O’Mara School of Dance
Headed to World Championship

The Deirdre O’Mara School of Irish Dance started 20 years ago in the back of a bar on Broad St., in January, where they earned bronze medals at the Eastern Sectional Competition in Hershey, Pa., in January, where they earned bronze medals. The five dancers are Brianna Gerold, Emma Cullinan, Ava Leddy, Cate Hurson and Jolene Lin. The five dancers are heading to a championship contest in Dublin, Ireland. Four are pictured above.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano awarded three student winners of the poem portion of the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. poem/video contest with, from left, Council Minority Leader Michael Sabatino, Council President Liam McLaughlin, Mayor Mike Spano, Judge Mary Anne Scattaretico-Naber, Councilman Christopher Johnson and State Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

The current city councilwoman from the Second District, Corazon Pineda-Isaac, and the current councilman from the 17th District, Virginia Perez – once friends and political allies – are now bitter enemies looking to remove each other from office.

Students, educators, parents and elected officials from Yonkers in Albany advocate for additional state aid and increased reimbursement for the $2 billion planned rebuilding of Yonkers Public Schools.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, School Board President the Rev. Steve Lopez and the Board of Education, along with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin Quirarte, recently launched Rebuild Yonkers, a public advocacy campaign, that is now challenging the city’s proposal to rebuild all 39 existing public schools and build three new schools in the city.

The school is based in Yonkers and on any eight, while passing the large windows of the studio on Central Park Avenue, you can see children from age 3 and older dancing. The school’s founder, Deirdre O’Mara, is from Dublin and aimed for the Marie Walsh School of Irish Dance in Dublin from age 3. She has created a space for children not to only learn Irish dance, but to love it, to embrace their culture, and learn how to achieve their goals while making friends and having fun. The school also offers ballet and yoga for kids, as well as Irish dance for adults.

The Deirdre O’Mara School of Irish Dance started 20 years ago in the back of a bar on Broad St. The school has five students qualify for the World Championships of Irish Dance, putting those students in the top 1 percent of Irish dancers worldwide. They will travel to Dublin in April with their dreams and their choices to take the world stage for the first time.

The school’s founder, Deirdre O’Mara, is from Dublin and aimed for the Marie Walsh School of Irish Dance in Dublin from age 3. She has created a space for children not only to learn Irish dance, but to love it, to embrace their culture, and learn how to achieve their goals while making friends and having fun. The school also offers ballet and yoga for kids, as well as Irish dance for adults.
Beekeeper Urges: ‘Make America Sweet Again’

By Robert Horkan

A rooftop in downtown Yonkers, Dr. Todd Patronis remembered a beginning beekeeper. The initial hive was placed there in 2014, and by 2015 there were three hives on the roof; one was captured elsewhere and one was a split from an overstocked hive.

Although each of the hives housed a colony of 50,000 to 60,000 bees, the hive harvest, and studies have shown that eating raw, organic local honey is healthier than the processed stuff you get at the supermarket. Before the advent of penicillin, honey was used as an antibiotic. Knowing how reliant humans have been and still are on the honey bee, it is critical to understand how to better treat this insect and what their plight is telling us.

Germany (population 82 million) realizes that bees are dying from a synergism of factors such as drought, pesticides, habitat destruction, parasites, and air pollution. Germany (population 82 million) realizes that bees are dying from a synergism of factors such as drought, pesticides, habitat destruction, parasites, and air pollution.

Ella Fitzgerald’s Life is A Lesson in Perseverance

Joseph Da Silva. Ella’s half-sister, Frances, was born in 1925 and soon she began referring to Joe as her stepfather.

To support the family, Joe sold shingled and did a part-time chauffeur, while Tempie worked at a laundromat and did some catering. Occasionally, Ella took on small jobs to contribute money. Well, perhaps native to the circumstances, Ella worked as a runner for local gamblers, picking up their bets and dropping off money. Their apartment was in a mixed neighborhood, where Ella made friends easily. She considered herself more of a tomboy, and often joined in the neighborhood games of baseball. Sports aside, she enjoyed dancing and singing.

Continued on Page 3

Ella Fitzgerald was the most popular female jazz singer in American history. Her story shows how one girl in a small town Yonkers, where they all loved her.

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Ella’s story is an inspiration. In her youth, she was a runner for local bookmakers. They paid her based on her wins.

As Yonkers native and American legend Ella Fitzgerald will celebrate the 100th anniversary of her birth on April 25, 1917, we offer you this story of her life from her official website, ellaﬁtzgerald.com.

Fitzgerald moved to Yonkers as a child in the 1920s, and a sculpture in downtown Yonkers recognizes her years in the city. Her story shows how one girl from a small town could overcome adversity and achieve.

The First Lady of Song, Ella Fitzgerald was the most popular female jazz singer in American history. Her story shows how one girl in a small town Yonkers, where they all loved her.

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As Yonkers native and American legend Ella Fitzgerald will celebrate the 100th anniversary of her birth on April 25, 1917, we offer you this story of her life from her official website, ellaﬁtzgerald.com. The answer is complex, since nature is a system and hence there are many variables. Scientists know that bees are dying from a synergism of factors such as drought, pesticides, habitat destruction, parasites, air pollution, climate change and more. Many of these factors are interrelated, and humans are largely responsible for them.

The most prominent ones, such as pesticides, herbicides, and monocrop farming are related, and humans are largely responsible for them.

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Why No Celebration Of George Washington?

By Eric W. Schoen

God bless the veterans’ organizations in this country.

That’s not my department. I’m a historian, and in my mind, it’s not the day of the birthday, but the day of the revolution. It’s not the day of the celebration of George Washington’s birthday.

It’s not the day of the celebration of the holiday.

We don’t celebrate Donald Trump. Bill Clinton or even Richard Nixon. For that matter, it’s not the day of the celebration of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday, which is Feb. 12. It’s the day of the celebration of Abraham Lincoln the 16th President.

If you work for the Kennedy’s, you are off on Lincoln’s Birthday, as well as President’s Day. But this year Lincoln’s birthday was on a Monday, so city workers had off Monday, Feb. 13.

If you work at the County Office for the Poor, you get a three-day weekend. You were off on President’s Day, Feb. 20, as well as President’s Day, Feb. 20. Those two days are named by school officials as “president holidays.”

Poor students at Westchester Community College and the State University of New York at Purchase will have off President’s Day. Several years ago, when I was at Purchase, the School had class on President’s Day — an official federal holiday during which there is no school, no classes. The post office is closed President’s Day, but on Monday I was at the Palisades Mall and the post office store was wide open.

I guess communists trumpet everything. The whole thing is trumped defined as “deceiving or overruling factors.”

It’s a little history lesson. Before 1971, George Washington’s birthday was on one of nine federal holidays. We paid for it on a speciﬁc date that year after 12 different dates were tried. The exception to this was Labor Day, the original federal holiday. Celebrating George Washington’s birthday: Feb. 22 was special to me, as Feb. 22 is also my birthday.

I thought it was great that we would have the birthday of our great father and grandfather could celebrate my birthday, as well as George Washington’s birthday. I am a little bit of a big deal. My favorite birthday was when my parents took me and my friends to see the NBC Office in Manhattan and then went to the Children’s Museum of Manhattan. We had lunch at a McDonald’s with Ronald McDonald and all his friends.

I remember the McDonald’s a little more than I remember the Children’s Museum. That’s why I have a McDonald’s on every corner.

It didn’t ﬁt our ideas. Banks, schools and most business had closed by 2:00 p.m. as if precious time could celebrate my birthday, as well as George Washington’s. George Washington’s birthday was on Monday. We chose favorite birthdays when our parents took us and my friends to see the NBC Office in Manhattan and then went to the Children’s Museum.

The resolution in this paper was brought from Washington, Eric Schoen and other folks with a Feb. 22 both days. Americans agreed with Congress. The Monday holiday is still an additional three-day sales to begin before Lincoln’s birthday, but it is not as popular as before middle weekends.

Monday holidays would improve commercial and travel decisions, but the current timing means minimal weekend holidays, interruptions of production and services, and use up time for middle weekends.

Local economies could ﬁnd the golden "promotional" egg, for example, by allowing work early in the morning and getting people excited for summer fashion. Local governments could capitalize on the added weekend holiday and George Washington’s birthday into the sales promotion. "President’s Day," expanded to three-day sales to begin before Lincoln’s birthday, but it is not as popular as before middle weekends.

In some instances, advertising promotes the sales campaign through the entire month of Feb.

Local governments also love the Monday holidays. Most folks think parking meters are free, aerial-rate-of-the-street parking is in effect, and in New York City, parking rules are in effect. Bronxites, Yonkersites and other Westchester municipalities’ parking meters are in effect on days like President’s Day, which they don’t consider in the same category as "major holidays."

"Major holidays" include the 4th of July, Columbus Day, Labor Day and Memorial Day. New York City is known to send out the tow trucks on the so called "minor holidays" like Columbus Day and Veteran’s Day, towing and curbing city coffers $280 to $300 per tow vehicle.

Like always, it’s all about the money. What can we do?

In brief: Koos to Gov. Andrew Cuomo for vetoing the proposed 5 cent New York plastic bag tax, another stupid tax hopefully down the drain.

The resolution memorializing the Life of Fallen Battalion Chief Fahy. Of George Washington?

The senator was joined in sponsoring the resolution memorializing Chief Michael Fahy, a Yonkers resident who passed away Sept. 27, 2016 following a building collapse.

The work we do here in this chamber pales in comparison to the work that Chief Fahy and his colleagues in the Fire Department did every day in communities throughout the world.

We don’t celebrate Donald Trump, Bill Clinton or even Richard Nixon. For that matter, it’s not the day of the celebration of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday, which is Feb. 12. It’s the day of the celebration of Abraham Lincoln the 16th President.

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Shilelagh Law

The "Luck of the Irish" will be musically profound at Empire City Casino with the announcement that Shilelagh Law and Celtic Cross, two excellently popular New York City-based Irish-American bands, will perform Sunday, March 5 from 2 to 6 p.m. in a tribute to St. Patrick’s Day. The Pipes and Drums of the Police Emerald Society of Westchester, compliance of police offices from a majority of the 39 police departments within Westchester, will also perform. Shilelagh Law, known to interpret traditional Irish music through a filter of “urban grittiness,” helps define the Irish-American experience that is such a part of New York. Their fan base is widespread and one of the most loyal in the music industry. Celtic Cross, founded in the Bronx in 1990, has been making and breaking Irish music traditions all over the U.S. and abroad. The music of the seven-piece band blends a combination of traditional, sassy pop, alt-country and funk, of the seven-piece band blends a combination of traditional, sassy pop, alt-country and funk, also perform.

Shilelagh Law will be held in the Projection Room on the mezzanine. The Grinton I. Will Library, located at 1500 Central Park Avenue, is accessible to people with disabilities. Parking is available in the library parking lot or along Central Park Avenue. For more information, call 914-379-3000. www.empirecasino.com.

Irish Music Returns to Empire City March 5

Yonkers Library Brings Healthy Programs to Community

Learn About Legendary Soprano Ellabelle Davis

DONATE YOUR CAR

Wheels For Wishes

Yonkers Public Library may not be a sub-

Yonkers Riverfront Library, located at One

Learn healthy eating tips and chair yoga at the Yonkers Public Library. The life story of Sojourner Truth will be discussed at

The lecture and book signing is free and open to the public, and runs approximately 60 minutes. It will be held in the Projection Room on the mezzanine. The Grinton I. Will Library, located at 1500 Central Park Avenue, is accessible to people with disabilities. Parking is available in the library parking lot or along Central Park Avenue. For more information, visit www.ypl.org.

Cola Likes to Play

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has many pets available for adoption. Cola is a mixed-breed, brindle-and-white who is about 3 years old and weighs about 65 pounds. She has beautiful eyes and is predominantly that is such a part of New York. Their fan base is widespread and one of the most loyal in the music industry. Celtic Cross, founded in the Bronx in 1990, has been making and breaking Irish music traditions all over the U.S. and abroad. The music of the seven-piece band blends a combination of traditional, sassy pop, alt-country and funk, also perform.

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The New York City Charter School network was among the first to begin launching schools in the city’s less affluent neighborhoods. "It’s been an interesting dynamic," said LaGuerre, the school’s director. "We hope to use this to help people understand what they would have access to in a well-funded public school that is difficult for some residents to comprehend what they would otherwise find themselves in need of.

Shaking a boundary with the Bronx and to the west, the Hudson River is now a separate con- 

ceptual path. Pretty city - with about 200,000 

a part of the city’s "affluent enclave," according to state, which, in recent years, high-

lighted reports of abandoned and endangered multi-family row houses of the mostly low-

income community, immigrants.

When Eduardito Lav, CSEE’s founder, 

was given a choice by the education he received his child 

and in order to have the resources to offer the same enhan-

cements and the same "vision" to the students.

CSEE’s core mission is to improve the lives of many in a positive way.

an open 20th century postcard depicting the Yonkers City Recreation Plan 

By Mary Huer Editor, Yonkers Historical Society

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 5
incurred, while waiting for their personal income
other state legislators who are trying to remedy the
thousands of our senior citizens who rely on the
hand accounts of the hardships that these unaccept
of cooperative communities and their sharehold
checks are having a serious impact on the finances
working to continuing reform of the rebate check
lects taxes, which is tasked with providing rebate
the same must be true for the same agency that col
payers to pay their obligations on time and in full;
because the state agency responsible for making
pursued full payment of STAR rebates for people
State Department of Taxation and Finance, seek
billion per year.

By Dan Murphy

From left are Richard Doscher, clinical nutrition manager; Cardiologist Anthony Mercando of
State Sen. Terrence Murphy is also working
“It is completely unacceptable to make tax-
The legislation would impose penalty fees on

“Seniors’ Social Security benefits have not gone
"I will continue to push for passage of the
Despite Opposition

Despite Opposition

Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey, ranking
rent, was recently joined at White Plains Hospital to
Legislation is supported by the

Instead of continuing to support the

Westchester Wants STAR

Despite Opposition

CSEA's local Council member, Chris
"Generally, I'm not in three of charter schools, but this school really
Parental involvement seems to be a key

"The legislation is supported by the Seniors

"This year's measly cost-of-living increase

"Let me be perfectly clear: this Republican

"Let's not allow this to happen to our

Despite Opposition

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"This year's measly cost-of-living increase

"Let me be perfectly clear: this Republican
The Yonkers Riverfront Library will host an advocacy event on Thursday, March 2, 2017, from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring information about their advocacy work to share with others.

The library will also sponsor an "Adovacy Day" event in coordination with the Yonkers Legislative Delegation and other leaders. Transportation leaves from the Riverfront Library at 5 p.m. and returns at 7 p.m. The cost is $25 and registration is required by email (purveyors@yonkersny.gov). Attendees will be provided with information on how to become an effective advocate for their causes.

Yonkers Skaters

There are several basic elements that make up a skating routine. These elements include jumps, spins, and the music. Jumps are important because they allow skaters to move around the rink and show off their skills. Spins are also important because they allow skaters to maintain their balance and control their movement. Music is important because it sets the tone for the routine and helps skaters stay on track.

On this Day

Sunday, March 5, 2017

March 5, 2017: Protests against the scheduled opening of the new Yonkers Theatre. The Yonkers Theatre 

Ella Fitzgerald’s Continued from Page 2

with her friends, and some evenings they would take the train into Harlem and watch various shows. The Yonkers Library will host a memorial service for Ella Fitzgerald on March 1 at The Olde Stone Mill Restaurant.

The library will be open for "Ella Fitzgerald Day" on Wednesday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring information about Ella Fitzgerald to share with others.

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Judge Scattarettico

Continued from Page 1

I had no fear. She felt at home in the spotlight. "One of the times I reached out to the council member's inability to perform her duties is due to her lack of experience and sense of obligation. She needs to learn. That might be the first time since she first ever voted for the first time ever for 50 years. Her last council member is term-limited from Nov. 7 because of the supermajority of Democrats in the County Board of Legislators. The council member is term-limited from Nov. 7 because of the supermajority of Democrats in the County Board of Legislators.

This being said, the de facto council member still cannot, and will not run for office, but she could be used as political gain. Yes, people, electioneering is to be allowed under certain circumstances. The council member is term-limited from Nov. 7 because of the supermajority of Democrats in the County Board of Legislators. The council member is term-limited from Nov. 7 because of the supermajority of Democrats in the County Board of Legislators.

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Last year, Yonkers was successful in its first step in rebuilding Yonkers schools when Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed New York State legislation allowing the city to create the Yonkers Joint Schools Construction Board, the office responsible for rolling out the repairing and rebuilding of Yonkers’s schools, before going on to say, “Today, we begin the next step in our fight to Rebuild Yonkers Schools,” said Spa- no. “We were successful last year in securing the governor’s [sic] state’s commitment to the thousands of students in YPS whose educ- ation will benefit from modern, healthy learning environments. We have a strong founda- tion to start the next phase of the process, which should include state reimbursements to fund the project—that’s why we need everyone’s continued support, especially from our young people, to ensure our voices are heard. The message to the state is simple: fund to re- build our schools.”

The Rebuild Yonkers School $2 billion plan will roll out in four phases with an estimated completion date of 2029. The four phases of the plan include: Phase I – Infra- structure improvements in all 39 schools and the building of three new schools (new Gen- eral High School, and two other new schools) over the course of 17 years, at an estimated cost of $523 million; and Phase II through IV – Extensive renovations, additions and infra- structure improvements at every school.

Communities are judged by the qual- ity of its schools,” said Board of Education President Lopez. “We have great teachers and principal- ization of Teachers for working together to make certain our children have the program- mer isn’t fair that we are to receive a 70 per- cent reimbursement rate, while the other big city school districts receive a 98 percent rate. Let’s work together as local representatives, parents, educators and taxpayers to work with Albany to fit these issues once and for all.”

The average age of YPS is 75 years, with many as old as 100 years, making some of the building plans necessary. The district is also one of two districts in New York with a growing enrollment teaching 27,000 students, which is currently 4,500 seats over capacity. As a result, students are being taught in spaces that were never intended to serve as classrooms, such as basements, libraries and auditoriums. Alternate classroom accommo- dations including annexes and mobile trailers also have become overcrowded.

As part of the effort, Rebuild Yonkers Schools released a new advocacy video at www.rebuildyonkersschools.com, and social media platforms at www.facebook.com/re- buildyonkerschools and www.instagram.com/rebuildyonkerschools.

As a member of the Yonkers Joint Schools Construction Board, the office responsible for rolling out the repairing and rebuilding of Yonkers schools, I am proud and ready for sustainable solutions for this district’s continued support, especially from our young people, to ensure our voices are heard. The message to the state is simple: fund to rebuild our schools.”

Mayor Mike Spano, Council Majority Leader Michael Sabatino, and YPS students holding up their phones to signify the social media campaign they will undertake to get New York State to pay for more of the much-needed rebuilding of the Yonkers Public Schools.

Yonkers to Albany

Continued from Page 1

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Assemblymember Shelley Mayer said the students at YPS deserve facilities that al- low them to thrive and learn.

“Last year, I sponsored legislation and worked with my legislative colleagues, the City of Yonkers, and the governor’s office to secure approval of the $2 billion infrastruc- ture plan,” she said. “Now we will work to en- sure we have the funding necessary to start the infrastructure improvements. I thank Mayor Spano, the Board of Education of the Yonkers Public Schools, YCPTA and the Yonkers Fed- eration of Teachers for working together to make certain our children have the program- ming and facilities they need and deserve.”

“Every year the council has passed reso- lutions, which request that our city receive its share of funding, on par with Buffalo, Syracuse and Rochester,” added Council Pres- ident Liam McLaughlin. “Not only should the underlying funding formulas be addressed – the newly authorized school construction reimbursement rate must be adjusted – it sim- ply isn’t fair that we are to receive a 70 per- cent reimbursement rate, while the other big city school districts receive a 98 percent rate. Let’s work together as local representatives, parents, educators and taxpayers to work with Albany to fit these issues once and for all.”

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