City of Yonkers Gets Into the Holiday Spirit

The City of Yonkers kicked off the holiday season this week, with a series of tree lightings and holiday events all around town. The Rotary Sunrise tree lighting, held last week, was another big hit, with Santa, Mrs. Claus and elves in attendance to light the tree and to open Santa’s workshop. Yonkers Beltline Tiffany Kim and honor roll Amore Barlow Volkeni sang holiday songs and got the crowd in the holiday mood, as Mayor Mike Spano hit the switch for the tree lighting.

Basketball Team Holds Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

By Dan Murphy

The 200 units that were built still stand today. Thirty years ago, there was no agreement on the school desegregation issue. But it was such an important issue that we had to find a way to deal with it. The 200 units were built in 1969 as part of a plan to integrate the schools. The school district had to pay for the buildings, and the city had to pay for the land. The buildings were designed to be used as part of the school system. The land was given to the city for free.

By Dan Murphy

The tradition of Operation Santa Claus has been handed down from former State Senators John Chirpic, Roy Lesten and Nick Spano, who continued to serve in Operation Santa Claus.

By Dan Murphy

The HBO Series “Show Me A Hero,” which focuses on the housing desegregation crisis in Yonkers during the 1980s, has the people of Yonkers asking many questions. What should we do about housing desegregation in Yonkers?

By Dan Murphy

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Students Submit Proposals To Johns Hopkins University

Under the supervision of science teacher Dr. Dean Saghafi, 28 Lincoln High School science research students enrolled in Johns Hopkins University Science Research Program and submitted research project proposals to the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth and Cogito, on Nov. 1. The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth and Cogito established the CTY Cogito, on Nov. 1.

Youth and Cogito established the CTY Cogito Research Awards in 2013 to enable bright middle- and high-school students to conduct research in the science, technology, engineering and math fields. A committee composed of Johns Hopkins CTY faculty selects students who submit the most compelling, promising research project proposals to the Hopkins Hopkins Center for Talented Youth and Cogito established the CTY Cogito Research Awards in 2013 to enable bright middle- and high-school students to conduct research in the science, technology, engineering and math fields. A committee composed of Johns Hopkins CTY faculty selects students who admit the most compelling, promising research project proposals to the Johns Hopkins Science Research Program. Up to 10 award winners will be chosen each year. If selected, students will receive up to $600 to buy materials to conduct their research and will be mentored by a Johns Hopkins faculty member. Winners will be announced in January.

Student participants include Maria Guzman, Tizareth Goris, Jennifer Madrid, Raquelme Guerrero, Reina Velezquez, Yoseline Alonso, Maximino Casimiro, Donyel Williams, Augusto Mende, Willifred Villafane, Dinae Mollin, Chrislyn Webster, Carmen Quinones, Jasmie Reyes, Davi蛋白质 Reyes, Jazmier Rodriguez, Elizabeth Ramos, Bianca Cruz, Lourdes Pérez, Elyna Nerito, Stephanie Danielle, Danielle McLeach, Emily Reyes, Chris Seo, Alexia Rosas, Alondra Velezquez, Xavier Guzman and Mohammed Khalid.

Yonkers Montessori Ladies’ B-Ball Scores Big Win

‘Polar Plunge’ Helps YPD Raise $$ for Special Olympics

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has many pets available for adoption. Quinn is a beautiful Shepherd mix about 2 years old and weighing 55 pounds. He and another dog were left behind because their family lost their home. He is very social and outgoing, and friendly with people and other dogs. Quinn doesn’t seem to know much about toys, but he loves to chase himself, running all around the play yard. He will make a wonderful companion for any family.

To join the Rotary Club, come join us at any of our weekly meetings at 1000 Ridge Hill Blvd., between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, and noon and 4 p.m. weekends. For more information, call 914-377-6730 during business hours or 201-981-3215 at any time, or email lesliem147@gmail.com.

Students at Lincoln High School have enrolled in Johns Hopkins University’s Science Research Program.

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This, Too, is a Tragedy
With No Answers

By Eric W. Schoen

Like most New Yorkers, Yonkersites and people all over the country, I was shocked last week when the Grand Jury on Staten Island did not indict Police Officer Daniel Pantaleo in the tragic death of Eric Garner.

Like you, I saw the video of Pantaleo's episode and the officer using what looked to me like a "choke hold" to take Garner down 13 times and read that "choke holds" are not an authorized method in the New York Police Department's playbook. I heard that the coroner said that Garner's death was likely the cause of Garner's death.

Comparing all of this, all of this is the fact that Garner was being arrested for selling individual cigarettes or "loosies" and not for a more serious crime, and the situation became troubling for me. We all know there are people out there committing more serious crimes than a man who is selling a few cigarettes to people who can't afford $12 to $15 a pack – the price smokers pay. I don't spend much time with the police and I'm neutral on the superintendent not to smoke.

As an aside, if the cigarette tax dollars are being used to fund the annoying commercial institutions? I would sure be upset if someone interrupted my holiday joy interrupted by protesters lying down to block traffic. Shoppers in Macy's or Kwanza? What should I do to voice my outrage at the decision? Join in these protests blocking traffic? Go to court on December 12, 2014 - Yonkers Rising - Page 3

By PhilFiller

Question: Mr. Ross, what is your actual life?
Answer: I am the director of health, physical education and athletics for the Yonkers Public Schools.

Q: If long have you been on this job in this capacity?
A: It is my undergraduate degree on SUNY Cortland, and my graduate degree in Columbia University, Teachers College.

Q: During your tenure at the Board of Education, how have things changed for the bad and the good?
A: In the first five or six years were fantastic. We built a high-quality program and added many teams and sports, mostly at the middle school level. We increased athletic participation from less than 1,000 students to more than 3,700. Our teams' competitive status improved as a result of having the feeder programs, thus winning many championships and recruiting New York State scholar athlete team awards, as well as multiple team and individual sportsmanship awards.

In addition, we installed two all-weather tracks and improved multiple athletic locker rooms. Once the financial crisis hit, we lost our budget, as well as all our modernized, freshman and junior varsity teams and many varsity teams.

Q: How many students participate in varsity and junior varsity sports in the city?
A: We presently have between 800 and 1,800 students participating.

Q: How many go on to play in college?
A: I do not have an exact count of how many producers in college, as we have an average of all of the teams and schools.

Q: Do any go on to play as professional athletes?
A: Yes, over the years we have had many professional athletes on our teams.

Q: How many of these athletes have gone on to play professional sports?
A: We have had at least 100 different athletes in the past five years.

Q: Do you see any other positive outcomes?
A: Yes, we are the only two teams in the city.

Q: What is your education?
A: I am the director of health, physical education and athletics for the Yonkers Public Schools. I have been in the profession for 10 years. I earned my bachelor's degree in physical education and health, my master's degree in health and physical education, and my graduate degree in educational administration.

11 Questions for YPS Athletic Director Jim Ross

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Contractors Face Fines for Hazards Wrongfully

Workers constructing a pre-cast concrete building at the Yonkers Riverfront Library, face potentially deadly or disabling falls, electrocution, and potential lack of fall protection.

On December 17, 2014, Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited SNE-MPCC-Mengler was cited for eight violations in the New York City area, the Yonkers Riverfront Library site. The proposed fines amount to $115,230. The violations include:

- Misused and ungrounded electrical cords
- Electrocutation from worn, ungrounded electrical cords
- Scaffold lacking proper fall protection
- Unprotected work area
- Lack of eye protection
- Unregulated use of power tools
- Misused power cords
- Misused and ungrounded electrical cords

Mengler Plumbing was cited for two serious violations, with $91,630 in fines. The administration also cited MPCC Corp., for two serious violations, with a $3,600 in fines, for lack of eye protection.

On December 12, 2014, according to OSHA, the administration also cited SNE-MPCC-Mengler for eight violations at the project, with a $26,750 in fines. The violations include:

- Misused power cords
- Misused and ungrounded electrical cords
- Scaffold lacking fall protection
- Lack of eye protection
- Unprotected work area
- Unregulated use of power tools
- Misused and ungrounded electrical cords
- Scaffold lacking proper fall protection

On December 10, 2014, according to OSHA, the administration also cited SNE-MPCC-Mengler for three violations in the New York City area at SNE-MPCC-Mengler was cited for three violations, with $91,630 in fines.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov/.
Call: (914) 468-4999 -

Citizens of the county to investigate and prosecute district attorneys in our state. Don't we want cute cases involving unarmed civilians killed by police? Schneiderman formally requested that Gov. An -

day-out with the police officers in their jurisdiction of NYPD officers who are sued the most. It is only taught to the officer in the Police Academy. The head of the police union in New York said the -

Continued from Page 3

This, Too

have a ghetto. Housing in the 1950s, when it was for returning veterans and for white people. It only became a black neighborhood when it was closed to whites, and that's how the history of affordable housing. If we don't demand change, we have not have a photo.

"Show Me a Hero" in Yonkers points to his interest in making a correct description of what really happened in this city. His interview was most in attention that nobody better understands the history of the city. Thank you to YONK for bringing this discussions together.

Show Me

Continued from Page 1

the head of the police union in New York said the -

district attorneys have to work day-in and day-out with the police officers in their jurisdictions processing cases, so some would say they don't want to ruffle any feathers. Common suggestions a district attorney can get a Grand Jury to indict a ham sandwich, but somehow, it has never happened, has it ever happened in this case?

The New York State attorney general has provided an immediate and significant reassurance to victim's families of cases involving unlawful civilian deaths and injuries to law enforcement officers. All Eric Schneiderman formally requested that Gov. Andrew Cuomo immediately issue an interim ex -

review of complaints against alleged misconduct. The Governor to investigate and, if necessary, prosecute all cases involving unfounded civil deaths filled by police officers.

But the last time I looked, Schneiderman was part of the same political system as district attorneys in our state. Don't we want someone who is accountable to the public and actions of the county to investigate and prosecute cases within their respective jurisdictions? Schneiderman's record regarding the dismissal of the Morandy Commission leaves a lot to be desired.

So where does this leave us? If the system is broken, we need to put pressure on our leaders to fix it. If we are unhappy with the actions of the Staten Island district attorney, Grand Jury, don't complain and moan and groan when you get called for jury service. We have to work within the system that exists and demand change. The Gamer case leaves me feeling a little paranoid. Two black Rabbis Rudi who said or is there no one answer to the question that we need to be asking.

One thing we all can agree on is that pre -

venting a $9 an hour McDonald's worker from venting his frustrations is not going to help to get his job by blocking the streets is not going to make the situation here any better, or bring Eric Garner back to life. Something is going to need to take place next time I expect and contemplate looking down the street in Staten Island.

Eric Reel at sewhof@citizen.org and follow him on Twitter @ericyon -

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At this time of year we may set our priorities to be that we want our loved ones to live their last live at the Jewish Community Center in Yonkers for 49 years ago. To those that remember that tragic day, it seems as if it was yesterday.

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The city of yonkers is searching for experienced, reliable part-time janitors. you must be extremely reliable with your own car and valid driver's license. candidates must be prepared to pass a criminal background check. candidates must have full benefits and vacation available. Must be willing to work evenings and weekends. local residents preferred. send resume to jobs@alliedns.com or call 914-969-2727.

You must be a citizen of the philippines to apply for the position.

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Council of Yonkers seeks to adopt. Will be 25 in July. Will be 45 in July. 


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Mary Beth Quaranta Morrissey, an attorney who focuses on health care law and is nationally recognized for her work on palliative and end-of-life care issues, has been named as the new chairperson of the White Plains Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services.

The goal of WPAPP is to help seniors age with independence and dignity in their communities, as well as to assist caregivers. Members represent government, businesses and volunteer service agencies, and work to fundraise, undertake specific programs and/or donate in-kind services that expand needed programs to the elderly. Most of the funds raised benefit programs run by the White Plains County Department of Senior Services and Programs.

"Government simply can’t do it all," said County Executive Robert Astorino. "Public-private partnerships are absolutely essential. I want to congratulate Mary Beth and Morrissey, an attorney who focuses on health care law."

Morrissey has written extensively for professional publications, and earlier this year she received the White Plains Women’s Bar Association Above the Bar Award for “Most Socially Conscious Attorney.”

"With Mary Beth’s academic background and long professional experience in the field, she has a firm grasp on how senior issues impact society," said WPAPP Commissioner Sue Carpelan. "She is very aware that in today’s economy, what the partnership does matters more than ever because government cannot do everything. She will be a strong leader for White Plains."
**Kitchen & Bath Insider**

**The Holiday Kitchen**

The carbon footprint from approximately nine coal plants could be eliminated in New York if wind power supplied 30 percent of the nation’s electricity consumption, according to a new study conducted by the Environment New York (ENV). The analysis comes just as Congress considers whether to overturn an environmental rule that would require electricity generators to report the dirty energy sources of the past and the pollution that comes with them. “As New Yorkers, we all care about the environment,” said ENV's Executive Director Leibowitz. “But we need to act now to reduce carbon emissions and prevent pollution that harms our communities.”

Continued, rapid development of wind energy would allow the renewable resource to supply more than 30 percent of the nation’s energy needs, according to the report titled, "Clean Power Plan." Energy efficiency and renewable energy would allow our nation to shift away from more carbon-intensive fuels to meet at least 80 percent of the nation’s energy needs.

“Harnessing wind power is a primary component of any American energy strategy,” said ENV’s Legislative Director Skartados. “It’s a smart way to build an energy future that’s clean, healthy, and is good for the American economy.”

**Westbooker Continued from Page 1**

The senator said the Democratic Sen- ate Conference had discussed having the State Legislature to come up with a legal framework to regulate offshore wind development. ‘We need more guns than butter,’ he said. ‘We’re not going to let the offshore wind industry expand unless it pays for itself.’ Adults are trying to figure out why there is no accountability and no thorough investigation of this.”

The senator said the Democratic Sen- ate Conference had discussed having the State Legislature to come up with a legal framework to regulate offshore wind development. ‘We need more guns than butter,’ he said. ‘We’re not going to let the offshore wind industry expand unless it pays for itself.’ Adults are trying to figure out why there is no accountability and no thorough investigation of this.”

Mayor Bill de Blasio has said that the city’s hospitals will need to reduce their carbon footprint in order to help combat climate change. The mayor has also called for the city to transition to renewable energy sources, such as wind power, in order to reduce the city’s carbon footprint. The city has also been working to improve its energy efficiency by implementing energy-saving measures in its buildings and transportation systems.

**Controller: Read the line Print on Gift Cards**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MAH) will receive bids for the Sur- vey and Maintenance of their Alarm System on Friday, December 12, 2014.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

The Municipal Housing Authority for the city of Yonkers, MAH, will receive proposals for the maintenance of their Alarm System on Friday, December 12, 2014.

**Report: Wind Energy Could Reduce Coal Plant Pollution**

"Harnessing wind power is a primary component of any American energy strategy," said Assemblymember Skartados. "It's a smart way to build an energy future that's clean, healthy, and is good for the American economy."
Photos by Donna Davis

City of Yonkers
Continued from Page 1

Mayor Mike Spano with Yonkers Idol Tiffany Kim and Junior Idol Amara Barlow Valerio at the Getty Square tree lighting.

Santa gives out treats to kids at Conor Park with Mayor Spanos, Council President McLaughlin, Assembly member Mayer and MAMA officials looking on.

The tree at Conor Park on McLean Avenue.

The tree at Getty Square.

Spano was about as busy as Santa was last week, as he crisscrossed the city for tree lightings and holiday celebrations. The McLean

Avenue Merchants Association joined with the mayor, Council President Liam McLaughlin, Assembly member Shelley Mayer, Councilman Dennis Shepherd, Parks Commissioner Yvonne Hartfield, Santa and kids to light up the tree at Conor Park.

The Yonkers Police Department Emergency Services Unit gave Santa a lift to the park so the reindeer could take the night off, and Junior Idol Valerio sang “Let A Little Love In Your Heart” and Idol Kim had the honor of leading the countdown to the tree lighting.

After the remaining tree lightings this week, the city will move on to its Menorah lighting celebrations at Ridge Hill on Dec. 16, time to be announced; Yonkers City Hall on Dec. 17 at 4 p.m.; Cross County Shopping Center between Adidas and Bebe stores on Dec. 18 at 6 p.m.; and with MAMA at Conor Park, McLean and Central Park Avenue, date and time to be announced.
Yonkers got a visit from a traditional Dutch Santa on Dec. 6, when St. Nicholas visited historic Philipse Manor Hall. More than 200 attended the event, which included stories and songs from a Dutch Christmas past, carols from the German-American Singers and a puppet show from the New England Puppet Theater. Meaningful messages from the Knights of Columbus Westchester-Putnam that read, “Keep Christ in Christmas,” went on, my attitude shifted from amazement to reality. It is nice to hear about keeping Christ in Christmas once or twice a year to my congregation as a lesson for my kids. But in this day and age, most parents and kids do not have anything to do with their faith. I actually have tried to let the kids get presents from Santa so they won’t feel left out?”

“Absolutely,” said the rabbi. “As Jews, we celebrate Christmas and we think that’s a message worth remembering.”

A conversation between an area resident, Steve, and a rabbi from New Jersey relates to the KOC effort. “That’s correct,” the rabbi responded as he picked up supplies. “Santa is a Christmas character.”

Steve went on. “Absolutely.”

Later, Steve relayed: “As the conversation continued, the rabbi turned to see the kids get presents from Santa as they only felt left out.”

I hear the Yonkers wrestling program is doing great!”

Phil Foley is a contributing writer for Yonkers Rising. He can be reached at philfoley113@gmail.com. Email him if you have a city resident or employee you would like to ask 10 questions.

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