

# Neighborhood UPDATE



APRIL 2023

## THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

### A Letter from Wilson Kimball



April is Earth Month. In the past year we have brought recycling to all our properties, created rain gardens to absorb excess water that was flooding

tenants' basements and planted trees to absorb excess run off.

There is more to do. We are still working on making Loehr Court's mechanical systems more resilient, and designing and building two passive house senior developments that will significantly reduce energy consumption.

With all those climate resilient activities you might think we have enough on our plates. But there is so much more we can do with the older buildings like track water leaks to save water and limit mildew exposure. A water usage consultant recently told me that old pipes can lose up to 100 gallons a day for each unit of housing. We have 1700 units so imagine what may be lost by the end of 30 days or 365 days!

We are also applying for grants to electrify our buildings and replace

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*From left, Ron Fanish, Manager and Co-Owner of Rainbow Restoration of Westchester and Wilson Kimball, President and CEO of Yonkers Housing Authority.*

### YHA Partners with WIN Innovator Rainbow Restoration to Make Dirty Buildings Look Like New

Westchester Innovation Network (WIN) innovator Rainbow Restoration of Westchester brought its advanced laser technology to the Yonkers Housing Authority for a demonstration of its amazing restoration capabilities.

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## A Letter from Wilson Kimball

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window air conditioners with central air. We don't know if we will win these grants, but we intend to try. These improvements aren't just good for the environment they are good for addressing potential air quality issues like allergens, asthma, and mildew. So here is to another trip around the sun on our favorite planet and all the things we can do to help save our precious planet.

### Wilson Kimball

*President & CEO*

Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers

## Shred Your Unwanted Documents at Murray Skating Rink

April is Earth Month and one good way to recognize it is by doing some spring cleaning. If you have some papers and documents you want to get rid of, you can take them to the Murray Skating Rink at 348 Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers from 10-1pm on the following dates:

**Saturday, April 22**

**Saturday, May 13**

**Thursday, June 15**

**Saturday, July 22**



## YHA Partners with WIN Innovator Rainbow Restoration to Make Dirty Buildings Look Like New

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Co-owner Ron Fanish demonstrated to Yonkers Housing Authority President and CEO Wilson Kimball how the company's state-of-the-art laser cleaning equipment can remove dirt from building surfaces quickly and cost effectively without the use of chemicals and with no residue or damage to the surface. Rainbow Restoration of Westchester partnered with the Yonkers Housing Authority through the WIN program.

The demonstration, which was held March 23 at the Yonkers Housing Authority's Curran Court housing complex, focused on a portion of a dirty brick wall. Using the laser cleaning machine, Fanish's crew was able to restore the bricks to look like new. Kimball even took a turn with the laser cleaning machine. "This is truly amazing. This is a triple win. It's a win for Yonkers It's a win for Westchester and it's a win for the Housing Authority," said Kimball. "It's an honor to be part of the WIN program and working with Yonkers Housing Authority, helping them restore properties," said Fanish.

Located in Yonkers, Rainbow Restoration of Westchester provides quality restoration, reconstruction and cleanup services to a wide range of clients including residences, commercial and residential buildings, retail stores, hospitals, hotels, municipal facilities and educational institutions.





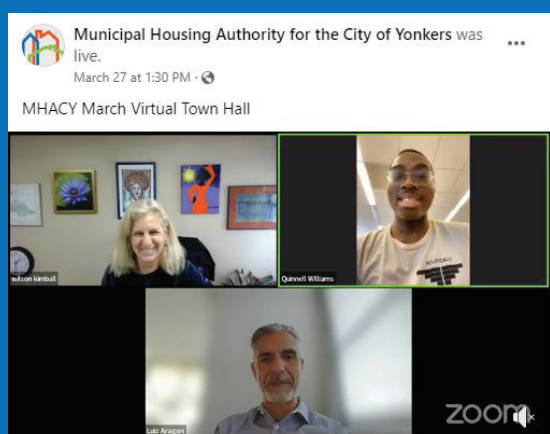
## YHA Partners with Young Entrepreneur Through BCW WIN Program

Quinnell Williams grew up in Yonkers. Now he is starting his own designer clothing company—Politically Urban. It offers eco-friendly, sustainable designs that promote a positive black image.

Williams is partnering with the Yonkers Housing Authority, through the Business Council of Westchester's Innovation Network program. He recently appeared on the YHA's Town Hall on Facebook Live to discuss his new business and the inspiration for it. He is a graduate of SUNY Cobleskill where he earned a bachelor's degree in graphic design technology.

Politically Urban is the latest start-up to be supported through the Business Council of Westchester's new Westchester Innovation Network, a program that helps entrepreneurs grow their businesses with an eye towards boosting economic development.

Hear the entire interview with Quinnell on YHA's Facebook page at [facebook.com/mhacyonkers/videos](https://facebook.com/mhacyonkers/videos)



## Kisha Skipper Honored as “Shero” for Women’s History Month

As part of Women's History Month, the Westchester County Youth Board hosted the 5th Annual Sheros Awards on Tuesday, March 28. Community Advocate and resident Kisha Skipper was named as one of this year's "Sheros" honorees! Congratulations to Kisha on being recognized for all she does to support and help the community. To help make this extra special, April 5 was also named Kisha D Skipper Day in Westchester County.





Resident children are invited to celebrate Earth Day 2023 with MHACY!

This year's theme is **Making Art with Recyclables.**

Turn trash into treasures by using materials from the recycling bin to create Earth Day masterpieces. For example, try creating a picture of a tree out of egg cartons by cutting and painting the individual egg cups green and gluing them onto a canvas. Just add a brown trunk and any finishing touches. Here are a few more ideas:

- Make a bird feeder or house
- Turn tin cans into plant holders
- Wine cork animal sculptures
- A bottle cap mosaic

The contest will run from April 3rd to April 28<sup>th</sup>. The winners will be selected by Yonkers Arts. The top 5 winners will be presented with prizes at an event sometime in May.

*Please have all of your creations to your service coordinator no later than April 28<sup>th</sup>.*

Best of luck to all!