Our staff and our volunteers are working harder and longer to support our clients, and we need help in doing so. We are at our wits’ end, with class sizes getting larger and our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs frozen. We need to fix it. We have lost 25 percent of our staff since 2008, the 450 members of local 456 have been working without a contract since 2008. We need to get a contract that raises our wages with every step we take towards improving our services. The City of Yonkers is hampered by no increase in AIM and a property tax cap,” he said.

By Dan Murphy

Yonkers Assemblymember Shelley Mayer and State Sen. George Latimer with members of the Yonkers Police Department’s Training Unit. Photo by Helen Henkel.

“Yonkers CSLA President Tom Phelan asked Latimer and Matier to work to obtain more state aid for the city, specifically in the form of AIM aid and for the city’s public schools, and no increase to AIM funding for city services, other than education. Mayer and Latimer to work to obtain more state aid for Yonkers – and many other local gov ernments – since 2009, when Yonkers received $154 million in AIM funding. That number has been reduced to $108 million, and remains the same in the governor’s proposed budget this year.

Employee union speakers at the forum included Louis Picani, from Teamsters Local 456. “The City of Yonkers is hampered by no increase in AIM and a property tax cap,” he said.

By Dan Murphy


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Yonkers Native Honored During Hudson Valley Restaurant Week

Janel Crowehead, founder of Hudson Valley Restaurant Week and publisher of The Valley Table, along with Chef Peter Kelly of Xaviar’s Restaurant Group at the spring Hudson Valley Restaurant Week launch event. (Photo by Diane Bondareff/Invision for Hudson Valley Restaurant Week/AP Images.)

Yonkers, native chef and owner of Xaviar’s X20 Restaurant on the Yonkers Riverfront, Peter Kelly was recently recognized by the Valley Table magazine with its 2014 Farm-to-Table Award, which honors leaders in the sustainable agriculture movement that are advancing the Hudson Valley as a premier culinary destination. The award was presented by Janel Crowehead, publisher and founder of The Valley Table magazine and Hudson Valley Restaurant Week. During the kickoff event for the spring 2014 event, Chef Peter Kelly has tirelessly contributed to the Hudson Valley becoming an epicenter for local, sustainable food and has established the region as a destination for critically acclaimed restaurants, said Crowehead.

"We are honored to present him with this award," said Crowehead. Kelly’s signature contemporary American cuisine has made him a successful entrepreneur with restaurants such as Xaviar’s at X20 Restaurant on the Yonkers Riverfront downtown; Pinch and some restaurants do not offer the special visit www.HudsonValleyRestaur-ants.com.

As the oldest building in Yonkers and the city’s historic center, Philipse Manor Hall Historic Site has witnessed great changes in Yonkers. It’s an honor to be recognized by The Valley Table and Hudson Valley Restaurant Week, said Chef Peter Kelly. "I started my career in the sustainable agriculture movement that are advancing the Hudson Valley as a premier culinary destination. The award was presented by Janel Crowehead, publisher and founder of The Valley Table magazine and Hudson Valley Restaurant Week. During the kickoff event for the spring 2014 event, Chef Peter Kelly has tirelessly contributed to the Hudson Valley becoming an epicenter for local, sustainable food and has established the region as a destination for critically acclaimed restaurants, said Crowehead.

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Go Wild About Nature at Westchester Wildlife Centers

The hordes of different species Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lorden Park. The fee is $24 per person.

Learn what’s trending through the Lower Preserves on Sunday in Yonkers on Saturday, March 23. You’ll see the year-round birds at different locations.

On Saturday and Sunday, March 1 and 2, a walk and work project to clean the northern back of a Monument Park’s Willow Circle will take place from 1 to 3 p.m.

At the Mamaroneck Boardwalk, there will be 150 original participants continued care for 12 months and visited physician in 12th month of care.

For more information about Westchester County Nature centers, go to www.westchesternature.org or call 914-969-PARK.

By Eric W. Schoen

The time has come to get your health off the hook this week. As I am setting things in motion in order to have nothing to worry about with our health care system and insurers.

Mayor’s Blog About Moving Yonkers Schools Forward

Mike Spano

Mayor Mike Spano posted this entire letter to the mayor’s website on February 21 on his “Mayor’s Blog About Moving Yonkers Schools Forward.”

The WCSD has no plans for changing the Board of Education’s list of personnel. It all is well with me; all is well with the world. I am not shedding any tears or drinking any wine. I am not grossed out. The story is hot off the press. It was just three days ago.

The News page posted this on its website on Monday, February 24, 2014. By Eric W. Schoen. The article is about the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act, as it is written in law. Deducting the insurance as a result of Obamacare, or the Affordable Care Act, as it is written in law.

I did not even think twice about how it happened; what it represents; and what it means to me.

I was told by the billing department that unlike the others, I was simply not to worry about the bill because I was not going to be treated with paying the co-pay at the time of service. I did not pay the co-pay. I just ignored the bill.

The television camera that the bill came on the screen I have that lines that come with the bill itself. The newspaper ad that the bill came on the screen, how they got four bills from various doctors for services opposed.

The fee is $15, including for the mailing and participant must return it to the Marshlands Conservancy, 200 Greenway Road (Route 1). To view the calendar of events, visit sawmillaudubon.org.

I do not understand. Let them sue you – let them go to court and be done with it. I have no problem with that.

I do not understand. Let them sue you – let them go to court and be done with it. As you have already paid at the time of service. I was told by the billing department to ignore the bills.

The public needs to know, sooner rather than later.

I have never had their insurance plans changed three and four times, so their plans don’t meet the basics of ACA. Many have not received their insurance cards five months into the Affordable Care Act law. One person I know got so fed up with the delivery of services, she had to sue the doctors, in order to get the money.

Yes that’s four bills I received – three of them. I gave her my phone number and told her I was willing to help her, but that I should not have received because either of them.

I told the billing department that unlike the federal government, I can’t prevent money every time the fund runs low. And if the bill isn’t paid.

I also have private sector, sea- sonal and financial experience that will serve him well as the YRCP copes with or avoid financial challenges.

As we work with the state and City Council to help the BOE manage these fund priorities, we also have a responsibility to taxpayers, parents and students to ensure these accounting errors don’t happen ever again. Ever. It’s a matter of common sense – more than $500 million is paid to the Board of Education by taxpayers, not by anyone or anything paid by the Board of Education.

We are already making progress on this front. Earlier this week we signed an intergovernmental agreement with the BOE and my finance team has begun to open the BOE books. Under this agreement the Board of Education will have access to the BOE’s financial statements, with oversight and accountability to the taxpayers, too. That’s why I am pleased that our historic investment in increased school funding.

After all, Yonkers’ families and teachers are upset and uneasy about the state of Yonkers Schools. As a Yonkers resident and product of Yonkers taxpayer, too.

It just doesn’t make sense for the Board of Education to manage these budgets and the BOE’s operations.

If you’re a Yonkers parent, student or school personnel were understand-

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 3

The Bailout of Mayor Mike Spano and the Yonkers Board of Education

By Eric W. Schoen

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In some cases the board of education failed to pay the overcharge. In some cases the board of education failed to pay the overcharge.

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In the month of March, Sylvan Learning locations across the county, including the Yonkers area, will join the nation’s parents, children and educators to observe the largest annual celebration of reading in the nation.

In celebration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday, the National Educational Association will host Read Across America Day on March 3. This annual celebration of reading serves as a yearly opportunity for families to participate in reading for pleasure and enjoyment. Indeed, reading is a child’s life. It’s a day when parents can help children discover how reading can transport them to places beyond the boundaries of their neighborhoods; just as easily as the television or Internet.

Dear Editor:

I wonder why the City of Yonkers, the State of New York and the federal government have no concrete plans to improve and repair our roads. Last winter was the worst roads in the tri-state area. As a taxpayer, I wonder why our roads are in such a deplorable state. It is a shame that we have to pay for the poor maintenance of our roads. It is a shame that our roads are not only a safety hazard but also a waste of money for the city. It is a shame that our roads are not being maintained on a timely basis? It may be due to the power struggle between the city, the state and the federal government.

I want to open a new discussion with the editor of the Yonkers Rising. I want to discuss the following issues:

1. Why are our roads in such a poor state?
2. Why are our roads not being maintained on a timely basis?
3. Who is responsible for the maintenance of our roads?

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to write this Letter to the Editor.

Thomas J. Koovalloor

For information, contact Maria Hartley at 416-324-9899 or Mhartley@wheelsforwishes.org.

Sylvan Learning Celebrates ‘Read Across America Day’

To honor the memory of the 12 million victims of the horrific genocide that took place during the Holocaust, Yonkers Community Partners and Lincoln Park Jewish Center will offer a program highlighting three events on March 17 through 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily at the Lincoln Park Jewish Center, 515 Wrexham Road, Yonkers.

All Yonkers Public School students, as well as the entire community and all ages, are invited to attend these educational programs. The event features live accounts given by survivors and children of survivors of the Holocaust as well as by deeply involved members of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The program depicts the history of the Holocaust and emphasizes the importance of having respect for all people.

In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, April 27, this year, Holocaust survivors shared their personal stories with 2,000 middle and high school students, who listened, asked questions, and learned firsthand how the Holocaust impacted a child’s life. It’s a day when parents can help children discover how reading can transport them to places beyond the boundaries of their neighborhoods; just as easily as the television or Internet.

For additional tips and resources, contact one of three Havitz of Sylvan Learning in Yonkers at 914-257-8453, or Richard Wessman of Sylvan Learning at 914-257-8804.

For more information, contact Maia Hartley at 416-324-9899 or Mhartley@wheelsforwishes.org.

Havitz welcomes children to participate in the Holocaust Remembrance Program as we engage students in learning about the important events of World War II and the lessons we can learn from them.

If you want them to read, read to them.

* March 17 – Betty Knoop, 10 to 11 a.m.
* March 18 – Bettina Graf, noon to 1 p.m.
* March 18 – Ed Lessing, 10 to 11 a.m.
* March 19 – Dr. John Gimesh, 10 to 11 a.m.
* March 20 – Dr. Moshe Avital, 10 to 11 a.m.
* March 21 – Alan Moskin, 10 to 11 a.m.

All students from preschool through high school are welcome to attend these programs. It is important for students to understand the importance of having respect for all people.

For more information, contact Maia Hartley at 416-324-9899 or Mhartley@wheelsforwishes.org.
As a result of the improper travel reimbursement, DOT may have improperly paid nearly $227,000 in travel expenses to the proper taxing authorities for the three calendar years of 2009 to 2011. In addition, for the time period from September 2007 through September 2011, DOT officials identified the improper payments, DOT notified the employees of their official station designation of Poughkeepsie as the employees’ official station and improperly paid them for their negate commuting costs.

DiNapoli’s auditors identified $101,706 in personal car mileage and $71,164 for tolls and other expenses. DOT officials acknowledged that the official station designation of Poughkeepsie was incorrect and attributed the problems to administrative error. According to DOT officials, pertinent managers were unaware of state travel rules and enforcement by the proper taxing authorities for the three calendar years 2009 to 2011. DOT officials identified improper payments to the employees.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, reimbursements for commuting are taxable and are never excludable from income. Employees’ personal car mileage reimbursements are taxable and are never excludable from income. The audit’s findings and conclusions to designate Poughkeepsie as the employees' official station and improperly paid them for their negate commuting costs.

The state Department of Transportation improperly paid nearly $320K to eight employees working on the Tappan Zee Bridge project. DOT officials told an internal audit identified it as improper, according to an audit released last week by State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli.

For many years there has been a total lack of parking for customers to use on the Irish Mile called Mclean Avenue. But this all changed on Thursday last week when the Mclean Avenue Merchant Association met.

It was brought up that a number of merchants using these spaces for their own use on a daily basis, and a discussion followed with MAMA's board (under the leadership of RJ Puma) taking action. The board agreed that no merchant should park in Mclean and that the area two-hour limit on a parking space must be enforced by the Yonkers Parking Violations Bureau.

“An 8½-year community of this community I find that MAMA in 100 percent correct” said Phil Foley. “With the help of Councilman Dennis Shepard and Council President Liam McLaughlin, the new plan has taken effect. Some can have been ticketed at a Sunday and some people who have been ticked do not like it at all!”

Changes is sometimes tough to take but here it must happen. The city has filed Mclean Avenue and I will say so. “The change is necessary because new parking lots down there—one of the few downtown businesses in Yonkers that does not have one of the City of Yonkers must make sure that when a new business wants to open up there will be a corresponding

IDA Approves Housing And Restaurant Projects

IDA staff were present to discuss the development of the site of the former Mulford Gardens housing complex, plus two new restaurants at the Cross County Shopping Center. The project will house 56 single-person households and 94 two- and three-bedroom rental units in a pair of four-story buildings.

The units will be made available to households earning at or below 50 percent of the area median income. The current 40 percent of AMI set by the federal government ranges from $43,000 for a single-person household to $72,040 for a family of six.

The apartments will be built along Leslie Place and Whetstone Avenue, near Ashburn Avenue.

“Those will be 56 apartments geared to lower-wage people whose incomes are very typical for the area, but who often cannot find housing at an affordable rate,” said Mike Saint, who has been ticketed as of Saturday and some people who have been ticketed do not like it at all!”

The park and planning board has agreed that no merchant should park in Mclean and that the area two-hour limit on a parking space must be enforced by the Yonkers Parking Violations Bureau.

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Notice of formation of History of the City of Yonkers Book Club, LLC, Art. 6, of the State of NY on January 21, 2014, Special Purpose, Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect’y of State of NY on 1/20/2014. Office location: 970 Main St., Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon which process against it may be served. SSNY shall serve process to: Mark A. Smith, 970 Main St., Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.


Notice of formation of Spring Blowsale, LLC of the State of New York (SSNY) on 01/16/2014. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of Ham- mer’s Delights LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect’y of State of NY on 12/31/2013. Office location: 40 Old Road, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon which process against it may be served. SSNY shall serve process to: 40 Old Road, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of USH Real Estate LLC with the NY Department of State on January 21, 2014. Office Lo- cation: Westchester County. The Secretary of the State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon which process can be served. This process may be served to: United States Department of State, 17 State Street, Albany, NY 12222. Purpose: Managing, leasing, financing and/or developing real estate projects, office build- ings, apartment buildings, industrial spaces and other real estate.

Notice of formation of Ur- ban Rising on February 28, 2014.

Notice of formation of NYC COMIC BOOK MARKETPLACE, PLLC, of the State of New York (SSNY) on 12/20/2013. Office location: 355 Palm Rd, #3P, Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon which process against it may be served. SSNY shall serve process to: 355 Palm Rd, #3P, Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.


Notice of formation of Stew- ard Services of New York; LLC, of the State of New York (SSNY) on 12/20/2013. Office location: 355 Palm Rd, #3P, Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon which process against it may be served. SSNY shall serve process to: 355 Palm Rd, #3P, Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.
Seniors and Health Care

Right at Home Offers Elder Care in White Plains

In October 2013, Lou Giamp, a self-employed social worker, was looking for a way to continue to work and contribute to the community in which he grew up. Giamp, a graduate of SUNY Purchase with a degree in social work, has worked in the field for 20 years. He was looking for a way to bring back to the White Plains community the personal care assistance that is so important to seniors and disabled adults who live in our area. His goal was to provide an alternative to the long hours spent on the road driving seniors to and from appointments.

Giamp’s local Right at Home office, located at 1180 Westchester Avenue in White Plains, is the newest addition to the senior care franchise network.

“Continuing to steadily and consistently grow our Right at Home franchise; and we’re thrilled that Lou is spearheading that effort for Westchester County,” said Eric Lapidus, president of Franchise Development at Right at Home. “The primary goal is to improve the quality of life for individuals who are in need of personal care assistance anywhere in the U.S. For years, a number of elements - in a small office, a lot of heart, and a lot of hard work. In addition, we’re thrilled to be able to continue offering this vitally important service in Westchester County,” added Lapidus.

Family Services of Westchester, Inc., an organization that has been providing a range of information and service providing for Westchester residents since 1971, now serves the residents with disabilities and home health care workers in the area.

Your new local Area Agency on Aging is now an enhanced resource.

RideConnect Program Awarded Renewed Funding Through 2017

The funding for RideConnect, the Westchester County Department of Transportation’s main transportation program, has been renewed through 2017.

“RideConnect enables so many individuals, especially seniors and those with Alzheimer’s and dementia, to get back to the Westchester community and now able to give some- thing back to the West-

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2014 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 7

Beware The Ides of March (and Every Day)

By Janice Hammer

Social Security District Manager in Yonkers

“We may be the Ides of March,” said the south- erner to Caesar in Shakespeare’s play’s “Julius Caesar.” We may be at the time when behind the scenes, you know and trust the source.

Just the Ides of March, and really: “Et tu, Brute?” Caesar asked as his good friend, I had another grand-

Believe the Ides of March (and Every Day)

Celebrating a landmark accomplishment in “green” multi-family affordable housing, the City of Mount Vernon’s mayor and Westburg will

M. Vernon’s Warburg Building Recognized for Energy Efficiency

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The Friedrichs Residence also participated in the New York State Energy Research and De-

St. Joseph’s Hospital

Continued from Page 1

The building is owned by former Westburg benefactors, the late Jaunita J. and Ar-

Continuing from Page 1

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Take Emma Home Today

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has many resources to help for the right family.

Mayer & Latimer Continued From Page 1

4. To continue the development of a new educational program for at-risk students, requiring the city to make some

5.) The city is taking steps to better monitor and manage the flood risks.

6.) The city is working on completing the Staten Island Ferry Plaza, which is expected to be completed in 2015.

This event is the second program in the series of “Freedom Riders” at the Library. The next program in the series will be held on April 10th, 2014. For more information, call 914-375-7966 or visit the library’s web site at www.ypl.org.

Yonkers Phillipsomm to Present Dvorak Program

The Yonkers Riverfront Library will present a screening of “Freedom Riders” on Saturday, February 22nd, at 2 p.m. in the Community Room at One Larcom Center.

The Yonkers Riverfront Library has announced that it will perform the “Dvorak Concerto in B minor, Kook Kwak,” when soloist Peter Seidenberg makes his solo debut with the Chicago Symphony.

Other speakers requested additional funding for the Yonkers Public Schools. We will look to see if there is any money we can do to get increased AIM funding, but it is complicated because every city is flat on AIM funding.

4.) The city of Yonkers is expected to be completed by the end of this year for the 2013-14 school year.

3.) Liszewski said at the budget number that Spies and city officials have been asking for the same goal since 2013-

2.) All of these expenditures for the remainder of the year is not available, but is expected to be minimal for the budget year.

1.) The budget in the YPS budget for next year, you are starting off with a deficit that is $55 million.

The city of Yonkers is expected to be completed by the end of the 2013-14 school year.

There are many complex factors that cause flood- ing, as well as improving water quality and enhancing the existing stormwater management practices and in-channel stone diversion structures that will be installed in the Bronx River.

The Bronx River Parkway will be stabilized at a cost of $1.25 million. This project will be performed by the city's Department of Transportation and in-channel stone diversion structures will be constructed and a return channel will be opened.

This project will be completed by summer at a cost of $500,000.

The Blind Brook Dam Retrofit project at Bronx River Parkway will be completed at a cost of $2.5 million. This project will be performed by the city's Department of Transportation and in-channel stone diversion structures will be constructed and a return channel will be opened.

This project will be completed by summer at a cost of $500,000.

The Bronx River Parkway at Garth Woods, at a cost of $2.5 million. This project will be performed by the city's Department of Transportation and in-channel stone diversion structures will be constructed and a return channel will be opened.

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Screening & Discussion of ‘Freedom Riders’ at Library

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Dominican
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Terrero-Santos and the Greyston Community
Garden Enviro-Earth Club, the event included
an exhibit of Taino artifacts from the Do-
minican Republic spanning from the 1800s to
today, as well as a paper mache art workshop
class presented by artisan Mercedes Polanco,
and a “Love What You Eat” class lead by Chef
Percio Felix.

A combination of dancing, art, food and
the history of the Dominican Republic were en-
joyed by the many who attended.

We aim to inspire, motivate and instill a love for learning in all children”

African Amer. History Celebrated
At Nepperhan Community Center

INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS
• Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at 10:00 am
• Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at 2:00 pm
• Thursday, March 20, 2014 at 5:30 pm

260 Warburton Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10701

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2014

FOR AN APPLICATION OR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL 914-476-5070 EXT. 13

“WE aim to inspire, motivate and instill a love for learning in all children”

Estamos aceptando nuevas solicitudes de estudiantes para los grados K-8

SESIONES INFORMATIVAS
• Miércoles, Enero 15, 2014 a las 10:00 am
• Miércoles, Febrero 12, 2014 a las 2:00 pm
• Jueves, Marzo 20, 2014 a las 5:30 pm

260 Warburton Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10701

LA FECHA LIMITE PARA ENTREGAR LA
SOLICITUD DEL SORTEO ES EL DÍA 1, 2014

LA LOTERIA SE LLEVABARA A CABO EN
ABRIL 8, 2014

Para obtener informacion llame al
914-476-5070 Ext. 13

Yonkers Rising - USPS Permit #7164
is published weekly by Rising Media
Group, LLC, 25 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. 10701
Member of the New York
Press Association
Phone: 914-965-4000
Fax: 914-965-2892
25 Warburton Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701
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Mayor Mike Spano with members of the Yonkers Police Department Training Unit.

Exchange Club Honors Yonkers PD Training Unit

Mayor Mike Spano with members of the Blue Knights, a volunteer organization that helps raise funds for important Yonkers programs.

The children’s hospital for the Hudson Valley.

The most pediatric specialties in the region.
The only comprehensive cardiovascular, neurosurgery and cancer care programs for children. An extensive minimally invasive surgery program. Only Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital at Westchester Medical Center.

Westchester Medical Center

Continued from Page 3

Mayor Mike Spano with members of the Yonkers Police Department Training Unit.

From left are Carol Daly, Council President Liam McLaughlin, Judge Mary Anne Scattaretico-Naber, Councilman Mike Breen and Al Serrano.


Yonkers Firefighter Local 628 President Barry McGee with Ann Muro and Commissioner Gardner.

Photos by Helen Henkel

Exchange Club President Ann Muro with members of the Blue Knights, a volunteer organization that helps raise funds for important Yonkers programs.

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Continued from Page 3

It’s easy to go before one’s peers on a daily basis to instruct and teach them, and the Yonkers Training Unit members should all be recognized and applauded for the job they do day in and day out.”

Spano said: “I’m happy to be here to honor our men and women in blue that do such great job and make Yonkers, the 112th largest city in America, the fourth safest big city in America.”

Mayor Mike Spano, State Sen. George Latimer, Assemblymember Shelley Mayer and Councilman Mike Breen attended the dinner and praised the training unit for their work.

“I’m proud of the Training Unit. They have improved the quality of policing and officer safety.”

Latimer said: “Your job is not an easy job and we know how hard it is to be a good officer and use your judgment in difficult situations.”

YPD Commissioner Charles Gardner thanked the Exchange Club for honoring the training unit. “Sometimes our work is a thankless job, but we have the Exchange Club to thank for recognizing our officers. I’m proud of the Training Unit. They have improved the quality of policing and officer safety.”

Later in the dinner, a discussion began about the future of the K-9 Unit in the YPD; it turns out that Doc, the Yonkers police dog, recently retired and an effort began at the Exchange Club dinner to raise the more than $7,000 for a new dog for the YPD.

Read Yonkers Rising to find out more about Doc’s retirement and efforts to raise dollars for a new one.