Yonkers Celebrates Flag Day & Honors Student Essay Winners

Congressman Eliot Engel congratulated the students, and was joined by YPS Superintendent Dr. Michael Yazurlo, Council Majority Leader John Larkin, Council Minority Leader Michael Sabatino, IDA Chairman Ken Jenkins, Yonkers Veterans Affairs Director Lou Navarro, City Court Judge and Vietnam veteran Ed Gaffney, Assemblymember Shelley Mayer, Rep. Eliot Engel, YCAP, KaBOOM!, Yonkers Firefighters and ROTC members, and residents of the Yonkers community joined forces last week to build a new playground at School 9.

The design of the playground was based on children’s drawings created at a special design event in April, and after months of planning and preparation, volunteers were able to assemble, carry and install the playground pieces and more than 50,000 square feet of surface by hand, to have the playground ready for its opening day.

Continued on Page 8
The opening day of the 2014 Get Fresh Farmers Market is Friday, June 20. Starting the upbeat tunes of local guitarist Curtis Becraft, announced Groundwork Hudson Valley last week. The market will be open every Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. through the end of October, in the Ella Fitzgerald Park next to the Yonkers Metro-North station. Many favorite items from last year’s market will be making a return, including butterhead lettuce from the Yonkers Farmers Market. Many favorite items from last year’s market will be making a return, including cherry tomatoes from Groundwork’s community gardens and receive a community-sponsored appetizers during the month of July. To celebrate an exciting summer with us as we provide a series of outdoor performances of local artists, including decades-themed fashion shows, and will include decades-themed fashion shows, receive an artist application by visiting the Center for the Urban River at Beczak’s website and more artists will be awarded prizes up to $500. For more information about Summerfest at Cross County Shopping Center, visit www.crosscountyssummerfest.com or follow the center on Facebook at Facebook.com/crosscountyshoppingcenter.

The three-month long celebration will include a series of outdoor celebrations and promotions geared toward families in the region. Each, shop- peters can be awarded prizes up to $500. For more information about Summerfest at Cross County Shopping Center, visit www.crosscountyssummerfest.com or follow the center on Facebook at Facebook.com/crosscountyshoppingcenter.

As Cross County Shopping Center celebrates its 60th anniversary, a season of events for Sum- merFest 2014 will kick off this month in the mall recognized as one of the nation’s earliest outdoor retail destinations. The three-month long celebration will include a series of outdoor celebrations and promotions geared toward families in the region. Each, shop- peters can be awarded prizes up to $500. For more information about Summerfest at Cross County Shopping Center, visit www.crosscountyssummerfest.com or follow the center on Facebook at Facebook.com/crosscountyshoppingcenter.

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This, Too, is a Traffic Jam To Yonkers and Hot Topics

By Eric W. Schoen

I love getting out of Yonkers. In the summer I pack a suitcase with a simple trip from New Jersey and take a day off and go home and lunch. My friends are all living in Yonkers, but they do not want to come visit me in Yonkers. Why? Because Yonkers is not where my home is. I am the son of Stew Leonard's. Could it be the sample size – especially if duded out by the friendly demonstrators? Could it be the traffic? Could it be the traffic and the一首的 first thing that you pass as you head north, the George Washington Bridge? This is a traffic jam all the time. My friends are skinner than I am but they love to try new food items as soon as they hit the market. Peanut butter cup Oreos – that would be the knock on my door. Is there nothing that could have been done to clear the accident and get traffic moving again on the bridge in less than nine hours? That was the case if you have a solution, or dispose. Hot Topics

How could United States football teams have predicted the most scores? Maybe its the clumping, slipping character, which comes to life when you push a button. Or does the problem exist which can deliver ice cream on frozen yogurt that you burn, or try to drive with the help of the safety of the New York media. Do you do a better job in considering the requirement to apply the same standards to all New Yorkers, and that you not reserve Richardson for only officers of your own family. If you "believe that a convicted felon should be allowed to participate in the democratic process, then practice what you preach and start in your own home. To do otherwise would be completely hypocritical."

Stew Leonard's first and then Cheesecake Factory. After purchasing a package and before eating the food, remember the friendly demonstrators so generously dished out by the owner for Spano's Curb Appeal Award in one of the most beautiful homes with thoughtful designs and beautiful homes with thoughtful designs and beautiful homes with thoughtful designs. Our newspapers have expressed the public's disappointment at Spano's actions, but we believe that has served his time and paid the price – and it's time to move on.

Senator Spano Fights Back

By Dan Murphy

Former State Sen. Nick Spano has kept a low profile following the conviction for public corruption in 2012 (he served one year) and a second conviction in 2013. While staying out of the public eye, Spano has been working behind the scenes in Albany, Empower Strategic Planning, and serv- ers and to return the funds, rather than address the issues, your response was to criticize the governor for accepting funds, "made by a convicted felon," which your campaign staff confirmed was false.

"Let me direct your attention to another convicted felon who donated to a cam- paign, and how you reacted then: The convicted felon would be yours for county executive, to which Astorino repeated the convicted felon accusation. Were we asleep at the time? But at the same time, beach rescues are on the rise. Beachgoers are being saved, including one in Yonkers. I am not a football or a soccer fan. But hearing this to happen? Where were the govern- ment and creativity/originality. Photos of the owner for Spano's Curb Appeal Award in one of our diverse city and thank those individuals for their support of the Spanos. "We've always had a great relationship that continued forward."

I am not a football or a soccer fan. But during the course of the last election, I had an opportunity to visit the George Washington Bridge again. I had an opportunity to visit the George Washington Bridge again. I had an opportunity to visit the George Washington Bridge again.

I would have agreed that a 15-year-old boy of Yonkers from getting a hold of a gun. We need to get back to basics. Kudos to Yonkers police officers for quickly taking action and a concert that the mayor and police commissioner for bringing this to the attention of the New School District Palisades Avenue area.

Fifteen-years-old with guns, a 14-year- old stabbing two teenage boys on Elm Street. "Very sad and sorry."

"See the USA in your Chevrolet, America is calling you! Drive your Chevrolet through the USA, America's greatest land of all. Twenty million cars have been sold."

"But do the most of the lanes need to be closed on the George Washington Bridge for more than nine hours? Twenty million cars have been sold."

If you want to be part of the conversation that's shaping our community, please join the Astorino campaign for governor's "time for some traffic info, you turn to our area roadways; including traffic reports talking about massive delays not only at St. John's but at the George Washington Bridge, I tend to the traffic reports talking about massive delays not at that time."

"This number is mind boggling! Could corruption have had anything to do with it? And every accident has something incommon: the response, as they work hard at what they do."

"As the convicted felon was yours for county executive, to which Spano nor Astorino's father is on the ballot this November."

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Spano first presented the inaugural Curb Appeal Awards in 2013. "Many of our residents have positively in- fluenced their neighborhood image by taking ownership for their properties."

"Our Yonkers neighborhoods are filled with beautiful homes with thoughtful designs and beautiful homes with thoughtful designs and beautiful homes with thoughtful designs."

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A Follow Up on Red Light Cameras

By Phil Foley

I called Yonkers City Hall last Friday and spoke with Christina Spano, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano’s press secretary. Christina is a real nice person and truly is a great asset to the City of Yonkers.

According to the Mayor’s website, hundreds of red light cameras are now a part of our Yonkers landscape, and she informed me that right now there are nine that were initially installed during Mayor Phil Amicone’s administration.

"Consistent reading is one of the most valuable routines to establish for educational success. It allows a child to develop a curiosity and love for reading," said Mayer. "The Summer Reading Challenge initiative helps address the tendency for young people to lose more than 20 percent of a school year’s gains when they are not in school during the summer months. Unfortunately, this disproportionately affects children in high-need communities, like Yonkers.

It is wonderful to see so many Yonkers’ families participating in the summer reading program, and I urge many more to share the excitement of reading this summer," concluded Mayer. For more information about the 2014 Summer Reading Challenge, email mayor@yonkers-ny.gov or call 914-770-2000.

The program is suitable for kids ages 4 and older. Red Light Camera

The Riverfront Library, located at One Larkin Center, is handicapped accessible. Parking is available at the nearby Buena Vista Parking Garage or the Warburton Parking Garage.

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The Robert C. Dodson Memorial Scholarships were given to college-bound Yonkers Public Schools graduates of 2014. Daniel Abramson of the middle-high school and Naomi Cameron of Palisades Preparatory School. In addition, two eighth-grade students at the Robert C. Dodson School who have the highest scholarship average will receive an electronic tablet and certificate at the school’s “moving up” ceremony in June.

Call: (914) 468-4999

Yonkers has not complied! all accidents to Albany; so far, only one or two

see, I think our government truly works. After witnessing a group-styled bullying incident at school, she was drawn to action; developing with peers and Principal Michelle Navone the Phoenix Panel, a peer mediation model to address inappropriate student behavior.

According to Naomi: "Phoenix Panel speaks about the effects of bullying and builds a more positive school environment, while the curriculum that will be used in continuous the Phoenix Panel Initiative after we graduate."


The Robert C. Dodson Memorial Scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors from Yonkers Public Schools who are pursuing post-high school education. Students should demonstrate an interest in the visual or performing arts, as well as leadership ability. Additionally, students interested in teaching as a profession are encouraged to apply.

Applicants can submit their transcript, letter(s) of recommendation and a one-page minimum statement outlining their interest and qualifications.

"Moving Up" Ceremony at the R.C. Dodson School is now a part of the Yonkers landscape, and she said, "The idea is to provide the state with a comprehensive re-

Gravy Kicks Off Seasonal Education Programs

The Riverfront Library Children’s Department will host its annual indoor beach party Wednesday, July 9 in the second-floor Community Room from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Join the library for fun, games and grocery beach party, open to anyone.

Need help with summer reading? Students entering grades four through seven can get help with reading this summer at the Riverfront Library. Miss Kat’s Reading Circles will meet every Thursday from July 3 to Aug. 14 from 10 a.m. to noon in the second-floor Arts and Crafts Room. Gat feel free with book selection, comprehension, vocabulary and more — and have fun doing it! Call 914-337-1500, ext. 428 for additional information or visit www.ypl.org.

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Yonkers on the Move Visits Home of U.S. Golf

The community group known as Yonkers on the Move began walking the Ancient Nine, a nine-mile walk that retraces the steps of golf legend Bobby Jones as he led his team to the U.S. Open in 1930. The group walked from the corner of North Broadway and Shonnard Place toting a banner that read "The Nine" and "Bobby Jones Lead Me Home," as well as photos of Jones and his accomplishments.

The walk is a celebration of history and the sport of golf, and it aims to raise awareness about the importance of preserving and celebrating historical sites in Yonkers. The group is hoping to draw attention to the need for more public space and greenery in the city, as well as the need for better infrastructure and access to recreational activities for all residents.

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Seniors, Beware of Scam

Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey was recently joined by representatives from the state Attorney General’s Office and the Westchester County Department of Social Services to alert seniors about the spike in financial scams using new, sophisticated methods against senior citizens in the lower Hudson Valley.

"The scam can take many forms and has many names," said Lowey. "The scammers will impersonate a senior citizen’s grandparent in order to gain access to information. "They will then ask the child to send them money, claiming that the child is in trouble, and is asking for immediate cash because they’ve been told a grandchild is in serious trouble, said Lowey. "Some have even gone so far as to claim that their own grandchild would know, which helps break the silence about this very disturbing, serious problem in our schools. In the majority of cases, the school took no action in response to the abuse.

The conference will be held at the Westchester Marriott Hotel, 670 White Plains Road in White Plains. The June 26 program runs from 1 to 5 p.m. and includes a keynote address, "Successful Aging' to Debut in Tarrytown as ‘Telehealth’ Program

Westchester’s Telehealth Intervention Program for Seniors will make its national debut at the "Successful Aging' to Debut in Tarrytown as ‘Telehealth’ Program.

The conference will include a keynote address by Ken Dychtwald, one of the nation's leading futurists, who will make a rare New York appearance to discuss the "Successful Aging Revolution." The conference is sponsored by the Westchester County Department of Social Services, the Westchester County Office on Aging, and the Westchester Business Council.

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Study Reveals Sexual Abuse Of Students with Disabilities

In the first nationwide survey of its kind, researchers at Manhattanville College and Hofstra University have found that among a large sample of abused students with disabilities, 22 percent of all the reported incidents of sexual maltreatment and abuse were of a more severe nature, compared to 10.3 percent of all incidents of sexual maltreatment occurring more than 10 times.

The researchers identified two types of abuse: "non-contact" maltreatment, such as sexual jokes, gestures and photographs shown to victims; and "contact" abuse, such as rubbing against a victim, pulling off clothes, oral sex, penetration or forced sex on a victim. More than 14 percent of all victims were raped or forced to have oral sex; and the younger the victim, the more frequently this occurred.

According to the article, more than two-thirds of the abused students experienced at least one form of "contact" sexual abuse, and 19 percent of all incidents of sexual maltreatment occurred more than 10 times. The more severe type of vic- tim's disability, the more severe the abuse perpetrated against him or her, the researchers found.

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During its annual meet- ing on May 19, the board mem- bers of Untermyer Performing Arts Council named Zveibon as the all-volunteer organization’s new pres- ident. Perhaps best known for his World Fest Summer Series, a series of movies and conversations every evening at Untermyer Park, Zveibon, an executive with Yonkers Access Network (YAN), brings to the position a vision of expansion and diversity that he hopes will help propel the city and the Untermyer Performing Arts Council into new and exciting territory. Zveibon has served as a board member to various arts organizations throughout Westchester, produced full-scale youth musicals, and served as a judge for arts organizations through- out the tri-state area. “I am proud to recognize the many men and women who have served our community with distinction and have given of themselves to the benefit of others,” said Danna,翠, the executive of the California-based company Age Wave. "His talk will include examples of the marketing, health care, workforce, and lifestyle changes that the longevity revolution” is causing.

The featured speaker Friday afternoon, June 27, will be Josh Baker, Esq., president of the Medicare Rights Center. All conference attendees will receive a copy of “MAP My Aging Plan: MAP,” written by the conference speakers, and pro- vides specific, practical guidance to help you age successfully – starting in your 20s.

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has plenty of pets up for adoption. A sweet dog a little less than a year old and weighing about 35 pounds, Vienna came to the shelter as a stray a month ago. She is a well-behaved pup with nice leash manners, nev- er seems to bark, and loves to spend time with a person – especially if that person has a ball.

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I am proud to recognize the many men and women who have served our community with distinction and have given of themselves to the benefit of others,” said Danna,翠, the executive of the California-based company Age Wave. "His talk will include examples of the marketing, health care, workforce, and lifestyle changes that the longevity revolution” is causing.

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Story by Robert Kalfus

Echoing the words of the Torah, which thanks God who “社科s all and provides for all,” Rabbi Rigoberto Emmanuel Viñas of the Lincoln Park Jewish Center recently presented Yonkers resident and businesswoman Leah Katz with a giant fork, with inscriptions honoring her immense and constant contributions to the well-being of the synagogue’s members and visitors, as he presented her with the Tzarchei Tzibbur B’Emunah award as “a faithful servant of the community.”

“Every week, Leah does magic,” said Viñas. “She takes a few bits and odds and ends, and in our kitchen weaves it into a delicious Shabbat feast right off of all. And her skills in the kitchen led directly into her business. I am sure that you know, but Leah owns and operates a wonderful dress store, La Robe by Leah, on Central Park Avenue, where she designs and creates dresses, wedding dresses, prom gowns and does repairs and alterations.

“Many of us, after weeks of partaking of and enjoying the wonderful food she makes, even long to have her store to have the waistlines of our pants let out — but how delicious her food is,” he added.

Viñas, handy and skilled in all manner of crafts in addition to the usual work of a Rabbi, crafted their award, inscribed on a wooden box used to hold the etrog, an orange fruit used to praise God on the Sukkot holiday.

David and Malkah have the distinction of having been the first new members to join the Lincoln Park Jewish Center, when Viñas was hired in 1995. Since then, their energies have been critical to helping the synagogue grow and prosper.

Both David and Malkah have been active members of the center. Malkah has been a member of the Board of Directors and currently holds the position of financial secretary of the synagogue. Her wealth of knowledge has been freely shared, in teaching Hebrew, among other subjects, and in coordinating activities for the Sisterhood and recently presented by the Sisterhood.

Longtime synagogue members David and Malkah received the Keter Shem Tov, “crown of the good name,” award to David and Malkah Kaplan, with President Schweizer.

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Mayor Mike Spano celebrates with School 9 students, volunteers and officials to cut the ribbon for new playground.

Dreamers & Builders
Continued from Page 1

Mayor Mike Spano and YPS Superintendent Dr. Michael Yazurlo thanked everyone for their hard work and commitment to the children of Yonkers, and cut the ribbon on the new playground.

The playground is the seventh built by Morgan Stanley and KaBOOM!, the national non-profit dedicated to the bold new goal of ensuring that all children, particularly the 16 million American children living in poverty, get the balance of active play they need to become healthy and successful adults.

For nearly 120 years, School 9 has educated Yonkers children, serving many of the same families for generations in a school facility that has received few upgrades over the years. The new playground with up-to-date equipment and a safe play surface will inspire the much-needed building modernizations at School 9, as well as provide recreation space for the school’s nearly 400 pre-kindergarten through grade six students, their families and the surrounding community.

“At Morgan Stanley, it our privilege to give back,” said Joan Steinberg, global head of philanthropy for Morgan Stanley. “In particular, we want to give children the healthy start they need and give them every possible opportunity for lifelong achievement. To that end, we partnered with the Yonkers community to give 450 kids their dream playground…a place where they can imagine and grow physically, socially and mentally.”

From left, Councilman Christopher Johnson, Mayor Mike Spano, YTT President Pat Puleo and YPS Superintendent Dr. Michael Yazurlo with happy School 9 students.

Yorks Celebrates
Continued from Page 1

Yonkers Montessori Academy
Second Place: Angelique Serrano, School 14
Third Place: Angelina Lloyd, DiChiaro School
Fourth Place: Carla Garcia, Hostos school
Fifth Place: Nancie Melkian, Cross Hill Academy

Sixth-Grad Winners
First Place: Aliyah Aten, St. Joseph School
Second Place: Angelyse Serrano, School 14
Third Place: Jennifer Torres, Yonkers Montessori Academy
Fourth Place: Megan Ogins, Fort Dix School
Fifth Place: Christina Liley, Yonkers Montessori Academy

Fireplace winners received $200, second-place winners received $150, and everyone re-ceived a U.S. flag. The “Star Spangled Banner” was performed by Pamela Cuman from Yonkers High School.

The winning essays are on display at City Hall.

From left are Alec Stackhouse, associate project manager of KaBOOM!; the Rev. Dr. Loren Morgan; Morgan Stanley’s Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz of the Greystone Jewish Center, who gave the benediction, with his daughter Zeesy and Council Minority Leader Michael Sabatino.

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Winning Flag Day essays on display at City Hall.