Yonkers’ Oldest Pharmacy Celebrates 118 Years

By Phil Foley

On Melcor Avenue in the middle of the “Irish Miracle Mile,” stands the Pharmacy in Yonkers. It has been known for 118 years as “Merk’s Chemists,” located at 973 Melcor Ave. Right up the block from another long-time neighbor, Palmer Hardware, and right next to that icon, Italian bakery, Anna Artuso’s Pastry Shop – and the Butlerch’s Fancy, too.

Founded in 1896 by chemist Herman Merk, who operated it until he retired to Florida in 1958, this store has stood the test of time. The reason it is still here is because of the personal attention such customer gets from a very professional, highly-trained staff that always greets visitors with a friendly smile and a warm hello.

The customer is always priority number one at Merk’s. That is why the people of Yonkers and Woodlawn keep going back – generation after generation!

Since 1895, Nick Verlizzo has owned and operated Merk’s.

A graduate of Cardinal Hayes High School in the Bronx, he spent time in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1968 to 1972, later getting his pharmacy degree from the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy. He bought the business some 30 years ago.

Verlizzo is a member of the Melcor Ave.

Continued on Page 2

An Exceptional Graduation

From left are Police Officer Christopher Velez with Ex, Lt. Mark Mendelson, Capt. Thomas Barnett (commanding officer of the Emergency Services Unit), Police Officer Brian Devitt and Lisa Pierson.

EX, a German shepherd, is the Yonkers Police Department’s new K-9 unit. EX was purchased through monies raised by the Exchange Club of Yonkers.

EX had to be trained in obedience, agility, searching and evidence recovery, suspect searches, searching for missing persons, and criminal apprehension.

EX has to be trained specifically for narcotics work, said Exchange Club President Patricia Pierson.

“We want EX to now will be trained for narcotics work,” said Exchange Club President Patricia Pierson.

Lock – you take your basic required courses first and then move onto your major.”

EX could have gone to work with the bomb squad but his “major” will be narcotics inves-

tigation.

EX and his partner, Police Officer Chris Velez, have been invited to attend the next Exchange Club of Yonkers meeting July 25.

‘Gentle Giant’ Col. Herbert Blum; Yonkers’ Most Decorated Vet.

By Robert Kalfus

Yonkers’ most decorated combat vet, Col. Herbert Blum, was remembered last month at the Mount Hope Cemetery in Hastings-On-Hudson by friends, family and fellow combat-veteran.

Col. Blum was a retired civil engineer and a World War II veteran who served with the Fighting 50th Infantry Division in Italy, Germany, France and North Africa. He is the recipient of the Purple Heart with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Silver Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star and two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters.

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Continued on Page 2

Visitors to Science Barge Arrive Hungry for Knowledge

By Yveta Klimenko

The Science Barge has been a popular destination for visitors who are happy to learn about sustainable farming – and just plain hungry.

A wide variety of groups, including students, educators, business owners and other local residents, have gone aboard for a tour, and then fanned out across Yonkers in search of a good meal.

Early in June, Laura Hainsworth, senior director of global research and development nutrition at PepsiCo, along with 16 staff members, paid a visit to the barge on the day of the park. PepsiCo has recently formed the Global Nutrition Group, a division of the barge’s CEO Dr. Mohni Akil; it may be “well-equipped to deliver authenti-

cally nutritious products advantaged by science in an accessible and affordable way to consumers.”

Hainsworth is on product, grantees and skylers in initiative, the PepsiCo employees went to the barge to educate themselves on how to grow veg-

teables hydroponically and is witness, in Science Academy.

The camp was taught by members of the Yonkers Police Athletic League, which won the All-Star Rookie Team against Breast Cancer.

The Science Barge visitor – and Pepsi employee – takes a ride on a Con Ed energy bike.

Mayor Mike Spano with YMA grad Marlene Pichardo.

Congratulations to Mayor’s Award recipi-

ten, Yonkers Montessori Academy graduating senior Marlene Pichardo.

Marlene is a student at the Academy, All-League soccer player and mentor at the Nepperhan Community Center. She also helped organize YMA’s Heroes and Leaders Program, the Walk

Against Breast Cancer. Homecoming, a teacher-

student basketball game and carnival.

With the help of the $2,500 Mayor’s Award, scholarship, Marlene is headed to Manhattan College.

Special thanks to Yonkers Contracting for sponsoring the award once again this year.

Yonkers PAL Robotics Camp Exercises the Mind


The Yonkers Police Athletic League hosted a robotics camp July 7 through July 11 at the PAL Building on North Broadway, de-

signed to introduce children age 10 to 15 to the exciting world of PAL science and engineering through the construction of a fully-function-

ing – and just plain hungry.

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The camp was taught by members of the Yonkers High School Robotics Team, which won the All-Star Rookie Team Award and competed in St. Louis in the First Robotics National Competition. The PAL was one of the team’s sponsors.

The camp was free of charge for its 12 camps of kids and girls, and taught students matters ranging from the mechanics and de-

sign of the robot, to its wiring and programming.

One might wonder why the PAL, with
**Homework Help for Kids**

The North Yonkers Preservation and Development Corporation will offer a homework help after-school program for children ages five to 12 on Monday through Friday, 3 to 5:45 p.m. through Friday.

For September enrollment, call today; enrollment is limited to 20 children.

For more information, call 914-779-7319.

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**Yarn Bombing**

"Yarn bombing" is a playful form of street art in which a person decorates an existing inanimate object with knitted or crocheted fiber. The objects can range from a parking meter to a public art installation. This form of art is a celebration of fiber and the resources we use to make everyday items more beautiful.

The "yarn bombing" project is inspired by the Hudson River Museum’s latest exhibit by Seattle-based artist Mandy Greer, who creates visionary worlds from mythology, fairy tales and the mundane and magic of everyday life.

Yarn bomb "soloist" Donna Davis. A yarn bomb "soloist" is an artist who creates "yarn bombs" in public spaces such as streets or parks.

The "yarn bombing" project is designed to promote the Hudson River Museum’s downtown Yonkers location, featuring knit and crochet art created by Donna Davis. The project is inspired by Seattle-based artist Mandy Greer, who creates visionary worlds from mythology, fairy tales and the mundane and magic of everyday life.

Yarn bomb "soloist" Donna Davis.

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**Honda River Museum**

The Hudson River Museum is home to a variety of art exhibits and educational programs. The museum is open to the public and offers a variety of activities for all ages. For more information, visit their website at hudsonrivermuseum.org.
Who is she, a real-life love-struck, low-maintenance dog who would be a great addition to any family. Boo is fond of other dogs, but not a fan of cats. She is a well house-trained, low-maintenance pet with a very expressive face and always manages to get inside the hearts of those she meets. Boo was surrendered to the shelter when her owners moved to a home that was not pet friendly. She is about 7 or 8 years old and 30 to 40 pounds, and is a light brown, brindle and white color. She is a staff and volunteer favorite, as she has a very expressive face and always manages to get on our hearts when a volunteer is coming to take her for a walk. She dances all around her kennel in anticipation!

Bring Boo Home Today!

Yonkers Animal Shelter has plenty of pets available for adoption. Boo is available at the shelter when her owners moved to a home that was not pet friendly. She is about 7 or 8 years old and 30 to 40 pounds, and is a light brown, brindle and white color. She is a staff and volunteer favorite, as she has a very expressive face and always manages to get on our hearts when a volunteer is coming to take her for a walk. She dances all around her kennel in anticipation!

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2014 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 3

This, Too, is Summer

By Eric W. Schoen

Hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill. Garden- filled with gorgeous flowers. Swimming and splashing around in outdoor pools. The joys of summer!

Like you, I have and will attend numerous outdoor events this summer—both public and at the homes of friends and relatives. There is always someone complaining that they are too hot or too humid for any kind of outdoor adventure. I can’t recall when I have not shopped down a cherry aisle (although I was born on the same day as George Washington), and am far from being an outdoor enthusiast.

Fatigue, heat, humidity, and too many of the classic symptoms. I was hospitalized and spent time on a hospital ward with the Yonkers Exchange Club of Yonkers. I was diagnosed with Lyme disease, a bacterium that travels through the tick’s bite to enter your bloodstream and cause pain.

I learned some years ago that we all need to be aware of the potential dangers of the Lyme bacterium. I was diagnosed with Lyme disease, a bacterium that travels through the tick’s bite to enter your bloodstream and cause pain.

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Bring Boo Home Today!

Yonkers Animal Shelter has plenty of pets available for adoption. Boo is instantaneously a family member. The techniques I have outlined work for me and hopefully they will keep you bug free this summer.

As for food, keep your cooking area clean, scented soaps for your hand, and the use of cross-contamination, use a meat thermometer to make sure foods are cooked to the proper temperature, and chill leftovers to avoid bacteria growth. More information on food safety can be obtained at www.FoodSafety.gov. Sadly, more than 200 children die in backyard drowning pools each year. As a swimmer, I have seen way too many pets, children, and adults, and I warn others about the need for proper supervision and training.

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Bring Boo Home Today!
Hispanic Fest to Bring Fun & Games to Kensico

Join the fun and enjoy the rich culture and Latin traditions at the Hispanic Heritage Festival on Saturday, July 26, 2014, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla. In its 32nd year, the event will bring together more than 100 vendors, Latin artists and performers, as well as Latin-speaking countries, attracting up to 15,000 people.

Festival highlights include music, dance, a children’s area, a Latin food village, and special activities just for children. Festival-goers can also enjoy a food court, arts and crafts, real estate closings, and a wine auction benefitting the American Cancer Society.

A True Example of the ‘Dark Ages’

I was speaking a couple of months ago with a man who has worked as a porter in Larchmont for many years. He said, “This is an agro-“thing” are in this society with all of theShortly after Hurricane Irene hit less than five years ago, 850 homes in Verplanck were inspected and 650 were found to meet the Smart Track standard. Earth was struck by a savage and insane lust for money and greed—by a group of men and women who participated in college courses.”

“Hurricane Irene hit less than five years ago, and today that same hurricane is striking and devastating homes in Verplanck. Twenty percent of all the homes met the standard to save their cars. Bowman’s “double-win for Brooklands,” said ZBA President Kathy Rose, a resident since 2006. “We were worried the whole time. ‘We’re not maintaining an office. If no recovery, no fees or costs are charged, unless prohibited by State Law or Rule.’
Swimming Safety Advice From the Health Department

If your summer plans include a trip to a beach or pool, County pools and beaches are open for business. Expect it to be solved. This is the second incident of this kind reported on the official website of the City of Yonkers. The police are still investigating the case.

The council, initiated by national organizations such as the American Red Cross and the National Safety Council, has established a set of guidelines to ensure the safety of children and adults in and around water.

The guidelines include:

1. Never swim alone. Always swim with a buddy, and designate a water watcher to supervise the swimmers.
2. Learn how to swim: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 5 children aged 1 and 4 years old cannot swim.
3. Teach your children how to swim: Children aged 1 to 4 are at highest risk of drowning, and 70% of children aged 5 and 40% of children aged 5 to 14 cannot swim.
4. Be aware of the swimming conditions: Check the water temperature and depth before entering the water.
5. Avoid alcohol and drugs: Alcohol and drugs can impair judgment and reaction times, making it difficult to swim.
6. Know your limits: Don't swim or dive if you are too tired or too weak.
7. Use proper flotation devices: Pool floats, inner tubes, and noodles are recommended for children and adults.
8. Learn how to perform CPR on children and adults.
9. Ask your pool service provider about drain covers and other safety measures.
10. Avoid swimming in areas marked 'closed,' and it's always good to remind children and adults of the risks.

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PAGE 6 - YONKERS RISING - FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2014

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE

STEIN, WIENER AND ROTH, L.L.P., ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment Index # 59489/2012

Section 3 Block 3137 Lot 30-31

AVENUE A/K/A 70 CHELSEA PLACE, YONKERS, NY 10710.

DATE: July 11, 2014

FILE #: INDY FF 54343

PLLC, a domestic PLLC, filed Notice of formation of Empire

1) against

OneWest Bank, FSB,

against

Plaintiff

ONEWEST BANK, FSB,

NOTICE OF SALE

Plaintiff

ONEWEST BANK, FSB,

NOTICE OF SALE

Plaintiff

ONEWEST BANK, FSB,

NOTICE OF SALE

Plaintiff

ONEWEST BANK, FSB,

NOTICE OF SALE

Plaintiff

ONEWEST BANK, FSB,

NOTICE OF SALE

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NOTICE OF SALE

Plaintiff

ONEWEST BANK, FSB,
United Hebrew Celebrates 95 Years of Aging Services

Established in 1919 in New Rochelle for housing older adults, United Hebrew marietta milestones in a history of service, caring and community. United Hebrew is celebrating its 95th anniversary in 2014, having evolved from a wood-frame cottage to a 270-bed facility with private rooms for seniors. Today, United Hebrew is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing elder care, housing older adults, United Hebrew marks a milestone in a history of service, caring and community and to plan for new initiatives in the future. United Hebrew recently implemented new programmatic initiatives – a Hospice and Palliative Care Program, a secure Alzheimer’s/dementia unit and a Care Management Program. In addition, United Hebrew recently hosted more than 100 people, including board members, staff, dignitaries, residents and their families, for a special anniversary program. At that event, Rita Maiti, president and CEO of United Hebrew, commented “The end of our first century of service marks a new beginning... we are growing, bringing compassion to care more people throughout the tri-state area. We strive, we seek and our possibilities are endless.”

The day of the event's program started from the SONA College Pipe Band, the unveiling of a quilt of compassion, and appearances by community leaders, including New Rochelle Mayor Noah Bramson and Westchester County Legislator James Macario. Ruiz. Ruiz commented “Today is not just simple longevity that we celebrate. More significant is our 95 years of commitment to compassionate care today, tomorrow and in years to come,” said Malcolm residents, who are among the first group of 10 residents of United Hebrew. He added that he has been the organization grow in size, yet never waver in its mission, which is to provide special attention for each resident and employee. Established in 1919, United Hebrew initially served nine residents, sponsored by the McLean. Since then, it has continued to expand its offerings to the community, adding a long-term home health program and 24/7 Home Health Care services.

United Hebrew recently expanded with the opening of William S. Thomas Assisted Living – The Beverly and Alfred J. Green Pavilion, providing a supervised setting offering enhanced services and amenities. William S. Thomas has the highest form of licensure by New York State Department of Health. In June 2009, United Hebrew opened The Louis Skalet Pavilion, a new state-of-the-art nursing and rehabilitation center with private rooms in a more resident-centered environment. The short-term rehabilitation suite is equipped with Bari Rehabilitation Hospital professional

United Hebrew is located at 391 Pelham Road. For more information, please contact Grace Ferri at 914-632-2804, ext. 1190, gferri@uhs.org or visit www.uhs.org.

Legislators Praise Parent Reminder Campaigns

Summer is a great time to prepare for your children’s next school year with upcoming clinics offering free immunizations for students and parents. The dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, July 23 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Thursday, August 7 from 1 to 5 p.m.
- Thursday, August 14 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Thursday, August 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 2 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 9 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 16 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- For more information, visit www.health.doe.ny.gov.

Free Water Safety Lessons Available at FDR State Park

The pool at Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park, the largest pool operated by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, is hosting four “Water Fun in the Sun” lessons for children Saturdays and Sundays.

The lessons focus on basic water and pool safety, and will be offered to two sessions from 11 to 11:45am or noon to 12:45pm. Parents who would like their children to participate can bring them to the reality pool first in order to sign up for a session, which are limited to 20 participants to sign up at each session in their interest on 10 participants.

“This program is a great opportunity for young people to learn to be safe in, and around the water so that they can be safe when enjoying a pool or other aquatic facilities,” said Ron Veg- willard, water safety coordinator for New York State Parks’ Aquatic Region. Lessons will cover a variety of topics, including general aquatic safety, including jumping and diving safety, holding breath and floating techniques, swimming fundamental techniques, such as swimming and floating, and proper usage of personal flotation devices. Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park is located at 2507 Compo Road, Westport. For more information, visit www.cnparks.org.

Yonkers’ Oldest Restaurants

Yonkers’ Oldest Restaurants

Some restaurants have been in business for more than 100 years, offering a unique dining experience to both locals and tourists. One of these restaurants is the McLean Avenue Tavern, located at 1430 McLean Avenue. This restaurant has been in operation since 1912 and has been a local favorite for generations. It offers classic American fare, with a menu that includes a variety of dishes such as the McLean Avenue Burger, McLean Avenue Fries, and McLean Avenue Ribs. The McLean Avenue Tavern is open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and is known for its friendly service and cozy atmosphere. It is located at 1430 McLean Avenue, a short walk from the McLean Avenue Metro North station.

For more information, visit www.mcleanavenue.com.

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"Dad also loved his family, his wife, children and grandchildren – he loved his country, served in the Marine Corps with the 9th Marines, and may you rest in peace and may your memory live on among the people of Yonkers.

"The life of Col. Herbert Blum has been an inspiration to all of us, as he has accomplished so much. His dedication to his country and his community is an example for all of us to follow."

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"The next big step for anyone with a game idea is to get it out of the prototype stage. Sami and Eric have been working on developing their game for several months now, and they are excited to bring it to the market."

"This is his first completed programmed project. We are proud of Sami and Eric for their hard work and dedication and we look forward to seeing what they come up with in the future."
Visitors to Science
Continued from Page 1

The communities are also encouraged to volunteer with the team. Eileen Gerard, team captain Theodore Kim, Samuel, Fernando Paulino, Hillary Frank and Deryn Hurst, who will be in the sixth grade at PEARLS in September, said this was her first experience participating in any of the programs. "When the idea was brought to the Board of Directors, it was to see if the way to help expand PAL’s outreach to the children of Yonkers,” Howard Berman, a member of the Board of Directors, said he came up with the idea of a robotics camp and designed its curriculum, because "we wanted to show children how fun science and technology can become engaged and take advantage of its earlier involvement. He also mentioned the deadlines set up for this project and the ramifications if the deadlines are not met.

Meanwhile, there has been a steady stream of walk-on visitors on weekends when, from noon to 6 p.m., the barge is open to the public. Families, school adults and teens have toured the gang plank in the form to fix it for blue code, visit the greenhouse, examine the energy systems and relax on the riverfront. This year, the barge is once again hosting the popular Arts and Science Sundays, a 15-week environmental education program funded by the Junior League of Bronxville. Starting this month and running every Sunday from 2 to 7 p.m., this program exposes children and their families to environmental issues by offering games and activities related to nutrition, botany, the Hudson River and renewable energy. All are welcome.

On July 22, in celebration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, the barge will present “Pi Day” with an open house and free tour for the public. The event will take place from 11 to 12:30 p.m. This summer, for the first time, Jennifer Sloan, director of education on the barge, will offer Science Barge Explorers Camp, from June 23 to August 18. On Fri., July 18, 2014 - YONKERS RISING - PAGE 9

Yonkers PAL
Continued from Page 1

name explicitly states that its priorities lie in the Yonkers community. Chef Peter Kelly of X20 was together late in May when Groundwork hosted the 60 teachers split up across downtown Yonkers leading the tours.

To the Yonkers High School interns who were co-teaching at Donck Park. The participants were so impressed of the Science Barge and the daylighted Van der donk Park. The participants were so impressed of the Science Barge and the daylighted Van der Waterfront. The participants were so impressed of the Science Barge and the daylighted Van der Waterfront. The participants were so impressed of the Science Barge and the daylighted Van der Waterfront.

“Captain” Bob Walters welcomes staff members from PepsiCo’s nutrition development department aboard the Science Barge. It is the hope of Yonkers PAL that by providing more diverse and new technology-based programs, more children of Yonkers can become engaged and take advantage of its programs.
Summer Fun in Yonkers: Concerts & Movies Downtown

Band leader Orange Julius on drums.

Cocomama at the HRM Amphitheater.

A large crowd on the Yonkers Pier, enjoying the cool breeze and great music.

City Councilman Christopher Johnson and Parks Department Commissioner Yvette Harts-dale at the movie night.

The Downtown BID movie night showing of “Despicable Me 2” was well attended.

Photos by Donna Davis

The Yonkers Downtown Waterfront Business Improvement District began its summer movie and concert series last week, when “Despicable Me 2” kicked off BID’s Tuesday night movie on July 8, with a 90-foot inflatable screen and free popcorn from United Healthcare.

Saturday night movies on July 8, with a 30-foot inflatable "Despicable Me 2" kicked off BID’s Tuesday night movie series last week, when "Despicable Me 2" was well attended.

The Downtown BID movie night showing of “Despicable Me 2” was well attended.

Two recent concerts along the Yonkers Riverfront highlighted DWBID’s and Hudson River Museum’s summer offerings. It was a full house at the Yonkers Pier for BID’s Friday night concert series, featuring a group of young musicians led by 15-year-old drummer Orange Julius and the Big Beat Band, comprised of high school students. This is the new generation to carry on the tradition that is American jazz and blues. The 2013 Yonkers Idol, Daphne Thompson, joined them onstage to sing “Maybe This Time” from the musical “Cabaret.”

At the Hudson River Museum Amphitheater, the Salsa band Cocomama performed for a rousing 90-minute set that had the crowd dancing in the aisles and down by the stage.

For more information on summer events in downtown Yonkers, visit www.DWBID.com, and for more information on the Hudson River Museum and its amphitheater, visit www.HRM.org.

The Downtown BID and Domino Sugar Presents

Movies on Main Street

Tuesday Nights
Free Family Movies in Downtown Yonkers
Movies start at Brookes
86 Main Street
July 8
Despicable Me 2
July 15
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2
July 22
The Avengers
July 29
The Last Dragon
August 5
Rain Date

RIVERWALK WEDNESDAYS FREE MUSIC SERIES
2014 LINE UP

July 9th
Milo Hayama Ensemble
7:30-7:00pm
Van Der Donck Park
Larkin Plaza

PARK OFFICE
www.YonkersDowntown.com

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Permanent Teeth In 1 Day!
Dental Implants
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Limited Offer
Not valid with other offers or prior services. Offer expires 8/8/14.

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WBDID Director Daniel Lipka greeted the crowd, along with Councilman Christopher Johnson and Parks Commissioner Yvette Hartsdale.

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