municipal Housing Authority Member Reverend Clinton Hoggard, State Managing Agent Albert Cucinell, State Engineer Irving Silverman and others.

Of the families assigned to the building, fifteen were "separation cases." They couldn't find housing large enough for their families and were forced to split up to live with relatives or friends. Ten other families had lived in studio or two-room apartments.

Veterans approved for school apartments had ranks from private to captain and earned decorations ranging from the Purple Heart to Air Medals to Service Medals.

Mayor Frank used the opportunity to lobby for replacement of fifteen Veterans' apartments destroyed by fire on the old Grassy Sprain Golf Course.

Tuesday, September 23rd

September 23, 1912: The American Real Estate Company sold 322 Park Hill Avenue to Pulitzer Prize playwright Owen Davis. Davis had written more than 200 plays and was considered by many to be America's most prolific playwright.

September 23, 1940: Councilman Edith Welty revealed why she wouldn't sign Yonkers' response to the Supreme Court inquiry about fired war veterans.

Yonkers' response stated they weren't fired for political reasons. After reading the document, she investigated the 45 men fired from Sanitation. Her conclusion? Most were dismissed for political reasons!

Wednesday, September 24th

September 24, 1943: The Herald Statesman received a letter from PFC Raymond Vallely, serving with the US Army somewhere in Europe. Shortly after the Allies had taken Sicily, he sat down to eat; his meal came with nicely paper wrapped "lump sugar." He was surprised when he read the wrapper and discovered it came from "Golden Glow, Yonkers NY," a South Broadway restaurant!

September 24, 1947: Author and lecturer Pearl S. Buck addressed the Sixth Annual School in Christian Living Conference at Asbury Church. Buck, who lived in China, Japan and other parts of Asia for most of her life, stated she found racial prejudices in the United States a "shock!"

In Asia, she said, peace and love were taught to children, and no one

continued on pg 12-

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Notice of Formation of Beautifully Hauled LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/15/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC 28 Chestnut Street, Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

Notice of formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

Notice of Formation of 155 ROUTE 202 LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/10/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 401 Broadway, Suit 1111, NY, NY 10013. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Create With Vero LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/06/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 16 Forster Ave, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to THE LLC, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

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

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

Notice of Formation of SteenShots LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

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

Notice of Formation of Math Power LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY On 07/12/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 35 Florence St, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of BLUEPRINTS AND BEYOND LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 4th, 2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC: 70 Ashburton Avenue, Apt. 7H, Yonkers, New York, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

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

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

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

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

1) Bid No. RFB-7530 – Opening date: 10/03/2025: One-time purchase of cleaning chemicals used district-wide for Yonkers Public Schools (FB).

2) Bid No. IFB-7529 – Opening Date: 10/17/2025: Contract valid until completion for Fire House 12 Asbestos Abatement 2nd Floor, Room 205 (TN).

3) Bid No. RFB-7511A – Opening Date: 10/03/2025: Purchase of 1-10 Buick Envista Sport Touring Model (or Yonkers approved equal) (MM).

INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB 2025-01
FOR ELECTRICAL ON-CALL SERVICES AT PROPERTIES OWNED OR MANAGED BY THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (“MHACY”) is soliciting proposals from qualified firms for Electrical On-Call Services at various MHACY sites as specified in this Invitation for Bids (“IFB”).

This IFB package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This IFB is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter “Responders” or “Respondents”) and is available online starting September 26, 2025, at www.mhacy.org.

There will be a site tour for interested parties on October 15, 2025. Time and location to be determined. The IFB questions deadline is October 22, 2025, at 3:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed to procurement@mhacy.org by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

Proposals must reach MHACY no later than 3:00 PM (EST) on November 5, 2025. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the IFB. Negotiations may be conducted with contractors who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award. After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to MHACY.

MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is in MHACY’s best interest to do so. MHACY reserves the right to cancel this IFB or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this IFB, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of MHACY.

MHACY is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of MHACY’s Board of Commissioners, or MHACY’s officers and/or employees other than the contact person shown above, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball
President & CEO
Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue
Yonkers, New York 10710
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) # 2025-01

Notice of Formation of Elsie Legacy Group LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/26/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 41 Woodland Road, Bedford Hills, NY 10507. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation Hinman Hall, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/08/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 9 Landing Drive, Dobbs Ferry NY 10522 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Letter: SCHOOL MOMENT OF SILENCE

Seventeen American States require their schools, at the beginning of the day, to provide one minute of silence. Its purpose is to cause students to silently contemplate the day and how to improve it

In NYS, the silent minute is permitted, but not mandatory under NYS Education law 3029-A. The School district of Yonkers approved it in 2021 as a result of my recommending it for two years. I am available to speak to other school boards to recommend it for their students.

Another project I am promoting is installation of motivational signs for schools, parks, nurseries etc. I am actively asking the Yonkers Board to approve motivational signs for its schools. They are designed to inspire the sign readers and to make them feel and act better. Queens Daughters Nursery in Yonkers received their sign July 2025 from Yonkers Lions club, of which I am member. Lions Club of Yonkers will pay for a motivational sign to benefit a school, nursery etc.

Norman Hauptman Yonkers

Letter: For Whom the Bells Did Not Toll at St. Mary's -Why?

On the day Monsignor Corrigan was laid to rest, silence filled the air where the toll of bells should have been. For centuries, funeral bells have served as both a summons and a farewell, a final embrace of the faithful for one of their own. Their absence that day was more than an omission; it was a wound.

In Catholic tradition, bells are not mere sounds but symbols. They announce joy at weddings, reverence at Mass, and sorrow at funerals. When a priest is buried, the tolling honors his life of service and unites the community in mourning. To hear them is to know that the Church itself shares in the loss. To hear nothing is to feel that loss doubly.

Monsignor Corrigan was no ordinary priest. For decades, he guided his parish with steadiness and compassion. He baptized children, counseled couples, comforted the grieving, and stood at countless bedsides. He was a fixture not only at the altar but in the fabric of the neighborhood, present at graduations, hospital rooms, and living rooms. His life's work was measured not only in sacraments but in relationships, in the quiet faith he nurtured among ordinary people.

That is why the silence was so striking. Those who gathered at his funeral expected the solemn toll of bells to carry their grief heavenward. Instead, they found themselves confronted with stillness. For some, it was a shock; for others, a disappointment. For all, it was a reminder that ritual, once broken, leaves a void that words alone cannot fill.

Yet silence speaks in its own way. In the absence of bells, the people became the sound. They carried Monsignor Corrigan forward in memory, in prayer, and in the shared stories that followed the service. The tribute denied in ritual was restored in community. If the bells did not toll, hearts did — and perhaps more powerfully.

A funeral is more than the end of a life; it is a statement of what that life meant. The silence that surrounded Monsignor Corrigan's farewell became its own form of testimony. It underscored how much people had come to expect his presence, his leadership, and his care. His legacy did not depend on bronze and rope, but on the lives he touched, the faith he modeled, and the compassion he gave so freely.

In the end, the question remains: for whom do the bells toll? At Monsignor Corrigan's funeral, they did not toll at all. And in that silence, perhaps we heard something deeper — the enduring resonance of a life lived in service, echoing not from towers, but from the grateful hearts of those he served.

Name Withheld

Legionnaires continued from pg 1-

In the release, Ketter asked why there was a “disturbing delay” in notifying the public about a Legionnaires’ disease outbreak that had killed two Westchester residents and infected 35 others this summer.

Katter added that Westchester residents deserve to know why the public wasn't informed sooner—and what officials are doing to prevent future cases. “Two people died and 35 were sickened—and yet the public is just hearing about this now,” Katter said. “Where is the transparency? Where is the urgency? The Westchester County government has kept its citizens in the dark, and that's unacceptable.”

On that same day, the Westchester County Health Department announced that two Westchester residents, one from White Plains and one from New Rochelle, had died, but did not specify when or where the outbreak occurred, nor have they identified the likely source of the Legionella bacteria.

Legionnaires’ disease is a serious, often deadly form of pneumonia. It is caused by inhaling water vapor that's been contaminated with Legionella bacteria. The bacteria thrive in HVAC cooling towers, particularly during warmer months. According to the CDC, most outbreaks are entirely preventable through routine maintenance and monitoring.

On September 10, we received the following from the Westchester Department of Health.

The Westchester County Department of Health is advising the public after a recent uptick in Legionnaires’ disease cases was observed locally, consistent with a similar trend reported in New York City.

Legionnaires’ disease is a type of pneumonia caused by bacteria that can grow in building water systems, such as cooling towers. While cases of Legionnaires’ disease are diagnosed every year, this recent increase prompted Westchester County Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler to join a public briefing to provide important information and guidance to Westchester County residents.

Amler said: “While it is not unusual for us to see cases of Legionnaires’ disease in Westchester, especially during the warmer months, the County Health Department is closely monitoring the situation and taking extra precautions as needed. What is important for residents to know is that the Health Department has long-standing protocols in place to respond quickly, work with building owners, and ensure water towers are properly disinfected to protect public health.”

The Westchester County Health Department works year-round with building managers and organizations to test and disinfect cooling towers, as well as to ensure compliance with state and local regulations. This proactive approach helps limit the spread of Legionella bacteria and reduce the risk of exposure.

The Health Department encourages anyone experiencing symptoms of pneumonia—such as cough, fever, chills, or shortness of breath—to seek medical care immediately. Legionnaires’ disease is treatable with antibiotics; however, early diagnosis is crucial.

The 38 cases represent a 50% increase compared to last year.

“The new information was not a cause for undue alarm. But it is a reminder and does stress the importance of public awareness,” said Westchester Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler during a September 15 press conference.

The NYS Health Department has identified a possible small cluster of Legionella in Yonkers. Five of the 38 cases identified so far are also in Yonkers.

Apartment building cooling towers are a likely source of the cluster, and a 2-mile radius in Yonkers is the area where Westchester County health workers are collecting samples.

Building owners are required to test their HVAC systems and cooling towers for Legionella bacteria every 90 days and report the findings to the county.

Legionnaires’ disease is a type of pneumonia caused by bacteria that can grow in building water systems, such as cooling towers. It thrives in heat and humidity, and cannot be spread from person to person.

It grows in hot water, and the mist from the water can contain bacteria found in Legionnaires’ disease.

A cluster was found in NYC in August.

The disease caused by the Legionella bacteria cannot be spread person to person.

In some cases, it may take up to 2 weeks for symptoms to appear. At-risk persons include smokers, older adults, and immunocompromised persons.

People may think they have the flu or COVID-19 because the symptoms are similar to those of Legionnaires’ disease, including cough, fever, chills, muscle aches, headaches, fatigue, loss of appetite, and diarrhea.

In most people, antibiotics can be used to treat Legionnaires’ disease. 10% of those who contract it, the result may be fatal.

Hot tubs and home water faucets can carry Legionnaires ‘ disease, but only in a small number of cases.

Katter told us that the CDC states that more than 3 cases are an indication of an outbreak. “Why did they (County) use the patients as their alarm system? They are doing this backward, and the public should have been informed as soon as possible. Every summer, there is an outbreak in the NYC area.

“I have a client where the mother thought that he was drunk, but was suffering from Legionnaires ‘ disease. If the maintenance is done properly by the building management, it can be prevented. You can't see the bacteria; it has to be inhaled deeply in the lungs.”

Mr. Katter is available for interviews on this matter. For more information, call (212) 809-4293 or visit www.katterlaw.com.

Yonkers Remembers on September 11, 2025



Below-Steel Beam from the World Trade Center at Conor Park



In honor of the Yonkers residents who lost their lives during the attacks of September 11, 2001

Michael A. Boccardi	Michael Lepore
Michelle Renee Bratton	Michael J. Lyons
Thomas R. Brennan	Yamel Merino
Alex F. Ciccone	Kevin James Murphy
Joan McConnell Cullinan	James N. Pappageorge
Dwight Donald Darcy	Valsa Raju
Christopher Duffy	Luis C. Revilla-Mier
Kevin Joseph Frawley	Samuel R. Salvo Jr.
John Patrick Gallagher	Marian Halevy Serva
Peter Gelinas	Sean Patrick Tallon
Kieran Gorman	Joanna Vidal
Vanessa Langer	Timothy Matthew Welty
Denis Francis Lavelle	William Joseph Wik

Join us as Yonkers forever remembers those who also lost their lives during the War on Terror and to 9/11 related illnesses

Below:

Today, we remember the lives lost, the heroes who served, and the resilience that carried us forward as a nation. 24 years later, the memory remains.

In Yonkers, we especially remember Lt Roy McLaughlin, PO Anthony Maggiore, and PO Stanley Kasper, who all succumbed to illnesses that developed while assisting in recovery efforts at the World Trade Center site following the 9/11/2001 attacks.

Lest we forget



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Yonkers Marathon 2025

Yonkers Riverfest 2025



2025 YONKERS MARATHON, HALF MARATHON & 5K

MARATHON WINNERS

MEN		WOMEN	
1 ST Justo Fernando		1 ST Eve Aronoff	
2 ND Stan Chen		2 ND Grace Mungere	
3 RD Jay Johnson		3 RD Mayra Vargas	

HALF MARATHON WINNERS

MEN		WOMEN	
1 ST Collin Smith		1 ST Moriah Trenk	
2 ND Corey Levin		2 ND Kassie Seavy	
3 RD Loukas Theodorou		3 RD Jui-Lien Hung	

5K WINNERS

MEN		WOMEN	
1 ST Jaime Del Alamo		1 ST Melanie Romero Cruz	
2 ND Muhammed Camara		2 ND Helen Palmer	
3 RD Changming Xia		3 RD Sofia Rodriguez	

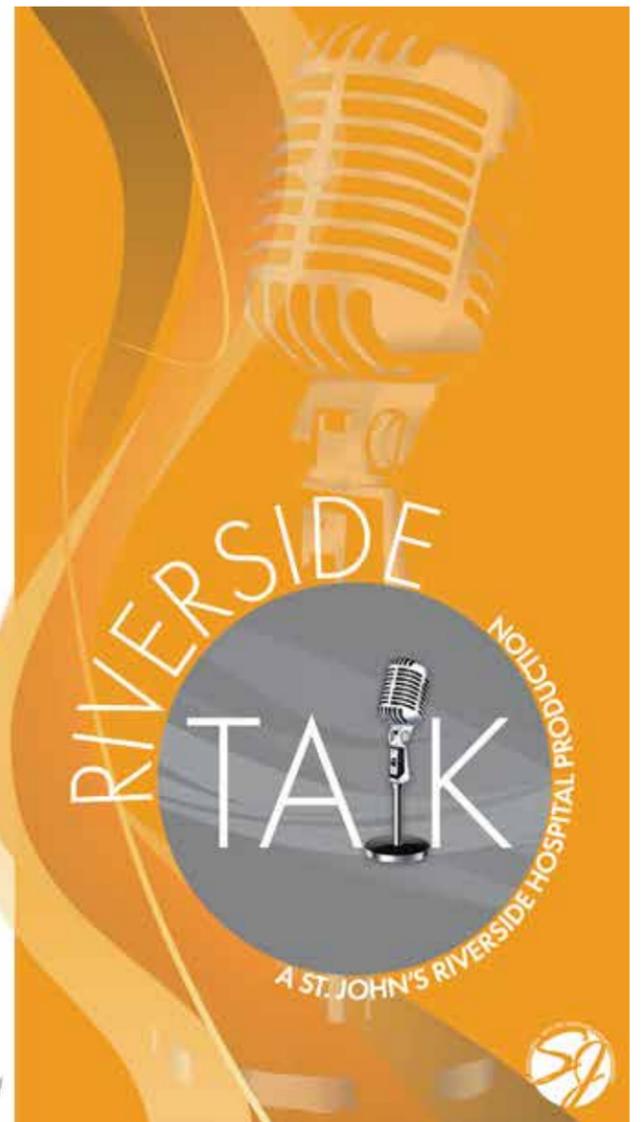
LET'S TALK



ABOUT
WOMEN'S
BREAST HEALTH
WITH
NIDHI SAHGAL, MD
BREAST SURGEON

OCT 18TH | 11:00AM
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH OF YONKERS
160 North Broadway | Yonkers NY 10701

Arling Irish Community & Cultural Center • Ardsley Parks & Recreation • Ardsley Senior Center • Bronxville Community Center • City of Yonkers
Community Baptist Church • Department of Veterans Services – City Of Yonkers • Hastings Community Center • Irvington Community Center
Westchester Jewish Community Services • Yonkers Pathways to Success • Yonkers Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NNORC) • Yonkers Public Library



If You Have Nothing Nice to Say.....

By Dan Murphy

I would argue that many of our readers have not watched a video of Charlie Kirk until he was killed last week. On September 10, 2025, Kirk was shot and killed while speaking at a TPUSA public debate event on the Utah Valley University campus, in front of 3,000 people, including his wife and two young children.

He co-founded the conservative organization Turning Point USA (TPUSA) in 2012 and was its executive director.

Kirk was a champion of the First Amendment, Freedom of Speech, and his Christian beliefs. And he made a name for himself by going onto these liberal colleges and universities and having conversations with students, most of whom did not agree at all with his views. And that is the way he wanted it. If you disagree with me, come to the front of the line, he would say.

His work in 2024 to register young people and get them to vote was part of the reason President Donald Trump was reelected.

While some of us mourn Kirk's death, we must also respect the First Amendment rights of those who disagreed with him and can't understand why he has become a beloved figure in American history.

But Kirk's death has affected so many Americans, dare I say the majority of Americans, that some are pushing back at the outrageous comments and posts that some are making about a young man who just died in front of the world for expressing his views.

And in today's social media age, the urge to post whatever comes to mind takes over for some. However, there are limits to free Speech if you are a public servant. The public you serve is watching you and reading your comments. And if those comments are deemed over the top and inconsiderate, you are called out in the same public square that killed Charles Kirk.

Why did the New York Yankees and most of the NFL Football teams hold a moment of silence for Charlie Kirk? The response to his death has been so great that those who can't understand it should take the time to learn why.

Two examples in Westchester warrant being called out for their insensitivity.

Most of you may have already read about Somers High School resource officer Tanisha Blanche, who posted after Kirk's death, "Why yall don't have that same energy for the school shooting that took place yesterday, but yall crying over the man that was OK with gun violence" and "well that white sniper was over qualified when he put that hole in your neck hunni bunni."

Somers Schools Superintendent correctly called out Blanche, stating, "The nature of the posts glorifies violence, which is completely unacceptable for someone entrusted with the safety of students and staff members," adding, "school safety is our most sacred and important obligation. The Westchester County Police Department has affirmed that another SRO will be assigned to our schools, and I am in touch directly with the police to ensure the safety and continuity of our SRO program going forward."

Blanche will not be fired for her comments, but was moved to desk duty at the County Police Headquarters in Hawthorne.

School Resource Officers (SROs) were formed in the aftermath of the school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, and are under the authority and supervision of the Westchester County Department of Public Safety.

The second outrageous comment about Charlie Kirk has not been highlighted or discussed yet. This takes us to Rye, and the Rye Town Tax Receiver Carla Pugliese.

After Kirk's killing, Pugliese posted, "The fact that Trump is putting the flag at half staff for a white supremacist and never once lowered it for murdered school children tells you everything you need to know."

Several Rye Town residents questioned Pugliese's comments. One post said, "How does the tax receiver for the village of Port Chester think it's OK to post this vile statement? Again, another hateful, vile post against a man of God. When does the hate end? How many people have to be assassinated? How do you hold a position of trust in our government and post this crap?"

Resident Linda Turturino said, "I have strong feelings about the difference between freedom of speech and hate speech. And as a Town official, you are held to a higher standard. If you have those feelings, you shouldn't post them; you should keep them to yourself."

Resident Bart Didden said, "That person is in an appointed position and needs to go. As a taxpayer, how do you make the jump from an assassination to then talk about Trump?"

"There is a double standard. If Kirk were out there being a liberal activist, there would be rioting in the streets. We are just mourning. She (Pugliese) is on the ballot in November. She should be removed from her position at the meeting this week. I think public officials have a higher standard to meet. When you are a public official, you don't have a private page."

We leave you with two thoughts. From Journalist Mark Halperin. "It's hard to think of anyone 31 years old in the United States who's had the kind of meaningful achievement that Charlie Kirk had, of getting young people in particular into the political system."

"First of all, they don't understand what Charlie achieved. Even now, even as it's been covered since his murder, they still don't get it. They still don't understand what made him so different. And I think it's so important that the left understand."

"They need to appreciate why people on the right are so upset. The only reason Charlie succeeded at nearly everything he tried was due to his extraordinary gifts, determination, and faith. They don't see Charlie as anything but some Trump flunky. They do not see what he achieved, nor do they see the symbolism."

But I ask again for people on the left to understand what the death, the murder, the assassination of Charlie Kirk means, not just to prominent Republicans, but to rank-and-file people around the country. It's not just the loss of a leader, a friend, or someone with a degree of success. It's the elimination of someone who demonstrated not just that he could overcome all these biases, but that he could thrive and start to change the system to set an example.

As I traveled around the country in 2024, going to Trump events and meeting people

who supported President Trump, often events that Charlie was at or his organization, Turning Point, was involved in. I saw a different kind of young conservative than I'd seen during my career. Not shy, not afraid, willing to go publicly to a rally, to be on social media, to be visible on campus.

Charlie said, "I'm going to come to your campus. I'm going to take on all comers. I'm going to take questions. I am going to celebrate the free exchange of ideas."

In some ways, there couldn't be anybody worse to have assassinated, truly, because he was killed doing the thing that was the most resonant, the most symbolically resonant for young people.

And I ask people on the left, take a moment and think about why this means so much to people on the right. Please take a moment to understand the murder of Charlie Kirk and how it is seen and felt. And with the rise of digital technology and with the rise of the grassroots MAGA movement and with the advent as a miracle of the singular soul of Charlie Kirk, this is a big moment in American history, where someone who did what should have been impossible, made it possible, was killed,

At Kirk's memorial, Robert F. Kennedy Jr said, "My 17-year-old niece left for Europe to go to college, my daughter-in-law noticed that she had put a Bible in her suitcase. And she was curious about it. And she asked her, and Zoe said to her, "I want to live like Charlie Kirk."

There are millions and millions of kids around the country who he inspired who now want to live like Charlie Kirk, and that's a great thing for our country.

He ended up being the primary architect of my unification with President Trump. However, the overarching mission of Charlie Kirk was Jesus, but also free Speech, and he saw them as intertwined. He believed that conversation was the only way to heal our country. That

We had to learn to talk to each other without vitriol, without poison, without anger. We had to be able to listen to ideas. We had to be able to say what we meant without being mean and to communicate with each other across this divide. It's the only way to end the polarization that's driven now by these algorithms and by all these other forces in our society.

And Charlie, more than any figure in our country, led the resistance that has restored freedom of Speech to this country. His love of family, his love of God, his love of freedom of Speech, his reverence for this country, and his belief that we are an exemplary nation. "

The civilized way for our elected officials to react to Kirk's death, who didn't agree with him, can be found in Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, who said, "Violence has no place in our Democracy, and we must stand united in condemning political violence wherever it occurs. No one should ever be targeted for their beliefs or for participating in public discourse. My thoughts are with the Kirk family and all those grieving."

Congressman George Latimer said, Political violence has no place in our country, and we must all unequivocally condemn the killing of Charlie Kirk. Our thoughts are with his loved ones and friends."

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

Christine Sculti, the republican candidate for County Executive in November, posted, "Ken Jenkins has to answer for this." We don't agree.

And the quote, "If you don't have anything nice to say," is attributed to Alice Roosevelt, daughter of Teddy Roosevelt. She said, "If you don't have anything nice to say, come sit next to me."

The Disney movie Bambi made the phrase, "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything, famous."

And one more movie reference that is appropriate. In Star Wars, Obi-Wan Kenobi said, "If you strike me down, I shall become more powerful than you can possibly imagine." Amen and God Bless Charlie Kirk.

Yonkers Rising

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Vigils Held for Charlie Kirk in White Plains and Somers

By Dan Murphy

On September 14, two vigils were held in Westchester to remember Charlie Kirk. One in White Plains, organized by County Legislator James Nolan, and one in Somers, organized by Gina Arena.

Nolan said on Facebook, "I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended the candlelight vigil on Sunday for Charlie Kirk and to those who helped plan this meaningful event. Together, we gathered peacefully to honor a remarkable patriot, father, husband, son, and human being who lost his life for his beliefs. The cycle of violence must end, and it was inspiring to see people from all parties unite in prayer for peace, for Charlie, for his family, and for our nation. Over 250 people joined us on Sunday, creating an incredibly touching atmosphere.

"As I mentioned during the vigil, we must come together to forge a brighter future for all, and it is imperative that this violence ends. There is much work ahead, and I trust that many will rise to the occasion. Charlie's mission continues through each of us; we are now entrusted to create a better, safer world. Rest easy, brother—we've got this from here!"

Town of Mt. Pleasant Trustee, Laurie Rogers Smalley, said, "I attended the vigil for Charlie Kirk this evening on the steps of a building where I often visited in my professional and political roles. The steps were different this evening. Front and center was a photo of a young man I had never met. A young man I never knew. A young man I respect and revere for living by the courage of his convictions. A young man who died for those convictions.

"In a society that didn't accept him as the "norm," he stood tall in his beliefs and reached out to the youth of our nation. He embraced them, he listened to them, he talked to them. Mostly, he taught them. Through him, they learned that loving God, loving family, and loving country was the "norm". He taught them to be proud of their faith and their patriotism. He stood up for his beliefs, and for that, he gave his life.

"Well, it's our turn to stand up for him and for every young person throughout our great country. We the "old". We need to work together to keep his message alive and help it grow even stronger.

"Tonight I witnessed the "best" of my fellow Westchester residents. We came together: Old and Young, Black and White, Hispanic and Asian, Male and Female, all there with one common mission. To honor and grieve a young man taken way too soon. Led by a young politician who knows the sting of losing a beloved brother and enhanced by an impromptu chorus of patriotic songs and chants, we were there to be seen and to be heard. Later on, a beautiful young woman led her fellow church members in songs of praise. She went on to read to us from Scripture and was so moved that tears streamed down her face and those of many of us in the crowd. In her, we saw the anguish we all feel for the loss of this young man.

"Charlie Kirk can not return to us in the flesh, but he can return to us in spirit. In fact, he already has. Let us keep his light alive and help our country to heal and move forward. May God Bless the family of Charlie Kirk. May he rest in eternal peace."

In Somers, Assemblyman Matt Slater said, "Charlie Kirk's life was taken by hatred, but his legacy calls us to something higher. As a father myself, I cannot help but think of Charlie's wife and young children. At Sunday's vigil in Somers, we asked God to comfort them in their grief, to give them strength in the days ahead, and to surround them with love and support from this great community and from a nation mourning with them.

"Political violence, no matter who it targets or where it comes from, has no place in America. We must reject hatred and choose civility. We can argue fiercely about ideas, but we must never lose sight of the dignity of the person across from us. If we do that, Charlie's death will not be in vain, and we will leave our children a nation worthy of their hopes and dreams."

Congressman Mike Lawler, commenting on Kirk's death, said, "Charlie Kirk was a champion of free speech who engaged in conversation with anyone regardless of their viewpoint. If someone agreed or disagreed with him, he would take the time to listen and debate, as we all should.

His life was cut horrifically short today when he was assassinated at one of those very events he was so well-known for. But what was most important in his life was being a loving husband and caring father to his young family.

As the father of two young kids myself, my heart is incredibly heavy for Charlie's wife and children tonight. May we all uplift them in prayer and hold them in our hearts.

Charlie dedicated his life to engaging young Americans and fostering open and honest dialogue—the very values our country was built on—especially with those who disagreed with him. Political violence has no place in America. We must stand united against hate and ensure justice is served. My prayers are with Erika, his family, and all those mourning this tragic loss."

Journalist Selina Zito wrote, "If you were looking for young people distraught over the brutal assassination of Charlie Kirk in the streets, you were looking in the wrong place. They were in church."

Church attendance was said to have increased drastically upon Kirk's death. And interest in groups wanting to start a Turning Point chapter in their community or school has increased tenfold in recent days.

Charlie Kirk embodied the American Dream. Born with nothing, he outworked his political opponents and built something outside of the mainstream media.

And he was a Christian, and an unabashed believer in Jesus Christ. Nobody should die for that.

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Pace U. Panel Explores the Ethical Frontier of AI



Panelists at *Governing the Future: The Ethical Frontier of AI Regulations and Policy* at Pace U. on Sept. 8, 2025. Photo courtesy of the BCW

The Business Council of Westchester (BCW) hosted a dynamic panel discussion on Monday at Pace University, bringing together a diverse group of experts to explore the critical issue of establishing ethical standards and regulations for artificial intelligence.

Governing the Future: The Ethical Frontier of AI Regulations and Policy was part of the BCW's AI Alliance 360 series. The panelists, including legal and educational experts from both the private and public sectors, grappled with the challenge of a rapidly evolving technology that is outpacing the guidelines intended to promote its responsible use. BCW President and CEO Marsha Gordon moderated the conversation.

"It's an incredibly timely conversation that's reshaping policy, practice and innovation across industries," said Gordon, who began the event with a "coffee chat" with IBM Consulting's Senior Counsel, Chrystal P. Mauro.

Mauro highlighted IBM's commitment to transparency and testing in its AI products. "We have put out literature and studies on the five pillars of trust of ethical AI: fairness, robustness, explainability, privacy and transparency," said Mauro. "Fairness is what are you using for your models? What are you training your models on? Is that data filled with biases and what kind of outcomes are you getting?"

Pace University Philosophy Professor James Brusseau PhD drew a distinction between the approaches to AI regulation in the United States and Europe. "The U.S. uses acceleration ethics. Europe uses precautionary ethics," said Brusseau. "What (Americans) do is we roll out innovation, and then innovation creates benefits, but also creates risks or problems like privacy risks. Then we try to use a next step of innovation to solve that problem." He noted that "Team Europe... is a more centralized system, and what they want to do is foresee possible ethical risks."

Amy B. Goldsmith, Chair of Cybersecurity, Data Management and Privacy practice at Tarter Krinsky & Drogin, cautioned attendees against using public AI tools like ChatGPT for sensitive tasks. She shared an anecdote about an individual who was uploading contracts into a public language model, unaware of the potential for a breach. "If he's uploading contracts into ChatGPT 4, which is a public language model, he is already breaching a contract because he's violating the confidentiality clause, and God knows what other private information might be in that contract," said Goldsmith.

Mairiad Jones-Kennelly, Senior Counsel, The State University of New York and the AI Legal Institute at SUNY (ALIS), announced that ALIS will soon make a public repository of AI usage available. "That playbook has policies and guidance documents, general use principles, ethical guidelines and data governance for anybody to access," said Jones-Kennelly.

Hannah Hage, Assistant Counsel, The State University of New York and the AI Legal Institute at SUNY (ALIS), addressed the challenge of applying existing state laws to AI. She noted that state law requires human oversight when AI makes decisions that affect people, such as medical diagnoses or financial aid. However, she pointed out the lack of clarity in the law. "There is a lack of guidance on what human oversight means. How do we comply with that? What does it look like?" Hage said. "Another thing is an appeals process. Once a decision gets made about an individual, is there an ability for that individual to appeal that decision and have access to the information that the AI tool used?"

On the topic of educating students, Keith Landa, Director of the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center at Purchase College, said that the decision to use AI in the classroom is up to individual educators. "What we want is AI in the classroom to support student learning and attainment of the learning outcomes, and not short circuit that learning," said Landa, emphasizing the importance of preparing students for an "AI-powered world."

David Sachs Ed.D., a Professor at the Seidenberg School of CSIS at Pace University, recommended that everyone, not just students, use platforms that provide transparency, such as Perplexity. "I use it because it gives you references for everything that that it does. It gives you the hyperlinks down at the bottom, and you can click and verify," said Sachs.

continued on pg 14-

Optimum Honors Hispanic Heritage Month by Launching its Annual Student Essay Contest

Optimum's long-running essay challenge invites students from across the country to reflect on and express their unique views about Hispanic heritage

Optimum, the leading provider of fiber internet, mobile, and TV services, is proud to announce the start of its annual Hispanic Heritage essay contest across its service area. In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which is observed each year from September 15 to October 15, the essay contest recognizes and celebrates the diverse histories, cultures, and contributions of generations of Hispanic Americans across the country.

Available to all middle and high school students across Optimum's footprint, the essay contest will run through Friday, October 31 and boasts a total of four Grand Prize scholarships of \$3,000 as well as Honorable Mention prizes. This year's prompt is:

In Hispanic culture, traditions such as dance, food or historical and family celebrations are important ways people connect and reflect on heritage. People also connect to Hispanic culture through media and entertainment, events or relationships with individuals in their community. In 500 words or less, choose a person, cultural experience, celebration or tradition that has helped you connect to Hispanic culture and explain what that means to you.

Additionally, Optimum will recognize the educators who encouraged their students to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by submitting an essay. Special gifts will be awarded to educators who sponsor the highest number of essay submissions from their students.

"Optimum is honored to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month through this meaningful essay contest, now in its 18th year," said Jen Ostrager, Senior Vice President of Community Affairs at Optimum. "As a company committed to supporting education, this contest provides students the opportunity to share how Hispanic culture shapes their lives and communities. Year after year, we are inspired by the passion and creativity expressed in these essays, and we look forward to reading the stories students will share this season."

Eligibility Requirements

Participants must be a student in grades 6-12 and attend a school in the Optimum service area;

Participants from all ethnic and cultural backgrounds are welcome to submit an essay;

Essay submissions must be written in English;

All essay submissions must be received by 11:59 pm EST on October 31, 2025. For more on Optimum's Hispanic Heritage essay contest, including submission requirements, information on prizes, and how to submit essays, visit optimum.com/hhm.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) # 2025 – 01

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR

ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS, NY

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers, NY (the Authority) is soliciting Statements of Qualifications and Proposals from architectural firms interested in providing professional architectural design, engineering, and construction administration services for work under an IDIQ (Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity) contract with the Authority for a three (3)-year term.

This RFQ is the only information provided to prospective respondents and contains submission requirements, terms, conditions, and other pertinent information for submitting a responsive proposal. The RFQ will be available online starting September 22, 2025, at www.mhacy.org.

There will be a pre-submission conference for interested parties on October 1, 2025. Time and zoom link to be determined. The deadline for questions prospective respondents may have is October 8, 2025, at 3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). All questions must be emailed to procurement@mhacy.org prior to the questions deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

Proposals must reach the Authority no later than 3:00 PM (EST) on October 22, 2025. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

The Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate based on race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. The Authority solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of the Authority's Board of Commissioners, or Authority's officers and/or employees other than the contact person show below, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball

President & CEO

Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers

1511 Central Park Avenue

Yonkers, New York 10710

Project No. RFQ 2025-01

Send us your letters, announcements, opinions,

photos and story ideas to

dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Council Votes 7-0 for MGM Community Benefits Agreement

*comments
from
each
councilmember
next week*

The City of Yonkers has demonstrated that we can support world-class entertainment. Yesterday, our Yonkers City Council approved, in a 7-0 vote, a community benefits package between the City & MGM Empire City. This unanimous vote was quickly followed by overwhelming community support at the final public hearing of the NYS Gaming Facility Location Board's Community Advisory Committee. We can be up and operational with the support of our community and continue to drive revenue for education. We know our residents strongly advocate for full-time gaming. Our goal is to be the number one destination for entertainment in the region.

Mayor Mike Spano

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

race was considered superior.

Thursday, September 25th

September 25, 1943: Dr. Lawrence Ashely, Director of the Yonkers War Industries Program, announced 300 trainees from Yonkers School of Aeronautical Manufacturing were sent to the Tarrytown Eastern Aircraft Plant and employed as aircraft workers. More than 70% of students hired were women; several were hired as inspectors.

Although there were few vacancies in school classes, the demand for trained workers for well-paying jobs exceeded the number of people available; the company especially needed women trained in fine precision work, spot welding and metal fusing.

Several women from the school were hired at precision tool manufacturer Wagner and Pye, in the 60 McLean Avenue Varley Building.

September 23, 1943: RKO Strand, RKO Proctor's, Loew's and the Park Hill, all South Broadway theaters, kicked off Yonkers' "Back the Attack" campaign to promote "Free Movie Week!" Anyone purchasing a war bond of any denomination got a free movie ticket.

Friday, September 26th

September 26, 1915: Dayspring Presbyterian Sunday School boys held "an entertainment" to raise money; they bought bibles for Yonkers hotels!

September 6, 1954: Consolidated Edison offered Yonkers a chance to save the old Hicks-Weed farmhouse.

On a lane just off Tuckahoe Road, the 18th century farmhouse was in the path of planned overhead power lines. Con Ed, who bought the property in 1942, notified City Manager Curran it would give the house to Yonkers since it was a historically valuable property... if it was moved.

After history of the property was shared with Con Edison, they changed the path of the power lines to preserve this historic tenant farmhouse, now Yonkers Historical Society's Sherwood House Museum!

Saturday, September 27th

September 27, 1918: The Yonkers Americanization Committee of Yonkers held a mass meeting in the Common Council chamber "Because the message of democracy must be carried to the 13,000,000 immigrants within our shores." Featured speakers were Executive Secretary of the National Americanization Committee Edwin Rumball and Supervisor of Immigrant Education William Smith.

September 27, 1943: The Public Relations Office of Blytheville Air Field announced former Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority Chairman Thomas Quinlan was appointed Commanding Officer of their 26th Twin-Engine Flying Training Group. Assigned to Blytheville for more than a year, his previous assignment was overseeing building the Post swimming pool.

A veteran World War I pilot and flying instructor, Quinlan had served in France with the 12th Observation Squadron. When at his Elaine Terrace home, he was a member of Aviators Post 747 and the Hudson Valley Flyers Club.

Sunday, September 28th

September 28, 1927: According to the report released by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, more money per person was spent in Yonkers for new buildings and repairs to existing structures than any other city in the country.

September 28, 1941: The Board of Directors of Yonkers Professional Hospital voted to have Doctors George Stanwix and Dr. James Morrissey try one last time to get a favorable lease from the landlord, the Bank of Manhattan.

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

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

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

Wilderness Walks, 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Ages 16 and older can join us for a guided outdoor experience on Muscote's scenic hiking trails. Led by our knowledgeable staff, the free walks will connect you with nature, build confidence on the trails and deepen your appreciation for the beauty of the woods. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wilderness-walks-tickets-1395317224379?aff=oddtcreator>

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

Mindful in Field & Woodlands: A Half-Day Nature Retreat for Ease, Abundance & Joy, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. In this restorative program open to new and experienced meditators, we will savor the bounty of September amidst the rolling fields and woodlands of Hilltop Hanover Farm. Attuning to our innate connection to this season of change and abundance, we will explore nature meditation and mindfulness practices that enhance our connection to the earth while offering us support, perspective and peace. \$25. Get details and register: <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event/2025/09/20/mindful-in-field-woodlands-a-half-day-nature-retreat-for-ease-abundance-joy/525874>

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

Volunteer Work Project: Clearing the Visual Portals of Invasive Plants, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Help keep the visual portals to the waterways open. Please bring work gloves. All other tools will be provided. Great for service credit hours.

Cranberry Lake Preserve, North White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Volunteer Work Day: Invasive Species Removal, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Join the preserve staff in removing invasive plants to aid in habitat restoration. Please call (914) 428-1005 to register.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Friends of Marshlands Annual Membership Meeting, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. The Board of the Friends of Marshlands will hold its annual membership meeting today at the nature center building. It's open to all current members and anyone interested in becoming a member. A free, live-animal program will follow the meeting.

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

"The ABCs of Muscote Farm," 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Celebrate Muscote's rich legacy and community spirit. The exhibit is on display in the Main House on weekends in September. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/press-releases/3533-discover-the-abc-s-of-muscote-farm-this-september>

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

Volunteer Work Project: Continuing the Clearance of the Visual Portals, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Let's keep the existing views of the waterway free of unwanted invasive plants. Please bring work gloves. All other tools will be provided. Great for service credit hours.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Awesome Adaptations! Live Animal Program, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Big ears! Sharp claws! Slimy skin! Those are just a few of the adaptations that help animals survive. Wildlife educator Anthony Cogswell talks about all of the incredible ways an animal's adaptations help it survive.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Lenoir History Tour, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. With centuries of interesting owners and various uses of the land, Lenoir's history is fascinating. Join us on a walk around the preserve to learn all about them!

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

Lasdon Green Squad, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Every Saturday from April to November join the Lasdon Green Squad to keep Lasdon, Westchester's Public Garden looking beautiful. Volunteers will work with Lasdon staff on tasks such as invasive species removal, planting, watering, weeding, trail maintenance, mulching, trash clean up, and other tasks. For those age 14 and older. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-09-20/>

SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

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

History & Natural History of Croton Point, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Ages 6 and older can join the village historian and the park naturalist on a free walk exploring scenic and fascinating Croton Point Park. Wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the RV Park entrance.

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

Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The market supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, featuring over 30 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 16. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/>

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

Yoga in the Gardens, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. \$25. Pre-registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens/2025-09-21/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7263

Gardening Sundays and Tuesdays, Weekly, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Enhance your gardening skills and plant knowledge by working side by side with the gardeners at Lasdon Park. Tasks include planting, watering, weeding, pruning, staking, dead-heading, potting up and more! Through November. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-09-21/>

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

Commemorating Constitution Week, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. How the Great American Experiment and Constitution laid the foundation for the birth of a new nation. Each attendee will receive a copy of the US Constitution, followed by a tour of the historic Miller House with "Ann Miller." Presented by Daughters of Liberty's Legacy; light refreshments; free.

Putnam County Executive Byrne Supports MGM-Empire Casino Yonkers Full Gaming License

Op-Ed by Putnam County Executive Kevin M. Byrne

If approved later this year, MGM Empire City's application for one of the three available state commercial casino licenses would be a game-changer for the region. Their plan to expand table gaming and other entertainment opportunities in Yonkers isn't just good for Westchester—it's good for the entire Hudson Valley, including Putnam County.

While Yonkers may not fall within Putnam's borders, our residents are deeply connected to the area. Many commute there for work, entertainment, or to visit family and friends. Believe it or not, some even call parts of Putnam "Yonkers North." What happens in Yonkers has a direct impact on Putnam and the surrounding region, and Empire City's project is no exception.

Prior to becoming County Executive, I had the privilege of representing both Westchester and Putnam in the state assembly. For years, I worked with colleagues from both parties to push for additional downstate commercial casino licenses. We knew what this could mean for jobs, new revenue, and overall economic growth. Now the time has come to deliver on that promise.

Empire City is now the only applicant outside of the five boroughs of New York City. It's been part of our community for decades, has an experienced workforce, and is in the perfect location to serve residents and visitors from across the tri-state area. Just as important, this project is shovel-ready. MGM has stated in its application materials that it can keep its current operations running while construction is underway, ensuring steady revenue and a faster build-out than other competing proposals.

As proposed, this project would also generate gaming revenue to be shared across the region—millions of dollars that could help keep taxes more affordable, improve roads and infrastructure, and expand services like public transportation for seniors and other vulnerable citizens. On top of that, the project will create 2,000 new jobs with average compensation packages of \$150,000, opening doors to good careers for individuals and families across the Hudson Valley.

Approving a license for Empire City means keeping revenue here in New York, creating new opportunities for working families, and strengthening communities beyond the city limits. A 2021 NYS Senate Finance Committee report estimated that downstate casinos could generate over \$1 billion annually in new state revenue, much of which would otherwise flow to neighboring states such as Connecticut.

Thanks to a successful "track" record of job creation and regional economic growth, I believe MGM Empire City casino should receive one of the three commercial casino licenses currently up for grabs.

As the only proposed business model left outside the City of New York, Empire City is the best bet, not only for our region, but our state.

unclaimed funds, continued from pg 1-

Every day the State Comptroller returns more than \$2 million to New Yorkers, and today reconnected nearly \$12,000 in unclaimed funds to local organizations, including \$5,781 for the White Plains City School District, \$3,695 for the Business Council of Westchester, \$2,175 for My Sisters Place and \$330 for the Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 21.

County Executive Jenkins said: "Too often, people don't realize they're owed money—and the truth is, you could be one of them. Westchester residents work hard for every dollar they earn, and we want to make sure they get back what's rightfully theirs. It only takes a minute to check the State Comptroller's website and see if you or a loved one is owed unclaimed funds. Don't leave your money behind."

State Comptroller DiNapoli said: "We're returning more than \$2 million a day to New Yorkers, and my office is working to make it easier than ever to reclaim lost money, including mailing some checks directly to their rightful owners. If you get a check, cash it. There are \$453 million reasons why people living in Westchester should visit our website to search for their names, check for family members and reclaim their money."

Unclaimed funds occur when people lose track of their money or an account and can come from utility deposits, trust funds, old bank accounts, uncashed checks or unused gift cards. These funds never expire, and it's quick and easy to check the website: <https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds>.

There are currently over 648,000 accounts with addresses in Westchester County.

In an effort to speed up returns, the State Comptroller's Office of Unclaimed Funds (OUF) began mailing checks for newly reported accounts of \$250 or less to eligible individuals in January. About 73,000 checks have been sent out, valued at \$5.5 million as of August.

Residents who need assistance with the search process can attend an in-person event held by DiNapoli's office or call OUF at (800) 221-9311, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

AI Panel, continued from pg 4-

Elaine C. Zacharakis, a Health, Privacy, and Technology Consultant/Attorney at Zacharakis Loumbas Law LLC, Associate Professor and HIPAA Compliance Officer, New York Institute of Technology, Adjunct Professor, Pace Law School, spoke about the growing role of AI in healthcare. "The benefits of AI for healthcare are tremendous in terms of analyzing big data, like what cancer therapy works for this type of patient," said Zacharakis, while also acknowledging that "there is also a lot of risk to privacy."

Rep. George Latimer noted that the AI revolution will deliver wrenching change. "Artificial intelligence can go places that I can't even imagine," said Latimer. "There will be dislocation of career paths because of this. How do we anticipate and respond to that? That is an issue for business, ethicists and for government."

Pace University President Marvin Krislov said that AI is a continuing topic at his school's AI Lab. "With so much activity, people around here have started asking, where are we? And are we quietly rebranding as AI University? No. We're not rebranding...but Pace has always been a place that focused on not only giving students a great education but giving them the tools they need to succeed in life and in their careers," said Krislov.

Regeneron, Montefiore Einstein, CCLEAN, Dorf Nelson & Zauderer LLP, the Westchester County Office of Economic Development and Verizon sponsored *Governing the Future: The Ethical Frontier of AI Regulations and Policy*.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWMBS, INC., CHL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH TRUST 2005-14, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-14, Plaintiff, -against- IRYNA DELAROSA AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF SALVADOR DELAROSA; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF SALVADOR DELAROSA; any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; D.D. AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF SALVADOR DELAROSA c/o IRYNA DELAROSA; CAVALRY SPV I, LLC; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA- INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; JOHN DOE, Defendants. INDEX # 68449/2022 Original filed with Clerk 11/22/2022. Plaintiff Designates Westchester County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject action is situated Westchester County. Premises: 718 Scarsdale Rd Yonkers, NY 10707. TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within 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); the United States of America may appear or answer within 60 day of service hereof; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. This supplemental summons and amended complaint are being filed pursuant to court order dated August 27, 2025. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT The OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage recorded on May 17, 2005, at Control No. 451220706, in the Office of the Clerk of Westchester County, New York, covering premises known as 718 Scarsdale Rd, Yonkers, NY 10707. Said mortgage was modified by a Loan Modification Agreement dated September 17, 2019 and recorded in the Westchester County Clerk's Office on December 5, 2019 at Control No. 593363299. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this Summons and Complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWMBS, INC., CHL MORTGAGE PASSTHROUGH TRUST 2005-14, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-14 AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. Dated: Uniondale, New York, August 6, 2025. Respectfully submitted, Pincus and Tarab, Attorneys at Law, PLLC. By: George J. Weissinger, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiff 425 RXR Plaza Uniondale, NY 11556 516-699-8902.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Fuller Center for Housing of Greater NYC Golf Outing October 7-Wykagyl County Club

Mayor Spano & YPS Address Students Attendance Rates with Pledge 182 Campaign

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This is an incredible day of championship course golf followed by a cocktail reception, dinner, prizes, raffles, and more!
Register online: <https://bit.ly/42ia2BK>
Or Scan the QR Code.
For additional information email:
AngeliqueMREventsRemember.com.

We are very excited to be celebrating our 24th Annual Golf Outing, An Applied Underwriters Invitational Event on October 7, 2025 at Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, NY. As you know, The Fuller Center for Housing of Greater New York City promotes collaborative and innovative partnerships with individuals and organizations, like yourselves, to provide decent shelter for all people in need throughout the New York Metropolitan 100% of the net proceeds will be used to create home ownership opportunities for families, revitalize neighborhoods, and rebuild after disasters like hurricanes and fires. This October marks seven years of The Fuller Center of Greater New York City, whose volunteers work throughout the year to restore affected neighborhoods and homes throughout our area. Visit <https://app.eventcaddy.com/events/fuller-center-for-housing-of-greater-nyc-24th-annual-golf-outing> find numerous sponsorship and player registration opportunities.

MGM, continued from pg 1-

scribed jobs at MGM Resorts as ones that “catapult many families into the middle class.”

Another employee, a single mother and Yonkers resident, credited MGM’s mentorship and professional development opportunities for helping her advance her career while remaining present for her children. She noted that she was able to afford a house and purchased one next to the casino to allow for easy proximity to her children and work. Others highlighted participation in MGM’s Corporate Responsibility Council, pointing to philanthropy and volunteerism as part of the company’s footprint. Union members emphasized they live in Yonkers and backed the project “as neighbors as much as union workers,” a refrain that drew applause without dominating the proceedings.

Local elected officials also signaled support early in the hearing, with Mayor Mike Spano and City Council Majority Leader John Rubbo offering favorable remarks. A handful of area businesses, some long-time partners with the casino and others with no direct ties, spoke to anticipated spillover benefits for hotels, restaurants, and suppliers. A minority of speakers urged caution or said they saw tremendous benefits from the project but still held concerns about the impact on the community.

The CAC announced that it will convene to vote on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. The vote will be public and streamed, but there will be no public comment at that session. A two-thirds CAC vote is required for any proposal to advance to the Gaming Facility Location Board for consideration, and all committees must complete their work by Sept. 30, 2025, under the downstate licensing timeline.

Manhattan bids voted down on Wednesday

In a consequential turn for the statewide race, two of the three remaining Manhattan proposals were rejected by their CACs on Wednesday: the Caesars Palace Times Square plan, backed by SL Green and Roc Nation, failed on a 4-2 vote, and The Avenir, near the Javits Center, led by Silverstein Properties, was also voted down on a 4-2 vote.

What’s next: If the Yonkers CAC delivers the required two-thirds approval on Sept. 25, the bid moves forward in the downstate licensing process; without it, the application cannot advance. Dates are still being set by the CACs for the other projects to cast their votes.

In an effort to improve academic readiness, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and Yonkers Public Schools held an assembly at School 5 today and asked a cohort of Yonkers students in grades K-8 to participate in the Pledge 182 campaign in which students commit to attend school every day and on time.

“Education lays the foundation for our future, and every missed school day is a missed opportunity for growth,” said Mayor Spano. “In Yonkers, we remain deeply committed to nurturing the promise within every child. By prioritizing school attendance, we can ensure that every student has the support and opportunity to succeed.”

To increase the school’s attendance rate, School 5 Principal Dr. Jason Baez will implement monthly attendance awards, highlight students through social media shoutouts, encourage class versus class challenges, and showcase achievements on an “Attendance Wall of Fame.”

“Mayor Spano’s leadership in promoting daily attendance sends a powerful message to our students and families,” noted Superintendent of Schools Anibal Soler, Jr. “Pledge 182 reminds us that every single school day counts. When students commit to showing up, they build the habits and consistency that lead to stronger academic outcomes, higher graduation rates, and brighter futures.”

Yonkers Public Schools prioritizes reducing chronic absenteeism, which is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason. Chronic absenteeism has significant negative effects on students and the broader community, including lower academic achievement, disrupted learning, reduced graduation rates, weakened peer relationships, lower self-esteem, and increased behavioral challenges. The goal of the Pledge 182 campaign is to re-engage families of chronically absent students through targeted outreach, encouragement, and recognition, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to succeed.

Mayor Spano challenged the students at School 5, urging them to sign the pledge and promised to return in June and give a pizza party to the students who achieve a perfect attendance during the 2025-2026 academic school year.

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

-Thomas Jefferson

SUMMONS—SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER – GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GITSIT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST BBPLC1, Plaintiff, -against- HOPE T. COCCHI, ROBERT J. MORZILLO, AND MICHAEL A. MORZILLO, AS HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE DECEDENT ANGIE MORZILLO A/K/A ANGIE K. MORZILLO; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, NEXT-OF-KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING, UNDER, BY OR THROUGH THE DECEDENT ANGIE MORZILLO A/K/A ANGIE K. MORZILLO, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SOUTHERN DISTRICT); "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #10" inclusive, the names of the ten last name Defendants being fictitious, real names unknown to the Plaintiff, the parties intended being persons or corporations having an interest in, or tenants or persons in possession of, portions of the mortgaged premises described in the Complaint, Defendants - Index No. 65454/2025 Plaintiff Designates Westchester County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Westchester County. To the above named Defendants— YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance upon the Plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the date of service or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. If you fail to so appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated August 27, 2025. NOTICE-YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME – If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GITSIT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST BBPLC1) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Robert S. Ondrovic J.S.C. Dated: August 27, 2025 Filed: August 27, 2025. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 40 Newkirk Road, Yonkers, NY 10710. Dated: June 16, 2025 Filed: June 18, 2025 Knuckles & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Mark R. Knuckles, Esq., 120 White Plains Road, Suite 215, Tarrytown, New York 10591 Phone: (914) 345-3020

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