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**Lincoln Park Taxpayers Association Awards Local Student with Scholarship & Receives a Surprise Contribution from Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway
Planned Expansion is Also Detailed**

Yonkers, New York, June 23, 2011 —The Lincoln Park Taxpayers Association (“LPTA”) and Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway (“Empire City”) Vice President Bob Galterio presented a \$500 scholarship on Thursday, June 23, 2011 to Ms. Katherine Hernandez, a 2011 Lincoln High School graduate. The presentation was made at 7:30PM at Lincoln Park Jewish Center, 311 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers. Christopher Hackett, President of the Association, Kevin Gorman, Chairman of the Association’s Education Committee, along with Galterio, presented the \$500 savings bond at the general membership meeting of the LPTA. Galterio also surprised the group with an additional contribution of \$5,000 for their Education Committee, to ensure that funds continue to be available for education scholarships for students in the community.

The scholarship is part of a fund that was created by the Lincoln Park Taxpayers Association utilizing a contribution made by Timothy J. Rooney, President of Empire City, in 1988. At the time of the donation, Mr. Rooney directed the LPTA to use the funds to support a needy and/or deserving graduating student in the local community to further their education. LPTA works closely with the Lincoln High School administration to identify a deserving student who might otherwise not receive scholarship funding.

Ms. Hernandez was highly recommended for the award by her teachers and counselors at Lincoln High School who describe her as “determined”, “hardworking” and “one of those very special young adults possessing great potential and hope for the future”. Katherine’s ambition and determination to excel have gained her a coveted spot in the top 10% of her graduating class, an accomplishment obtained despite being an English Language Learner. Her teachers noted that Katherine worked hard to ensure that all of her tests and assignments were completed on time, never relying on the extended time she was eligible for as an ELL student. Katherine hopes to pursue a degree in Business and Management.

“We are pleased that the contribution is going to such a wonderful student who truly deserves recognition. I commend not only Katherine Hernandez for her accomplishments but also the Lincoln Park Taxpayers Association for their continued commitment to the community,” said Galterio. “We are very excited that the Association has been able to continue these scholarships throughout difficult financial times. It is important that they have the resources to continue this worthwhile endeavor, and so it is our pleasure to be able to make this additional \$5,000 contribution toward that goal.”

“I would like to thank the Rooney Family for their continued support and generosity. Your gift will help worthy students for many years to come,” said Christopher Hackett, President of the Lincoln Park Taxpayers Association.

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"The families and members of the LPTA are pleased and happy to have been accorded an opportunity to help deserving young persons further their education. We thank the Yonkers Raceway for their support," says Kevin Gorman, Education Committee Chairman for LPTA.

Over the years, several scholarships have been awarded by LPTA to Yonkers students since the creation of the fund, including \$3,000 directed toward children of 9/11 responders. One such donation went to the son of a young single mother, Yamil Merino, an EMT worker employed with MetroCare Ambulance, who perished on 9/11 because she refused to evacuate the lobby of the North Tower in order to continue treating injured victims. Additional funds went into a trust fund for two children of a NYFD Firefighter, Timothy Welty, who also perished in the 9/11 tragedy as a hero.

Galterio also took the time to provide the group with details on the upcoming expansion at Empire City, clarifying misconceptions and confirming that the casino will not, in fact, be receiving any tax breaks or subsidies to complete the project.

"Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway continues to invest in Yonkers. As the city's largest employer, we understand the need for economic development and are committed to making the investments necessary to ensure viability and growth. At the request of the city, we collaborated with the IDA on this expansion in order to assist the City of Yonkers financially during a time of fiscal crisis. This cooperative relationship with Mayor Amicone does not only benefit the City of Yonkers, but also the many people who will gain employment as result of this expansion," said Galterio.

About Lincoln Taxpayers Association: Lincoln Park Taxpayers Association is a legal 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization created in 1952 that represents the interests of residents and taxpayers in the section of Yonkers bound by Yonkers Avenue, Van Cortlandt Park, the New York State Thruway (Interstate 87) and the Saw Mill River Parkway.

About Empire City Casino: To date, Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway has contributed more than \$1 Billion to fund New York State education and over \$100 Million to the Yonkers education system. Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway features: 5,300 slot machines, electronic roulette and video craps, dining in the Empire Terrace Restaurant, which overlooks the track for live harness racing, and Nonno's Trattoria for Italian cuisine, as well as a quick bite at the International Food Court and its wide-ranging menu. The multi-faceted Good Time Room is available for parties, benefits, weddings, and major events for up to 500.

Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue (at Central Avenue) in Yonkers, New York, Westchester County, (I-87 to Exit 2). Empire City Casino is open seven days a week from 10:00 AM to 2:00 AM Sunday through Thursday, and until 4:00 AM on Friday and Saturday. For more information call 914.968.4200 or log onto www.empirecitygaming.com.

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