

YONKERS RISING

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YMA Lady Eagles Never Quit



Members of the YMA Lady Eagles basketball team with coach Elie Moise.

By Phil Foley

We start our weekly Yonkers High School sports wrap-up with a story submitted by a member of the Yonkers Montessori Academy family:

The Lady Eagles of Yonkers Montessori Academy were a young group with four seniors – Captain Alexis Lugo, Megan Matos,

Molly O'Reiley and Jazmin Garcia. The rest of the roster included three juniors, Ciara Walsh, Nashey Padilla and Taneja Hendricks; Sophia Rascona is the lone sophomore. Our freshmen included Ashley Soto, Jaeliana Quiñones and Abigail Brennan; and lastly our eighth-graders were Mackayla Scarlett, and Vjolca Kastrati.

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Flying High at Ridge Hill



Taking off for a flight at iFLY at Ridge Hill.

Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Liam McLaughlin and several city and state officials gathered last week at Ridge Hill in Yonkers to celebrate the grand opening of iFLY, a new state-of-the-art indoor skydiving experience. iFLY in Yonkers is one of only 11 iFLY locations in the nation and 37 in the world.

iFLY is open to everyone. No special skills are required, and almost anyone over the age of 3 can safely experience the sensation of free fall without having to jump out of an airplane. So, the next time you're feeling adventurous, head over to

Ridge Hill and get the iFly experience.

"We're excited that iFLY chose Yonkers as the place to expand its international business and we know that Ridge Hill is a great partner in doing so," said Spano. "Ridge Hill demonstrates its commitment to our city and contributes to making Yonkers the ideal place to live, work, play – and fly."

iFLY uses a vertical wind tunnel to allow guests to safely float on a cushion of air, mimicking the sensation of a freefall from an airplane. The experience is open to virtually everyone and no special skills are required.

St. Joseph's Family Center: Care from 'Birth to Earth' A Patient-Centered Medical Home



Dr. Craig Orvieto with staff at St. Joseph's Family Health Center. Photo by Bayan Baker.

By Andrew Tobia

Since its founding in 1888, more than 120 years ago, Saint Joseph's Medical Center has worked to provide the community with comprehensive medical care performed by people who truly care.

More than this, Saint Joseph's strives to provide care to as many people as possible. To that end, Saint Joseph's has opened a number

of off-site facilities over the years. These facilities are strategically located throughout Yonkers, Westchester County and the Bronx to offer easier access to both general and specialized health care to a wider demographic.

A Growing Mission

One of these off-site facilities is the Saint Joseph's Family Health Center. Located at 81 S.

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Proposed Colonial Heights Mosque Before Landmarks Board



The home at 2 Grandview Boulevard, the proposed location for a mosque. Photo by Bayan Baker.

By Dan Murphy

A proposal to build a mosque at the location of a home at 2 Grandview Boulevard in the Colonial Heights neighborhood is currently before the Yonkers Landmarks Board for review.

Last year, a Muslim group, The Islamic Community Center of Mid-Westchester, purchased the home for \$750,000, with the goal of turning the home into a Masjid, or mosque, for worship.

Also last year, the Colonial Heights Association applied to the Yonkers Landmarks Preservation Board to request that the home be deemed a historic landmark.

The application has been making its way through the process, and the Landmarks Board is expected to render its decision next month. The Yonkers City Council would then have to vote on

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Classroom in Pakistan Named After Yonkers Rotarian



East Yonkers Rotary's International Projects Chairman Shaw Latif, left, with Sen. Letsen, founder of the East Yonkers Rotary Club.

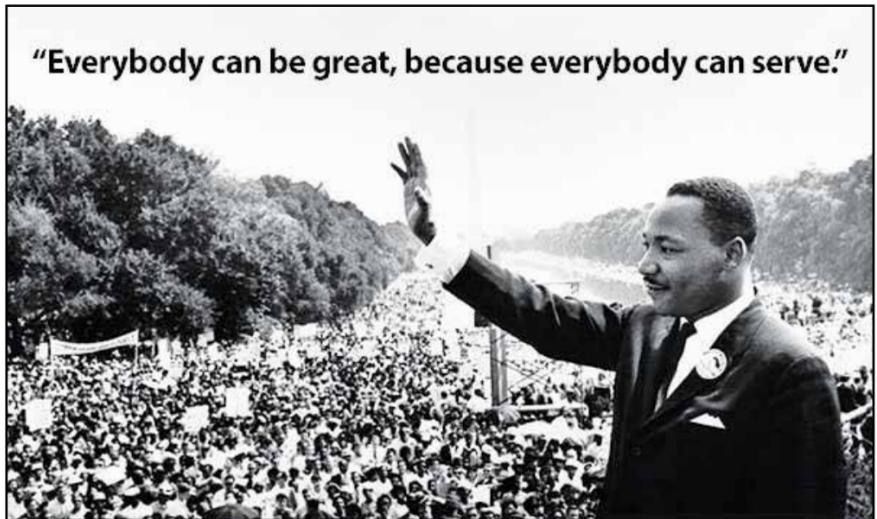
The joy on the faces of the 300 children of The Mazin Academy in Pakistan was clearly visible – all of them excited to have a new classroom in their school, thanks to the Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers. Parents and students participated in a recent unveiling of a plaque naming the new "Roy Letsen Classroom."

Letsen is known to many in the area. Not only was he a New York State senator for many

years, but he was also founder of the Rotary Club of East Yonkers in 1958. The club, in paying tribute to its honored founder, decided to sponsor the building of a new classroom for disadvantaged children. By providing opportunities for continuing their education, the club said it hoped it would build responsible adults who would in turn help raise succeeding generations from poverty.

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MLK Poetry Contest Winners Announced



Congratulations to the three winners of the Yonkers Martin Luther King Jr. Day poetry contest, which honors the life and legacy of one of the world's greatest activists for social change. Fifth-grader Angelica Lopez-Tucker of PEARLS Hawthorne School, seventh-grader Mantasha Khan of Yonkers Middle/High School, and 11th-grader Kayla Casanova of Roosevelt High School were selected by Mayor Mike Spano as

the contest's winners.

This year's theme was "Hallowed Grounds: Sites of the Civil Rights Movement" and asked Yonkers students to reflect on why it is important to preserve the memory of the locations – Montgomery, Selma and so many others – that helped change America. One student from each of the Yonkers elementary, middle and high

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Read the Poems on Page 9

Two Women Awarded By Alamo Drafthouse



Gail Baxter, third left, and Catherine Lederer Plaskett were honored at Alamo Drafthouse last week, with former Council President Chuck Lesnick, right. Photo by Donna Davis.

The Alamo Drafthouse in Yonkers presented two "Hammer and Chisel Down" awards, created by Alamo in conjunction with the opening of Michael Moore's new movie "Where to Invade Next," on Feb. 12. Referencing social justice issues addressed by the film, these awards were designed to honor two distinguished individuals who, in their own unique and courageous way, "are making America a better place for all."

The awards were presented in two of the categories examined in depth by Michael Moore:

In the category of education in low- and moderate-income areas, an award was given to Gail Baxter, chairperson of the Yonkers African-American Advisory Board and retired parent coordinator in the Yonkers Public Schools.

In the category of women's rights, an award was given to Catherine Lederer-Plaskett, executive director of WCLA Choice Matters, an advocacy group for reproductive rights.

For more information, visit <http://drafthouse.com/yonkers>.

Volunteer reporters and photographers wanted: If you are an aspiring journalist or photographer and want to see your name in print, contact us at risingmediagroup.com. High school interns are also welcome for this summer.

Riverfront Gallery Presents 'Finding Form'



Works of art from the "Finding Form" exhibit on display at the Riverfront Library Art Gallery.



The Yonkers Riverfront Gallery, located on the fourth floor of the Yonkers Public Library at 1 Larkin Plaza, will feature works by Clayton Calvert, Parker Calvert and Ricardo Arango through April 2, with an opening reception Feb. 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The show was curated by Haifa Bint-Kadi, director of the Riverfront Gallery. Each artist explores composition, color and subject matter in a different way.

Clayton Calvert's paintings are indicative of the environments in which they are created. He often abstracts his subjects in an effort to capture the essential elements.

Clayton is a painter, sculptor and installation artist. His practice explores the relationship between representation and abstraction as he contemplates his subjects. He has lived in Rome study-

ing art and architecture and has also studied with renowned painters Carlo Maria Mariani and John Foote. He uses the finest materials when creating his works and is a proponent of all kinds of mixed media. His paintings, sculptures and installations capture moments in time that are characteristic of his experiences.

Parker Calvert's photographs document various aspects of New York City and combines an exploration into sources of light and how these lights interact with the city. He finds varying ways these can be captured as he creates his fantastic images. He is continuously fascinated by the ever-evolving skyline, and the city has changed drastically during his lifetime. The subjects at times are hardly recognizable because of Calvert's deliberate camera movement, light manipulation and varying techni-

Continued on Page 8



"An absolute joy – such a great aide"

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The above is typical of the comments we get about Community Home Health Care's top-rated aides and the services they provide. So is "The most responsible, loving aide I've ever had for my mother."

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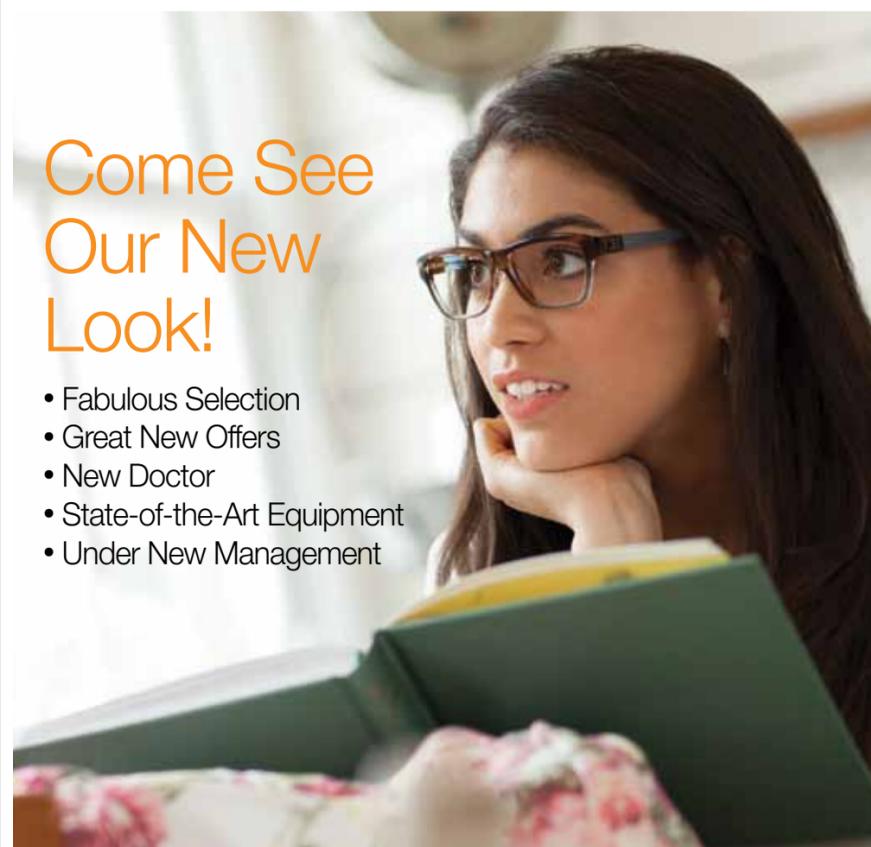
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Latimer & Mayer to Hold Forum on State Budget



State Sen. George Latimer



Assembly member Shelley Mayer

State Sen. George Latimer and Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer will be holding a joint forum to hear public input on the proposed 2016-17 state budget, Monday, Feb. 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Will Library, 1500 Central Park Ave., Yonkers. The event is open to the community and any person or organization that wishes to present is invited to participate.

"The next step in passing a state budget is analysis and review by the State Legislature, and I want to make sure we hear what our constituents want and need," said Latimer.

No RSVP is required. The public is invited to speak, and will be heard on a first-come basis. Written testimony can be provided at the hearing, or in advance to Latimer or Mayer by e-mail to latimer@nysenate.gov or MayerS@Assembly.state.ny.us, respectively. Remarks are limited to 4 minutes of presentation per person.

"Working with the people in our community, we have made substantial progress in moving Yonkers forward," said Mayer. "This forum provides an additional way to listen to the people I represent and helps me better serve my constituents."

Proposed last month by the governor, the executive budget is the first step in adopting a spending plan for New York's next fiscal year, which runs from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017. The governor's proposal would provide \$145 billion in funds for state programs and services. The largest areas included in the spending plan are education, public protection and health care, including Medicaid.

Meet Priscilla



Priscilla would be a lovely addition to your family.

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has many pets available for adoption.

Priscilla is just about 10 months old and weighs between 40 and 45 pounds. She arrived at the shelter as a stray six weeks ago when she was found tied up at a train station. She's not only very pretty, she's very nice. She likes dogs of all sizes, as well as cats, and would do best with children age 10 and older, because she is

still a bit nervous and can be startled by loud noises.

She loves to play ball and is learning some basic commands.

Visit Priscilla at the Yonkers Animal Shelter, 1000 Ridge Hill Blvd., between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily. For more information, call 914-377-6730 during business hours or 201-981-3215 at any time, or email lesliem147@gmail.com.

Baby, It's Cold Outside!

By Eric W. Schoen

So you survived the cold weather of last weekend? One day, two days – after that it's all downhill. The covers, the electric blankets, hot tea and cocoa... nothing seems to do the trick. By the time you read this column, hopefully normal or even above-normal temperatures will greet us as we walk out the door.

The frigid temps seem to bring out the "best," for lack of a better word, in our elected officials. Here are some examples:

Mitten Warnings

Bring all pets indoors. Run a faucet to prevent freezing pipes. Check on elderly neighbors. Never use a stove to heat your home. Turn off space heaters before leaving the room.

Stay indoors. Check on vulnerable relatives, neighbors and friends. Take care of yourselves. Wear multiple layers of clothing. People most likely to be exposed to dangerous cold include those who lack shelter, work outdoors and/or live in homes with malfunctioning or inadequate heat.

Seniors, infants, people with chronic cardiovascular or lung conditions, people using alcohol or drugs, and people with cognitive impairments (like dementia, serious mental illness or developmental disability) are at increased risk. New York City continues to closely monitor the extreme cold.

From New York City to Yonkers, these are some of the warnings that came last week from the press offices of elected officials who shall remain nameless. Is cold weather something new? Are we living in Florida in July or New York in January?

I don't know about you, but these "warnings" insult me. Unless you have just arrived on the planet, you know what to do in case the weather outside becomes frightful. Do we really need our elected officials to tell us basic things New Yorkers living in our great state in January already know from years of experience?

Where to call with heat or hot water complaints. Plowing and salting our streets. Warming centers where people can go to warm up. Phone numbers people can call if they or family members need help. These are the kinds of things our elected officials need to worry about. If someone is working outside, I think they kind of know they are vulnerable to the elements.

The Death of Justice Scalia

It's simply shameful – the man's body isn't even in the ground and everyone in Washington from the president on down is talking about the replacement for Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia hours after his death. The statement by Senate Republicans that they will not consider a candidate for the court nominated by President Barack Obama; or candidate for president Sen. Ted Cruz criticizing fellow candidate Donald Trump's possible appointments to our nation's highest court – before Trump even has the nomination.

Scalia believed first and foremost in the Constitution of the United States. The specific words in the Constitution were the basis of his decisions and dissents in three decades of his service on the court.

You learned in grade school that Article II, Section II of the Constitution states that the



Eric W. Schoen

president shall have the power to nominate, with the advice and consent of the Senate justices of the Supreme Court. Nowhere in the Constitution does it say a lame duck president should put aside this important responsibility because of a presidential election or politics.

You want to truly respect Justice Scalia's legacy? The president needs to nominate and the Senate needs to hold hearings and confirm a replacement for

Scalia on the court.

But please, let's put the man's body in the ground before we chatter about his replacement.

Gas Tax

Gas prices are at historic lows, and lo and behold, President Obama comes up with the brilliant idea of a gas tax to fix our nation's crumbling roadways. If you believe this tax is not going to be passed on to consumers, I have a bridge in Brooklyn to sell you.

When gas prices go up as they eventually will, is the gas tax going to go away?

Mr. President, we are all enjoying low gasoline prices and maybe the opportunity to take our savings and pump the money into the economy. The gas tax should be dead on arrival.

Zika Czar

No, he wasn't talking about the creation of more tiki bars. Our good friend Sen. Chuck Schumer proposed the creation of a United States "Zika Czar" to combat the Zika virus.

I have all the faith in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state disease control agencies to handle the task. Why is it that every time there is a problem or crisis our leaders call for a task force or a "czar" to handle it?

Remember 'All in the Family'

Do you remember when Saturday night television was fun? Shows like "All in the Family" kept our eyes glued to the boob tube. Archie, Edith and the gang made us laugh and were so much fun for families to watch together, sipping hot cocoa and munching on potato chips and pretzels and boxes of Entenmanns.

Now we have Republican and Democratic presidential candidate debates gracing our television sets on Saturday nights. And people are watching them. Doesn't that say something about the sad state of affairs of television programming in 2016? Maybe we need to go from 300 channels to 600 channels to find something interesting to watch!

In Brief

A belated note of sympathy over the death of my friend, Father Terzo Vinci, longtime pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church on Park Hill in Yonkers.

When my mom was hospitalized many years ago and I would see Father in the halls of St. John's hospital consoling the families of ill parishioners, he would graciously come in and say a prayer with mom. I will always remember this, his wit and the good deeds he did in the community. He will be missed.

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@aol.com and follow him on Twitter @ericcyonkers. Catch the Westchester Rising Radio Show featuring Dan Murphy and Eric Schoen on Thursdays at 10 a.m. on WVOX 1460 on the A.M. dial or on the Internet at wvox.com and click on "listen live."

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Do you remember ANGELA DOLAN?

Mary Angela Dolan was born in County Fermanagh, Ireland, in 1918. She emigrated to Yonkers in 1949 and may have worked at O'Dare's restaurant on 602 Central Park Avenue. If you have any recollections or photos of Angela, please contact Zoe McCaw at zmccaw01@qub.ac.uk or 31 Colenso Court, 2-18 Colenso Parade, Belfast BT9 5BB, N. Ireland.

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The Zika Virus: What You Need to Know

Dr. Peter Berkey, chief of infectious disease at St. John's Riverside Hospital, will present an information session on the Zika virus to address concerns in the community Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at St. Johns Riverside Hospital, Andrus Pavilion, 967 N. Broadway, Yonkers.

The Center for Disease Control has released information about what we currently know, and don't know, about the Zika virus.

Zika can be spread from a mother to her fetus during pregnancy, and infection during pregnancies may be linked to birth defects in babies. The virus is also spread mostly by the bite of an

infected Aedes species mosquito. Zika is not currently found in the U.S., although the mosquitoes that carry Zika are found in some areas of North America.

Because the mosquitoes that spread Zika virus are found in the tropics, outbreaks will likely continue, and there is no vaccine or medicine for Zika.

Doctors and researchers do not yet know how likely it is those who travel to an affected area and are bitten by a mosquito will contract Zika, or how likely it is that an infected person's fetus will have birth defects.

Yonkers Student is Named Watermark Kid

Riverside High School senior Bryan Diaz received a happy surprise last month when representatives of Watermark for Kids from The Fountains at RiverVue presented him with a laptop computer.

Diaz' guidance counselor, Scott Silverman, had applied to Watermark for Kids on Diaz' behalf, knowing that the college-bound student would benefit from having a laptop of his own. Watermark for Kids approved the application, and just like that, Diaz became Westchester County's newest Watermark Kid. Diaz, along with his mother and brother, were all summoned to the counselor's office, where Christine Nazzaro and Stephanie Walters presented the laptop.

"He couldn't believe it," said Nazzaro. "His mom was crying and the counselor was even a bit teary eyed. It was a very emotional meeting."

Watermark for Kids is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to help deserving local kids thrive. Funds are raised through payroll deductions, bake sales and other fundraising projects spearheaded by residents and associates of 37 Watermark retirement communities nationwide, including The Fountains at RiverVue in Tuckahoe. In return, Watermark Kids are asked to "pay it forward" by mentoring others and sharing something about their experience with their host community.

For example, on Feb. 21, Tiana Concepcion, a senior at Our Lady of Good Counsel and previously named Watermark Kid, is returning to present a singing performance for residents. Watermark for Kids awarded Concepcion with singing lessons last year and this will be her second returning back to perform. She also visits with residents at the community every Monday as a volunteer.

Silverman decided to apply to Watermark for Kids on Diaz' behalf upon reading a letter sent to his school by the organization, asking for their assistance in identifying a kid with dreams who may need financial help fulfilling them.

Silverman described a boy who came to this country without speaking a word of English and is now ranked third out of 222 seniors at Riverside. He has taken seven honors courses



Riverside High School student Bryan Diaz with guidance counselor Scott Silverman, and his new laptop.

in preparation for college and completed his first college course last summer, scoring an "A" in the class.

While Diaz' transcript speaks for itself, Silverman wrote, "What his transcript does not reflect is his character, work ethic and determination. He is grateful for every day in the United States and the opportunities he has here. He is the American dream."

His guidance counselor for three years, Silverman is also working to help Diaz secure scholarships for college.

"He will be a part of building our future (literally) as an aspiring engineer," said Silverman. "He tries to immerse himself in all things engineering at Riverside, including participating in our award-winning robotics team."

From his excitement over receiving the laptop, it's easy to see that Diaz will put it to good use toward building his own bright future, too.

"Our residents and co-workers get as much out of these interactions as the students do," said David Goldsmith, executive director for The Fountains at RiverVue. "We find it very heartwarming to be able to give back to deserving youth in our community in this way."

For more information, visit www.watermarkcommunities.com/rivervue.

Help Shape the Future of the Yonkers Public Library

The Yonkers Public Library is planning for the future and needs the public's help. How do you use the library? What services and resources would you like the library to provide in coming years?

Library patrons can participate by filling out our brief survey at www.tellypl.org (you might win an iPad mini!), or attending a town hall-style meeting at one of its three branches: Crestwood Branch, 17 Thompson St., on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m.; Riverfront Library, One Larkin Center, on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m.; or Grinton I. Will Branch, 1500 Central Park Ave., on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m.

"The YPL has long been a cornerstone of

life in Yonkers, providing people with the information they need in safe and welcoming spaces," said Ed Falcone, the system's newly-appointed library director. "This community conversation invites everyone who benefits from the library to join us in thinking about its future directions."

Nancy Maron, president of the Board of Trustees, added: "2016 is going to be a banner year for YPL, with major initiatives like Riverfront's Tech Central launching. This is a perfect moment to step back and collectively set a course, so that YPL can continue to delight its patrons for years to come."

For more information, contact Deputy Director Susan Thaler at 914-375-7953.

Purchase Marks Black History Month With New Dance Work

SUNY Purchase College will celebrate Black History on Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. with "Lift Every Voice," a special evening featuring artistic and academic presentations honoring the contributions of such influential figures as James Baldwin and James Weldon Johnson. The free event will take place at the PepsiCo Theatre at The Performing Arts Center. A public reception will follow.

The culmination of the evening will be the premiere of "The Creation," a new dance work based on the Johnson poem of the same name, choreographed for the Purchase Dance Company by professor Kevin Wynn. The performance features live music composed by professor Pete Malinverni for the Soul Voices choir. Comprised of 70 students from a wide range of backgrounds and majors, the ensemble is dedicated to exploring and celebrating

the music of the African-American experience.

The event will also include members of the Purchase Repertory Theatre in a scene from Baldwin's monumental work about Emmett Till, "Blues for Mister Charlie," directed by Professor I. Dean Irby. Art history professor Genevieve Hyacinthe will offer remarks about recent events including the Black Lives Matter movement, in light of past historical and cultural precedents.

A photography exhibit by student Joy-Marie Thompson honoring the legacy of African-American dancers will be on display, as well.

"By creating new work and calling attention to often-ignored moments of our shared history, Purchase honors the past while embracing the future," said Dean of the School of the Arts Ravi Rajan.

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On This Day in Yonkers History...



Actor, comedian and Yonkers resident Jefferson De Angelis

Yonkers Congressman and Mayor Norton Otis

By Mary Hoar
President Emerita, Yonkers Historical Society

Monday, Feb. 22

Feb. 22, 1940: According to School Superintendent William Ankenbrand, every employee of the school system – except one – signed a 15 percent salary contribution waiver.

Feb. 22, 1940: Chairman Louis Haas announced that the local branch of the Communist Party endorsed the candidacy of Yonkers resident Earl Browder for the presidency of the United States. He said Browder should be the nominee because he represented workers, farmers and oppressed peoples of our country.

Tuesday, Feb. 23

Feb. 23, 1915: Yonkers comedian Jefferson De Angelis had the leading role in the production of “Florodora,” opening in the Westchester Theater in Mount Vernon.

Feb. 24, 1918: Saunders Trade School received a letter from “somewhere in France” thanking them for the hospital supplies made by the students of the school.

Feb. 23, 1918: A service flag containing 268 stars, one for each man of St. Joseph’s Parish engaged in national war service, was unfurled at St. Joseph’s Hall. Mayor Lennon, Judge Bleakley, Corporation Counsel Walsh and the Rev. Charles Reid spoke.

Wednesday, Feb. 24

Feb. 24, 1900: Mrs. Oscar Hauptner, wife of Foreman Hauptner of Lowerre Hose Company, was presented with a beautiful gold medal, set with diamonds and rubies, by members of the hose as a “thank you” for her artistic work in decorating the hose carriage for the Firemen’s Convention Parade a few months earlier.

Feb. 24, 1905: The funeral was held for Congressman Norton P. Otis. The son of Elisha Otis, he worked in the family business, served as mayor of Yonkers and was the Assembly member for Westchester’s First District. He was elected to represent New York’s 19th Congressional District in 1903, and served until his death less than two years later.

Representing Congress at the funeral were four U.S. senators and 10 representatives. Approximately 100 officers, directors and department heads of the Otis Elevator Company marched to the church. Mayor John Andrus was a pallbearer, as was Otis President William Baldwin and Vice President A.G. Mills. Most of the Common Council, five former mayors, Board of Education trustees, and heads of all the departments of the City of Yonkers attended.

Thursday, Feb. 25

Feb. 25, 1929: Ground for the new \$900,000 Longfellow Junior High School was broken and excavation started immediately. Richard Edie Jr., president of the Board of Education, dug the first shovelful of earth.

Feb. 25, 1954: Evicted from its home on the site of the new Schlobohm Houses on

Palisade Avenue, a rather large raccoon gave two SPCA agents a very hard time. Although Charles Smith and Frank Perna tried several different approaches, the raccoon kept slipping its snare noose from its head and refused to be “rescued.” After all efforts failed, the raccoon ran down the tree he was perched in on Locust Hill Avenue, and ran off to join his family.

Friday, Feb. 26

Feb. 26, 1906: Warburton Avenue residents appealed to the Yonkers Police Department to curb the racing of automobiles down the avenue at speeds from 28 to 30 miles an hour. Complainers reported that pedestrians in the neighborhood were left “in a continual cloud of dust.”

Feb. 26, 1925: Father Edmund Walsh, S.J., vice president of Georgetown University, spoke on “Soviet Russia” at Philipsburgh Hall. Fr. Walsh, a member of the Lecture League of Yonkers, is best known for founding the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1919. Throughout his life he used his diplomatic skills both for the U.S. government and the Vatican, with his highest profile assignment being a consultant to the U.S. chief of counsel at the Nuremberg Trials. A vigorous anti-Communist, he allegedly was the person who suggested Sen. McCarthy use the issue to gain prominence.

Saturday, Feb. 27

Feb. 27, 1906: Attorneys for Susan Colgate of Yonkers, defendant in a suit brought by the New York Central Railroad Company to condemn her north Yonkers property, asserted that the corporate existence of the company had expired since it was incorporated in 1846 for 50 years and no long legally existed. The railroad wanted her property for line improvements.

Feb. 27, 1926: After sending four men to Eastview for intoxication, City Judge Boote announced he intended to stamp drunkenness out in Yonkers, and would send anyone arrested on the charge to jail. Apparently, arrests for public inebriation in Yonkers were averaging 50 people a month.

Sunday, Feb. 28

Feb. 28, 1908: Commander Robert Peary, USN North Pole explorer, addressed the YMCA at Library Hall on the topic of “Nearest the North Pole.” He spoke about the hardships, dangers and conditions existing in the Polar Regions.

Feb. 28, 1928: Yonkers native Lillian Eylers was named queen of the Shreveport Mardi Gras at the Queen’s Coronation Dance, held at the New Washington Hotel.

For more information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, visit www.facebook.com/YonkersHistoricalSociety or LinkedIn and Twitter @YonkersHistoric. For information on membership in YHS, call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

Taking ‘Gaming’ A Step Further

By Zipporah Osei

Since the 1970s and 1980s, video games have become, for many, an integral part of the household. In 2013, the video game industry made more than double the international film industry in revenue. This massive profit is a direct result of the increased consumption of video games in the past 20 years, particularly by young men.

Love them or hate them, video games seem to be here to stay.

There are many arguments against video games. Many believe the excessive violence in some games makes young people desensitized to violence in the real world, and in some cases can cause violent tendencies in those who play. Others believe that because playing video games requires one to sit and have their eyes glued to a screen for hours on end, it is creating a generation of lazy and unproductive people.

While studies have been done to both support and deny these claims, one fact remains true: Young people love video games. And for many young gamers, video games are the furthest thing from a waste of time.

Jeremy Cumberbatch is a Yonkers High School senior and captain of a competitive video game team. He and his team compete in League of Legends tournaments and he said he feels his participation in these tournaments is a rewarding use of his time. To compete in these tournaments, the team must put in several hours of practice every week in order to face the other teams of gamers coming from around the district, county and east coast of the United States.

Regional competitions are just the start.

League of Legends offers international gaming tournaments where winners compete for a \$2.3 million prize pool. High school players can even play for the chance to win college scholarships.

“I think gaming has many benefits, especially when it comes to being a part of a team,” said Cumberbatch. “The bonds that I have made in school have strengthened when it has come to interacting with friends online through video games. When comparing it to other activities like sports, the benefits are very similar: pride in our achievements, camaraderie with our teammates, (and) general appreciation of growing skill. The great thing with gaming is that you can get some of the same feelings as a sport, without some of the hassle that playing a sport entails. The excitement from winning a game of League is great. I can’t describe how good it is to make a comeback after being so far behind and seeing the victory screen.”

He shares these sentiments with his seven teammates: Naseer Jackson, Oscar Oh, Imari Powe, Jorge Cubias, Edgardo Alvaro, Kathleen Mallari and Christo Vairamon. These players all have aspirations outside of gaming and the video game industry.

Naseer said he hopes to go into film, Christo into biotechnology, and Jeremy into politics – and yet video games continue to be an important of their lives. This is perhaps the biggest argument for video games: They do not create lazy individuals, but provide an outlet for creativity and healthy competition. Some play fantasy football, while others play online battle arena, real-time strategy video games.

Sister to Sister Kicks Off Black History Month

Westchester-based Sister to Sister International, Inc., will host a kick-off membership meeting in honor of Black History Month on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Yonkers Riverfront Library, One Larkin Plaza.

There, members and guests will hear about STSI’s recent and planned 2016 activities; participate in a fun and informative “black facts” contest with a chance to win prizes; hear from new author “Whispers of Love” featuring Miss Akia; hear from science, technology, engineering and math students and learn about the STEM Academy and scholarships; hear about the re-organization, new committees and how you can get involved; meet and greet new board members; and more.

“Networking is a hallmark of STSI, so you never know who you might meet at an STSI meeting,” said founder Cheryl Brannan. “We always welcome new people, talent and ideas.”

The event is free and light refreshments will be served. STSI membership dues are \$50 for individuals, \$30 for seniors age 65 and older, and

\$15 for students age 25 and under. There is also a special mother-daughter membership offer for \$60.

Founded in 1994, Sister to Sister International, Inc., is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that links women and girls of African descent globally to the resources that connect, advance and strengthens them. This is done through advocacy, education and the promotion of African culture. Developing healthy lifestyles is a cornerstone of the organization.

STSI holds special consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, is affiliated with the Department of Public Information, and collaborates with the World Health Organization on health campaigns.

RSVP by calling 914-207-0368 or e-mailing stsi@optonline.net by Wednesday, Feb. 24.

STSI is a membership organization guided by a Board of Directors, with Germaine Scott and Dr. Natalie Ragland as co-chairpersons. STSI is headquartered in Yonkers and can be visited online at www.s2si.org, or on Facebook and Twitter @stsiinthemove.

Women’s History Program At Sarah Lawrence College

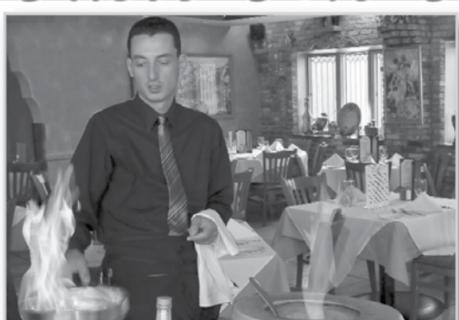
The graduate program in women’s and gender history at Sarah Lawrence College will present the 18th annual conference on women’s history, “On The Move! Working Women and the Struggle for Social Justice,” on Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5, at the Heimbold Visual Arts Center at SLC, 1 Mead Way, Bronxville.

The program will feature Premilla Nadasen,

a member of the history faculty at Barnard College and author of “Welfare Warriors: The Welfare Rights Movement in the United States” and “Domestic Workers Unite! Household Workers’ Organizations.”

For more information, visit www.sarahlawrence.edu, email collegeevents@sarahlawrence.edu or call 914-395-2412.

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THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids for the following projects until **2:00 PM, on the dates below**. Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room. Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

- Bid 6011 - Opening date 3/16/2016: Purchase and Trade-In of Harley Davidson Motorcycles. Buyer: SR.
- Bid 6012 - Opening date 3/16/2016: Furnish and Deliver 25% Caustic Soda - Membrane Grade. Buyer: DC.
- Bid 6014 - Opening date 3/16/2016: Maintenance and repairs for overhead doors as needed. Buyer: KS.
- Bid 6015 - Opening date 3/16/2016: Furnish and deliver foam filled front-end loader tires as needed. Buyer: ED.
- Bid 6013 - Opening date 3/23/2016: Transmission Repairs Car & Light Truck. Buyer: DC.
- Bid 6016 - Opening date 3/23/2016: Ashburton Parkadrome Repairs - 2016. Buyer: AS
- Bid 6020 - Opening date 3/23/2016: Spring 2016 Citywide tree plantings. Buyer: ED
- Bid 6021 - Opening date 3/23/2016: Contract for pest control city-wide. Buyer: SR
- Bid 6017 - Opening date 3/30/2016: Government Center Garage Repairs - 2016. Buyer: AS
- Bid 6019 - Opening date 3/30/2016: Alignment and Condition Monitoring of the Water Bureau's 11 split case electric powered centrifugal high service pumps/motors. Buyer: AS

#1433 02/19/2016

Legal Notices

Notice of formation of SIXTY-FOUR AND MORE, LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/29/2015 Office location: WESTCHESTER COUNTY. The street address is: 35 HUDSON STREET, 1A, YONKERS, NY 10701. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: SUZANNE BEATTY, 35 HUDSON STREET, 1A, YONKERS, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6730 01/15 - 2/19

Notice of formation of MettaWorks LLC. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/03/15. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 37 Kilmer Rd Larchmont NY 10538. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc 7014 13th Ave Suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6731 01/15 - 02/19

Notice of formation of Blue Dwarf Properties LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/29/2015. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 32 Fraser Place, Hastings-On-Hudson, New York, 10706. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Blue Dwarf Properties LLC, 32 Fraser Place, Hastings-On-Hudson, New York, 10706. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6732 01/22 - 02/26

Notice of formation of Ovation Strategies LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/10/2015. Office location: Westchester. The street address is: 25 Beechtree Drive, Larchmont, N.Y. 10538. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Ovation Strategies LLC, 25 Beechtree Drive, Larchmont, N.Y. 10538. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6733 01/22 - 2/26

Notice of formation of Jenny Dobell Gardenscaping, LLC, a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC), filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/17/2015. Office location: Westchester County. Principal office of Jenny Dobell Gardenscaping: 10 Central Avenue, Rye, NY, 10580. SSNY designated as agent of Jenny Dobell Gardenscaping LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC 10 Central Avenue, Rye, NY 10580, upon whom and at which process may be served. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

#6734 01/29 - 03/04

Notice of formation of Davis Creek Ventures, LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/18/2015. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 22 Larchwood Road, Larchmont NY 10538. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Wole Coaxum, 22 Larchwood Road, Larchmont NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6735 01/29 - 03/04

Notice of formation of Primaxel LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on January 21, 2016. Office location: Westchester. The street address is: 310 Claffin Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: 310 Claffin Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6736 01/29 - 03/04

Notice of formation of Pacific Diesel LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/26/15. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 3228 Albany Post Rd. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Pacific Diesel LLC, 3228 Albany Post Rd, Buchanan, NY 10511. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6737 02/19 - 03/25

Notice of formation of Apple Accessories LLC. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on February 12, 2016. Office location: Westchester. The street address is: 70 Saratoga Ave, B2, Yonkers, NY, 10705. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Anna M. Matias, 70 Saratoga Ave, B2, Yonkers, NY, 10705 Purpose: any lawful act.

#6738 02/19 - 03/25

St. Joseph's Continued from Page 1

Broadway, just a few short blocks north of the primary campus, the Family Health Center was founded thanks to the generosity of the Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation.

Today, as an extension of Saint Joseph's, the Family Health Center offers a wide range of outpatient and preventative health care to not just Yonkersites, but also people from nearby New Rochelle and Mount Vernon, as well as other areas of Westchester and the Bronx.

The Family Health Center is an ambulatory care center that provides health care to people of all ages, "from birth to earth," noted Dr. Craig Orvieto, a physician who practices osteopathic family medicine there.

The Family Health Center has gained distinction for the "whole person care" it delivers, and by coordinating all the patient's needs, and by providing prenatal care through geriatrics with emphasis on combating hypertension, diabetes and asthma, as well as other routine medical care.

Serving a Community

Being a primary care clinic, the services offered at the Family Health Center are extensive, running the gamut from annual physicals to concerted community health efforts aimed at particular illnesses.

Standard annual physicals for individuals and families are offered here, as are special physicals as required by camps and schools, as well as work-related physicals. Blood and urine can be taken for on-site lab work, and all standard vaccinations and inoculations can be given at the center.

Some preventative imaging and procedures, including mammograms and pap smears, can be performed at the Family Health Center. Other imaging procedures - such as X-rays, CAT scans and MRIs - can be ordered at the Family Health Center, but patients have to take a short walk to the main campus to have them performed.

The Family Health Center also puts a lot of effort into the treatment of, and education about diabetes and asthma, and the center is even a member of the Hudson Valley Asthma Coalition. Doctors say diabetes and asthma are considerable health concerns throughout the community, yet many people have knowledge gaps about them.

To counter these issues and help spread information about them, the center follows

an aggressive and evidence-based approach. A dietician and nutritionist are on staff to help diabetes patients manage their illness effectively upfront with diet and exercise. They work actively with asthma patients to create proactive medication plans, as opposed to reactive ones, and identify and manage asthma-related secondary conditions before they become more serious.

Continuity of Care

In everything the Family Health Center does, continuity of care is an important goal. For starters, all records are kept electronically so that a patient's health history is easy to follow. Over the course of multiple visits, the center strives to ensure that patients see the same doctors whenever possible.

Uniquely, the relationship and physical closeness of the Family Health Center to Saint Joseph's Medical Center's primary campus allows doctors and other caretakers to remain with the patients. At the Family Health Center, a referral to the main hospital does not mean a change of doctors. The doctors that know your health history are with you every step of the way, bringing the concept of continuity of care to a whole new level.

Medicine in Modern Day

The fact of life in today's times is that patients are busy. They don't always have the time to research their illnesses, like asthma and diabetes, or see the doctor as often as they'd like. Consequently, they have gaps in both their knowledge and their health care. This is something the Family Health Center strives to fix.

The primary goal of the Family Health Center and its extensive staff - comprised of eight faculty attending physicians, 30 resident physicians, specialists, nurses, nursing assistants, and patient care representatives - is to reach out to members of the community and educate them about the importance of their health.

The Family Health Center is open six days a week, Monday to Saturday, with later hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. It takes appointments and accommodates walk-ins alike. Most private insurances are accepted, as are Medicare and Medicaid. Should a patient lack these, they will not be turned away, as the Family Health Center is happy to work out a payment plan.

To learn more about the Family Health Center, call 914-375-3200. To learn more about Saint Joseph's Medical Center, or any of Saint Joseph's other off-site facilities, call 914-378-7000 or visit www.SaintJosephs.org.



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Seniors and Health Care

Broadway Music to Fill Grinton Will Library



Jean and Bill McClelland

“Side By Side-Oscar Hammerstein II and Stephen Sondheim,” a musical celebrating these two Broadway geniuses that features Jean and Bill McClelland on vocals and piano, will be presented Sunday, Feb. 21 at 2 p.m. (snow date is Feb. 28) at the Yonkers Public Library, Grinton Will Library, 1500 Central Park Ave. This program is sponsored by Friends of the Yonkers Public Library, and admission is free of charge, with no tickets are required. Seating will be in the 325-capacity auditorium at the library.

In “Side by Side,” Jean and Bill perform songs

by Oscar Hammerstein and Stephen Sondheim from some of their greatest shows – take a trip on a musical journey through the work of these supreme innovators of the American musical theater.

Broadway performers Jean and Bill McClelland have presented hundreds of concerts across the country and are acclaimed for the vitality and artistry they bring to the music and lyrics of America’s greatest composers.

For more information or directions, call the library at 914-337-1500.

College Receives Grant To Study Chronic Fatigue

Congresswoman Nita Lowey, the ranking member on the House Appropriations Committee, last week announced that two National Institutes of Health grants totaling \$502,939 have been awarded to New York Medical College to study Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and how common streptococcus bacterium causes severe illness.

“The National Institutes of Health contribute approximately \$2 billion to the New York economy each year, enabling local medical research companies to study groundbreaking medicines and treatments,” said Lowey. “I’m pleased New York Medical College will use these federal investments to conduct important research that will improve the lives of those suffering from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and provide better understanding of how streptococcus bacterium causes diseases such as strep throat.

“Funding for NIH has nearly tripled since I joined the House Appropriations subcommittee that funds medical research, and I will continue fighting for federal investments that fuel this regional engine for growth,” she added.

The first grant – \$246,000 from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke – will allow NYMC to study Chronic Fatigue Syndrome in adolescents and young adults. NYMC and others have shown that many younger patients with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome cannot tolerate prolonged

standing, otherwise known as orthostatic intolerance, which is often accompanied by either excessive heart rate or a fall in blood pressure and fainting. Intravenous fluids can alleviate these symptoms but are difficult to administer, and oral fluids fail to provide the same benefit.

NYMC will test the effectiveness of an oral rehydration solution to reverse these symptoms.

“We are looking forward to finding a simple and safe way to help patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome minimize some of their symptoms and improve their quality of life,” said Dr. Marvin Meadow, professor of pediatrics and associate director of The Center for Hypotension at NYMC.

The second grant – \$256,939 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases – will allow NYMC to explore how common streptococcus bacterium manifests into serious illness. Group A Streptococcus is a bacterium that causes more than 700 million infections each year worldwide, from relatively mild illnesses, such as strep throat, to severe and life-threatening diseases, such as rheumatic fever.

Knowledge of the biology of organisms will facilitate a better understanding of the disease processes and aid in better diagnostics, clinical management and vaccine development.

Lowey fought to include a \$2 billion increase in NIH funding in the December 2015 year-end omnibus government spending bill.

Stay Safe & Warm During Extreme Cold

With an arctic cold front recently hitting the area, the Westchester County Department of Health reminds residents to check in on elderly or disabled relatives, neighbors and friends, to take precautions against hypothermia and frostbite, and to take care when heating their homes using alternate heating sources.

“If you have elderly or ailing neighbors who live alone, please check on them,” said Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino. “During this bitter cold weather, everyone should be very cautious when traveling outdoors. Wear lots of layers while outside and do not leave skin exposed.”

If a safe temperature cannot be maintained inside your home, make temporary arrangements to stay elsewhere. Libraries, municipal buildings and malls are good places to warm up. If you’re seeking shelter, contact the Department of Social Services’ Emergency Services at 914-995-2099.

“With the extreme cold expected this weekend, be sure to dress yourself and your children appropriately in layers, and when driving, keep blankets in your car in case of a breakdown,” said Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler. “If you do spend time outdoors, be mindful of the extreme cold and take frequent breaks to warm up inside. Know and recognize the signs of frostbite and hypothermia.”

Hypothermia occurs when a body exposed to cold begins to lose heat faster than it can be produced. Warning signs of hypothermia in adults include shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling

hands, memory loss, slurred speech and drowsiness. In infants, look for bright red, cold skin and low energy. If you notice any of these signs, take the person’s temperature. If it is below 95 degrees seek medical attention immediately.

Victims of hypothermia are often elderly people with inadequate food, clothing or heating, babies sleeping in cold bedrooms and people who remain outdoors for long periods, as well as alcohol and drug abusers.

Frostbite is an injury that causes a loss of feeling and color and most often affects the nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers or toes. It can cause permanent damage. The risk for frostbite is increased in people with reduced blood circulation and among people who are not dressed properly for extremely cold temperatures.

To avoid hypothermia and frostbite – and to be ready for an emergency, dress warmly in layers, be aware of the wind chill factor, work slowly when doing outside chores, take a buddy and an emergency kit when you are participating in outdoor recreation, and carry a cell phone.

Astorino said the county’s departments of emergency services and health department offer a broad range of practical advice to help residents prepare for a major winter storm and stay safe when one occurs.

For more information, including safety tips for alternative heating sources, visit <http://keepingsafe.westchestergov.com> and www.westchestergov.com/health.

Proposed Colonial Continued from Page 1

the findings, and either approve or reject a request to landmark the property.

If the property is made a historic landmark, it severely restricts what changes can be made to the property, and could stop the mosque from being built.

A plan by the owners to create additional parking at the location was rejected by the Building Department last year. The owners have not submitted a revised application, perhaps waiting a decision from the Landmarks Board.

Houses of worship are permitted in this residential neighborhood, and St. John’s Episcopal Church is located across the street from the property. Members of the Islamic Center have had discussions with neighbors and with St. John’s Church, but opposition to the mosque still exists.

The stately home was built in 1908.

“The community’s objective is to maintain the exterior architectural features of a building which has remained largely unaltered for over a century,” writes the Colonial Heights Association

in the landmark application. “At this specific time, the community is concerned that recent changes in ownership may result in permanent and significant modification of exterior architectural features, and/or development of the property beyond those currently permitted.”

Usually, a landmark request must be “significant for architectural reasons, associated with historic events or historic persons or be the work of a master.”

Most of the Islamic Center’s founding members live in Yonkers. In addition to St. John’s, two other churches are in the neighborhood, including St. Gregorios Orthodox Church of Westchester and the Virgin Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church.

Several steps need to occur before any final decision will be made. After the Landmarks Board’s decision, and the council vote, supporters or opponents to the ruling may file lawsuits. The Islamic Center could argue that the property was purchased before the landmarking ruling and that their constitutional rights are being violated. Opponents of the mosque could also file suit if landmarking is rejected.

The Landmarks Board will meet March 2, in one of its most anticipated recent meetings.

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Justice Antonin Scalia: He Had 'New York Values' 'I'm an Italian from Queens' He Would Say

As Americans mourned the loss of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who died last week at the age of 79, there was only brief mention of his New York roots and proud Italian-American heritage.

Presidential candidate Sen. Ted Cruz has criticized what he has called "New York values" and how they don't coincide with American values. But Justice Scalia's ascent to become the strongest and most important voice of the Conservative movement from the U.S. Supreme Court as a native New Yorker belies Cruz' statements.

Scalia's upbringing and future successes is an example of what growing up in New York City was all about, and what it still is. Scalia symbolized the American dream and how that dream was built in the melting pot of New York City.

His New York and Mediterranean roots – "I'm an Italian from Queens" he was fond of saying – helped fashion a love of words and debate, combining street smarts with a well-calculated Conservative view of the law and its limits on society.

Scalia grew up in Queens and went to Jesuit-run Xavier High School, the Jesuit military high school, in Manhattan on a scholarship. He graduated first in his class and never forgot where he came from. His interactions with youthful court clerks were said to be friendly but loud, with lots of hand gestures and New York expressions.

His best friend on the Supreme Court was Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, another New Yorker and one of the court's most liberal jurists. Scalia called Ginsburg his "best buddy" on the court.

His family moved to Elmhurst when he was 6, during World War II, into a small brick rowhouse with a small front yard on a narrow elbow of a street called O'Connell Court. It is hard to know what the neighborhood was really like, as any childhood viewed through the lens of later years tends to take on a rosy hue. But in 2008, Scalia described it as "a really mishmash sort of a New York – a New York cosmopolitan neighborhood."

In a 2013 article, he described his grade school, Public School 13, where he got straight As. "There are no blacks in the class, and there really weren't any in our neighborhood, but other than that it was, my goodness, polyglot: There were Greeks – there were Irish, German, Jewish and Italian," he said. "It was the face of New York City."

Unlike some other conservatives (for instance, Ted Cruz), Justice Scalia understood the things that made his hometown great – like that one time his high school band went to march in a parade in Washington.

"These people just stood there and looked at us," he told the CBS News program "60 Minutes" in 2008. "You know, in New York, people say: 'Hey, play something for us, you know? You bums, why don't you play something?' They were... they were alive, they were confrontational."

Confrontation was, for Justice Scalia, a mark of pride. Like his home borough, he embraced the blue collar and the idea of a melting pot of hard-working immigrants. His father was an Italian immigrant, but he spoke no Italian or Sicilian. He used words like "bums." He had a habit of referring to "Joe Six-Pack" in the law classes he once taught, before "Joe Six-Pack" became some kind of American Everyman.

He liked the subway and how it could shape a New Yorker, even if he sometimes resorted to cliché.

"You had the subway; the world was your oyster," he wrote in a 2013 article for New York magazine about his New York childhood. "There was just enough responsibility that was put on young people that any New Yorker would acquire a certain cockiness."

Like Queens, Scalia had his classy parts. He studied Latin and Greek in high school and won the lead in the school's production of "Macbeth." He could play the piano and sing in a velvet tenor, songs from the 1940s and 1950s, or show tunes from "Guys and Dolls."

He once referred to having a misspent youth devoted to baseball and stickball. He also played street hockey on roller skates on closed-off streets, went sledding in a cemetery on Dead Man's Hill, and spent summer nights with the windows open, sweating and listening to the trolley. In one article, Justice Scalia waxed almost poetically about the game of stickball in Queens, which was different than the game of stickball in Brooklyn – although both relied on the pink rubber balls known as spaldeen.

At Xavier High School he wore gold honor cords on his blue uniform that advertised his high grades, and took part in a junior military training program, carrying his rifle home on the train to Queens. "Could you imagine doing that today in



The late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in his Xavier High School photo.

New York City?" he asked the crowd in Nashville during a 2006 address to the National Wild Turkey Federation.

His appointment by President Ronald Reagan in 1986 to the highest court in the land made Scalia the first Italian-American on the U.S. Supreme Court. Little would Reagan or the Conservatives who recommended his appointment know how he would become the voice of American conservatism for 30 years and four decades.

Scalia was a Conservative icon who transformed the court by instilling in it his belief that judges should follow the precise words of the Constitution and not apply a modern interpretation.

Conservative legal scholars point to growing up to Justice Scalia, and how he inspired them to pursue a career in the law. He was the example of how to be a Conservative intellectual in a society that tilts to the left. "Indeed, there are few professional Conservatives, period – academics or think-tankers or even newspaper columnists – who have not been influenced in some sense by Scalia's words, his writing, his mind," wrote Ross Douthat in a recent op-ed for the New York Times.

Even the Times and the ideological foes of Scalia had kind word in his memory, and the "liberal media" gave him a sendoff fit for a king – a king of Conservative ideas. "While I disagreed with him on so many issues, Justice Scalia was a brilliant man with a probing mind," said U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y. "He was a great son of Queens with a genuine joy for life."

Regardless of what side of the political dialogue you sat on, Justice Scalia made you think about the issues before this country and made you react, in support or in opposition.

Religious groups also spoke fondly of Scalia, and his belief that the founders had not intended the First Amendment to exclude religion from the public square. In his dissenting opinion from Board of Ed. of Kiryas Joel v. Grumet (1994), Scalia wrote:

"The court today finds that the Powers That Be, up in Albany, and have conspired to effect an establishment of the Satmar Hasidim. I do not know who would be more surprised at this discovery – the founders of our nation or Grand Rebbe Joel Teitelbaum, founder of the Satmar. The Grand Rebbe would be astounded to learn that after escaping brutal persecution and coming to America with the modest hope of religious toleration for their ascetic form of Judaism, the Satmar had become so powerful, so closely allied with Mammon, as to have become an establishment of the Empire State. And the Founding Fathers would be astonished to find that the Establishment Clause – which they designed to insure that no one powerful sect or combination of sects could use political or governmental power to punish dissenters – has been employed to prohibit characteristically and admirably American accommodation of the religious practices (or more precisely, cultural peculiarities) of a tiny minority sect. I, however, am not surprised. Once this court has abandoned text and history as guides, nothing prevents it from calling religious toleration the establishment of religion."

Scalia applied to Princeton during the late 1950s and was declined admission. "I was an Italian boy from Queens, not quite the Princeton type," he said decades later, giving an implication that at the time ethnic consideration was made against him. That New York resentment only fueled him to greatness.

Ted Cruz is wrong. Justice Antonin Scalia had "New York values," and was the strongest Conservative voice in our nation for 30 years. My favorite Scalia quote is: "Have the courage to have your wisdom regarded as stupidity."

The Patakis Finally Get Their Due

By Dan Murphy

It is very rare that I evoke the name of Ralph Martinelli Sr., former publisher of these newspapers before they were known as Rising Media Group. Martinelli, the outspoken and bombastic owner of Martinelli Newspapers, ran his weekly chain of papers for decades up until his death in 2004.

Martinelli was a conservative Republican and styled his newspapers around his political beliefs. He supported mostly Republican candidates in Westchester, but also a few Democrats who took pride in his support, including State Sen. George Latimer.

In 1994, Martinelli and many Westchester and New York voters had grown tired of Gov. Mario Cuomo, who had served three terms and after 12 years was seeking a fourth term. A little-known state senator from northern Westchester was nominated by the state GOP to take on the great Gov. Mario. His name was George Pataki.

Martinelli and his newspapers embraced the Pataki campaign and cheered when he scored the upset over Cuomo. But soon the honeymoon was over, and many of the Conservative-Republican ideals that Pataki ran on were put to the side in favor of Albany politics, and seeking re-election.

A few chosen Pataki insiders closed the door around the governor, and many who had helped and supported him from Westchester were left out. As Martinelli began to write about, and object to, the treatment of many including himself from Westchester who Pataki had forgotten, the feud turned into a war between Martinelli and Pataki's inner circle.

Republican friends of Martinelli were forced to take sides against him, and Ralph escalated the war in his papers with his ink. There was no happy ending here, with Ralph continuing to run his newspapers, and punished as an outsider until his death.

The Patakis, as we all know, rode to three terms in the governor's mansion, but with little in achievements to show for it... except for those on the inside who were given sweetheart jobs throughout state government, right up until today.

At the end of Pataki's third term in 2006, there was a feeling among most that there was too much a focus on secrecy in the governor's office, and a stonewalling of the press... Or the cover-ups concerning the improper use of the State Police to have intervened in an independent investigation of the governor's campaign staff. Or embarrassing stories, or arrests, of Pataki's inner circle. Or the book deals or six-figure jobs for the Pataki inner circle and family.

That included in 2003, First Lady Libby Pataki earning \$339,293 as a consultant. Also in 2003, Libby dropped her plans to profit from a children's book after the NY Post reported that she called a wealthy potential customer to urge the purchase of more than 100 of the \$16.95 books because "George and I really need the money."

Now, 12 years later, and 10 years after the Patakis left the governor's mansion, Libby and the Pataki name are in deep trouble following a series of stories by Journal News reporter David McKay Wilson found that Libby was allegedly double-dipping in her role as director of tourism in Putnam County, and also by collecting another salary from a nonprofit she formed.

Good work if you can get it. Libby Pataki receives a \$70,000 annual salary from the Putnam County Visitors' Bureau – which receives state and county funding – and \$50,000 a year from the Putnam Tourism Corp. Libby also signed all of the checks for both organizations.

The Tourism Corp.'s IRS report from 2014 shows that Pataki received \$50,000 while working an average of 15 hours a week – at a rate of \$64 an hour. That same year, she earned \$70,000 from her 40-hour-a-week, taxpayer-funded tourism director post – at a rate of \$34 an hour.

Wilson's investigative pieces found there is no functioning board of directors for Putnam Tourism Corp., as required by law, and that members of the Putnam County Legislature knew nothing of Libby's additional income.

Also, the Putnam Visitor's Bureau website appears outdated and has no viable media presence in its apparent job, to attract visitors to Putnam County.

Members of the County Legislature, who ap-

prove the budget for the Visitor's Bureau every year, were shocked to learn of Libby's extra income.

'Libby was making \$120,000. We have people in county government working very hard for \$45,000 or \$50,000. It sends a bad message about government.' Putnam County Legislator Roger Gross

"The existence of the shadow tourism corporation formed without the knowledge and consent of the County Legislature raises troubling concerns that bear a thorough and independent investigation of the allegations contained in the Wilson article by the (state) Attorney General's Office," said County Legislator Dini LoBue.

Fellow Legislator Roger Gross has called for her resignation.

"The Legislature was not aware of the dual stream of salary," he said. "Libby was making \$120,000. We have people in county government working very hard for \$45,000 or \$50,000. It sends a bad message about government."

"I hope the Attorney General recovers the taxpayer funds that don't belong in Libby Pataki's pocket," added Ken Harper of Patterson, Putnam County Democratic Committee chairman, who called for the investigation. "These aren't legitimate nonprofit corporations. Somebody got a little greedy. You can't just set up a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization and run a personal check-writing service from it."

Libby's entry onto the Putnam County payroll started immediately after Putnam County Executive Mary Ellen Odell was elected in 2011 and took office in 2012. At that time, Valerie Hickman, the widow of Supreme Court Judge Barrett Hickman, had been the Putnam tourism director for 16 years.

A sudden addition to Odell's campaign appearances and fundraisers was former Gov. Pataki, and the Patakis held a fundraiser for Odell at their Garrison home.

Hickman claimed before her death that she was pushed into retirement, and that if she didn't step aside her "life would be made a living hell."

The nonprofit Putnam Tourism Corp. foundation was reportedly formed in May of 2012 with then-Philipstown Councilwoman Barbara Scuccimarra and Wilson Kimball, who chaired the Visitor's Bureau Board of Directors. Scuccimarra, now serves on the County Legislature, and Kimball now serves as the Yonkers commissioner of Planning and Development.

Scuccimarra's possible conflict of interest was reported on in the Putnam County Times/Press, which stated: "Scuccimarra has also served as treasurer on the Visitor's Bureau since 2012. This may ruffle feathers because, as reported, in Scuccimarra's capacity as a county legislator she has voted in favor of the county funding the nonprofit (for which she serves as treasurer). A relationship she did not disclose."

An email from the Putnam Visitor's Bureau points out that the foundation is funded by private dollars, and not tax dollars. "The Putnam Tourism Corp. was never in possession of a single taxpayer dollar, and operated completely separately from the Visitor's Bureau. Never did Visitor's Bureau funds end up supporting the Tourism Corp., but many times, privately-raised Tourism Corp. funds were used to supplement the Visitor's Bureau," states the release.

The tourism foundation received its biggest contribution from the Lauder Foundation, in the amount of \$50,000. Ironically, Libby Pataki earned \$80,000 in 2003 from Lauder while First Lady.

"These two organizations pass neither a number of statutory requirements nor the smell test," said James Fishman, professor emeritus at Pace Law School in White Plains. "It doesn't sound appropriate. And why the need for two organizations except to buff up the salary of the executive director?"

NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman is investigating possible violations, and the state comptroller might review the use of state funds. This example of crony politics is as bad as the crony capitalism now being objected to by Republicans on the national level.

When Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino ran for governor in 2013, he did not receive the support of many powerful state Republicans, and donors – many of who come from the same political tree of former Gov. Pataki. Hopefully – and thanks to the reporting of Wilson – this type of abuse can be stopped.

And what do you know – much of what Ralph Martinelli had railed against almost 20 years ago still rings true today.

Riverfront Gallery

Continued from Page 2

cal settings. Each shot is a single long exposure.

In speaking about his work he states, "My images create a whimsical bridge between different eras and capture the radiant energy of NYC. My work dissolves many of the details of the city, and thus distills it to its brilliant essence."

Arango's elegant sculptures invite the audience to approach them and have a closer look. There, the viewer discovers an intricate world of beautiful forms placed throughout these unique works. He uses various media in his sculptures such as ceramics, glass, marble and steel, and sometimes explores the combination of all these

different elements in one piece. His work highlights the beauty of each material as he places the diverse materials in unique arrangements. There are soft edges, sharp points, rounded forms, vibrant colors and Arango maintains a steady commitment to composition throughout his process.

"The diverse qualities of materials excite my imagination such as the flexibility of clay, the rigidity of metal and the fluid nature of fired glass," he said. "I create seeking to explore the visual relationships between the materials in creating new forms."

Gallery hours and Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.ypl.org/artgallery/.

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Elementary School Winner – Angelica Lopez-Tucker

We were discriminated against for the color of our skin
Because we looked different, what was the purpose?
Slavery, murder, abuse, segregation, and inequality
Until, until, we had enough! Until, we came together.

Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood
Marshall, Malcolm X,

And many, many more ...

The grounds they marched on

The bombings caused, just because

Others thought we were different

It was thought that we were inferior

It was thought that we didn't deserve equality and liberty

The historic hallowed grounds are

And forever must be important.

And forever must be never changing,

And forever must be cherished and honored

And forever must be a reminder of having hope,

Staying strong, being faithful

And recognizing the struggles and triumphs

Of the Civil Rights Movement

And of how we have hopefully evolved.

We must preserve the memory

Of the Civil Rights Movement's hallowed grounds

And from our history we must learn from the past

And pave the way to create a better future for all

I, a child of Latino, African-American and

Native American descent

Hope for a better future

Based on respect, unity, equality and justice

Across the American landscape and beyond

For all generations to come.

Middle School Winner – Mantasha Khan 'We Are Still Equal'

White and black, was all there was

Pale and dark was how they judged

No one tried to look within

No one checked beneath the skin

Was there really some difference because of their race?

Why were the blacks, mistreated, misplaced?

A skin color does not define a person

But, the whites just wanted to conflict to worsen

If I were black, would you make me a slave?

If I were Chicano, would you exploit me and throw me away?

If I were Asian, would you discriminate me?

Everyone is equal, but they just couldn't see...

Does it make a difference if I'm a woman or a man?

Does it make a difference if I'm black or I'm tan?

Does it make a difference, if I believe in a diverse religion?

Or what if... I follow an uncommon tradition?

Would you judge me if I wore a scarf on my head?

Would you judge me if I had a cross around my neck, instead?

It's not about how you look, or in whom you believe...

It's not even about, how much in life you achieve

I know we're all contrasting in some way or another

But, that does not give us the right to evaluate the other

Yeah, we're not identical.

But that's our characteristics and physique.

Yeah, we don't think the same.

But, that's what makes us unique.

We're all varying, in our thoughts, looks, and ambitions,

But, we are still equal, no matter what gender, race, or religion.

Minority Businesses Can 'Leap Toward Success'

Westchester-based minority- and women-owned businesses will have a unique opportunity to learn how to do business with Westchester County and construction company C.W. Brown/LeChase at the 2016 Leap Toward Success With Us event on Monday, Feb. 29 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Mercy College, 555 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, in the main hall building/lecture hall. There will be networking sessions from 8 to 8:30 a.m. and

10:30 to 11 a.m.

"We are very pleased to present this important program where minority- and women-owned businesses can connect with one of the largest construction companies in the region," said Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino. "The continued success of our small businesses is key to Westchester's economic growth."

Based in Armonk, C.W. Brown/LeChase is one of the region's premier construction companies with projects throughout the Hudson Valley, Manhattan, Albany, Binghamton, Connecticut and New Jersey. Executives who will be presenting at the program include Tom Porter, vice president and general counsel; Michelle Keller, director of risk management and MWBE compliance officer; and Sherry Jackson, corporate MWBE outreach coordinator.

Presenters from the county will include William Mooney III, director of the Office of Economic Development; Carrie Mobley-Johnson, senior advisor for the Office of Minority Women-Owned Business Enterprise; Chief of Staff George Oros; and Michael Lawler, senior advisor to the county executive.

To register for the program, contact Ross Weiner at rweiner@westchestergov.com or 914-995-2945.

MLK Poetry

Continued from Page 1

school grade levels was selected by Spano and the members of his African-American Advisory Board from among more than 300 poem submissions.

"I was very impressed with the caliber of poems we received this year and it was difficult to narrow it down to just three winners," said Spano. "I am continually impressed and inspired by the talent and dedication of our city's youngest residents, our students, and I commend their work in this year's contest."

The students recited their work at the annual Black History Month celebration Feb. 18 in the ceremonial courtroom of City Hall.

We would like to share with our readers the winning poems – all of which captured our interest:

High School Winner – Kayla Casanova

From D.C. to Alabama

It all took place

There are the grounds

On which we were finally recognized as a race

From Rosa to Martin

Helping earn one right at a time

From Montgomery to Washington

Peaceful protesting was at its prime

Marching in Selma

Marching in D.C.

All contributed to the liberties we have so easily

From Southerners to Northerners

From Black to Whites

We all united as one

To end segregation

To end the one thing separating our country

We are one country

We act as two?

These are the grounds

Which contribute to modern life

All resulting from strong individuals

Taking a stand

On these hallowed grounds

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Yonkers Police Officers Promoted



Photo by Donna Davis

Mayor Mike Spano and Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner welcomed friends and families to the Riverfront Library last week for a promotion ceremony for the following members of the Yonkers Police Department who were promoted or recognized as detective:

Det. Lt. Joseph Monaco, detective captain; Lt. Bryant Pappas, captain; Sgt. William Landers, lieutenant; Sgt. Christopher Sapienza, lieutenant; Sgt. Glen Caserta, lieutenant; Sgt. Richard Alaimo, lieutenant; Det. Domenica Guzman, sergeant; P.O. Christina Zenkewich, sergeant; P.O. Dean Orgera, sergeant; P.O. Zachary Koch, sergeant; and P.O. Paul Api, detective.

The following members of the department were previously designated as detective and were recognized at the ceremony: Darryl Benjamin, Jacqueline Estevez and Robert McLaughlin.

YMA Lady

Continued from Page 1

Outside of Alexis, Mackayla, Ashley, Megan and the returners, the rest were brand new to the team and the sport of basketball. Although the starting lineup was always mixed, the typical lineup included: At the point was eighth-grade Captain Scarlett, at the guard spots were ninth-grade Captain Soto and Senior Matos, at the forward sport was eighth-grader Kastrati, and our center spot senior Lugo.

Due to a senior-heavy team from last years' group, only Scarlett, and Soto saw significant time on the court last year.

Fun, discipline, structure and teamwork are the precursors for success, and there was not one moment on the court when the Lady Eagles of Yonkers Montessori did not display those characteristics.

It also depends on what one would define as "success." The scoreboard and the team's record is not an indicator of how good this team really is. First-year Head Coach Elie Moise always says after a tough loss: "Ladies we didn't lose. Unfortunately we just ran out of time." The team's tough losses were by an average of five points. Still, the team never quit, with each of the girls showing determination, class, discipline and teamwork.

Most importantly, the team always had fun. I feel this team has done everything we have asked them to do and more, and deserves to be recognized for their efforts.

All of our seniors will be attending college this fall.

Other Scores Include

The Gorton girls won their third straight game Feb. 3, defeating Solomon Schector 45-12. On Feb. 1, Gorton beat Lincoln High School 50-46, with Coach Ennio Escoto crediting the team's success to playing well as a team with a balanced attack offensively.

"Dreonna Battle continues to score, but now freshman Asade Lindo and sophomores Jordyn Ruiz and Ashana Walker are all contributing in a big way," she said.

Gorton is now 7-10 overall, and 5-3 in league play.

Coach Handsel Minyard reported that although the Lincoln Lancers lost its last two games, the team is improving greatly as a unit. This is a young team that will get better in the future. On Feb. 4, the Lancers lost to Dobbs Ferry H.S. by the score of 67-58. Shooting poorly from the foul line (13-32) was the team's nemesis. Lincoln's Brian Baez, a junior, scored 24 points in the game.

On Feb. 5, Lincoln lost its last game of the season to the Yonkers H.S. Bulldogs 70-57. The game was close until Yonkers had a 13-2 run in the third quarter. Although Lincoln pulled to within seven points in the fourth quarter, Yonkers prevailed. The game's high scorer was Lincoln's Brian Baez with 28 points; Medin Kandic had 26 points for Yonkers.

On Feb. 2, Yonkers Montessori Academy lost to the Keio Academy 45-36. YMA had a four-point lead at half-time but lost by turning over the ball seven times in the third quarter. There were 18 turnovers total in the game. With both poor foul shooting and a 14-4 run in the

fourth quarter, YMA sealed its fate.

On Feb. 6, YMA lost to Tuckahoe H.S. 60-44. The Tuckahoe full-court press in the third quarter was too much for YMA, as Tuckahoe stretched its lead from 5 to 13 points. Leading the scoring for YMA were Philip Ladson with 15 points, Gabe Asencio with 10 points, and Ralph Sanchez with 7 points. This was YMA's last game of the season.

Boys Basketball Scores

Sacred Heart, 69 – Cathedral, 51
Hamilton, 75 – Palisades Prep, 48
Gorton, 44 – Edgemont, 43
Riverside, 63 – Roosevelt, 58
Yonkers, 68 – Gorton, 46
Roosevelt, 74 – Yonkers, 57

Girls Basketball Scores

Yonkers, 52 – Roosevelt, 29
Palisades Prep, 56 – Solomon Schechter, 25
Saunders, 44 – Yonkers, 43
Coaches, please e-mail game results to pfoley14@aol.com.

Classroom in

Continued from Page 1

For the location, a low-income neighborhood in the remote Village of Qasim Town, near Karachi, Pakistan, was chosen. The Mazin Academy, established in 2004 with two classrooms with thatched roofs, was trying very hard to provide education to the children but was very strained in its resources. Its classrooms were dingy, the benches were broken, and the wall was the blackboard.

The Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers, supported by the Anissa Latif Foundation of Bronxville, not only helped build the new classroom, but also helped provide computers for the students as part of its international projects. By naming the classroom after Letsen, the club said its founder's legacy would be spread far beyond his immediate constituency.

The children are also learning about Letsen in their new environment.

Three hundred boys and girls are currently

enrolled and receive education from first to 10th grade. The school was constructed at the center of a village community, which was not familiar with the concept of education for centuries. The residents' earnings were from begging or from daily wages that were not regular or steady earnings, and the art of saving was only but a distant dream.

The aspirations of the academy, "to raise educated children equipped with moral virtues, who would grow to serve humanity and make the world a better place," coincide with part of the Rotary vision.

Club Chairperson for International Projects Shaw Latif coordinated the project and was the club's liaison with the Anissa Latif Foundation. He was also present at the unveiling of the plaque honoring Letsen at the new classroom at The Mazin Academy.

To learn more about the Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers and its projects and activities, visit www.eastyonkersrotary.org. Also pass by the display at the main entrance of the Will Library on Central Avenue.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 29, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

LOTTERY DATE: April 4, 2016

For an application or more information please call

914-476-5070 Ext. 18

Estamos aceptando aplicaciones para los grados K-8

SESIONES INFORMATIVAS

- 26 de enero a las 2:30 p.m.
- 16 de marzo a las 9:30 a.m.

260 Warburton Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10701

LA FECHA LIMITE PARA ENTREGAR LA SOLICITUD DEL SORTEO ES EL DIA 29 DE MARZO A LAS 4:00 p.m.

LA LOTERIA SE LLEVARA A CABO EL DIA 4 DE ABRIL DEL 2016

Para obtener informacion llame al
914-476-5070 Ext. 18

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