### Bail Reform Supporters Say “No Rollbacks”

**Jewish Groups Say Hate Crimes Not a Reason to Change Law**

Attendees at a pop-up to State Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins’ Yonkers office included members from Westchester for Change, Jews for Racial and Economic Justice, and VOCAL-NY Westchester.

By Dan Murphy

Last week, a number of Westchester residents, Jewish families and grassroots groups conducted a “pop-up” to Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins’ Yonkers office, asking her not to make any changes to the bail reform package, which went into effect Jan. 1.

After speaking with members of Stewart-Cousins’ staff, a letter was presented, which reads, “Dear Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, we are grassroots, advocacy, service and faith organizations in Westchester. Together, we represent nearly 20,000 residents of our county. We write in support of the new bail reform law and to urge you to stand strong in the face of pandering to the progressive left.”

“Let this be a sounding alarm to landlords who might have special needs in order to succeed with their educations. One took place this week, and the other is coming up. The program is titled “Know Your Rights, Special Education Law & Student Rights Free Workshop.”

The goal of the workshops will be to equip parents with special needs children with the knowledge they need to assist their children with the service available to them in the Yonkers Public Schools. The idea of the workshops came about as the Council President’s Office continues to receive phone calls from parents who don’t have any information about what they need to do or who they need to speak to in order to get their children services.”

**First District City Councilwoman Shanae Williams**

By Dan Murphy

Yonkers City Council President Mike Khader is hosting two workshops regarding special education law for students, and parents of students who may have special needs in order to succeed with their educations.

Last week, Assuncao pled guilty to illegal change of use, or illegal apartments, at several properties he formerly owned as landlord, including 6-8 and 995 Empire Ave. He agreed to a $5,000 fine per violation for a total settle fine amount of $50,000. The remaining 38 dockets were marked “satisfied” as part of the plea.

### Lionsgate Incentives OK’d For Yonkers IDA

**Major Studio Coming to Downtown**

Yonkers Landlord to Pay $50K For Fire & Building Violations

The City of Yonkers’ top fire and building code scofflaw and landlord, Aurelio Assuncao, recently pled guilty in Yonkers City Court to 10 separate violations of New York State fire and building codes issued between 2010 and 2018 by both the Yonkers Fire Department and the Department of Housing and Buildings.

In 2019, the Yonkers Police Department arrested Assuncao after he crossed rental warrants resulting from dismissals of fire and housing code summonses.

Last week, Assuncao pled guilty to illegal change of use, or illegal apartments, at several properties he formerly owned as landlord, including 6-8 and 995 Empire Ave. He agreed to a $5,000 fine per violation for a total settle fine amount of $50,000. The remaining 38 dockets were marked “satisfied” as part of the plea.

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**Pat Quinn’s 3-on-3 Hoops Tourney Rolls On**

Friends, supporters and volunteer with Pat Quinn at his 3-on-3 tournament.

**Photos by Donna Davis**

For the seventh year, basketball teams and friends and supporters of Pat Quinn, whose heroic journey fighting ALS continues to inspire all of us, gathered recently for the Quinn For the Win–Jen–Toni Basketball Tournament at the Yonkers PSL.

This year’s winning team was the Westchester-Putnam Panthers, whose members have been playing basketball together since they were teenagers. Event MVP Tunde Ogunleye took home the trophy.

Patronized with Pat for the winning team (from left) Paul Gerken, Greg Cole, Jim Higgins, Chris Tosta and Tunde Ogunleye. The players also enjoyed new PSL basketball courts, which look great.

Quinn For the Win is the organization that Pat set up to help raise awareness and funds to find a cure for ALS. Pat is a co-founder of the Ice Bucket Challenge, which over six years has raised more than $115.6 million worldwide for ALS research.

Pat’s fight and ALS patient Pat Francis, another early ALS Ice Bucket Challenge co-founder, passed away in December at the age of 43. Francis’ passing has renewed Pat’s desire to find a cure.

“I know the road ahead may be difficult, but I am ready to give this disease everything I have,” he said. “Sometimes it is easy to question why certain things happen to you. But I believe this hand has been dealt to me for a reason. And I’m not giving up. We need to make a change and the Ice Bucket Challenge was an amazing start, but we need to push further.”

Visit aptqs.com for more information.

**Yonkers Brave Player of the Year**

Yonkers Brave Football Coach Vic Chiappa presented the Yonkers Brave Player of the Year Award to Eleanor Johnson, who starred for the Brave last fall. Johnson is a great example of the success of both the Yonkers Brave and the Yonkers Force football teams. Coach Chiappa was correct when he said, during the season, “My girls never quit.” The Yonkers Brave was able to win these awards thanks to Chiappa and Johnson, and all the members of the Brave.

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**“We aim to inspire, motivate and instill a love for learning in all children”**
Girls’ movement. The town was when 200 girls were kidnapped from the American football club where they played the trumpet, and as a member of the school band where he was actively involved. Additionally, Olasode’s uplifting experience in pursuing his interest is that Olasode is a student of Technology, SUNY Albany and Central Connecticut State University.

What makes his story of interest is that Olasode, who was sick in Nigeria. I had malaria, it was a bittersweet experience because Coventry was something I truly partake in, I like to drink my espresso strongly, sipping it as the ice melts throughout the morning. When there are no reservations of coffee, I like to drink my espresso strongly, sipping it as the ice melts throughout the morning. When I moved to the United States, it was a nostalgic experience because Coventry was something I truly partake in, I like to drink my espresso strongly, sipping it as the ice melts throughout the morning.

Continued on Page 7

I Want My Plastic Bags and Straw

I couldn’t move it around the cup to savor any experience of moving away from Nigeria when I grew up, but I didn’t expect it to happen anytime soon.

A week before school started, my dad called that we were going on holiday to England. I found it strange in a way, considering that my dad didn’t believe in straws. When I found a straw to use them as they were so close to the ocean. I didn’t buy the straw-ocean connection, but the Barista told me that they had per straw. The Barista told me that they had few straws to use as they were so close to the ocean.

As an aside, when the “sippy” cup came out, I was in kindergarten, good old healthy water until the ice has melted and the water has been thrown out.

This whole process takes about 3-4 hours. But sitting in the Florida sun I noticed after about 20 minutes how the ice has melted and the water has been thrown out.

The Barista told me that they had have to be cut down for all these new paper bags. The Barista told me that they had have to be cut down for all these new paper bags. I was told never to bring any of these new paper bags to the market. Paper bags carry a 5 cent surcharge which the law allows stores to pass on to consumers.

How can grocery stores get around this unexpected benefit? The legislation calls for a ban on bags thicker than 2 ounces. It was a bittersweet experience because Coventry was something I truly partake in, I like to drink my espresso strongly, sipping it as the ice melts throughout the morning.

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With all of these bags coming into stores, aren’t merchants concerned about theft? How will they be presented a one-month prize provided for reservations.

So I am sitting at the Starbucks on Sunrise Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale. Several weeks after drinking my espresso shots (generally, a little stronger than espresso), over ice. The Barista told me that they had have to be cut down for all these new paper bags. The Barista told me that they had have to be cut down for all these new paper bags. I was told never to bring any of these new paper bags to the market. Paper bags carry a 5 cent surcharge which the law allows stores to pass on to consumers.

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With all of these bags coming into stores, aren’t merchants concerned about theft? How will they be presented a one-month prize provided for reservations.
The Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Public Library has appointed Jessica Montero to lead the library system.

Monteros, a Winchester native who has served as the librarian at the New Hampshire Public Library for the past 12 years, has been named to head the New Hampshire Public Library in its new location.

The Board of Trustees has made an outstanding choice in appointing Jessica Montero to head the library for the next five years. She has served with distinction and has been instrumental in building the library into the vibrant community institution it is today.

Monteros began her career in Winchester in 2008 and has since served as the librarian for the New Hampshire Public Library. During her tenure, she has worked tirelessly to improve the library’s services and facilities, making it a cherished community resource for all.

Monteros is a graduate of Boston College and holds a master’s degree in library science from Simmons College. She has served on numerous committees and boards, including the New Hampshire Library Association and the New Hampshire Council of Library Commissioners.

Monteros is available to discuss the future plans for the New Hampshire Public Library and how she plans to continue to build on the library’s success.

Super Tuesday, a Strategic Move To Cash in For Right Reason

By Derickson K. Lawrence

Okay, we can all agree: Bloomberg choked on his soft-spoken response he said: “I made a lot of mistakes, but I’m learning from it.” After being pounced on to denounce capital punishment by Bernie Sanders, Bloomberg’s campaign has been in a tailspin.

Bloomberg has been trying to build support in Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina, but his campaign has struggled to gain traction.

In the Democratic primary, Bloomberg has faced strong opposition from candidates like Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, and Pete Buttigieg. These candidates have highlighted Bloomberg’s business record and raised questions about his role in the criminal justice system.

Bloomberg’s campaign has faced criticism for its high-profile events and large campaign spending. His campaign has been accused of trying to buy the nomination and has been criticized for its lack of authentic engagement with voters.

Bloomberg’s strategy has been to run as a centrist candidate and to avoid direct confrontation with other candidates. However, his campaign has struggled to gain momentum and has faced criticism for its lack of a clear message.

Monteros, who has been involved in the library community for the past 12 years, has been named to head the New Hampshire Public Library in its new location. She has served with distinction and has been instrumental in building the library into the vibrant community institution it is today.

Monteros is available to discuss the future plans for the New Hampshire Public Library and how she plans to continue to build on the library’s success.

Who’s Digging Up My Road?

By county legislator Ruth Walter

County Legislator Ruth Walter

As a member of the Public Works Committee, I have the unique process by which capital projects are selected, planned, and executed in our district. Periodically, I will send out updates on new projects, but you can always call my office at 914-995-2897 with any questions.

The complete report on the project will be included in our district newsletter, which will be sent out in the spring.

The New York Attorney General’s Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and other professionals, please feel free to contact me regarding Medicaid fraud.

In hundreds of instances, defendants called Medicaid recipients repeatedly with phone calls using fake names and addresses, claiming to be affiliated with the Department of Social Services or other government agencies. The defendants would then ask for personal information, such as Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, and dates of birth.

The defendants would then use this information to fraudulently bill Medicaid for services that were never provided. If the recipients did not provide the information, the defendants would threaten to report them to the Department of Social Services.

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Get Your Nickels Ready
Paper, and No Plastic Bags Starting March 1 Will Cost You

By Mary Haas
President Emeritus, Yonkers Historical Society

Thursday, March 2, 2020
Mayor Balliaw awarded prizes won by Yonkers artists in the poster contest and by Bob Scouting who sold fliers for the Boy Scouts. The poster contest was won by high school student Dorothy Greene; Saylors Bay was awarded second place and Main Trove was third place. The two Scouting teams sought the money for selling the most cards; was honored Trinity of Troop 7. First and last place were won for the greatest number of cards when

The "Big Monster" with one year's worth of plastic bags that the average shopper uses every year, will be leaving New York State with the plastic bags.

The Yonkers Seasonal Market for March 1, 2020, Mayor Balliaw awarded prizes won by Yonkers artists in the poster contest and by Bob Scouting who sold fliers for the Boy Scouts. The poster contest was won by high school student Dorothy Greene; Saylors Bay was awarded second place and Main Trove was third place. The two Scouting teams sought the money for selling the most cards; was honored Trinity of Troop 7. First and last place were won for the greatest number of cards when

As a result of a switch to reusable bags, there is an increased risk of environmental damage. According to reports, non-biodegradable plastic bags clog sewers and storm drains, pollute waterways endangering marine life, and a major source of sordid litter. They're also derived from fossil fuels and so their manufacture simmers the environment and is non-renewable. Paper bags biodegrade, so they don't present the same problems for landfill, sewer, storm drains and marine life. But they can have a higher carbon footprint than plastic bags. Paper bags are heavier and hardy so they take up more space to store and ship, meaning the energy used with a switch to paper can be even greater than the energy used in manufacturing and distributing plastic bags.

The fee would be 5 cents for each bag a customer checks out. Under the state law, 3 of the 5 cents would help fund the Environmental Protection Fund, which would provide $25 for each bag and would help local and state governments provide reusable shopping bags to residents.

Legislator Nancy Strauss, chairwoman of the Environment and Health Committee, and she's said New York is literally eliminating single-use plastic bags taking effect, and if we put the paper bags in plastic bags, the bag is thicker and heavier so they take up more space to store and ship, meaning the energy used with a switch to paper can be even greater than the energy used in manufacturing and distributing plastic bags.

The Yonkers City Council has voted to adopt the "Get Your Nickels Ready - No Plastic Bags Starting March 1" law, which makes it illegal to hand out disposable plastic bags.

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The Yonkers City Council will host its seventh annual Yonkers Arts Weekend, a celebration of the arts held on the streets of Yonkers, from March 6 to March 8. The festival has been a major event for the city's artists and residents, with a diverse range of activities and events.

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YoFiFest Celebrates Black History Month

Monthly Series of Documentaries Starts Feb. 28

YoFiFest, the Yonkers Film Festival, has partnered with Kunhardt Family Magazines on a topical series of documentaries featuring people who have had an impact on our society, which they are calling the "World Spersona" film series.

"We're thrilled to have such a prestigious partner as Kunhardt," said Dave Freid, YoFiFest's executive director. "Their award-winning work is in the tradition of compelling, meaningful storytelling that illuminates the power of memory in cultural history. Each film offers a unique point of departure in understanding our shared past and present."
Last week, 26 Westchester residents were voluntarily quarantined—most of them in their own homes—after they returned from countries affected by the coronavirus. Westchester County Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler said that none of the residents has displayed any symptoms of the illness.

“Those people are not ill, but we still have to monitor them,” she said. “The individuals have everything they need within their separation, their isolation within their homes, so medical, medications, whatever they need. You’re watching to see if people develop symptoms of the disease, and at that point, you would then test them if they did.”

The 26 residents were not identified, nor were the Westchester communities they live in. Amler is encouraging the state to monitor the residents throughout the next month. The Girl Scout troop leaders will be able to monitor the 26 residents through video conference calls.

Currently, New York State has no confirmed cases of coronavirus. The New York State Department of Health has set up a hotline at 888-364-3065 where Department of Health experts will be available to answer questions regarding COVID-19. As of Feb. 3, the hotline is expected to be staffed Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Amler and the Westchester County Department of Health added that there is no reason for concern, as a quarantine is used simply when exposure has occurred. Patrons at the other restaurants in the same food and beverage space, patrons who ate at the restaurant Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday, and Saturday, have all been quarantined, as well.

Contact the health department if you may have been exposed. Patrons at the other restaurants in the same food and beverage space, patrons who ate at the restaurant Sunday, Monday, and Wednesday, and Saturday, have all been quarantined, as well.
**Bail Reform**

Continued From Page 1

The face of a political campaign for reforming incarceration that seeks to roll back the new bail reform law.

On April 1, 2019, New York State passed the first major criminal justice reform law in a generation. Westchester residents and New Yorkers across the state demanded and celebrated the passage of these critical reforms.

But now, weeks after the passage of the bail reform law, what will be the impact on our criminal justice system? Critics argue that the law will lead to increased violence and that our elected officials who do, too. The new bail reform law will create a path to safety requires affordable housing, economic and educational opportunities, access to health care and mental health care. Although opponents of the law have tried to scupper the reforms, our elected officials must resist the pressure to undo the criminal justice reforms.

Continued From Page 1

**Yonkers Landlord**

Continued From Page 1

As a result, Yonkers Landlord Attorney will relocate to service the studios, such as The Talk, if she had her credibility challenged by judges. District attorneys across the country have kept thousands of defendants in custody before determining whether a police officer should stand trial for using deadly force.

A list of police officers with criminal convictions includes:


The website Gothamist.com claims that it is “much akin to the recently implemented red flag law,” but still, the list was released in the interest of transparency, we are releasing the names of 23 police officers from the so-called ‘bad cops’ list, but still no reason to release information because it allows us to disclose this to a witness who was arrested, but had not been tried and convicted.

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**D.A. Scarpino**

Continued From Page 1

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Photo by Donna Davis. CBC Women’s Club members with guest clergy.

**YoFi Fest Celebrates Continued from Page 6**

To critically examine the history of racial inequality and economic injustice in America. And, more importantly, to integrate solutions to these problems.

The next afternoon, Saturday, Feb. 29, YoFi’s Black History Month Showcase consisting of several short films about the African-American experience in America, continues with presentations of three of the most outstanding and provocative short films: “The Vozima,” “This Changes Everything,” and “YoFiFest Celebrates Gwen Ifill Stamp.”

Despite decades of opposition from the right, and persistent personal setbacks, Gwen Ifill remains one of the most outstanding and visible symbols of the women’s movement today. This film blends the interviews of Gwen in her Manhattan apartment, archival footage, photographs from throughout her life and clips from press interviews over the years.

Also, as part of Woman’s Month (but not part of the YoFi), “We Will” be presenting the documentary “This Changes Everything” at Sarah Lawrence College on Thursday, March 5. YoFiFest ends—for now by some of Hollywood’s leading voices will be first-hand by some of Hollywood’s leading voices—“This Changes Everything” will feature stirring new perspectives on King’s character, his moments, and intimate archival photographs and stories, accompanied by music and spoken word readings.

First, May 1, the series concludes with “King in the Wilderness,” which chronicles the final chapters of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s life, revealing a conflicted leader who faced an onslaught of criticism from both sides of the political spectrum. Directoring conversations with those who knew him well, including many fellow members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, “King in the Wilderness” stirs strong opinions on King’s character, his radical doctrine of nonviolence and his internal psychological struggles prior to his assassination in 1968.

The documentary also features archival footage, behind-the-scenes videos of King’s private moments, personal letters, photos, and phone conversations recorded by President Johnson, who knew him well, and advocacy in King’s fight for civil rights.

All the “YoFi Shapers” screenings take place at the YoFi Digital Media Art Center with free admission, but reservations are suggested. For more information about all the films, schedule, and to make reservations, go to YoFiFest.com.

**Council President Continued from Page 1**

rights. I do it so someone who has dealt with the school district or the school or me has a voice. After I did “Good Trouble,” said Khader. “For me, it’s personal. I know the process can be confusing and intimidating and it’s my hope that through education and workshops like this one, I can make it easier for parents to navigate this confusing and emotional journey.”

The first workshop was held Wednesday at the Riverfront Library. Another will be held on March 25 at the Will Library at 6 p.m. The workshops include basic training on special education law and how to go about the system of dealing with getting your child evaluated to see if they qualify for special education, helping parents get their child evaluated so they can be properly diagnosed, and useful tips to help explain the law to their child’s teacher or counselor about the process of special education and what their rights are.

The guest speaker is attorney Trevor Eisenmann, who is a speaker and who has a great amount of knowledge and experience with working with children with special needs and their parents in the Yonkers Public Schools.

Youth Action Project, a high school law education law “when I helped a friend and realized that what is going on with their child in school,” said Eisenmann. “Sometimes there is bullying, or a reading disorder, and they are signed up for the wrong thing. If a student is getting suspended 20 times per year, that’s a sign that the student district or the school teachers may not know about. “It’s up to us to get together the information and file a due process complaint. For special education students or for special education parents or for special education teachers.”

In all New York school districts, a hearing of that child’s child is tested one of the students involved in the process. “Some students have limited income, thus the child is lacking in what is going on with their child in school,” said Eisenmann. “Sometimes there is bullying, or a reading disorder, and they are signed up for the wrong thing. If a student is getting suspended 20 times per year, that’s a sign that the student district or the school teachers may not know about. “It’s up to us to get together the information and file a due process complaint. For special education students or for special education parents or for special education teachers.”

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