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Yonkers Celebrates Kwanzaa



A cancer survivor joins with dancers young and old to celebrate Kwanzaa. Photo by Donna Davis.

The Yonkers Riverfront Library hosted a Kwanzaa celebration Dec. 27, sponsored by the Yonkers African-American Heritage Committee, the Yonkers Family YMCA, the Riverfront

Children's Department and Sister to Sister International.

Community members, families and children.
Continued With More Photos on Page 8

Happy New Year, Yonkers: Election 2015 Has Begun

By Dan Murphy

With the start of a new year comes a number of key elections in the City of Yonkers in November, with voters selecting who will lead the city as mayor, who will sit in three City Council seats and in three County Board of Legislators seats.

The biggest race in 2015 will be for mayor, as incumbent Mike Spano is expected to run for a second term and to date, has no announced candidates stepping forward to challenge him.

Businessman Frank Spotorno, who had been exploring a run for mayor, contacted Spano to inform him that he is withdrawing his name as a possible mayoral candidate.

"I have noticed how your administration has been working to redevelop our downtown and invest in our future, especially our children," Spotorno said to Spano. "I will be a vocal advocate for aligning our economic agenda to include critical investments in education, which is something we cannot leave to our state or federal governments to solve.

"I hope we will be able to brainstorm to find new and creative solutions to further educate the public on the importance of bringing American manufacturing and American industry back to Yonkers and our country," he continued. "And I look forward to your administration resolving all union contracts to move our city forward...I will continue to consider running for an elective office in the future, but I will not be a candidate for mayor this year."

Spotorno's decision not to run for mayor leaves no announced challengers for Spano. Several candidates who have been mentioned as possible candidates include former Mayor John Spencer, former Yonkers Fire Department Commissioner Tony Pagano, YFD Local 628 President Barry McGoe, and former council members Bill Nuckle and Joan Gronowski.

There is also still ample time for another mayoral candidate to step forward

Three seats on the Yonkers City Council are also up for election this year, with Councilman Christopher Johnson (first district), Councilman Michael Sabatino (third district) and Councilman Mike Breen (fifth district), all expected to seek re-election.

Two Democrats have been mentioned as possible candidates to challenge Breen. Don Weigand, vice president of student affairs at Westchester Community College, and 10th Ward Democratic leader and attorney Dusan



County Legislator Bernice Spreckman

Lakic are both said to be considering a run.

Yonkers Republicans are also expected to field a challenge to Sabatino, but no names have yet to surface.

Three of the four county legislative districts that represent Yonkers should have competitive races this fall. There is wide speculation that County Legislator Bernice Spreckman will not seek re-election, after serving the people of Yonkers with distinction for four decades. While Spreckman has yet to make an announcement on her future plans, both parties are circulating possible successors, with BOL Aide David Tubiolo on the Republican side and Democrats George Kevgas or Euthimios Theotokatos on the other side, in the 14th district.

Republican County Legislator Gordon Burrows might also have a formidable opponent this year, with an active Yonkers Democrat considering a run.

We also hear that Surrogate Judge Anthony Scarpino might be going in private practice, and there are already some names circulating out there in both parties as replacements.

There is also a Supreme Court judge seat open this year, and many hopefuls have been "on line" waiting for the Democratic Party nomination. Some names from Yonkers rumored as possible entrants include Yonkers Family Court Judge Hal Greenwald, Acting Family Court Judge Mary Anne Scattaretico Naber and City Court Judge Tom Daly.

Much more on Yonkers' election 2015 in the weeks to come.

Chanukah: 8 Nights to Rejoice



Dr. Jonathan Dzik directs the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale Community Choir with the synagogue's large, oil-filled menorah before him. Photo by Robert Kalfus.

By Robert Kalfus

On the fifth night of Chanukah, Saturday night, Dec. 20, more than 10 dozen people — members of Lincoln Park Jewish Center and

friends — celebrated the Festival of Lights at the synagogue's annual Chanukah party.

Rabbi Rigoberto Emmanuel Vinas intoned
Continued With More Photos on Page 8

Yonkers Art Beat: Cuba Native Discusses Art & Culture



Cuba native and Yonkers artist Nelson Alvarez in his YOHO studio.

By Adam Shultz

The recent announcement of the opening of diplomatic relations between Cuba and

the United States has certainly stirred mixed reactions, as such developments on the world
Continued on Page 5

Cross Hill Academy Earns School of the Month Award



Cross Hill Academy students welcome Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano to celebrate their school of the month designation.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano last week presented the city's School of the Month Award to Cross Hill Academy, specifically recognizing the school's philosophy of focusing on the social and emotional wellness of each of its students.

"I was very impressed with Cross Hill Academy's commitment to providing an education that exceeds far beyond the classroom," he said. "Their focus on philanthropy, positive behavior and professional development is shaping our students into well-rounded individuals."

Through partnerships with community-based organizations, students are taught to make connections to the world they live in and explore topics that weave concepts learned in the classroom. Cross Hill Academy partners include Hudson River Healthcare, TGI Fridays, JCY Westchester, Groundworks and Margaret's Place-Joe Torre Foundation, among others.

"We are proud of the progress that Cross Hill Academy has made and appreciate the support of the administration, staff and PTA," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Yazurlo.

Students at Cross Hill Academy are also taught the importance of philanthropic efforts. Eighth-grade students have the opportunity to fundraise for charitable organizations of their choice, teaching them to shift perception from the individual to the community.

Clubs are a large part of the atmosphere at Cross Hill Academy. The "Image Club" directed at middle school female students promotes positive self-image and self-esteem. Other clubs include physical education, photography and music.

"On behalf of the Board of Education trustees and the administration I would like to thank Mayor Spano for allowing us to exemplify and recognize the achievements of the Yonkers Public Schools," said Yonkers Board of Education President Dr. Nader Sayegh. "This initiative undertaken by the mayor truly displays the commitment to quality education and student achievement."

Spano's School of the Month recognition program began in January 2014 as a way to celebrate the significant academic success, extracurricular achievements and community volunteerism of the students, teachers, administration and staff at Yonkers Public Schools.

Honor Society Recognizes Roosevelt H.S. Students



Roosevelt-Early College High School scholars Angel Marie Moorero, left, and Jamika Holmes.

The National Society of High School Scholars has recognized junior Jamika Holmes and senior Angel Marie Moorero of Roosevelt High School-Early College Studies for superior academic achievement.

Since 2002, the NSHSS has been recognizing top scholars for demonstrating outstanding leadership, scholarship and community commitment. The NSHSS encourages students to build on their academic successes and enhance their skills and

desires to have a positive impact on the global community.

Currently there are more than one million Society members in more than 160 countries. Membership entitles qualified students to enjoy a wide variety of benefits, including scholarship opportunities, academic competitions, free events, member-only resources, publications, participation in programs offered by educational partners, personalized recognition items and publicity honors.

Cerebral Palsy of Westchester Members Get Spa Treatment



Brenda Brown gets a haircut from a Saunders cosmetology student.

The Saunders Trades and Technical High School cosmetology program recently went above and beyond to bring a day full of joy to 10 men and women from the Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's Vocational Service and Day Habilitation Without Walls to enjoy a day of haircuts, manicures and makeup.

Brenda Brown took the lead in making a bold decision in cutting off her beautiful, blond locks for a short bob, and Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's Grace Gerety was all smiles, singing Christmas carols while getting her nails done.

The cosmetology program did a wonderful job in ensuring all the adults that they would get the ultimate spa treatment by even handing out cookies during the process.

The Saunders Trades and Technical High School cosmetology program is a three-year program designed to teach students all the requirements necessary to take both the written and practical exam at the end of the third year. In addition, a cooperative program has been added to the 12th grade curriculum to give students a hands-on experience.

Gaming Board Decision is Good News for Empire Casino

Last month, the people of Yonkers received good news from the New York State Gaming Facility Location Board, when the board declined to approve a new casino in Orange County. The decision protects Yonkers' own Empire Casino at Yonkers Raceway, and the jobs and revenues it provides for the city and its residents.

The board did, however, approve one new casino for Sullivan County in the Catskills.

The concern with building any casino or granting any gaming license for Orange County was that a new casino, a short distance from existing facilities in Yonkers, would have had a negative impact on Empire Casino.

"I am pleased the Gaming Facility Loca-

tion Board heard our voices and did not authorize a full-scale gaming casino in Orange County and instead selected one for Sullivan County, as we had urged," said Assembly member Shelley Mayer, who worked with her legislative colleagues to try and protect Empire Casino and Yonkers.

"This decision respects the underlying

intent of the legislation we passed, which was to support struggling upstate communities without damaging the economic power of Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway," she said. "I applaud the Board's careful examination of the facts and wise recommendations. They will help Yonkers, Westchester County and the downstate region continue to prosper, while expanding gaming to New York's struggling upstate counties."

Empire Casino at Yonkers Raceway Chief Counsel Tim Rooney Jr. explained that the Gaming Facility Location Board conducted a thorough review of applications for casino licenses and "wisely recommended" that Orange County not be a site for a casino in the Catskill region.

"We applaud them for their work and ultimate determination that Sullivan County represents the region's best hope for economic revitalization through casino and resort development," he said. "We thank our elected representatives, businesses and community groups who made a strong and convincing case that any effort to site a new casino not jeopardize the nearly 1,400 jobs and billions of dollars Empire City provides for education and other government services. While the committee's decision to defer on the fourth license is of concern, we believe that the arguments against (locating) a casino in Orange County and the compelling reasons one was rejected will remain."

In addition to the jobs that makes Empire Casino Yonkers' number one employer, the Yonkers Public Schools receives \$20 million in revenue from the casino every year.

John Ravitz, executive vice president and COO of The Business Council of Westchester, released the following statement regarding the commission's decision not to approve a gaming license for Orange County.

"After many hearings and a lot of lobbying from the business community, the Gaming Commission stayed with the intent of the law and rightly did not view Orange County as a distressed community," he said. "Doing so could have cannibalized an already successful business in Yonkers that employs thousands of people and generates hundreds of millions of dollars for New York."

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"We aim to inspire, motivate and instill a love for learning in all children"

This, Too, is 2015

By Eric W. Schoen

I always like to bring a little gift to my doctors and their secretaries for Christmas/Chanukah/New Year. Since I was a naughty boy on my diet over the holidays – I indulged from noon to midnight Christmas Eve and celebrated Chanukah on Christmas Day with cousins (the only time everyone was available), and enjoyed a myriad of parties from City Hall to



Eric W. Schoen

Guilios on Park Hill – I didn't think it would be politically correct if I brought candy, cookies or other sweets to my doctors' offices this holiday season.

Which got me to thinking: How about bringing a box of cuties – those little mandarin oranges. They are sweet for a sweet New Year, fairly healthy and at least the doctor will think I am thinking healthy thoughts as we enter 2015. Hopefully, he will not yell at me too much for the holiday pounds Santa brought me for Christmas.

The holidays are by far my favorite time of the year. Nothing beats being surrounded by family and friends and good food. Whether it be the traditional Italian fish Christmas Eve meal my family has shared with the Costantini family for close to 50 years; Christmas Eve with my friends the Pascarella/Koslow family with manicotti, chicken parmesan and my favorite pigs in the blanket; or the sumptuous feast prepared by my cousins the Meyerowitz/Jaffee clan, I am truly thankful for the abundance I have been blessed with.

Not to mention the companionship and good tidings shared by everyone around the respective tables!

It's hard to believe New Year 2015 is upon us. My resolutions for the New Year? Of course, I know I have to lose weight. Every year some new fad diet comes on the market making its author mega-rich, but I learned a long time ago that there is no secret to dieting... You can't lose weight downing an Entenmann's crumb cake.

Diets filled with lean protein, plenty of salads and vegetables and low on carbohydrates have kept our European friends slender for years. The protein and salad and vegetables make you feel full and energize your body. Lean chicken gives you energy; donuts and bagels smeared with cream cheese do not.

Some readers have taken me to task, claiming that I am too easy on our elected and appointed officials. That has to change in 2015, particularly with local elections on the horizon. Having served in government for close to 30 years, I have a unique perspective on what is right and what is wrong. Readers of this column know that I have no problems taking on Democrats or Republicans when I think their actions are not in the best interests of the citizenry.

People are unhappy with the actions of their elected officials, yet how many of us step up to the plate and run for office. I am not questioning the fact that they are good public servants, but so many of the folks I voted for on Election Day ran unopposed this year. This is not the way a democracy is supposed to work.

In the New Year I hope to identify more volunteer opportunities for readers. There are so many people, young and old alike, who have so much to offer. And there are so many people who desperately need your help.

Whether it be tutoring reading a couple hours a week, serving as a mentor to college-bound students or helping sort books for a library sale to raise money for programming, opportunities for volunteering are plentiful and can be truly rewarding for the volunteers and those who are the recipients of their generosity.

I find that half my readers enjoy when I "wax nostalgic" and the other half of my readers enjoy when I give you my take on current events. I try to blend the two but the events in New York City over the last two weeks, which, because we are so close affect Yonkers and Westchester, need discussion.

I was deeply disturbed when the head of the New York Police Benevolent Association several weeks ago encouraged his members to sign statements saying that in case they get killed in the line of duty, they do not want the mayor or police commissioner of New York to attend their funerals. For a union leader to publicly talk about police officers getting killed in the line of duty I find offensive.

If an officer's family didn't want the mayor, police commissioner or anyone else to attend a funeral, I would hope the individual involved would respect their wishes.

Like you, I was saddened when two fine, young police officers got shot sitting in their patrol car in Brooklyn, keeping the neighborhood in their jurisdiction safe. Because the shooter took his own life, we will never know why the man who killed Officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu did what he did.

Blaming the mayor of New York for this tragedy is like blaming Sarah Palin for the gunman who shot Congressman Gabby Giffords as she met constituents at the grocery store. It makes no sense.

After a Grand Jury did not indict the police officer involved in the Eric Garner case, New York Mayor Bill de Blasio made some statements that offended many members of the NYPD. He has to apologize for his statements or at the very least clarify what he said. Having a known agitator like the Rev. Al Sharpton at the table only makes matters worse.

The police union leaders have to apologize for their comments that de Blasio had "blood on his hands" for encouraging hostility toward police – and in my book, they have to apologize for asking their members to sign statements that in case they get killed they don't want the mayor or police commissioner at their funerals.

As this column goes to press, Mayor de Blasio and Police Commissioner Bratton are scheduled to meet with the police unions. Let's hope and pray that as they break bread during this holiday season, they will end the friction that currently exists and find common ground.

If you see a police officer on the streets of Yonkers – or anywhere in Westchester – say "hello" and tell them to "stay safe." They protect us 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Thank them for their service.

Let us all pray for peace around the world and right here at home as we enter 2015.

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@aol.com and follow him on Twitter @ericnyonkers. 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.

Who Dumped Trash at Chicken Island? \$1K Reward



Illegal dumping at Chicken Island will not be tolerated, said Mayor Mike Spano.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced last week that the Yonkers Police Department will begin an immediate investigation into an illegal dumping incident at a municipal parking lot known as Chicken Island. A large dumpster-size pile of debris was discovered early in the morning Dec. 29 and was apparently dumped over the Christmas holiday weekend.

YPD, the Yonkers Department of Public Works and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation were on site Monday morning, and the police department began a joint investigation with DEC to pursue those responsible for the illegal dumping.

Following the conclusion of the investigation, Yonkers DPW will clear the site.

"The City of Yonkers will not tolerate illegal dumping, period," said Mayor Mike Spano. "The act of dumping is not only a health and environmental hazard, it is offensive to everyone who lives and works in our city. That's why I have ordered the police department to launch an immediate investigation into the incident at Chicken Island."

According to City Code, it is illegal to dump debris "in or upon any street, lot, park, public place or other area, whether publicly or privately owned." Under an ordinance sought

after by Spano and passed by the City Council in 2012, fines for illegal dumping were increased from \$500 to a minimum of \$5,000 per violation, and as much as \$10,000 in the most severe cases.

Additionally, vehicles that unlawfully dump will be impounded immediately and subject to forfeiture proceedings.

In December 2012, Spano launched a new hotline for residents to report any instance of illegal dumping, which can be reached at 914-377-DUMP (3869). The city also offers a reward of up to \$1,000 to anyone who reports a case of illegal dumping, in which a conviction is secured. Since launching the anti-dumping hotline, YPD has made numerous arrests for dumping violations.

"Every Yonkers resident has a role to play in keeping our city beautiful," said Spano. "Our message is simple: If you see something, say something."

"The Yonkers Police Department takes cases of illegal dumping very seriously," said Police Commissioner Charles Gardner. "We intend to pursue those responsible for this illegal act and prosecute the responsible party to the fullest extent of the law. I encourage any person with information to call the anti-dumping hotline at 914-377-DUMP (3869)."

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Westchester Bank Selects New Chairman of the Board

The Westchester Bank recently announced the election of Thomas Smith as chairman of the Board of Directors, effective Dec. 23, 2014. Smith is a founder of The Westchester Bank and has served as a board member since the bank's inception in 2008. He will replace W. Thomas Clark, who will continue to serve on the board.

Smith is presently the managing partner of the law firm of Smith, Buss and Jacobs, with offices in Manhattan and Yonkers, and serves as managing member of real estate companies that own and operate office, retail and residential properties in Westchester and Fairfield counties.

He was also a member of the Mount Kisco Zoning Board of Appeals and the Bedford Central School District Construction Steering Committee, and brings numerous strengths to the bank, includ-



Thomas Smith

ing legal expertise, knowledge of finance, experience with federal agencies and real estate industry.

"It's a personal privilege to serve as chairman and I thank the entire board for the faith they have placed in me to continue the success and unprecedented growth we've had the fortune to experience under Tom Clark's leadership," said Smith. "Our financial strength in the banking community is directly attributable to excellence at every level of the organization - from our board members to an exceptional management team and staff dedicated to executing our business model of 'Banking Made Personal.' That's the essence and advantage of being a successful community bank."

For more information about The Westchester Bank products and personal services, visit www.TheWestchesterBank.com.

Free Career & Educational Counseling Offered at Library

The Yonkers Public Library Grinton I. Will Branch, in conjunction with WEBS Career and Educational Counseling Service, is offering a free eight-week seminar for adults called "Take Charge! Career/Life Planning Over 50."

Its purpose is to help adults over 50 assess themselves and plan a direction for the next stage of life. Options that will be considered include part-time and full-time work, volunteerism, entrepreneurial ventures and learning and leisure opportunities.

The 19-hour seminar consists of an orientation session, eight group sessions and one individual session with a career counselor.

The Yonkers Public Library Grinton I. Will Branch is one of five public libraries in the county participating in the WEBS project. Sponsored by the Westchester Library System, WEBS has counseled more than 40,000 adults in the Westchester area.

Those who wish to attend the program must call WEBS at 914-674-3612 on or after Jan. 5 to register. Places will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Upcoming 'Mini' Courses At Sarah Lawrence College

Two "mini" courses, "The Anatomy of Catastrophes and Black Swan Events: Warnings Ignored or Misperceived," and "Music and Metaphysical Impulse," will be offered Wednesday, Jan. 14 through Friday, Jan. 16 at Sarah Lawrence College. Presented by Friends of the Sarah Lawrence College Library, the seminars are free to members.

The mini-courses will be taught by Vice President of Administration Tom Blum and music faculty member Martin Goldray, respectively.

Blum's course will explore factors that diminished the capacity of scientists, engineers and government leaders to predict and prevent catastrophic or near-catastrophic events. The class, from 10 a.m. to noon, will look at the Space Shuttle Program, the practice of medicine and such calamitous events as the Sept. 11 attacks.

Goldray's course will examine works of Western classical tradition as a vehicle of metaphysical and spiritual ideas. A vital component of various liturgies, music can be a physical, temporal, impermanent art that has the ability to conjure the eternal and immutable. Composers studied will include Bach, Beethoven, Wagner and Stravinsky.

This class meets from 1 to 3 p.m. Goldray, a Fulbright scholar, pianist and conductor, has been at Sarah Lawrence since 1998.

For the interval between classes, bring a bagged lunch and something to share; coffee and tea will be available.

For information about membership with the Friends of the Sarah Lawrence College Library, call 914-395-2432 or e-mail alexand@slc.edu.

Discover the Hero in You at Yonkers Riverfront Library

The Yonkers Riverfront Library children's and teen departments invite young people ages 10 to 19 to discover the hero within themselves

by participating in an interactive, multi-media workshop featuring crafts, acting, discussion and more Wednesday, Jan. 14 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Community Room (second floor).

Miss Kat and Z will lead children and teens in a variety of activities designed to encourage youth to become more aware of their choices, recognize how they can affect people and situations, and learn tools and strategies that will help them make their young voices heard.

The program is a preview to the 2015 Summer Reading Program, which will feature the theme "Heroes - Every Hero Has a Story: Escape the Ordinary." According to Children's Librarian Michelle Halpern, the program is a great way for children and teens to work creatively together on the path of empowerment.

"Teens and children should know that one person, no matter how young, can and does make a difference in the world," she said. "We can all be everyday heroes."

The workshop is limited to 30 participants, and registration begins Saturday, Jan. 3. To register, call the children's department at 914-337-1500, ext. 428, or visit the second floor at the Riverfront Library and speak to a staff member. Children and teens are encouraged to bring their library card to the program to check out books from displays.

This is a free event.

The Riverfront Library, located at One Larkin Center, is handicapped accessible, and parking is available at the Buena Vista and Warburton parking garages. For more information, visit www.ypl.org.

Cottage Gardens Residents To Receive Housing Vouchers

Congressman Eliot Engel announced last week that the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers will receive 35 housing vouchers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help relocate families living in Cottage Place Gardens.

Engel attended a groundbreaking for the Warburton Apartments, which is part of the second phase of a new development that will soon replace the aging Cottage Place Gardens Complex.

"The Warburton Apartments are certainly a welcome addition to the community, but we

also need to ensure those currently living in Cottage Place Gardens have access to safe, affordable housing," he said.

"These federal funds will help them secure adequate housing.

"I am also pleased that local, state and federal resources will be used to fix and repair our existing public housing facilities," Engel continued. "The Warburton Apartments will enable more working families to secure a home, as well as improve our neighborhoods and the quality of life for the people who live there."

YPS Graduation Rate Increases 4 Percent

Yonkers Public Schools achieved a strong increase in graduation rates as of August 2014, according to the New York State Education Department's recently-released statewide 2010 Cohort data. Yonkers' high schools graduating rate is up to 76 percent district-wide for 2014, an increase of 4 percent from 2013.

"The district growth is significant this year," said Board of Education President Dr. Nader Sayegh. There has been 8 percent growth since the 2006 cohort, which increased 4 percent in 2007 and remained level at 72 percent for cohorts 2008 and 2009.

"The data confirms our administrators and teachers are implementing strategies that are working," he said.

The pattern of high-percentage gains for on-time graduates is validated when comparing the Cohort 2010-Class of 2014 to the Cohort 2009-Class 2013:

Female graduates - plus 4 to 80 percent; Male - plus 3 to 72 percent; Black or African-

American - plus 3 to 67 percent; Hispanic or Latino - plus 3 to 76 percent; Asian or Pacific Islander - plus 6 to 93 percent; White - plus 1 to 80 percent; and students with disabilities - plus 9 to 48 percent.

The Aspirational Performance Measure increased from 9.7 to 14.8 percent.

"While much work remains to be done, the significant 5.1 percent increase in the number of students who met this demanding demonstration of college and career readiness shows we are moving in the right direction," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Yazurlo.

"I'm confident there is a connection between the gains in the graduation rates and APM, and our emphasis with administrators' and teachers' engagement with student achievement data... Administrators will continue to analyze subgroup data to design additional strategies for improving outcomes for all students."

Two Popular New Year Resolutions

By Ann Muro

Prior to each New Year, we often hear of many New Year resolutions that family, friends and others promise to keep. The suc-

cess rate is another issue, but here are two of the most "popular" resolutions: losing weight and stop smoking.

New Year Resolution - To Lose Weight

*She does not like the way she looks
Since she gained all that weight
And the clothing styles stores have for her
She really, really hates.*

*Could it be all those pasta carbs
Or lack of exercise
That went ahead and put the fat
On her hips and thighs.*

*She knows what caused her problem
Although it's hard to say
You see she loves to watch TV
And stay in bed all day.*

*The only time she gets up
Is to go and use the "John"
And after that she checks the fridge
For eggplant parmigiana*

*She must quickly shed that weight
And get out of that bed
Cause this is what her doctor
Has always, always said.*

*Now she says,
"Goodbye to soap operas
And all that's on TV.
My New Year's Resolution
Is to do what's right for me..."*

New Year's Resolution - Quit Smoking

*One thing I love with breakfast
No it's not a buttered roll
Yes, it is a cigarette
That with time will take its toll*

*Each year I say I'll give them up
And throw the pack away
Still I find it oh so hard
To make it through the day*

*I'll go and grab another pack
And make excuses too
Like claiming they relax me
When things are tough to do*

*Yet, I can't stop coughing
And wheezing all day long
I really have to give them up
"With power, please be strong!"*

*For a happy, healthy New Year
I know what I must do
Make that my resolution
And you should make one too*

*Let's keep our resolutions
Whatever they may be
So together then we both can claim,
"A resolution victory!"*

Happy New Year!

YONKERS RISING

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Tip Your Hat For Pie Day and Social Security

By **Julissa Javier**
Social Security assistant district manager,
Yonkers

A hundred years ago, no one would leave the house without a hat. Hats were everywhere – top hats, cowboy hats, stovepipe hats and even pork pie hats. Women wore elaborate hats to church, matching them to their fashionable outfits.

Today, people celebrate their favorite sports teams with ball caps, and we celebrate National Hat Day on Jan. 15.

Social Security wears many hats to provide you with world-class customer service and benefits. One of those hats is as administrator of the nation's Social Security Disability Insurance Program, known as SSDI. This program provides critical support to some of our most vulnerable citizens – those with severe disabilities.

You can start your disability application online from the convenience of home by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability. You will save time and money by avoiding a trip to a Social Security office, and you can wear your favorite fedora while you do it!

And, hats off to Pie Day on Jan. 23! Planning and applying for retirement is as easy as pie at www.socialsecurity.gov/retirement, where

you'll have quick and easy access to online financial planning tools like the Retirement Estimator, which lets you experiment with different earnings and retirement dates to make sure your slice of retirement is just right for you.

Make sure you have your piece of the pie covered: Create your personal "My Social Security" account to view your Social Security statement instantly and to learn about retirement benefits you can receive. Sign up for your account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

Wearing another hat, Social Security offers survivors' benefits. Once you've registered for a "My Social Security" account, view your Social Security statement to see the total survivors' benefits your family may receive if something happens to you. Take the time now to make sure your family is provided for in the event of your death.

You can get started at www.socialsecurity.gov/survivorplan. Now there's a plan that's fully baked!

Whether you are retiring, are disabled or are a survivor, you can use the online benefits planners at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners to understand your Social Security protection better.

Like a good hat, Social Security has you covered.

St. John's Offers Medical Billing & Coding Program

The Institute for Health Education and Research at St. John's Riverside Hospital, in association with Dr. Reeham Neshiwat of Westchester Coder, Inc., is offering a certified medical billing and coding program in March.

Classes will take place Mondays and Wednesdays for five weeks, from 5:30 to 10 p.m., beginning March 16. They will be held at

St. John's Riverside Hospital, Andrus Pavilion, 967 North Broadway, Yonkers. The cost for this class is \$1,850.

To register, contact Brenda Hartley at 914-964-4274; registration begins Tuesday, Jan. 6. For more information, call the Institute for Health Education and Research at 914-798-8965.

'Crazy Winter Days' at Library

Are the long, dark days of winter getting you down? Join the Yonkers Riverfront Library children's department from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Mondays in January and February for Miss Kat's "Crazy Winter Days." Children ages 8 to 12 are invited to play games, explore theater, solve puzzles, make crafts and more.

These are free Events.

The program will not take place Jan. 19

(Martin Luther King Jr. Day) or Feb. 16 (Presidents' Day).

The Riverfront Library, located at One Larkin Center, is handicapped accessible, and parking is available at the Buena Vista and Warburton parking garages.

For more information, call the children's department at 914-337-1500, ext. 428, or visit www.ypl.org.

Yonkers Art

Continued from Page 1

stage can have a direct effect on our friends and neighbors in unexpected ways.

I had the pleasure of sitting down with Cuba-born YOHO artist Nelson Alvarez to discuss his studio work for this column. Nelson was born in Cuba in 1966, living much of his childhood and young adult life in Havana. He described a life of simple means and struggle within the impoverished communist system under Castro, permeated by elements of Russian culture. As with any artist, his work today is heavily influenced by experiences through his life.

Nelson's work seems to draw upon the differences and personal reconciliation between his former life in communist Cuba and a life of freedom in the United States.

Much of Nelson's family was involved in political dissident activities in Cuba; many were forced to flee abroad or face imprisonment. To shield Nelson from suspicion of the same, Nelson's mother enrolled him into La patrulla Click (Click Patrol) at a young age.

The Click Patrol was a government program engaged in outreach to the community for awareness of energy conservation in the household. Nelson said this effort wasn't so much to give in to the system, but try to work within it as a method of survival. He felt everyone in Cuba resented the oppressive power structure that was in place and wore what seemed like masks to conceal these sentiments.

As a young adult, Nelson entered into mandatory military service, spending three years in the long-running conflict in the African nation of Angola. Cuba was a heavily involved participant in Angola, which served as a proxy war within the greater Cold War. He worked within the military supply lines and was frequently exposed to the horrors of war.

After his service, he experienced what we know as post-traumatic stress syndrome. Spending quite some time in listless depres-

sion, he finally broke out of it when he discovered his interest in the arts. He moved to Puerto Rico where he spent six years working in ceramics, painting and drawing.

Nelson moved to the United States in 2002, settling in New Jersey. He studied as an arts educator at Kean University, and went on to complete his master's in fine arts at Lehman College in the Bronx. He presently teaches art to kindergarten through eighth grade in the Newark school system.

He said he feels his work in his Yonkers studio is closely implemented in his classes, and in turn,

those experiences are implemented back into his work. His paintings often feature industrial settings he has encountered in the northeast United States, which was a stark contrast to the agricultural industrial focus of Cuba within the communist bloc. The misshapen canvases serve as a metaphor for how we reshape our environment with our activities.

Nelson is constantly drawing, even away from the studio, doing studies and exploring new avenues for his work.

I asked Nelson how he felt about current developments in the relationship between the U.S. and Cuba, and he was very enthusiastic about it. He said he feels like the people of Cuba now can benefit from any effort to effect change over the status quo. Asked if he sees himself returning to Cuba one day under different conditions, Nelson said he would like to, but not just to live.

While he very much appreciates his new life of freedom in the U.S., he sees himself as a citizen of the world and wishes to remain as close as possible to the freedom he has come to enjoy.

Nelson's work can be viewed online at www.nelsonarte.com.

Adam Shultz is a practicing studio artist at the YOHO arts district of Yonkers and is involved with various arts groups around Yonkers. He can be contacted at shultzadam@aol.com.

Astorino & Day: Put Bank Settlement Funds Toward TZ



Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino with Rockland County Executive Ed Day next to the Tappan Zee Bridge.

Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino and Rockland County Executive Ed Day called on Gov. Andrew Cuomo last week to use a substantial portion of the \$5 billion the state received in settlements with BNP Paribas SA and Credit Suisse Group AG over economic and tax improprieties to help pay for the new Tappan Zee Bridge, which began construction earlier this year.

The two men, who lead the counties where the bridge sits on either side of the Hudson, said \$1.95 billion represents a fair and equitable figure for a bridge that currently has no funding plan in place.

"The bank settlement funds should be spent entirely on state infrastructure projects and not on recurring expenses, and a large portion of those funds should be used to help pay for the new Tappan Zee, a bridge of critical regional and statewide economic importance," said Astorino.

"In the absence of anything definite from Albany, County Executive Astorino and I worked together to develop a Tappan Zee Bridge funding plan of our own – a reasonable, workable and smart solution," added Day. "Our commuters and businesses simply cannot afford the burden of even higher tolls. Our idea to use a portion of the state's bank settlement money to fund bridge construction will keep the economic wheels moving in both Rockland and Westchester counties."

Astorino and Day said they came up with the \$1.95 billion figure because it is half the cost of the new \$3.9 billion bridge and because it represents about 40 percent of the bank settlement windfall. They say 40 percent is more than fair, considering the bridge's far-reaching impact and importance as a key bridge between upstate New York and Westchester, New York

City and Long Island.

Nearly 40 percent of southbound crossings of the Tappan Zee end in New York City or Long Island, according to the New York State Department of Transportation.

More than 138,000 vehicles cross the Tappan Zee Bridge every day, which makes it the third-most traveled bridge in New York State, after the George Washington (276,150) and Verrazano Narrows (182,676) – both controlled by the Port Authority.

According to the Construction Industry Council of Westchester, the seven counties that make up the lower Hudson Valley (Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster and Columbia) have been historically shortchanged by the state, receiving 12 percent of New York State's transportation funds. Long Island receives 24 percent – twice as much. Yet, Long Island only has about 25 percent more population than the seven lower Hudson Valley counties (2.9 million to 2.3 million).

Finally, Astorino and Day said that without using a substantial portion of the bank settlement, motorists on the Thruway – not just on the Tappan Zee Bridge – will face big toll hikes.

"The Tappan Zee Bridge toll hike would be sky high, but drivers throughout the state would see big toll hikes, as well," said Astorino. "This all can be prevented by doing the smart and sensible thing and that's to make a sizable investment of the bank settlement funds into this project. The money is right there. We just need the governor to resist the temptation to spread the wealth to special interests and recurring expenses. With infrastructure investments everyone benefits."

Astorino and Day have sent their proposal to Cuomo in a formal letter.

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Legal Notices

SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY. HUDSON CITY SAVINGS BANK, Pltf. vs. LAWRENCE MAINIERO, et al, Defts. Index #64572/12. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale dated May 16th, 2013, I will sell at public auction in the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd., White Plains, NY, on Feb. 6th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., prem. k/a 13 Baiton St. a/k/a 15 Baiton St., Yonkers, NY. Said property lying and being in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of New York, being shown and designated as Lot No. 6 and part of Lot No. 5 on a certain map entitled "Map of Archer Heights on Trenchard St., 2nd Ward of Yonkers, NY" made by Geo. Raynor, C.E. dated May 30, 1892 and filed in the Westchester County Clerk's Office, Division of Land Records on June 19, 1892 in Vol. 12 of Maps at page 6. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$282,093.84 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. JOHN N. ROMANO, Referee. COHN & ROTH, Attys. for Pltf., 100 East Old Country Rd., Ste. 28, Mineola, NY. #85282

#1335 01/02 - 01/23

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.

1. Bid 5894 - Opening date 1/5/2015 - furnish & install environmental rack systems for computer servers.
2. Bid 5895 - Opening date 1/5/2015 - televising & cleaning of sewers and drains on an emergency as needed basis,
3. Bid 5896 - Opening date 1/28/2015 - furnish & install fiber optic conduit in the Nepperhan Avenue walkway between City Hall and Cacace Justice Center.
4. Bid 5897 - Opening date 1/28/2015 - Asbestos abatement at Fire Station 10.

#1334 01/02/2015

TAX SALE NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS

Department of Finance and Management Services, Office of the Commissioner, City Hall, Yonkers, New York.

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 452, Laws of 1908, known as the Supplemental Charter of the City of Yonkers, as amended by Chapter 725, of the Laws of 1917, adding thereto a new article numbered Article V-a, as further amended by Chapter 487, Laws of 1922, and as further amended by Chapter 667, Laws of 1933, as amended by Article IX Section 1 of Local Law No. 20-1961, as amended by Section 57 of Local Law 11 of 1995, and any subsequent amendments thereto, known as the Charter of the City of Yonkers, I, the undersigned Commissioner of Finance and Management Services of the City of Yonkers, do hereby give public notice:

That the respective owners of the lands and tenements in the City of Yonkers on which any taxes or assessments have been imposed and became a lien and have remained unpaid for one year since the same were due and payable are required to pay the amount of said taxes and assessments, together with all unpaid taxes and assessments affecting such lands and tenements, which became a lien and were due and payable prior to December 16, 2014 with all penalties thereon remaining unpaid, together with the interest thereon at the rate provided by law from the time the same became due and payable to the time of payment, and the charges of this notice and all other costs and charges accrued thereon to the time of payment, to the Commissioner of Finance and Management Services of the City of Yonkers, at his office in the City Hall, Yonkers, New York.

And Notice is hereby given that if default be made in such payment, the lien of the City of Yonkers, upon said lands and tenements for any tax or assessment, which became a lien so as to be due and payable before December 16, 2014; will be sold at public auction in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, in the City of Yonkers, on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at 10:00 A.M. of that date, for the lowest rate of interest, not exceeding 12 per centum per annum, at which time any person or persons shall offer to take the same in consideration of advancing the said taxes and assessments and penalties, as the case may be, the interest thereon as aforesaid to the time of sale, the charges of notice and all other costs and charges accrued thereon; and that such sale will be continued from time to time until all said liens of taxes and assessments shall be sold.

The transfer of tax liens to be executed and delivered to the purchaser thereof pursuant to the terms of said sale shall be subject to the lien for and the right of the City of Yonkers to collect and receive all taxes and assessments and penalties and interest thereon which became due and payable, of which became a lien upon said lands and tenements on and after the date mentioned in the advertisement for sale as stated herein, namely, the 16th day of December, 2014.

Each of the tax liens referred to in this advertisement will be sold subject to the provisions of the Federal Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act and amendments thereto and Section 313 and 314 of the State Military Law.

Notice is hereby further given that a particular and detailed statement of the property affected by this sale, together with the total amount of the tax lien thereon, which are to be sold will hereafter be published in the official newspaper(s) of the City of Yonkers.

FURTHER OR ADDITIONAL, TAX SALE NOTICE

In addition to the foregoing Tax Sale Notice and Statutes therein described, the further or additional notice is given setting forth the lots and parcels of land, including the street address thereof, on which the tax lien is to be sold together with the aggregate amount of tax lien thereon, and the assessed valuation of every said lot and parcel as described in the 2013 Tax Rolls as approved by the Department of Assessment and Taxation and confirmed by the City Council.

The name set forth is that of the person, corporation or legal entity appearing on the tax rolls as the owner or occupant of the lot or parcel of land upon which the tax lien is to be sold.

The first item is the Comptroller's Tax Lien Number; the second is that of the person appearing on the tax rolls as the owner or occupant of the property; the third is the location of the property as described on the tax rolls which includes the Section, Block and Lot Numbers as shown on the Official City Map; the fourth is the assessed valuation unimproved as shown on the tax rolls; the fifth is the total assessed valuation as shown on the tax rolls; the last group of figures is the total amount of the lien which is to be sold.

John Liszewski
Commissioner of Finance and Management Services

#1332 12/19/14 - 01/23/15

Legal Notices

Notice of formation of 138 North 7th Avenue, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/06/2014. Office location: Westchester. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: The LLC, 114 W 131 St NY, NY, 10027. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6598 12/05 - 01/02

Notice of formation of LH Automotive, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/6/14. Office location: Westchester Co. The street address is: 161 School Street, 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: c/o United States Corporation Agents, 7014 13th Avenue, Ste 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6599 12/05 - 01/02

Notice of formation of Boso Holdings, LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/26/2014. Office location: Yonkers. The street address is: 34 Vernon Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Melanie White- Ochoa, 34 Vernon Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6600 12/05 - 01/02

Notice of formation of Re-past Supply Co. LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/26/2014. Office location: Westchester County. The street address is: 117 Garth Road #5A. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: Michael Finizio, 117 Garth Road #5A Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful act.

#6601 12/05 - 01/02

Notice of Formation of Northgate Partners LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/29/14. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Kamerman, Uncyk, Soniker & Klein P.C., 156 Fifth Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10010. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

#6603 12/19 - 01/23

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY. WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA MORTGAGE FSB, FORMERLY KNOWN AS WORLD SAVINGS BANK, FSB, Pltf. vs. EUSEBIO CASTRO, et al, Defts. Index #56407/13. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale dated Oct. 30, 2014, I will sell at public auction in lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd., White Plains, NY on Jan. 16, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., prem. k/a 67 Saint Andrews Pl., Yonkers, NY a/k/a Section 1, Block 131, Lot 41. Said property located in City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of NY, known and designated as the Southerly portion of Plot No. 29 on certain map entitled, "Map of Valentine Terrace" the property of Valentine Terrace Inc. situated in the Fourth Ward, City of Yonkers, N.Y. made by M. Lorini, C.E. and filed in the Office of the Register of Westchester County, (now Westchester County Clerk's Office, Division of Land Records) on Nov. 26, 1915, as Map 2115. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$627,606.34 plus costs and interest. This is a First Mortgage. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. THOMAS SIMETI, Referee. DRUCKMAN LAW GROUP, PLLC, Attys. for Pltf., 242 Drexel Ave., Westbury, NY. File No. 29185- #85206

#1324 12/12/14 - 01/02/15

Empire State College Info. Session

State University of New York Empire State College will hold public information sessions about its associate and bachelor's degree programs at its Hartsdale location, 200 North Central Ave., on Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Jan. 10 at 11 a.m. For more information, call 914-948-6206, ext. 3573.

LHS Football Captain Has 'Heart of a Giant'



LHS Senior Jeremiah Minyard

Lincoln High School football team captain and senior outside linebacker Jeremiah Minyard has been named a co-winner of the New York Giants' Heart of a Giant Award, which names the "hardest working student-athlete in the tri-state area." Minyard's hard work both on the football field and in the classroom have earned LHS a \$5,000 football equipment grant.

Jeremiah was nominated by LHS football Head Coach Robert Bannister and was selected as one of 60 official nominees from the tri-state area. Through social media, Minyard campaigned for votes online and was named one of six finalists.

Each finalist had to make a video explaining why they have the heart of a giant, and Jeremiah's video, which can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Xq3LVotbyg, tells his

story and why he has the heart of a giant.

"Minyard, a senior at Lincoln, has overcome challenges that many student-athletes will never face," wrote Steve Alic for USAFootball.com, one of the sponsors of the contest, with the Hospital for Special Surgery. "Because of an illness at birth, Minyard is legally deaf in his right ear, requires highly specialized contact lenses to correct his vision and suffers from debilitating cognitive processing delays.

"Despite his disability, Minyard has excelled on and off the football field. He is co-captain of the Lincoln varsity football team, an honor roll student, Marine Corps JROTC staff sergeant, member of the school's Parent-Teacher-Student Association and volunteer assistant coach for a community youth football team."

CSEA Local 9169 Donates To Youth Theater Interactions



Members of the CSEA board bring a donation to the students at Youth Theatre Interactions. From left are Maribel DeJesus, third vice president; Ronnie Parker, first VP; Lionel Turner, president of CSEA Local 9169; Donise Lyons, YTI executive/artistic director; Elliot Black, YTI board president; Yvonne Couto, CSEA secretary; and Dulani Turner, second VP.



Members of the CSEA Board of Directors at the annual holiday party. The dinner was attended by 400 people, which included union members, their families and friends.



Yonkers Schools Superintendent Dr. Michael Yarzulo with State Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins. Photos © 2014 Robert Kalfus

Yonkers CSEA Local 9169 recently hosted its annual holiday party at the Royal Regency Hotel on Tuckahoe Road.

The party was well attended, with Local 9169 President Lionel Turner thanking members for their hard work over the past year, and welcoming Yonkers Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Michael Yarzulo, State Sen. Andrea

Stewart-Cousins and Yonkers City Council members Christopher Johnson and Corazon Pineda.

Every year, CSEA 9169 makes a donation to a worthy Yonkers non-profit organization, and this year members of the CSEA board made a trip to Youth Theatre Interactions to present a check and make sure their good work continues.

Public Invited to Hearing Regarding Bus Fare Increase



Bee Line bus riders may see a small fare increase.

The Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation will conduct a public hearing Wednesday, Jan. 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the County Center, 198 Central Ave., White Plains, to seek comment on the adoption of the proposed Metropolitan Transportation Authority fare increase for the Bee-Line Bus System.

The MTA board is currently soliciting public comment on the proposals in the accompanying table, with respect to bus fares; two proposed fare structures are being considered by the MTA.

Reduced fares for senior citizens and the disabled would be slightly less than half of the base fare under proposal one, and would remain at half of the base fare under proposal two. Also,

there will be no fare changes on the Bee-Line BxM4C (Westchester-Manhattan Express).

Those in attendance at the hearing will be given an opportunity to speak, and persons wishing to provide comments in writing may do so at the hearing; e-mail comments to beeline@westchestergov.com or mail them to the Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation, 100 E. 1st St., Mount Vernon, NY 10550.

All written comments must be received at the above addresses by the close of business Jan. 8.

The Westchester County Center is a handicap-accessible building. For more information, visit www.westchestergov.com/beelinebus.

Legal Notices

RE-NOTICE OF SALE
FORMERLY NOTICED FOR DECEMBER 10, 2014
SUPREME COURT WESTCHESTER COUNTY

CYTL 2012, Plaintiff (s), vs. MARGUERITE HOLMES, THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF ELEANORE K. JANOWSKI a/k/a ELEANORE JANOWSKI, STEVE CUTTER, and CITY OF YONKERS,

Defendant(s).

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF: Barry Nesson Law P.C.,
700 White Plains Road, Scarsdale, New York 10583

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated July 23, 2014, I, the Referee will re-sell at public auction in the lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, New York 10601, on the 5th day of January, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. premises in the City of Yonkers, New York known as tax map number Section 4; Block 4704; Lot 15. This property had previously been sold at public auction on September 5, 2014.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of a filed judgment and terms of sale and SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS, IF ANY, OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND NEW YORK STATE FOR POSSIBLE UNPAID ESTATE TAXES. A third party Bidder shall be required to deposit 100% of the approximate judgment amount due upon the Judgment of Foreclosure, estimated to be \$22,500 or 10% of the bid, whichever is greater.

BID DEPOSIT CHECK(S) MUST BE BY BANK OR CERTIFIED CHECK(S) DIRECTLY PAYABLE TO THE REFEREE. CASH PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. BIDS IN LESS THAN \$1,000 INCREMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ENDORSED CHECKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED,

Index Number: 70138/2013
Dated: December, 2014
Christopher B. Meagher, Esq., Referee

#1333 12/19/14 - 01/02/15

Fare Type	Current	Proposal 1	Proposal 2
Base Fare	\$2.50	\$2.75	\$2.50
MetroCard Bonus	5% with \$5 purchase	11% with \$5.50 purchase	None
Effective Fare with MetroCard Bonus	\$2.38	\$2.48	\$2.50
30-Day Unlimited Ride MetroCard	\$112	\$116.50	\$116.50
7-Day Unlimited Ride MetroCard	\$30	\$31	\$31



Leah Katz offers one of her home-cooked latkes.



Lincoln Park Jewish Center members (from left) Jose Morales, sisters Zipora and Rebekah Tissera, and Chloe Dabbay each light their candles of the Chanukah menorah.



Choir members entertain the crowd.

Photos by Robert Kalfus

Chanukah: 8
Continued from Page 1

the prayers blessing and thanked God as everyone lit their own individual different menorahs, which glowed, resplendent with six candles – one “service” candle to light the other five candles, one for each night of the holiday – on this, the fifth night of eight.

The eight days of Chanukah are a celebration of the miracle of just one small jar of pure holy oil, sufficient to burn for just one day in the Temple in Jerusalem, instead lasting for eight days, the time required to extract and produce new holy oil and to commemorate the miracle. People revel in eating foods fried in oil – the tasty, fresh potato latkes (pancakes) and sufganiot (fresh dough generously dusted with powdered sugar) made by our skilled member Leah Katz, with the help of her husband, Matthew, and her friend Etti Tam, who peeled, processed and fried hundreds of potatoes.

They also served lasagna, baked ziti and two types of salad.

We joke that Leah Katz feeds us wonderfully delicious food and sumptuous portions week after week at our Shabbat kiddush, so we then need to patronize the dress and wedding shop she owns, La Robe by Leah, on Central Park Avenue in Yonkers.

A 50/50 raffle was won by Justin Tubiolo, who attended the joyous party to bring greetings from several elected officials, including Yonkers City Council President Liam McLaughlin and Westchester County Legislator Bernice Speckman. He also brought a sizeable contribution to the synagogue, and donated his 50 percent share of the raffle back to the synagogue, to much applause and appreciation.

The Hebrew Institute of Riverdale Community Choir, now in its 13th season, entertained with songs in English, Hebrew, Ladino and a traditional gospel spiritual, accompanied by pianist Daphne Palka, Meir Beer on drum, and conducted by Dr. Jonathan Dzik. Dr. Dzik is a noted musicologist with an Ed.D. in music education from New York University, who taught music and led choirs in New York City for 34 years.



The 2014 Nguzo Award Saba Award recipient, Lionel Turner, with family.



Traditional African music and dance was enjoyed by all.



Regina and Robert Winstead explain the symbols of Kwanzaa.

Photos by Donna Davis

Yonkers Celebrates
Continued from Page 1

Children joined together for a day of Kwanzaa Celebration, spoken word performances, workshops, African drumming, Kiswahili language and explanation of the Kwanzaa symbols, featuring the Bokandeye African American Drum and Dance Theater.

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Children at Play

Thanks to Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers



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And play a part in service to the
Yonkers community

The basic idea of Rotary is
“Service above Self” – service to
and thoughtfulness of others.

Visit our website:
www.yonkersrotary.org

To join the Rotary Club, come join us at any of our weekly meetings at 12:15 pm, Wednesdays at Luciano’s 2192 Central Park Ave., Yonkers

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