By Dan Murphy

The budget outlook for Yonkers Public Schools, and to a 26,574 kindergarten through grade 12 students, is a little cleaner last week when Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quezada presented his proposed budget for the 2019-20 school year to the Board of Education and the public. Quezada's budget target that he said he hopes the board does not approve, which calls for 106 staff cuts and $3.8 million in program cuts for the upcoming school year that starts in September.

Quezada bracketed the state legislature from Yonkers and Mayor Mike Spano for increased funding for YPS in the state budget and the mayor's proposed budget, but even with the increased funding, YPS still has a $17.6 million budget hole that Quezada said he is forced to close with proposed cuts to staff and programs.

"We have had one magical message, that we must fight," he said. "We have been left behind for too many years and we must continue the fight. We are able to significantly increase our revenue from Alba- con and from the state budget and the mayor's proposed budget, low- ering the deficit. I remain confident that we can reduce the deficit or without reduced staff or programs." As of May 1, Quezada proposed a status quo.
Mayor Mike Spano recently joined members of the Yonkers City Council, Yonkers Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez, and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin Quezada to present the School of the Month Award to the deserving administration, faculty, staff, parents and students at Patricia A. DiChiaro School.

Under the leadership of Principal Patricia Langan, DiChiaro is achieving great success in its academics and one of the most active schools in terms of volunteerism in the Yonkers Public School System. This school year, DiChiaro students donated nearly 4,000 pounds of food to the county-wide hunger non-profit Feeding Westchester, raised nearly $6,000 for the American Heart Association, and traveled to Albany to lobby for more educational state funding. The 2018-19 school year culminates with the Patricia A. DiChiaro School celebrating its 25th anniversary of educating students in the City of Yonkers.

"Congratulations to Patricia A. DiChiaro School, the administration, teachers, staff and parents, who all are contributing to our students’ solid educational foundation," said Spano. "DiChiaro motivates our young people to better themselves and others. I applaud the nurturing community they’ve established there and wish them continued success!"

Lopez added: "On behalf of the Yonkers Board of Education trustees, we congratulate the entire DiChiaro School community on receiving this well-deserved award. The students thrive because of the commitment and ongoing support of the administrators, teachers and support staff. There is an active and strong bond with the DiChiaro School’s parents, whose everyone’s focus is on the children’s success.”

"DiChiaro School Principal Patricia Langan, teachers and staff provide an enriching and cohesive instructional program," said Quezada. "The school’s Parent-Teacher Association is exceptional and dedicated to the needs of young learners embracing a quality early childhood education. With this strong foundation, the children are ready to excel in the upper grades, and this is truly a nurturing school community where everyone learns and achieves together."

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Mayor Mike Spano and students from Paideia School 24 celebrate the planting of a tree at Wasica Park for Arbor Day. This is more than great rates.
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Mayor Mike Spano, with Yonkers Public Schools in AR, CT, DC, FL, GA, MD, MS, NC, NJ, NY, SC, TX and VA. Offers available in AR, CT, DC, FL, GA, MD, MS, NC, NJ, NY, SC, TX and VA with an account balance of $0.01 and above is 0.05% (0.05% APY). Public Funds and Wholesale accounts are not FDIC-insured IRAs or $50,000 or more in any combination of qualifying linked banking, brokerage (available through Wells Fargo Advisors, a separate registered investment adviser) and/or qualifying (available through Wells Fargo Home Mortgage) retirement accounts. In the event the Portfolio by Wells Fargo program is terminated, the remaining unlinked Wells Fargo Portfolio Checking or Wells Fargo Prime Checking account will be converted to another checking product or closed. Debit card interest rate on all eligible savings accounts, and discounts or fee waivers on other products and services, will depend on your Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship and may change from time to time. If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the bonus interest rate on all eligible savings accounts, and discounts or fee waivers on other products and services, will be terminated. If you do not maintain the required $25,000 throughout the term of this offer, the corresponding Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for this offer is 2.10%. For questions regarding the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship, you can call 800-349-5297. Deposits: Certain accounts have a 11-month term with new money deposits of at least $25,000 and a minimum daily account balance of $25,000 or more1

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**Stepinac High School Salutatorians Matthew Alamon and Mario Colon are both from Yonkers.**

In addition to their academic excellence, the salutatorians and valedictorians will also be recognized for their notable extracurricular accomplishments as part of Stepinac’s highly competitive education program designed to help prepare young men for post-secondary success at college and in their future careers.

As of press time, the leading colleges and universities that the top students are considering are Harvard, Yale, Stanford, and MIT. For more information, visit www.Stpinac.org.

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**Yonkers Rising columnists Eric Schoen and Yonkers Council of PTAs honoree Sophia Wu. Photo by Nelson Font.**

**By Eric Schoen**

I had the good fortune to attend the Yonkers City Council of PTAs Scholarship Dinner last year. The purpose of the Yonkers Urban Center was to honor Sophia Wu, the quintessential PTA volunteer who many years ago her sons have graduated Yonkers Public Schools as well as volunteers in our schools.

I say “schools,” as both of them were in YP, so as to this date. So this YP is active in numerous schools assisting the PTAs, the Yonkers City Council of PTAs, and district administrators who make the schools better places for all children. I learned was to not only honor Sophia for her PTA work, but also honor her for her service to the Yonkers Public Library, an organization that I am a long-time member.

One of the scholarships that funds being raised was for the Paul M. Mitchell Scholarship. Other scholarships honored Nebel Bell, Miller Yo-

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**FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 3**

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**FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 8**
LANDLORD GETS CO POISONING

Six adults and five children from 27 Coyle Place were hospitalized recently as a result of the carbon monoxide poisoning caused by the fire at 27 Coyle Place. The fire was reported to the Yonkers Fire Department at 3:20 a.m. on April 19, and firefighters found high levels of carbon monoxide in the building. The fire was caused by an electrical fault, and the children and their parents were taken to hospital for treatment. The fire caused significant damage to the building, and the children were treated for carbon monoxide poisoning.

To Sharing Community

The Sharing Community is doing a tremendous job serving our hungry population in Yonkers, which provides daily meals and a food pantry for the homeless throughout Yonkers. This year, that cause was divided between all of the legislators to be given to an organization of their choice. Last year, Legislator Christopher John chose The Sharing Community, located at 1 Hudson St., Yonkers, and this year the Councilors to be given to an organization of their choice.

Every year, the chain of the Westchester County Board of Legislators holds a charity event for a specific cause. This year, the event was dedicated to the victims of Hurricane Dorian, which caused widespread destruction in the Bahamas.

“HARDCORE AFFORDABLE RENTS in Yonkers, and statewide, is devastating—and we’re doing all we can that our county government could do to combat this epidemic, it’s good to know that organizations like the Sharing Community are doing their part, and trust me,” said John. Where we’d like to be is to be able to provide them with a small token of our appreciation.”
Westchester Conservation Projects Get State Funding

County Executive George Latimer recently thanked Gov. Andrew Cuomo for awarding the Westchester Conservation organization a total of $50,000 in state grants.

The funds will be used to help residents reduce their environmental impact and promote sustainability. The projects will include initiatives such as conservation education, recycling programs, and habitat restoration.

Local communities are encouraged to participate in these projects to help protect the environment and promote a greener future.

For more information, contact the Westchester Conservation organization at info@westchesterconservation.org or visit their website at westchesterconservation.org.

On This Day in Yonkers History...

By Mary Horen
President & Yonkers Historical Society

Projects Get State Funding

May 6, 1944: Yonkers Scout Executive Andrew Ripley received a letter from Private Frederick Hartman of the 75th Division in the European Theater of Operations. Hartman was responsible for the Headquarters Company of the 75th Division in Yonkers from the New York Museum of Natural History.

May 11, 1944: Professor Lawrence S. Budzynski had landed with 25 men on one of the Manhattan Islands, where he discovered ruins of a hotel and made use of a map found in a Moroccan carpet sent to them by employee Pvt. Joseph Madonna.

May 12, 1944: Haiti News, the city's first truly Haitian newspaper, launched.

For more information on the Yonkers Historical Society or 177 years of Yonkers History, visit www.YonkersHistoric.org or @YonkersHistoric on Facebook and Twitter.
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You may have heard the phrase "a century of lunar photography and beyond". The Hudson River Museum is one of the only museums in the world to hold a collection of photography that has been beautifully curated and displayed. The exhibition features a variety of photographers who have been inspired by the moon, including some of the greatest names in photography such as Ansel Adams, Dorothea Lange, and Minor White. The exhibition is a must-see for anyone interested in photography or lunar photography.

On May 5 from 2 to 3:45 p.m., enjoy "Lunar Fashion: What Would You Wear on the Moon?" with artist and environmental activist Frank Weyl, a renowned photographer and writer. He will discuss how to dress for the moon, and how to deal with its extreme temperatures and low gravity.

On May 8 at 1:30 p.m., enjoy a docent-led program called "The Color of the Moon: Lunar Painting in American Art". This program explores how artists have interpreted the moon in their work, and how the moon has been used as a symbol in various cultures around the world.

On May 8 at 2 p.m., enjoy a guided tour of the exhibition "A Century of Lunar Photography and Beyond". The tour will be led by an experienced Docent, and will provide a detailed overview of the exhibition.

Starting May 8, the exhibition will be on display until September 1. Admission to the exhibition is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors, and $5 for students. The Hudson River Museum is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Sundays from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Don't miss your chance to see this beautiful and inspiring exhibition, and learn more about the history of lunar photography and the role of the moon in art and culture.
A.R. Gonzalez Paints
From Experience at YOHO

Surrealist Gonzalez Paints
From Experience at YOHO

If you can picture a thousand words, you should realize that a picture can say just as many. Surely, this is so for surrealist Jose Gonzalez, whose paintings represent his impressions of life, emotions, and the world we live in. For the viewer, a paint and a blank canvas will easily convey what it is most difficult to put into words.

Gonzalez joined YOHO earlier this fall after deciding that having a WOHO artist studio would be a vibrant realization of creativity. His experience at YOHO has been “amazing.”

“The atmosphere and creative energy is really good,” he said.

Currently working on a painting depicting an abstract natural landscape with Mount Rainier at the center. It’s one of many images — some calming like a sea, some more stimulating that have come to Gonzalez during recent local dreams and meditations.

Gonzalez’ subjects are often abstract cityscapes, with emphasis on his personal experience within the urban South Bronx environment. A lot of his creative drive derives from his early life in a fast-paced, and colorful, and successful community that he’s born from. Other common themes in his collection are tributes to street art, long-haired goddess-like nudes, and street performers. All of his paintings — whether they are of feminine or urban subjects — are vivid, colorful, and appear to almost ooze with energy.

While he does not claim to conform to any genre, Gonzalez’s work delivers a style that is recognizable and not like anything soon. His work has been featured at the “Urban Masterpieces” exhibition in Manhattan, the Blue Door Gallery and SOVO Craft Bar in Yonkers, and the Puerto Rican Artisans Exhibition and Fair in the Bronx. To learn more about Gonzalez, visit www.artbyjagonzalez.com.

YOHO will participate in Yonkers Arts Weekend May 18 and 19. For more information, visit yohoyogo.com.

Alzheimer’s Association
Hosts Educational Programs

The Alzheimer’s Association Hudson Valley Chapter will host a variety of educational programs in Westchester County throughout the months of May.

“Effective Communication Strategies” will be held from 5:30 to 6 p.m., Thursday, May 9, at the Town of Greenburgh Memorial Library, 1100 E. Main St., Scarsdale. This event will provide helpful tips for handling difficult dementia-related conversations, including going to the doctor, deciding to stop driving, and making legal and financial plans.

A program primarily for those who have a family member or a friend who is beginning to experience Alzheimer’s or another dementia. To register, call the Alzheimer’s Association at 914-249-5555 or call the library at 914-249-5262.

“Understanding Alzheimer’s and Dementia” will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., Tuesday, May 7, at the South White Plains Library, 185 Kings Ferry Road, Montrose. This session will discuss the impact of Alzheimer’s, the difference between dementia and Alzheimer’s disease, stages and risk factors, current research and treatments, as well as Alzheimer’s Association resources. To RSVP, call the library at 914-799-5554.

The Hudson Valley Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association serves families living with dementia in seven counties in New York, including Duchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester. To learn more about the programs and services offered locally, visit alz.org/hvünsters or call 877-372-3900.

Westchester Bike Sundaes are back, starting May 5.

Bicycle Sundays run through 10 municipalities and five legislative districts that include White Plains, Harrison, Greenburgh, Scarsdale, Eastchester, Tuckahoe and Yonkers. The course runs from the Westchester County Center in White Plains, south to Scarsdale on the Hudson, and a round trip is 13 miles. There are many points of entry and exit along the way.

The event is free to the public; parking is available at the County Center lot in White Plains for a fee of $1.

Residents and visitors may enjoy Bicycle Sundays on the following dates between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.: May 5, 12 and 19; June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and Sept. 15, 22 and 29. Next year’s — 2020 — Bicycle Sundays will be held every other week.

Bicycle Sunday is a beloved WOHO tradition since 1974. Since 2012, this program has been funded solely by WOHO’s Alzheimer’s Association and its partners. No public funding goes toward keeping this program going. Each year, more than 60,000 thousand cyclists, joggers and others enjoy the events and wooded scenery that make the route’s flat pathway a national historic landmark. The path winds alongside the wooded Bronx River Reservation.

For more information, visit www.thewpf.org/bicycle-sundays.
**Yonkers Rising**

**Frolicking City of the Yonkers**

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**Sonia** - SUPA forensics, SUPA English and CL

**Johnnie** - continues to do for the students of Yonkers Public Library

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**PAGE 8 - YONKERS RISING - FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019**

**Sierra Club, GNC Present**

"Zero Waste Leadership Summit"

The Sierra Club and GNC Present

"Zero Waste Leadership Summit" on

Wednesday, May 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at GNC, 3098 Border Road (Central Avenue, Salem)

Local student sustainability leaders join us for a panel discussion on "Zero Waste Leadership." The summit will give students an opportunity to present their projects to the peers on the panel and learn about their experiences in developing successful zero waste projects. RSVPs are recommended, but attendance is free of charge.

**Con Ed Continued from Page 1**

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