Yonkers’ Korean War Heroes
Private 2nd Class Christopher M. Murphy, Jr.

By Andrew Tobia

As part of that commemoration effort, Yonkers Rising reported last month (see “Yonkers to Commemorate 60th Anniversary of the End of the Korean War,” January 25) Mayor Mike Spano and Mike Breen, YPS Superintendent Bernard Pierorazio, Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Chuck Lesnick, FCRC Senior Vice President Kathy Welch, Councilman Wilson Terrero and PAL Board, reinstated the contest and it has been going strong ever since. Every year, hundreds of children from throughout Yonkers submit their PAL Poster, with 2012 Poster Contest Winners Enzo Kim and Julianna Calvello going strong ever since. Every year, hundreds of children from throughout Yonkers submit their PAL Poster Contest 2013.

Mayor Spano Seeks $4.2 Million in Savings and Money Owed to City

By Dan Murphy

Since taking office last year, Mayor Mike Spano has sought every dollar of savings and every dollar owed to the city in an effort to cut costs and control the city’s budget deficit.

The city’s estimated budget gap for the upcoming 2013 fiscal year, which starts on July 1, is $398 million. Spano’s money-saving and recouping proposals include:

• Seeking to receive $500,000 of 11 defaulted commercial loans, approved by the prior administration’s Office of Economic Development, in court, in a competitive process, the city will review real property transactions dating from July 2009. In November 2012, the city determined to receivers, buyers and title agents; and has resolved 74 of the 123 properties to date, for a total collection of $249,135, which will work to clear the remainder; Mayor Spano launched the city’s eBay store: Yonkers4Sale.com, which has generated $200,000 in revenue for the city by selling surplus and surplus city equipment and vehicles. Items sold include fire hydrants, laptops, cameras, traffic signal heads and surplus vehicles. Marquee items also generated dollars for the city, including the old City Hall Square Clock, which sold for $2,000, and the city’s gently used Snow Dragon snowblower, which sold for $88,700. Since YonkersCarStar.com launched this spring, the city has sold 38 vehicles and approximately 30 other items.

“Every dollar counts and every taxpayer dollar should be treated as if it were their own.”

Mayor Mike Spano

Council Republicans Call for an End to Gerrymandering

By Dan Murphy

While there is some debate as to whether or not a South Korean attack prompted it, the Korean War is officially considered to have begun when the Korean War established a Russian- and People’s Republic of China-supported Communist government in North Korea and the United States and other countries established American-backed Democracy, and North Korea (officially the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) established a Russian and People’s Republic of China-supported Communist government under the leadership of Kim Il-Sung. While there is some debate as to whether or not a South Korean attack prompted it, the Korean War is officially considered to have begun when the Korean War to the 53rd parallel.

The Korean War

The KOREAN WAR (1950 to ’53) was the second major conflict of the Cold War — the first being the Berlin blockade and airlift of 1948 to 1949 — and the first to involve direct combat. Occurring between the much-celebrated end of World War II (1945) and the highly publicized and decisive Vietnam War (beginning in 1959), the Korean War is often overlooked, as much so that it is commonly referred to as the Forgotten War. The course of the war is marked by many important events and instances, commited by both North and South Korea.

After World War II, Korea — previously under Japanese control — was split in two along the 38th parallel. The United States Army took control of Korea south of the 38th, the Soviet Union north of it. This split was negotiated back to the 1947. Its message is simple one: a police officer is your friend.

Mike D’Ambrosio, after getting approval from PAL President Angelo Martinelli and the PAL Board, estimated the contest and it has been going strong ever since. Every year, hundreds of children from throughout Yonkers submit their PAL Poster, with 2012 Poster Contest Winners Enzo Kim and Julianna Calvello going strong ever since. Every year, hundreds of children from throughout Yonkers submit their PAL Poster Contest 2013.

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Continued on Page 8

YPIE & Forest City Ratner Establish ‘Ridge Hill Academy’

Photo by Karen T. Jackson Silver

Continued on Page 8
Academy for Jewish Religion
Moves to Downtown Yonkers

By Ben Cohn

Yonkers is now home to one of the big-
igest Cantorial and Rabbinical schools in New
York, as the Academy for Jewish Religion
(AJR) moved from its offices at the College of
Mount Saint Vincent to a new space in Down-
town Yonkers.

There are many different kinds of Canto-
rial and Rabbinical schools throughout Man-
hattan and Brooklyn, but the Academy is very
unique. In most cases, Orthodox and Reform
Rabbis are trained separately, but AJR offers
unique. In most cases, Orthodox and Reform
Rabbis are trained separately, but AJR offers


Continued on Page 8

Tired of the ups and downs of today’s market? As one of the most efficient banks in
America, we’re able to provide some of the highest yields in the New York metropolitan
area. Plus, CDs are fully insured by the FDIC to the extent of the law.

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locations or by banking online. For more information call
914-732-2777 or visit hudsoncitysavings.com.

THE HEAT IS ON!
Your Chance to win a GENERATOR!
Thursdays in February!
FOR OVER 14 YEARS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

Meet Sergio, a happy member of HHH Choices Managed Long Term Care Plan

Sergio Santiago, a Puerto Rican-born and former pastor of a church, has no family in the United States and considers his home health aide, Ramona, as his family. After becoming a member of HHH Choices about two years ago, Sergio’s life changed drastically.

He went from living in a small room in a friend’s house to living in his own apartment with a great view. Thanks to HHH Choices Health Plan, Sergio now has Medicaid. “I am so happy, because now I can sleep well,” says Sergio. “I am calm and peaceful now, and I love Ramona. She is so sweet to me and I love talking with her.

“I would not give this up for the world. God bless you and your people.”

~Sergio
Mayor Edward I. Koch: He, Too, was New York!

Eric Schoen and Ed Koch

Mr. Trez Lenisk and a twenty-year-old: important connections with the city.

By Eric Schoen

I gotta get up to Yonkers!

Ten minutes into the movie “Koch,” a documentary about the former Mayor, the audience at the opening night screening listened at Lincoln Square Cinemas in the New York City burst out in laughter.

Mayor Mike Spano announced a new volunteer program, in partnership with the United Way of Westchester and Putnam (UWW) Volunteer Center, that links residents interested in volunteering with volunteer opportunities around the city.

"We’re so many ways to get involved with volunteering in Yonkers and there are so many residents that want to give back to their city and help others in need," said Spano. "This program is for those offering volunteer opportunities, it simplifies the process of finding the right opportunity for anyone who wants to volunteer."

Residents interested in volunteering can visit the city’s Web site and be connected to a volunteer search engine that includes a central database of volunteer opportunities offered by 67 community and faith-based organizations throughout Yonkers. Searches can be narrowed down by a keyword or even a zip code, enabling volunteers to match their interest with a specific location that works for them. Available volunteer opportunities range from services at a soup kitchen, reading to children, assisting seniors, working with the environment and more. All the volunteer projects are Westchester-based.

The Volunteer Center has a long tradition of supporting volunteering in Yonkers and we are so pleased that the city will now include a direct link from its website to ours,” said UWW Volunteer Center Executive Director Alan H. Kent. "This will make it easier for residents of all ages to find worthwhile volunteer opportunities that suit their interests and availability and support the needs of vital Yonkers nonprofits."

The Mayor encourages residents to visit CityofYonkers.com to search the site and get involved with volunteering in Yonkers.

For more information or questions, contact the Mayor’s Office of Constituent Services at 914-377-6010.

Choking Child Revived by Yonkers Firefighters

On February 2, Yonkers Fire Department Engine 304, from Radford Street, was dispatched, along with Yonkers Police and Emergency assistance, to a report of a choking child at 132 Brace Avenue.

Engine 304 arrived three minutes after dispatch, at 5:39 p.m., to find an approximately 1 year old male child in severe respiratory distress. Oxygen and simultaneously attempting to reposition and thus open fully the child’s airway. After administration of oxygen and several attempts at reposestrating the airway, the child began to breathe normally.

Emergency ambulance arrived five minutes after the arrival of Engine 304 at 5:47. At that time, Engine 304 brought the child down to the station to the ambulance personnel and trans- ferred care to them.

The Child was discharged from the Fire Department members that the child was in good health at that time and that this would be a very positive outcome.

Watch Stew Leonard's Chefs Hand Dip 11,000 Fresh Strawberries

When February begins, Stew Leonard’s Executive Chef Curt Paliotta wants to plan his delicious strawberry dipping station for Valentine’s Day shoppers. He may go as far as fresh roses and specially prepared dinners for two.

”We order the biggest, best stem berries available,” Fable said. "The sweetest ones usually come from California this time of year.”

When February begins, Stew Leonard’s Executive Chef Curt Paliotta wants to plan his delicious strawberry dipping station for Valentine’s Day shoppers. He may go as far as fresh roses and specially prepared dinners for two.

Fable said, “It’s great fun and it’s a nice way to show the people in my life a little love and appreciation!”

Stew’s Chefs will dip more than 11,000 strawberries this Valentine’s Day weekend. Each of Stew Leonard’s four food stores will have a dipping fresh strawberries in chocolate and offering the desert treats in packages of two, six or a dozen.

Steward Leonard’s Front End Manager Ann Pelucci said, “it’s something special, yet inex- pensive that everyone can enjoy and freshen up a boring box or buy some for my kids’ teachers, my best friend, my hair stylist — it’s a nice way to show the people in your life a little love and appreciation!”

Stew Leonard’s will set up a display at the front door of the Yonkers store so that all customers can watch the chefs dip chocolate covered strawberries from Tuesday, February 12 through the month of February.

RESEARCH STUDIES FOR:

• Arthritis
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We are currently enrolling people for NO COST research studies. Qualify and receive study-related care from a local doctor and study medication. Health insurance is NOT required.

Call: 888-259-1522
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FIRST PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The First Precinct Community Council will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Precinct, located at 710 East Crissy Street.

This month’s guest speaker will be Detective Kate Davis from Community Affairs. For more information, e-mail yonkersfpcc@gmail.com.

Spano Announces ‘Volunteer Match’ Effort with UWW Volunteer Center

Mayor Mike Spano announced a new volunteer program, in partnership with the United Way of Westchester and Putnam (UWW) Volunteer Center, that links residents interested in volunteering with volunteer opportunities around the city.

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Superintendent: YPS Budget Deficit at $42.6 Million

By Dan Murphy

On Friday, January 29, Yonkers Superintendent of Schools Bernard P. Pierorazio presented his proposed budget to the State’s Joint Legislative Budget Hearing. At that meeting, Pierorazio presented the YPS fiscal year 2013-2014 school budget.

“Let me state, our budget is the result of our efforts to continue to ensure that the educational needs of our students are met,” said Pierorazio.

The Yonkers Public Schools’ fiscal year 2013-2014 budget totals $550.1 million, with major budget categories including:

- Salaries: $11.5 million
- Step and Comprehensive Bargaining
- Transportation: $2.1 million
- Charter Schools: $1.4 million
- MTA Tax: $928,480
- Public Service: $1.3 million
- Community Services: $397,000
- Local Aid
- Capital Projects

In his presentation, Pierorazio also noted that the school budget has been increased by $35.9 million in the most recent four years.

Pierorazio pointed to the upcoming budget shortfall. Mayor Michael P. Spano, who presented the budget last Tuesday, mentioned that the school district will have to pay for the additional staff?

The proposed budget for the fiscal year 2013-2014 includes an estimated $9.4 million in unfunded mandates.

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Remembering Yonkers Veteran Seymour Lehman

Seymour Lehman, an active member of the Veteran’s community in Yonkers, died on January 19 from complications of diabetes.

Seymour attended Port Chester High School in Mahopac. He was drafted into the Army in 1942 and returned in 1945. While serving in the Korean War, he earned the distinction of being a Combat War Veteran. Over the next ten years, he owned several supermarkets and attended New York University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and also received a pharmacy license.

Seymour was serviced by the Royal Oak Pharmacy, the location of his son for the past 46 years. His daughter, Marcia, and her husband, Michael Patric, his son, Elliot, and his wife Christine also attended Royal Oak.

Last year, the American Legion awarded an American Legion award from the Yonkers Central Committee of Veterans Organizations in its Color of Pride Flag Day celebration.

Services were at Weisheits Memorial Chapel, located at 5615 Central Park Ave in Yonkers, Internment at Cedar Park Cemetery in Paramus, N.J.

President Theodore Roosevelt in Yonkers in 1910

President Theodore Roosevelt in Yonkers in 1910

Barry Scheck to Speak at SLC

Barry Scheck

Barry Scheck, co-founder and co-director of The Innocence Project, will speak on the Innocence Movement at Sarah Lawrence College’s (SLC) Reisinger Concert Hall on Thursday, February 7 at 8:30 p.m.

Scheck was a prominent defense lawyer during the 1980s. He is best known for his work in wrongful conviction cases. Scheck and his colleagues have also helped to exonerate numerous individuals from wrongful convictions.

Scheck will discuss the Innocence Movement and the importance of the work he and his colleagues do. He will also discuss the history and impact of his work.

For more information, call 914-337-0700 or visit SLC.edu.

President's Day at Philip Manor Hall

President Theodore Roosevelt in Yonkers in 1910

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The Important Values for Youth (IVY) Program, in conjunction with the Yonkers Human Rights Commission and City Council Education Chariman Michael Sabatino, will continue its film and documentary, “True Light Revealed,” in Celebration of Black History Month.

These films, though perhaps controversial and often emotional, helped to show the school and college students awareness of historic and sociological events that have taken place in America against Black Americans.

Students will be asked to write a paper and/or participate in a discussion group after watching the film for critical thinking.

Guest speakers will be asked to discuss for the awareness and information at the end of the documentary.

After the film, “True Light Revealed,” will be open to the public, followed by a discussion of film and programs that help to better the school. Theirb schools were excellent. Government was asked to pass a budget that excludes the cap. The cap would go into effect.

Another option is to seek additional state education aid from Albany.

Dr. Barry Scheck, co-founder and co-director of The Innocence Project, will speak on the Innocence Movement at Sarah Lawrence College’s (SLC) Reisinger Concert Hall on Thursday, February 7 at 8:30 p.m.

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Fall Prevention Workshop at Coyne Park Community Center

On Thursday, January 31, State Senators Andrea Stewart-Cousins and George Latimer, Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow, and Council President Chuck Lesnick, Mayor Mike Spano, and Senator Shelley Mayer will host a Fall Prevention Workshop at Coyne Park Community Center, 970 Riverdale Avenue, Yonkers, on Thursday, January 31, from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (914) 374-9350.

The event is sponsored by the Office for the Aging and the Will Branch of the Yonkers Association of Retired Persons (AARP) to bring awareness to older adults about the leading cause of injury in seniors, falls. The event will help people understand how to stay safe and confident in their homes and communities.

As the population ages, falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for seniors, and Westchester elected officials want their older constituents to stay on their feet.

“Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for seniors, and Westchester elected officials want their older constituents to stay on their feet,” said Stewart-Cousins, the Senate’s Democratic Conference Leader. “I am pleased to partner with VNSNY CHOICE and other elected officials to help protect the health, safety, and quality of life of our seniors.”

St. Paul's Church Holds Special Civil War Event

A Conservative Union Parish St. Paul’s Church in the Civil War opens with a special program at St. Paul’s Church National Historic Site on Saturday, February 9 from 12-4 p.m. using an impressive array of original materials, the exhibition explores the war’s impact on the area, historical context and provides details of the parishes chronology and the conflicts of the nation’s great conflict of 1861 to 1865.

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**Academy for Jewish Continuation**

**Mayor Edward I. Koch**

Edward Koch has been a powerful and influential figure in New York City politics for many years. He was elected as Mayor of New York City in 1978 and served three terms until 1989. Koch is known for his larger-than-life personality and his dynamic style of leadership. He was particularly noted for his strong and decisive character, which often made him a controversial figure. Koch was a champion of the city’s growth and development, and his administration oversaw significant changes in the city’s infrastructure, including the construction of the World Trade Center and the development of the Battery Park City. However, his tenure was also marked by criticism for his handling of major crises, such as the 1975 fiscal crisis and the 1985 mortgage crisis. Despite these challenges, Koch leaves behind a legacy of significant contributions to the city, and his impact on New York City’s history is undeniable.

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**YPiE & Forest City**

YPiE (Youth People Involvement in Education) and Forest City Ratner Companies are collaborating on a new initiative to provide educational opportunities for youth in the Yonkers area. The program aims to address the needs of students and educators by offering resources, support, and mentorship to help students achieve their educational goals. This initiative is part of a broader effort to improve educational outcomes and opportunities for youth in the area. The collaboration between YPiE and Forest City Ratner Companies highlights the importance of community partnerships in advancing educational opportunities and fostering a more equitable and inclusive educational environment.
Each of his brothers served in the Armed Forces. Michael, born in Chicago, was stationed in post-WWII Japan, serving with the Military Police to guard Japanese prisoners of war (POWs). He was reported as a Private Second Class, to G Company, 1st Battalion, 29th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, serving during the battle in Taejon in an effort to fall back to the Pusan Perimeter. During the withdrawal, he was injured in his right leg and later hospitalized at the Kijung Red Cross Hospital in Seoul as a result of his injuries. His body was later recovered and returned to the United States.

Ray told me, "Kokura sprayed formaldehyde on the remains, is they shipped them to Kokura, Japan," Ray reported, "the remains were shipped in a wooden box to the States. They were received at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) in Hawaii, where they were identified as Murphy’s remains. There are several locations suspected of containing remains of unidentified soldiers (from the Korean War). One visited site was definitely the burial site of the Kijung Red Cross Hospital in Seoul. But the process is far from over. "We have to cut off. The bat needs to be sanded, painted, and left on either end of the newly formed bat need to be sanded, painted, and left on either end of the newly formed bat. Then another end is cut to make sure that the bat is straight. The bat needs to be sanded, painted, and left on either end of the newly formed bat. Then another end is cut to make sure that the bat is straight. The crack from a wood bat. Making baseball bats is a passion for life. I take a lot of pride in each bat I make. It is my passion."

Yonkers Bat Company
Making Big Splash

Topisay operator Victor Oligado working on a bat

This is the first bat in the Yonkers-based custom wood bat company. "It’s incredible attention to detail allows it to be some of the best custom wood bats in the market. It produces professional quality wood baseball and softball bats but also can be cut off at any level of play from the pro leagues to the schools. This makes it unique to you. This makes it unique to you. As a result of the sport, they are more durable and consistent wood bats made today. It produces professional quality wood baseball and softball bats but also can be cut off at any level of play from the pro leagues to the schools. This makes it unique to you. As a result of the sport, they are more durable and consistent wood bats made today. It produces professional quality wood baseball and softball bats but also can be cut off at any level of play from the pro leagues to the schools. This makes it unique to you. As a result of the sport, they are more durable and consistent wood bats made today. 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photographs. From those hundreds, we narrow it down until we get our final 10 contestants, five boys and five girls. They rehearse for a week at the City Hall. On the night of the contest, a boy and a girl will be chosen by our panel of judges.

To enter the contest, you must be in the 5th or 6th grade, reside in Yonkers and attend a Yonkers Public, Private or Parochial school.

The announcement was made at City Hall where last year’s winners, Enzo Kim of the P.E.A.R.L.S. Hawthorne School and Julianna Calvello of the Montessori Academy attended the ceremony with their teachers and classmates. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Yonkers School Superintendent Bernard Pierorazio and Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner were among the speakers cheering the kids on. City Council President Chuck Lesnick and members of the City Council also attended. The rehearsals and the contest itself are held in the City Council Chambers.

Yonkers Police Benevolent Association President Keith Olsen and CLS President Lieutanant Thomas Phelan were there with the Yonkers Police Officer Mark Whissner, his partner, police canine Doc and Sergeant James McGovern. McGovern and Whissner will be on the PAL poster with the two student winners.

The kick off also was attended by members of the PAL Board, including longtime Poster Contest Chair Jimmy Vetrano. Vetrano worked for years on the contest, encouraging all of the participants to do their best every year.

If you are interested in being on the PAL poster and you fit the requirements listed above, send a five by seven inch photo of yourself (with name, address, phone number, date of birth, name of school and grade on the back) to: PAL New Faces, 127 North Broadway, Yonkers, N.Y. 10701. Attention: Margaret Staruch. Submission deadlines is March 15. For more information, call 914-968-7468.

A special thanks to the Mayor’s and City Council’s staff members, especially Lucia Trott, and PAL Members Charlie Gabitto, John Harrigan, Greg Kolekshin, Sue Sacco, Wanda London and Ros Marani.

Good luck to new PAL Poster Contest Chairs Margaret Staruch and Wanda London.