Public education at the epicenter of YSU's mission

By Luke Ferrante lferrante@ysu.edu

Education ensures an informed life, a chance for students to grow, develop and prepare for and excel at careers. It’s YSU’s mission to protect and support that educational right, especially at a time when public education and critical public services are under financial duress and regulatory attacks.

“Part of what we do... is to raise people up. That’s what social justice is—empowering people,” said YSU Vice President Paul Pecoraro, who oversees the university’s social justice platform. “It’s a net of our organization. It’s the core of our mission. It’s the critical need for equitable funding for public education and public services.”

One of YSU’s most notable goals, particularly in the face of ongoing threats from the so-called education reformers and private corporations, is fighting for greater revenue for public education.

“We have the expectation that there will be equitable funding for all our students, but it’s just not the case,” said Pecoraro, a long-time teacher in Patrician-Medford on Long Island.

Simply put, wealthy communities can contribute more to their schools; other communities cannot, he said. “That’s where we expect our government to come in.”

Instead, state funding for public education from K-12 through college has been cut drastically, meaning the elimination of trait rules and programs. Pecoraro said YSU’s mission to continue advocating for students and educators at the state Capitol, work hard to elect candidates who support public education and inform voters and the public about the critical need to support public education.

“Fighting for every student’s right to a sound, basic education isn’t easy—and it isn’t an option,” he said. “We’ll never give up the fight to keep that door open.”

Hospice of Pioneer Valley — Celebrated
September 5 – Oct. 15. Hospice of Pioneer Valley poster features local and civil rights activist Madre de Dios, who founded the Hispanic Migrant Association in 1942 in partnership with local labor activist Dr. César Chávez. The organization was later renamed the United Farm Workers of America (UFW).

Huma has worked for many California and federal laws and received numerous awards, including the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights from President Bill Clinton in 2007 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama in 2012. To download a printable copy of the Hospice of Pioneer Valley poster for more information on the important contributions of Hispanic Americans, visit www.ysu.org.

To order on individual copy of the free-poster, email info@ysu.org or call 330-941-3141 and name your mail and mailing address. A Spanish language version of the poster is also available.

-lgs

Oct. 6 — Child Health Day. National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day. Join the Children’s Mental Health Awareness Project...