

November 2017

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On July 4, 2017, VFW Post 1156 Commander Burt Corwin (above) conducted the official Bench Dedication Ceremony in Kemper Memorial Park. By that time, five new benches had already been installed, all of them bearing plaques honoring the individuals or families requested by their donors. Since then, one more bench, donated by VFW Post 1156, has also been installed. Students, community members and visitors are regularly enjoying these new benches and we invite you to do the same.



Dr. Calvert E. Schlick, Mark Schumer & John Esposito attending the July 4th Bench Dedication Ceremony

1947 – 2017

MAMARONECK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MAMARONECK, N. Y.

HOYT D. SMITH
PRINCIPAL

May 29, 1947

Mr. Adolph M. Kemper
155 Beach Avenue
Larchmont, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Kemper:

In behalf of the Junior High School teachers and students, I wish to express our appreciation to you for having converted an unsightly area into a beautiful park which will be hallowed ground for all time.

Its location and the simple but beautiful plan make the Richard Kemper park a most fitting memorial to our heroes. Without your vision and your generosity, this project might never have been undertaken.

I am sure that this sanctuary will inspire our pupils to a deeper sense of devotion to the great cause for which Richard and his fellows made the supreme sacrifice.

Sincerely yours,



Principal

HDS:eb

Seventy years ago, Principal Hoyt D. Smith's letter (at left) described a beautiful park that would be hallowed ground for all time. He also called Kemper Memorial Park a sanctuary that would inspire pupils. These comments echoed the Kemper family's desire that the Park would always be a valuable asset to our schools and our community.

During the decades that followed, Kemper Memorial Park suffered the wear and tear of aging as well as the prospect of an uncertain future. Nevertheless, it has endured and its most recent renaissance assures us that it will forever remain a fitting memorial to its honorees, a resource through which our students will learn valuable lessons and a tranquil setting for reflection and enjoyment.

The Kemper Memorial Park Preservation Fund takes great pride in having spearheaded the drive to restore and beautify Kemper Memorial Park. The results of our decade-long effort are visible throughout the Park. The impressive flagpole, the stately stone planters, the intricately designed concrete pathways, the beautiful perennial gardens with underground irrigation systems and, most recently, the attractive and very comfortable new benches are all very tangible evidence of our endeavors. Subtler, yet far more important, results of our efforts are seen in the generosity of our donors, the commitment of our volunteers and the passion that teachers and students bring to our curriculum projects. All of these will continue to ensure that Kemper Memorial Park will always be everything it was originally meant to be.

We are eternally grateful to everyone who has assisted us thus far. And, as we continue our work, we know there will be others to whom we will be indebted. Thirty years from now, Kemper Memorial Park will celebrate its centennial. Although many of us may not be there by then to enjoy the celebration, we are confident that the same spirit that has enabled Kemper Memorial Park to endure until now will be evident to everyone who attends.

2017 Kemper Contest Winners

Once again, MHS students who participated in our annual contest produced impressive work in a variety of genres. The question posed to them this year was: **How does service to country allow the ordinary man or woman to become heroic?** The four winning entries included two poems and two videos. In each case, thoughtful reflection on the topic was evident. And, as always, the creative lens through which the topic was viewed made each of these entries outstanding.



Kaitlin Spiridellis used poetry to conclude that serving one's country doesn't necessarily make a hero. It just reveals a hero who was there all the time.



Annabel Summo and **Sarah Larsen** composed a poem titled INVISIBLE in which they ask us to consider that outward appearance can be deceiving and actually hide the hero inside someone. They illustrate this by describing the transformation of someone who was **"Once the lonely kid with a dim future"** to someone who **"impacts more lives than anyone will ever know."**



Hanna Young produced and directed a film titled **TWO HEROES**. She cast her parents in the starring roles to emphasize the heroism of both the veteran and the family that he or she leaves behind. In her introduction, Hanna states that she was happy to create this video as a tribute to all families who display such extreme courage on a daily basis.



Jadalyn Ortiz produced a video in which she interviewed Corporal Harry K. Anthopoulos, a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War, who explains that heroism just happens spontaneously when you are put into a situation you could never imagine finding yourself in. Because of this, he feels that anyone has the potential to be a hero. Jadalyn also acknowledges Sgt. Anthony Ortiz for providing his photos from his time as a combat photographer in the United States Marine Corps.

All of the winning entries can be viewed on our website –

<http://kempermemorialpark.org/>



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

80 North Chatsworth Avenue
Larchmont, NY 10538

<http://kempermorialpark.org/>

2017 Veterans Day Ceremonies



World War II Veterans **Cal Schlick**, **Jack Coughlin** and **Joe Germano** in jeep driven by **Bill Fraser** at this year's **Memorial Day Parade**

American Legion Post 90

Saturday, November 11 – 11 a.m.

Veterans Memorial
Prospect Avenue

American Legion Post 347

Saturday, November 11 – 5 p.m.

American Legion Post 347 Hall
Flint Park – Village of Larchmont

Mamaroneck High School

Ceremony in recognition of
Veterans Day on

Wednesday, November 8, at 3:00 p.m.

at the Vietnam showcase -
main concourse of
Mamaroneck High School.