St. Joseph’s Spotlight: Dr. Elizabeth Natal

By Don Murphy

Dr. Elizabeth Natal, the new director at the Family Health Center at St. Joseph’s Medical Center at Tremont in the North Central Bronx Hospital/Jacobi Medical Center.

In addition to serving in the clinic’s leadership team, Natal hosted medical students for clinical training and utilized an interdisciplinary clinic.

The latest part of the unearthed or daylighted Saw Mill River in Yonkers at New Main Street.

Saw Mill River Daylighting Phase III Opens Downtown

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano has officially opened Phase III of the day lighting of the Saw Mill River at New Main Street where the city unearthed another portion of the Saw Mill River, constructed a 1.25-acre park, and improved river water quality and plants.

The day lighting of the Saw Mill River has provided a tremendous boost to Yonkers’ economy, helping to spur economic development, create jobs and bring new businesses to our downtown,” he said. “With the continuation of the daylighting at New Main Street, we are providing an open urban civic space that provides residents and various groups access to our waterfront district and revitalizing city.”

Phase III of the Saw Mill River daylighting has revitalized additional portions of the long-buried river, and includes a water wheel, improved river banks and plantings to create a 1.25-acre park, making it a gateway to the Yonkers shopping district.

The $18 million project is funded with support from Empire State Development, New York State, and the Port of New York Authority.

Legislator Johnson Calls For Decriminalization of Pot Laws

By Don Murphy

County Legislator Christopher Johnson recently wrote a letter to Westchester District Attorney Anthony Scarpino asking him to re-examine his office’s policy on prosecuting people for low-level marijuana offenses:

“As one can see from the Westchester Foundation, Westchester Coalition for Police Reform and the United Policy Alliance has recently released a report about the disproportionate effects of marijuana arrests in communities of color, specifically black and Hispanic males.

Your office was already aware of that fact, as you were quoted in an article saying the Westchester County District Attorney’s Office is very aware how people of color and the poor may be adversely impacted by the justice system, and while your office has taken some steps in the right direction to st

Continued on Page 9

Happy Chanukah, Yonkers!

Photo by Robert Kehoe. Dr. Elizabeth Natal, director of St. Joseph’s Medical Center Family Health Center, is shown standing in the bronx, which was the ambulatory clinic of the North Central Bronx Hospital/Jacobi Medical Center.

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Continued on Page 9
Grand Holiday Illumination Opens at Untermyer Gardens

The Untermyer Gardens Conservancy, a non-profit organization working in partnership with the City of Yonkers, will host an opening ceremony for its fourth annual Grand Holiday Illumination at the Walled Garden on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The Walled Garden will be illuminated with festive holiday lights, highlighting the rich architectural and horticultural elements of the garden. Holiday music by the Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Zoroastrian traditions will be played.

The illumination will take place every night from Dec. 11 through Jan. 1, from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Hot chocolate will be served by various community groups on most evenings.

On Dec. 11, Mayor Mike Spano will preside over the illumination, with the sequential lighting of various sections of the Walled Gar- den. A large crowd is expected to gather.

The conservancy was founded in 2011 and funds seven gardens working at Untermyer Gardens. In addition to extensive landscape improvements, it has completed four major capital projects: a mile-long deer fence in 2015, the restor- ation of the Temple of Love in 2016, the Vista in 2017 and the canals in the Walled Garden in 2018.

There has been major media coverage of the improvements to what was called “America’s Most Spectacular Garden” in the 1920s, in- cluding in Martha Stewart Living, the New York Times and Wall Street Journal. It is estimated that approximately 70,000 people visited the garden this year.

This season, the six period rooms of Glenview, the museum’s Gilded-Age home on the Na- tional Register of Historic Places, are decorated for the holidays in full Victorian splendor through Dec. 30. The library, parlor, great hall, sitting room, dining room and ballroom are decorated with garlands, baubles and trees in every room.

Each room is defined by a specific color scheme. The parlor is characterized by teal, royal blue and chartreuse hues that play off the refined rococo elements that site by the mainstays. In the library and sitting room, rare folk art and traditional furnishings, such as ribbon, flowers, and German-made orna- ments — a holiday norm by the 1870s, when rainbow-colored ornaments that bedeck the tree in the great hall boast a contemporary flair. This year’s decorations are supported by Jan Adelson.

The dining room will be decorated with an elaborate Victorian Christmas table setting de- signed by interior designer Debra Blair. The theme is “Winter Wonderland,” inspired by the snow- covered land and the river beyond, and will feature layers of porcelain dinnerware, Smith & Fong to four wine glasses at each setting. The holiday meal will start with soup, followed by a sorbet palate cleanser, and the main course — tradit- ionally a roast of game or beef — with a different, specific salad, place, glass and wine selection for each course.

Blair is a trustee of the Hudson River Muse- um and founder and principal of Design Blair De- signs, which provide a full range of design services for both residential and commercial clients, includ- ing the executive offices of Davidoff, Luetcher and Jemmette; the Audubon Galleries; and the new offices of the Reading Room at the New York Society Library.

In addition to these festive decorations, Don- nel Scelsi, owner of St. Thomas Fine Minatures, has created delightful miniature holiday decor in Nyhetrobot Hall, a 24-room dollhouse located in the billiard room of Glenview. His arrangement includes a della Robbia-inspired terra cotta, garland, and topiaries created by Scala with Sharon Harbi- door.

This year, there are numerous holiday-themed events such as Luster tours, created by Jonne Anderson for Maya Minumato, and a yule log by Malena Sullivan for The Clay Kitchen, as well as an as- sortment of holiday gifts from Scala’s personal collection, such as three Jack-o’-lanterns, a gift box with knitted baby clothes, a toy doll, and a small red nose from which the hall’s resident Elf Paddy – who lives under the grand staircase – can work his Christmas magic.

The museum shop has also been transformed for the holidays with a wide selection of ornaments ranging from glass globes to felt animals, as well as Christmas stockings, snow globes, and festive figurines of all sizes from plain merriment to key wedding milestones.

A special holiday-themed edition of “Sky Tonight” in the planetarium covers end-of-the-year astronomical events like the Winter Solstice, the lore of the holidays, and something special to look for at midnight on New Year’s Eve. It takes place at 2 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 31. “Paint Night: Holiday Edition” is scheduled Friday, Dec. 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. With the doors of the holiday season upon us, take some time for yourself to grab a glass of wine and paint a winter- inspired scene, led by artist Lilo La Cruz. Tick- ets are $20, or $15 for members, and includes one drink.

On Sunday, Dec. 15 at 2 p.m., enjoy holi- day stories from around the world with April Arm- strong and musician Mario Sprouse in Glenview, the Gilded-Age historic home, as they perform hol- iday stories from around the world from Victorian Christmas, Kwanzaa, and Hanukkah traditions.

For more information, visit HRM.org.

Hudson River Museum Welcomes the Holiday Season

The Glenview mansion has all of the trimmings up for the holidays.

Enjoy the beauty of the holidays at Untermyer Gardens

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The Glenview mansion has all of the trimmings up for the holidays.
The holiday festivities will begin in Yonkers by the time you read this first-ever Yonkers Rising, with the City Hall tree lighting having taken place Nov. 27.

On Friday, Nov. 30, the Downtown/White Plains Business Improvement District will light its tree in Gatsby Square, with Santa, Mrs. Claus and other special guests expected.

On Dec. 4, A Chanhaks memorials lighting will take place at City Hall at 4:15 p.m., followed by a parade starting at City Hall at 5 p.m.

Several neighborhood associations will have their tree lightings in early December. The Colonial Heights Association kicks off the festivities Nov. 30 at 7:15 p.m. at the corner of Longview Terrace and St. George Parkway.

On Dec. 2, Cedar Knolls Colony will light its tree at Daisy Park from 3 to 5 p.m.; on Dec. 4, the Countryside Association will hold its tree lighting at 7 p.m. at American Legion Plaza; and Dec. 5, Park Hill Residents Association will light its tree at Ramsey Road at 7 p.m.

On Dec. 7 at 3 p.m., Untermyer Performing Arts Council will light the tree at Untermyer Park. Also on Dec. 7, the McLeann Avenue Merchants Association will light its tree at 9 p.m. at Comer Park; and Dec. 13, the South Broadway BID will have a tree lighting at Lincoln Plaza from 4 to 6 p.m.

The shelter is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 201-981-3215 or email lesliem147@gmail.com.

Meet Oliver.

Meet Oliver.
The crew of Yonkers Engine 307 from 441 Central Park Avenue delivered a baby boy after being dispatched to a home in Northeast Yonkers on Nov. 15 at 4:47 p.m.

Due to the extreme weather conditions and the mobility of drivers and ambulance to travel around the city during the storm, it was only the Yonkers Fire Department that arrived – which consisted of Captain Anthony Porco.

Yonkers police arrested a driver who struck a Con-Ed worker – which consisted of Captain Anthony Porco.

According to police, the driver fled the scene, with the officer following in his marked vehicle, attempting to catch up to the vehicle with emergency lights and sirens, to no avail. The operator of the van reportedly continued northbound, attempting to evade the officer, driving recklessly and crossing the double-solid line in the face of oncoming traffic at high rates of speed. Continuing northbound via North Broadway, the driver allegedly disregarded multiple traffic control devices, including steady red lights. The driver ultimately made his way to Executive Boulevard, where the van collided with a Honda Civic and came to rest on a grassy embankment. The operator of the van then attempted to flee the scene, then led a police officer on a brief pursuit.

At about 1:40 p.m. Monday, Nov. 26, a Yonkers police officer was conducting traffic control near 160th Avenue. He observed a Honda Civic, which was engaged in an apparent traffic collision, fail to stop at an intersection site at a high rate of speed, failed to slow down, and struck a Con-Ed worker in a marked vehicle.

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**Aisling Irish Volunteers Feed NYC Homeless**

There is no better way to give thanks on Thanksgiving than by helping someone in need by preparing a meal for them.

For the second year running, the Aisling Irish Community Center’s Irish Volunteers for the Homeless have set up shop at the Yonkers Boys & Girls Club, where they serve over 100 meals every year. The dinner is open to all, and if this will be your first time attending, the Yonkers Boys & Girls Club looks forward to seeing you.

**Celebrate Albanian Independence**

The public is invited to join County Legislator David Tubiolo as he hosts a free Albanian Independence Day concert to be held at the Yonkers Irish Community Center on Friday, November 23, 2018.

**Help Young ‘Stand Up For Human Rights’**

The City of Yonkers Commission on Human Rights invites members of the public to participate in the 6th Annual Yonkers Human Rights and Freedom Week celebration. The theme is “Help Young ‘Stand Up For Human Rights’.”

**Accepting Gift Donations For Parenting Center**

The first Unitarian Society of Westchester is collecting new, unwrapped gift donations for the Aisling Irish Center’s Feed the Homeless program. In addition, they are accepting gift donations for December.

**Aisling Irish Volunteers Feed NYC Homeless**

**Maureen W. Love, President of the Yonkers Historical Society**

On This Day in Yonkers History...

The City of Yonkers Commission on Human Rights and the Aisling Irish Community Center celebrate International Human Rights Day on Saturday, Dec. 10 at the Riverview, 1 Warburton Ave., Hastings-on-Hudson. The program, titled “Helping Our Children: Giving good boys and girls around the world.”

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On This Day in Yonkers History...
The holidays and delights in the opportunity to... "Each person adds their personal spin on... Lifting Up Westchester executive direc... during the holiday season," said Anahaita Kot... and children in need; and more.

and distributing... the Holiday LIFT campaign has ac... with the kinds of donations and volunteering... The number one question we get during... "The number one question we get during... "It is truly remarkable to see so many... Volunteers may organize a food drive... Signature holiday-themed activities... Volunteers must be enrolled in... Volunteers must be enrolled in... Children usually get the first dose of MMR... "We are in close communication with... People must make sure their... "For more information, please go to www.west Chestergov.com/health... The event took place on 3 North, a new surg... Individuals are considered protected or... Individuals are considered protected or... Annual Holiday LIFT Campaign

Lifting Up Westchester, a nonprofit agency... to individuals throughout Westchester County, which launched their third annual Holiday LIFT campaign.

The number one question we get during holiday season is, "How do I help those in need?" said Nancy Inzinna, volunteer and community outreach coordinator. "Holiday LIFT camp... residents to help and organize the kinds of donations and volunteering we need to ensure that our homeless and low-income families can enjoy the holidays.

From food drives to donating homeless shelters, the Holiday LIFT campaign has ac... in the pediatric unit of Phelps Hospital.

Signature holiday-themed activities include... In addition, community members may donate $10 to $25 grocery gift cards for... One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.

Our wound healing center, we treat all wounds. Our approach to wound care is aggressive and... At our wound healing center, we treat all wounds. Our approach to wound care is aggressive and... doughnuts, bagels, donuts, and pastries along with... We provide a wide variety of resources and... Our wound healing center, we treat all wounds. Our approach to wound care is aggressive and... In addition to seeking canned goods, gift cards and volunteers, Lifting Up Westchester’s greatest need remains cash donations.
The tide of the negative effects caused by inaction will wash over us if we do not act now to ensure that our children and grandchildren have a livable future. We owe it to our children and the environment to work collectively to achieve just and sustainable solutions to the climate crisis.

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Legislator Johnson

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The tax revenues generated by Amazon’s new offices in the city could exceed $2 billion annually over the next 20 years.

Assemblyman Mike Cusick authored a bill that would give the state authority to regulate marijuana markets.

Saw Mill

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The Family Health Center at St. Joseph’s is located at 909 S. Broadway.

Saw Mill

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Continued from Page 1

The Family Health Center at St. Joseph’s is located at 909 S. Broadway.
enjoyed” his stay in our jail, except for the food. Judge Charles Boote on a vagrancy charge, Man
men. Many thousands who remained at home
Pearl Harbor Day, citizens reviewed the many
Arabia as a consultant engineer for the Arabian-
munition plants in the South and Southwest.
for outstanding planning of construction of am
able, the measure that passed is an important
they’ve been denied would have been prefer
boards, passed by a vote of 13 to 4. 
the power to investigate instances of discrimina-
ction. If an application is rejected, the co-
board must send a notice of the rejection to the
fication under the county’s Fair Housing Law.
the rejection data to make sure all
County Board of Legisla-
constituent affairs at DSS, started the Holiday
or adoptive parents, you can reach out to United
is sad and lonely, 
other sites, the holidays can be sad and lonely,
child’s holiday.”
encouraging everyone who can to please find
children who are in need, Westchester County
and the City of Yonkers agreed to integrate the
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would give buyers and sellers of co-ops 
the use of legal remedies already available to them 
if an application is deemed complete, boards 
continue to send a blank check to YPS with-
our children a quality education are my foremost
is no longer acceptable.
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The larger industries – Otis, Smith Carpet,
ignoring this other great injustice to our students 
formula that underserves Yonkers schools, yet we 
create what amounts to a “one size fits all” ap-
proach to education in Yonkers, Syracuse, Buffa-
who are in need, Westchester County
of ages, from newborn to age 21. The depart-
etary donations, in addition to new, unwrapped 
career, and would go into homes where kids had 
said. “I had been in child welfare for my whole
of our elected officials can in good conscience
our children a quality education are my foremost
is no longer acceptable.
As City Council president, I believe that 
the current situation in our city is unsatisfactory. We must approach this issue 
with a lot of community input. I’m proud to say that working together, limiting to the con-
e of everyone involved – co-op boards, co-
op owners, co-op buyers, and renters – we’ve 
achieved a measure that improves the precision 
and fight discrimination.
the sale or purchase of a cooperative realizes
The larger industries – Otis, Smith Carpet,
Mayor Mike Spano at the Thanksgiving dinner give-away.

**City Delivers 350 Thanksgiving Dinners to Families in Need**

To Yonkers families every November.

Mayor Spano has led a persistent effort to ensure his dream of building a basketball court in Yonkers. That dream is being realized, along with a youth basketball and anti-bullying program that kicked off Nov. 24.

The 18-by-30 outdoor courts in Yonkers will be at Harlem Park later this year, with a second basketball court in the works to be in place in the spring. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be scheduled at the completion of the courts.

Spano’s dream to rebuild basketball courts in Yonkers started with his fundraising from individual contributors. “I understand great things cannot be done without great partnerships,” he said. “We have great partners like Nancy Lieberman’s Dream Court Foundation and World Vision Foundation who supported the project, along with providing the high-quality specifications for the two courts.”

The basketball and anti-bullying programs will be for 30 students selected by Yonkers Police Athletic League and YMCA, who are also partners in this project. The students will meet six consecutive Saturdays.

The program will have indoor winter sessions and outdoor summer sessions, all aimed at the youth of Yonkers. Spano, Barbara Harris, Shawn Jenkins and Tom Meier Jr. will be spearheading this program. "I want to thank Mayor Mike Spano who will be visiting the session Saturday, Dec. 8. It was an international partnership that brought this program to Yonkers. The Yonkers-East Yonkers Rotary Club endorsed Pete Spano’s idea in early 2015, and along with support from local Rotary District 7230 and a South Korean Rotary Club received approval for a Rotary International Foundation Global Grant.

The “Dreamer,” aka Yonkers-East Yonkers Rotarian Pete Spano, and Club Rotary Foundation Chairman Bina Ahmad, with a volunteer.

**Rotary Club Helps Rebuild Basketball Courts**

Sports by Maurice Mercado

Dinners to Families in Need

East Yonkers Rotary Club endorsed Pete Spano’s heading this program. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Shawn Jenkins and Tom Meier Jr. will be spearheading this program. "I want to thank Mayor Mike Spano who will be visiting the session Saturday, Dec. 8. It was an international partnership that brought this program to Yonkers. The Yonkers-East Yonkers Rotary Club endorsed Pete Spano’s idea in early 2015, and along with support from local Rotary District 7230 and a South Korean Rotary Club received approval for a Rotary International Foundation Global Grant.

The “Dreamer,” aka Yonkers-East Yonkers Rotarian Pete Spano, and Club Rotary Foundation Chairman Bina Ahmad, with a volunteer.

Dinners to Families in Need

City Hall employees help stuff bags with Thanksgiving food.

Photos by Maurice Mercado

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano helped hand out more than 350 Thanksgiving dinners to families in need in Yonkers on Nov. 20 at the Nepperhan Community Center. The dinners were supplied by private donations from Yonkers Contracting, Fiduci Care, ShopRite, PCNY, HV Painters, Dr. Martin Singsh, Val- ley Oil Co., Yonkers Public Schools, the mayor’s African-American Advisory Board and Yonkers MBK. PCNY, DC9 Painters, Dr. Martin Sayegh, Valley Terrace Fire, built a playground at Yonkers School 9, donated iPads for autistic children and library books for the Eugenia Maria de Hostos School, provided pencils to every Yonkers inte- gral, donated books to the Yonkers Public Li- brary, and supported various local community and youth organizations and soup kitchens.

Internationally, the club has sent a school bus for children in Liberia, helped send computer-size to Guate mala, built three courtyards for an entire village in Uganda, and built sanitary latrines for women and girls in remote Banglad e sh. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotar ians in more than 30,000 Rotary Clubs in 161 countries.

Charter School of Educational Excellence

Since taking office in 2012, Spano has or- dered the demolitions of Thanksgiving dinners to Yonkers families every November.
The pardoned “Tom the Turkey” is heading into retirement to a Connecticut Farm.

One of Santa’s most important visits every year is to the Cross County Shopping Center, and a place where Santa has set up in his workshop for more than 50 years. In recent years, Santa’s workshop has always kicked off with a big show for holiday shoppers young and old.

This year’s kickoff was held Nov. 17 and included a new twist—a portable dining area has been placed next to Santa’s workshop, so visitors can have a quick snack, say hello to Santa, and shop all in the same area. The Cross County Shopping Center also has offers more than 50 years. In recent years, Santa’s workshop has always kicked off with a big show for holiday shoppers young and old.

Every year, Yonkers Rising tries to give back to someone based on input from our readers. Please tell us about someone who may need a little holiday cheer, and we can send someone to help you email if needed.

And Happy Holidays!

Stew Leonard’s is one of the best places to get your Thanksgiving turkey each year, and in Yonkers store has consistently been its most popular, almost since the time it opened more than 20 years ago.

Stew’s sells more than 70,000 turkeys each year, but this year one turkey got a reprieve, and a pardon from Mayor Mike Spano with the help of Stew Leonard Jr. at the Yonkers store. Spano presented a proclamation to Leonard Jr. that included the immediate pardon of Tom, who apparently to understand what was going on and was happy with the result.

This Yonkers version of the White House pardoning means that “Tom the Turkey” will be sent to a Connecticut farm to live out his remaining days in freedom.

More than 80 percent of American citizens consume turkey on Thanksgiving, according to the National Turkey Foundation. 46 million turkeys are eaten on Thanksgiving, amounting to approximately 736 million pounds. Turkey is a uniquely American bird and has been considered a Thanksgiving staple from the first accounts of the holiday in 1621.

Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday, and Lincoln was also the first president to pardon a turkey in 1863. The official Presidential Turkey Pardon was declared a tradition in 1989 by President George H.W. Bush.

Enjoy your retirement, Tom.

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You may be eligible for additional money-saving benefits through our Dual Advantage plans, including:

- **Monthly OTC Card up to $100**
  (to pay for items like OTC medications, toothpaste, incontinence supplies, and more)
- Transportation
- Dental
- Care Management support
- Top-quality doctors and hospitals
- Discounts for hearing devices*
- and many more!

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Call us today! 1-800-860-8707 TTY: 711
Monday–Sunday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. from October 1–March 31
Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. from April 1–September 30

www.fideliscare.org