

Tolany Takes His Place on Wall of Fame

The Charles E. Gorton High School Alumni Association, by a unanimous vote, inducted William A. Tolany, Class of 1964, as the 36th member of Gorton's Wall of Fame.

The recently deceased and previous president of the Charles E. Gorton High School Alumni Association takes his place of honor among the former student and faculty members who left their mark on Gorton and achieved noticeable successes in business, sports, the arts, literature and social justice. The Wall also recognizes post-WW II graduates who sacrificed their lives while serving the country.



Bill's presence can still be felt throughout Gorton, from the audio and visual equipment inside the school to the Never Forget Garden near the Bricks of Remembrance. The Garden not only recognizes our veterans living and dead, but is part of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers centennial commemoration—Gorton was the only school in the U.S. to participate in that historic moment in time.

Bill would be there when classes held their reunions, reminding all to keep Gorton in their hearts and their hands on their wallets. No gift was too small nor underappreciated. He spoke of his love of Gorton and he spoke truth to power to city officials and school administrators.

He advocated for the end of the city's benign neglect to a nearly 100-year-old school named after the school superintendent who ushered the city's nascent school system into the 20th century.

He didn't win every battle. He couldn't resurrect the Coal Bunker Theatre nor the
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Wolf Tales

*The Newsletter of
Gorton's Class of '65*

'The strength of the wolf is in the pack'



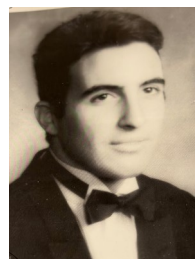
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—Photo courtesy of Mark Vergari/The Journal News

CHILLING OUT FOR A GOOD CAUSE--Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, center, and New York State Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, left, participate in the 10th Annual Yonkers ALS Ice Bucket Challenge at Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts. The event, sponsored by the Office of the Mayor, the Empire City Casino and the Quinn for the Win Foundation, raises funds to identify a cure for Lou Gehrig's Disease. The challenge was co-founded by Yonkers native Pat Quinn who later died of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis on Nov. 22, 2020 at the age of 29.

Taking Care Of Business, Old & New



Alumni News

Greetings my fellow Wolves! I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. September is right around the corner, no need to rush, but it's coming. This is always an exciting opportunity to welcome a new school year and a new graduating class.

coming up on our centennial celebration, as well as progress in making the Wall of Fame a permanent and visible structure to all. It will serve as a tangible and prideful reminder of those who have achieved greatness and serve as an inspiration to students and future alumni.

We have some exciting things on the horizon at Charles E. Gorton. We are

The Association is also undertaking an exciting new initiative—the creation of a
See ALUMS on Page 4



BACK TO SCHOOL—Frank McGlinchey’s grandchildren, Eleanor (top) and Patrick Tolar, declare that summer is officially over, at least for them.



BLOCK HEADS—Yvonne and Greg Price end the summer season with their annual family vacation on Block Island, RI.



EXTRA, EXTRA—Ava Belle gets rave reviews from her mom and grandmother Ursula Belle Healy after appearing in “Newies Jr.”



A DAY AT THE MUSEUM—Marilyn Kaiser Sundra and Sarah Langley Policelli at Hillwood Museum Mansion in Northwest Washington, DC. Post Cereal owner Marjorie Merriweather Post created the museum in 1955, which contains the most comprehensive collection of Russian imperial art outside of Russia.



TWO-STEPPING—Kathleen Morrone Hanold with her son Georgie’s children at the Two Stepping Fair in San Juan Capistrano. That’s Penny (black shirt) and her twin Izzy (green shirt), age 8, and 4-year-old Hazel (grey shirt). Kathy’s black hat is courtesy of her son.



KENNEDY GATHERING—Joan Lawless Kennedy and her family pose with Joan’s sister, Thea Lawless Albert (GHS’60) and son Chad (far right). Thea was visiting her kid sister in Virginia.



WATER SPORTS—Barry Jacobs with his five-month-old great grandson, Jameson Potter, in the family pool. Meanwhile, Jameson's big brother Lucas, 20 months old, tries to shoot Barry with a water gun.



A HOME RUN FOR 'OB'—Malcolm Brown's family was having dinner in downtown Larkspur, CA, when grandson Oliver ("OB") spotted retired San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds. Oliver ran home to get a baseball for Barry to sign. Scouting reports say Barry's good with kids but keeps the parents at bay.



OLD TIMERS' DAY—Steve Tuers gets a visit to the mound by Willie Randolph, the five times World Series champion for the Yankees. Willie spent more than 20 years with the Bronx Bombers before taking the helm of the cross-town rival Mets. He posted a winning record from 2005-08 before he was fired less than half way through the 2008 season on a West Coast swing. He told Steve that the firing "still stings."

SEEING REDS—Sam Fried and Gale Donnelly at the Great American Ball Park, home to the Cincinnati Reds. The home team defeated the Toronto Blue Jays, 1-0, on a bottom of the ninth walk-off home run by Christian Encarnacion-Strand. Sam and Gale left in the 8th.



ALUMS (from Page One)

website that will serve as a conduit for alumni news and current Gorton happenings. Ultimately, we envision this website as a landing area and portal to numerous social media efforts that are dedicated to Gorton and its graduating classes.

It will be a one-stop shop for all things Gorton, featuring amazing memories and notable events. It will be a great way to galvanize our tremendous alumni base! It will also make any future fundraising events more user-friendly and efficient as a fully recognized 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt organization.

At this time, I would also like to acknowledge and thank our Charles E. Gorton High School Alumni Association board members for their hard work and dedication as we move ahead and build on Bill Tolany's vision of the CEGHSAA.

GO WOLVES!!!

Dan DeMatteo, a 1994 graduate and teacher at Gorton, is the acting president of the Charles E. Gorton Alumni Association.

WALL (from Page One)

school's Gorton News. He would just dust himself off and continue to get himself in "good trouble," sometimes winding up in the principal's office arguing for greater student awareness of Gorton's rich and historic past.

However, his greatest legacy was the establishment of the CEGHSAA as a certified 501 (3)(c) tax-exempt charitable organization. As such, the Association is able to receive tax-exempt donations for special projects and lend support to Gorton's educational programs. Because of his foresight, the Association lives on.

The Association's partnership with Wolf Tales is just the tip of the iceberg for future endeavors to expand its outreach to students, graduates and friends of Gorton. Whatever the future holds in store, we will be indebted to Bill's tireless and enthusiastic efforts.

Members of the CEGHSAA Board of Directors

Andrea Cordero graduated Gorton in 2013 and earned a B.S. in biology at the University of Connecticut. She received an MBA in Healthcare Management from Quinnipiac University and has been working in the healthcare industry for more than six years. She is a Clinical Trial Manager for Alto Neuroscience.



Dan DeMatteo is a 1994 graduate of Gorton and a physical education teacher at Gorton. He received a BS at SUNY Cortlandt and a Masters at the University of New England. He was Gorton's football coach from 2004-17 and head of the Yonkers Force in 2018-19 seasons. He is Gorton's second-winningest football coach.



Toni DeNicola is a 1964 Gorton graduate and a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with an MS from Columbia. She developed a primary health care practice at Lincoln Hospital and primary health clinics at two Yonkers schools. She is on Gorton's Medical Advisory Board and a member of the Westchester Sickle Cell Organization.



Joan Lawless Kennedy is a 1965 graduate of Gorton High School. She graduated from American University in 1969 and received her Masters in Education from Virginia Tech. She has lived in Virginia since 1977. She taught 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades for 25 years in the Loudoun County, VA, public schools system.



Diane Krusko is a 1973 graduate of Gorton and received a B.S. in microbiology at Penn State and an MBA from Pace University. Following an industry career, she became Director of University Alumni Relations and Development for New York Medical College. She is currently working with STEM students at SUNY Westchester Community College.



Alex Poletsky graduated from Gorton in 1965 and attended Syracuse University and SUNY at Binghamton. He began his 40-year journalism career at The Herald Statesman and later served as managing editor for financial newswires, credit magazines and private investment firms. He is the managing editor of the Wolf Tales newsletter.



Yvonne Price is a 1965 graduate of Gorton High School. She graduated from Plattsburgh State University, where she met and married Greg, her partner of 53 years and counting. She was a teacher and school administrator for 23 years and has been enjoying retirement with her husband, children and grandchildren for the last 17 years.



**Tuers
De Force**

**Creating Our
Own (D)rift
Of Club Med**

We booked a two-night stay at the Blue Ark Lavish Sauna Suite in Athens because it was in one of the safest areas of Athens and was luxurious and elegant. We hired two oversized golf carts with personal tour guides to explore the capital, dominated by landmarks including the Acropolis and the Pantheon.

Just tasting some of their delicious cuisines and blending in with their culture was so rewarding. With my VIP status on the Norwegian Line, we were able to avoid long lines in boarding the ship. Another perk included the secretary to the general manager who was assigned to us. She was our go-to woman and was there to make our trip more enjoyable.

About the ship, The Getaway. The food aboard is excellent and a table for eight always was waiting for us at all the restaurants on board. Cagney Steakhouse was my favorite; a close second was the French Li Bistro. The group as a whole enjoyed the Tropicana dining room, which served a different menu every night.

Entertainment was plentiful. Two shows, Burning the Floor and The Million Dollar Quartet, were performed in the big theater. Plus, every night you could find entertainment like magic shows and karaoke and howling pianos, if that was your cup of tea. The water slides kept the teenagers busy and meeting new friends were an added treat. And, of course, a casino kept

See **TUERS** on Page 6



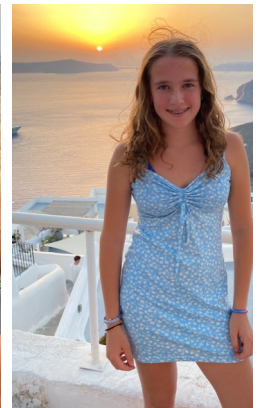
**A Summer Cruise
On the Mediterranean**

The Flight: Lufthansa out of JFK to Frankfurt, Germany to Athens, Greece.

The Itinerary: Athens, Greece, Istanbul, Santorini, Mykonos, Olimpia, Sicily, Naples, Florence and Rome.

The Ship: The Norwegian Getaway.

The travelers: Alice and Steve Tuers, daughter Tricia, grandson Zach and his friend Hailey Dreher and her family.



Alice and Steve, their daughter Tricia, and their grandson Zach and his friend, Hailey.



On-ship entertainment was a howl with 'Grandmaster Flash' Steve Tuers.



The Parthenon.



The Colosseum.



The Trevi Fountain.



The Sistine Chapel.



The Basilica.



Istanbul's Blue Mosque.



The Leaning Tower of Pisa.

TUERS (from Page 5)
the adults trying their luck.

Our first stop was Istanbul, which has the newest ship terminal in the world. A visit to the historic Blue Mosque was a must see for us, and because our dollar is so strong here, we did some bargaining at the Grand Bazaar, which is a spectacular and a beautiful market.

The beautiful island of Santorini was next—just the rare natural beauty is something to behold. All of us took an excursion to one of the volcano beaches for a much-needed escape from the heat. Then by taxi we drove up to the highest point on the island and saw one of the most beautiful sunsets you can imagine. Taking a cable car down to our ship at night was thrilling.

Mykonos and Olympia were the next two islands on our trip. Mykonos is known for partying and party we did. Olympia was the birthplace of the Olympics in 776 BC so a visit there was on our list.

Sicily was next on our itinerary. My grandson Zach and I, and Hailey and Dylan Dreher, paid for an excursion from the ship to Mt. Etna, the tallest active volcano in Europe. We experienced some awesome views on the ride to Mt. Etna and saw some ancient lava flows. The idea was to climb up the volcano to the inner crater, but the heat was too much for us, except for Zach. Kudos to him.

On to Naples where food was our main objective to try. Margarita pizza was the best pizza I have tasted. Naples is definitely a walking city so it was fun taking in

their ancient streets and sampling their Neapolitan cuisine.

The city of Florence was next and the Leaning Tower of Pisa was a fun place to visit. Finally, Rome and a visit to the Colosseum and the Trevi Fountain. Saving the best for last was the Vatican where a private tour led us through the Vatican Museum, the Sistine Chapel and finally the Basilica. Our guide was heaven sent.

Finally, it was time to say arrivederci and board a nine-hour non-stop flight from Rome. After a 24-hour jetlag recovery, I was back on the golf course for a charity event.

Steve Tuers was a member of Gorton's championship basketball team and is a lifelong resident of Yonkers.

Paradise Lost



An aerial view of Lahaina after fires driven by hurricane winds devastated the town on Maui's west shore.

Lahaina: 'Where Hawaii's Past Is Present'

Ultimately, the devastating fire that destroyed Lahaina in Maui will be measured in the loss of human lives and the costs of rebuilding homes and stores.

However, restoring and rebuilding an historic paradise will be the ultimate testament to the Hawaiian spirit.

Lahaina is a "place where the past is present," David Aiona Chang, a professor and Native Hawaiian historian at the University of Minnesota, told the Washington Post. "Native Hawaiians, are very emphatic that we're not giving up on that. Our culture is still alive, our language is still alive."

Kaniela Ing, a seventh generation native Hawaiian, told NBC News that "If you start from one end of Front Street and walk to the other end, it's like a physical timeline of the history of the Hawaiian Kingdom."

"You can actually see the flow in the buildings stemming back 150 or more years," he continued. "It's remarkable and just the thought that that history may have been lost in this fire or any bit of that history is heartbreaking."

Lahaina, the royal capital of Maui, was captured by King Kamehameha I who made Lahaina the capital of the United Hawaiian Kingdom in 1802. It served as the center of the Hawaiian government for more than 50 years. Hawaiian kings and queens are buried in the Waiola

See **LAHAINA** on Page 8



Aloha from Hawaii: Vintage postcards of Lahaina's Front Street and historic hotel.



—Photos by Joe Mikulsky

The shops along Lahaina’s Front Street.

LAHAINA (from Page 7)

Church’s graveyard.

In 1873, Sheriff William Owen Smith planted an Indian banyan tree in 1873 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first Protestant mission in Lahaina. The largest banyan tree in the U.S., it is 60-feet tall and has 46 trunks covering almost 2 acres. It apparently survived the fire.

Not so for the Pioneer Hotel, built in 1901. It was Hawaii’s oldest hotel. Also gone is the Waiola Church, which just celebrated its 200th anniversary.

“Having gone through a major wildfire ourselves,” Joe Mikulsky wrote, “our hearts are very sad for the people of Maui. Our area [Felton, CA] was fortunate. Despite almost 1,000 homes being burned to the ground, there was only one fatality.”

Joe sent some photos of one of Annie’s and Joe’s visits to Lahaina along Front Street, which is now ashes and rubble.

Marilyn Santos (C’59) lived on Oahu for 6½ years and visited Lahaina several times when vacationing in Maui.

“Lahaina to me was special because it carried history in it while retaining the feel

of old Hawaii,” Marilyn said. “I remember the Bishop House and the Pioneer Inn. It was quaint and had little shops to visit, and then there was that incredible banyan tree. So many wood buildings and history around every corner.”

“My first muumuu purchase on Maui was in Lahaina in a little resale shop around the corner around another corner from Front Street,” Marilyn reminisced. “I still wear that muumuu; it’s a silly memory.”

Marilyn still has family there. “A Lahaina policeman, Keoki Sanos, is a first cousin to my children. He was missing for a time after the fires went through but reappeared okay, much to the relief of his mom and family.”

Realizing that the muumuu she wears today is one more than many survivors now have, she made an on-line donation to Maui Strong, a community organization that aids the survivors. “That will do more good than mailing back to Hawaii a very



The historic sprawling banyan tree.

Marilyn added that “the thing



‘Hi there, whaler.’



‘Come here often?’

vintage dress,” she said.

“Gale and I visited Lahaina three years ago,” wrote Sam Fried, “and walked its kitschy, touristy streets. Hard to believe it’s completely torched. Can’t comprehend that kind of destruction and loss of life.”

Ursula Belle Healy wrote that her friend was heartbroken after returning from Lahaina. “That was where she has her vacation home and spent part of her childhood in Maui,” Ursula wrote.

“Thankfully she is safe back in Greenwich. Her home is six miles from Front Street and was it burned,” Ursula added.

Editor's Note



Who's on First And I Don't Give a Darn

I don't enjoy watching the Yankees go down in flames. And don't you dare call me a fair-weather fan. I lived, and suffered, through the Mike Burke/CBS era of the late '60s along with 8 million New Yorkers.

My fraternity brothers and I were bleacher creatures near the Yankers' bullpen, lowering beer and hot dogs down to 6-6 lefty Steve Hamilton before he was sent in as a human sacrifice to whatever team was pummeling the Bronx Bummers.

The 1966 Yanks finished in 10th place with a record of 70-89-1. They were so bad they didn't play a full season and one game ended in a tie, meaning it wasn't worth finishing. In a September game, 432 showed up at the Big Ballpark to watch the Yanks lose. It was the smallest home attendance in Yankee history. If you brought a glove, you could have played.

Mel Stottlemyre, who won 20 games the year before, was now a 20-game loser. Fitz Petersen had the best record going 12-11. Mrs. Peterson later traded him for teammate Mike Kekich. Whitey Ford posted a 2-5 in only 22 games. Mantle limped through 108 games with 96 hits and 19 homers. World Series MVP Bobby Richardson retired and only 21,000 showed up to say goodbye. Clete Boyer was traded to the Atlanta Braves for Bill Robinson and Chi-Chi Olivo.

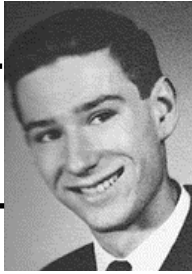
Some of us wear our heart on our sleeves. This year's crop of Yankees wear

See *EDITOR* on Page 10



RAINBOW CONNECTION—Steve Tuer's grandson, Zach, caught a rainbow while catching rides at Playland.

Parry's Ponderings



Giving the Thief His Due Credit

Recently someone stole my credit card but I didn't bother to cancel it, in fact I didn't even report it stolen. Whoever stole it charges less than my wife so I'm OK with that.

Left, Right, Left, Right

We all know that two wrongs don't make a right, but how many realize that three lefts do?

An Age-Old Dilemma

The main problem with growing older is that you've never done it before. You have no experience to draw upon to help you over the rough spots.

I suppose that's better than the alternative. Who'd want to grow old more than once?

Tip a Canoe & Guam Too

I don't remember the details, but Alex mentioned the guy who brought a snowball into the House/Senate to deny global warming. I believe I can top that.

I think the stupidest thing I heard anyone say, at least in modern times, was the guy who said we shouldn't send 8,000 troops and their families to Guam because putting that many more people on the island could cause it to tip over, capsize and sink.

FACT CHECK: True. Rep. Hank Johnson (D-Ga.) said that in 2010.

Don Parry (C65) was awarded Westchester's Safest Teenage Driver Award and is a Vietnam War veteran.



--Photo courtesy Nancy DeFazio

ONCE IN A FULL MOON--The "Sturgeon Moon," a super moon and the first of two full moons in August, over Stony Point.

EDITOR (from Page 9)

advertisements on theirs—Starr Insurance. What the heck is that about?

The Yankees are the only team in the Bigs without player names on their uniforms. The team with no names on their uniforms, has put a \$25 million price tag for a patch bearing the name of an insurance company. Given the number of players on the injured lists, wouldn't Aflac have been a better sponsor?

Here's what they can do with their ill-gotten gains. Spend the \$25 million on real doctors who would have identified Aaron Judge's stubbed toe as a fracture, Anthony Rizzo's batting slump as a post-concussion disorder and diagnosing pitching prospects whose arms are held together with duct tape.

Management's over-reliance on sabermetrics didn't add up either. Why load a lineup with right-hand batters? Yankee Stadium was built for lefties like Babe Ruth. The short porch is just a pitching wedge away. Dump the pencil-necked geeks and get a Strat-O-Matic baseball game for \$73.99 on Amazon.

With the money saved by canning pencil-necked geeks in the front office, they can

get acting lessons for Aaron Boone who leads the league in ejections for the third straight year. Put on a show! Give us Billy Martin and Earl Weaver impersonations.

The last straw came, at least for me, with the announcement of this year's Old Timers' Day format. Nobody does Old Timers' Day better than the Yanks. My eyes often swell with tears as names from the past are announced. A smile follows when they take the field for two innings of fun baseball.

Fuhgeddaboutit for the 75th ceremonies.

They'll still do their curtain calls but instead of an Old-Timers' game, they'll host an around-the-horn Q&A. The only ones pulling up lame will be interviewers serving up softball questions.

Yet, the Stadium will be packed with tourists who can't name the players whose numbers are on the wall of Monument Park.

Give me the lovable Mets. And, for that matter, bring on the Giants, Jets and Knicks, where playing .500-ball is a milestone and not a millstone.

Alex Poletsky (C65) is a retired journalist and managing editor of Wolf Tales.

Did You Know?



Getty Square Has Come Full Circle

Getty Square is the name of downtown Yonkers, the central business district and transit hub of the city. It is named after well-known 19th century merchant, Robert Parkhill Getty.

The site of Getty Square was the center of a Dutch Patroonship granted to the first lawyer in the new world, Adriaen van der Donck. Van der Donck built both saw and grist mills on what was then the Saeck Kill, later known as the Nepperhan River and later the Saw Mill River.

Getty Square's two oldest, still-standing buildings are Philipse Manor Hall (1682) and St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church (1752). These buildings were built in close proximity to the Hudson River. The river, on the western waterfront of Getty Square, provided a transportation route to markets beginning in the 1600s. In 1825,

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Aerial view of downtown Yonkers in the '60s.



St. John's Episcopal Church and Philipse Manor Hall.

Robert Parkhill Getty, 1811-1902

Robert Parkhill Getty was born in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, in 1811 to Samuel Getty and Mary Parkhill. He immigrated to America at the age of 13.

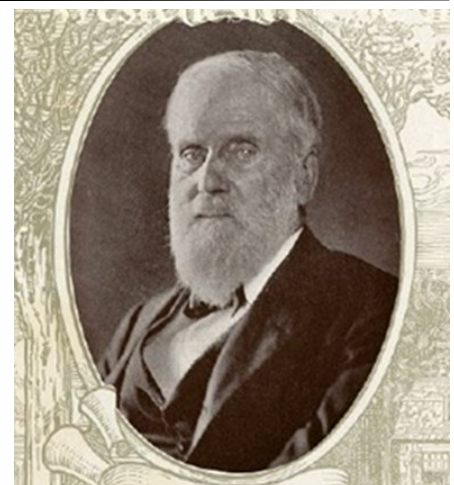
He intended to enter the ministry but he embarked in mercantile pursuits. After a successful grocery business in New York City, he moved to Yonkers in 1849.

In 1851 he erected the Getty House. He established Yonkers' first fire department. He served as the first president of the vil-

lage of Yonkers and was the first president of the Police Board and the first village Treasurer of the city.

He was a director of two local banks here and was vice president of the Produce Exchange and the Cumberland Coal Co. He is also credited with introducing England to American-made bacon.

Getty died on March 28, 1902, and is buried in St. John's Cemetery.



SQUARE (from Pae 11)

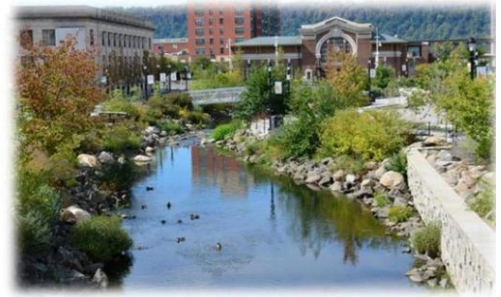
the completion of the Erie Canal increased waterborne traffic from upstate New York down the Hudson to both Yonkers and Manhattan.

In 1853, Elisha Graves Otis, inventor of the safety elevator, established the Otis Elevator Co. on Vark Street along the railroad tracks that hugged the nearby Hudson River.

Later, three separate railroad companies established rail lines through Getty Square. The New York and Putnam Railroad operated out of a building on 20 South Broadway, and The New York Central Railroad operated out of the still-in-use Yonkers Train Station. The Third Avenue Railway Company ran multiple streetcar lines through Getty Square and stored its streetcars in the still-standing Yonkers Trolley Barn on Main Street in Getty Square.

Like many other downtowns, Getty Square suffered gradual and de-industrialization shortly after World War II. Rail-based transportation decreased, trolley service ended in 1952, and the Saw Mill River was long buried in flumes underground since the 1920s. The pavement above the river was mostly used as car parking lots at Chicken Island, Mill Street Courtyard and Larkin Plaza. New York State later widened Nepperhan Avenue to create an arterial highway along the eastern side of the square, demolishing the Carnegie Library in the process.

The vacated Otis Elevator factory complex was turned into the iPark corporate business center, which spurred an influx of



LARKIN PLAZA—The parking lot is now an urban oasis with the daylighting of the Saw Mill River.

new industrial businesses such as Kawasaki Heavy Industries, maker of subway cars. In 2011, iPark installed the largest solar panel array in Westchester on its roof to provide low-cost electricity to its manufacturing tenants.

In 2011, ContraFect, a biotechnology firm, relocated from Manhattan to Getty Square, followed by Mindspark Interactive Network in 2013. In 2007, the Science Barge, a solar- and wind-powered demonstration farm, docked at its permanent home next to the train station at the mouth of the Saw Mill.

The Science Barge draws students in the STEM fields, environmental science and agriculture to Getty Square from around the world. In 2013, Sarah Lawrence College established an academic research center at the Beczak Environmental Center.

The Saw Mill River, once the catalyst for Yonkers' initial economic growth in the 17th century, is once again an economic engine. Long buried under Getty Square, Yonkers began daylighting the river in 2012. The river is now surrounded by Van der Donck Park featuring public amenities

and wildlife elements. Lionsgate Studios established a one million-square-foot movie and TV studio after Kawasaki shifted its manufacturing plant to the Midwest.

Today, Getty Square is a bustling multi-ethnic shopping district with high numbers of shoppers. St. John's Episcopal Church holds the oldest farmers' market in Westchester every Thursday. Retail and business banking thrives in Getty Square; branches of all major banks are present. Getty Square's heavy pedestrian traffic is bolstered by its key role as a transit hub of Yonkers and Westchester. Bee-Line buses, MTA express buses, Metro-North Railroad, and Amtrak all converge in Getty Square.

Getty Square achieves a "Walk Score" of 95 out of 100, making it one of the best "Walker's Paradise" where daily errands do not require a car. Getty Square's walkability score is the highest of any Westchester neighborhood.

Robert Parkhill Getty would be very proud—his square has come full circle.

Joan Lawless Kennedy (C65) is a member of the Yonkers Historical Society.



The Science Barge docked near the Yonkers station.



Lionsgate Studios—Hollywood on the Hudson.



Dear Janet

Ways to Make The Cookie, or Cake, Crumble

Dear Janet,
Do you ever bake cakes?

Sara Leah

Dear Sara: "If I knew you were comin' I'd 'ave baked a cake..." Well, I did know they were coming and as a matter of fact, we baked two cakes. Who was coming? My son, Kyle, and his family.

Backing up, let me say that my 9-year-old



BEAU TAKES THE CAKE—After Ryan, Taylor and Will got a head start.

granddaughter, Taylor, has loved to help around the kitchen since she was tiny, and seems to favor baking, as I do. You might say that the "baking-granny apple" didn't fall far from the tree. We're usually put in charge of making the family's birthday cakes.

Where we differ is that Taylor is very into reality TV baking shows that apparently have helped her baking prowess develop over the years. At first, she helped me, then little by little, she took over as I became the sous chef. Her cake-making turned into a baking show, as she

See **JANET** on Page 15

Sinking My Teeth Into A Good Read

A recent *Washington Post Book World* article headline began, "We've all got reading rules." I set the paper down on my lap and gave that some thought, wanting to explore my own ideas about that premise, before getting someone else's.

I have been a voracious reader all my life. Growing up, I do not exaggerate when I say I spent almost every Saturday at our beautiful Getty Square Yonkers Public Library, returning, renewing, and selecting books. I remember being nervous about spilling them, as I tried to balance the precarious pile, while navigating the stairs of the No. 1 bus to and from that magnificent building, which was my second home.



Priceless Memories

My mom used to remind me that I even skipped a few birthday parties, in favor of a book I couldn't bear to put down, even for cake and ice cream.

So, scanning that headline again, I wondered if I really have reading rules. Then, surprising memories came to me.

Growing up, I shared a room with my brother. I can recall telling him he had to play with his toy soldiers in the living room when I was reading, because he would make too much noise during his imaginary battles, ruining my concentration.

My mother learned to give me a 15-minute warning before dinner was ready,
See **PRICELESS** on Page 15



YVONNE'S PRESENTS—Ready for some good reading...and eating.

City Trailblazer Fills Vacant County Seat

Symra Brandon, trailblazing African-American Yonkers politician, was selected by the Westchester County Board of Legislators to fill the seat of disgraced 16th District legislator Chris Johnson following his resignation.



Brandon will serve until the November elections. She was the first Black woman elected to the Yonkers City Council and served six terms beginning in 1991. Now the

director of community affairs for state Senate Majority Leaders Andrea Stewart-Cousins, she was also the first Black woman to chair the Yonkers Democratic City Committee and is co-chair of the Yonkers Democrats in Ward 1.

Johnson was forced to resign after it was revealed that he bought a \$750,000 home outside his district and sublet his afforda-

ble housing unit to his brother-in-law. In addition, he lost his primary Democratic primary challenge.

Yonkers Hospitals Get Mixed Ratings

The latest federal quality rating reports place Yonkers hospitals on the middle and lower end of the spectrum—St. Joseph’s Medical Center received one star while St. John’s Riverside Hospital receive three stars.

The rating system analyzed quality information on important health care topics such as readmissions and deaths after heart attacks or pneumonia.

In New York State, only 11 hospitals received 5-star ratings (8%) while 25 hospitals (18%) received one-star ratings.

Clerk Throws Out Term-Limit Petition

The Yonkers City Clerk’s Office ruled that a petition seeking to re-establish three-consecutive terms limit for elected positions in the city doesn’t comply with the requirements of the law.



From Garlic Knots To Tying the Knot

A 2009 Gorton grad who met his future bride-to-be in Gino’s Pizzeria in Yonkers was featured in the Sunday *New York Times* Wedding Vows section on Aug. 4.

Nicholas Ryan Vazquez and Olivia Grace Amitrano, also from Yonkers, met 14 years ago. Now she’s a certified herbalist and the chief executive of Organic Olivia. He is currently developing recipes for a new cookbook of mostly Caribbean and Latin cuisine based on his Puerto Rican and Ecuadorean roots. The couple were married on July 15 and live in Hasting-on-Hudson.

PRICELESS (from Page 13)

so that I could finish a chapter. When my parents discovered that I was under the covers with a book and a flashlight, long after bedtime, they eventually left me to it.

As a grown-up, I don’t have reading rules, although I don’t go anywhere without at least one book with me, as a rule. Does that count? You never know when you will be stuck in a traffic jam, waiting for somebody in a parking lot, or when you will come upon a lovely spot, ideal for at least a 100-page escape.

Although it wasn’t planned, there isn’t a room in my house that doesn’t have books. Most of my gift giving, at least to my children and grandchildren, includes books, (which is a kind of rule, perhaps). Of course, they all understand that, just as when I was a kid, I need at least a five-

minute warning, before I am willing to part from my book and join in some other activity. (I’ve made a 10-minute sacrifice, if you’re counting).

I now felt ready to read the article, but quickly lost interest in most of the 29 reading rules this man lives by, although there were a few where I was on board. He readily spends on books for his grandkids and prefers hard covers to soft (although I submit soft covers lend themselves better to travel). Like me, he never travels without at least two books. He also gives appreciative nods to favorite authors, when perusing shelves in book stores and libraries. I do that too. It’s like greeting old friends.

I won’t count this as a rule, but a preference. I have never, nor do I ever see myself, using a Kindle or a computer for my reading pleasure.

Call me old fashion, but I get so much satisfaction, comfort and pleasure from holding an actual book in my hands and turning those pages. Every sense, including taste, can be part of the book experience. I’m not going to give you examples, because you can do that for yourself. The next time you sit down with one in your hands, concentrate on the experience and connect the dots.

Now, a word about taste as part of the book experience.

On my 75th birthday, I was gifted with book cakes, or should I call them cake books, from my daughters. One was entitled “75 Shades of Gray”, the other, “Nicholas Nickle-be 75.” The former I never read, the latter I ate up!

Yvonne Sullivan Price was queen of the ‘65 senior prom and is a retired school administrator.

Children's Center Honors Officer

Elizabeth Seton Children's Center in Yonkers designated a classroom in memory of Det. Sergeant Frank Gualdino, who was killed in the line of duty by an errant driver who crossed the double yellows on Tuckahoe Road.

The center paid tribute to the detective's family while recognizing the Yonkers PBA's on-going support of the center. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

No Nuke Dumping Into the Hudson

Gov. Kathy Hochul signed into law a measure preventing the owners of the decommissioned Indian Point nuclear power plant from discharging radioactive water into the Hudson River.

The first batch of an estimated million gallons of wastewater was slated to be released next month.



SERVING OUR COUNTRY—Yonkers Police Officer Joseph Nolan, Sergeant Javier Lugo and Police Officer Enza Palanca at Stewart Air National Guard Base before deploying to the Middle East for nine months.

Mercy College Now Mercy University

Mercy College, located in Dobbs Ferry, has changed its name to Mercy University. The name change, which has been approved by the New York State Board of

Regents, reflects the institution's growth and comes as the university adds a School of Nursing to its offerings, which also include other schools of Liberal Arts, Business, Education, Health and Natural Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences, school officials said.

Yonkers Blog Retracts Defamatory Remarks

The Yonkers Tribune has agreed to retract blogs claiming police corruption by the police union president, a former police commissioner and a retired detective sergeant. The settlement also includes an unspecified donation to a Yonkers-based organization.

Publisher and editor Hezi Aris apologized to Keith Olson, John Mueller and Brian Moran, as well as their family and friends. All blogs were removed from the web site.

The blogger, whose real name is Charles Aris, was not protected by the Shield Law because he was not a journalist and the Yonkers Tribune was not a newspaper.

JANET (from Page 13)

narrated the whole process to her "audience" while I sat nearby as the judge, overseeing if necessary, to her objections of "I can do it! Go sit down." The most recent addition to the progression includes videoing the whole thing on my flour-covered phone. It's very amusing to watch and listen as she seriously instructs her "audience at home and in the studio."

But... when the fam was here a few weeks ago, we tried an experimental recipe that I found online that uses two ingredients... ice cream and self-rising flour. That's when the trouble began.

I had regular flour but had read how to make self-rising flour by adding salt and baking powder to it. Seemed easy enough until I reached for the baking powder and saw that although it came in a round can like every other baking powder I've ever used, it was actually baking soda. This was around 9:30 p.m. and a bit late to run to the store. Not to worry. Another website

gave us instructions on how to make baking powder from baking soda.

This two-ingredient cake was now becoming hard. That's when 13-year-old Ryan, another kitchen aficionado, stepped in to help. Together we figured out what we thought were the right amounts, so we mixed in the softened ice cream, threw it in a pan and into the oven.

Then we waited.

The timer finally rang and we excitedly dove in. Dang. It was edible but somehow seemed to be lacking the "pop" that the five-star reviewers apparently found.

Where did we go wrong? Take your pick. We may have lost the battle but not the war. Since then, I bought self-rising flour and will try again with a more flavorful ice cream or at least add chocolate chips to the vanilla. ANYTHING with chocolate chips has to be good.

Two days later, we made a birthday cake

for Beau, using a Duncan Hines mix. No problem there. Ya think? One of the pans apparently wasn't greased enough so the cake stuck. Try as I might, it came out a half crumbly mess. Should we plopp the good half on top of the other layer? Nah. We crumbled that whole layer into a bowl and stirred in some frosting, to be completed when it was time for dessert by adding ice cream to the messy mix.

Wrong.

While we were making dinner, the hungry masses attacked the "crumbled cake appetizer" as it became and the one good layer became the decorated "Happy Birthday to Beau" cake. He loved it.

I have to bring a dessert to a picnic next week. What will I make? A trip to the bakery!

Janet Guyon Hanford is a former cheerleader and was voted Most Versatile by her '65 senior class.



Lionsgate Studios is located in the old Otis Elevator site and occupies one million square feet.



Guastavino tiled ceiling at the Yonkers train station.



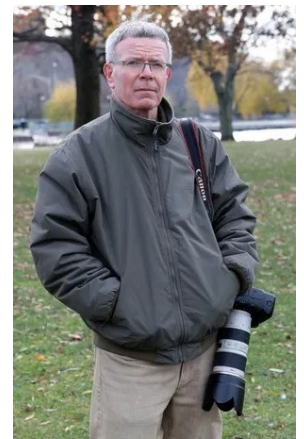
The Glenview Mansion at the Hudson River Museum.



The Untermyer Gardens.



The valet carport at Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway.



Mark Vergari, Journal News photographer.



The plaza at the Ridge Hill mall.



Floating 'The River' at Tibbetts Brook Park.

I am a Camera

Mark Vergari is a lifelong Yonkers resident and has been a staff photographer with *The Journal News* and its predecessors since graduating from Syracuse University in 1983. He has photographed everything in and around his Lower Hudson community from high school sports and parades to food and protests, and has covered three popes (twice at the Vatican) and the 2000 Olympics in Sydney. These are photos of his hometown, Yonkers.



Saw Mill River at Van der Donck Park.



City Hall lit up during fireworks show.



Yonkers waterfront as seen from Alpine, NJ.