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Friday October 13, 2023

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Church Celebrates 175th Anniversary



Yonkers Oldest Catholic Church

By Dan Murphy

Parishioners of St. Mary's -Immaculate Conception Church, located at 103 South Broadway in Yonkers, are celebrating its 175th anniversary in 2023 with a series of events leading to its anniversary Mass to be celebrated on December 9th by Cardinal Timothy Dolan.

Another big event in the church's celebration is a Parish Cultural Heritage Day on October 15, where families from St. Mary's diverse communities have been invited to share a favorite dish or a beverage, display their national flag, and wear their cultural attire. This special event will be similar to the successful one from the 1998 -150th anniversary. An anniversary dinner dance will also be held at Castle Royale on November 11.

One of St. Mary's longest serving Pastors was Msgr. Hugh Corrigan, who presided over the parish for 30 years, (1987-2018). Msgr. Corrigan wrote a book on the history of the church to celebrate the 150th anniversary in 1998, titled *The Parish of St. Mary's of the Immaculate Conception, Yonkers 1848-2016*.

Saint Mary's was the church's first name but in late 1948 a second name was also permitted -Immaculate Conception, and in 1878 the latter name became the canonical one.

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Mayoral Candidate Merante Looks to Revamp City Car Policy; Refuses City Funded Vehicle



Merante, a CPA, parked at City Hall showing off his personal plates, has refused a city car

Since first elected, Councilman Anthony Merante is the only Councilmember to refuse a taxpayer funded city car. He believes that hard-working Yonkers taxpayers should not be paying for his car and gas. Merante stated, "I see no reason why any city employee should have a city car. The only exception would be critical workers who are on call 24/7. Everyone else should make use of a carpool if they need a vehicle or use their own cars and submit for reimbursement of mileage for official city business. The abuse and gluttony of these costly city cars are out of control and are an unnecessary burden on taxpayers. As mayor, I will revamp this policy."

The mayor who was first elected 12 years or 3 terms ago, is not the same man he is today. His incumbency and long time in office have caused him to corrupt his values. I wholeheartedly agreed with the then newly elected Mayor Spano who promised at his first inaugural address, "We will start by treating every dollar as if it belongs to the people, because it does. And before we spend every dollar, we will ask ... is this a dollar well spent? We are going to start with all those dollars spent on cars and gas for high level city workers. It's just wrong when the working people are barely getting by, for so many workers to drive home in city cars and fill up their tanks at a city gas pump". Spano also stated, "Starting immediately, we are going to eliminate every vehicle we possibly can and sell them at auction". (video link: <https://youtu.be/HBONoEpEScY>)

Sadly, The Mayor broke his promise. In addition, he's become heady with power and now has an exaggerated opinion of his own importance. No previous mayor in Yonkers history was driven around in a black SUV like a "Hollywood Celebrity" with a costly, plain clothes police security detail. Merante said, "As mayor, I will drive myself. Afterall, most mayoral public events consist of ribbon cuttings, flag raisings and community celebrations. Those police officers could be put to better use on the street protecting the public."

Yonkers Stands with Israel: Bowman Condemns DSA Support of Terror



By Dan Murphy

The rule of thumb for politicians regarding a wrongdoing or story that they want to see go away is simple; just wait for the next news item to occupy the minds of the American people.

Westchester Congressman Jamaal Bowman's fake fire alarm stunts at the Capitol in Washington DC two weeks ago has been taken off the front pages of most papers and isn't discussed anymore on Cable TV. First, it was replaced by the removal of Kevin McCarthy as House Speaker, with Bowman voting to remove and Westchester's other Congressman, Mike Lawler voting to keep McCarthy, who was voted out.

And last weekend, the terrorist attack on Israel by Hamas has now rightfully gained our country's outrage and attention, with Americans killed and taken hostage.

Some of the outrage in the US has turned on those elected officials and protestors who explained the killing of innocent men, women and children as a result of "U.S. government support for Israeli military occupation and apartheid."

The Democratic Socialists of America, DSC, drew the most criticism in New York when they joined a pro-Palestinian rally in Times Square one day after the attack. More than 1,000 chanted "Resistance is justified when people are occupied," and some stomped on and burned the Israeli flag. The worst visual was one pro-Palestinian protestor who held up a Swastika on their phone.

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Groundwork Hudson Valley Gets \$5.5 M Grant to Give Yonkers Youth Career Opportunities



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service has announced \$5,526,563 in funding to Groundwork Hudson Valley to create a new Urban Forestry and Climate Resilience Technical Career Pathway for high school students in Southwest Yonkers at the Barack Obama School for Social Justice.

Oded Holzinger, Groundwork Hudson Valley's Executive Director, shared his gratitude to the USDA Forest Service and partners for the significant investment made in Yonkers' low-income communities that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. "Addressing the current and future climate change-related challenges will require reimagining our workforce and galvanizing initiatives that will make it possible. Young people are inheriting a hotter and wetter planet. Therefore, it's crucial to provide them with the tools and skills necessary to address these challenges while also setting them up for success with good paying jobs. This is a win-win."

Over the 5-year implementation period, between 80 and 100 students from the Barack Obama School for Social Justice will be involved directly in this program which creates a career pathway to well paid jobs in the field of Urban Forestry. Interim Superintendent of the Yonkers Public Schools, Dr. Luis Rodriguez stated, "This opportunity could not come in a timelier manner. The students of Yonkers will benefit greatly from the opportunities associated with this funding. This initiative will work in tandem with other programming established at the school and will support those students interested in environmental justice, urban renewal and climate change. Concurrently, through the Green Team Program expansion, our students will benefit from working closely with a community partner who is on the cutting edge of the field."

Building off the success of their sustainability education and youth leadership initiatives, including the youth employment program known as the Green Team, Groundwork will work with Yonkers Public Schools to include urban forestry education in the existing STEM education curriculum and expand the Green Team program to include more paid part-time jobs for youth interested in pursuing careers in the expanding green economy.

This grant aligns with the Yonkers Climate Action Plan, released in June of this year, and will work concurrently with the city's own \$1,000,000 grant

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Simone Development Acquires 1 Exec. Blvd. in Middle of “Medical Mile



In a major medical redevelopment that will enhance the “Medical Mile” in North Yonkers, Simone Development Companies has acquired One Executive Boulevard, pictured above, a 133,768-square-foot, 4-story office building located within 1/4 mile of 879,426 square feet of existing medical office space.

Simone Development, a leader in the development of modern medical office space, has begun interior and exterior renovations to repurpose the property into a state-of-the-art medical building. Located on 6.7 acres at the intersection of Executive Boulevard and North Broadway, One Executive Boulevard offers excellent visibility and accessibility to major highways and mass transit with abundant parking. The seller was an affiliate of Robert Martin Company.

One Executive Boulevard complements the North Yonkers Medical Mile that includes Simone’s highly successful Boyce Thompson Center. The 85,000-square-foot mixed-use center features physician’s offices of St. John’s Riverside Hospital, Westmed/Summit Health, ENT & Allergy Associates, Columbia Doctors and other medical practices along with retail shops and restaurants.

One Executive Boulevard also neighbors Simone Development’s 1034 North Broadway, a 25,000-square-foot, recently renovated multi-tenant medical building that includes Northwell Health as well as Trust Specialty Pharmacy, the first pharmacy and drug compounding retail location in Yonkers.

Other well-known healthcare providers within the North Yonkers Medical Mile include St. John’s Family Medical Practice, Elizabeth Seton Children’s Center, Riverhill Radiation Oncology, and Northway Medical Center.

One Executive Boulevard is conveniently located near three major hotels: Courtyard by Marriott, Residence Inn by Marriott and Hampton Inns & Suites with a total of 337 rooms.

“Our acquisition of this important property located in the heart of what we see as the North Yonkers Medical Mile fits perfectly with our vision for this vibrant and growing healthcare community. Our investment in the Medical Mile began with our redevelopment of the Boyce Thompson Center, which has successfully attracted top-level medical tenants. Moving forward, we foresee continued strength in the healthcare sector here with its easy access to Southern and Central Westchester, Riverdale and the North Bronx,” said Joe Simone, President of Simone Development Companies.

“Simone Development’s vision for Yonkers continues to elevate our economy,” said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. “Investing in Yonkers’ growing healthcare industry is smart and brings more jobs and momentum to the city. I look forward to seeing the expansion of Yonkers’ Medical Mile.”

One Executive Boulevard currently has roughly 50,000 square feet of medical space available for lease. For more information, please contact Josh Gopan, Vice President of Leasing at Simone Development, or Jeremy Schwartz, Director of Leasing at Simone Development, at 718-215-3000.

No Tea No Shade: October is LGBTQ+ History Month



The 1990 Movie Paris is Burning

By Dennis Richmond Jr.

The LGBTQ+ Community is celebrating LGBTQ+ History Month for the 29th time. The first LGBTQ+ History Month took place in 1994. Founded by Rodney Wilson, a high school teacher in Missouri, the month-long observance celebrates different factors of the community. Perhaps the two most important factors of this community are resilience and popularity. According to a Gallup poll, over 7% of Americans identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community. That number has doubled in the past decade. With numbers creeping to 10%, the LGBTQ+ is here and is here to stay.

Today, many teenage boys could walk across their high school hallways holding their boyfriend’s hand. Many girls could take their girlfriends to prom. Adults in the community could even get married now. When I was in high school, about a decade ago, the supreme court was yet to strike down all state bans on same-sex marriage. When I was in high school, we didn’t have rappers like Santana and Lil Nas X. We had a few songs that meant something. Macklemore made a song called “Same Love” and Frank Ocean made a song called “Thinking Bout You.” Macklemore’s song has since garnered over a quarter billion views on YouTube.

As we identify LGBTQ+ History, it is imperative that we recognize our legends, statements, stars, and icons. One icon is Kevin JZ Prodigy. Prodigy, a vogue performer, and solidified ballroom commentator is from Philadelphia, PA. Kevin has been in the game for almost two decades and shows no signs of stopping. Beyonce’s song “Pure/Honey” off her 2022 album Renaissance featured Prodigy. People across the world vogue to chants created by Prodigy- especially in New York. There’s nothing like a nice warm, “bam-bam-shawam,” to move the girls. Prodigy is an icon.

Ballroom culture itself is over 50 years old in New York. Popular slang terms have seeped out of the Ballroom scene and into mainstream media. “Messy,” “Shade,” “Giving,” “Carry,” and “Tea,” are all popular words that even non-LGBTQ+ folk use today. Perhaps one of the most iconic visuals to come out of Ballroom is the 1990 American documentary film, Paris Is Burning. The documentary chronicles the Ballroom Scene in New York City.

Whether you support the LGBTQ+ Community or not, one this is for sure, and two things are for certain. The Community has a history and it’s important to know that history. Why? Because nothing happened today, just happened. It all took time and it all took folk before us to make it happen. Ancestors and Trancestors.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., is an author and journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ Community. He has covered HBCUs periodically for six years at Yonkers Rising. Richmond lives in Yonkers. Follow him on Twitter @NewYorkStakz.

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On This Day in Yonkers History...



famous drawing of Gen. George Washington in Yonkers at Valentine

Valentine Homestead, With George Washington and "Farmer" Valentine in Foreground. Courtesy of D. F. Valentine.

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

Monday, October 16th

October 16, 1919: The Knights of Columbus reported the first three days of their Memorial Hut Drive raising funds to build a home for ex-servicemen had obtained \$34,000 of the needed \$125,000. The night before, non-Catholic members of our community met and appealed to all segments of our Yonkers population to support this worthy cause: seventy-eight prominent citizens signed their names to full page ads to run in both the Yonkers Herald and the Yonkers Statesman. The proposed facility, to be built at the corner of South Broadway and St. Mary's Street, would be open to all "men of Yonkers, regardless of religious creed or faith." Before the day was over, an additional \$4,000 was added to the fund.

October 16, 1939: Yonkers Corporation Council Leonard McAneny filed an opinion with City Clerk Francis Heafy. Not only had Yonkers had agreed to transfer ownership of Frey Park to Westchester County in exchange for land used to widen Central Park Avenue on December 1, 1930, Mayor Loehr signed a quit claim deed. The land in question later was sold to "real estate interests," to build a Howard Johnson restaurant.

Tuesday, October 17th

October 17, 1919: Thomas McCauley found a skull in the Nepperhan Creek; fearing foul play, McCauley rushed it to the police station! Turns out, it was the same skull found several months earlier near public pier, identified by marks placed on the skull at that time. During the first investigation, they realized it had been used for medical research. As a joke, the officers sent to Yonkers Daily News reporter Norman Orr; Orr, not thrilled with the "gift," had tossed it right into the Nepperhan Creek.

October 17, 1919: The Knights of Columbus ratcheted up their efforts to build a home for former servicemen with the appearance of Archbishop Hayes at the North Broadway Armory, an event attended by more than 2,000 people. A community sing was held before the Cardinal arrived; speaking besides Cardinal Hayes were Mayor William Wallin, Daughters of Isabella National President Genevieve Walsh, K of C Supreme Grand Knight James Flaherty, Rabbi Tarshish of Temple Israel, and Drive Chairman Dan Nolan. Cardinal Hayes personally pledged \$500 to the cause that night, and additionally promised to contribute an additional \$500 once the needed total was raised.

Wednesday, October 18th

October 18, 1919: Otis Elevator Company announced they would increase employees' salaries, costing the company an additional \$250,000 annually. Salaries at Otis were high; the company only employed mechanics of superior skill and ability, required because of the need for them to operate the most modern equipment... and the high need for perfection. Company policy required all employees be American citizens, and most were Yonkers residents.

October 18, 1935: The Carnegie Corporation of New York, in observance of the 100th anniversary of Mr. Carnegie's birth, presented a portrait of Andrew Carnegie to the Yonkers Public Library. Carnegie had donated \$50,000 to build the library on South Broadway in 1903.

Thursday, October 19th

October 19, 1895: After the Common Council announced its plans to tear down the Manor Hall and build a new City in its place, an irate citizen placed an ad in The Yonkers Statesman: "in memory of Philipse Manor hall, assassinated in 1895."

October 19, 1939: After Public Safety Commissioner Denis Morrissey ordered parking behind the First National Building at 20 South Broadway changed to one-hour parking, area lawyers, dentists and other professionals were furious. Tenants from offices at 14, 16, 18, 20 and 30 South Broadway met to plan their protest and created a petition to present to Mayor Loehr, the Common Council, and Commissioner Morrissey. According to Dr. D'Eloia, all supported ignoring the Public Safety Commissioner's order if they did not get relief; he stated, "The Commissioner may have a tough time fighting us as 95 per cent of the lawyers in town are affected by the order." Alderman Salvatore Cerone attended the meeting and promised assistance.

Friday, October 20th

October 20, 1919: Dan Nolan, Knights of Columbus Memorial Hut Drive Chairman, announced the total raised was more than \$42,000 of the needed \$125,000. The "Crippled War Veterans" studying at Yonkers High School, men wounded during the World War, all donated to the cause because they were grateful for the work of the K of C during the war.

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Israel and Kennedy



By Eric Wolf Schoen

What's Going on on Israel?

It started on Saturday morning. Hamas began an assault on Israel firing thousands of rockets. This followed a surprise attack by the Palestinian militant group based in Gaza that included taking civilian hostages at a music festival. 260 bodies were recovered.

The last time anything like this occurred was in 1973 during Yom Kippur. This time the attacks were occurring during Simchat Torah, a Jewish holiday that marks the conclusion of the annual cycle of public Torah readings and the beginning of a new cycle.

Hamas said the attack is retribution for ongoing attacks on women, desecration of Al-Aqua mosque in Jerusalem, and the ongoing siege of Gaza. At press time Reported numbers included 900 Israelis killed, 687 killed by retaliatory air strikes.

The Israel military called up 300,000 reserve units. This is a record number of reservists. Israel also asked the United States for more weapons. The Israel defense minister ordered a complete siege of the Gaza Strip. The territory relies on Israel for food, water and electricity.

The Israeli military struck hundreds of targets in Gaza including mosque and refugee camps. Hamas threatened to execute a hostage each time an Israeli air strike hit a home in Gaza.

Both Republicans and Democrats condemned Hamas. Vladimir Putin's response has been muted. At press time President Biden reiterated the United States support of Israel.

Democrat Socialist of America Congressman Jamaal Bowman who represents Yonkers and the Bronx refused to condemn the groups hate filled Pro-Palestinian rally in Manhattan on Sunday. At the rally the Israeli flag was burned and the event was filled with swastika images. Bowman's lack of condemnation is disgraceful and out of line with his constituents who believe he should have condemned the rally.

Heightened security has been put in place in WESTCHESTER and throughout the metropolitan area. Jews in the United States going to and from synagogue or religious events have been told to stay aware of their surroundings

Where this is going to go nobody knows. Pray for the people of Israel that they be safe and secure during these trying times.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Is running for President on an Independent Line

The Democrat nominating convention for President in the '80's. It took place at Madison Square Garden. It was a Tuesday night. The main speaker that night was Ted Kennedy. When it was his turn to speak I was at the concession stand getting a hot dog. I got the dog, mustard and sauerkraut. I was heading back to my seat when my mother who I brought to the convention screamed, 'Eric sit down quickly. Ted Kennedy is getting ready to speak.'

And so I learned quickly Americas love of the Kennedy family. Mom was in her seat and began to cry when Kennedy started speaking. So did many other people in the auditorium. The Kennedy family has a special place in the heart of Americans.

So now, these many years later we have another Kennedy running for President. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. His father and uncles are rolling in their graves. Kennedy has decided to run as an Independent, not a Democrat for President in 2024. Hey wait. The Kennedy's are Democrats. By running as an Independent he has taken up the banner of a populist movement that defies left-right division.

Kennedy has alienated his own family members by not running as a Democrat. His siblings denounce his candidacy and believe it to be perilous for our country. Democrats and Republicans are frightened by his Independent candidacy. What does Kennedy say to them? 'My intention is to spoil the election for both parties.'

Kennedy feels that the Democratic leadership has high jacked the party machine to stifle his potential challenge to Biden. The party, in his thinking has abandoned its principles and become corrupted.

Running as an Independent is an expensive, uphill battle. Particularly when you have a lot of baggage to carry. He has alienated his family by promotion of conspiracy theories. He has rejected science and embraced the far left.

His anti-vaccine sentiment, suspicion of the government handling of the coronavirus, criticisms of lockdown and vaccine policies and belief that people are weary of the pandemic are all issues voters will have to take a look at. He believes voters are declaring independence from adversaries such as Wall Street, Big Technology, Big Pharma, the military industrial complex, mercenary media, cynical elites and the entire rigged system.

Kennedy believes his support will come from disaffected voters all across the political spectrum including skeptical democrats and political conservatives. Then let's not forget nostalgia for his political lineage. There are still people like my mom who when they hear the Kennedy bell pull it!

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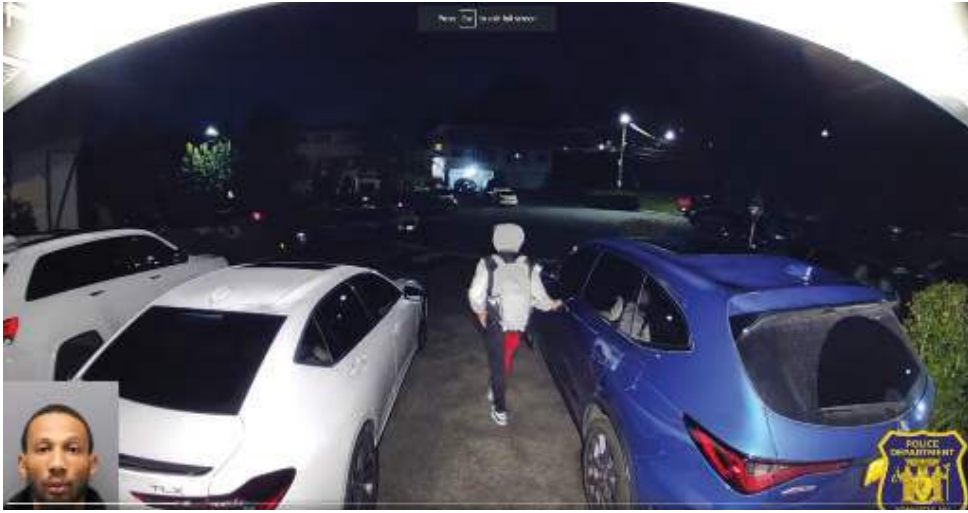
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Career Larcenist Caught on Camera in Yonkers Attempting to Enter Car and Roaming in a Home



From the Yonkers Police Department: Let us introduce you to Ian WINDLEY. In the past 12 years that Mr. WINDLEY has been an adult, he has racked up 28 arrests and 13 convictions ranging from Petit Larceny to Burglary. He is also currently on Parole through 2028, after just being released less than 3 months ago from prison after serving a sentence for a Burglary he committed in Hastings-on-Hudson.

Impressive stats at just 30 years old. He is what we would call a career larcenist. Except, he isn't good at it. Earlier this week, the Yonkers Police Department Crime Control Strategies Division became aware of multiple security camera videos being posted to the social media platform "Neighbors" by RING of a male attempting to enter parked vehicles throughout the northern end of the 4th Precinct.

This male was quickly identified as Ian WINDLEY and was arrested by our Warrant Squad on 10/3/2023. He was charged with three counts of Attempted Grand Larceny 3. Following up on the investigation, Officers also recovered surveillance video which showed WINDLEY entering and roaming through a home. This same day, an additional charge of Criminal Trespass 2 was filed against Windley, who remains in custody at this time, awaiting future court appearances.

We remind our residents to continue to practice our #9PMRoutine to keep thieves like Mr. WINDLEY empty-handed. We also remind other thieves that Yonkers is not the place for you to attempt your crimes. You will be caught.

Yonkers Resident to Be Honored by Maria Regina High School



Paul Thomas, left, distinguished alumnae parent and member of the Board of Trustees, will be honored at Maria Regina High School's Golf Classic and Dinner Reception to be held Tuesday, October 24 at Leewood Golf Club, Eastchester, New York.

Members of Maria Regina's Family—parents, alumnae, faculty and administration, board of trustees, community partners and friends—will be on hand to celebrate Thomas for his long-standing commitment, dedication and generosity too the renowned all girls Catholic high school and his lifetime of service to Catholic education.

Thomas' support of Maria Regina began in earnest as a result his two daughters enrolling as students, starting with Erin (Class of '14) and continuing with Cady (Class of '17). "Needless to say, he was a very proud and involved dad during his daughters' years as students," said Maria Carozza-McCaffrey (Class of '99), Principal, adding: "Paul was a fixture in the halls of Maria Regina and in the stands cheering on his daughters and their fellow Tigers. Now it's our turn to cheer him." In 2018, Thomas became a member of Maria Regina's Board of Trustees. Currently, he is chair of the school's Advancement Committee. Thomas served Mount St. Michael Academy in the Bronx for 19 years where he taught math and coached freshmen basketball and freshmen football. He was inducted into the CHSAA Hall of Fame in 2019. As an outstanding student athlete, Thomas ran cross-country and played rugby and basketball at Stepinac High School where he graduated (Class of 1980). Thomas and his wife Bobbie Lee live in Yonkers. Their third child, Devin, is also a Stepinac graduate (Class of 2012). Visit www.MariaRegina.org for more info.

How the VET PFAS Act Could Help NY Veterans Injured by Toxic Exposure at Military Bases



By Jonathan Sharp, CFO, Environmental Litigation Group, P.C.

While the risks of military service are countless, from permanent hearing loss to serious combat injuries, a more insidious health threat is toxic exposure, which occurs at the vast majority of military bases nationwide. These installations are contaminated with perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, also known as PFAS or "forever chemicals." Exposure to these harmful substances can result in numerous health problems, including kidney, prostate, and testicular cancer.

New York is home to 838,000 veterans and 19 military bases, including Camp Smith. Established in 1882 and located in Westchester County, the military base has a high PFAS level in its environment, specifically 80 parts per trillion, which exceeds the EPA's new safe exposure limit of 4 parts per trillion by 20 times. The source of "forever chemicals" at military facilities across the country is firefighters and trainees using AFFF, a fire suppressant that sometimes contains up to 98% PFAS.

Another site with known PFAS contamination in the county is Westchester County Airport, whose environment is polluted with 96 parts per trillion of these highly toxic chemicals, eclipsing the maximum permissible limit by 24 times. Today, the water supply of Yonkers contains seven contaminants of concern over the safe exposure limit, including chloroform, trichloroacetic acid, and bromodichloromethane. This means that other dangerous substances might have been used at Camp Smith during the last century, which ended up in the groundwater.

While PFAS exposure can also impact the health of residents living near military bases, veterans have to suffer the most as a consequence of toxic exposure, as they regularly came in contact with these chemicals during active duty. A recent study from Environmental Health Perspectives assessed the risk of developing testicular germ cell tumors in U.S. Air Force servicemen exposed to PFAS. The researchers found that elevated PFOS concentrations were positively associated with testicular cancer, including after adjustment for other PFAS.

Sadly, many veterans affected by PFAS exposure at military bases have a challenging time accessing the VA benefits they are entitled to. This is because the VA does not currently recognize the connection between "forever chemicals" exposure and the diseases it can cause. However, a sliver of hope for veterans whose health was compromised by toxic exposure could be the VET PFAS Act, which was introduced by Senator Debbie Stabenow on July 17, 2023. One of the goals of this bill is to establish a presumption of service connection for veterans who were stationed at military bases where PFAS exposure occurred.

Some of the diseases the VET PFAS Act would cover are kidney cancer, thyroid disease, ulcerative colitis, testicular cancer, and high cholesterol. Furthermore, the purpose of the bill is also to provide healthcare and medical services to veterans who lived at military bases where they were exposed to "forever chemicals." If the VET PFAS Act was signed into law, veterans injured by exposure to these dangerous chemicals would have a significantly easier time obtaining the VA healthcare and disability compensation they deserve for their often life-threatening illnesses, as the connection between toxic exposure and their health problems would finally be recognized.

Jonathan Sharp is Chief Financial Officer at Environmental Litigation Group, P.C. Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, the law firm provides assistance to veterans injured by toxic exposure at military bases across the country.

GHV Grant, continued from pg 1-

from the US Forest Service to plant and maintain trees, and combat extreme heat and climate change. The investment has generated a clear framework to create a more climate resilient Yonkers for all and marks a critical push to the transition from planning to implementation. "This investment made by our federal partners is an acknowledgement of the need to stem the effects of climate change, especially in some of the nation's most underserved communities," said Mayor Spano. "Increasing our urban tree canopy and providing more green space will vastly improve the quality of life of our residents and create healthier generations to come. Yonkers is committed to being a more sustainable, greener, and equitable place for our families." For more information visit groundworkhv.org.

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Bar Associations Judicial Ratings for State Supreme Court Show Democrats Well Qualified

The Westchester County Bar Association and Dutchess County Bar Association recently released their rankings for the 4 democratic and 4 republican candidates for State Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District.

The Westchester County Bar Association gave three democratic candidates, Judge Charley Wood, Judge Fran Connolly and Judge Rolf Thorsen an Exceptionally Well Qualified ranking.

Judge Larry Schwartz got a well qualified rating, as did two republican candidates for State Supreme Court; John Sarcone and Susan Sullivan-Bisceglia.

Republican judicial candidate John Ciampoli received a qualified rating, and republican candidate Karen Ostberg received a not qualified based on her failure to appear for an interview.

The Dutchess County Bar Association also gave the eight judicial candidates their ratings, with Highly Qualified the highest.

6 candidates were screened for position of Justice of the Supreme Court:

- Hon. Charley Wood was found to be highly qualified.
- Hon. Francesca Connolly was found to be highly qualified.
- John Sarcone, Esq. was found to be qualified.
- Hon. Larry Schwartz was found to be well qualified.
- Hon. Susan Sullivan-Bisceglia was found to be well qualified.
- Hon. Rolf Thorsen was found to be well qualified.

One member of the legal community commented, "it is important to review the ratings from the local bar associations, who take into account the candidates ability to serve as an impartial Judge, with no political motives. In addition to Westchester and Dutchess, look for more ratings to come before Election Day Nov. 7. Qualifications Matter."

Eric Schoen continued from pg 3-

Running as an Independent is an expensive, uphill battle. Particularly when you have a lot of baggage to carry. He has alienated his family by promotion of conspiracy theories. He has rejected science and embraced the far left.

His anti-vaccine sentiment, suspicion of the government handling of the coronavirus, criticisms of lockdown and vaccine policies and belief that people are weary of the pandemic are all issues voters will have to take a look at. He believes voters are declaring independence from adversaries such as Wall Street, Big Technology, Big Pharma, the military industrial complex, mercenary media, cynical elites and the entire rigged system.

Kennedy believes his support will come from disaffected voters all across the political spectrum including skeptical democrats and political conservatives. Then let's not forget nostalgia for his political lineage. There are still people like my mom who when they hear the Kennedy bell pull it!

As for me, I think he will take away more Democrats than Republicans making it easier for Donald Trump to get a second term as President.

DON'T FORGET THIS IS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW YOUR DOCTORS INSTRUCTIONS OR THOSE OF YOUR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL!

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

Fourth Precinct Community Council

The Fourth Precinct's Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October,19,2023, 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 Michael Messar, Precinct Commander, and Lieutenant Patrick Curtis will be available to discuss your issues and matters of interest. If you have any concerns, please get in touch with the non-emergency department. (914-377-7900) For anything emergency-related, please call 911.

Weekend Events at County Parks in Yonkers

SATURDAY, OCT. 14

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Hawk Watch: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Hosted by the Hudson River Audubon Society. Meet behind the mansion at 10 a.m. and witness the amazing migration of some of our favorite hawks. Bring binoculars, snacks, drinks and a comfortable chair if you don't want to sit at a wood picnic table. At 1 p.m., join us at the nature center for a live birds of prey show with master falconer James Eyring. Also: Oct. 21, 28.

Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!: 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Join us for a fascinating dive into Westchester's insects with the American Museum of Natural History's consulting entomologist, Louis Sorkin, and amateur entomologist Wyatt Hoffman. We'll start inside to look at (and touch!) some bugs and then walk around the Preserve on our own bug hunt. For all ages.

St. Mary's 175- continued from pg 1-

Over the years, St. Mary's Church has reflected the true diversity in the City of Yonkers. For its first Mass on Christmas December 25, 1848, 98% of the parishioners were Irish, many of those fleeing the Famine in Ireland.

In 1850, the Census counted only 4,160 residents in Yonkers; by 1870 that number grew to 18,000, and in 1890 a large population expansion began, with 32,000, and 100,000 in 1920. Today, 211,000 residents call Yonkers home.

At the turn of the century many immigrants from Eastern Europe came to America and settled in Yonkers. Immigrants from Italy and Poland came to Yonkers seeking the factory jobs in the city and attended church at St. Mary's.

In 1890, St. Mary's was one of two Catholic Parishes in Yonkers; by 1920 there were 15.

Like the rest of the country, Yonkers and St. Mary's church was hit hard by the depression during the 1930s. Baptisms decreased, and collections did the same, as many Catholic families in Yonkers needed help.

After World War II, St. Mary's saw a rebirth, with marriages and baptisms rising dramatically up to the point of the church's 100th anniversary in 1948.

St. Mary's always had a bond with the Yonkers Saint Patrick's Day Parade, which started with a Mass at the church which sat along the old parade route on S. Broadway. The parade began in 1863 but ended in 1903 when the organizers joined the much larger New York City parade.

When the Yonkers St. Patrick's Parade returned to Yonkers in 1955, 10,000 people marched and many attended the kickoff mass at St. Mary's. In 1955 St. Mary's had 840 students in its school with 18 teachers comprised of Sisters of Charity and Christian Brothers. There was no tuition for parishioners, although parents had to contribute at least \$0.50 in their Sunday collection. A new cafeteria opened with a charge to students of \$1.50 per week (five meals).

St. Mary's welcomed members of the Jordanian Christian community, in the middle of the 20th Century. The Jordanian/Arabic Christian community are members of the Good Shepherd Church which is based within St. Mary's.

The first St. Mary's church, built in 1948, still stands today and is the parish hall, standing to the left of the present-day church.

The first St. Mary's school, built in 1860, tripled in size in 1885 to accommodate the growing families of children of Catholic immigrants. The old school was torn down in 1968 and replaced by a new school.

Like many Catholic schools in the area, St. Mary's school faced declining enrollment and closed in 2011.

In 1998 the parish celebrated its 150th anniversary and was able to make significant renovations, air conditioning and a new main altar from a Yonkers quarry, in memory of the many laborers who worked there and worshiped at St. Mary's. Two new statues, donated by the Arab community and the other of Saint Elizabeth Seaton founder of Sisters of Charity, remain in the church today.

\$3 Million was raised for the renovation, with much of those funds coming from estate wills of former parishioners who had moved from Yonkers but never forgot their first church, which played such an instrumental role in their lives.

This year's 175th Anniversary celebration will include families from Jordan, Palestine, Mexico, Portugal, Cuba, Ghana, India, Puerto Rico, Honduras, the West Indies, Philippines, Colombia, and Pakistan.

Msgr. Corrigan reflected on the immigrant experience in Yonkers, and at St. Mary's that is still relevant today. "Hundreds of people pass under my windows every day during the early hours of the morning I could see young Hispanic men with their knapsacks on their backs most of them are undocumented immigrants searching for a day job... on March 1st, 2008, at 5:00 AM I looked at the window expecting to see a handful of people waiting online to get into St. Mary's parish hall they would be seeking valid Mexican passports from the Mexican consulate instead there were 500 men and women some with babies in their arms and then in the course of six days over 3000 Mexicans received proper documentation you don't forget scenes like that."

St. Mary's Pastor Rev. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP wants the word to get out to the large St. Mary's family across the country about this year's celebration. "Over the past 175 years many immigrants have come to Yonkers and worshipped at St. Mary's. Some have moved on, but they never forget this special place of worship. One couple celebrated their 50th anniversary here. Many attended the school. Now is the time to come back and support the celebration."

An All Souls' Day special service will also be held on November 2. And the mass on December 9 with Cardinal Dolan will be the culmination of 175 years. Father Anthony also wrote, "A special anniversary mass will be celebrated on Saturday December 9th 2023 any person who is registered in the Paris and would like to attend can call the office and give their name and their envelope number only two people per family."



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

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

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

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

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

- RFB-7048 – Opening date: 10/25/2023: Furnish and deliver up to (60) Kintronics, or Yonkers approved equal, camera enclosures and ubiquities (NG).
- RFB-7049 – Opening date: 10/27/2023: Repairs of Commercial Kitchen Equipment for the Yonkers School District (JH).
- IFB-7023 – Opening date: 10/27/2023: Construction of the Water Bureau's Entry Point Monitoring Stations at: Hillview Low Service Entry Point off CPA at Wendover Road; Hillview High Service Entry Point off CPA at Clark Street; and the Lower K-B 48" Line Entry Point off Scarsdale Road at St. Vladimir's Seminary (MM).
- RFB-7051 – Opening date 10/25/2023: Furnish and Deliver (50) Frigidaire Model No. FFRE153WAE or Yonkers approved equal, air conditioners (KAS).
- RFB-7044 - Opening date: 10/27/2023: On-Call Land Surveying Services (KS).
- IFB-6947 – Opening date: 11/17/2023: Service Center roof replacement (NG).
- RFB-7050 - Opening date: 10/27/2023: Purchase of (3) 2024 Toyota Grand Highlander Hybrid Max Limited 2.4L-4-4-cyl SUV and (2) 2024 Ford Transit Passenger Vans T-350 XL AWD (MM).
- RFB-7052 – Opening date: 10/27/2023: Purchase of (2) Odra, Sweepers, or Yonkers approved equal (FB).
- RFB-7047 – Opening date: 10/25/2023: 24-month Contract with option to extend 12-months to provide On-Call Automobile & Truck Glass Repairs, as needed (KS).
- RFB-7046 - Opening date: 10/27/2023: 24-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide On-Call Towing of Inoperable City owned Vehicles (KS).
- RFB-6966– Opening date: 10/25/2023: Twelve month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase Smith Blair clamps and couplings (AC).
- RFB-7053 – Opening date: 10/27/2023: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide hydro excavating service, as needed. (AC).
- RFB-6979B – Opening date: 10/27/2023: Furnish and Deliver two (2) 2023 Dodge Ram 4500 Regular Cab 4x4 truck and two (2) Dodge Ram 3500 Regular Can 4x4 Trucks (or better) (MM).
- RFB-7045- Opening date: 10/27/2023: 12-month contract to purchase up to 2,400 forty-pound bags of Oil-Dri #106040-G50 (FB).
- RFB-7054- Opening date: 11/17/2023: Purchase a Modular Vehicle Barrier System, Model AST3X-10/48-100000-10, or Yonkers approved equal (AC).

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PROVIDE RESIDENT CASE MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) hereby solicits proposals from qualified firms and/or organizations to provide Case Management and Technical Assistance Services to the residents of the MHACY owned/and or managed eleven (11) housing sites as specified in this Request for Proposals (RFP).

This RFP package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This RFP is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter "Responders") and is available online starting October 17, 2023, at www.mhacy.org.

The RFP questions deadline is October 31, 2023, at 3:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed to bids@mhacy.org by the deadline. It is the responsibility of the proposer to see that any proposals submitted shall have sufficient time to be received by the prior to the proposal due date and time. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

FACSIMILE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ONLY SEALED RFP RESPONSES ARE ACCEPTABLE DO NOT FAX RFP RESPONSES.

The contract is an exclusive contract for the services described. Selection will be made to one (1) Respondents deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposal. Proposals must be received by the MHACY no later than 3:00 P.M. (EST) on November 14, 2023. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the RFP. 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 the MHACY. The 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. The MHACY reserves the right to cancel this RFP or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of the MHACY.

The 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. The MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement. Contact, related to this procurement, with members of the MHACY's Board of Commissioners, or the MHACY's officers and/or employees other than the contact person show 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
Project No. 2023-0

Notice of formation of GLOW N GLAMOUR LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/14/2023. Office location, County of Westchester. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to:, c/o Faisal Butt - 117 Wickes Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.

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

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

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

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company TM Studio Ink LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 08/18/2023 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 5 Palisade Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company 2023 Holdings LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 08/21/2023 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 5 Palisade Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

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

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Yonkers Stands with Israel, continued from pg 1-

Congressman Bowman said, "Hamas targeted defenseless and innocent civilians and killed the largest number of Jewish people outside of the Holocaust in one day. It has truly been a heartbreaking past few days with deaths we hoped would never happen again. Their actions are unequivocally abhorrent and must be strongly condemned," said Bowman, who added "I am shocked and disgusted by the rally held here in NY this weekend celebrating death or attacks on civilians and showing swastikas. I condemn any demonstration that does this in the strongest possible terms."

The NY Times reported that Bowman, "who was elected in 2020 with the help of D.S.A. activists but now faces a primary challenge in his heavily Jewish Westchester district...had let his membership with the D.S.A. lapse last year."

NYC Congressmember Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, a graduate of Yorktown High School, also separated herself from the DSA rally, saying "It should not be hard to shut down hatred and antisemitism where we see the bigotry and callousness expressed in Times Square on Sunday."

Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-

October 20, 1929: The Yonkers Branch of the Westchester County Historical Society announced they would erect a memorial tablet marking the site of the old Valentine homestead on the grounds of St. Joseph's Seminary, at the rear of Valentine Street and Seminary Avenue.

Saturday, October 21st

October 21, 1776: Washington established headquarters on Valentine's Hill while a party of American light horse and infantry took possession of Philipse Manor Hall.

October 21, 1919: At the start of the second week of the campaign, the Knights of Columbus Memorial Hut Drive reported they raised more than \$46,000. The Yonkers Herald ran this headline on their front page: "Subscribe to the K of C Fund and Help Keep Anarchy Suppressed in Yonkers." The day ended with an additional \$4000 collected.

Sunday, October 22nd

October 22, 1779: The Kingston Legislature confiscated the estates of the Philippses, and declared them guilty of felony treason, punishable by death.

October 22, 1919: The K of C Memorial Hut Drive passed the \$55,000 mark. The front page headline on The Yonkers Herald read, "The Disabled Soldiers at the Trades' School Have Shown by Their Contributions Why Every One Should Aid the K of C Memorial Hut Fund." They ran this headline several days.

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com.

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

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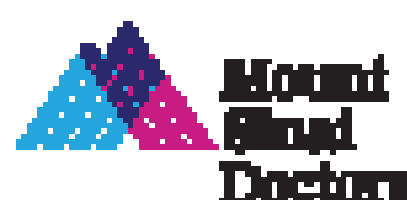
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