



**NEWSLETTER**

**MAY 2015**

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<b>Editor:</b>	John Esposito



The next phase of our beautification project is currently underway. Recently, our goal to install new pathways in Kemper Memorial Park took a big step forward with the acquisition of materials donated by Mariano Capparelli, President of M.C. Group Corp. The donation includes enough molded concrete sections to fabricate the Post Road access corridor, the ceremonial stage area and benches throughout the Park. The artistic design and high durability of these materials will enhance the Park's appearance for many years to come and they will blend beautifully with the additional pathways of poured concrete that are also part of the Park's new design. In discussions with the school district, it was agreed that replacing the old asphalt pathways with new concrete pathways was more practical for maintenance and longevity.

Replacement of the old pathways is long overdue. Besides being unsightly, they presently contain tripping hazards in many places. The District has agreed to remove the old pathways and re-grade the terrain and KMPPF will finance all of the new installations. The end result will be a beautifully enhanced Park at no cost to the School District. We hope to have the project completed this summer.

Fortuitous donations of materials and labor have already reduced the estimated cost of this phase of the project by 70%. However, we still need approximately \$30,000 to achieve our goal and we are currently only one third of the way there. As always, we are relying on the generosity of our supporters to help make it happen. And, as always, we guarantee that every dollar donated will be used specifically for this endeavor.

An illustration of the entire new pathway design will soon be available on our website. We will also post photos periodically as the project unfolds.

Please consider helping us **make Kemper Memorial Park everything it deserves to be.**



# Happy Birthday

**John A. Esposito** (right) celebrated his **100<sup>th</sup> birthday** with 80 friends and relatives on March 29th.

Fellow World War II veteran Tony Marsella was at the party and led the singing of ***Happy Birthday*** in both English and Italian. Tony is 91 years old – “just a kid” according to John.

In lieu of gifts, John asked that donations be made to the **Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund**. Subsequently, John was pleased to learn that numerous donations had been made on his behalf.

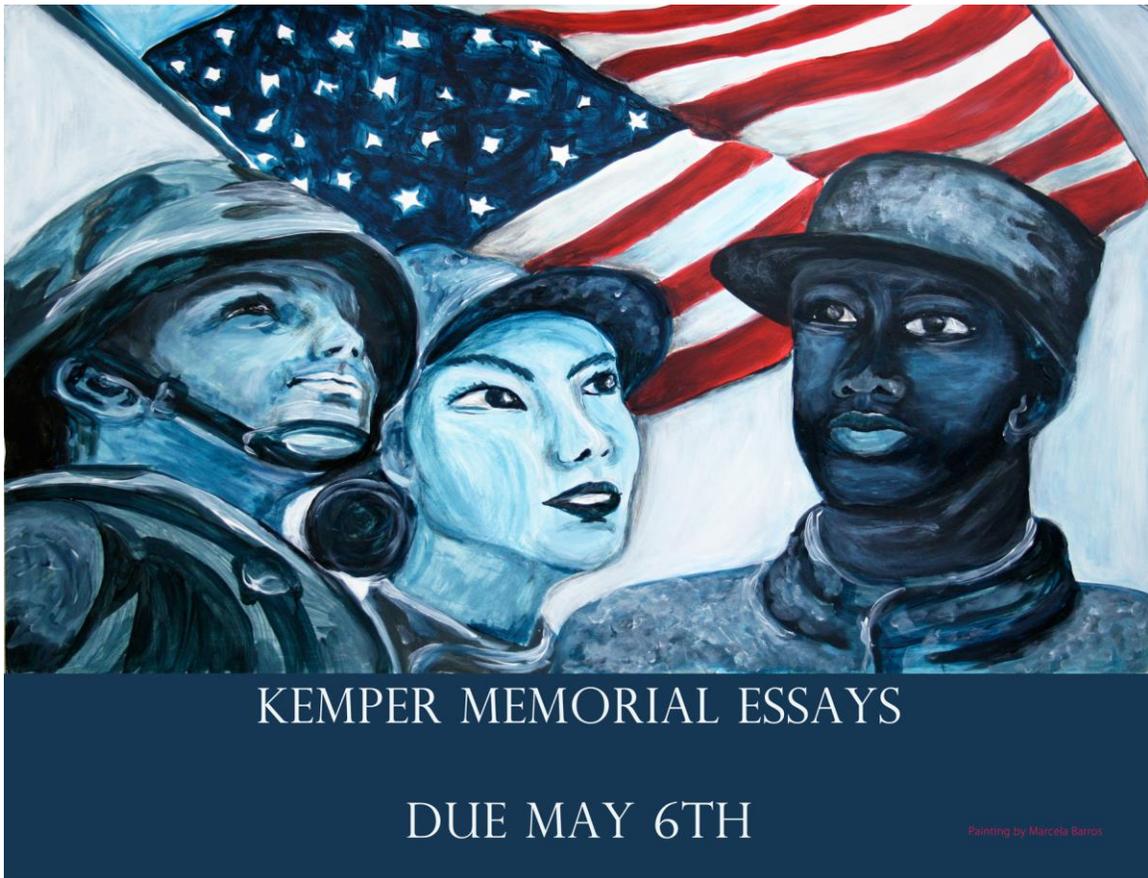
John hopes that everyone will follow his example by making it to 100 in good shape and continuing to **support Kemper Park**.

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## WHERE DID THEY DIE? WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

The new display at Mamaroneck High School will show where the Kemper Memorial Park honorees lost their lives. Though many of them fought in Europe and the Pacific, lives were also lost in several countries across the globe, and in various places in the United States where some fell victim to accidents and disease. Each death tells a story and we attempt to recount those stories on our website, [kempermorialpark.org](http://kempermorialpark.org).

The map of our tri-municipality that is already part of the display shows that the honorees are evenly distributed throughout the Larchmont and Mamaroneck communities that constitute the Mamaroneck School District. Our entire area was involved – it was truly a shared sacrifice. The new global map added to the display illustrates where the stories ended for our honorees. But we must always remember that their stories began here.



**MHS students participating in the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Richard Kemper Memorial Essay contest were asked to write a 500-word essay on the following topic:**

*Considering the history of African Americans in the armed services and the current state of civil rights, how has the United States military been a force for integration in our society, breaking down the formal and informal barriers among Americans of all backgrounds?*

For the past fourteen years, the Kemper Human Rights Foundation has sponsored the contest. This year, for the first time, the Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund is sponsoring the contest. As in past years, a first-place prize of \$500 and a second-place prize of \$250 will be awarded. An additional prize of \$100 is awarded for the best poster to advertise the contest. This year's winner is Marcela Barros, whose poster is pictured above.

Please join us at the awards ceremony to hear this year's winners read their essays aloud.

The ceremony will be held in the Mamaroneck High School tiered classroom on **Thursday, May 28 at 3: p.m.** We hope to see you there.



**KEMPER MEMORIAL PARK PRESERVATION FUND**  
Preserve Our Memorial      Preserve Our Community

**80 North Chatsworth Avenue      kempermemorialpark.org**  
**Larchmont, NY 10538**

## Memorial Day Ceremonies



# 2015

### **Village of Larchmont Memorial Day Parade** **Thursday, May 22 – 7:00 p.m.**

Chatsworth to Palmer to Larchmont Avenue. Parade ends at Village Hall for the Memorial Day Ceremony.

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars** **David Potts, Jr. Post 1156**

**Monday, May 25 – 9:00 a.m.**

Ceremony at Tompkins Park, Boston Rd., Village of Mamaroneck.

### **American Legion (Post 347)**

**Monday, May 25 – 11:00 a.m.**

Ceremony at War Memorial on Myrtle Boulevard and Murray Avenue. (In the event of rain, ceremony will be held at Flint Park Headquarters.)

### **Richard M. Kemper Essay Contest** **Awards Ceremony**

**Thursday, May 28 – 3:00 p.m.**

Ceremony begins in the multi-tiered classroom off the lobby of the main entrance to Mamaroneck High School then moves outside to Kemper Memorial Park.

### **American Legion Post 90**

### **Village of Mamaroneck Parade:**

**Saturday, May 30, 10:00 a.m.**

Mamaroneck Avenue. Following the parade, the Memorial Day Ceremony will be held at American Legion Post 90 Hall on Prospect Avenue.

### **Kemper Memorial Park Ceremony**

**Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> – 1:30 p.m.**