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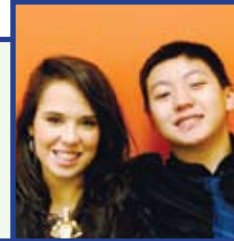
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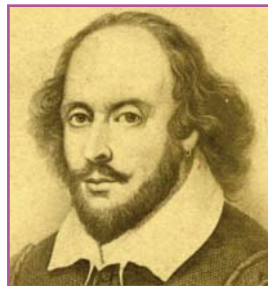
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Solving a 400-Year- Old Literary Mystery



Yorktown Heights, NY
-- The Shakespeare Oxford Society announced today it has designated 2009 as
see Solving Pg. 10



By Henry J. Stern

Yesterday (January 28, 2009), at the conclusion of our article on untruthful politicians, we invited our readers to send us the names of public officials whom they considered to be particularly honest. One name suggested several times was Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who passed away in 2003 after representing New York in the United States Senate for twenty-four years. We

Be Our Diogenes, or Lot

We Ask for Your Assistance in Search for a Honest Person, Certainly Not Joseph Bruno

had not specified whether your choices must be alive. They need not be.

We believe most people did not find our request for names, so we ask again in a more prominent position on the page. New York Civic would like to receive more nominations from our readers of people distinguished for honesty and integrity. We humbly make the same request that was asked of Lot.

We also thought of asking for suggestions for the brightest, most diligent

and most responsive public officials. The problem is that the winners in those fields might well be also-rans on the integrity and truthfulness tests, so we limit ourselves – for today.

It is sad for us to comment only on elected officials' departures from veracity. We would like to give credit to the truth-tellers as well as find fault with those who have lost their moral compass, assuming they ever had one. So we ask

see Be Our Pg. 11

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The Hezitorial Revaluation is the Cornerstone of Yonkers 'No Plan' Plan

By Hezi Aris

Many years have receded into the pages of history decrying Yonkers stagnation. In the last 13 years Yonkers seemingly began the process of reinventing itself by adopting the concept of economic development to grow out of its self-induced lethargy. A "can do" attitude was rekindled. Plans were set in place. Rather than

being extinguished, the flickering flame within Yonkers shone brighter, infusing the city with purpose.

The promise of better times was not easily won. The encrusted powerbrokers would not let go their slice of Yonkers. Angelo Martinelli was on one side of the equation, Nick Spano on another. Wrestling them to the
see The Hezitorial Pg.2

Keeping Safe During Our Golden Years



**By
Richard Mullan**

As the Baby Boomer generation enters retirement, it is important for our growing senior population to focus on safety and take proactive steps to ensure those years are

golden. Statistics from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services show that older adults are more likely to become victims of crime or encounter unsafe circumstances. Whether it's at home or in the community, seniors need to be cautious and recognize that even the simplest of tasks can become hazardous. Home accidents are among the leading causes of injury and death to Americans over the age of 60. In addition, older

see Keeping Safe Pg. 14

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Revaluation is the Cornerstone of Yonkers 'No Plan' Plan *From Page 1*

ground was John Spencer. Even so, none would relent. The battle continues today with Al DelBello vigilantly prowling the landscape.

As each round was scored, no clear winner arose; none would submit. As they each attended to their wounds, Yonkers suffered. Yonkers suffers still.

In the chaos that ensued, Yonkers chalked up financial deficits, year after year. City Hall talked the talk but never did achieve a balanced state of affairs, neither in the conduct of government, or fiscally. The public would be weaned on talk, but no action. Its politicians engaged in public brawls that became Yonkers own blood sport. We professed to care for one another yet delighted in hearing how one of us, even those we had despised, took advantage of the system. Our ethical compass had been compromised and we often forgot that it had been. Our grandparents were no longer here to set us straight and the institutions that were constructed to scrutinize and maintain oversight were themselves bereft of the same attributes they professed to uphold. A shameful turn of events that evolved over time. Was this conduct planned to sap our sense of right and wrong or did we simply arrive at this point in time by expedient thought and inappropriate action, exacerbated by the time consuming responsibility and monotony of life itself?

Life's demands will not relinquish its hold on any one of us. It is the devices of men, their schemes and agenda that diminish our opportunities. We have to think out of the box. Few of us do. Today, more than ever, the luxury of time to think and ponder

eludes us.

Perhaps in Yonkers, City Hall bit more than it could chew. Perhaps the economic dreams were too grand. What we have learned is that little planning was inculcated into the definition of economic development and the ancillary aspects and concepts demanded of government in its undertaking. Our lack of planning is recognized when reflecting on how everything in Yonkers is subordinated for the purpose of SFC Yonkers. To the detriment of every other project in the planning stages, SFC Yonkers is catapulted forward. City Hall pays little attention to anything else. As Central Avenue decays, the promise of downtown development has made no imprint. City Hall is consumed in concluding this economic development project first; believing SFC Yonkers would put Yonkers on the map. They said this when having completed the Yonkers Riverfront Library. It did not. They said it when the Ridge Hill development was underway; it did not. They have been incapable of shepherding this project to reality. They rushed approval through the Yonkers City Council. They are now waiting for the LDA to conclude its work. Why isn't that in place? They have to abide by Westchester County government's ruling over the TIF (tax incremental financing) scheme proposed for the SFC Yonkers TIF district. TIF demands revaluation of property values in order to define a baseline by which to assess bond valuations. That is why TIF has yet to be used in New York State; revaluations have not taken place in most

places for decades and even generations, in some cases for over a century. In Yonkers, it is 54 years since the last valuation.

Will Westchester County permit SFC Yonkers moving forward only when the revaluation is undertaken before they endorse the TIF district?

City Hall's claim that the Yonkers City Council is delinquent in bringing projects over which they must approve or disapprove to conclusion is devalued by the fact that the Yonkers Community Development Agency (CDA), with Director Lou Kirven at the helm has been incapable of bringing even one project to the forefront. Had Kirven not halted AKRF from concluding its findings on the Point Street landing development it would have already been under way. The project was valued at \$960 million. Politics has overcome economic development to Yonkers detriment. The fight continues despite the fact that Yonkers is left gasping for financial relief. There is little leadership at the Yonkers City Council and little at City Hall.

When will the Alexander Street Development come before the Yonkers City Council? Will Kirven bother to attend the next Yonkers City Council meeting in which the CDA makes a presentation or will he choose to depart City Hall premises instead of attending the presentation? He did just that last time the CDA made a presentation to the Council. Kirven's conduct shows his contempt for Yonkers. This man is of no worth to Yonkers. What is the purpose of folding the inept Jim Pinto's Waterfront Development operation into the inept CDA? Even the Real Estate

Department is being folded into the CDA. The CDA will butcher the Real Estate Department. No planning, simply consolidating to Kirven's resume that translates to nothing. Consolidating under Kirven is a disaster waiting to happen, and it will. Send him to Connecticut.

On another front, the lack of revaluation has permitted the skewed education funding formula from returning a greater amount of state funds to the Yonkers Board of Education. When revaluation takes place, tax certiorari challenges amounting to from \$4 to \$7 million every year in Yonkers alone would cease. The cost of revaluation throughout Yonkers would initially cost from \$3 to \$4 million, with minimal costs for updating property valuations thereafter. Once property values are in place, the school funding formula, while still unfair, will return a greater proportion to the Yonkers Board of Education (BoE).

Did anyone imagine that revaluation would be at the heart of every argument in Yonkers. Revaluation is the black hole that will consume economic development, education, and property taxes, especially to those now living on fixed income.

In an election year, is it probable to win the votes of those living on fixed incomes to endorse revaluation? While crying for Yonkers' fair share of education funding, will Yonkers move on the issue of revaluation? In these trying financial times, can the Albany delegation be expected to come through with another one-shot deal to maintain Yonkers viability?

see The Hezitorial Pg. 3



By Lisa Fine

The eagles are back and last week I saw four of them on a sheet of ice that was floating down the Hudson River. (I was with Phyllis Bock, Director of Education at Teatown and we joked that they looked like they were on a party boat.) We also saw a few eagles perched in the trees by the river (without binoculars it looked like baseballs were in the trees).

Each winter between January and March, Bald Eagles from Canada, northern New York and New England fly south to the Lower Hudson Valley to feed on fish and waterfowl found in the unfrozen waters. In recent years, hundreds of bald eagles have been counted along the Westchester and Putnam portions of the Hudson River and nearby reservoirs.

On Saturday February 7, Teatown Lake Reservation will host the Fifth Annual Hudson River EagleFest, headquartered in heated tents at Westchester

The Fine Print

County's Croton Point Park, with additional eagle viewing sites located along the Hudson River. The event offers everyone a chance to observe our national symbol up close and in its natural setting.

Adults and children attending the EagleFest will learn about the natural history, recent recovery and habitat needs of eagles through the activities and led by local experts and environmental conservationists.

Over 28 collaborating organizations, including the Saw Mill River Audubon and Bedford Audubon,

will be participating. There will also be live raptor and eagle shows, bus exploration tours, bird walks, story telling, eagle photography and two special performances by Arm-of-the-Sea Theater with their giant puppets and music telling of the formation of the New York City water system. (The event is free except for the theatre shows.)

You can also visit eagle viewing and educational sites along the Hudson River - at the Croton Train Station Boat Ramp, George's Island in Montrose and Annsville

Creek Paddlesport Center in Peekskill. Eagle experts with spotting scopes, warming tents and even hot chocolate, will staff each site.

Dress Warm and Bring Binoculars! For the complete listing of eagle viewing sites, theatre and bus tour times and all of the EagleFest activities visit www.teatown.org. Info: 914 762-2912 x110.

To contact The Fine Print, please send emails to TheFinePrintNY@verizon.net, call 914 243-9761, or visit the www.LisaFineCommunications.com Website.

Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID Presents Free Business Seminar

Yonkers, NY – Thirty-five local merchants and business owners from Yonkers downtown recently attended "How to Market in a Down Economy," the first in a series of free seminars presented by the Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID. The seminars are designed to provide local businesses with how-to information and guidance during these tough economic times. Pictured left to right are: Steve Sansone, Executive Director of the Yonkers

Downtown BID; Susan Thaler, Administrator of the Yonkers Riverfront Library, host of the Sunrise Seminars; Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, Executive Vice President and Partner of Thompson & Bender, one of Westchester's leading public relations/marketing/advertising firms and Peter Klein, Project Manager for the Struever Fidelco Cappelli (SFC) project.

The next seminar will be about

"Access to Credit and Cash." It will be conducted at 8 AM, Tuesday, February 10 at the Riverfront Library.



Revaluation is the Cornerstone of Yonkers 'No Plan' Plan *From Page 2*

Will Yonkers await in hope for the infusion of federal bailout money to get us through 2009 while Yonkers will be engaged in the election process for three Yonkers City Council seats and for that of Yonkers City

Council President? Will there be an appointment of an Inspector General? How much longer before all the potential candidates are discerned and disclosed? When will the Landmarks Commission be replenished

to full capacity?

Most importantly, since everything is on hold until through November's election, is there a plan "B"? And if not, why not? What is that plan. Divulge it.

Are our elected officials

chastened by time and circumstances, now sufficiently astute and reminded of their ethical foundation in their conduct to serve the public good? They need a plan?

Perhaps the public will

share their thoughts and concepts with Yonkers City Hall and the Yonkers City Council.



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On the Level with Hezi Aris on WVOX 1460 AM Radio

NEW ROCHELLE, NY – Listen to the *On the Level* with Hezi Aris call-in program on WVOX-1460 AM radio this and every Tuesday.

The show is heard live by way of [streaming audio technology on your computer](#), from 10:00 am through 11:00 am.

For those who can't get enough radio, consider listening to Hezi Aris every Monday and Thursday, at 8:30 am, as he discusses events impacting Westchester politics with Bob Marrone, host of *Good Morning, Westchester*.

Join Bob Marrone every day from 6:00 am through 9:00 am during your daily

commute from Monday through Friday.



The call-in talk show format invites your perspective; share your thoughts. Call us at 914-636-0110. Those who call are asked to please stay on topic.

WVOX
1460 AM
features local

and regional information for residents of suburban Westchester County and the Bronx, with emphasis on the heavily-populated cities of Westchester's Southern tier and affluent villages of Long Island Sound.

Get to Know Your Presidents at Philipse Manor Hall

Yonkers, NY -- Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site invites children, families and the young at heart to help us celebrate Presidents Day 2009! This free event will be held on Sunday, February 15, 2009 from 12-4 p.m.

Peanut soup? 18th-century icing? Birthday cake? We'll be providing samples of presidential dishes, from Washington to Roosevelt! In addition, you'll have the chance to dress up in Colonial clothing and take home a free photograph, measure your height against that of previous presidents, search

the house on a scavenger hunt, and enter our Peanut Contest to win a prize! These events and more will take place in the impressive Gothic Chamber of the Manor, the heart of the celebrations taking place this February 15th!

For more information on this event, please visit www.philipsemanorhall.blogspot.com or call (914) 965-4027. If you would like to arrange a similar event for your school or group, please contact Brittany Wheeler, Museum Programs Coordinator, at Brittany.Wheeler@oprhp.state.ny.us. Inquiries are

welcome.

Philipse Manor Hall, a high-style Georgian manor house, was the seat of a 52,000-acre estate and home to three generations of the Lords of Philipsburg Manor. Built between 1680 and 1755, it is the site around which the City of Yonkers grew and developed.

Philipse Manor Hall is located at 29 Warburton Avenue, at Dock Street, in Yonkers, and parking is available on site. For further information about New York State Parks, visit the www.nysparks.com Website.

Bronxville Post Office Hosts Passport Fair

Bronxville, NY – As a convenience to postal customers, Bronxville Post Office will host a Passport Fair and accept passport applications Saturday, Feb. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bronxville Post Office, 119 Pondfield Road, Bronxville NY 10708.

In addition, postal

online experts will be in the lobby from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. conducting usps.com demonstrations. The Postal Service's website offers nearly three dozen services and products to help small business owners and consumers. Customers can: pay postage, print labels, request free package pickup, send shipments around the world, design customized postage, order free, environmentally friendly packaging and manage mail

As of January 1, 2008, travelers to and from the Caribbean, Bermuda, Panama, Mexico and Canada must have a passport or other secure, accepted document to enter or re-enter the United States by air and sea as well as for land border crossings.

The fee for first time applicants for adults (16 years of age) is \$100.00 (photo not included). Two payment transactions are required: \$75.00 to the Department of State and \$25.00 to the United States

Postal Service. The fee for a passport renewal is \$75.00. Passports will be mailed to the customer in four to six weeks after application. The Postal Service offers these helpful tips for applying for a passport:

- Fill out the passport application (DS11), before you come to the Post Office (Do Not SIGN the application in advance). You can download the form from: http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms_847.html
- Bring proof of US citizenship original birth certificate (no copy) a valid driver's license or current photo identification.
- Postal officials can take the photographs. (\$15.00 Fee)
- Have all your documentation with you.
- For minors under 16 years of age, each child must appear in person and both parents or legal guardians must be present with evidence of identity.

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Improv in Ardsley

Ardsley, NY -- Since Feb. 2005, in Ardsley, a group of people have been meeting one night each week to make each other laugh. The group is called "Improvabilities" (formerly "The Popcorn Vultures"), and they meet to perform and learn Comedy Improv games and techniques under the leadership of Andy Wainer. Andy has taught and presented more than 700 Comedy Improv workshops, classes and training programs, for all ages, since 1994. (www.andysimprovabilities.com)

There are literally thousands of Improv games and exercises (best resource on the web is www.humanpingpongball.com). In Improv, you change the known into the unknown, you are

totally spontaneous, you take risks – all in an encouraging, cooperative group environment. Improv challenges us to step out of our daily, conscious routine patterns and into new ways of perceiving and creating. Anyone can do Improv – no special talents or skills are required!

A member of the group since the beginning, Karen Kushman, says, "I do Improv because it's FUN!" Carol Lyons, one of the newest members of the group, says, "I do Improv because it's so entertaining to do, and to watch, and I need laughter!" Linda Goldberg, another longtime member, states, "Improv is all about creativity, teamwork and fun, and it truly enhances my life."

While meeting to

have fun, the group has performed about a dozen times in various venues, including a local coffee house, nursing homes, temples, community events, even on the radio, [WVOX-1460 AM](http://WVOX-1460-AM), and other venues. Improvabilities is available for performances at ridiculously affordable rates! In fact, if you represent a non-profit organization, we may perform gratis! Plus, the group is open to anyone 18 and older! All we ask is that you commit to



attend regularly and be prepared to laugh and have a great time! Come see what the longest running Improv group in Westchester is all about! Be warned – Improv can be addictive!

For more info, including

links to a profile of Andy and a more detailed article Andy wrote about Improv for a national journal, log on to [Andy's Improvabilities](http://Andy'sImprovabilities), or email Andy at wainer9@aol.com.

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Temporary Use of Armory Sought by Committee



By Peggy Godfrey

“Nothing will happen (to the New Rochelle Armory) without the State being the lead agency.” These words by Peter Parente at the Save Our Armory (SOA) meeting set the tone on January 26 at the American Legion, Post 8 in New Rochelle.

Both Ron Tocci and Peter Parente, co-chairs of the SOA Committee, wanted to get the city to agree on uses for the Armory. Parente mentioned that there are federal grants and loans that could be used to develop a good business plan for the Echo Bay area.

Forest City Ratner’s financial problems according to Tocci have caused the company to cancel some of their pending projects. With this possible void, putting a new roof on the Armory might create “a plan that makes

sense,” Tocci continued. Councilman Lou Trangucci questioned how to validate that Forest City Ratner is “close to bankruptcy.” He added the company is “still committed to the project.” A neighborhood needs not only a plan to save the building, but also funding. When asked about the stimulus program and funding for the city, Councilman Trangucci suggested that the \$10 million project on storm water was a current priority of the city. Parente and Tocci were asked to go

on WVOX to explain to the public where the SOA committee is today.

Jim Killoran, Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity, promised to seek out volunteers to help the SOA committee. Robert Cox was asked to explain his Talk of the Sound blog website which attracts 3,000 readers per month. Cox felt pictures showing the Armory in the condition originally given to the city compared to its present condition could produce a national story. New York State gave this Armory to

New Rochelle in 1997 to be used for public purposes. The City’s negligence in maintaining the building could embarrass them.

Parente summed up, “Since it appears that the development plans are on hold for Echo Bay, the SOA committee should look into temporary uses for the building and hope that the City of New Rochelle is willing to work with us.”

Your Opinion Matters!

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Noel Fine Art to Present Unique Exhibition



Inuit, ©Noel Fine Art

Bronxville, NY – Noel Fine Art is proud to present the work of Noel DeGaetano in an exhibition titled *The Art of Assemblage*. The exhibition opens on February 20th and runs through March 31st. The opening will take place on Friday, February 20th, 5-8PM. The artist will be present.

These relief, mixed media sculptures, are a demonstration of the visual power and presence of energy. Using a dynamic blend of disparate materials, DeGaetano's work attempts to capture the tension that exists in much of nature between physical structure and organic flow.

These assemblages use hard and soft materials to depict the inherent dichotomy in the physical world between firm and fluid, which in turn forces

the viewer to perceive life outside his or her normal frame of reference. By using conceptually opposing substances, each work helps portray how much of life can be described as another form of energy and beauty.

DeGaetano studied at The Art Students League, The School Of Visual Arts, Hunter College, New York University, the Frank Reilly School (for drawing) and the New School For Social Research (painting with Joseph Steffanelli). He was also an assistant to the sculpturer Louise Nevelson, which lead to a fellowship at the Wurlitzer Foundation in New Mexico. He has taught and lectured for many years.

For information, visit the www.noelfineart.com Website, or contact Noel Fine Art at 914-337-4050.

Klein Declares Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act a Victory for Equal Rights



The Bronx, NY -- Senator Jeff Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester) applauded the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, declaring it a "victory" for equal rights

On Thursday, January 29, 2009, President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, a law named for an Alabama woman who at the end of a 19-year career as a supervisor in a tire factory complained that she had been paid less than men.

After a Supreme Court ruling against her, Congress approved the legislation that expands workers' rights to sue in this kind of case, relaxing the statute of limitations.

"Women continue to face opposition in the work place, but today's historic legislation marks a step forward in what has been a centuries old battle to substantiate the



Lilly Ledbetter, standing behind President Obama, looks on as he signs the law.

fundamental principle of the Declaration of Independence: that all men are created equal. I am exceptionally proud to share this moment with my female colleagues in the Legislature, and all the working women across the state. This is a watershed moment in the fight for

equal rights but there is still more ahead," said Senator Klein.

Klein expressed hope that the Senate would pass the Paid Family Leave Act which last year passed the Assembly and has been introduced in the Senate by Senator Craig Johnson.

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For tickets and reservations, please send a check (payable to Yonkers Land Conservancy, Inc.) with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Yonkers Land Conservancy, Inc. c/o Nancy Hordley, 88 Edge Road, Yonkers, NY 10705. Please indicate which concert(s) you would like to attend and the number of tickets requested. Concert addresses will be printed on the tickets.
For further information, please contact Marilee Schenckman via email at mschenckman@yorksonline.net
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Mayor's Column



By Mary C. Marvin
Mayor of the Village
of Bronxville

This week's column is an amalgam of information relating to current Trustee activity and issues specific to this time of year.

Of particular importance to public safety is a reminder that residents are responsible for the care and cleaning of the sidewalks adjacent to their homes, regardless of the surface – be it concrete, dirt or gravel. Clearing of snow and ice shall be done “within 12 hours of the cessation of snow falling and ice remaining on the sidewalk after it has been cleared or forming thereafter shall, if not easily removable, be kept covered with clean ashes, sand or the like, so as to be safe for pedestrians.” A sidewalk is defined as “any area, whether paved or otherwise improved, unpaved or unimproved, designated on a filed subdivision plat as a sidewalk, or as a pathway or trail intended for pedestrian use, or which, even if not so designated in a filed subdivision plan, is built and/or constructed as a pedestrian way.” Our Village code mirrors most other Westchester towns and villages in this requirement.

Snow and ice maintenance is particularly important this time of year but we will also be vigilant in the spring in enforcing our code in reference to repair of walkways. The proper maintenance of sidewalks, both private and public, is the first step toward

making the Village more pedestrian friendly. As we encourage Villagers to walk to and from town and school, we must make sure their passages are clear and safe. A well maintained walkway is also our best defense against trip and fall lawsuits. In tandem with this, is a reminder that pet owners must be attentive in picking up after their animals so our streets stay clean. It is a sign of respect to our Village and most importantly your neighbors to clean up after pets.

Last week, I wrote at length about the upcoming tax roll and methods to determine equity. In thinking this week, I realized the column could be distilled down to one essential issue. When the tentative roll is published on February 1, 2009, each homeowner should ask, “Has my home value disproportionately dropped in comparison to my neighbors and do I have concrete data to support this supposition?” If so, you should avail yourself of the grievance process. If it is just a belief of disproportionate assessment, it will not meet legal muster unless supported by appraisals and comparable values. Recognizing the uniqueness of the subject, the Village is ready and available to answer your questions. Please ask for our assessment professionals, Janet Grosso, Gerry Iagallo and Anthony DeBellis at 337-6500 or reach out directly to our assessing consultant, Gerry Iagallo at (914) 346-0764.

Our police department has been very proactive in alerting residents about recent crimes. The goal is to change behavior which may inadvertently aid the criminals – be it unlocked cars or back doors or keys

left in ignitions. Let me assure you that though we are very transparent in reporting criminal activity in the Village, the actual number and severity of crimes did not increase in any category in 2008. Though given the difficult economic times, the Village will be even more watchful in protecting our residents and businesses.

Speaking of our businesses, Village government is doing everything we can to support them. In these times of economic difficulty, we must keep local money local. Along with Chamber officials, I have walked the business district and spoken with many merchants to learn what we can do to keep stores viable and prospering. Our business district is a huge asset to this Village – it makes our Village unique and lively directly affecting the value of our homes. In response to merchants suggestions, the Village will aggressively enforce the “no crossing double lines” on Pondfield Road, make our business approval process as streamlined as possible and communicate with current landlords and future tenants to impress upon them the history and value of our business district. Our merchants are the most accommodating and generous people and they deserve our support.

The Village has also moved our commuters to the parking lot across from the Avalon apartments, freeing up over 25 spaces along Kraft Avenue and in the Kraft Avenue lot near the movie theater for customers. Please avail yourself of these new spaces.

Hoping to be at least in the running for the upcoming public works funds proposed by President

Obama, the Village has submitted applications for flood mitigation, a “green” public works facility and police security measures. Though realistically our chances of funding are limited, we can guarantee a result of no funding if we do not do the paperwork and apply.

We are also completing the work needed to reissue our RFP (Request For Proposal) for the Kensington Road property. Despite the economic downturn, we have been surprised and pleased at the continued level of interest by major companies in our development. We have reached out to entities including Metro North and United Water to re-affirm their previous agreements with the former developer.

Our RFP solicits proposals to build the exact project including quality of materials and landscaping that was approved in the two year Village/neighborhood approval process. Since all approvals run with the

land and not the developer, the hope is that our quality project can be built more expeditiously because of the approvals already in hand.

Our Post Office is offering an entire day with staff dedicated to processing passport applications and renewals. On Saturday, February 7th, from 9AM to 4PM all passport needs will be handled. We thank the Post Office for their help and cooperation.

And finally, in an unabashed advertisement for our Village merchants, I can personally attest that you not only receive courteous and friendly service from our merchants but “good deals” as well. The Complete Kitchen has prices on popular items competitive with Williams Sonoma, Womrath's Bookstore got purchases to my door faster than Amazon and Mrs. Morgan's Flower Shop had decorations identical to items sold at Smith and Hawkins for \$15 less and I walked to all.

Latimer to Host 2009 State Budget Hearing

Larchmont, NY -- Assemblyman George Latimer will host a Public Hearing on Governor Paterson's proposed 2009-2010 State Budget, open to any resident who wishes to speak on any element of the budget. The hearing will be held:

- * Thursday, February 12, 2009
- * Larchmont Village Hall - 120 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont
- * Time: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- * Individuals may speak up to 4 minutes * Written testimony welcomed
- * No reservation required; “first come, first served”

for all who wish to speak

For information on the proposed State Budget, please refer on-line to : www.budget.state.ny.us. All testimony will be shared with the Assembly Ways & Means Committee.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Latimer has hosted this hearing. Past events were held in Mamaroneck, Port Chester, New Rochelle and Rye Brook.

For details or other information, individuals may contact Assemblyman Latimer's office at 914-777-3832.

Rep. Engel Named Chairman of The Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere



Washington, DC -- Congressman Eliot Engel was named as the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere for the 111th Congress. Rep. Engel was also the Chair of the Subcommittee for the 110th Congress. In addition to the Subcommittee Chairmanship, Rep. Engel was also named a member of the Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia and the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Rep. Engel said, "As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, I led the effort for the United States to be more engaged in this part of the world with a focus on poverty reduction. We allocated \$100 million in hurricane relief to Haiti and the Caribbean. We joined with Brazil to promote biofuels and reduce dependence on oil and passed legislation to fight drug trafficking and violence in Mexico and Central America through the "Merida Initiative."

"I look forward to working with President Obama and my colleagues in Congress to further our relationship with our friends in Latin America and the Caribbean. There are many challenges still remaining, and I am certain that we will make great strides in the coming year," added Rep. Engel.

The Middle East and Asia provide many issues and challenges for the

United States, as well, and Rep. Engel is pleased to be able to serve on those subcommittees. In the 110th Congress, he sponsored the resolution condemning Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel and fully supporting Israel's right to self defense against Hamas' aggression.

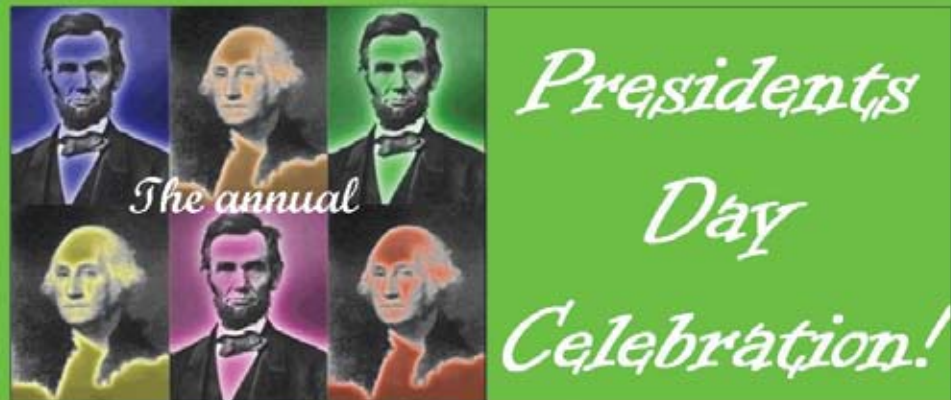
"It is vital that we

continue to support Israel as a bastion of democracy and the United States' closest ally in the Middle East. These regions are also home to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan which require immediate attention and a workable plan to withdraw our forces from Iraq and focus on Afghanistan. The challenges are many, but I

look forward to working on them on behalf of the American people," said Rep. Engel.

"I am very proud of my committee assignments as they reflect a bit of a cross section of my district. I represent large populations of Haitian, Jamaican, and other Caribbean-Americans, along with

a substantial Indian-American and Bangladeshi populations in the Bronx and Rockland County. Although I am no longer on the Europe Subcommittee, I will continue my work in the Balkans and in Northern Ireland – two other regions that make up much of my district's ethnicity," said Rep. Engel.



Sunday, February 15th, 12 – 4 p.m.

Something's cooking: How does cookie icing from the 18th-century sound? Come sample a collection of presidential dishes!

We'll have you feeling old: Take home a free picture of yourself dressed in Colonial clothing!

Bring your thinking cap: Take a presidential scavenger hunt in the house, and win a prize when you complete it!

Take a lucky guess: Enter our peanut contest and win a prize!

There's more in store during our 2009 celebration of Presidents Day!

Free Admission!

*Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site
29 Warburton Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704
(914) 965-4027 / www.philipsemanorhall.blogspot.com*



Solving a 400-Year-Old Literary Mystery *From Page 1*

"The Year of the Sonnets." The Society said it plans to mark the 400th anniversary of the publication of Shakespeare's Sonnets – originally published in 1609 – by issuing a research paper focused on the proposition that the Sonnets were published after the death of the poet.

The Board of Trustees of the Shakespeare Oxford Society has adopted the following resolution: "In recognition of the 400th anniversary of the publication of 'Shakespeare's Sonnets,' the Shakespeare Oxford Society hereby designates 2009 'The Year of the Sonnets' and declares its intention to highlight the proposition that the Sonnets were published posthumously in 1609."

Founded in 1957, New York-based Shakespeare Oxford Society is a nonprofit, educational

organization dedicated to exploring the Shakespeare authorship question and researching the evidence that Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford (1550 – 1604) is the true author of the poems and plays of "William Shakespeare." Visit www.shakespeare-oxford.com for more information.

There is a long and distinguished history of doubting the traditional "Stratfordian" attribution of the Shakespeare works. Noted doubters over the years include Mark Twain, Walt Whitman, Henry James, Sigmund Freud, and Charlie Chaplin. More recent skeptics include U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stevens and renowned Shakespearean actors Derek Jacoby, Jeremy Irons, Michael York, and Mark Rylance.

Matthew Cossolotto, President of the Shakespeare

Oxford Society, issued the following statement: "A mysterious cloud has surrounded the Sonnets since their publication in 1609. Traditional scholars have been unable to provide answers to basic questions, including how the Sonnets came to be published in the first place and whether 'Shakespeare' authorized the publication. Scholars have been baffled for centuries by the apparent absence of the poet in the publication and proofreading process. Strangely, the 1609 volume does not include a dedication from the poet, even though 'William Shakespeare' had dedicated two earlier works of poetry to the Earl of Southampton. So the poet knew how to write a dedication if he wanted to do so.

If the author of the Sonnets was alive in 1609, and if he authorized the publication,

why didn't he write a dedication to a volume of poetry that he believed would outlive monuments? If these immortal poems had been pirated somehow and published unlawfully (as many scholars believe), why wouldn't the famous poet – if indeed he was still alive at the time – complain or otherwise assert his legal right to the poems?

The poet's apparent absence from the publication process and his complete silence after the publication lend support to the posthumous publication theory. William of Stratford does not even mention the Sonnets (or anything else vaguely literary for that matter) in his 1616 will. Most significantly, the reference to 'our ever-living poet' in the dedication by 'T.T.' -- widely believed to be the publisher Thomas Thorpe -- affords strong evidence that the poet was

already dead when the Sonnets were published in 1609.

Taking all of the circumstances into account, we believe posthumous publication offers the simplest, most direct explanation. We plan to compile and publish our findings later this year."

Video of Matthew Cossolotto Discussing Shakespeare Authorship Issue

Click on this AOL video link to view a short video of Shakespeare Oxford Society President, Matthew Cossolotto, discussing several reasons to doubt the traditional Stratfordian attribution and to consider the Oxfordian theory.

<http://video.aol.com/video-detail/shakespeare-oxford-society/1526732493>

Ed Koch Movie Reviews



By Edward I. Koch

"Just Another Love Story" (+)

A good film which is, in fact, a very complicated love story. I honestly didn't grasp a number of threads but fortunately HG, a member of my party and a former police detective, laid it out for us later on.

I won't spoil the movie for you by doing that now since part of the allure is its mystery. For example, who is the fully-bandaged person sitting in a wheelchair who appears in the middle of the film? Who is the dead person in the trunk

of a car? And, most importantly, who is Sebastian?

The mysterious and attention-grabbing opening scenes show a man and a woman, she holding a pistol, followed in real time by a deadly crash on a wet road. The picture then shifts to a married Danish couple. Jonas (Anders W. Berthelsen), a crime photographer for the police department, is married to the beautiful Mette (Charlotte Fich). The couple has two children. When Jonas's decrepit car breaks down on the highway, two other vehicles collide in an effort to avoid hitting him. A woman driving one of the vehicles, Julia (Rebecka Hemse), is very seriously injured. Out of curiosity and remorse, Jonas visits Julia in the hospital and

thus begins his great adventure.

Jonas is mistaken by Julia's wealthy parents as her boyfriend, Sebastian (Nikolaj Lie Kaas), with whom she recently traveled in Asia. Her mother (Ewa Froling) and father (Bent Mejding) have never met him. Jonas allows that impression to continue in an effort to help Julia survive the terrible accident which has blinded her, at least temporarily.

That's all I'll tell you. The more you figure out the more intriguing the film will be for you when you think about it later on. Who would have thought the Danes of such sunny disposition would produce such a wonderful film noir. In Danish, with English subtitles.

HS said: "The title, Just Another Love Story reminded me of Not Another Teen Movie (2001), which was also a loser. It was nothing like the original Love Story (1970) where we met Ali MacGraw, Ryan O'Neal and Tommy Lee Jones right after he graduated from Harvard after playing offensive guard on the football team and rooming with Al Gore, who won an Oscar for An Inconvenient Truth (2006). Remember, this is a movie column.

"I am sorry to have to tell you that I did not like the movie at all. I don't get off on auto crashes, rainstorms, stabbings, hit men, rapists, drug dealers or smugglers. White on white subtitles don't help. The acting was good and the scenery was

all right but nothing special. The plot was absurd, with the constant references to Sebastian reminding me of Suddenly Last Summer (1959). The only person in our group who understood what was going on was a retired police detective, who is an expert in unraveling complex situations. It was all too much for one movie, and the end was a real downer. The film might be helpful if you were learning Danish. And it wasn't terrible or terrifying. It is just sad to see basically decent people messing up their own lives and the lives of others."

The Honorable Edward Irving Koch served New York City as its 105th Mayor from 1978 to 1989.

Weir Only Human: Without Religion, We Don't Have a Prayer



By Bob Weir

The setting is a third grade classroom somewhere in the USA. Thirty-five children are assembled comfortably in their seats as the teacher begins writing on the blackboard. She spells out the lesson for the day and turns toward the class. All the little boys and girls have their heads bowed and their hands clasped as they perform a silent prayer. "What are you doing?" The teacher shouts. "Stop that this minute!" Stunned, the children look up, their concentration broken. "How dare you pray in my classroom; don't you know that's against the law?" the visibly upset instructor says. "Now, open your history books. We're going to study the American Revolution." The students begin flipping through the pages of the textbook. "George Washington is known as the father of our country," she begins. "Does anyone know why?" A hand goes up in the back of the room. "Yes, Mary, go ahead," the teacher says. "Because he was our first president," Mary answers. "Very good, Mary, Washington was the man who set our country on its course to greatness." Mary's hand was still up. "Yes, Mary; do you have something else to add?" The little girl blushed slightly before replying. "Mrs. Davis, there's a picture in the book that I don't understand." "Picture; what picture?" "Well, it's a picture of President Washington, and

he's praying. You said he helped to make our country great, so how come we can't pray?" Although the above is a dramatized version of a scenario, it represents the actual events being played out in schools across the country. Millions of young minds, in need of the nurturing effects of religion, are being told it has no place in their curriculum. What was once the bedrock of the American ethos has been surgically excised by the Supreme Court's interpretation of the phrase "separation of church and state." Yet, the First Amendment merely states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." In plain language, that means Congress can't pass a law that forces people to become part of a specific religion.

Nevertheless, during the savage sixties, the Constitution became as flexible as forty feet of garden hose. Hence, on June 25, 1962, in *Engel v. Vitale*, the Court ruled: "Prayer in its public school system breaches the constitutional wall of separation of Church and State." That ruling became the precursor for several more decisions that ate away at the moral underpinnings that, for two centuries, had been the glue holding this republic together. By 1980, this anti-religious movement had managed to, among other things, have the Ten Commandments taken out of the view of any schoolchildren. In *Stone v. Graham*, the Court ruled in essence that seeing a copy of the Ten Commandments would be an inducement for children to read, meditate upon, or perhaps venerate and obey them.

Imagine that! Our children

were being induced to obey moral laws. Well, what in God's name is wrong with that? Thou shall not kill. Now, there's a dangerous idea to implant in young minds. We wouldn't want our progeny to learn that it's wrong to commit murder. After all, it's not as if we need to provide a balance to what they're exposed to from the influence of television, movies, and video games. Let's see, how about, Thou shall not steal? How horrible! What parent would want their child to grasp the foolish notion that robbery is wrong? Why not let them find out about it after the cuffs are placed securely on their wrists? Thou shall not commit adultery. They don't teach that as part of the study program at Springdale High USA. Do they? Instead, in our highly evolved, sophisticated, liberal world, we teach children how to use condoms, and birth control pills.

We don't teach them to abstain from premarital sex because radical professors and militant feminists tell us that kids are going to do it anyway, so we may as well tell them how to protect themselves. Of course, such prophecies tend to be self-fulfilling. Then, we teach them how to jettison a living being from within their womb if they decide the timing is wrong for them at the moment. (Thou shall not kill?) Too bad they didn't take the timing into consideration when they were creating the fetus. But, therein lies the problem. No one wants to be inconvenienced by having to sacrifice immediate gratification in favor of taking responsibility for his or her action. Isn't it just possible that if children were exposed to religious

principles during their formative years it would make them more decent adults? I fail to see how it could hurt them.

Bob Weir is a former detective sergeant in the New York City Police Department and an accomplished writer having penned seven novels: "Murder in Black and White," "City To Die

For," "Powers That Be," "Ruthie's Kids," "Deadly To Love," "Short Stories of Life and Death" and "Out of Sight." Bob Weir is the executive editor of "The NewsConnection" published in Highland Village, Texas, and a contributing columnist to *Yonkers Tribune* and *Westchester Herald*. BobWeir777@aol.com.

Be Our Diogenes, or Lot

From Page 1

you now to let us know, by e-mail, who it is you feel is the most honorable and truthful public official you know, whether currently in or out of office, alive or dead. You can suggest more than one name. If you wish, you can tell us briefly why you chose that person.

The purpose of this exercise is to call public attention to the fact that there are honest men and women in public service, and that they are appreciated by others. They say that "Good news is no news," meaning that virtue is not newsworthy. They also say that "No news is good news," meaning that the

less attention your work attracts, the more likely it is to succeed.

We can divide integrity into three general categories:

1) Financial honesty – Not asking for or accepting gifts or favors from people with whom you deal.

2) Intellectual honesty – Not supporting individuals or legislation which you know is opposed to the public interest, but which you think will benefit you.

3) Verbal honesty – Not telling falsehoods to a) the media b) groups you address c) individuals you meet.

We are not naïve, and

see *Be Our Pg. 12*

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Be Our Diogenes, or Lot

From Page 11

we know the value of kind words and compliments that may not be entirely justified by the facts. Nor is it necessarily wrong to bargain and negotiate with others in order to pass legislation or secure public improvements or other benefits for your district. That is the way of the world. The line of propriety is difficult to draw precisely, but it is usually relatively clear when people have overstepped his bounds.

We are proud of our readers. We want the benefit of your recommendations. Please send them to us.

Preoccupied with

Governor Paterson's awkward but venial (not venal) indiscretions, we have not written about a more important and disturbing situation. Read this:

Comment by John Fund in Todaythe January 29, 2009 edition of *The Wall Street Journal* about former Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno

A New York State of Crime?

Ever wonder why the Republican Party has become so discredited in major states such as New York? A stark symbol last Friday was the indictment

of Joe Bruno, one of the three most powerful men in the state for a dozen years while he served as New York State Senate majority leader. Mr. Bruno, who retired from public office at age 79 last year, insists he is innocent of the eight charges of corruption. But he now stands accused of soliciting business from 16 unions and a dozen corporations who later reimbursed him for the strings he pulled on their behalf. The indictment contends he raked in some \$3 million from the scheme, including an \$80,000 payment for a worthless

racehorse that he sold to a wealthy friend.

At the heart of the charges against Mr. Bruno is a 1994 agreement that stipulated he would try to steer business to a Connecticut investment adviser that specialized in advising unions. Mr. Bruno was eventually paid more than \$1.3 million for convincing 16 unions to invest with the Connecticut firm. Acting U.S. Attorney Andrew Baxter says the payments were concealed in a bogus consulting firm that Mr. Bruno set up.

Conservatives were often told by Mr. Bruno that the solicitor relationships his GOP caucus had with the state's labor unions was a matter of political

necessity. "We have to live with them if we have any chance of keeping our majority that will prevent even more spending and big government," Mr. Bruno told me a few years ago.

Now we know that many of the concessions he made to the union agenda that have helped bankrupt New York State may have had a different origin: the fact that Mr. Bruno was indebted to his union friends for his post-political retirement nest egg. -- John Fund

Henry J. Stern writes as StarQuest. Direct email to him at StarQuest@nycivic.org. Peruse Mr. Stern's writing at NewYorkCivic.org.

District Attorney Should Stand Up for Det. Sgt. Stephen Bonura



by Dan Schorr
Candidate for
Westchester County
District Attorney

As District Attorney, the first person to whom I will offer a position in the DA's investigators squad will be Detective Sgt. Stephen Bonura.

Many of you have recently heard or read about Det. Sgt. Bonura, an excellent twenty-eight year veteran of the Pleasantville Police Department who is very well respected by the community and his colleagues in law enforcement. Always trying to better protect the public, he arrested a career criminal for burglary and became understandably frustrated after a plea bargain quickly returned the offender to our

streets.

Det. Sgt. Bonura voiced his dismay to the Journal News, criticizing the DA's office for letting this dangerous criminal walk free. In response, Det. Sgt. Bonura was quickly suspended. Now, eight months later he is still suspended, without pay, and facing a termination hearing.

Det. Sgt. Bonura is just one of many in the Westchester law enforcement community who have recently expressed frustration with the current leadership in the DA's Office. I have spoken with many other law enforcement officers who cite the DA's Office's failure to adequately prosecute dangerous criminal defendants and its tendency to give probationary pleas to offenders who belong in prison. While others may not have spoken out as vocally as Det. Sgt. Bonura, the sentiments he expressed are shared by many other members of law enforcement throughout

the county who work hard to arrest dangerous people, only to see them quickly released by the DA's Office.

I was fortunate enough to work with Stephen Bonura several years ago, before he became embroiled in the current situation. As an Assistant District Attorney, I worked closely with him on the attempted murder prosecution of Sheila Davaloo and came to know him as an excellent, skilled, hard-working law enforcement officer. In large part because of his outstanding work, we successfully convicted the defendant at trial, she was sentenced to the maximum of twenty-five years in prison, and she now faces a related murder charge in Connecticut. Back then, I witnessed his dedication to keeping his community safe, the same dedication that has resulted in him possibly losing his job.

The Westchester community should support this excellent law

enforcement officer who has spent his adult life fighting to protect our public safety. I have attended the first days of the termination hearing and I am convinced that Det. Sgt. Bonura is being unfairly targeted by people who are trying to ruin the career and reputation of this outstanding public servant.

The District Attorney must stand up for good members of law enforcement. There has been some public debate about whether DA Janet DiFiore was directly involved in the suspension and looming termination and it is not known whether she actually did initiate and/or encourage his original suspension.

What is known, however, is that despite Det. Sgt. Bonura's excellent history of service to this county, Janet DiFiore has done absolutely nothing to support him. While he is suspended without pay and facing termination following a stellar career, she has failed to speak out on his behalf or send a representative from her office to the termination

hearing in order to show her support for him.

The District Attorney has the ability to speak out and assist good members of law enforcement – the DA's word carries much weight. But instead of utilizing her position to aid a man who has helped keep us safe for almost three decades, she has failed to intervene. At worst she is encouraging a process that threatens to destroy a good man's reputation and career. At best she is sitting idling by, allowing it to continue without giving the slightest sign of disapproval.

This is not a time for silence.

I join the many people, in and out of the law enforcement community, who are now standing together in support of Det. Sgt. Bonura. And if I am fortunate enough to be elected Westchester County District Attorney in November, I will enthusiastically offer Det. Sgt. Bonura a position in my office and would be honored if he would accept it.

Two NYU Freshmen Named Finalists In mtvU Oscars® Correspondent Contest

New York, NY -- Two freshmen film students from New York University's Kanbar Institute of Film and Television in the Tisch School of the Arts have been named one of the top ten finalist teams in the first-ever Oscar Correspondent Contest, giving college journalists nationwide the chance to head to Los Angeles to cover red carpet festivities and backstage celebrations at the 81st Academy Awards. The Kanbar students are Diana Snyder, anchor, and Mike Ren, videographer.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

and mtvU, MTV's 24-hour college network, invited students to submit a video showcasing their broadcast journalism skills and asking them to prove why they deserve to cover the Oscars®. All videos submitted had to be from a team made up of one anchor and one videographer. The top ten videos selected are posted online at mtvU.com, where viewers can vote for their favorite journalists from February 2 through February 11.

Three teams will advance to the final round of online voting from February 12 to February 20. All three

teams will be flown to Los Angeles to cover Academy Awards pre-events.

The Grand Prize team will be revealed on Friday, February 20, at an Academy press conference and awarded a spot on the red carpet for the 81st Academy Awards arrivals as well as credentials for access to backstage press rooms. The two finalist teams will receive bleacher seats along the red carpet and admission to an Oscar® viewing party.

Snyder, from Harrison, NY, and Ren, from Raleigh, NC, are both 18 and met last semester while students in



Harrison, NY resident Diana Snyder and Raleigh, NC resident Mike Ren. Photo courtesy of Rob DeBruin

associate professor Carlos De Jesus' Digital Frame and Sequence class in the Kanbar Institute. Viewers can vote for Snyder and

Ren by going online at: <http://www.mtvu.com/win/2009-oscars-student-correspondent>.

In Memoriam

John N. Casella, a longtime Yonkers resident, died on Thursday January 22, 2009, at the Manchester Manor Nursing Home in Manchester, NJ. He was 93 years old. He was born on February 9, 1915, to Nicholas and Catrina Casella in The Bronx and attended local schools in New York City. Mr. Casella was a bookbinder at the International Bindery in New York City prior to his retirement in 1980. Previously, he worked as a bookbinder at the Trade Bindery in New York City. He served his country proudly in the U.S. Army in Germany during WWII. Mr. Casella was a parishioner of St. Anthony's Church. On September 19, 1943, he married his loving wife Lena Massi in The Bronx. Mrs. Casella survives and lives in Yonkers. In addition to his wife, he is survived

by his two sons, Nicholas Casella and his wife Alice, residing in Manchester, NJ, and Michael Casella, and his wife Shelley, residing in Westchester, PA. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Visitation was held at Whalen & Ball Funeral Home on Sunday, January 25, 2009. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. Anthony's Church on Monday, January 26, 2009. Interment followed at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Whalen & Ball Funeral Home, 168 Park Ave., Yonkers, NY 10703. (914) 965-5488.

Anthony Milohnic of Yonkers died on Sunday January 25, 2009, at the age of 75. Born on Dec. 21, 1933, to Peter & Margaret (Zec) Milohnic in Croatia where he was raised and educated. He has been a

Yonkers resident for over 50 years. Mr. Milohnic worked as a cabinet worker for many years for both the NYC and Westchester unions. On May 2, 1959, he married Nada Milohnic in NYC; she survives living in Yonkers. Anthony was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church and was a member of the Klub Otok KRK in Queens. Besides his wife Nada; he is survived by his father Peter Milohnic and his two daughters: Margaret (Joseph) Cvelic of Valhalla, and Deborah (Joseph) Kirincic of Mahopac, and his four grandchildren; Matthew, Olivia, Thomas and Joseph. He is also survived by his brother Peter (Maryann) Milohnic of Somers. He is predeceased by his mother Margaret in 1996 and his sister Maria in 1951. Visiting hours were held at the Whalen & Ball Funeral

Home on Wednesday and Thursday, January 28 and 29, 2009. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on Friday, January 30, 2009. Interment followed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery. Donations may be made to the Calvary Hospital Memorial Fund, 1740 Eastchester Road, Bronx, NY. 10461, or Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, 1275 York Ave. New York, NY 10021. Whalen & Ball Funeral Home, 168 Park Ave., Yonkers, NY 10703. (914) 965-5488.

Scott M. Troy, a lifelong Yonkers resident died on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at his residence. He was 40 years old. He was born on June 29, 1968 to John J. and Charlotte Clark Troy in Yonkers where he was raised and educated, graduating from Lincoln

High School in 1989. Mr. Troy was a maintenance man at the Wendy's Fast Food Restaurant in Elmsford for fifteen years until illness caused him to stop working. Mr. Troy was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church. He enjoyed watching old video movies. Survivors include two brothers, John L. Troy of Wappingers Falls, NY, and Donald Troy of Montgomery, NY. He is also survived by aunts, uncles, nieces and one nephew and his lifelong friend, Mary Burke. Visitation was held at Whalen & Ball Funeral Home on Sunday, January 25, 2009. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on Monday, January 26, 2009. Interment followed at St. Joseph's Cemetery. Whalen & Ball Funeral Home, 168 Park Ave., Yonkers, NY 10703. (914) 965-5488.

In Memoriam Notice

Westchester Herald publishes paid obituaries (In Memoriam) of people who have lived, worked, or have family in Westchester County. All notices must be received by Friday, by 12:00 Noon, for inclusion in the next week's edition. Place a paid notice by directing email to

WHYTeditor@gmail.com.

Yonkers Resident Named as Vice President for Cabrini Care at Home Care

Dobbs Ferry, NY -- Pamela Yaco, who has 30 years of progressively responsible home care nursing experience, has been named Vice President of Operations for Cabrini Care at Home (CCAH), Patricia Krasnausky, President and CEO of Cabrini Eldercare, has announced. Cabrini Care at Home is a New York State-licensed home services agency serving residents of New York City and Westchester County. Part of Cabrini Eldercare's continuum of care services, the program is designed to help individuals with chronic medical conditions remain at home as long as possible and prevent premature nursing home placement. It also serves as a valuable care bridge for patients transitioning back to home following hospitalization or subacute nursing home care.

Ms. Yaco brings three decades of home care nursing experience, including 18 years in managerial positions, to Cabrini Care at Home. She served most recently as administrator of a Certified Home Health Agency in Connecticut. The Yonkers resident earned a Bachelor of Nursing degree from Regents College, a Bachelor of Science in Social Science from California Polytechnic State University, and an Associate Degree in Nursing from Cuesta College.

In addition to CCAH, Cabrini Eldercare is composed of Cabrini of Westchester, Cabrini Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation (CCNR), Manhattan; and Cabrini Housing Development Fund Corp.

Derek Jeter's Turn 2 Foundation



Tampa, FL -- During his rookie year in 1996, New York Yankees All-Star shortstop Derek Jeter established the [Turn 2 Foundation](#) to promote healthy lifestyles amongst youth. The name "Turn 2" is symbolic of the dramatic double play made by infielders during a game.

This year's event was held at the Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa, Florida. Pictured above are (L to R) former major league ballplayer Daryl Strawberry, Fred Smith and former NY Knick star John Starks.

Photo by and courtesy of Richard Nestro.

Keeping Safe During Our Golden Years

From Page 1

adults are more susceptible to home invasion and robbery.

Protect Your Home from Intruders: Install a peephole in your door, and never let strangers into your home. Use deadbolts, and keep doors and windows locked even when you are home. Your home should look occupied. Use light timers if you are away. Never hide a key under the mat. Instead leave one with a trusted neighbor. Consider investing in a home alarm system.

Clear the Way: Make sure interior and exterior stairs and walkways are clear of debris. Unnecessary items like books and shoes make for tripping hazards. Tack down the edges of carpets and throw rugs. Install handrails in stairwells, hallways and bathrooms.

Know Fire Hazards: Make sure you have a working smoke detector and fire extinguisher. Take extra precautions when cooking or using space heaters. It is always a good idea to keep a list of emergency numbers by the phone.

Be Cautious When Out and About: Try not to head out alone, and tell someone when you have left for the day. Never carry large sums of money. If shopping in the evening hours, find a security officer to escort you to your car. In case of an emergency, keep medical and identification cards in your purse or wallet.

Watch Out for Con Artists: Criminals prey on senior citizens and try to obtain personal and financial information. Never give away information to a stranger in person or over the telephone. If you are offered a deal that seems



too-good-to-be-true, it probably is.

As retirement often allows for more time on the road, driver safety becomes increasingly important for our senior citizens.

Have Your Eyes and Ears Checked: Annually schedule eye and ear doctor appointments to check for vision and hearing changes. You may also want to consider only driving during daylight, as it becomes harder to see during dusk and evening hours. Keep your windshield, mirrors and headlights clean to avoid visual impairment.

Plan Ahead for Safety: Breaking down on the road can be dangerous, especially for a senior. Have a professional inspect your car and visit a mechanic for scheduled maintenance. Keep your gas tank full and tires properly inflated and try not to drive in inclement weather such as rain, snow or ice.

Proceed with Caution: Stick to smaller roads and avoid highways if faster driving makes you nervous. Know your route before leaving the house so you feel confident as to where you are going.

Have Transportation Alternatives: Many areas offer driver safety refresher courses for adults over 50. However, if driving becomes difficult, look for transportation alternatives. Friends and family may be happy to share a ride, and there are also bus and public transit options. Senior groups may offer community shuttles for their members.

Be Careful with Medications: In general, mixing multiple medications can be unsafe, and your doctor should always be aware of which prescriptions you are taking. Taking medications and driving can have fatal results. Make sure that your medications do not cause drowsiness, confusion, feelings of weakness or possible seizures.

Richard Mullan is Vice President/General Manager of AlliedBarton Security Services. For more information call 1-866-825-5433 or visit AlliedBarton.com.

Seniors Speak-Out Over Budget Cut Concerns

White Plains, NY -- More than 200 Westchester seniors turned out for the 2nd Annual Legislative Speak-Out, held at the Westchester County Center on January 30th. The event provided an opportunity for seniors to hear about the effects of the proposed 2009/2010 New York State and Federal budgets on aging services.

The program was sponsored by the Westchester County Board of Legislators Committee on Generational, Cultural and Ethnic Diversity, the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services and the Aging Network and the Senior Advisory Council.

Westchester County Legislator Bernice Spreckman addressed the crowd and spoke about new initiatives she is working on with both Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Assemblyman Mike Spano to help keep seniors citizens safe throughout the state. The audience heard about the

importance of maintaining funding for such important senior services such as EISEP (Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly); EPIC (Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage); and Livable Communities.

"I want to see more money put in EISEP so that seniors can stay in their homes and communities for as long as possible," said Spreckman. "The EISEP program is a very cost-efficient alternative to nursing home care. EPIC is also a great program that has helped so many and I want to see that expanded, not reduced."

Several elected officials addressed the audience including County Board Chair William J. Ryan; Westchester County Executive Andrew Spano; Department of Senior Program & Services Commissioner Mae Carpenter; Assemblyman Jeff Dinowitz, Chair of the Subcommittee on Protecting the Elderly; State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins; Assemblymen Mike Spano



(L-R) County Legislator Bill Burton, County Executive Andy Spano, County Board Chairman Bill Ryan, County Dept. of Senior Programs & Services Commissioner Mae Carpenter, County Senior Advisory Council Chair Dan Sambol, County Legislator Bernice Spreckman and NYS Office for the Aging Director Michael Burgess.

and George Latimer; and Michael Burgess, Director of the New York State Office for the Aging.

"A tough economy means more people are struggling and more are in need of safety net services that are part of the county's core mission to provide," said Ryan. "It's important that we at the county

work harder than ever to maintain programs that are working well and that so many seniors rely on."

Also in attendance at the event were Westchester County Legislators Lois Bronz, William Burton, Peter Harkham, Ken Jenkins, Jose Alvarado, Lyndon Williams, representatives from

Senator Suzi Oppenheimer and Senator Rubin Diaz's offices and Mike Olender, Associate State Director of the NY AARP.

Visit the County Board's Website at www.westchesterlegislators.com for a link to the packet of materials distributed at the Speak-Out.

Seniors Come Out Swinging!

Yonkers, NY -- Yonkers Public Library's Seniors Come Out Swinging participants will showcase their swing dancing and set decoration talents in a live special performance accompanied by the Virgil Scott Swing Orchestra at Grinton I. Will Branch on Saturday, February 14th, at 3:00 p.m.

Join the fun and swing! Seniors will dance the swing and fox trot, taught by the professional dance team of Karen Schneider and Carlos Sampelayo, in a



Post World War II nightclub scene created by the visual arts team under the expert

guidance of Yonkers High School Visual Arts Teacher Denise Cachoian.

This free program is part of the Westchester Library System's Creative Aging in Our Communities project, and is generously funded by the Helen Andrus Benedict Foundation.

Grinton I. Will Branch, located at 1500 Central Park Avenue, is handicapped accessible. For further information, call 914-337-1500.



PJS Jazz Society
presents
2nd Sunday Jazz
at the First Presbyterian Church
East Lincoln & North Columbus Avenue
Mt. Vernon, NY 10553-1196

Antoinette Montague
Sunday, February 8, 2009
5:15 - 9:15 p.m.
Doors Open at 5:00 p.m.



Antoinette Montague has graced the covers of Jazz Improv's *Jazz Guide* and *Who's Who in Jazz, Cabaret and Music*. She has performed at Jazz at Lincoln Center's *Dizzy's Club*, *Coca Cola*, the *Zebra Room* in Harlem's famous *Lenox Lounge*, the *Blue Smoke Jazz Standard*, and last year's *PJS/Jazzmobile Summer Breeze Concert* honoring *Junior Mance*.

Antoinette works most regularly with *Bill Essely*, a brilliant and versatile multi-reed player (alto, tenor, and baritone sax) as well as *flute, piccolo, and clarinet*. Tonight she will also be joined by *Mr. Vernon's own Tommy James*, musical director of the *Duke Ellington Band*, on piano; *Mason Shaker*, who plays with *Marty Alexander*, on bass; and *Vince Eicher*, who works with *Gloria Lynne*, on drums.

Pre-concert set by Young Musicians from 5:15-6:00 pm.
Please support the next generation of jazz artists!

Next concert, March 8: *Johnny O'Neal*, pianist and vocalist, who has played with *Ray Brown*, *Milt Jackson*, and *Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers*, and was featured in the role of *Art Tatum* in the movie *Ray*.

TICKET COST: PJS Members \$10 Non-members \$18 Student Price \$12

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www.pjsjazzsociety.org

Additional parking @ Holmes School on Columbus Ave. adjacent to the First Presbyterian Church

Beer, Chocolate and the Battle of the Bulge

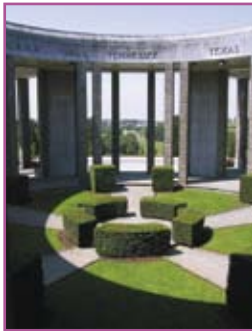


By
Barbara Barton Sloane

"This may be death by chocolate, but what a way to go!" Jenna, my travel companion, said with a deep and lingering sigh. We were dining at Wittamer, the renowned chocolate establishment in Brussels, Belgium.

Our "lunch" consisted of countless samples of chocolate in every flavor and shape, light, dark and dangerously indulgent – a delicious way to start our tour of Belgium.

On our visit to this country, we explored the vibrant city of Brussels and then we were on to Bastogne, where we visited the Ardennes and the site of the Battle of the Bulge. But before leaving Brussels we dined at some tantalizing cafes and restaurants, visited way too many chocolate shops and sampled some of its



500 (you read it right - 500) different types of beer! Yes, we knew we'd end our trip facing our own, personal battle of the bulge but hey, we were in the land of beer and chocolate and it was all too tempting to resist!

Brussels is conveniently located less than an hour and a half from Paris and just two hours from Amsterdam. Home of the European Union and NATO, Brussels had its beginnings in the 10th century, evolving from a fortress town into a metropolis of more than one

million inhabitants today. The city derives its character by the coexistence of French and Flemish culture, and is now home to nationalities around the world which add to its cosmopolitan flavor. It's further enhanced by picturesque medieval streets, lively squares, cozy cafes and a vibrant cultural life.

After checking into my hotel, the brand-new, sophisticated Dominican, I made a bee-line for everyone's favorite place known as the Heart of Brussels: La Grand Place. With its sense of 17th century power, this is one of 35 Belgian UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It is a centuries-old square surrounded by the famed Guild Houses with their magnificent gables, pilasters, balustrades and ornately covered stonework. Here, also, adding to the happy atmosphere: flower markets, cafes, shops and

people. Feeling somewhat jet-lagged from my journey, I spied a sidewalk vendor selling Belgian waffles. Something told me that this sumptuous concoction topped with whipped cream, chocolate and fresh strawberries would make me feel a whole lot better. (It did).

You've Gotta Have Art

Painting is one of the glories of Belgium and in Brussels you'll find more than 80 museums to house its splendid works of art. Not to be missed: The Royal Museum containing both ancient and modern art and the Belgian Center for Comic Strip Art, famous for its exhibits of

Belgium's beloved comic strip character, Tintin, and those roguish blue guys, the Smurfs.

John Coltrane (and I) Thank You

Did you know that this is the land where the saxophone was invented? No wonder jazz is an integral part of daily life here. There is the Brussels Jazz Marathon held in May, the Brussels Summer Festival in August, and outside of Brussels in Namur, the Verdur Rock Festival in June. Audi puts on a jazz festival from September to December in various Belgian cities, and for classical music lovers, there's the Festival of Wallonia from June to October held in castles, abbeys and churches in the southern region of the country.

An Invitation to Temptation

Food of champions, a lure for lovers, a drink for the gods and an indulgence for the masses. Chocolate. At last count, there were some 2,000 chocolate shops in Belgium and 172,000 tons of this dark, de-lightful and de-lovely stuff are produced each year. All of the great chocolatiers are here – Marcolini, Leonidas, Neuhaus and the aforementioned Wittamer's, and if you want some sweet, in-depth browsing, check out the Museum of Cocoa and Chocolate.

Beauty Lies in the Hands of the Beer Holder

Three cheers for Belgian beers, some 500 of them appreciated by ale enthusiasts in much the same way as fine wines. The variety of beer flavors

is endless. Anyone in the mood for raspberry, chocolate, cherry, white or brown beer? You can find it here. The Belgian Beer Weekend held on La Grand Place takes place in early September and there is the Beer Festival of Bouillion in April.



We left Brussels to spend some time in Namur, an hour drive from Brussels and the capital of Wallonia. **A Solemn Visit** After lunch, we were off to Bastogne, a few hours drive and close to the Luxembourg border. This is the site where thousands of soldiers died during the Battle of the Bulge in the winter of 1944-45. By the time fighting stopped, the city was completely destroyed and more than 25,000 people had been killed. The town is filled with stark reminders of WWII, including the American Memorial, the Ardennes American Cemetery and the Bastogne Historical Center.

Belgians invite visitors to come and experience their country through the eyes of natives. They promise that your experience will not be that of a tourist. So don't waffle about visiting - - Belgium is ready and waiting to make you its guest.

If You Go: Brussels Hotels The Dominican, rue Leopoldstraat 9 Tel: +32 (0)2 203 08 08, www.thedominican.be Royal Windsor Hotel, rue Duquesnoy 5 Tel: +32 (0)2 505 55 55, www.royalwindsorbrussels.com Restaurants L'Estaminet du Kelderke, Grand Place 15

Tel: +32 2 513 7344, www.atgo.be/kid/intro.php Jaloa, Place Sainte-Catherine 5 Tel: 02 513 19 92, www.jaloa.com L'Ecailler du Palais Royal, rue Bodenbroek 18 Tel: 02 512 87 51, www.lecaillerdupalaisroyal.be Namur Hotel Chateau de Namur Tel: +32 16 40 30 40 Restaurants Les Tanneurs de Namur 13B rue des Tanneries Tel: +32 (0) 81 24 00 25, [www.info@tanneurs.com](mailto:info@tanneurs.com) Le Darville, rue D'arville 94 Tel: +32 81 46 23 65, www.ledarville.be Bastogne Hotel Hotel Collin, Place MacAuliffe 8-9 Tel: 061 21 43 58, www.hotel-collin.com Restaurant Wagon Leo, 4-6 rue du Vivier Tel: +32 61 21 14 41 www.hotel-bastogne.be/en/restaurant Guide Henri Mignon Email: henri_mignon@swing.be Bastogne Historical Center www.bastognehistoricalcenter.be Misc. Brussels Musee Magritte, rue du Musee 9 Tel: 02 508 34 09 Comic Strip Museum, rue des Sables 20 Tel: +32 (0)2 219 19 80 A L'Image Notre-Dame Rue Marche-aux-Herbes 8 Tel: 02 219 42 49 The Royal Museum, 62 rue Vautier Tel: +32 2 648 17 18 Au Bon Vieux Temps Impasse Saint Nicolas 4 Tel: 02 217 226 26 Belgian Tourist Office www.visitbelgium.com Great Travel Guide to Discover Belgium Jackie Grandchamps, Tour Director French Escapade, www.frenchescapade.com Email: frenchescapade@yahoo.com Tel: In USA: 510-483-5713 *Photos courtesy of the Belgian Tourist Office, NY/USA"*

Shifting Gears: The Little Jet That Could



By Roger Witherspoon

When the winter storm had passed, there was a thick blanket of the kind of soft, featherweight, slippery snow that frustrates kids trying to pack snowballs and delights those looking for powdery surfaces to ski on. It was beautiful in the early evening light, but the snow was not particularly friendly to motorists.

Which made it a perfect place to play in a diesel-powered VW Jetta TDI on the wide street adjacent to the National Guard Armory in Teaneck, NJ. I started slowly, driving the Jetta in a wide, lazy, five mile an hour circle; the sedan's 16-inch wheels and all weather tires leaving crisp tracks in the clean surface. Then I reversed course and, at 10 miles an hour, completed a figure eight. That seemed too easy, so I sped up and traced another lazy eight in the powder, then sped up again.

In short order I was drawing figure eights at 35 miles an hour, and the tire tracks in the fresh snow in front of a row of parked tanks was as crisp as it had been when I started. The Jetta did not have snow tires, but the sedan's electronic stability program ensured that the compact VW was as secure in snow and ice as any Jeep on the road. Like a little jet that could, this compact goes road running regardless of the weather and other road hazards.

While the Jetta TDI provides surprising stability for a \$24,000 sedan, its real strength lies in its performance when the sun

is high and the roads are dry.

The sun was high, the highway was clear, the temperature was in the low teens and the wind whipping through the Upper Hudson River Valley



in New York's Adirondack Mountains pushed the mercury below zero. It was warm as toast inside the sleek Jetta TDI sedan whose low, sleek, curved profile easily sliced through the wintery blasts gusting through the hills and dales flanking the highway. For a small car with a straight line, four cylinder engine that produced just 140 horsepower, being able to cruise without a lot of vibration at 70 miles per hour is about all a motorist can usually ask for.

But this was a turbocharged, diesel powered vehicle, whose design sent double the usual power – in this case, 230 pound-feet of torque –

directly to the axles of this front wheel drive sedan. This meant it acted more like a sedan with a souped up V-6. So I floored the pedal, and the compact jumped forward, quickly approaching its 130 mile per hour top speed before I slowed back down to the legal driving range.

For a small car in this price range, the Jetta packs a lot – and it is not very thirsty. The EPA estimate is the Jetta diesel gets 29 miles per gallon in city driving and 40 MPG on the highway. The test car averaged 37.5 MPG in mixed driving.

The Jetta's interior is pleasant, but nothing special to look at. The décor is padded plastic and

simulated chrome – but it looks plain, rather than cheap. The seats are wide, leather, comfortable and the front pair can be heated. On the other hand, the seats are manually operated, not easily adjusted, and it seems anachronistic in this day and age. On the plus side, there is enough room in the rear for the Jetta to comfortably carry four average sized adults on a cross country trek. And there is a 115-volt power outlet so a passenger can plug in a computer or electronic game during the trip.

The dash does not have a color LCD screen, and the information from its entertainment system is only visible on a narrow,

green, outdated screen. In its favor, however, the entertainment system has Sirius satellite radio, a six-disc, in-dash CD player and an MP3 connection. It does not have a Bluetooth or iPod connection, however, which may be a drawback when marketing the car to young buyers. For about \$2,000 more, VW will provide a navigation system with a color touch screen, and an entertainment system complete with a 30 GB hard drive to record your own music and a DVD player.

That added technology pushes the Jetta's price into a more competitive car category. But still, if you are going to jet around the countryside, it is not a bad way to travel.

2009 Jetta TDI

MSRP: \$24,190

EPA Mileage: 29 MPG City; 40 MPG Highway

As Tested Mileage: 37.5 MPG Mixed

Top Speed: 130 MPH

Performance/ Safety:

2.0-Liter I-4, turbocharged direct injection engine producing 140 horsepower and 230 pound-feet of torque; front wheel drive; powersteering; independent strut front suspension; multilink independent rear suspension; anti-lock brakes; electronic stability program; 6-speed automatic transmission; 16-inch alloy wheels; driver and front passenger side airbags; side curtain head airbags in front and rear.

Comfort/ Interior:

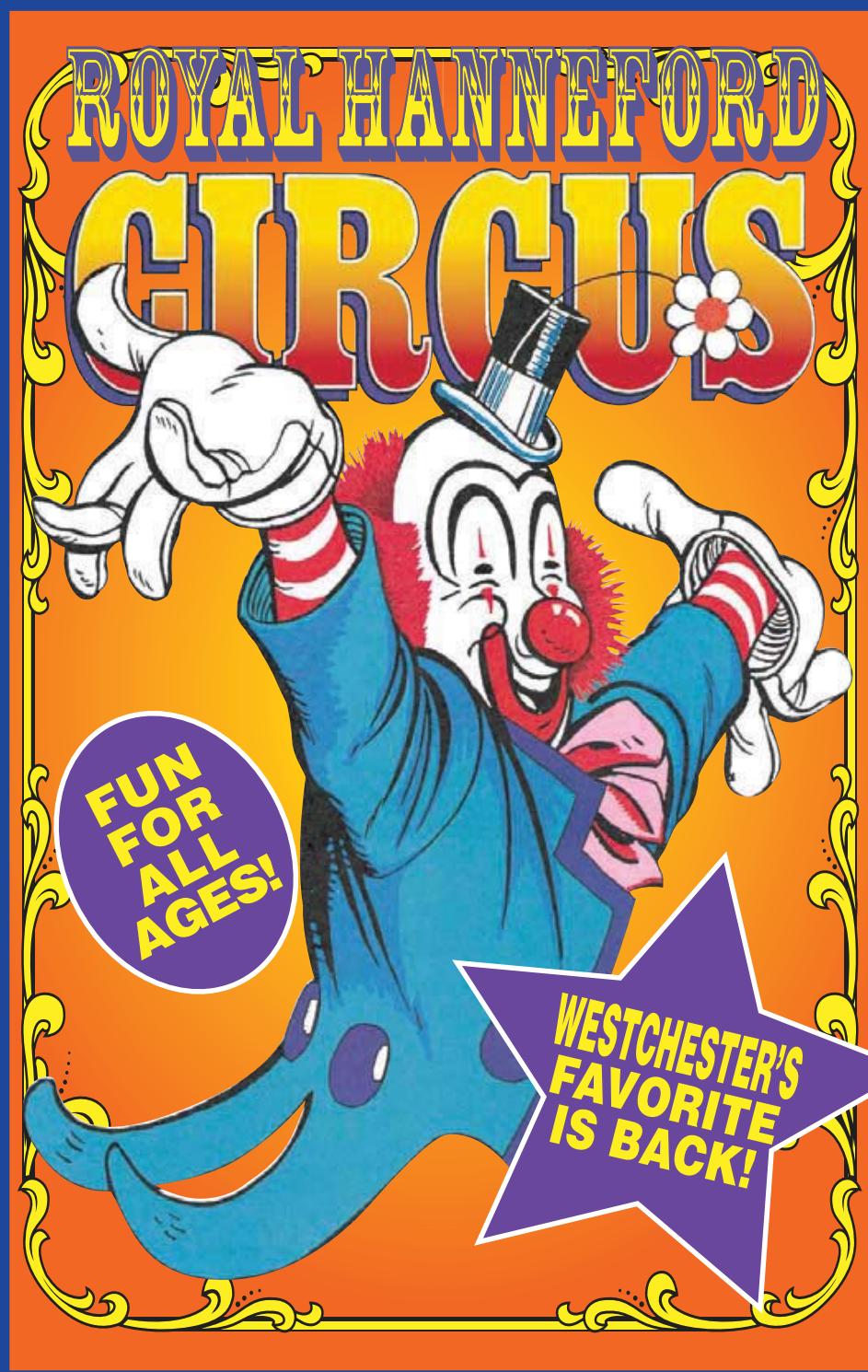
AM/FM/ Sirius satellite radio; 6-disc, in-dash CD player and MP3 connection; tilt and telescope steering wheel with fingertip cruise command and entertainment controls; leather seats; heated front seats; folding rear seats; 115-volt power outlet; compass and outside temperature display.

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