Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Comes to City of Yonkers

By Dan Murphy

At a time when we frequently see the same chains of coffee shop, retailer or electronics store in Yonkers and White Plains, it is good to see something new and different opening in the neighborhood. Mayor Mike Spano welcomed Mayor Mike Spano, CEO and founder of Alamo Drafthouse Tim League, and Councilman John Cimino to the ribbon cutting on Monday when the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema held its grand opening. Called the “coolest theater in the world,” Alamo Drafthouse Cinema combines dinner and a movie.

Two Yorkers Development Projects Move Forward

The Yonkers Industrial Development Agency last week gave final approval to the Rising development to restore several buildings in downtown Yonkers, as well as final go-ahead for two residential townhouses on the northwest waterfront that had been stalled since 2008.

“Those projects show that development in Yonkers is getting back on track, and that our efforts are paying off both in new construction as well as revitalization of existing buildings,” said Mayor Mike Spano, who chairs the YIDA.

Rising Development to create downtown lofts, restaurants and retail

The Rising development, headed by developer Nicholas Sprajcuren, is a $5 million mixed-use project that could rival modern day attendances in Yankee Stadium. All together, the two properties will have 134 permanent new jobs once construction is finished.

Two More Construction Projects Get Approval

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“Besides renovating these buildings in the heart of the downtown, this project is expected to provide 154 permanent new jobs once construction is finished,” said Mayor Mike Spano.

Continued on Page 6

The History of Yonkers Raceway

Today, Yonkers Raceway sits in the shadow of the city’s majestic buildings, providing a place for the people of Yonkers to come together and enjoy a day at the races.

But in the past, Yonkers Raceway played an important role in the history of the city. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, it was a popular destination for residents of the city and surrounding areas.

Continent on Page 9
Kenny Lee & The All Stars
Join Jazz and Blues at Dusk
The Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront (BID) will host its sixth concert in its Jazz and Blues at Dusk series Friday, Aug. 9 at 6:30 p.m., when Kenny Lee and The All-Stars’ soulful sounds will have everyone on their feet at the Yonkers Waterfront BID amphitheater.

"Music is a great way to bring people together, and that is what we strive to do when choosing the acts for our Jazz and Blues at Dusk concert series," said Dan Lipka, executive director of the Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID. "Kenny, Lee and The All-Stars have earned the respect of jazz musicians across Westchester County, Connecticut and in New York City. Lee has played with a variety of jazz professionals and appeared at many clubs and restaurants throughout the tri-state area."

Kenny Lee and The All-Stars bring rhythm and soul to true jazz and blues lovers. The leader of the band, Kenny Lee, is a retired White Plains police officer who has played the trumpet his entire life. With the help of his "All-Stars," Lee shares his trumpet talents with those who want to get down and groove.

The event is sponsored by the Yonkers Downtown Waterfront Business Improvement District. For more information, visit www.YonkersDowntown.com.

Shooting Star will perform Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m., paying tribute to Bruce, the Edge, Adam Clayton and Larry Mullen Jr.

Events and parking are free. For more information, go to www.crosscountrycenter.com.

Shotgun Wedding and 2U
Wrap Up Concert Series
The Cross County Summerfest 2013 concert series wraps up with two performances, Aug. 14 and 21. Shotgun Wedding will perform Wednesday, Aug. 14 at 7 p.m., featuring a unique approach to country music, re-creating favorites from Patsy Cline, Merle Haggard and even a little Carrie Underwood. 2U will perform Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m., paying tribute to Bruce, the Edge, Adam Clayton and Larry Mullen Jr.

REO Speedwagon at Empire City Casino on August 25
Ultimate classic rock will make its way to Yonkers at the Empire City Casino Summer Concert Series with REO Speedwagon on Sunday, Aug. 25. Tickets start at $15 and can be purchased at www.empirecitycasino.com or by calling eTIX at 1-800-514-3849.

The Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront BID will present the last two concerts in this year’s Summer Concert Series with REO Speedwagon on Aug. 18 (sold out), Gavin DeGraw on Sept. 1; Kenny Loggins on Sept. 8; and Smokey Robinson on Sept. 15.

You’ve Got a Friend at Westchester’s Ridge Hill
On Thursday, Aug. 8 at 6 p.m., Yonkers Ridge Hill will conclude its free 2013 Summer Concert Series with "Shower the People – James Taylor Tribute," a tribute to the legendary James Taylor, featuring hits from throughout his career.

"Shower the People – James Taylor Tribute," featuring the voice and guitar work of Neil Donnell, takes audiences through a retrospective journey of Taylor’s music complete with entertaining anecdotes about the history and creative process behind many of his musical gems. Accompanied by a group of the most accomplished musicians and singers in the country, Donnell and Shower the People – James Taylor Tribute appeals to a wide range of audience demographics and musical tastes.

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The rest of the summer lineup includes a Rock and Blues Fest on Aug. 18 (sold out); Gavin DeGraw on Sept. 1; Kenny Loggins on Sept. 8; and Smokey Robinson on Sept. 15.

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FiveStar Premier Residences of Yonkers invites you to our
Ice Cream Social!

Wednesday, August 14th 2:30-4:30pm
FiveStar Premier Residences of Yonkers 537 Riverdale Avenue • Yonkers, NY

Whether you’re craving a decadent hot fudge sundae or a few scoops of vanilla covered with sprinkles, cool off at Premier Residences of Yonkers this August by joining us for a sweet ‘n creamy treat! Bring a friend, sample all the flavors of Premier Residences and tour our beautiful apartments.

For more information please call 914-709-1234.

Premier Residences of Yonkers
537 Riverdale Avenue • Yonkers, NY 10705
914-709-1234
www.FiveStarPremier-Yonkers.com

The highest-level of neurocritical care for children and adults.
Dedicated Neurological Intensive Care Unit.
Rated the region's referral center for advanced stroke care in our region.
The region's referral center for advanced stroke treatment. Dedicated Neurological Intensive Care Unit. The highest-level of neurocritical care for children and adults.
Only Westchester Medical Center.

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(877) WMC Docs   I   westchestermedicalcenter.com
JCY-Westchester Community Partners is continuing its successful Summer Reading Buddies program at the Yonkers Riverfront Library. Hundreds of elementary-school students are paired with a community volunteer Reading Buddy to read from their summer reading assignments, and volunteers listen and impart literacy skills, check for comprehension, and share the joyful experience of books. Many of the volunteers are middle- and high-school students who are learning the importance of giving back to the community, as well as how hard it is to teach! Last summer, more than 1,000 children were coached by close to 250 volunteers through the reading of nearly 4,000 books.

For more information on how to volunteer for many of JCY-Westchester Community Partners programs, visit www.jcy-wcp.com or call 914-423-5009.

The highest level of trauma care in our region.

Westchester Medical Center
A Level I Trauma Center. Specialized critical care transport in the air and on the ground. New York’s busiest trauma center. Nationally recognized in trauma research. Only Westchester Medical Center.

From left, Brittany Drazen, Miss Hudson Valley 2014; Mayra Avila, Miss Westchester 2014; Stephanie Banville, Miss Westchester Teen 2014; and Kayla Lungeran, Miss Hudson Valley 2014. Photo by Peter Giannone.

Four new titleholders were selected by the judges at the 2014 Miss Westchester and Miss Hudson Valley Pageant, which took place Saturday, Aug. 3 at the White Plains Performing Arts Center. The new queens are: Mayra Avila, 25, of Yonkers, named Miss Westchester 2014; Stephanie Banville, 16, of Scarsdale, named Miss Westchester Teen 2014; Brittany Drazen, 22, of Ossining, named Miss Hudson Valley 2014; and Kayla Lungeran, 17, of Yonkers Heights, named Miss Hudson Valley Teen 2014.

The young women will represent Westchester County and the Hudson Valley region at the Miss New York USA and Miss New York Teen USA Pageant at Purchase College Performing Arts Center in January.

Celebrity hosts for the evening were Miss Westchester 2011 Christine DiLeo, award-winning talk show host and associate producer of “Smart Beautiful You!” and Chris Saltalamacchio, coach and stylist for MTV’s “Made” and Oxygen’s “Jersey Couture.”

Special awards were also handed out for: Congeniality Award – Jordan Decker, 16, of Pleasantville Photogenic Award – Kayla Lungeran Style Award – Kirsten Ahle, 16, of New City Spirit Award – Dominica DiSparo, 25, of New Rochelle Service Award – Crystal Scott, 21, of Yonkers

People’s Choice – Jordan Decker The queen’s courts included: Miss Westchester First Runner Up Nadia Manginelli, 20, of Peekskill; Miss Westchester Second Runner Up Samantha Bangari, 19, of Yonkers; Miss Westchester Teen First Runner Up Citrus Quiles, 21, of Yonkers; Miss Hudson Valley First Runner Up Celine Quiles, 21, of Yonkers; Miss Hudson Valley Second Runner Up Jules Paterkin, 24, of Staten Island; Miss Hudson Valley Teen First Runner Up Kirsten Ahle, 16, of New City; and Miss Hudson Valley Teen Second Runner Up Sophia D’Ambrosio, 15, of Danbury.

The Manor Hall has received the Award With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association, recognizing the hospital’s commitment and success in improving the care of stroke patients by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted guidelines.

The marks the third year that St. John’s-Riverside Hospital has received the recognized with a quality achievement award.

The Get With The Guidelines-Stroke program helps St. John’s-Riverside Hospital achieve acute and secondary prevention processes to improve outcomes for stroke patients. The program provides a hospital with a web-based patient management tool, which includes goal setting, standing orders, along with a robust registry and performance monitoring functionality to track performance.

The Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award ("gold plus") is earned by health care facilities that continually demonstrate an ongoing commitment to improving treatment of stroke patients. The program provides for evidence-based guidelines to intervene in time, quickly basing patient care decisions on the best available evidence. The program is led by the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines program, which has been successful in improving outcomes for acute coronary syndromes and heart failure patients.

St. John’s-Riverside Hospital is dedicated to making our care for stroke patients among the best in the state and nation, collecting evidence-based data on patient outcomes. The program is designed to help hospitals improve patient care and is based on the lessons learned from the programs’ success.

American Heart Association/Get With The Guidelines-Stroke program, stroke is one of the leading causes of death and serious, long-term disability in the U.S. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 4 minutes, and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year. According to nationally accepted guidelines, the next decade we will continue to strive to provide the community with high-quality care.

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Resume Workshop at Library

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) of Yonkers and the New York State Labor Department will host a resume workshop on Tuesday, Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Yonkers Library, 1 Library Plaza.

For more information, contact Bruce Lord, 914-470-3124.

St. John’s Heart Assoc.’s Quality Achievement Award

St. John’s Riverhead Hospital has received the Award With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association, recognizing the hospital’s commitment and success in improving the care of stroke patients by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted guidelines.

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Yonkers On The Move, a community-walkin
game promoting better health one step at a
time, is the beginning of what it will forever be
known as The Walk 20 Challenge! As the completion of the second challenge came
in at just before 7 p.m., the challenge still had 656.56 miles to go. That would mean the
Yonkers Walk 20 Challenge is on its way to – and hopefully exceed – 2,000 miles by Nov.

The first of its time challenges was off to an ex-
cellect start on April 3 at the City Hall, with Mayor Mike Spano and other elected officials,
community organizations and residents. The first challenge reached expectations - 2,371
miles or 200,000 steps, with 29,316 steps by one
family.

It’s Time To Pump Your
Septic Tank!!!

Must Present Coupon On Day Of Service • Not to be combined with any other offer.

“Corn King,” Pono Wong.

Walk about 70 minutes more per week.

Television or making phone calls.

Worship service.

Center.

The dog in the morning, take 10 before or after
work as in any other aspect of our lives, except
when it gets dark early. Check with the school
administration – and it may work to help.

Walking will reduce stress, anxiety and depression
– and you will feel better.

Remember, walking will make you look and
feel better – and walking actually gives you energy.

When you work as in any other aspect of our lives, except
when it gets dark early. Check with the school
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One Million Dollars Construction Job Available

The Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners hereby gives notice that a construction job in the amount of one million dollars (1,000,000.00) is available for the issuance of a construction contract.

The above work is a construction project for the development of a new terminal building at Westchester County Airport. The construction contract will be for the design and construction of the new terminal building.

The location of the project is at Westchester County Airport, located at 500 White Plains Road, White Plains, New York 10605.

Any person or company interested in bidding on the above construction project is requested to contact the Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners, at 914-694-4500, to obtain the necessary bidding documents and information.

The deadline for submitting bids is September 15, 2013.

The Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners.

Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners
914-694-4500

Two Yorkers Continued from Page 1
past construction in the fall, with the bulk of the construction scheduled for this winter and spring. The project is expected to be completed within three years.

Fees for the project are estimated at $20 million, which includes design and construction costs. The project is being funded by a combination of state and local sources. The project is expected to create approximately 400 jobs during the construction phase.

The project was originally conceived as a city-owned project, but was later transferred to the Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners for funding and administration.

The proposed terminal will have a new baggage claim area, a new security checkpoint, and improved amenities and services for passengers. The project is expected to enhance the airport’s ability to serve the needs of its passengers and improve the overall passenger experience.

The Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners has approved the project and has solicited proposals from qualified contractors for the construction of the new terminal building.

Any interested contractors or companies are encouraged to submit proposals to the Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners at 914-694-4500.

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 15, 2013.

The Westchester County Board of Aviation Commissioners.

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Reflecting on 78 Years
Of Social Security
By Carolyn W. Colvin
Acting Commissioner of Social Security

There are some moments when people look back and evaluate a life or an era: birth, old age. The man with a job has wondered how much the world has changed, has tended more and more to make a difference Social Security has made in the lives of Americans.

Social Security is a safety net cast to help those who are eligible and qualified for benefits. We provide Supplemental Security Income to aged and disabled people who have low income. We provide Medicare to people over age 65, and to younger people who are disabled. We provide Disability Insurance and Retirement benefits to insured workers who are eligible and qualified.

The same can be said of the current information age, with our rapidly changing digital tools and periods of economic instability. Social Security is a safety net cast to help those who need it.

This law, too, represents a cornerstone in a strong social contract, a contract we all need to renew as the world changes. That contract was tested in the worst years of the American Depression of the 1930s. It was restructured to meet the challenges of a new century, and to provide for the needs of a new generation.

Today, Social Security is more than just a benefit, it is a promise to a future generation. When Social Security is sound, it benefits all Americans. It helps all Americans. It is a contract that will provide for the needs of the current generation and for future generations.

President Roosevelt knew that Social Security was not enough by itself. That was the point of his administration would offer security.

"This law, too, represents a cornerstone in a strong social contract, a contract we all need to renew as the world changes. That contract was tested in the worst years of the American Depression of the 1930s. It was restructured to meet the challenges of a new century, and to provide for the needs of a new generation."
Alamo CEO Tim League is excited to be in Yonkers.

Alamo Drafthouse
Continued from Page 1

drinks, films and events, all under one roof, with a combination of restaurant and theatre. Guests order all food and drinks from servers throughout the movie.

The Alamo experience includes an extensive menu of made-from-scratch dishes prepared by Yonkers Chef Lupe Gutierrez and a fantastic selection of local beer.

The experience via its strict “no talking, no texting” policy. Alamo offers online reserved seating in all auditoriums so you can avoid lines at the theater and always choose your favorite seat.

Joining Space for the grand opening were City Councilmember Wilson Terreiro, Mike Breen and Michael Sabatino.

Deputy County Executive Kevin Plun-tero, Mike Breen and Michael Sabatino.

Alamo CEO Tim League to Yonkers.

The winner of the Rotanelli-Reeves Demo- cratic primary for council president will face off in November.

Eyring also answered questions and gave a presentation on the natural history and habi- tatas of birds and raptors displayed at the amphitheatre. Kids and adults alike enjoy plenty of questions and lines up to be able to pick Elvis the Owl.

Upcoming events at the Hudson River Museum include:

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* Croquet in the Courtyard on Sat- urdays and Sundays in August from 1 to 4 p.m. Join the Hudson River Museum’s teachinggarten-in-residence who teaches the traditional game of croquet in the courtyard. Games will be played in the courtyard with up to six players weather permitting.

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Lager and Yonkers IPA. Food served at the Alamo Drafthouse will range from American classics like pizza, burgers and sandwiches, to hearty solos and sides – in country millennial – includ- ing newer generations.

“We have a well-rounded menu that has something for everyone,” said Ghi- onie. “I am most proud of making sure- ing some of our Texas fare to Yonkers. I hope you enjoy some of the food you will be in a place that serves a chips and queso queso two and a half. Some of my favorite ex- periences include our white bean hummus and our tomato and basil pesto pizza.”

The Alamo CEO is excited to see the film “Boyhood,” a movie that provides a behind-the-scenes view of the cinematic experi- ence via its strict “no talking, no texting” policy. Alamo offers online reserved seating in all auditoriums so you can avoid lines at the theater and always choose your favorite seat.

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The Hudson River Museum continued its Family Summer Sundays program last weekend with a birds of prey event at the Hudson River Amphitheater. Master Falconer James Eyring, assistant director of the ornithological center at Stony Brook University, brought along some birds, and the kids were brave enough to get close and touch Elvis the Owl.

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Yonkers Police Department Swears in 20 New Officers

Mayor Mike Spano swore in 20 new members of Yonkers' finest last week at the Riverfront Library. Joined by Police Commissioner Charles Gardner and a crowd of family members, 20 new probationary officers headed to the Westchester County Police Academy where they will complete five months of training before bringing the YPD force to 624.

The new probationary officers include Dana Slavatnik, Kyle Ballhaus, Henry Norton, Robert McDonough, Turhan Brunson, Daniel Berreti, Michael Cox, Gena Dolce, Raymond Koval, Timothy Murphy, Kevin Quinn, Christopher Rosencrantz, Sandro Vazquez, Brian Campolo, Christopher Costale, Michael Flick, Scott Lyons, Jim Strauss, Kevin Touqer and Daniel Blasi.

Spano also recently promoted seven members of the Yonkers Fire Department, including Capt. Christopher Maher to assistant chief; Lt. Joseph Cirone to captain; Lt. Christopher Williams to captain; Firefighter Anthony Nigro to lieutenant; Firefighter Paul Faldock to lieutenant; Firefighter Brendan Boud to lieutenant; and Firefighter Guy Peet to lieutenant.

Nature Centers’ August Events

A Beginner-Level Stars-and-Sunwalk to discover birds and their calls will take place Saturday, Aug. 17 at 9 a.m. at the Lenior Preserve, 354 Chauvin Street, Yonkers. ($7,300 (today roughly $118,000, calculating for inflation).

On Nov. 30, 1962, a closing night crowd of 35,677 saw the $3,191,020 to 1 betting. Yonkers became a $5 million handle mark for a single night. The highest single-night handle at Yonkers since $3,227,066, achieved in 1949.

A bird walk will take place Monday, Aug. 26 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Central Park Nature Center, Croton-on-Hudson; bring binoculars for a walk with web members of the New York River Audubon. For more information, go to www.sawmillridge.org.

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The History of Yonkers

Continued from Page 1

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Rabbi Rigoberto Emmanuel Vinas examines the pages of the Iraqi Torah, looking carefully for defects such as missing or faded letters, which would render the Torah unusable.

Rabbi Rigoberto Emmanuel Vinas of the Lincoln Park Jewish Center, who is known worldwide as a “sofer” (a Torah scribe, a writer of and repairer of Torahs), and also for his work with anusim (“hidden Jews” or “crypto-Jews, as they are known—“crypto” because they are hidden from the governmental Jewish organization, while “anusim” means “descendants”), as well as a “sofer” (a Torah scribe, a writer of and repairer of Torahs), and also for his work with anusim (“hidden Jews” or “crypto-Jews, as they are known—“crypto” because they are hidden from the governmental Jewish organization, while “anusim” means “descendants”), was recently contacted by the United Synagogue of Jewish Congregations of Chicago, of which one of the necessities during pogroms), offers those who want to return the opportunity to study and to convert to become observant Orthodox Jews. Many different communities in Latin America and in the U.S. have also called on Rabbi to help them obtain a Torah (one that is free from mistakes and conforms to all the requirements of Halachic—Jewish law). A Jewish community in Quito, Ecuador recently contacted Rabbi Vinas, asking him to help them obtain a Torah. Vinas, in turn, contacted several synagogues, of which one of the necessities becoming synagogues, of which one of the necessities during pogroms), offers those who want to return the opportunity to study and to convert to become observant Orthodox Jews. Many different communities in Latin America and in the U.S. have also called on Rabbi to help them obtain a Torah (one that is free from mistakes and conforms to all the requirements of Halachic—Jewish law). A Jewish community in Quito, Ecuador recently contacted Rabbi Vinas, asking him to help them obtain a Torah.

Rabbi Vinas will soon leave to bring the Torah to the Jewish community, where it will be received in a proper calibration with dancing, singing and festive meals, in a ceremony called “Hachnasat Torah,” which is remarkably similar to a wedding ceremony and feast.

All that remains is for Vinas to search either end of the long Torah scroll to wooden handles, find an appropriate and lovely case for the Torah, and he will be off to the airport, bringing one of the centerpieces of Judaism to restore, strengthen and rebuild the Jewish community of Quito, Ecuador.


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