

# Neighborhood UPDATE



APRIL 2021

## THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

### A Letter from Wilson Kimball



April is second chance month. I learned that from Andre Peart, the creator of ConConnect who we are partnering with on behalf of our tenants. Since 2020 ConConnect has revolutionized

the process of re-entry by connecting formerly incarcerated people with services instantly. ConConnect provides the justice-impacted community with resources and tools to make a successful re-entry plan and create a pathway towards professional employment or opportunities through networking and building professional connections.

Second Chance Month, observed in the United States during April since 2017, is a nationwide effort to raise awareness of the collateral consequences of a criminal conviction, and unlock second-chance opportunities for people who have completed their sentences to become contributing citizens. If you are interested in ConConnect, SilverBills, or LessonBee, our other services for tenants, please contact your resident coordinator or check our social media on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

I have had the pleasure of joining many

*(Continued on page 2)*



L-R Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, DaQueen Monroe, Nicole Benjamin, Shanae Williams, Wilson Kimball & DJ Superior



### First Annual Women's Pool Tournament

In honor of Women's History Month, MHACY and Natural Spring Water sponsored the first Battle of the Ladies Pool Tournament at Café Billiards Club on Tuckahoe Road. Congratulations to Shanae V. Williams, who won 1st place!



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## A Letter from Wilson Kimball

*(Continued from page 1)*

of you at the resident meetings which are once again taking place in person. I have not been able to attend every meeting, but I will continue to try to get to you. In the meantime, let me assure you that your messages about the poor pest control have reached me and the MHACY Board will be approving a new pest control services (by the time you read this it will be done) at the March Board meeting. We agree with you, there are too many pests!

Lastly, when I was at Kristensen it came to my attention that the residents of Kristensen didn't know that a brand new MHACY property, La Mora, would be opening almost across the street at 23 Mulberry Street. It's a 60-unit senior housing development that we hope to break ground on this year and finish in 2024. The building will be incredibly environmentally friendly and offer shared services between the two buildings (La Mora and Kristensen). MHACY is thrilled about the new housing not only because it allows us to serve more seniors but also because it was made possible by great partnerships with New York State, Westchester County and the City of Yonkers.

**Wilson Kimball**  
*President & CEO*  
Municipal Housing Authority for  
the City of Yonkers

## MHACY Partners with Four Start-ups as part of the BCW's Westchester Innovation Network

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers has matched with four different start-up companies who can provide services to housing authority residents. The companies were matched through The Business Council of Westchester's Westchester Innovation Network (WIN) program.

The new partners are:

- SilverBills, a New Rochelle, NY-based fintech innovator focused on providing an easy-to-use technology platform to automate bill paying for seniors.
- Last20, a Canadian social enterprise that upcycles plastic waste into innovative solutions, including pavement.
- The Mount Vernon-based Lessonbee is an online learning platform with courses and classes that enable users to find their path to health in grades K-12.
- Westchester-based ConConnect is a digital platform that connects formerly incarcerated people with services they need to find employment and build professional networks.

Launched in December, WIN is a program aimed at driving economic development and growth within Westchester County by reaching out to innovative companies nationwide and abroad, with the goal of helping them expand locally. WIN's Innovation Match Program launched with five partnerships.



*Left to right: BCW President and CEO Dr. Marsha Gordon, MHACY CEO Wilson Kimball and BCW Chairman Dr. Heidi Davidson kick off the Westchester Innovation Network.*



## New La Mora Housing for Seniors Is on Its Way

MHACY is excited to announce that it will soon break ground on the new La Mora senior affordable housing on Mulberry Street. Located on the site of the former Longfellow Junior High School at 23 Mulberry Street, it will provide 60 new affordable apartments serving low-income seniors.

There will be 57 one-bedroom and 3 two-bedroom apartments in a four-story building with elevator service, and 30 onsite parking spaces, a management office, mail room, resident storage areas, generous lobby, and a multipurpose room for activities and resident events.

La Mora is specifically designed with features to enhance the quality of life of the residents as they age in place among them on site emergency power generation, energy efficiency and outdoor recreation areas.







## MHACY Spotlight on Excellence

Congratulations to Chanel Frazier, Housing Assistant II, Leased Housing Department, on the success of her daughter Shakaila, who is pursuing her dream to become a criminal defense attorney.

Shakaila Young is the President of the CRJ Club at Buffalo State. She is a senior graduating in May '22 with a bachelor's in criminal justice. She plans to attend law school with the goal of becoming a criminal defense attorney! The CRJ club has helped her make connections with those working in her desired field. She says that taking Professor Littlefield's Intro to CRJ class helped her realize that she was exactly where she wanted to be. Shakaila recently landed an internship with County Legislator Chairperson April Baskins!

***Good luck, Shakaila!***



Thanks to DJ Superior for sponsoring our recent kick ball tournament, and thanks to Lakisha Collins Bellamy and City Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz for their support and to all who participated.

Jim Landy, Chair of Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers Board of Commissioners, joined Mayor Mike Spano in the traditional painting of McLean Avenue in preparation for the city's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

