

YONKERS RISING

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Kids Find 'Golden Eggs' At PAL Easter Egg Hunt



Golden egg winner Brandon Chapel, with his family, Mayor Mike Spano, first lady Mary Calvi, City Council Minority Leader Michael Sabatino and PAL President Howard Berman. Photo by Ed Whitman.

The Easter Bunny made a special stop in Yonkers at Redmond Field on March 26 to hide hundreds of Easter eggs for kids and their families to search for. As always, a large crowd showed up for the 38 annual Yonkers Police Athletic League-City of Yonkers Easter Egg Hunt, and was welcomed by retired Yonkers Police Officer and Egg Hunt Chairman Chris Palandra, and Lisa McKay-Harris of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Palandra has been a part of the Easter egg hunt since it was founded.

Mayor Mike Spano, first lady Mary Calvi and Yonkers Parks Commissioner Yvette Hartsfield were also in attendance, and watched as 9-year-old Brandon Chapel, a student at Cross Hill Academy, found the golden egg for his age group. Other winners included 4-year-old Sean Quiles, who found the golden egg for his age group.

Another fixture at the egg hunt every year is Sasha the Clown (Aliana Phipps), who once again kept kids busy with face-painting and other body decorations.

See More Photos on page 9

Yonkers Recognizes Women of Distinction



Congratulations to this year's recipients of Mayor Mike Spano's 2016 Women of Distinction Awards. From left are Carmen Gomez Goldberg from the Charter School of Educational Excellence; Janice Lubin Kirschner from the Family Service Society of Yonkers; Chasity Bailey, a homeless outreach advocate (Young Woman of Distinction); a representative of the Charles N. Bajart Jr. Unit 1122 Ladies Auxiliary; and Rita Gross Nelson with the City of Yonkers Police Department, who was posthumously honored. We will report on the accomplishments of each woman, and their dedication to the city and people of Yonkers, in next week's Yonkers Rising.

Westchester Divided; Yonkers Supports Minimum Wage Hike

'The increase will damage New York's competitive position and encourage some businesses to leave the state or cease operations entirely.'
BCW President
Marsha Gordon

'To truly lift people out of poverty we must raise the minimum wage.'
Senate Democratic
Leader Andrea
Stewart-Cousins

By Dan Murphy

As an all-encompassing budget deal that will include a minimum wage increase for New Yorkers is very close to passage by the April 1 deadline, the Westchester community of elected officials and business leaders are split on what a \$15 minimum wage will do for jobs, the economy and lower-income residents.

New York's minimum wage has gone up 24 percent over the past three years – from \$7.25 an hour in 2012 to the current hourly rate of \$9 an hour. Last year, Gov. Andrew Cuomo passed a \$15 minimum wage for fast food workers in New York State, which will be gradually phased in every year until 2021.

Any proposed \$15 minimum wage would be phased in over varying years, from three to six years, depending on which of the several proposals in Albany wins final approval.

The Business Council of Westchester op-

poses a \$15 minimum wage, based on its member survey, which found that the negatives outweigh the positives. Nearly two-thirds opposed the increase, with a significant number stating that the increase would result in reduced hiring, curtailed expansion plans and possible layoffs.

"Rather than having a knee-jerk reaction to the proposed increase, we asked our members to examine the consequences to their businesses including payroll taxes, benefits, overtime and hiring of seasonal employees and workforce development youth," said John Ravitz, executive vice president and chief operating officer of Westchester's largest business membership organization. "We created a detailed member survey. The results clearly demonstrate that the downsides to the increase far outweigh any gains and, in fact, could have unintended negative impacts on the low-wage earners that it is

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State Budget to Provide Answers to Yonkers Budget

By Dan Murphy

As Gov. Andrew Cuomo and members of the State Senate and Assembly negotiate a spending plan for the 2016 New York State budget, due April 1, stakeholders in Yonkers await the results to see how it will impact the budget for the City of Yonkers, the Yonkers Public Schools and the taxpayers and residents.

Funding for YPS has become a priority, as always, for the Yonkers members of the state delegation.

Assemblymember Shelley Mayer spoke to Yonkers Rising last week before a final budget state budget had been passed. "My priority is to provide additional money for the Yonkers schools," she said. "That is what we are fighting for and we are hopeful to get a significant increase above the governor's proposal."

Cuomo's budget proposal called for an additional \$11.6 million in education funding for YPS. Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quezada has proposed a budget that already includes the extra \$11.6 million, and requests an additional \$24 million in spending to restore programs and provide additional services for the district's 28,000 students.

Quezada and YPS need an additional

\$7.7 million to get to a \$562 million budget for the 2016-17 school year, which would be a "bare bones" budget that doesn't include restorations or new programs. A budget of \$579 million would include some of Quezada's additional requests, but would require an additional \$16.3 million – or a total of \$24 million in additional funding total.

Members of the state delegation from Yonkers are hoping to get as close to Quezada's \$24 million request as possible. Then the debate moves to the mayor's proposed budget, which will come out by April 15, and the City Council, who will review, modify and adopt the mayor's budget by July 1.

The city side of the budget (non-YPS spending), also has a budget shortfall of less than \$20 million. The mayor and budget staff are working to find savings where possible. Any increases above and beyond the property tax cap appear to be off the table. This year's tax cap is below half a percent, giving the city very little additional funding.

Other tax increases, or revenue enhancers, may end up on the table, perhaps an increase in the real estate transfer tax, which could generate an additional \$5 million to \$8 million.

Lincoln Park Jewish Center Celebrates Purim



Two dancers with the Barynya Russian Song and Dance Ensemble perform traditional Russian and Jewish dances. Photo by Robert Kalfus.

Rabbi Rigoberto Emmanuel Vinas of the Lincoln Park Jewish Center in Yonkers dressed in costume as a Soviet-era Army three-star chief to celebrate the annual Jewish holiday of Purim, during which the story of the Purim holiday, written on a scroll called the megillah, is read.

Rabbi Vinas, a talented artist and Torah scribe, and a staunch anti-Communist whose parents in 1960 fled from Castro's takeover in

Cuba, this year for the Purim holiday dressed as a Russian to mock the Russians' failed economic system and repression of individual freedom. He drew and decorated the background of the Red Star hovering over Red Square (and the two Torah tablets in front of the synagogue), and the portrait of Vladimir Lenin, with his ears like the triangular-shaped hamentaschen, a traditional three-cornered Purim pastry.

See More Photos on page 9

Science Barge to Open April 9 for the Season



Mayor Mike Spano welcomed everyone to the Science Barge's opening last year.

Get your spring on at the season opening of the Science Barge on Saturday, April 9. The Barge is celebrating its eighth year on the waterfront in downtown Yonkers with an afternoon of revelry. The fun starts at noon, with Mayor Mike Spano set to cut the ribbon at 2 p.m.

Festivities will include super-high kite-flying, boomeranging and stilt walking with Flynn Brian Cavallaro; live music; giant wearable puppets courtesy of Puppeteers' Cooperative; hunting for glass eels; Jonathan Ellers' "Museum

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Winter Be Gone, Spring is Here!



Yonkers Rising volunteer photographers Paul Manitsas and Robert Kalfus submitted photos of winter and spring last week. Manitsas took this photo from the Sprain Brook Parkway during the last snowstorm of the year (hopefully) which quickly melted away.



Kalfus submitted a photo of daffodils bowing their leaves due to the shock of the snow weighing them down on the first day of spring, only to have the warming sun melt the snow and restore the flowers to life. Please send your Yonkers photos to risngmediagroup@gmail.com.

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‘Hudson River Through the Arts’ at Sarah Lawrence



“How to Hug a Tree” will be featured at Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River in Yonkers during the month of April.

What do the Hudson River, an eel, a coyote and a boy named Marquis all have in common? They are all characters in the production of “How to Hug a Tree,” one of four performances at Sarah Lawrence College’s Center for the Urban River in Yonkers during the month of April.

The performances are part of the college’s “Hudson River Through the Arts” series, financed by a grant from National Endowment for the Arts in an effort to bring theater to underserved populations.

Allen Lang, co-director of the theatre outreach program, which is performing “How to Hug a Tree,” encouraged people from the community to attend these free performances. “We are very excited about presenting this production featuring original songs written by the ensemble to the community and opening up this wonderful world to children who otherwise might not have access to theatre,” he said.

On tap as part of the series are:

Jerry Craft will present “The Artist and Storyteller” on Saturday, April 2 at 2 p.m. Craft, a recognized cartoonist and children’s book illustrator, will help participants create their own Hudson River characters and cartoon drawings in a step-by-step process and will create on-the-spot drawings suggested by the audience.

Kim and Reggie Harris will present “Music of the Hudson River” on Saturday, April 9

at 2 p.m. This is a concert of songs, stories and narratives about Hudson River, slavery and the quest for freedom. The Harris’ will lead participants in song and stories to show how all races can come together to build a strong community.

“How to Hug a Tree” will be presented by the college’s theatre outreach program Saturday, April 23 at 2 p.m. The musical is directed by award-winning playwright, director and painter Shirley Kaplan, founder of the theatre outreach program. It aims to teach children about the importance of the environment and values like loyalty, bravery and ethics. It is part of the program’s mission to use art to stimulate, encourage expression and build self-esteem across all age groups.

“Music and Dance Along the Hudson River” will be presented Saturday, April 30 at 2 p.m. This is an original improvisational piece created by SLC faculty Kathy Westwater (dance) and John Yannelli (music) and performed by SLC students. An interactive workshop with children and families will be held before the performance.

All performances are free and open to the public. The Center for the Urban River is located at 35 Alexander St., Yonkers. For more information, call 914-395-2412, visit www.sarahlawrence.edu or e-mail collegevents@sarahlawrence.edu.



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Mayer: State Budget Must Increase Funds for Transit



Assemblymember Shelley Mayer, center, Senate Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Assemblyman Steve Otis were recently joined by a diverse group of advocates who called for additional funding for public transit, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure at Ride Hill.

Assemblymember Shelley Mayer was joined by Westchester legislative leaders and a diverse coalition of business, labor, health, senior, cycling and community groups at Ridge Hill last week to call for improved funding for public transit, pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure in the final state budget, due April 1.

Compared to the executive and Senate budget proposals, the Assembly's one-house budget proposal includes \$5 million in additional funding for operating expenses for the Bee-Line bus service and other downstate non-MTA public transit systems, as well as millions more in capital funding for downstate and upstate public transit systems. The Assembly's proposal also includes a \$20 million set-aside for pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure improvements, which would represent the first time New York State has specifically dedicated money for such projects.

"It is imperative that the final state budget include additional funding for public transportation, especially in our downstate urban and suburban communities," said Shelley Mayer. "Public bus service, like the Bee Line, provide essential transportation that sustains our local economy and meets a growing need for those without access to cars. I am committed to fighting for additional operating and capital funding, and applaud my colleagues and the advocates for standing with us on this issue."

"In addition, the Assembly's addition of \$20 million for pedestrian and bike infrastructure will help meet the needs of communities statewide to improve pedestrian safety and to improve bike access," she continued. "As we move ahead, this funding means bike lanes, pedestrian paths and other infrastructure needs can actually move ahead in cities like Yonkers. I credit the advocates and my Assembly colleagues for their steadfast support of this additional funding."

"Over the next few days, the final budget will be negotiated," concluded Mayer. "Today, we stand here together to ensure that public transportation investment and bike and pedestrian infrastructure must remain in the final budget agreement."

The additional transit funding is crucial for connecting Westchester residents to regional job opportunities, school and community activities, said the assemblywoman. For example, one in four Yonkers households do not have access to a car and are therefore dependent on safe and efficient alternatives to get to their destinations. Better funding for "complete streets" – which includes transit, pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure – will help to provide healthy, safe and convenient mobility options for the community.

Improved funding for the Bee-Line bus service would also have a significant positive impact on job generators, like Ridge Hill. Increased operating funds from the state could help extend the Bee-Line bus operating hours (especially for Route 78, which has two bus stops at Ridge Hill) and could enable the Bee-Line bus service to add stops at Ridge Hill. Increased capital funding can help Bee-Line and other transit systems across the state replace old buses, modernize fare collection equipment and improve transit infrastructure, said Mayer.

The Nepperhan Community Center is the recent recipient of a significant grant (\$250,000 over five years) from the New York State Department of Health's Creating Healthy Schools and Com-

munities program. The grant will be used to help build momentum for Complete Streets in the City of Yonkers, but cannot be used to build infrastructure. The proposed \$20 million in pedestrian and bicycling funding, creating the state's first Complete Streets fund, would help to build better walking and cycling infrastructure such as sidewalks, bike lanes and multi-use trails.

The State Legislature passed a Complete Streets law in 2011, but nearly five years later, no new funding for projects has been appropriated, and no state dollars have been dedicated for these purposes, hampering implementation of the law.

Legislators and advocates pointed out the benefits of this additional public transit and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure funding for economic development, downtown revitalization, tourism, health, and reduced greenhouse gas, creating a more livable community in Westchester.

"The reality is, mass transit is vital for the commuter workforce in our communities, especially for New Yorkers who don't have access to a personal vehicle," said Senate Democratic Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "Investing in mass transit will help bring new jobs to our community, boost economic development and improve the quality of life for thousands of local residents. Another way to make our region a better place to live and raise a family is to invest in improvements for pedestrians and cyclists. I applaud my colleagues in the Legislature and the advocates who are standing with us as we fight for more state resources to invest in our communities' mass transit, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure."

"New York State must look to the future for innovations that will allow us both mobility and environmental protection," added State Sen. George Latimer. "I credit the Assembly for its leadership in targeting support for these growing means of transport, and urge its inclusion in our final budget."

Getting people out of their cars and walking or biking is critical to improving the health of citizens and our communities, commented Rona Shapiro, president of the Yonkers Bike Club.

"Yonkers, like other cities, needs more bike and pedestrian lanes that that connect people to parks, transit centers and local shopping areas," said Shapiro. "The Yonkers Bike Club urges New York State to support the \$20 million in dedicated funding for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure provided by the NYS Assembly."

"The Nepperhan Community Center is committed to building a better Yonkers by encouraging healthy lifestyles and providing members of the community with better choices when they walk out of their homes in the morning," added Dr. Jim Bostic, executive director of the Nepperhan Community Center. "We applaud our Westchester Assembly members for taking the lead on increased funding in the NYS budget for sidewalks, trails and public transit – funding that is key to building complete streets and a safer community here in Yonkers."

"I want to thank Assemblymember Mayer for her efforts to obtain financing for mass transportation in our area, specifically the push to extend Bee-Line bus service hours and add stops," commented Andrew Hardy, general manager of Ridge Hill. "I look forward to working with the Assembly member in the future on this very important issue for our many local employees."

He, Too, is a Doctor Who Will Be Missed

By Eric Schoen

When I Googled "Dr. Richard Safran," one of the results said he is one of the best doctors in Yonkers. You don't have to tell that to the patient who walked out of his office this week in tears upon learning that the good doctor is retiring.

After a distinguished career of more than 50 years, Yonkers' iconic dermatologist Dr. Richard Safran recently announced that he will be retiring. With my family being patients of the good doctor for close to 30 years, we got "the call" you don't want to receive from your doctor informing you that he is retiring and no longer will provide the special care you have received for so many years.

Dr. Safran is the kind of doctor where you walk into his office with a problem and you walk out with a solution. He doesn't have you coming back and forth a million times to determine what your dermatological issue is. He whips out this gigantic magnifying glass and within seconds he has determined the problem and within minutes you walk out of the office on the road to recovery.

When I recommended Dr. Safran to a friend, I told her that he loves his creams, lotions and other topical treatments; he is generous with samples – not wanting you to spend precious dollars until you know the treatment works. And fortunately, it usually does.

I always ran into someone I knew when I visited Dr. Safran. His staff always does their best to get you in right away when you have a dermatological issue, and you don't sit in the office for hours waiting to see the doctor, as you do with so many doctors in this day and age. His assistant, Ellen, has been at his side for 36 years, and together with Kathy, they run an efficient office and are truly responsive to patients' needs.

Dr. Safran treated special needs children at residential homes and participated in numerous public cancer screenings taking place in the community. My mother had numerous dermatological issues before her passing, and Dr. Safran would always joke with me that if he ever wrote a book, my mom would be prominently featured in it.

When you reach a certain age you are bound to have doctors who have treated you for years hang up their white coats. It's not just because they have reached retirement age; in this world of Obamacare and increasing government regulation, many "old timers" don't enjoy practicing medicine like they used to. The paperwork doctors are required to fill out sadly takes away from their ability to focus on the needs of their patients.

Dr. Safran is not one of what I call the "computer doctors" who sit in front of a computer typing in your history and problems instead of treating them. With so many suffering from skin cancer, Dr. Safran is the kind of doctor our society needs more of.

Practicing medicine for more than 50 years is a long time. Dr. Safran certainly has fulfilled the pledge he took upon graduation from medical school. But for legions of patients he truly will be missed.

On behalf of my readers who are or have



Eric W. Schoen

been Dr. Safran's patients, I say" thank you" for many years of quality medical care with a smile. I hope Dr. Safran and his dear wife have many years of good health and happiness and enjoy retirement, knowing how many people he has helped in times of dermatological crisis over these many years.

Believe it or Not?

So many things going on in the news... We will call this feature "Believe it or Not?"

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey was considering moving the dilapidated Port Authority bus terminal at 42nd Street in Manhattan to Secaucus, N.J. Welcome to New York via a bus stopping in the middle of swamp land in New Jersey!

New York State is considering a law to allow hunters to wear pink. Can someone explain that one to me?

Convicted NYS Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos is trying to use his "courageous" support of the Safe Act series of gun control laws to avoid prison and show the sentencing judge of his courage as an elected official. As the saying goes, "Do the crime, do the time."

The PEZ Company sponsored an Easter egg hunt in Connecticut at its corporate headquarters, and pushy parents caused chaos – putting an abrupt end to the event. Sad. Pathetic. What terrible role models these parents are for their children.

Did you ever try to find a public bathroom on the streets of New York City? Now it comes out that the city has public bathroom kiosks that are in use all over the world in mothballs in a warehouse somewhere in the boroughs. Something is wrong with this picture.

A chewing tobacco ban at Major League Baseball parks? How about a ban on folks getting drunk and rowdy as they sit in the stands? The image these drunkards provide to Young children is worse than that of chewing tobacco.

Regulations are about to be passed that prohibit New York cab drivers from asking their passengers on a date? Never knew this was a problem in New York.

Why does it always take a crisis for people to act? The water in Flint, Mich., has high levels of lead in it. Government officials sadly – or better, disgracefully – allowed this mess. Now cities like Yonkers are checking the lead levels in drinking water fountains in public schools. Yonkers' water always tastes great so I doubt there is a problem. But tell me, why aren't water supplies checked on a regular basis?

The government has finally figured out how to crack into the security functions of an iPhone. Supposedly an Israeli company was of assistance. Why not give the phone to one of the notorious hackers who hack into computer systems throughout the world. Or give it to a 10-year-old kid who is more computer savvy than most adults.

Reach Eric Schoen at thistoosyonkers@aol.com and follow him on Twitter @ericnyonkers. Catch the Westchester Rising Radio Show featuring Dan Murphy and Eric Schoen on Thursdays at 10 a.m. on WVOX 1460 on the A.M. dial or on the Internet at wvox.com and click on "listen live."

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Nominations Accepted For Sports Hall of Fame

County Executive Robert Astorino is seeking nominations of candidates for this year's Westchester Sports Hall of Fame.

"Athletes who have dedicated their lives to good sportsmanship and teamwork enrich their communities and enhance Westchester County by the examples they set," he said. "This is an opportunity to show them some well-deserved recognition."

The Hall of Fame honors outstanding professional and amateur sportsmen and sportswomen, living or deceased, who have gained prominence in their fields and who have made substantial contributions to sports in Westchester County. Since its establishment in 1968, the organization has inducted more than 200 individuals into its prestigious membership ranks.

A prospective candidate must be at least 25 years old and should be a person of integrity and

good character who has gained prominence in either professional or amateur sports as a player, coach, manager, official, owner, writer or broadcaster. Nominees are reviewed by a committee that selects those who best meet or exceed the criteria of the Hall of Fame.

Induction will take place this fall, when each member will be presented with a trophy and have his or her name inscribed on a plaque in the Sports Hall of Fame gallery at the Westchester County Center in White Plains.

All nominations must be postmarked by Wednesday, May 25, and mailed to Westchester Sports Hall of Fame, c/o Kevin Cook, 450 Saw Mill River Road, Ardsley, NY 10502. Nomination forms are available at www.countycenter.biz.

The Sports Hall of Fame is sponsored by Westchester County Parks. For more information, call 914-231-4564.

City Council Approves Art District at YOHO

The Yonkers City Council has unanimously approved the Special Artisan and Industry District located at the old Carpet Mill, also known as YOHO, announced Democratic members of the City Council last week.

"The council Democratic caucus is pleased to have voted for passage of this ordinance, knowing it will bring new opportunities for artists and businesses," the Dems stated last week. "The residents of Yonkers and the surrounding area will soon be able to enjoy eateries and retail businesses associated with the arts district."

"This has been a project that has been in the works for about three years," added Minority Leader Sabatino. "The process began

after I had a conversation at the YOHO Arts Weekend open house with George Huang, one of the owners of the complex, about creating this arts district. The details and execution were accomplished with the guidance of the planning department staff and the support of the mayor's office. I am excited to see this come to fruition. I want to thank all involved with the process and my fellow council colleagues for their support in creating this new district."

This year's YOHO open house will be during Yonkers Arts Weekend, May 14 and 15.

"Please come and see the many talented artists and their different mediums," said council Democrats.

Yonkers Arts Weekend Returns May 14-15

Yonkers will host its third annual Yonkers Arts Weekend, a celebration of the thriving and diverse arts community in the City of Yonkers, from Saturday, May 14 to Sunday, May 15.

Yonkers Arts Weekend will feature hundreds of local, regional and international artists, painters, photographers, performing artists and sculptors in four of the city's most exciting cultural hotspots – the Downtown Yonkers Waterfront District, the Carpet Mills Arts District, Untermyer Gardens and the Hudson River Museum.

"Yonkers has secured its reputation as an artistic hub in the region and we are so excited to share that with residents and visitors each year during Yonkers Arts Weekend," said Mayor Mike Spano. "Yonkers' rich history, coupled with our thriving arts community, has transformed the City – especially the historic waterfront district – into a walkable museum."

Artists who would like to showcase their work during Yonkers Arts Weekend can submit their information and samples of their work through an online submission form, available online.

As part of this year's event, the city will feature live mural paintings, interactive art events for the public, street performers and pop-up galleries. There will be art venues throughout the

downtown waterfront and Van der Donck Park, as well as at Untermyer Gardens, YoHo Artist Studios and the Hudson River Museum. The YAW festivities will kick off Saturday morning with a family fun 5K color race/walk, presented by The Color Vibe, where participants start as a blank canvas, pass through four color stations and are infused with color.

Performances, workshops and pop-up galleries will run continuously throughout the weekend and are all free for children, teens and adults. Irina Shabayeva, New York City-based fashion designer and Project Runway winner, will return for a free fashion show Sunday at Untermyer Gardens. The city will provide free bus transportation that will shuttle visitors to each Yonkers Arts Weekend venue.

"Urban Studio Unbound is exciting and looking forward to the third annual Yonkers Arts Weekend," said Melissa Starke, curator/co-founder of Urban Studio Unbound Gallery. "We have participated in this event since its inception and have watched it grow and expand with each passing year. It is a testament to Yonkers as an arts destination and shows that momentum for the arts continues to build throughout the city."

"As an artist, it's wonderful living in a city whose mayor and city government have created Yonkers Arts Weekend to honor all forms of the arts as key to creative growth and economic vitality," added Haifa Bint-Kadi, artist/manager of Groundwork Hudson Valley. "This amazing three-day event provides some of the most innovative and contemporary art events on par with many international cities and also provides countless opportunities to engage citizens, visitors and artists alike."

Judith Schwartzstein, director of public affairs for Sarah Lawrence College, also had praise for the event.

"For a college that puts much stock in creativity, it is exciting to see the burgeoning of the arts in Yonkers with new galleries, arts programming for children, public art and the upcoming Yonkers Arts Weekend," she said. "Sarah Lawrence is proud to be a part of these developments."

"For us, art is a way to connect with others through emotion and feeling," added Sean Carter of Bleed Culture. "Art invokes an emotional response, whether good or bad, which triggers action. There is so much distraction for kids in the city, and we want art to be just as distracting. We want to capture the city in a light you haven't seen before, have been inspired by things around us before we knew art was important, and we want the kids to feel that same through us. There's something fulfilling about starting on your own path. If there's a fork in the road, go straight."

Artist Robert Zakanitch encourages others to "stop by the historic Carpet Mills, filled with floors and floors of open artist studios, walk through the spectacular Untermyer Gardens and don't forget the beautiful Hudson River Museum. Go, enjoy, you'll be glad you did," he said.

Yonkers Arts Weekend is produced by the City of Yonkers with Urban Studio Unbound. For more information, visit www.yonkersny.gov, www.groundworkhv.org or www.facebook.com/YonkersArtsWeekend.

Big Band Music at Library

"Big Band Sunday Afternoon," a musical program featuring the Yonkers Pops Band under the direction of Dan Salvi, will be presented Sunday, April 10 at 2 p.m. at the Yonkers Public Library, 1500 Central Park Ave. This program, sponsored by Friends of the Yonkers Public Library, is open to the public free of charge and no

tickets are required. Seating will be in the 325-seat Pincus Auditorium.

Music from Broadway to popular classics will be featured, and guest vocalists will join the Yonkers Pops Band for a wonderful afternoon of music. Call the library at 914-337-1500 for directions and more information.

Army National Guard Soldiers Re-Enlist

The recent re-enlistment of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their continuing commitment to serve community, state and nation as part of the Army National Guard was announced last week by Major Gen. Patrick Murphy, the adjutant general.

Specialist Jean Castillo of Yonkers has re-enlisted to continue service with the 222nd Chemical Company, and Staff Sgt. Richard Ford, also of Yonkers, has re-enlisted to continue service with the Company C, 101st Signal Battalion.

"The New York Army National Guard has sustained our force at or above 100 percent strength for the better part of seven years now," said Murphy. "Keeping those ready forces in our ranks means that New York is ready to provide forces for state missions here at home, as we saw during the Buffalo snow emergency last year, Hurricane Sandy in 2012, and for sustaining our support to federal missions for our nation around the country and around the world."

For more information about the New York Army National Guard, visit www.dmn.ny.gov or www.1800goguard.com.

The Writing Institute Offering Online Courses

The Writing Institute at Sarah Lawrence College is now offering online courses – but with the same small classes and individual faculty attention that are a hallmark of the 30-year-old program.

Small classes in the noncredit institute allow for group interaction, as well as one-to-one time with award-winning writing professionals who bring their passion, creativity and talent to students of The Writing Institute.

Editor Caitlin Alexander's workshop, Self-Edit Your Fiction, will help writers get plot, structure, and character development just right. Alexander has acquired and edited upmarket fiction, women's fiction, historical fiction, suspense, romance and narrative nonfiction, in addition to advising on trade paperback acquisitions for major publishers. She has edited New York Times bestsellers such as "The Year

of Fog" by Michelle Richmond and "Homer's Odyssey" by Gwen Cooper, among other books.

"Revision is an exhausting, maddening, utterly transformative and essential part of the writing process," said Alexander. "In this five-week online workshop, you'll learn how to revise smarter."

Memoir writers needing extra motivation and direction to stay on track may find Jump Start Your Memoir helpful. Author Alexandra Soiseth has been teaching personal and memoir writing at Sarah Lawrence for more than 15 years, helping writers deepen their voice and maximize their story telling potential. Her humorous, sensitive and poignant memoir "Choosing You" was published in 2008 by Seal Press.

For more information on The Writing Institute or to register for online courses, visit www.sarahlawrence.edu/writing-institute.

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Daniel J. Murphy, Editor-in-Chief
dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Bayan Baker, Assistant to Editor-in-Chief
risingmediagroup@gmail.com

Paul Gerken, Advertising Sales
pgerken@risingmediagroup.com

Gregory Baldwin, Administrative Asst.
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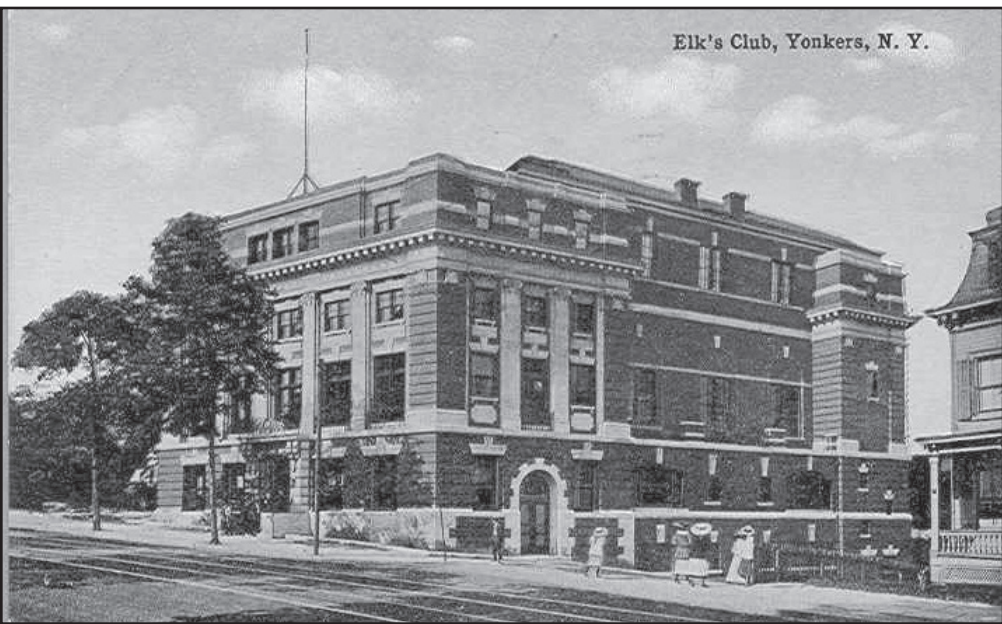
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On This Day in Yonkers History...



African American aviator Hubert Julian.



An early postcard of the Yonkers Elks Club.

By Mary Hoar
President Emerita, Yonkers Historical Society

Monday, April 4

April 4, 1905: The first entertainment of the Yonkers Cricket Club for Women was held at its headquarters, the View Hotel in Van Cortlandt. The entertainment was concert music by the C. Schold-ing Orchestra and singing by several local vocal stars. Dinner followed the entertainment.

April 4, 1931: City Clerk John Kettell gave Judge Charles Boote the names of 2,778 people who did not get dog licenses for their pooches. A police survey estimated 6,000 dog owners lived in Yonkers.

Tuesday, April 5

April 5, 1915: President John Crimmins of the Joint Council of Construction Workers of Yonkers presented a resolution to the Common Council, asking that only citizens of the city be employed on public works.

April 5, 1917: Members of the Yonkers Yacht Club voted to form a company for home defense, and to protect waterfront on the Hudson River. The Yonkers Yacht Club, a private club, originally was located on Fair Street but moved to its current location at 1203 Warburton Ave., in 1945.

April 5, 1917: The 10th Division of the New York Naval Militia was ordered to mobilize at the Elks Club for possible service in war. The division was made up entirely of men from Yonkers.

Wednesday, April 6

April 6, 1928: Wealthy banker and aviator A.R. Martine of 357 N. Broadway announced he would back a three-continent flight – a transatlan-tic crossing, a tour of Europe and a quick trip to Li-beria. Two African-American aviators, Lt. Hubert Julian and Lt. Herbert Wilkie, both veterans of the World War, were to pilot the excursion. Julian had served in the Royal Canadian Air Forces and later joined the American Expeditionary Force when the U.S. joined the War; later on he headed Emperor Haile Selassie’s Air Force for a few months.

Martine made one of his planes available to the men and was to share the cost with the famous 369th Regiment of Harlem. The plane was named “The 369th Rattlesnake,” with the regimental num-erals and a rattlesnake on each side of it. Unfor-tunately, the flight never happened.

Thursday, April 7

April 7, 1927: While demolishing the old bridge on Midland Avenue between Yonkers and Mount Vernon, a laborer found a little copper box containing a copy of an 1871 issue of The Yonkers Statesman and other memorabilia. The box of ar-tifacts was given to the Yonkers Museum of Arts and Science.

April 7, 1932: The Seventh Ward fifth district ballot box was put into the city clerk’s safe at City Hall, pending possible court action over a very close election. Former Charities Commissioner Marie Cerone won Republican leadership by two

votes over former Alderman Felix Sarubbi. His de-mand for verification, however, backfired, as her lead increased from two to six votes in the official recount.

Friday, April 8

April 8, 1916: The Board of Police Commis-sioners deemed that the bicycles officers were rid-ing were too slow, and authorized the purchase of several motorcycles for the Traffic Division.

April 8, 1918: John Shotts, chairman of a GAR Committee, presented a Yonkers service flag with 1,800 stars to Mayor Wallin. The stars repre-sented the number of Yonkers men enrolled in the National Army.

April 8, 1937: It was announced that Mrs. Thomas O’Neill of 123 Locust Hill Ave., was the recipient of the “Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice” medal for her work for Catholic youth. At the time of the award she was president of the Catholic Boys’ Bri-gade Auxiliary.

Saturday, April 9

April 9, 1907: A fire in School Three on Ham-ilton Avenue caused the evacuation of the school, with 800 children marching through smoky hall-ways to the street. Fortunately, no one was injured. As a result of this blaze, Fire Chief Mulcahey strongly urged installation of fire alarm boxes in every school building; he wanted the alarms to connect directly with the fire department.

April 9, 1911: Installation of furniture, floor coverings and file cabinets in City Hall offices be-gan. Since the police chief’s new quarters were to be at the hall, all Bertillon records, the Rogues Gal-leries and other paraphernalia was moved from the Wells Avenue station to the chief’s private quar-ters.

Sunday, April 10

April 10, 1925: The Board of Education an-nounced that it granted use of the grounds at School Eight to City Engineer Lawrence Griffith to build a temporary library building for the residents of Armour Villa Park at a cost of \$492.

April 10, 1933: Dr. Edward Stevenson of Pal-isade Avenue was appointed by King Alfonso of Spain as a Knight of the Royal Order of Isabella La Catolica. Formerly on the faculty of Rutgers, Ste-venson was author of a publication describing the development of mapmaking in Spain from the 17th Century. He also was secretary of the Hispanic So-ciety in New York City.

April 10, 1936: President C. Parker Lattin an-nounced, believing the use of the word “charity” in its name mislead many people, that the directors of the Charity Organization Society of the City of Yonkers voted to change its title to Family Service Society of Yonkers.

For more information on the Yonkers His-torical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, visit www.facebook.com/YonkersHistoricalSociety, or LinkedIn and Twitter @YonkersHis-toric. For information on membership in YHS, call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

Clever Clover



Clover needs a home.

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has many pets available for adoption.

Clover is a mixed-breed bully dog who weighs about 45 pounds and is about 3 years old. She arrived at the shelter as a stray and was an instant favorite of volunteers and staff. She’s a smart dog who has not only learned basic com-mands, but also knows a few tricks. Clover loves to show off her skills – all you have to do is ask.

While Clover would do best as the only dog in the home, she is appropriate around them while walking and could live just about anywhere – city or suburb. She’s very gentle, laid back and easy to walk on leash.

Visit Clover at the Yonkers Animal Shelter between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily, or call 914-377-6730 or 201-981-3215, or email lesliem147@gmail.com for more information.

City Cleans Up Old Croton Aqueduct Trail

The City of Yonkers will participate in a number of clean-up initiatives and tree plantings in celebration of Earth Month. Neighborhood clean-ups are organized to encourage community involvement for the purpose of beautifying city streets, neighborhoods and community gardens in Yonkers.

“Earth Week is an opportune time to take ac-tion and further enhance our city through cleanup efforts,” said Mayor Mike Spano. “Whether it’s planting a tree, opening a community garden where a vacant property once stood, or simply encouraging your neighbors to recycle, we can all do our part to ensure that Yonkers remains a beautiful place to live, work and raise a family.”

Earth Month events will officially kick off with a Yonkers Clean-Up Day at the Old Croton Aqueduct on Saturday, April 16. Residents are encouraged to join the City of Yonkers; Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct; the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; and the Yonkers Green City Advisory Committee in beautifying the Yonkers section of the trail. Vol-unteers can pre-register by visiting www.yonkersny.gov or calling 914-377-6429 or on-site that day beginning at 9 a.m. at the Parks Department, 285 Nepperhan Ave. Transportation will be pro-vided to bring volunteers to clean-up sites along

the trail.

“Last year’s aqueduct clean-up was a won-derful event with so much enthusiasm and joyful work done by all,” said Mavis Cain, president of the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct. “We ex-pect another successful outcome this year.”

Additional clean-ups and events sched-uled during Earth Month in the City of Yonkers include: the Great Saw Mill River Cleanup on Saturday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. start-ing at Van Der Donck Park, 1 Larkin Plaza; and Yonkers Arbor Day events Friday, April 29, fea-turing a tree planting at Andrus Park at Central Park Avenue at Arlington Street at 9:30 a.m., a tree planting O’Boyle Park at Hawthorne Avenue between Highland Avenue and Downing Street at 10:30 a.m., and a tree planting at Grant Park at Park Avenue at High Street at 11:30 a.m.

To assure Yonkers remains clean following the clean-ups, Spano is also reminding residents to report any instances of illegal dumping to the city’s anti-dumping hotline by calling 914-377-DUMP. A reward of up to \$1,000 is offered for anyone who reports a case of illegal dumping that leads an arrest and conviction.

“If you see something, it pays to say some-thing,” said Spano. “We must all do our part to keep our city clean.”

Do you remember ANGELA DOLAN?

Mary Angela Dolan was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, in 1918. She emigrated to Yonkers in 1949 and may have worked at O'Dare's restaurant on 602 Central Park Avenue.

If you have any recollections or photos of Angela, please contact Zoe McCaw at zmccaw01@qub.ac.uk or 31 Colenso Court, 2-18 Colenso Parade, Belfast BT9 5BB, N. Ireland.

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SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER	
DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY AMERICAS, AS TRUSTEE FOR RESIDENTIAL ACCREDIT LOANS, INC., MORTGAGE ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-QS1 RALI 2007-QS1, Plaintiff	
against	
MARIA CHARRIA, JOHN CHARRIA, et al Defendant(s).	
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on February 29, 2016.	
I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, N.Y. on the 4th day of May, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.	
Said premises known as 63 Hearst Street, Yonkers, N.Y. 10703. (Section: 3, Block: 3335, Lot: 31.32).	
Approximate amount of lien \$ 845,236.68 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.	
Index No. 61939-14. Andrew M. Romano, Esq., Referee. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street – Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900	
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Legal Notices

Notice of Real Estate Auction By Order of the City of Yonkers	
Notice is hereby given of a public real estate auction of properties acquired by the City of Yonkers through the In Rem foreclosure process. Properties are a mix of single family, commercial and land lots and may be occupied by tenants.	
The public auction will take place at 12pm Friday, April 22, 2016 at the Community Room of the Riverside Library, 1 Larkin Plaza, 2nd Floor, in Yonkers. Bidding is open to the public live and online. All sales subject to seller acceptance.	
Properties are sold “As Is, Where Is” and not subject to contingencies. High bidder will be required to make a 10% down payment immediately after the auction, and provide the balance of purchase price at closing in 30 days.	
Auction Properties	
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· 266 Riverdale Ave - 1800-001-000-00163-000-0016	
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· 327 Walnut St - 1800-001-000-00453-000-0004	
· 146 Oak St - 1800-001-000-00461-000-0076	
· 46 Shawnee Ave - 1800-004-000-04484-000-0098	
· 61 Palisade Ave - 1800-002-000-02027-000-0040	
· 205 Ashburton Ave - 1800-002-000-02079-000-0027	
· 18 Vineyard Ave - 1800-002-000-02079-000-0041	
· 355 Warburton Ave - 1800-002-000-02117-000-0014	
· 61 Morningside Ave - 1800-002-000-02163-000-0010	
· 19 Richmond Pl - 1800-002-000-02379-000-0037	
· 43 St Josephs Ave – 1800-002-000-02089-000-002	
55, 58 and 60 Railroad Ave (Lots 25, 26 & 27 as one) – 1800-003-000-03311-000-0027, 1800-003-000-03311-000-0026, & 1800-003-000-03311-000-0025.	
· 120 Elliott Ave – 1800-001-000-00126-000-0068	
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Notice of formation of 125 South 12th Equities LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on February 5, 2016. Office location: Westchester. The street address is: 405 Tarrytown Rd., Suite 1047, White Plains, NY 10607 SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Michael Alston, 405 Tarrytown Rd., Suite 1047, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose: any lawful act.		Notice of Formation of Dolly Productions, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/22/16. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Catherine R. Hogan, 1020 Warburton Ave., Unit 12D, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.		Notice of formation of Joel Finnigen Photography Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/05/2016. Office location: Westchester. The street address is: 284 S Columbus Ave, Apt D4, Mount Vernon, NY 10553. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Joel Finnigen, 284 S Columbus Ave, Apt D4, Mount Vernon, NY 10553. Purpose: any lawful act.	
#6748	04/01 – 05/06	#6749	04/01 – 05/06	#6750	04/01 – 05/06

Notice of formation of Collaborative Technologies, LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/15/2015. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 27 Forster Parkway, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Dayne Codrington, 27 Forster Parkway, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: any lawful act.		Name of Limited Liability Company Money Machine Enterprise LLC: Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 2/11/2016. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 35 Pier Street Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose of business of LLC is any lawful act or activity.		Notice of formation of Fabco Coffee Service LLC, Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/16/2015. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 1057 Hunter Avenue, Pelham, NY, 10803. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to the LLC, 1057 Hunter Avenue, Pelham, NY, 10803. Purpose: any lawful act.	
#6751	04/01 – 05/06	#6752	04/01 – 05/06	#6753	03/18 – 04/22

Notice of Qualification of YRC Capital, LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with NY Dept. of State on 1/8/16. Office location: Westchester County. NY Sec. of State designated agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, and shall mail process to 810 Yonkers Ave., Yonkers, NY 10704. DE addr. of LLC c/o Vanguard Corporate Services Ltd, 3500 S Dupont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901 on 1/7/16. Purpose: any lawful activity.		Notice of formation of JoJo's Sweet Creations LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY(SSNY) on 02/11/2016. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 1133 Knollwood Road, White Plains NY. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: United Corporate Services, Inc. 10 Bank Street Suite 560 White Plains, NY, 10606. Purpose: any lawful act.		Notice of formation of EVO- OLOGY IMPORTS LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/12/2015. Office location: WESTCHESTER COUNTY. The street address is: 56 Harrison Street, Suite 405, New Rochelle, NY, 10801. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: The LLC, 56 Harrison Street, Suite 405, New Rochelle, NY, 10801. Purpose: any lawful act.	
#6739	02/26 – 04/01	#6740	03/04 – 04/08	#6742	03/11 – 04/15

Notice of formation of JT Carr Creative LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on March 7, 2016. Office location: Westchester. The street address is: 45 Tower Hill Road, Scarborough, NY 10510. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: James W. Kilman, Jr., 45 Tower Hill Road, Scarborough, NY 10510. Purpose: any lawful act.		Notice of Formation of Birth-Devi Maternity Services, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 2/19/16. Office location: Westchester County. NY Sec. of State designated agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, and shall mail process to 1 Yonkers Ter, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful activity.		Notice of formation of GCMA Real Estate Group LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/15/2016. Office location: Westchester The street address is: 1 Timmons Rd, Scarsdale NY 10583. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: GCMA Real Estate Group LLC, 1 Timmons Rd, Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful act.	
#6745	03/18 – 04/22	#6746	03/25 – 04/29	#6747	03/25 – 04/29

Seniors and Health Care

Five Star Premier Residences Supports Quality Living



Live your life to the fullest at Five Star Residence in Yonkers.

Five Star Premier Residences of Yonkers said it wants all residents to celebrate life, and to do so on their own to the best of their abilities. “When assistance is needed, our warm and caring staff is there to provide support, offering all the comforts of home and more through our assisted living and memory care services,” said Five Star.

The facility said it realizes that every resident is different, and for that reason offers a customized assessment of support services requirements before a new resident moves into the community.

“With this information, we can plan to meet each person’s assisted living needs from the very beginning,” said Five Star.

Some of the services offered include licensed nurses on staff 24-hours a day, personalized medication management, personal care services, house-keeping, and transportation for shopping, errands and doctors’ appointments. Residents only pay for the specific services they need and use.

For residents who may require memory care services, the community offers the nationally-acclaimed Bridge to Rediscovery Alzheimer’s care program. This is Five Star Senior Living’s innovative approach to helping residents rediscover the joy in everyday life. Based on the same Montessori methodology used in school systems, the program is personalized for each resident, focusing on their strengths to help them retain their individualized identities: as a loving parent, outspoken law-

yer, creative artist or die-hard Yankee fan.

“The highly qualified staff is on hand to guide new residents and support families in the transition, helping to determine a level of care and options for a fulfilling lifestyle,” said Five Star.

All residents at Five Star Premier Residences of Yonkers can choose from a full complement of social, educational, wellness, cultural and spiritual programs, as well as a variety of support options. Walking/exercise groups, book clubs and movie nights are readily available to all of the residents in order to stay active and social.

“The comfort of home, the compassion of a caring team, and the fulfillment of companionship is the Five Star difference,” said administrators.

For a personalized tour of the property, call 914-709-1234.

Five Star Quality Care, Inc., a national health care and senior living provider headquartered in Newton, Mass., offers high-quality service and care with the warmth and hospitality of home. The Assisted Living Federation of America has awarded Five Star Senior Living many of its prestigious Best of the Best Awards, a national recognition reserved for the nation’s most innovative and effective senior living programs.

For more information about Five Star Premier Residences of Yonkers, visit www.fivestarpremier-ny.com or www.fivestarseniorliving.com, or call 914-709-1234.

Astorino & YWCA Launch Fall Prevention Initiative

County Executive Robert Astorino, in partnership with the YWCA White Plains and Central Westchester, announced last week the launch of a new balance training and fall prevention program that will kick off with a free event Thursday, April 7 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the YWCA White Plains and Central Westchester, 515 North St., White Plains.

Registration is requested, but walk-ins will be welcome. RSVP to events@ywcawpcw.org, or call 914-949-6227, ext. 208 for more information.

“The main reason older adults lose their independence is because of falls,” said Astorino. “But the good news is that falls are preventable. I encourage all seniors and those who care for seniors to join us.”

The launch event will feature a panel discussion with some of the area’s leading medical professionals, followed by a Tai Ji Quan demonstration focused on how to incorporate movement for better balance. Additional programs are being offered throughout the year at the YWCA.

“Falls can be disastrous for people over the age of 65,” said Maria Imperial, YWCA CEO. “One in three older adults fall annually, with falls being the leading cause of death due to injury. The classes now offered at the YWCA are designed to improve strength, balance, agility and coordination and can significantly reduce the risk of falling in older adults.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, falls account for 25 percent of all hospital admissions and 40 percent of nursing home admissions – with 25 percent of these individuals dying within a year of the fall accident. In excess of \$30 billion is spent each year on health care costs related to a fall injury. Medicare costs for hip fractures as a result of falls is projected to be \$240 billion dollars by 2040.

The collaborating agencies joining the YWCA on the fall prevention initiative are Step-WISEnow, Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services and the Westchester Medical Center.

County Seeks Proposals For Senior Day Services

Westchester County’s Department of Senior Programs and Services has issued a request for proposals from qualified agencies to provide adult day services, with funding coming from grants through the federal Older Americans Act. Adult day services include structured, comprehensive programs that provide socialization, supervision, personal care and nutrition in a protective setting during the day but for less than 24 hours.

“Our RFP outreach is important because it enables the county to offer the highest quality

services to seniors and caregivers,” said County Executive Robert Astorino. “It gives us an opportunity to look at our options and compare costs. Our ultimate goal is to help seniors remain in their homes and their communities.”

Proposals must be received by April 6 at the Department of Senior Programs and Services, County Office Building, 9 S. First Ave., 10th floor, Mount Vernon, NY 10550.

For more information, visit www.westchestergov.com/rfp.

Blood Drive in New Rochelle

The New Rochelle Public Library will host an American Red Cross blood drive Friday, April 8 from 2 to 7 p.m. in the meeting room and theater stage.

The American Red Cross Blood Services depends on committed donors to give the “gift of life” to help ensure quality blood products and services are always available when and where they are needed by hospital patients. One unit of blood can help save the lives of up to three people.

The Red Cross needs donors to keep giving blood during all times of the year if it is to continue meeting patients’ need for blood: transfusions for trauma victims who have experienced accidents or burns; patients undergoing heart

surgery or organ transplants; and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer and other diseases. A donation will help ensure that blood is available for those many patients who require this life-saving gift.

Donors need to be at least 17 years of age and may drop-in or register by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS; or by visiting www.redcrossblood.org/ RapidPass, which allows donors to complete their pre-reading and donation questions online from the comfort and privacy of their home or office, thus reducing the time they spend at the blood drive by up to 15 minutes.

All donors should bring photo identification and allow 45 to 60 minutes to complete the donation. Refreshments are provided.

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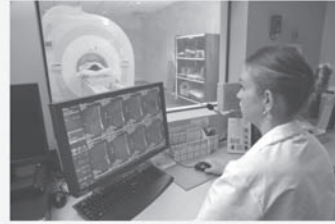


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Learn How to Save A Life:

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Presenter:

Ed Dubee, RN

from the Russell E. Blaisdell (OASAS) Addiction Treatment Center in Rockland County

Free and Open to The Public
but pre-registration is required
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Co-sponsored by

Assemblymember **Shelley Mayer**,

Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services,

St. John’s Riverside Hospital, and

Franky’s Field of Dreams Foundation



Wednesday, April 6, 2016 • 6-8 p.m.

St. John’s Riverside Hospital (cafeteria)
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For more information regarding this event or any other community issue, call 914-779-8805 or email mayers@assembly.state.ny.us.

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Westchester Divided

Continued from Page 1

intended to help.”

BCW President and Chief Executive Officer Marsha Gordon added: “While some of our members expressed support for the increase, the results and particularly the comments offered by many of those responding demonstrated that however well-intended, the increase will damage New York’s competitive position and encourage some businesses to leave the state or cease operations entirely.”

Mount Kisco-based DataKey Consulting conducted the survey over a period of three weeks in February. Of those responding, 77 percent were for-profit businesses and the balance were non-profits, with 96 percent of the respondents being CEOs or executive managers able to speak for their respective organizations. The respondents employ from 10 to more than 100 employees representing 30 different industries and organizations.

Among the key conclusions of those who expressed opposition to the \$15 wage, 97 percent said it would decrease their hiring from youth workforce development programs, 91 percent would likely or definitely hire fewer employees, 47 percent said it would somewhat or significantly drive up wages for other employees, 46 percent would likely or definitely curtail expansion plans, 42 percent would likely or definitely reduce employee benefits to make up for the increase, 37 percent said it would likely or definitely cause layoffs, and 15 percent said they would need to close their businesses.

Ravitz said the BCW was particularly concerned about the potential impact on hiring young people who are in job training programs, such as the Westchester-Putnam Youth Workforce Development Board that is managed by BCW.

“We place 225 young people in summer jobs each year and these positions could be eliminated as a result of having a \$15 minimum wage,” he said. “If the higher wage means fewer job opportunities, especially for young people, then it is self-defeating.”

The often stark comments offered by many of the survey respondents about the impact of a 50 percent hike in the minimum wage were revealing, including:

“I believe it could have a very negative effect on many small businesses and non-profits. Our organization has many young employees (students) who work part-time. In most cases they are not supporting families, rent or mortgages. It is not practical to pay a 16- or 17-year-old \$15 an hour for their first job.”

“My employees would not end up making more money because if they kept their job, their hours would be reduced, therefore netting the same amount or not being employed by us.”

A recent report from the American Action Forum and the Empire Center for New York State Policy stated that increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour could cost the state between 200,000 and 588,800 jobs.

Leading the fight for increased minimum wage with Cuomo is Senate Democratic Conference Chair Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

“One of the many issues left unaccomplished from this past legislative session is the need to raise the state’s minimum wage,” she said. “For too long, more than 1.1 million New Yorkers have been unable to adequately provide for themselves and their families because they do not receive fair compensation for their hard work. The time is past due for New York State to raise the minimum wage and my colleagues and I in the Senate Democratic Conference will keep up the fight to help lift all New Yorkers out of poverty.”

Stewart-Cousins has also called for indexing future increases in the minimum wage to inflation. “I’d love to see it indexed so we’re not always having this conversation,” she said. “Just

index it so it will continue to rise as the cost of living rises.”

While negotiations continue, Stewart-Cousins said Senate Democrats will not support a longer phase-in of a \$15 minimum wage.

“The last time the minimum wage was raised, the Senate Democrats correctly pointed out that this was simply a half-measure that would have to be addressed again, and here we are three years later,” she said. “We must learn from history and recognize that to truly lift people out of poverty we must adequately raise the minimum wage. The Senate Democratic Conference would have a tough time supporting anything that goes slower or lower than what the governor has publicly proposed in his budget.”

State Sen. George Latimer added: “I support an increase in the minimum wage, phased in over three to five years. I also support robust tax cuts for small businesses to offset the first two years of impacts and aid to non-profits similarly affected.”

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano has supported an increase in the minimum wage for some time.

“Going to \$15, I think, is the correct path, but knowing what I know about the State Legislature, you’re not going to get \$15 right away,” he said. “So, incremental increases are better than none. Adjusting minimum wages regionally will directly help minimize the impacts of the greater cost of living that so many face, and hopefully move earners up the economic ladder.”

Assemblymember Shelley Mayer added: “We need to work together to improve our tax base, and that includes an increase in the minimum wage so people can afford to live and shop in our city and county and fostering smart economic development in New York’s struggling cities.”

Mayer also has brought attention to wage theft, in which employers don’t pay their employees for overtime.

“Imagine trying to survive on \$350 a week in Westchester – certainly not enough to pay for housing and even the most modest of household bills,” she said. “As difficult as this is, imagine that every day when you leave your job, you are cheated out of what you are owed – and you think no one cares. For too many workers, this is the case.

“According to the Economic Policy Institute, wage theft is one of the most common workplace violations, costing employees billions of dollars a year,” wrote Mayer in an op-ed with Jordan El-Hag, business manager of IBEW Local 1430. “Wage theft not only injures workers – it disadvantages employers who pay fairly and in accordance with the law.”

Other options for a \$15 minimum wage, and its impacts, include expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit; while the minimum wage has been adjusted seven times since 2013, the EITC has not been expanded in 12 years.

The Syracuse Post Standard, in an op-ed against a \$15 minimum wage, reads: “Raising the minimum wage also will put pressure on employers to raise wages for their employees already earning just above minimum.”

If “offsets” are given to small businesses and non-profits to help pay for a \$15 minimum wage, the taxpayers of New York will make up the difference, according to Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb.

“Representatives from nearly every sector of industry – health care, agriculture, education, non-profits, small business – have repeatedly stated they cannot survive a 67 percent increase in labor costs,” he said. “Some have called for the state to include money in the final budget to help off-set a minimum wage hike. In their one-house budget resolution, Assembly Democrats included \$200 million for health care providers to do just that. That means we – the taxpayers – have now been identified as a funding source for an irrational liberal proposal, one that will cost billions to implement and will be a guaranteed job killer in New York State.”

News 12 Westchester Wins 8 Emmy Awards

News 12 Westchester was honored by the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences with eight New York Emmy Awards. The awards were presented at the recent 59th annual New York Emmy Awards ceremony at The Marriott Marquis Times Square in New York City.

“We’re incredibly proud of these eight Emmy awards,” said Janine Rose, News 12 Westchester news director. “I’m so proud of Tara Rosenblum and the entire News 12 Westchester team. Every day we strive to fulfill our mission of bringing news and information to our viewers in a truly professional manner. We are honored to be recognized for that effort.”

We congratulate the following News 12 Westchester New York Emmy Award winners:

“Drama in the Big House: Acts 1, 2 and 3” won for news reporting of a serious feature; and “Tale of Two Districts” won for special religion programming;

Tara Rosenblum was awarded in the following categories: research of a craft specialty; on-camera reporting – features/human interest, general assignment and political; news writing; and program writing;

And Erika Martinez was also awarded for program writing.

News 12 Networks, which is comprised of seven individual, local, 24-hour news channels across Connecticut, New Jersey and New York, received a total of 15 New York Emmy Awards this year.

The New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, founded in 1955, is the preeminent membership organization serving the television industry. It encourages the pursuit of excellence and promotes the highest standards of quality in television by conferring the industry’s classic and most-coveted, peer-recognition symbol of distinction – the Emmy.

Upcoming Free Programs At St. Paul’s Historic Site

St. Paul’s Church National Historic Site will host a number of free programs this month, at 897 S. Columbus Ave., Mt. Vernon.

On Thursday, April 7 St. Paul’s will be open from 1 to 9 p.m. At 7 p.m., a presentation will explore the Lenape Indians – the original settlers of the St. Paul’s vicinity.

On Saturday, April 9, the site will be open from noon to 4 p.m. At 2 p.m., professor Alan Taylor of the University of Virginia will explore themes raised in his Pulitzer-prize winning 2014 book “The Internal Enemy: Slavery and War in Virginia, 1772-1832.” The Pulitzer committee’s citation calls the book “a meticulous and insightful account of why runaway slaves in the colonial era were drawn to the British side as potential liberators.”

Taylor’s other books include “The Civil

War of 1812: American Citizens, British Subjects, Irish Rebels and Indians Allies” and “The Divided Ground: Indians, Settlers and the Northern Borderland of the American Revolution.”

On Friday, April 15 at 3 p.m., there will be a performance of arias and duets from classic operas by the acclaimed Bronx Opera Company, accompanied by music on the 1830 Erben pipe organ.

On Friday, April 29 at 3 p.m., there will be a digital presentation with historical commentary and discussion exploring the National Mall in Washington, D.C., recognizing the centennial of the National Park Service.

Refreshments will be served at all events.

For more information, call 914-667-4116 or visit www.nps.gov/sapa.

Science Barge

Continued from Page 1

Theatre” interactive performance; Yonkers High School Robotics Team demonstrating its latest creation; Legos on the Hudson; artsy crafts and potting activities; outdoor games for kids sponsored by LL Bean; hands-on science stuff; a ConEdison Energy bike challenge; light refreshments; and walk-on tours from 2 to 6 p.m.

The Science Barge is a prototype sustainable urban farm and environmental education center on the Hudson River. The Barge greenhouse grows an abundance of fresh produce,

from climbers like melons and tomatoes to lettuces and herbs, with zero net carbon emissions, zero pesticides and zero runoff. All of the energy needed to power the Barge is generated by solar panels, wind turbines and biofuels, while the hydroponic greenhouse is irrigated solely by captured rainwater.

The Science Barge is funded by grants from the City of Yonkers, ConEdison, Domino Sugar, NOAA, Hitachi America and the Hudson River Foundation.

The Science Barge, a project of Groundwork Hudson Valley, is located at 99 Dock St., Yonkers. For more information, contact Groundwork at 914-375-2151.

Send photos of your recent event, fundraiser or celebration to us at risingmediagroup@gmail.com



Yonkers City Council Member
Corazón Pineda-Isaac



Cordially Invites the Residents of Nodine Hill to a
COMMUNITY MEETING

Police Captain Peter Butler of the 3rd Precinct
will also be in attendance.



Date: Thursday, April 7, 2016

Time: 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Place: Nodine Hill Community Center
140 Fillmore St, Yonkers, NY



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Alfred Weissman Was a Patriotic Friend to Yonkers



Congressman Eliot Engel, right, Assemblymember Shelley Mayer and Alfred Weissman at City Hall in 2014. Photo by Ed Whitman.

The Yonkers and Westchester communities are mourning the loss of Alfred Weissman who passed away last weekend at the age of 90. Weissman was a prominent developer in the city and county, but served in so many other ways, including as a proud WWII veteran and philanthropist.

“Mr. Weissman was a great veteran who helped and encouraged us to run patriotic programs for students and for veterans here in Yonkers,” said AMVETS Rauso Post 40 Commander Sam Riti. “Through our Flag Day events and essay contests, he has touched many in Yonkers and will not be forgotten.”

Weissman, a recipient of the Americanism Award in Yonkers, made a significant contribution for the traveling Vietnam Wall to come to Yonkers several years ago, and was also a philanthropist in many other ways.

The UJA-Federation of New York expressed

its sympathy over the passing of Weissman, who it says leaves behind a loving family that will carry on a tradition of exceptional Jewish philanthropy. “We extend our heartfelt condolences to Alfred’s beloved wife, Connie; his children, Alan (Gigi), David, and Julie (Michael); his grandchildren; and the entire family,” the federation stated.

The Center for Entrepreneurial Jewish Philanthropy also mourns the loss of Weissman, calling him “a leader whose wisdom and generosity touched the lives of many. We extend our condolences to Constance and the entire family,” said the center.

Assemblymember Shelley Mayer said: “He had a unique and personal commitment to those who served in the armed forces. Even in his late 80s he had meetings with soldiers to hear about their needs and experiences. His generous commitment to them was exceptional.”

Yonkers Celebrates Purim



Rabbi Vinas’ wife, Sarah, (left) dressed in costume for the Purim party and megillah reading, with a friend.



Rabbi Rigoberto Emmanuel Vinas dressed as a Soviet-era soldier.



Dancers from the Barynya Russian Song and Dance Ensemble, including Andrei Kisselev doing a dance from “Fiddler on the Roof,” recently performed traditional Russian and Jewish dances at LPJC.

Photos by Robert Kalfus

PAL Egg Hunt a Hit!



Kids and parents go egg-hunting at Redmond Field.



Golden egg winner Sean Quiles with the Easter Bunny.



SaSha the Clown with Cara Mulvanny, entertaining the kids.

Photos by Ed Whitman

Uprooted Tree Smashes Car on Raymond Place



Yonkers police officers spoke with a woman who identified herself as the owner of the Toyota RAV4 crushed by high winds Monday night, which toppled a tree on the western side of Raymond Place off of Yonkers Avenue. Frank Bochentyn of Lewis Tree Service workers cut the limbs in sections to allow passage on the street and to restore electricity to the homes on the block. The female car owner, who declined to identify herself, said that “during Hurricane Sandy, I parked my car on the other (eastern) side of Raymond Place, because I was worried about this tree falling, but another tree fell on it and crushed my car,” according to TV press. Photo and information by Robert Kalfus.

How Could We Forget Irish-American Councilmen?



Yonkers Rising received several emails and phone calls from our loyal readers asking how we could have forgotten to include the four Irish-American members of the Yonkers City Council in our coverage of St. Patrick's Day. Editor in Chief Dan Murphy responded, "Simply put, there is no excuse." Our apologies, and happy St. Patrick's Day to, from left, Bobbie Shepherd and pooch, Pretzel; Councilman Dennis Shepherd; Marjority Leader John Larkin; Council President Liam McLaughlin; and Councilman Mike Breen. Photo by Donna Davis.

Quinn & Mannion Honored For Irish Heritage Month



Eileen Mannion and Eugene Collum and their family, with County Legislator Bernice Spreckman, Legislative Aide David Tubiolo and BOL Chairman Michael Kaplowitz.

As part of this year's Irish Heritage Month celebration at the Westchester County Board of Legislators, Bernice Spreckman of Mount Vernon and Yonkers has chosen Pat Quinn and Eileen Mannion to be honored, in recognition for their years of outstanding commitment and service to Westchester County's Irish and Irish-American community.

Quinn is a Yonkers native from St. John the Baptist Parish and an alumnus of both Iona Preparatory High School and Iona College. A strong athlete, he played basketball in high school and rugby in college. His paternal family descends from County Armagh and County Down, while his maternal family descends from County Clare, County Cork and Westmeath.

Quinn is a leading advocate for raising awareness of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. He remains at the forefront fighting against ALS, coordinating and organizing the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, which has raised more than \$220 million for research to find a cure. Quinn attributes his success to the values instilled in him from his Irish-American heritage.

"It's a real honor to be recognized during Irish Heritage Month here in Westchester County," he said. "I attribute my inner fight, my strength to make a difference to my Irish blood and the local community. Not only in my hometown of Yonkers, but all across Westchester County, I have been supported in my fight

against ALS. I'm so proud to be Irish, so proud to be from Westchester County, and we will continue to battle this disease together. Thank you for this incredible award."

Mannion came to Westchester after emigrating from her native Ireland. She arrived in the United States after leaving her hometown of Glenamaddy in County Galway in 1986. Since that time she has found success as a prominent businesswoman, owning and operating Eileen's Country Kitchen on McLean Avenue for nearly 20 years.

She is also co-owner of The Heritage Bar and Restaurant, along with Eugene Collum, a native of Donegal. Part of her success has been found through her ability to bring a homey feel to her businesses and convey a sense of warmth and welcome to every customer.

Aside from serving people her delicious meals, Mannion has made a point to serve her community by participating in many local organizations, including Aisling Irish Community Center and her local parish, St. Barnabas. She is also an active participant in Yonkers' St. Patrick's Day Parade and raises money for several charities by running in triathlons.

"We have a vibrant Irish community in Westchester County, especially revolving around McLean Avenue in Yonkers," said Legislator Spreckman. "Pat and Eileen are two shining examples of our Irish-American experience, hardworking, tireless advocates for the Irish culture, and determined to succeed."

American Heart Association
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