



ADVERTISEMENT

# Philanthropist Jay Winuk of Mahopac is 'most inspiring'

Beliefnet readers honor co-founder of MyGoodDeed

11:31 PM, Dec. 31, 2011 | Comments

Recommend

You recommend this. · Admin Page · Insights · Error  
leanne Wilcox recommends this Be the first of your

Recommend Confirm 1

✉️ 🖨️ ↶️ A A+

AdChoices



MAHOPAC — Jay Winuk of Mahopac won an award last month — and in doing so pushed aside such notable figures as evangelist Billy Graham and Apple founder Steve Jobs.

A co-creator of MyGoodDeed Inc., which encourages the public to participate in community service projects to honor the victims of 9/11 and the first responders, Winuk was named as the Readers' Choice for Most Inspiring Person of 2011 by Beliefnet, a multifaith online resource for inspiration and spirituality.

The award, he said, “is a great honor, one that I share with my co-founder, David Paine, and all those inside and outside the 9/11 community who work to ensure that our loved ones, friends and colleagues are not forgotten. It’s gratifying to know that Beliefnet and its readers recognize that observing the anniversary of 9/11 by helping people and

communities in need is an appropriate and meaningful way forward.”

Jay Winuk holds the missing person poster of his brother Glenn at his Mahopac home in August 2006. Glenn Winuk was killed on 9/11. Jay Winuk won the Readers' Choice for Most Inspiring Person of 2011 by Beliefnet.

Written by Barbara Livingston Nackman

FILED UNDER

News  
Sept. 11

Winuk lost his younger brother Glenn, a lawyer and volunteer firefighter on Long Island, in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. His brother’s lifelong devotion to community service inspired Winuk to

ADVERTISEMENT

### MORE HEADLINES

- 16 inmates, 3 DOC employees hospitalized after bus crash on Thruway in Monsey; 2 lanes now open
- Financial pain could shut Hi-Tor
- Watch now: Housing choice group talks about Westchester deseg plan

### MOST POPULAR

1. Inmates hospitalized after bus crash on northbound Thruway in Monsey; 2 lanes open
2. Teen car-crash victim had found her niche in writing
3. Fire hits Katonah-Lewisboro school board member's home again
4. Astorino cancels bus contract
5. Mahopac mom charged in teen drinking bash



co-found MyGoodDeed, a nonprofit leading the movement to transform 9/11 into an annually recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance that is online at [www.911day.org](http://www.911day.org)

Beliefnet held a public vote to determine its winner and described Winuk as a "passionate advocate for volunteering and national service (and) a frequent public speaker on volunteerism, 9/11, and service-related topics." He also received Beliefnet's 2011 Cup of

Kindness Award and previously was a recipient of The President's Call to Service Award from President Barack Obama.

In addition to Graham and Jobs, nominees for the award included baseball superstar Albert Pujols and NCAA national championship head basketball coach Pat Summitt of Tennessee. Through this award Beliefnet seeks to honor people whose efforts have made an impact on people around the world. The group has done this for more than 10 years.

"The word inspirational is important here. It means our work is being recognized as

inspiring others to do good deeds, which is our goal," Winuk added.

Cristina Rohatynskyj, executive director of the Food Bank for Westchester based in Elmsford, voted for Winuk and was pleased to hear he had won.

"Oh, this is excellent," she said. "I think what resonates to people is he took something very tragic and made it into something that will help others for years to come."

Through his organization Winuk has encouraged tens of thousands of people to volunteer and coordinate other efforts. He said on the 10th anniversary of 9/11 more than 30 million people observed the day in service to others.

Locally, he and his wife, Carolyn, have sponsored volunteer events including packing days at the Food Bank, which distributes packaged goods, fresh produce and meats to those in need throughout Westchester County.



South Salem fire 1-3-12



Somers vs. Brewster 1-3-12



Parente comes home 12-25-11

MOST COMMENTED

- State Move Over law widens to include tow trucks, maintenance vehicles 18
- Financial pain could shut Hi-Tor 12
- 16 inmates, 3 DOC employees hospitalized after bus crash on Thruway in Monsey; 2 lanes now open 11
- U.S. suffers from fawning over Israel 8
- Fracking isn't worth the risks 6

ADS BY PULSE 360

AdChoices

Mortgage Rates Hit 2.75%

If you owe less than \$729k, you probably qualify for 3.1% APR Govt Refi Programs [www.MortgageRatesExperts.com](http://www.MortgageRatesExperts.com)

Refinance Rates Hit 2.9%

\$160k New York Mortgage \$632mo. No Hidden Fees. No SSN Required! [mortgage.refinance.lendgo.com](http://mortgage.refinance.lendgo.com)

Chapter 7 Bankruptcy

Determine If Chapter 7 Is An Option For You, Complete A Free Evaluation [www.Chapter7.com](http://www.Chapter7.com)

LoHud.com Mobile

Log on to [m.lohud.com](http://m.lohud.com) from your cell phone or other wireless device to read breaking news, entertainment, sports and more.

LoHud.com also offers text alerts for breaking news by county, as well as for school closings and delays by school district. [Sign up now.](#)

- » [Modify existing alerts](#)
- » [4INFO | Get this tool](#)



Facebook

**Recent Activity**

- Kat McKee shared [Iconic Armonk ski shop Hickory & Tweed turns 50.](#) · about 3 months ago
- Jeff Kent shared [WDFH radio program gives Lower Hudson Valley's gay youths a voice.](#) · about 3 months ago

Facebook social plugin

AdChoices

[View Comments](#) | [Share your thoughts](#) »

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SPONSORED LINKS

[New City man charged with](#) [New York Jets' Santonio](#)

[DWI with kids in car](#) (The Journal News)

[Nyack brawl ends in arrest; woman calls it unwarranted](#) (The Journal News)

[North Salem library appeals for funds to cover deficit, buy generator](#) (Northern Westchester Express)

[Mount Kisco photographer shows work at Danbury gallery](#) (Northern Westchester Express)

[Knicks Forget Basketball Games Have Four Quarters](#) (The LoHud Knicks Blog)

[Holmes benched after argument in huddle](#) (ESPN New York)

[Alien Spaceship Caught on NASA Tape?](#) (FoxNews.com)

[How to Call Police Without Revealing Your Number](#) (eHow)

[The Eyes of Tammy Faye](#) (SnagFilms)

[Vanessa Bryant allegedly warned by basketball wives to dump Kobe Bryant](#) (Page Six)

[?]

ADVERTISEMENT

### REAL DEALS



Flip, shop and save on specials from your favorite retailers in the Lower Hudson Valley, 10604.

[GET DEALS NOW](#)

### MOST POPULAR

1. Inmates hospitalized after bus crash on northbound Thruway in Monsey; all lanes closed
2. Teen car-crash victim had found her niche in writing
3. Fire hits Katonah-Lewisboro school board member's home again
4. Astorino cancels bus contract
5. Mahopac mom charged in teen drinking bash
6. Goldens Bridge, Yorktown, Mahopac, Conn. motorists charged with DWI
7. Sewer plan awaits final Costco environmental review

### SUBSCRIBE!

Sign up for home delivery or an e-edition today. Convert to EZ-Pay and SAVE!



[Subscription Help](#)

[Customer Service](#)

### READER FORUMS

[PV Firehouse- why can't we vote too?](#)

22 replies | Posted by putnam1955 in Putnam Valley

[Obama's "Deals"](#)

1 replies | Posted by WIIIJ in [Open Forum](#)

[Favorite recipe or foods](#)

2439 replies | Posted by hen3ry1158 in [Open Forum](#)

[SEE ALL FORUMS](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

#### NEWS

- [Westchester County](#)
- [Rockland County](#)
- [Putnam County](#)
- [Data](#)
- [Crime](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Business](#)
- [New York](#)

#### COMMUNITIES

- [Westchester](#)
- [Putnam](#)
- [Westchester](#)
- [Rockland](#)
- [Westchester](#)
- [Express Blogs](#)

#### SPORTS

[HighSchoolSports.net](#)

#### OPINION

- [Blogs](#)
- [Forums](#)
- [Editorials](#)
- [Letters](#)
- [Submissions](#)
- [Community Views](#)
- [Columnist: Phil Reisman](#)
- [Columnist: Bob Baird](#)

#### LIFE & LEISURE

- [Metromix](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Food / Dining](#)
- [Theater](#)
- [Home & Garden](#)
- [Celebrations](#)
- [Pets](#)
- [The Listening Room](#)
- [Sudoku](#)

#### HELP

- [Advertiser Services](#)
- [Subscriber Services](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Site Index](#)
- [Newspapers in Education](#)
- [Reprints permissions](#)
- [Work For Us](#)

#### FOLLOW US

- [Twitter](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Mobile](#)
- [RSS](#)
- [E-mail Alerts](#)
- [Text Alerts](#)

Health	Pro/College	BLOGS	Crossword	Donation/Sponsorship Request Form
MULTIMEDIA	Yankees	LoHud Yankees Blog	OBITS	
Reprints Permissions	Rangers	Rangers Report	Browse Recent Obituaries	
Live Video	Mets	Small Bites	Place an In Memoriam	
All LoHud Videos	Rockland Boulders	Politics on the Hudson	Place an Obituary	
Photo Galleries	Fantasy Sports	Varsity Insider	Purchase Flowers and Gifts	
Photos You Submitted	Recreational Sports	LoHud Knicks Blog		
Submit Your Photos	Columnist: Rick Carpiello	LoHud Mets Blog		
Graduations	Ski Reports	More		

[News](#) | 
 [Jobs](#) | 
 [Cars for Sale](#) | 
 [Homes for Sale](#) | 
 [Apartments for Rent](#) | 
 [Real Estate](#) | 
 [Shopping](#)



## GANNETT

Copyright © 2012 www.LoHud.com. All rights reserved.

Users of this site agree to the [Terms of Service](#), [Privacy Notice/Your California Privacy Rights](#), and [Ad Choices](#)

ADVERTISEMENT