Empire City Collects Coats & Toys for Charity

Dr. Victor Mandanas, director of radiology for St. Joseph’s Diagnostic Imaging Department.

By Andrew Tobias

One of the main tenants of Saint Joseph’s Medical Center, located at 127 S. Broadway, is continued improvement for the maintenance of excellence in health care. This dedication to continued improvement is perhaps most evident in Saint Joseph’s Diagnostic Imaging Department. Under the leadership of Director of Radiology Dr. Victor Mandanas, the department has been constantly growing and improving.

Mandanas came to Saint Joseph’s by way of Cornell Medical Center and, most recently, the New York Radiology Alliance, a national organization of Virtual Radiologists. What those companies do is maintain a nationwide network of radiologists and medical imaging facilities.

Continued on Page 5

Should Mixed Martial Arts Be Legal in New York?

RIMA Champ Caner McGregor

By Dan Murphy

If you haven’t heard the name Conor McGregor yet, now is the time. McGregor is a fighter and champion with the Ultimate Fighting Championship in the vibrant art of mixed martial arts. MMA has swept the country and is continuing to provide vital services to New York families in need.

For the past nine years, Empire City Casino President and CEO Timothy Rooney has helped spearhead the spirit of giving by hosting a “Christmas Spirit” toy and coat drive. The event has evolved throughout Catholic Charities, which has partnered with the Rooney’s and Empire City Casinos to ensure that New Yorkers in need have a warm coat this winter and a toy to put under the Christmas tree for their children.

Rooney presented the annual donation to Meghan Kevin Sullivan, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York, but also surprised the service organization with an unexpected gift: a donation of $10,000 to assist it in continuing to provide vital services to New York State residents will again be electing their Assembly members and senators to represent them in Albany. Which party will control the New York State Senate will be the big question, and will also impact the future of Westchester State Sen. Andrew Stewart-Cousins.

The Republic majority in the Senate is a dramatic shift from 32 members down to 31 after the conviction of former Republican Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos. For 10 years, Skelos’ influence ran unchecked, and even the most minor party had to cede to his massive political clout. But after his defeat last year, the Democrats formed a Senate majority that has been able to resist some of the Republican initiatives.

While the USA may never see a Senate Majority Leader like Skelos again, the days of the Supermajority may not be far behind. The upcoming elections will see the New York State Senate in play, as well as the state Senate in other key states across the country.

Empire City Casino: The Ghost of City Hall Harry

By Dan Murphy

As we near 2016, Westminster and New York State residents will again be electing their Assembly members and senators to represent them in Albany. Which party will control the New York State Senate will be the big question, and will also impact the future of Westchester State Sen. Andrew Stewart-Cousins.

The Republic majority in the Senate is the same one that was in control in 2015 when the Spano family lost a few failed feeble attempts at putting a roadblock in Spano vs. Rob Astorino race for county executive office.

One of the reasons that Spano was able to get on Cablevision and News 12 was because he didn’t have to spend the $600,000 that’s needed to saturate Cablevision and News 12 for one election cycle.

Others believe the fact that Spano spent $200,000, while his opponent Bill Nolet spent just a few bucks, is a tip-off that the race was rigged.

But we didn’t see it. Simply put, it was a great year for the Spano family in 2015.

The Poll Everyone Talked About, But Was Never Made Public

Over the last few weeks of the 2015 campaign season, a few polls were conducted in Yonkers, polling the positive and negative responses to elected officials on the city and county levels of government. The most interesting part of the polls’ results were the two most popular political fortunes for families in need.

Continued on Page 6

Frankie Goes to Washington: ‘A Crusade to Bring Jobs Home’

Frank Spotorno is better known as ‘Frankie Elevator’ in the New York metropolitan area, the nickname given to him by the City Council Minority Leader Michael Spano, president of the California-based and family-owned company Jams, donated hundreds of toys and coats, to help ensure some of the donated toys and coats get into the hands of families that need them most.

Born and raised in Yonkers, the drive to help families in the community with an unexpected gift – a donation of $10,000 to assist it in continuing to provide vital services to New York families in need.

For the past nine years, Empire City Casino President and CEO Timothy Rooney has helped spearhead the spirit of giving by hosting a “Christmas Spirit” toy and coat drive. The event has evolved throughout Catholic Charities, which has partnered with the Rooney’s and Empire City Casinos to ensure that New Yorkers in need have a warm coat this winter and a toy to put under the Christmas tree for their children.

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Continued on Page 8

The Year in Yonkers Politics; ‘The Ghost of City Hall Harry’

By Dan Murphy

The Yorkies Home News and Times, the previous name of Yonkers Rising, used to have an editor by a column by a “City Hall Harry” who handled the political infield of the day every week, and had his waiting for the next week. Harry left many, many years ago, but once in a while his ghost can still be heard lurking around the old City Courthouse in City Hall. So here’s the year that was in Yonkers politics, 2015.

Mayor Mike Was Big

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano tops the list leading the fourth-largest city in New York, and getting re-elected with a record-shattering mandate from the people. When you get 81 percent of the vote in a Yonkers election, your name is immediately cast in a future candidate for high- or office.

Any newspaper man or woman is relishing a Spano vs. Rob Astorino race for county executive office in two years, and Spano’s big win – despite a few failed feeble attempts at putting a roadblock in Spano’s way by Astorino supporters. But now the rumors and rumbles have grown to a full-fledged tune-up building to careers in New York’s busiest commercial skyscrapers. Spotorno proudly made sure that his elevator cars in New York – and the USA – and his 10-year odyssey to try and focus America’s corporations, politicians and workers in the issue of bringing some of the millions of manufacturing jobs from China and Mexico back to the USA, includes his own personal and firsthand experience.

In 2008, Spotorno’s elevator company had a 25,000 square-foot facility in the Bronx.
The master of ceremonies will be the Rev. James Nathanial Hassell of the Kingdom Christian Cultural Center in Yonkers. This year’s keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. Jamal Harrison Bryant of the Empowerment Temple Church in Baltimore, Md.

Bryant presides a congregation of more than 12,000 members and also serves as the national youth and college director of the NAACP for the past six years. He is an accomplished author, having written four books, and his ministry is in high demand both in the U.S. and throughout the world.

Join us in this auspicious occasion – all tickets are $50 in advance or $55 at the door. There will also be a silent auction available to the public. For more information or to reserve a ticket or a table, contact Theresa Hollomon at 914-965-0203. Also, free is a recipient of the Purple Heart.

Do you have a valuable ad to display in our NINE NEWSPAPERS for only $299 for twelve weeks! Reach 150,000 readers per week!

Reserve your space today! Call Dan at 914-965-4000.

Better yields — dollar for dollar.

Seld of the ups and downs of today’s market? Hudson City recently became part of M&T Bank, and we’re still able to provide some of the highest yields in the New York metropolitan area.

Through our transition, Hudson City branches remain open as a division of M&T Bank with 135 convenient locations. Come in today and open a CD with a great rate. For more information or to request a quote, call 888.816.7800 or visit Hudsoncom.com.

“An absolute joy — such a great aide”

Dedicated Home Care for those You Love

The above is typical of the comments we get from our Home Health Care’s top-rated aides and the services they provide. So is “The most responsible, loving aide I’ve ever had for my mother.”

With top-rated Aides and over 33 years of delivering highest-quality, private pay services to the region, Community stands at the forefront of Westchester County’s home care providers. At Community, we make sure that your loved ones get a personalized, unbeatable experience, summed up in 4 words.

Compassion  •  Trust  •  Expertise  •  Reliability

Community can help your family by providing affordable care, assistance with applying for and arranging payments by Medicaid, and accepting credit cards for maximum convenience and the ultimate in peace-of-mind.

Any day, any time, when you need us, we’re there for you!
Eric W. Schoen

Speaking of political issues, it seems that disagreements in Albany among those who run the state works. PETE RICKERT/Staff photographer

In 2016, Metro-North will have to focus in on it in 2016. We can’t have any more tragic incidents like those that occur due to human error or insufficiencies in the system when they enter our transit system, they are in our charge. The Tappan Zee Bridge will be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will need to focus in on it in 2016. We can’t have any more tragic incidents like those that occur due to human error or insufficiencies in the system when they enter our transit system, they are in our charge. The Tappan Zee Bridge will be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will the Tappan Zee Bridge be a hot topic in 2016. Just how high will the tolls go? What complications will
Yonkers Scores 100% on Municipality Equality Index

The City of Yonkers obtained a perfect score on the Municipal Equality Index, which examines the laws, policies and practices that impact and rate them on the basis of their inclusivity to LGBTQ individuals who live and work there. Yonkers is among the 69 municipalities out of every city in the country.

In September, R.J. Rose Realty purchased the historical “worsted building” at 179 Saw Mill River Road. The building will be used for the development and renovation of this building in Yonkers to become usable space for commercial, loft, commercial or for a professional office use.

The 10 CMAD property owners in the Alexander Smith Carpet Mills Project met last week to form the advisory board, added: “Under the watchful eye of the City of Yonkers and numerous local arts organizations, we are working on a new significant funding application in 2015.

Supporters include the grantor Mayor Mike Spano; Wilson, commercial loft, companies or for a professional office use.

The group also applied for Priority Project Status, as part of the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development’s application in the competitive Upstate Revitalization Initiative. The funding requested was to be used for exterior improvements to the buildings, including landscaping improvements. Funding was also requested for critical interior infrastructure and space improvements for artists’ tenants. The City of Yonkers understands the importance of keeping our communities safe, and we want to thank Minority Leader Sabatino for his support of the program and his work at the time of donation.

Those who donate will receive a $5 gift card to Dunkin Donuts.

To join the Exchange Club of Yonkers contact Mary Robison at 914-337-1500, ext. 492. For more information, visit yonkersexchange.org.

A CIBM student in the lab.

Sarah Lawrence College’s Center for the Urban and Riverine Environment at Ban River at Beczak has been awarded $2,600 by the Westchester Community Foundation to help fund solutions to water contamination. An additional $15,000 was awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts to support “Hudson River Through the Arts,” a fine family-friendly activities series for underserved families in Yonkers focusing library, music, dance and theatre performances, hands-on art activities and workshops and art criticism and appreciation programming. Both grants are a result of their applications last month.

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Consider Adopting Cleo

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has many pets available for adoption.

Cleo is a very nice dog, about 5 years old and weighing 60 pounds. She wound up at the shelter a few weeks ago as a stray dog and quickly made a name for herself. She is energetic and easy to walk and handle. The shelter is hoping to find her a new home.

Cleo likes to play a little ball, but isn’t housetrained, so she’d need to be crate-trained or have other ways of containing her during the day. She is her owner’s side and watching some television, but mostly would enjoy sitting by her human’s side and watching some television, but mostly would enjoy sitting by

Just take a look forward to working with Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the Legislature as we make the case to rebuild roads in bridges in Yonkers and across New York.

The decay of our roads and bridges has been an issue for so long – all the way back to days in the Westchester County Legislature,” added State Sen. George Latimer. “We have made some progress, particularly with enhancement of CDPS funding in previous budgets. However, economic development occurs hand-in-hand with infrastructure, and we need to fix our roads and bridges now. Assemblymember Shelley Mayer said that for so long we have allowed New York’s infrastructure and transit systems to decay and fall into disrepair.

Residents of Yonkers and Westchester County need both mass transit and sound infrastructure on roads and bridges.” She said. “These investments provide good-paying jobs and facilitate growth in our communities. I am confident my colleagues and advocates in calling for a comprehensive plan and the funding necessary to carry it out.”

John Ravitz, executive vice president and chief operating officer of the Business Council of Westchester, added: “It is imperative that we look to correct these oversights and encourage existing businesses to grow in Westches-
ter County. We can also provide them with a million-dollar capital commitment from our city.

As we continue to grow, it’s more impor-
tant than ever that our infrastructure keeps uppace,” he said. “I look forward to work-

231 2016-17 executive budget. The Mayor of the city of New York’s infrastructure has come together around this issue.”

Another of Mandanas’ first steps was to assign a staff member to direct the office.

One of Mandanas’ first steps as director of radiology was to maintain the services of NYRA and VRad. He also worked to increase the number of readings performed at all times, as a major driver of change.

Six years, always acting as a major driver of change.

Mandanas has been director of radiology there for more than six years, always acting as a major driver of change.

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

**Time for Continued from Page 1**

Skakos on charges, Six Democratic senators have joined the Senate Republicans to form a new caucus to challenge Senate Leader Dean Skakos. Senate Democratic Leader John Liu, a Democrat representing Queens, expressed his support for the Senate Republicans. Liu said, “If this doesn’t signal to all of us that we need fundamental change...”

**COPRORATION NOTICES**

**TIME FOR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

**进一步的税务通知**

在进一步的税务通知和声明中详细说明，税务的主体名称、法律文档编号及其他需要的信息。特别注意的是，税务通知中需要详细提供地址信息，通过该地址可直接联系到税务部门。

**税务进一步的法律通知**

法律通知中，具体说明了税务的详细信息、税务主体的税务编号及其他需要的信息。特别注意的是，法律通知中需要详细提供地址信息，通过该地址可直接联系到税务部门。
Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently signed a bill sponsored by Assemblymember Shelley Meyer and Sen. David Valesky that will allow the New York State director of the Office of the New York State Attorney General to require the release of a list of programs serving seniors in each county to be provided to individual
members of the City Council, leading to an ongoing discussion from the hospital.

The seniors will provide services and programs will provide services to the opportunity to remain at home, while attending daily programs and re-

Governing Sign Bill
Supporting Senior Health

January 1, 2016 - Yonkers Rising - Page 7

By: Juliana Zevnik
Social Security Assistant District Manager, Yonkers

Q: My dad, who is receiving SSI, will be
39 years old on May 1. Does he need to re-
port any income to Social Security?

A: Yes. An SSI beneficiary must report any income that he receives from any source, even if he
received it in a year before he turns 30. This is because Social Security is designed to help
people who are disabled. It is not intended to
provide money for people who are able-bodied.

The $1000-Scale: Because Social Security
income is considered a form of “earned income,”
SSI has a $1000 “scale,” which means if you
earn more than $1000 in a month, your SSI
payment will be reduced by $1. For example,
if you earn $1050 in one month, your SSI
payment will be reduced by $50.

The SSI rules also have a “resource” limit of $2000
for an individual. If you have more than $2000 in
resources, your SSI payment will be reduced.

In this case, it is important to understand that a
resource is something you own or control, such as
money in a savings account or a car. If you have
more than the $2000 limit, your SSI payment will
be reduced to $0.

If your friend helps support you, it can also
affect your SSI. For example, if you receive
$500 per month from your friend, you will have
$500 less to spend, which could affect your
SSI payment.

In addition, if you receive SSI benefits, you
may be eligible for Medicaid, which is a program
that pays for medical care. Medicaid is available to
people who receive SSI and meet certain income
and asset limits.

Social Security Q&A

The effects of sports-related injury and ill-
ness will be the lesson of the day Friday, Jan. 15
at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center’s 2nd annual
Trauma Conference. Physicians, including
orthopaedic surgeons, orthopedists and cardiol-
gists, will discuss preventing, managing sports-in-
jured and managing sports-related injuries and mul-
ti-trauma. The conference features guest lecturers
who will be held from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Center
at Croissatell, 1 Study Lane Farm Road, Yonkers.

 Injury or illness due to sports activity ranges from
day-to-day discomfort to lifethreatening injuries, so
it is essential to maintaining the health of an athlete.

Top tips include collapse and sudden death
of athletics, sport injury in the upper and lower ex-

The year of 2016 will be marked by the re-
flection of current political conditions at this free
day-long conference, providing a stimulating social
environment for seniors and their families can have
confidence in the services and programs that are available.

The Yonkers rising newsletter is a wonderful way
to learn about new services and programs that are available.

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to learn about new services and programs that are available.
Frank was lured by a representative of the Alliance of Americans for Americans, bringyoujobshome.com, and Spotorno’s visit 10 years later. Spotorno also went to Game 4 of the NBA Eastern conference championship, against the Chicago Bulls. As a former boxer, his reputation has been built on a fighting spirit.

Spotorno’s blistering comments about the ineffectiveness of the current political system is a key theme. He is critical of the lack of accountability and transparency. Spotorno is passionate about the need for political reform and is a strong advocate for free trade agreements. He believes that free trade agreements are essential for the economic growth of the United States.

Spotorno’s comments are a call to action for his supporters. He believes that the current political system is broken and that change is needed. He encourages his supporters to get involved in the political process and to demand change. Spotorno is a strong advocate for free trade agreements and believes that they are essential for the economic growth of the United States. He is critical of the lack of accountability and transparency in the current political system.
January Exhibits, Events & Shows at Hudson River Museum

The Hudson River Museum has many programs slated for January.

"Dancers Among Us," an exhibit of photographs by Jordan Matter, is on view through Jan. 17 and can be viewed from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday.

The exhibition is grouped into three themes — scoring, stretching and serendipity. In "Scoring," from the Hudson River to city park fountains, Matter uses the visual and close proximate link of the leaping dancer and moving water. In "Stretching," the dancer's dramatic poses of strength and stillness evoke a more contemplative mood.

It occurred to Matter early on that the heart of dance might best be captured outside of performance, so "Serendipity" highlights his locations — from bustling city streets to remote riverbanks and park fountains, where the dancer revels in the beauty of nature and which enable Matter to take advantage of the special qualities of light and motion.

Dance workshops will take place Saturdays, Jan. 2, 9 and 16 at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Stop in for a 35-minute lesson in the galleries and learn dances from many cultures that celebrate the holidays. These workshops are taught by master teachers.

On Jan. 2, Joie Prchal Shah and learn virtual Indian dance for the Festival of Lights. Then Jan. 9 and 16, Multi-Media Studio of Youth Theatre Interactions will teach West African dance and drumming.

Gallery stage performances will take place Sundays, Jan. 3, 10 and 17 with public readings at noon and performances at 1 and 3 p.m. Sunday performances are curated by choreographer LeAnn Valmari for serious dance students from high school and college dance programs, as well as dancers from New York City dance companies. Dancers perform in the galleries.


View tours will take place Wednesdays through Sundays in January at 1 and 3 p.m. Tour Viewtours with an explainer as your guide, and see the restored 19th century period rooms, furniture and paintings. Tours are free with museum admission.

Family studio arts and science projects will take place Saturdays and Sundays in January from 1 to 4 p.m. Participants can enjoy creative activities inspired by the museum’s collections and exhibitions, led by junior docents and arts and science professionals. This program is free with museum admission.

On Saturdays, learn about Hudson River wildlife with a naturalist in a program designed by fish biologist Dr. John Waldman of Queens College. On Saturdays and Sundays, college students and interns will lead tours of the museum and educate you about the Hudson River. On Jan. 9 and 16, Vado Diomande of the Banyan Baker Group, LLC 25 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. 10701

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2016 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 9

Peer Kelly
RENEWED CHEF & OWNER
X20 Xaviers on the Hudson

"People are rushing to Yonkers now. They’re discovering what I’ve known for a lifetime.

Celebrated Chef Peter Kelly of X20 Xaviers on the Hudson restaurant is no stranger to Yonkers. Born and raised in Yonkers, the renowned chef has always embraced the city as a gateway to the Hudson Valley. Today, his vision is becoming a reality with his renowned waterfront restaurant where guests enjoy world-class cuisine and spectacular sunsets over the Palisades. For Peter Kelly, Yonkers has the recipe for success!
State Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Assembly member Shelley Mayer joined with 100 Hispanic Women of Westchester and representatives of the Westchester Hispanic Law Enforcement Association who donated 600 toys for kids who needed some good cheer this holiday season.

School 17 Gives Back

Every year, 100 Hispanic Women of Westchester kicks off the holiday season with a networking event that provides an opportunity to meet with supporters and community members. A fun event with a good purpose, members collect toys to be distributed to local Westchester organizations serving those in need.

The toys collected go to organizations including Greyson, San Andres and Centro Civico, so they can have their Three Kings Day, which is celebrated in all Hispanic countries. The contributor to this year’s toy drive was the Westchester Hispanic Law Enforcement Association, which was able to collect and donate 600 toys, President Hector Lopez, and Luis Muniz along with their membership, worked hard to assure that children from underprivileged families could have a toy for the holidays.

One-Hundred Hispanic Women of Westchester President Paulette Henriquez thanked WEAA for its generous donation. The group of 100 Hispanic Women of Westchester is one of four constituent opportunities for women and supports women’s aspirations for higher education, while building bridges with members of our community.

Toy Drive Benefits Westchester Charities

School 17 Principal Rita Morehead with students who collected scarves, hats and gloves for children in need this holiday season. Photo by Bayan Baker.

MMA fighter, can’t face off in is in New York.

There are strong opinions on both sides of this issue, and next week we will be sure to highlight the other side and speak to members of the New York state legislature about it.

This month, the Ultimate Fighting Championship experienced one of its biggest pay-per-view events ever in Las Vegas. Mixed martial arts is widely considered to be the fastest-growing sport in America and perhaps the world, and many different cities both inside and outside the United States have hosted MMA events.

But in one state, New York, MMA is illegal and likely remains that way for at least one more year. The sport is legal and regulated in the other 49 states.

New York legislators failed to end the prohibition of MMA once again this year after a legalization bill died in the Assembly, although the Senate has passed a legislation bill each of the past six years.

There was more hope for 2015 after Sheldon Silver – the speaker of the Assembly and the majority of a major opposition of legislation – resigned following an arrest on federal corruption charges. But, despite those advantages, there was not even a vote on the bill.

It’s tempting to think the continued political resistance to state-sanctioned MMA is a simple case of the nanny state creeping into the world of sports. After all, New York has led the country in bans on trans fats, public smoking and large sodas (among many other things).

So perhaps it would make sense that the elected officials in the state would extend the same kind of heavy-handedness that Mayor Mike Bloomberg so regularly applied in New York City. However, the real story is more complicated, and it ranks of more concern than do-goodery.

The real story of MMA’s continued illegal status in New York City is more complicated, and it ranks of more concern than do-goodery.

The real story of MMA’s continued illegal status in the Empire State is what is happening in the UFC, the sports’ primary promoter, which is filled with revenue- producing action and aggression.

The politicians who say they want to ban MMA for safety reasons really have no leg to stand on. There has never been a life-saving condition or death associated with the sport. Boxing can’t say the same, nor can football. But both football and boxing are perfectly legal in the State of New York.

Not only are the dangers of MMA overblown, but there’s actually even more danger in not legalizing the sport. Just as alcohol prohibition resulted in deadly violence and increased in organized crime, prohibition on MMA has similar consequences. Fighting of this nature has been driven underground in New York where it is more dangerous.

Many politicians never seem to learn the lesson of unintended consequences that come from banning voluntary activities in high demand.

The New York state legislature is not only using dirty politics as a backdrop to prevent the UFC from coming to New York; it is using a political weapon that allows illegal businesses everywhere in the country, but their continuing prohibition of this business is actually harming those in the state with the UFC’s proposed legalization bill.

Combine these things with the revenue flow from New York to other states willing to allow legal underground MMA to benefit from interstate illegal gambling, the mistrust towards the state of New York is merely lighting the other side of the fire of the public’s anger.

People work in the Culinary Union pay their money toward taxes – this is what all their money’s been spent toward. Fighting the UFC from coming there and bringing money into the State of New York.

In 2011, a memo from New York Hotel Trades Council (an arm of Unite Here) was circulated around the state capital, which listed their alleles for legalization of MMA. Of course, instead of mentioning the labor debate in Nevada, the memo proclaims a concern for “exploitative” contracts with fighters and makes a big assu- mption that the UFC has “achieved nearly a monopoly position in the sport of mixed martial arts.”

Four years later and the union’s influence and desire do not appear to have subsided.

In addition, the Culinary Union has cre- ated an anti-UFC website called “Unfit For Children” and a Twitter account called (@FightFairMMA, attacking the UFC for alleged misogyny, homophobia and other anti-social behavior from its fighters. The UFC re- sponded by creating its own site to expose the union’s real agenda. But ultimately, the be- havior and private behavior of its fighters can’t justify a ban on the sport itself – or football would have to be banned too.

The politicians who say they want to ban MMA for safety reasons really have no leg to stand on. There has never been a life-saving condition or death associated with the sport. Boxing can’t say the same, nor can football. But both football and boxing are perfectly legal in the State of New York.

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