



FREE

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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Lakeland Plans \$57M School Capital Projects; December Vote Eyed

By Abby Luby

The Lakeland School District unveiled plans last week for an estimated \$57 million capital project, which would include a \$37 million referendum in December, for district-wide infrastructure improvements and state-of-the-art media centers.

During the sparsely attended meeting last Tuesday at Walter Panas High School, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Karen Gagliardi said plans are in the early stages with district officials focused on engaging and educating residents on the proposed work.

District officials have labeled the project "tax-neutral" based on the 64.8 percent state aid it would receive for the projects. Of the estimated \$57 million expense, \$20 million would come from the district's capital reserve fund.

Gagliardi said the July 12 public forum was to receive public feedback to help officials move forward on designing the project. The

vote on the \$37 million referendum is being targeted for Dec. 22.

"We're taking everything you are saying into consideration," Gagliardi said. "It's important for us to hear every person that's here."

Joining Gagliardi was Kevin Sawyer, vice president, project executive of Triton Construction; George Prine, the district's director of facilities; Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Dr. Tracy Normans; Business Administrator Joy Myke; and Garrett Hamlin, vice president, for Tetra Tech.

Myke said the state's building aid would pay for 64.8 percent of eligible projects. "Building Aid was created to encourage the maintenance of school buildings," she said.

When asked specifically about how the debt service would work, Myke explained that the district will borrow \$37 million.

"We will have that debt service planned for a 15-year time period," Myke said. "We will also be receiving state aid revenue at the

same time to coincide with those payments. That's how we can have a tax-neutral project."

Since the state Education Department (SED) usually takes up to six months to review and approve capital projects, the board has decided to get a head start on informing the public early.

If the project is approved by voters on Dec. 22, the district would begin a one-year design phase to determine the final scope of the project. The expected date to put the project out to bid would be next January or February. The anticipated start of construction would be March 2024 with the target date for completion in 2026.

Headlining the project is updated technology in common learning spaces such

as library media centers to help students in science, technology, engineering, arts, math (STEAM) subjects.

But parent Marc Gawron objected to that claim.

"I have a 17-year commitment to this school district," Gawron said. "My concern is this project is not student-centered. The fire alarms and HVAC systems is where the money is really going to be spent. It's just putting band-aids on things."

Gawron pointed out that newly-certified STEAM teachers would not be available when the district is ready to hire them.

"That's a huge component of STEAM," he said. "How can we move forward on this if you don't even have the staff?"

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Somers Golf Club Cigar Bar, Golf Simulators to Move Forward

By Abby Luby

Somers residents voiced their concerns last Wednesday about a proposed cigar lounge and four indoor golf simulators planned for Somers National Golf Club at the Heritage Hills condominium complex.

Feedback for the plan was heard at a public hearing held by the Somers Planning Board, which has been reviewing the plans since last year.

The original proposal included an 18-hole miniature golf course, but that portion of the project was withdrawn last month after many Heritage Hills residents objected, saying the mini-golf course would increase traffic and noise that would negatively impact the area.

Linda Whitehead, attorney for Heritage Hills Holdings, the golf club's owners, reviewed the revised plan at the beginning of the meeting.

"The application now is for renovating the golf cart storage building and small terrace for the cigar lounge," she explained. "These new amenities are part of the club and golf course and the changes are fairly minimal."

Condo owner Maureen Nagel, who has lived at Heritage Hills for nearly 25 years, said her apartment was just below the planned cigar bar and was displeased with the proposal.

"I will look out my back window and see the cigar bar right there," said Nagel. "The patio area will allow smoking outside and the smoke will waft right into my house. Can't the cigar bar be housed in the building or the country club itself?"

Whitehead said the cigar bar and terrace wouldn't impact nearby residents.

"The proposed terrace is small, about 431 square feet," she said. "The terrace is

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Fun Times



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Sunday marked the close of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Italian Feast in Verplanck. This year's feast was open for eight days and featured three evenings with fireworks to mark its 100th anniversary. Local families and residents were able to choose from wide array of delicious food and treats and rides for the kids. On Sunday, there was a traditional Italian mass held at St. Patrick's Church on 11th Street, followed by a procession with members of the Mount Carmel Society carrying a statue of the saint through the streets of Verplanck.

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Lakeland Plans \$57M School Capital Projects; December Vote Eyed

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Suggesting the district consider eliminating geographic district lines and put same-age students together, Gawron asked school officials to focus on expanding and consolidating building space.

"Other districts have either improved or expanded a building or they shrink or close other buildings," Gawron contended. "How about starting from scratch with a brand-new building and enhancing and expanding the classroom sizes to get more kids in?"

Another parent, Vinnie Camera, who has three children in the district, wanted to know more about the STEAM program.

"Does STEAM change the curriculum that is going to be taught to the students and bring in Critical Race Theory?" he asked.

Gagliardi said the STEAM curriculum has not yet been designed.

"We are in the process of exploring what that would look like," Gagliardi responded. "We have had a STEAM project in the district for the last five years in a very different format."

She also emphasized that STEAM aims to teach students about the design-thinking process using a problem-based learning



ABBY LUBY PHOTO

Lakeland School District officials held the first public forum last week at Walter Panas High School about the district's proposed \$57 million capital improvement project, which would include a \$37 million referendum on Dec. 22. There were few residents in attendance.

approach.

"We are in the planning stages (of designing STEAM curriculum) but we're not there just yet," Gagliardi said.

A second public forum is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 8 at Lakeland High School. The forum will be live-streamed on LocalLive.tv.

Somers Golf Club Cigar Bar, Golf Simulators to Move Forward

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also 300 feet away and 50 feet down. Smoke generally moves up, not down," she said.

Heritage Hills resident Arthur Singer asked about the hours of the cigar bar and whether liquor could be sold there or brought in from the bar at the golf club.

"The club's liquor license specifies that consuming alcohol is allowed in specific areas," Whitehouse said. "Consumption of alcohol is not permitted in the cigar bar."

The cigar bar would close at 10 p.m. and follow age restrictions for smoking. Because Somers has opted out of having cannabis sold in town, smoking or vaping weed would not be allowed, according to Whitehouse.

Few questions were asked about the proposed four indoor golf simulators, a high-tech system designed to mimic the sport and allow golfers to practice their swing indoors.

Other issues discussed included how stormwater drainage would be handled from the terrace outside the cigar bar.

"That land where the terrace is located slopes down," said Planning Board member Bruce Prince. "Do you have plans to improve the storm water drainage on the bottom of the hill?"

Project engineer Rich Williams of Insite Engineering said the cigar bar and the terrace were considered small additions.

"We've proven through our hydraulic analysis that we're not increasing flows downstream and we have no plan to improve a system we're not impacting," Williams

said.

When asked how unsightly cigar butts would be handled, golf club part-owner Quintin Lew gave assurances that they would be cleaned.

"It's part of our business to keep everything looking nice," Lew said. "Cigar butts will be disposed of through normal trash."

Questions by both Heritage Hills residents and board members focused on the cleanup of existing debris on the site, including older landscaping materials and old storage tanks.

"The owners have given you a commitment to clean up (the debris)," said Williams. "And they are currently working in concert with the (town) building department on this."

After the public hearing was closed, Planning Board Chairman John Currie again addressed the issue of cleaning up the on-site debris.

"We can have a condition of resolution which means that if a condition isn't taken care of, they won't get a (Certificate of Occupancy)," he said. "We do have some stop-gap measures to make sure things get done."

Planning Board member Jack Mattes said he was agreeable to the proposal.

"I'm impressed with what Quinton has promised to do and I feel we should move it forward," Mattes said.

A resolution is expected to be prepared for a vote at an upcoming meeting.

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Westchester Begins Administering Limited Supply of Monkeypox Vaccines

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County started administering monkeypox vaccines to residents who are at risk for the virus or who have been exposed to the virus on Monday through the Department of Health in White Plains.

The vaccines will be available at the department's clinic at 134 Court St. on Mondays from 12 to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. while supplies are available. A person must have an appointment to receive a vaccine by calling the Department of Health at 914-995-8900.

Officials are mobilizing in case monkeypox becomes a more serious health concern. Despite only 18 cases identified in the county as of Monday afternoon and the relative difficulty in transmitting the virus compared to COVID-19, there has been some heightened sensitivity because of the pandemic.

"I think the good news is that this is not COVID," said county Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler said. "The general public does not need to be panicked. This is just different. It's not airborne."

County Executive George Latimer and Amler held a briefing last Friday morning in hopes of helping the public better understand monkeypox. As of Monday, there were more than 1,500 confirmed cases nationwide with no deaths associated with monkeypox. In New York State, there were 414 cases as of last Friday.

The virus has been identified in several other counties outside of New York City and

Westchester. However, Westchester has the second most cases well behind the city.

"When we dealt with COVID, we dealt with an illness that did trigger fatalities," Latimer said. "The second thing is all the cases in Westchester County are individuals, while having tested positive for monkeypox, are recovering, and so we believe that those who are identified today as having the disease will recover. It is a painful disease but it is not necessarily a fatal disease."

Initially, New York State had received 8,195 doses of the monkeypox vaccine from the federal government. Westchester County had obtained 450 doses from the state, with 100 each going to Westchester Medical Center, Open Door Family Medical Centers and St. John's Riverside Hospital in Yonkers. Another 90 doses were earmarked for Mount Vernon and New Rochelle with 10 doses going to White Plains Hospital and 50 for the county Department of Health.

The county has received another 520 doses from the state that will supply vaccinations twice a week.

Amler said those exposed and the immunocompromised are eligible for the vaccine. The vaccine requires a two-dose regimen administered 28 days apart.

However, unlike COVID-19, Amler said monkeypox is spread through skin-to-skin contact with a person who has symptoms. Symptoms include a rash, typically on the face, the palms of the hand, the soles of the feet, in the mouth or around the genitals, swelling of the lymph nodes and bad headaches. A fever



County Executive George Latimer with Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler provided an update on monkeypox cases in Westchester during a briefing in White Plains last Friday.

is sometimes associated with monkeypox as well, she said.

Symptoms usually last for two to four weeks, but unless a person is exhibiting symptoms, they do not have monkeypox, Amler said. It also cannot be transmitted by simply being in the same room with a person who has tested positive unless they come in contact with a lesion from a rash or touch an item that has fluid from a lesion as a result of the rash, Amler said. Therefore, there is no reason to wear a mask to guard against monkeypox.

The county does not know the municipalities

of residence for the 18 infected people. However, since it is not an airborne illness, it is not critical to have that information, Latimer said.

Amler said that if a vaccine is administered within four to 14 days of exposure that can help limit or prevent the symptoms.

"We should not be alarmed but we should stay informed about monkeypox," Amler said. "This means understanding the symptoms, how it spreads and what to do if you're exposed. I think just being knowledgeable is the most important thing any of us can do at this point."

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County Assures Mt. Kisco Mobile Crisis Unit Will Have Bilingual Staffing

By Martin Wilbur

The county's Mobile Crisis Response Team established this year to help police respond to mental health-related calls will have bilingual staff members at its Mount Kisco location.

Members of the Village Board had raised concerns last week that the proposed agreement with Westchester County that allows the unit to be stationed at the Green Street police precinct, which is owned by the municipality, might not have a clinician that could speak both English and Spanish. The precinct is the local home base for the Westchester County police, which has provided law enforcement for the village since 2015.

Mayor Gina Picinich said that last week following the July 11 Village Board meeting she was assured by Department of Community Mental Health Commissioner Michael Orth that bilingual staff has already been hired.

"The agreement that the village is signing...will provide this space for this team to be housed here," Picinich said. "This benefits Mount Kisco because they are closer to where our needs are."

There are eight teams strategically placed around the county to cover every municipality in Westchester with trained staff that can respond when there is a mental health crisis. The Mount Kisco team will also answer calls in Bedford, New Castle, North Castle, Somers, Pound Ridge, North Salem and Lewisboro.

It was a recommendation made during the county's police reform task force discussions last year.

Village Trustee Karine Patino, who was adamant that she would not vote for the agreement unless there was a bilingual clinician, said late last week that she has been given assurances that there would be bilingual staffing around the clock.

Patino said she and Deputy Mayor Lisa Abzun, who also pressed for bilingual staffing, met with County Legislator Erika Pierce (D-Katonah) while Picinich spoke with Orth, who provided the information that had been sought.

"As I expressed during the board meeting, I expected the county to have this as a priority," Patino said. "My expectations were confirmed – the plan does provide for 24/7 bilingual staffing, which is our objective."

Close to half of the village's population are Spanish speakers, she said.

However, support on the Village Board for housing the Mobile Crisis Response Team in an office at the police station wasn't unanimous. Trustee Karen Schleimer questioned why the village wasn't receiving remuneration for use of its space while seven other communities will also benefit.

"I don't understand for the life of me, why Mount Kisco should give it (the office space) away for free," Schleimer said. "It's serving all of these other municipalities, it's an agreement for the residents of the county and I think we should get paid for the use of our space and our parking and everything else."

Picinich said that phone and internet service is being paid for by the county but the village will pay for the electricity. She added that the relatively low cost of having the unit use an office is repaid to the village by having them stationed in the heart of the downtown.

Trustee Anne Bianchi was supportive of the team being located in Mount Kisco.

"This is a wonderful opportunity and I'm supportive of it," Bianchi said. "It's a wonderful opportunity for Mount Kisco. We want them here."

It is expected that the Village Board will vote on the agreement at its next scheduled meeting on Aug. 8, unless officials schedule an additional meeting before then.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Help Has Arrived

The Mental Health Association of Westchester recently received a federal grant that provides behavioral health counseling at mobile units at several locations throughout Westchester and Rockland counties. One of the sites for the program, called Driving Towards Resilience, is in Mount Kisco on Thursday afternoons in the South Moger Avenue parking lot. The mobile units are fully-equipped with space available for confidential conversations with licensed clinicians, care managers, peer specialists and medical staff. Anyone may use the service. Initially, the mobile unit's hours were 12 to 2:30 p.m. but have been expanded until 6 p.m. through August.

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Harckham, Byrne Commemorate Atomic Veterans Memorial Bridge

State Sen. Peter Harckham (D-Lewisboro) and Assemblyman Kevin Byrne (R-Mahopac) commemorated the dedication of the Atomic Veterans Memorial Bridge over the Taconic State Parkway last Tuesday at a special gathering held in Woodlands Legacy Field Park.

Joining the two state lawmakers were representatives from the National Association of Atomic Veterans, local veterans and municipal officials, including Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater.

Last October, Gov. Kathy Hochul signed legislation that was introduced by Harckham and Byrne designating the pedestrian bridge over the Taconic State Parkway in Yorktown as the Atomic Veterans Memorial Bridge. Recently, signage on the parkway was installed include the newly-dedicated name of the bridge, which was built in 2007 and is part of the Yorktown Trailway.

The legislation was initiated after Byrne attended a Memorial Day service in 2019 where, Ed Gettler, a local veteran and past state commander of the National Association of Atomic Veterans (NAAV), spoke about the brutal realities of war, specifically in the early years of testing atomic and nuclear weapons.

"In service to our country, the men and women we know as Atomic Veterans should never be forgotten," Harckham



F. Lincoln Grahls, 99, accepts proclamation from, left to right, Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater and state Sen. Peter Harckham.

said. "They stood at the forefront of a new nuclear age, and in many cases made the ultimate sacrifice or were sickened because of their willingness to do their patriotic duty. Renaming this bridge commemorates these veterans and offers some recognition in the hope that others may want to learn more about their place

in history."

Byrne noted that for more than 40 years, their existence was kept a secret by the federal government, preventing them from sharing their stories publicly until after 1996.

"I'm grateful to the amazing Atomic Veterans and advocates who both helped locally and throughout our state and country to raise awareness about the sacrifices made by these brave military service members," Byrne said. "The new Atomic Veterans Memorial Bridge name will help increase awareness about the service and sacrifice made by atomic veterans, teaching generations of New Yorkers about who they are, what they did, and why we must honor them."

From July 1945 to September 1992, the United States conducted 1,032 nuclear tests. More than 220,000 service members in the U.S. Army, Navy and Marines were present during the tests up until 1963, whether as clean-up crews, technicians or witnesses. During that time, many of the veterans were unaware of the harmful effects that radiation from nuclear fallout has on the human body, and did not know that their health was at risk.

Many of the veterans weren't provided proper protective gear, and any grievances they had were often covered up under a forced oath of silence. To break this oath of

silence, even to talk among other atomic veterans, was considered treason and punishable by prison.

"Our community is proud to recognize our brave veterans, who, in defense of our nation, were exposed to atomic radiation," said Slater. "We thank Senator Harckham and Assemblyman Byrne for their actions to have the former 'Bridge to Nowhere' renamed to honor these brave soldiers."

Among those attending the event last week was Dr. F. Lincoln Grahls, past vice commander of NAAV and author of "Voices from Ground Zero: Recollections and Feelings of Nuclear Test Veterans." Grahls, who will turn 100 in December, served as a chief petty officer in the Navy during Operation Crossroads, the nuclear weapons tests conducted by the U.S. at Bikini Atoll in the Pacific in 1946.

He was at the helm of a rescue tug ordered to decontaminate the USS Texas and suffered radiation poisoning.

"Atomic veterans have struggled to get recognition for the past 70 years," Grahls said. "The renaming of the bridge here is one good step in a succession of things that need to be done."

"It is our hope this commemoration will be the catalyst for others to learn more about the history of the Atomic Veterans," added Keith Kiefer, national commander of NAAV.

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Mt. Pleasant Closes Hearing on Hamlet Zoning, Comp Plan DGEIS

By Martin Wilbur

The Mount Pleasant Town Board closed the public hearing last week on the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) for the Comprehensive Plan and the Hamlet Business District Zoning Code, setting up a potential adoption of both by fall.

There was just one speaker who briefly addressed the board on the proposals before a unanimous vote to close the hearing was taken. Written comments will be accepted by

the town until this Friday.

Town Attorney Darius Chafizadeh said planning consultant Patrick Cleary will prepare the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (FGEIS), responding to all the questions and comments made during the hearing for the DGEIS. Once an FGEIS is accepted by the board, it will consider a findings statement followed by adoption of the updated Comprehensive Plan and any zoning changes officials deem appropriate.

"So that'll happen over the next three

months. It will likely take two or three months to do that," Chafizadeh said. "We're probably look to finalize this in October, late September, early October."

If the board adopts an updated Comprehensive Plan, it would be the first time for the town in more than 50 years.

Officials have sought to improve the downtown business hamlets in Thornwood, Hawthorne and Valhalla by allowing for three stories of mixed-use development to provide existing property owners the financial wherewithal to improve their parcels and for the town to offer some more diversity of housing stock.

On Broadway in Hawthorne, between the Reformed Church and the ballfields, the Town Board is also considering a density bonus to allow property owners to build to four stories.

While a few residents strongly criticized the plans, there was relatively limited sustained opposition. Earlier this year, the board changed the name of the rezoning effort from a form-based code to the Hamlet Business District Zoning Code because some residents were equating the controversies that had occurred in New Castle's efforts with Mount Pleasant's plan.

Trader Joe's Yorktown Store Set to Open Thursday Morning

This Thursday is a day that perhaps thousands of shoppers in northern Westchester have been looking forward to for a long time.

At 8 a.m., New York's newest Trader Joe's will open its doors to shoppers at the shopping center at 3240 Crompond Rd., the same property which is home to Lowe's home improvement store, just off the Route 202 exit of the Taconic Parkway.

This will be Trader Joe's 33rd location in the state. Until now fans of the grocery chain in northern Westchester and Putnam have had to trek either to its North Central Avenue store in Hartsdale or to Danbury.

Trader Joe's crew members will be on hand to welcome customers to the store. The interior will feature murals of orchards

and the local farming community.

Trader Joe's representatives have said that it intends to hire about 95 percent of its crew members from the local neighborhood. The company stated that hiring efforts are still underway.

In addition, through the company's Neighborhood Shares Program, the Yorktown store will donate 100 percent of products that go unsold that are still in good condition to various nonprofit, community-based organizations.

Store hours will be 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Anyone interested in applying for work at Trader Joe's in Yorktown, can visit traderjoes.com/careers.

--Martin Wilbur

New Life

The Mohegan Lake Improvement District (MLID) received a huge boost in its efforts to clean up the lake with the announcement last weekend by state Sen. Peter Harkham (D-Lewisboro), second from left, that he had secured a \$100,000 grant for a new lake aeration system. Harkham was joined by, from left, MLID President Ken Belfer, Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater and Cortlandt councilmen Jim Creighton and Robert Mayes. Mohegan Lake has been plagued by blue green algae blooms for more than a century.



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Obituary

Frank Martinez

It's with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Frank Martinez of White Plains on July 13.

Born Francisco Martinez Santamaria on Dec. 1, 1929, in Carracido, A Coruña, Spain, he was the elder son of Manuel and Manuela (Santamaria) Martinez. Frank was the second of six siblings who predeceased him: Amadora, Maria, Theodore, Maruja and Carmen.

Frank served in the Spanish Navy for two years before becoming 1st Engineer in the Spanish Merchant Marines. He would often speak fondly of his life at sea, especially those years which he spent on board with his brother, Theodore (Ted).

In 1959, following Ted, he emigrated to the United States where he fell in love with a country filled with opportunity. Upon making the decision to stay in the U.S., Frank changed careers and became an auto mechanic and ultimately worked for the City of White Plains for more than 20 years until his retirement.

In December 1962, Frank met the love of his life, Virginia Rodriguez, at a Christmas party at Casa Galicia in New York City. Both their families had plans to introduce them to other people that night, but once they met, they had no interest in meeting anyone else. That night was the beginning of a nearly 60-year love story in which they built a life together in a new country and lived their American dream.

Frank was an incredibly happy man who appreciated the simple things in life. He could often be found sitting at either the head of the kitchen table or outside in his favorite chair, enjoying a cup of coffee, a bowl of fruit and a newspaper while Virginia puttered in the kitchen. He was perfectly happy with routine and spending time in the home that he and his wife worked so hard to build and that he loved so much.

All who loved Frank looked up to his example as a loving family man and saw in him the example of integrity, patience and honor to which they should aspire. Nothing made Frank happier than being with his

family, and weekly Wednesday night (and sometimes Sunday, too!) family dinners were the highlight of his week.

Frank was incredibly proud of his family and his heritage and was the keeper of the family history, sharing stories with his daughter, granddaughters and nephews, to keep those memories alive. In turn, we are all so proud to have known and loved him.

Frank (Papa) was a very special grandfather. After retiring, Frank became a part-time caregiver for his granddaughters, watching over them while their parents worked. Whether it was picking them up from school and driving them to various activities or just spending a quiet afternoon with them. Frank was always so happy to be a constant presence in their lives. His granddaughters fondly remember the small stash of cookies waiting for them on the front seat or a bowl of sugared strawberries on the kitchen counter prepared for when they got home.

As the years went by and after-school extracurriculars became full-time jobs, Papa continued to show his love for his

granddaughters in little ways: greeting them with a big hug and kisses on both cheeks, holding and squeezing their hands as tight as he could, sharing stories with them, slipping them a few bucks, making sure they had gas in their cars and always waving goodbye from the front door as they drove away.

Frank is survived by his adoring wife, Virginia; daughter Melinda White (Steven) of Armonk; his two granddaughters, Christina White of New York City and Alyssa Carthy (Terence) of Armonk; his sister-in-law, Maria; and many beloved nephews and nieces.

The family received friends on July 17 at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 18 at The Church of St. Bernard in White Plains.

To express your condolences online or for further information, visit <https://www.beecherflooksh.com>. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Reeve-Irvine Research Center for spinal cord injury research at www.reeve.uci.edu.

Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

July 14: Officers responded to a building on Barker Street at 2:19 a.m. on a report of a disturbance and a man bleeding in the hallway. Officers determined that a man was trying to help an intoxicated friend to his apartment when the friend fell and suffered a bloody nose. The injured man was treated by Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps members and transported to Northern Westchester Hospital.

July 14: Officers responded to Target on North Bedford Road at 2:03 p.m. on a report that a man had followed a 13-year-old girl around the store. The girl's mother contacted police after her daughter told her she thought a man had been following her for the last five minutes. The man was gone upon officers' arrival.

July 14: The Emergency Service Unit was requested to respond to Mount Kisco at 10:20 p.m. to assist at the scene of a one-car rollover accident on Carpenter Avenue. Unit officers worked with the Mount Kisco Fire Department and a tow truck operator to right the vehicle so it could be removed.

July 14: Officers assisted a motorist at

11:23 p.m. after the U-Haul and attached trailer he was driving jackknifed on Parkview Place at the Saw Mill River Parkway. The driver was attempting to turn around after realizing his vehicle was not permitted on the parkway.

July 15: A New Castle Road resident called police at 3:55 p.m. to report that people were on the property where he lives and were demanding he move out. Upon arrival, officers determined that the home was recently sold to a new owner, who was present. Officers explained to the owner that he would need to begin an eviction proceeding if the tenant would not voluntarily move out. He was told to contact the County Police Civil Unit for more information on that process.

Croton-on-Hudson Police Department

July 5: A caller reported at 1:33 p.m. that some mulch in the parking lot of Croton Commons appeared to be smoldering. The caller obtained some water from a nearby restaurant and poured it out over the smoldering area. Patrols responded and located an extinguished cigarette in the area.

July 8: A civilian arrived at headquarters at 4:47 p.m. to report that his mother's account was defrauded for \$9,000. A report was filed and an investigation will follow.

July 9: A caller reported that while walking past a home on Cleveland Drive at 7:06 p.m., a woman yelled and sprayed him with her garden hose. Patrols responded and interviewed the caller but were unable to make contact with the other party.

New Castle Police Department

July 11: A resident was arrested and charged with criminal mischief stemming from a domestic incident.

July 12: Officers responded to Memorial Drive at 11 a.m. to mediate a dispute among neighbors regarding dog waste.

July 13: At 7 a.m., officers responded to Upland Drive on a report of a stolen motor vehicle. It was determined that the vehicle was stolen from an open garage with the keys inside the vehicle. It was recovered on a nearby street, parked unoccupied with several personal items missing from its interior. The matter is under investigation.

July 13: A Whippoorwill Road resident reported that two of their vehicles had been rummaged through during the overnight hours. The vehicles were left unlocked. Nothing was reported stolen.

North Castle Police Department

July 9: A caller reported a two-car accident on Route 22 at 5:20 p.m. that

was partially blocking the roadway. The responding officer reported Armonk Garage removed the vehicles from the location. A party was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital and a summons was issued.

July 10: Report of a male party laying in the field on Clove Road at 8:30 a.m. Officers made contact with the party who was apparently sleeping and did not require any further assistance. The party checked okay and was provided with a list of resources should he decide he needs shelter.

July 11: A caller reported that a raccoon was trapped in a dumpster on Maple Way at 8:35 a.m. The department's animal control officer responded and reported locating and freeing trapped raccoons. Matter adjusted.

July 11: A party arrived at headquarters at 10:36 a.m. to report license plates were stolen when her vehicle was stolen from her home on May 11.

July 13: A caller reported at 8:17 p.m. a past larceny of a bicycle on North Broadway and filed a report. A witness and owner's deposition were filed and video footage was obtained.

Editor's note: The policy of providing names for people who have been arrested varies between each department.

Ex-Police Officer Sentenced in Driving Death of White Plains Man

An ex-Mount Vernon police officer was sentenced last Friday to three months in jail and five years' probation for causing a high-speed collision on the Hutchinson River Parkway in 2020 that killed a 52-year-old White Plains man.

Antoine Henrys, 39, was traveling more than 120 miles per hour on the parkway on Sept. 25, 2020, at 9:27 p.m. near Lincoln Avenue in Mount Vernon. Henrys, who was off duty at the time, struck the rear of a vehicle, which caused that vehicle to lose control and

hit a motorcycle driven by John Osario.

The collision resulted in Osario being thrown from his motorcycle and into the parkway's southbound lanes where he was struck by multiple cars and killed.

Following an investigation, Henrys was arrested on June 16, 2021, by county police and indicted later that month on a second-degree manslaughter charge, a felony. He pleaded guilty on Apr. 12 and shortly afterward resigned from the Mount Vernon Police Department.

The district attorney's office had sought jail

time in state prison for Henrys. Westchester County Court Judge Robert Neary presided over the case.

"Our hearts go out to the victim's family," said District Attorney Mimi Rocah. "We are disappointed the Court did not agree with our recommendation that a sentence of state prison be imposed to hold the defendant accountable for causing the victim's death by his unquestionably dangerous driving."

--Martin Wilbur



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Guiding Eyes Considers Route 202 Parcel for Training, Kennel Space

By Martin Wilbur

Guiding Eyes for the Blind plans to seek a zoning text amendment from the Town of Yorktown to allow the organization to place some of its kennels on an available 12.2-acre parcel on Route 202.

Representatives of the well-known Yorktown Heights-based guide dog training school pitched the plan to the Town Board last Tuesday to use the property at 3241 Crompond Rd. as a training site with kennels for about 200 dogs.

Attorney Judy Cross, representing Guiding Eyes, said if the plan were to come to fruition it would reduce the number of dogs at the school's main site on Granite Springs Road, which is in the middle of a residential neighborhood. Cross said the zoning text amendment would allow operation of what would be considered a non-commercial kennel in the Interchange Zoning (IN) District.

"This isn't a pet store," Cross said. "People can't come in off the street and buy a dog. The veterinary services are there for just the dogs Guiding Eyes is training, so it's not open to the public."

The land is the same parcel where Temple Israel was approved to build a new synagogue more than 15 years ago, but that project was never built.

Cross said that the kennels and training program would be less demanding on local infrastructure and services. Additional traffic on the sometimes-overloaded Route 202 would be minimal along with less sewer and water consumption and site disturbance than what was approved for the synagogue, she said.

Director of Planning John Tegeder said site plan issues would be addressed before the Planning Board.

"I don't have any broad concerns," Tegeder said. "As we go through, we'll fine-tune as needed. I think it's basically an okay idea to do it in this (area)."

It was pointed out by town officials that Signs Ink uses a piece of the property for additional parking. Cross mentioned that her client would be amenable to having the business continue to have access to the parking on the land.

Boutique Hotel Hearing Set

The Town Board scheduled a Aug. 3 public hearing on a special use permit needed by the developer of a 16-room boutique hotel proposed for Veterans Road near the Albert A. Capellini Community & Cultural Center.

Attorney Michael Grace, representing the applicant, said his client is anxious to get started with the process, which includes a special use permit from the Town Board followed by site plan approval from the Planning Board.

The project, called Hotel Gardena, would be three stories with eight rooms on the second and third floors. It would

also have a bar and grill on the roof.

"Certainly, it's a great project," Grace said. "I know the last time we were here there was chatter about why would you have a hotel in the Town of Yorktown. My retort to that is why wouldn't you?"

"We don't need a major hotel, we don't need a very large building, but a boutique hotel would be a great fit and you have someone will to make a very substantial investment in the town," he added. "So I think it's an opportunity we should all seize."

Councilman Ed Lachterman said Yorktown has much to offer, whether it is its farms, orchards, golf and a clean Lake

Mohegan, and an attractive, small hotel would be an outstanding addition.

"I hate to put it this way, but if somebody things that Yorktown is that horrible of a place, leave," he said. "Because we can make Yorktown an even greater place than it is."

A hotel could provide a spark to downtown Yorktown Heights that the board has been hoping to jumpstart for a while, said Councilwoman Luciana Haughwout.

"You do have to start somewhere, you do have to make that leap of faith," Haughwout said. "To me, this is simple."

PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Cortlandt will receive and publicly open and read sealed bids for:

SPROUT BROOK MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD – TURF REHAB CONTRACT NO. TE 2022.07

at the Town Clerk's Office (914-734-1020) located at Town Hall, 1 Heady Street, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567, at:

10:00 AM (prevailing time), Tuesday August 9, 2022

The Contract Documents may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office noted above starting on July 25, 2022 during regular business hours. – A non-refundable Bid Deposit of fifty dollars (\$50.00) is required for each contract picked up at the Town Clerk's office. Checks should be made payable to the "Town of Cortlandt".

The Contract Documents may also be obtained electronically at <https://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york> beginning on July 25, 2021. Registration is required to utilize this system.

Bids must be submitted in the form prescribed by the Contract Documents and received by the Town Clerk of the Town of Cortlandt no later than 10:00 am at the prevailing time standard on August 9, 2022. Bids must be sealed and addressed to the Town Clerk at the above address and shall be designated as:

SPROUT BROOK MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD – TURF REHAB CONTRACT NO. TE 2022.07

Bid Securities for this project have been waived.

No Bidder may withdraw their Bid within sixty (60) days of the bid opening.

This Contract is subject to the prevailing wage determination made by the New York State Department of Labor.

The Town of Cortlandt reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informality therein, or to award the Contract to any Bidder if deemed to be in the best interest of the Town to do so.

A non-mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for 10:00 AM, Thursday July 28, 2022 at the project site. The field is located on Sprout Brook Road, Cortlandt Manor, NY, "Sprout Brook Multi-Purpose Field". (refer to "Information for Bidders", Page 3).

Laroue Shatzkin
Town Clerk
Town of Cortlandt

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Column

Summer Tips to Follow to Maintain a Healthy Heart

- Here are the American Heart Association's top 10 tips for a heart-healthy summer:
1. Learn Hands-Only CPR. Days by the pool and ocean can be fun, but always be prepared for the unthinkable. Hands-Only CPR has only two steps: If you see a teen or adult suddenly collapse, 1) Call 911, and 2) Press hard and fast in the center of the chest. View a short video by visiting www.heart.org/handsonlycpr.

2. Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of fluids (preferably water) throughout the day and before, during and after working out to maintain salt-water balance. Avoid caffeine and alcoholic beverages.

3. Exercise smarter, not harder. Plan your workout for the cooler parts of the day – either early morning or early evening when the sun's radiation is at its least. If you must exercise during the hottest part of the day or in high humidity, decrease exercise intensity and duration. And remember, you can get a great workout indoors by going to a gym or walking at the mall.

4. Dress the part. Wear minimal amounts of clothing that allow for quick evaporation of sweat. Choose lightweight, light-colored and breathable fabrics, such as cotton.

5. Choose fresh veggies. Take advantage of

fresh seasonal veggies. Load up skewers with mushrooms, peppers, cherry tomatoes, zucchini, yellow squash or other veggies. Spray lightly with olive oil cooking spray and grill until lightly blackened.

6. Pack to play. When taking a family road trip, plan to incorporate regular physical activity into your daily routine. Pack a football, soccer ball, Frisbee or paddle ball so that you can be physically active while away.

7. Enjoy fruit pops. Homemade freezer pops are an easy, fun treat for kids to make and enjoy. Mash up fruit like peaches, grapes, berries or watermelon

and put into paper cups, insert a popsicle stick and freeze overnight.

8. Protect yourself from the sun. Wear wide-brimmed hats, always apply water-resistant sunscreen with at least SPF 15 and reapply sunscreen every 2 hours.

9. Head indoors. try indoor activities at your local YMCA or rec center like basketball, swimming, yoga or racquetball.

10. Know the signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

For more tips on staying active and healthy this summer, visit <https://www.heart.org/en/healthy-living>.

Letters to the Editor

It's Critical to Support Local Library and School Librarians

School starts soon and with it the resumption of regularly scheduled school board meetings, some of which were inflammatory and downright rude last year.

Perhaps the board members who were put in at the last school board election can do a better job of running a civil meeting.

This is a note to encourage parents of

school-age children and others to take advantage of this lull to look ahead to the fall. It is a call for all fair-minded, thinking people to support their local school and public librarians now, not wait until something controversial comes up at a school board meeting.

How do you do this? Make sure you know the name of your librarians. Talk to them when you go to the library or visit your child's school. Tell them you want to show support for the intellectual component they bring to our communities.

In addition, talk to the elected officials in your town. Ask them about their position on censorship and do not be satisfied with generalities. Ask candidates running for office where they stand on censorship and book banning. Write a letter of support to your local library board and send a copy to your local paper.

This is an issue for all reasonable people to get involved with, whether you have a child in school or are a regular library user

or not. Take action to support democracy and freedom of expression – our First Amendment right.

No one has the right to enforce their values on others. Librarians are trained to evaluate books according to high standards of literary merit and to know who in their community would be served by access to many different types of books that open the world to all thinking people. We do not all see the world through the same lens nor should we be required to.

There are procedures in place for those who disagree. Running roughshod over these procedures is both thoughtless and anti-democratic. Take some small action now and pave the way for reasonable discourse this fall.

Optimum is Taking Advantage of Seniors' Need for Help

When Ashbourne Hall Senior Housing was erected, Optimum (then Cablevision) was contracted to be the sole provider for the building. As a result, when we have a problem with our service we are at their mercy and charged \$80 service calls because we are unable to perform certain tasks while on the phone.

This being said, someone within Pleasantville village government should contact the powers that be at Optimum and explain to them that the residents in this building, most of whom are 80 and over and many handicapped, are unable to remove power cords from outlets, plug and unplug

wires, coaxial cables, etc., and get up and down to cross the room in order to reach the television. As a result of this, we must have someone come to the house for assistance, hence the charge.

Once again, we are the only building in the village with this restriction; therefore, it would be a big help if we could get repairmen to serve this building without \$80 charges. There are only 24 apartments here so I don't think it would break the bank!

Ruth Murden
Pleasantville

Marilyn Elie
Cortlandt Manor

The letter writer is a retired elementary school librarian in the Yorktown Central School District.

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Eat Al Fresco All Summer Long

Soak in the scenery at these delightful outdoor dining spots throughout the region, offering everything from lively people-watching to serene waterfront and parklike settings.

By Kristan Sveda

You are reading this week's print excerpt of an article from our Examiner+ newsmagazine-style email newsletter. To read the entire article and others like it, subscribe at www.examiner-plus.com to receive all of our bonus content.

European Courtyard

Furci's Restaurant, Yorktown Heights

Stonework, container gardens, and a large striped awning evoke a European courtyard when you dine outdoors at Furci's in Yorktown Heights. "Our outdoor patio space is so unique!" says owner Deneen Furci. "We have numerous space heaters for chilly nights and a 120-station gelato bar." Before you dive in, try something from their traditional Italian menu or one of the innovative weekly specials. "We try to offer dishes from all over the culinary world to provide variety

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and various flavors to our customers," adds Furci. Their most popular dish is an egg roll stuffed with broccoli rabe, sausage, and mozzarella with marinara for dipping. The chicken scarpariello and the roasted pear salad are also quite popular. furcisrestaurant.com

Picnic Benches and Brewskies

Peekskill Brewery, Peekskill

Sunshine, picnic benches, and local housemade brews are on the menu at the Peekskill Brewery. The outdoor Biergarten is a great spot to meet up with friends who want to get out of the city for a bit since it's walking distance from the Peekskill train station and riverfront, and they have outdoor games for the whole family. It's casual dining with a select menu specifically chosen to pair with the brewery's menu of house and specialty beers. Try the Brew Burger with applewood smoked bacon, cheddar, lettuce, tomato, and onion on a brioche bun with garlic aioli, and pair it with Valley Life IPA. peekskillbrewery.com

Waterfront Terrace

Harvest On Hudson, Hastings

You would think living in Westchester County, it would be easy to find true

waterfront dining. We have the Hudson River and the sound, plus enumerable lakes. But the fact of the matter is, dining outdoors with waterfront views isn't as easy to do as you might think. Harvest on Hudson has one of those money spots where the setting is exactly what you are looking for on a summer evening: grassy lawns and gardens surrounding a delightful patio of bright umbrellas overlooking the Hudson. Try the prix fixe brunch menu on weekends, which has everything from pancakes to pizza. harvesthudson.com

Lakeside Sunsets

Lake House Restaurant, Mahopac

If you thought you knew all the waterfront dining in Westchester, here's one that might be new to you. This lakeside restaurant boasts the most spectacular views and sunsets in the Hudson Valley, and they have a good argument. The 587-acre lake draws lots of activity in the summer and has two marinas for boaters. Dining here is like a mini-vacation, so come without the kids for a dockside seat at one of their outdoor two-tops. Try the Lake House



FACEBOOK/HARVEST ON HUDSON PHOTO

chicken—organic chicken breasts pan-seared with hot and sweet cherry peppers, chorizo sausage, and cognac sauce—or Nona's classic meatballs and spaghetti with Sunday tomato sauce. If you bring the kids and sit indoors, they'll love watching the boats over a plate of ...

To read the rest of this article, and others like it, subscribe at www.examiner-plus.com.

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Westchester’s 9/11 Related Illnesses Memorial Committee Soliciting Names

The Westchester County 9/11 Related Illnesses Memorial Committee is soliciting names of those who have died of 9/11-related illness for the 9/11 Related Illnesses Memorial at Kensico Dam.

Last year, Westchester County was among the first governments to unveil a new 9/11 Related Illnesses Memorial. The memorial is designed to complement the stonework of the dam and surround The Rising as an eternal watch. This memorial is the culmination of a promise the county government made to the families and loved ones of these true Westchester heroes.

“It is imperative that the lives we

lost due to 9/11-related illnesses are not forgotten – not ever,” said County Executive George Latimer. “The loss the families have suffered will never be filled, and we are here to stand with them, we are here to grieve with them and we are here to remember with them – always.”

The committee is asking residents that if you know someone who was a 9/11 First Responder (at Ground Zero, Pentagon or in Shanksville, Pa.), worked or resided in Westchester County and passed away as result of a 9/11-related illnesses, contact Matt McCauley, co-chair of the Westchester County 9/11 Related Illnesses Memorial Committee. McCauley can be reached at 914-343-5251 or at mmccauley@thmlp.com.

McCauley is a retired New York City police officer and paramedic, who worked as a first responder on 9/11 at Ground Zero.

“County Executive George Latimer has been a longtime supporter of first responders and the 9/11 community throughout his entire career,” McCauley said. “It is great to see that he understands the importance of having a memorial. In the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 attacks our first responders were present at Ground Zero. Now as many of them are becoming sick and dying, it is important for our county to recognize the sacrifice.”



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ART NELSON PHOTO

Blue Blood

Horace Greeley High School graduate Brandon Neeck was picked Monday night by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the ninth round (285th overall) of the annual Major League Baseball draft. The local product and recent University of Virginia graduate also trains at Athletes Warehouse in Pleasantville. He credited the facility in helping him with strength and skill development throughout high school and college. In a brief interview with The Examiner last weekend, the lefty pitcher reflected on growing up in the area and playing baseball as a kid with Henry Davis, a Fox Lane High School graduate picked first overall by the Pirates in last year’s draft. Although there have been “a lot of ups and downs,” he said that being picked “would just be an amazing moment for my family and I.”



Ask a Gynecologic Oncologist WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT GYNECOLOGIC CANCERS?

Gizelka David-West, MD
Northwell Health Cancer Institute
Northern Westchester Hospital, Phelps Hospital

What is important for women to know about gynecology and cancer?

When many people think of gynecology, they think of pap smears, but there is much more to it than that. Gynecologic cancers can develop in a few different reproductive organs: the uterus, cervix, ovaries, fallopian tubes, vagina, and vulva. It’s important for women to know that even after having children or experiencing menopause, they should continue their annual visits and be aware of screening guidelines: pelvic exams annually after age 18, cytology-based pap smears every 3 years after age 21, or co-testing with cytology and human papillomavirus (HPV) tests every 5 years between the ages of 30 to 65.

Early detection is key to preventing many types of cancer. How does this apply specifically to gynecologic cancers?

The best screening method we have is the combination HPV test and pap test for cervical cancer that is proven to prevent disease. Uterine cancer screening is a clinical evaluation and assessment of the clinical history of patients with abnormal uterine bleeding patterns. There is also much research being done in early detection methods for ovarian cancer.

Should women have different gynecologic concerns at different ages in their life?

Age plays a role in gynecologic cancers, but the role varies with each cancer type. Cervical cancer is prevalent in younger women in their 40s, uterine cancer in ages 50 and up, and ovarian cancer from ages 50 to 60. While guidelines state that women can stop cervical screening at age 65, it is important for women over 65 to know that they should continue screening, especially if they’re sexually active or have a history of HPV infection.

How does your use of robotics benefit patients undergoing gynecologic cancer surgery?

The da Vinci surgical system is a robotic, minimally invasive tool that allows for greater precision and increased dexterity for me as the surgeon. Because of this, patients typically experience less pain, recover quicker, and may have lower risk of blood loss and infection. While it is preferred over open surgery, the benefit depends on the type of cancer being treated. We primarily use it for endometrial cancer.

What about the future of gynecologic oncology excites you?

The incorporation of maintenance therapy for our patients with advanced stage disease has dramatically changed the treatment landscape. In ovarian cancer, we are seeing an improvement in survival thanks to available maintenance therapies, such as VEGF and PARP inhibitors. And, earlier this year, the SIENDO study showed promising results which may address the increasing mortality rate we are seeing in uterine cancer and provide more options for patients to prevent recurrence of disease. Additionally, in cervical cancer, there have been great advancements in immunotherapy which gives us an opportunity to improve survival.

What is special about the oncology team at Northwell Health?

Northwell puts so much effort and emphasis on the multi-disciplinary approach to cancer treatment. Oncologists and radiologists get together to review every case to ensure patients are receiving the most up-to-date, leading-edge treatment options available. When you’re told you have cancer, not only do you need cancer treatment, you also need psychosocial and wellness support, as well as any necessary physical therapy support. Northwell offers all of this for our cancer patients. In addition, our patient navigators and care managers are great and really help patients through this complex and difficult time in their lives.



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WCC Leads Way With Financial Education Program for Students

By Em Stangarone

As Americans face record-breaking inflation, widespread debt and the consequences of income inequality, financial literacy and management becomes crucial to an individual's ability to survive and thrive.

To help students feel more at ease with their finances, Westchester Community College (WCC) has received a \$450,000 grant to continue its Money Smart Forum (MSF) financial coaching program for three more years. It will enable them to coach about 1,200 more students in that time period.

The grant is part of a \$2.5 million investment by JPMorgan Chase and managed by the National Council for Workforce Education to create and implement financial coaching programs at seven additional community colleges based on WCC's successful model.

Last Thursday afternoon, WCC held a kickoff event to celebrate the program's success and announce the next three colleges selected for grants: Mott Community College in Flint, Mich., SUNY Fulton-Montgomery Community College in Johnstown, N.Y. and SUNY Rockland Community College in Suffern.

Personnel from the three colleges

will start their training this month to learn how to launch their own financial coaching programs. Four additional colleges will be selected for grants in 2023.

During last week's event, WCC President Belinda Miles spoke of how access to financial literacy and coaching has been a boon to many students. She cited statistics revealing that 4 in 7 Americans are financially illiterate.

"It's one thing to have the knowledge, it's another thing to get in there and do it," Miles said. "Those lessons stay with you, and if you continue that behavior, it can really bear fruit later on."

The Money Smart Forum financial coaching program at WCC started in 2014 and has since helped more than 5,000 students. Interested students sign up, and if accepted to the program, have one-on-one 30-minute meetings every other week with an assigned financial coach to create and achieve goals that address their individual financial needs. The program, which is in addition to a student's regular schedule of classes, also offers workshops on various financial wellness topics twice a month.

Students who go through the program learn how to save, budget, build credit, manage debt and plan

for their future. Through coaching and education, the program has helped improve student academic performance and career readiness, increase graduation rates and promote lifelong financial health.

There are still many obstacles to financial literacy, including a nationwide lack of personal financial education in schools, said Suzanne Matthews, education director at WCC's Center for Financial and Economic Education. Many students don't know how to save, open a bank account or manage a budget. Financial literacy skills can help them manage their money better now and prepare them for unexpected expenses that may arise in the future, Matthews said.

She estimated that about 100 students were helped during the spring semester.

Several speakers at the event also noted how lack of financial knowledge disproportionately affects women, first-generation Americans, the economically disadvantaged, and racial minorities. Equipping students with financial know-how helps with economic mobility and closes the racial wealth gap.

"One of the biggest changes is that students feel empowered to manage their money," Matthews said of the program's participants.



EM STANGARONE PHOTO

Westchester Community College held a gathering last Thursday to celebrate a \$450,000 grant from JPMorgan Chase to continue its Money Smart Forum extracurricular financial coaching program for students. The program has run since 2014.

One such student is Sarah Kadish, who shared her story at Thursday's event. Kadish said she left a 30-year career in clerical work to return to school and pursue a degree in marketing to help her realize her dream of opening her own greeting card company.

Before participating in the Money Smart Forum program, Kadish said she "lived in fear of money," juggling too many credit cards while getting by on a fixed income. Now, after working with her financial coach,

Marisa DiBenigno, she has taken control over her finances, raised her credit score by 30 points and is looking forward to saving and investing money in her business.

"The most important thing I learned from MSF was that I have choices about what I do with my money, and that has completely liberated me," Kadish said. "I am so excited, due to this program and Marisa's diligent coaching, to say that I really think I can achieve my dream, and very creatively so."

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Solid Things, Like Plaster Walls, That Endure

As a realtor, I must confess that I have definite biases about certain aspects of the homes that I research and show to clients. Chief among them is a preference for solid ways of building things, such as real plaster walls, found today mostly, if not totally, in older homes.

From the 1700s through the 1940s, lath and plaster was the interior wall construction method of choice. Builders would nail thin, closely spaced strips of wood (lath) to wall studs and then smooth multiple coatings of plaster over the lath to form flat wall surfaces.

Plaster and lath wall systems are rarely used now, except to repair existing walls or to refurbish historic buildings. In the mid-20th century modern era after World War II, drywall, also called plasterboard or wallboard, stormed onto the scene and has remained there ever since.

When drywall panels became popular in the 1950s, they soon replaced lath and plaster as a quicker, easier install option. Lath and plaster construction is definitely an old-school technique, but when compared to drywall, it has a few surprising benefits.

If your existing home has lath and plaster walls – or if you'd like to incorporate new plaster walls in a remodeling project –



By Bill Primavera

one can learn about this old construction method that certainly is more solid.

As a quick sidenote that I'm sure many can relate to, I find that there is nothing more frustrating than having to hang a heavy object or painting on drywall, and having to find a stud to drive the nail in. Sometimes that stud is located in a skewed way to the positioning you want the object to hang.

As for me, I've only handled plaster for repair jobs in a couple of old homes that I have owned. But I experienced a special circumstance with plaster that spanned more than 50 years. It

involved my father, who professionally was a specialist in another aspect of building – flooring – but he had a special knack in many areas of home construction and repair.

One of his home projects was to enclose a screened porch, converting it to a dining room. He had a contractor do the framing, but he insisted on doing the plaster work himself in the traditional way that he had observed others doing it.

When he had completed the final smooth coat of plaster and it had dried, my father demonstrated his skilled work by taking my hand and guiding it across the wall surface.

"Smooth as silk!" he announced



satisfyingly. "and it will last forever." I had to agree.

As testament to his having done the job right, I had the unusual experience of returning to the town of my childhood home in Virginia almost 50 years later for a work assignment. I couldn't resist stopping by the house, which boasted my father's handiwork. When I knocked on the door, a charming older woman opened it and immediately said, "Billy?"

Incredibly, she recognized me, having not seen me since I was 10 years old. When she invited me in to talk, I asked if we might visit her dining room to check my father's handiwork. She gladly agreed

and (I am choking up as I write this) I ran my hand across a section of the dining room wall and it didn't have so much as a tiny fissure in its smooth surface.

Indeed, my father's skilled, quality work had lasted forever. It has since served as a beacon for me in my own home projects to try my best to do the job right.

Bill Primavera is a realtor associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest-running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

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Have I Got a Special Wine Investment for You



By Nick Antonaccio

"Hello, this is Mr. Tsitra Macs from The Fine and Rare Wine Investments Consortium. May I speak to Mr. or Mrs. B. Boomer?"

"This is Mr. Boomer."

"Good evening, sir. I understand you are presently

retired."

"Yes, I am; been retired for nearly 20 years. Please say again who you are and why you are calling me?"

"It's Mr. Macs, Tsitra Macs. I would like to present you with an investment opportunity you may be interested in."

"Oh no you don't. I've heard all about telephone scams. My children tell me never to speak to strangers or accept offers from them."

"Please don't hang up, sir. I have a unique opportunity for you. It's not anything you've ever been offered before. And it will take just a few minutes of your time, and best of all, there's no obligation. Do you have a retirement investment portfolio?"

"Well, yes. But I'm very conservative in my investment decisions."

"I understand. Stocks are volatile,

especially if you're on a fixed income and can't afford being caught in the wild swings of the bond and equity markets such as we've experienced this year. I have an alternative investment tailored just for you. Do you enjoy wine? Ever consider investing in fine wines, but you thought it was out of reach?"

"Well, frankly, my wife and I have recently upped our fine wine appreciation. One of our children is a Wall Street investment banker and has introduced us to fine, but very expensive, French and Italian wines. We really enjoy them, but they are all outside our budget."

"Well then, this investment is perfect for you. Our wine portfolio has been carefully curated to include a number of expensive, rare wines that are the envy of every Wall

Streeter. By purchasing a share in this portfolio, you will enjoy the appreciation in the value of these sought-after wines and, as an extra added bonus, you will have access to draw on these fine wines as a return on your investment. They won't

deplete your fixed-income cash flow; instead, consider them a dividend on your initial investment."

"Wait a second, this sounds too good, Mr. Macs."

"We've taken care of the risk and endless choices that have kept you from investing,



We are a world-class, highly reputable firm that offers you the security and expertise you've been looking for. And the returns are amazing! Anywhere from 10 to 40 percent annually."

"Hmm. This sounds like the type of investment my wife and I are interested in, Mr. Macs. And we can impress our children. Send me the enrollment information."

"I can do better than that, Mr. Boomer. I can sign you up right over the telephone. And to expedite your investment returns, I can also take your banking information over the phone for your initial \$10,000 investment."

"OK, I'm in. I want to tell my friends about this, so please spell your name for me."

"Of course. It's Tsitra Macs." (Note: spell his name backwards.)

This type of scam is proliferating. I first

reported on these crimes in 2017, in which at least 39 British citizens were defrauded out of more than \$1.2 million.

I just read of the latest effort to bilk seniors. The head of an elaborate false-front organization was arrested after the son of an 89-year-old Ohio man notified the FBI his dad had been defrauded of more than \$300,000 during an 18-month period.

As you might expect, none of the touted wines were in the possession of the scammers, in spite of a sophisticated website that included cut-and-paste wine testimonials of recognized authorities.

The overall extent of the fraud? It's still under investigation, but to date authorities have identified over 150 victims who transferred more than \$13 million to this well-oiled fraudulent operation.

These are swindles of the ultimate sort: scammers seeking to part a fool from his and/or her money. It's the ultimate expression of "dialing for dollars" – real dollars!

Nick Antonaccio is a 45-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years, he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member and program director of the Wine Media Guild of wine journalists. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.

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Westchester Homeowners to Showcase Healthy Gardens During Tour on Sunday

By Mia Levine

On Sunday, July 24, Healthy Yards, groups and organizations throughout Westchester County that promote healthier landscaping practices, will have its third annual Healthy Garden Tour. About 50 homeowners throughout the county who use environmentally-friendly practices will open their gardens to the public.

The Examiner spoke to three Westchester homeowners, Barbara Lalicki of Briarcliff Manor, a longtime gardener who recently discovered the importance of native plants, and White Plains residents LeighAnn Ferrara, whose been gardening for about five years, and Amanda Bayley, who in 2018 started Plan it Wild, a group that plants native gardens for clients to create greater biodiversity in Westchester.

Q: What made you participate?

Lalicki: A friend visited my garden after I'd taken the Wild Gardens "Lawn to Meadow" workshop. Impressed by how I was incorporating native plants into the landscape, she recommended me to Healthy Yards for the tour. I spent some time exploring their very informative website and thought it would be a great thing to be part of. Bringing native plants into the garden is a rewarding way to help the environment, and I hope seeing this in action will inspire more people to try it.

Ferrara: I belong to a bunch of local gardening Facebook groups and saw it (the Healthy Garden Tour) posted in one of the groups. In the first year, I signed myself up. I was looking to be a model for other people to be inspired.

Bayley: I receive the Healthy Yards newsletters. I saw this year's tour is a pollinator tour and signed up my yard to be involved. I wanted to help showcase how beautiful and immensely important native plant gardens are for the survival of our local pollinators and many other local species. Additionally, signing my garden up for the tour motivated me to really get my own garden into shape, something that I have

kept putting off, as I have been working on other native gardens all the time with Plan it Wild.

Q: Talk about your garden.

Lalicki: I learned that although birds enjoy bird food, they need caterpillars and other insects that only thrive with native plants to feed their young. So, I decided to concentrate on adding native plants to my garden this season. I found that many plants already in my garden, such as goldenrod, milkweed, asters and penstemon, are natives. While I had an affinity for them, I was not tuned into the environment's need for native plants until recently.

Ferrara: About five years ago, I started getting rid of some lawn since my front yard is on a busy road that is sloped. We debated getting a fence and decided rather than get a fence, the kids would not play on the lawn. I started creating big plant beds and planted two apple trees. Afterward, I started putting cardboard around the trees and made mulch around the beds. Soon the entire lawn became for plant beds and not for grass. Currently, we mow a grass path in between the beds. We have a couple of trees, shrubs and different flowering plants. We also have some blueberries and roses. I did not start learning about native plants (until) about three, four years ago. Thus, the items that were planted before are not native, but they are now.

Bayley: In my garden, there are plants for shade and sun, wet and dry, and the entire landscape is built around a rock outcrop. In the front, near the busy road, we have a pollinator pathway garden, with a variety of native perennials flowering from March through November. There are also many native trees and shrubs that pollinators like to visit, including a pussy willow tree, which is one of the first plants to flower. In the rear, we have a series of garden levels built around the rock outcrop. We have a large diversity of natives and it's such a joy to watch the plants change throughout the seasons. This includes white oak, chokecherry, magnolia, bush honeysuckle, buttonbush, wild columbine, flowering dogwood, mountain laurel, bee balm, mountain mint, blue stemmed goldenrod, wild geranium, blue and white wood asters, butterflyweed, Appalachian sedge, high bush blueberry and so much more.

Q: What makes your garden unique?

Lalicki: It's a garden in transition, with an increasing number of plants to attract pollinators. While walking around the paths, you'll see various garden areas in the sun and shade, with shrubs, annuals and perennials. There's an interesting mix of native and more common garden plants and a small woodland area. At the Wild Gardens "Lawn to Meadow" workshop, participants were given many seedlings. I'm growing them in controlled places outdoors before incorporating them into my gardens.

Ferrara: There is a uniqueness of edible and native in my garden. Also, my way of gardening is unique. I let things happen and I try to be minimal. For example, I have two compost bins and I use them when necessary. Overall, the way of gardening is lazy and minimalist, but we get the best results out of it.

Bayley: We are working towards a



BARBARA LALICKI PHOTO

Part of Briarcliff Manor resident Barbara Lalicki's property that features native plants. It will be one of more than 50 gardens that the public will be able to view this Sunday for the third annual Healthy Garden Tour.

landscape of 90 percent native plants. Right now, we are at about 70 percent or so. According to research by Doug Tallamy and Desiree Narango of the University of Delaware, "if the yard has more than 70 percent native plants biomass, chickadees have a chance to reproduce and sustain their local population. As soon as the number of native drops under 70 percent, that probability of sustaining the species plummets to zero." (LaPenta, Dante. "Biodiversity for the Birds." www.Udel.edu, 2018.

I have been applying this 70 percent native metric to my own yard, as I want the yard to sustain as biodiverse of a foodweb as possible.

Q: What advice you have for people who would like to participate?

Lalicki: Every little bit counts and you don't need to start with expert knowledge. The Wild Gardens and Teatown Plant sales are two great opportunities to familiarize yourself with native plants.

Ferrara: Anyone with a yard can garden in an environmentally friendly year (two years ago was the first tour). You do not need a lot of money or expertise to have a big garden or a garden you want. Got some plants for free from the beautification market. Easy to get topsoil at the town recycling yard. It can be cheap and accessible.

Bayley: Start by planting one native tree. An oak tree is one of the best starter trees since it supports a large number of many different species, providing a huge benefit to the local ecosystem. If you are not able to plant a native tree, start by planting a native shrub or a few native perennials. Keep adding natives over time, little by little, and you will be rewarded by pollinator, bird, and



AMANDA BAYLEY PHOTO

Amanda Bayley of White Plains said her garden is an example of how beautiful and important native plant gardens are for local pollinators and other species. It is one of at least 50 gardens that the public will be able to view this Sunday during the Healthy Garden Tour.

insect friends that comes to visit.

With some exceptions, gardens roughly south of I-287 will be open on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and those north of I-287 will be accessible from 1 to 4 p.m. For those interested in obtaining more information, e-mail Fiona Mitchell at info@healthyyards.org or visit www.healthyyards.org. An interactive map for all the gardens can be found at www.HealthyYards.org/tour, which provides their location and descriptions.



LEIGHANN FERRARA PHOTO

LeighAnn Ferrara's native plant garden at her home in White Plains.

Places to Try for a Stellar Summer Meal or Treat

We had made a late afternoon reservation to see "Elvis" at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville, our first time back to a movie theater since 2019. Beforehand, we decided to stop for Sunday brunch at Lexington Square Café in Mount Kisco and reminisce.

Since 1993, Pearl Restaurant Group led by Jim Sullivan and Jan Fabry have kept the artsy multilevel dining room and sprawling bar buzzing with a menu of new American specialties. It is a lovely, airy room with well-spaced tables, a spiral staircase, murals and effective lighting. There's also an outdoor patio with tables under an umbrella. I still recall an enjoyable happy hour here last May.

We took seats at the bar. A couple of Captain Lawrence IPAs helped us settle down as we perused the menu. We ordered sandwiches: the panko crusted lemon sole on a brioche roll, lettuce, tomato, caper remoulade and a side of pommes frites and Southwestern chicken on a ciabatta roll with lettuce, tomato, guacamole, bacon, jack cheese and a side of sweet potato fries. We split the sandwiches and fries.

Both were very tasty and satisfying. To paraphrase my companion, everything on these plates is right. That coming from a chef, and I agreed. Special mention must go to the fries – crispy on the outside, soft on the inside. Other eateries could take lessons. Among the best fries I have had in Westchester. Thanks to our friendly bartender for guiding us along, too.

There are other tempting options. Lunch and dinner mains may include shaved Brussels sprout salad, Buffalo cauliflower, goat cheese and crispy prosciutto flatbread and braised beef short ribs.

The restaurant is open seven days a week for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. Happy hours are Monday through Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. There are also party facilities.

If you are passing through Rye, the same team operates The Rye Grill & Bar and Ruby's Oyster Bar & Bistro.

Lexington Square Café is located at 510 Lexington Ave. in Mount Kisco. Info: 914-244-3663 or visit www.lexingtonsquarecafe.com.

Classic Chicken Parm, Cheesecake

Proprietor Alex Ahmetaj has opened the outdoor patio and updated the menu at Alex's Bar & Grille, offering big cuts of aged steaks and chops along with generously served Northern Italian/Continental fare.

The handsome dining room is split into cozy sections with white tablecloths, colorful de Villeneuve impressionist paintings and sconces that make for a warm ambiance. Clay-colored chairs complement wooden walls and plush beige-curtained windows.

Out of Chef Nick Deimant's kitchen come specialties such as the pan-fried calamari with hot cherry peppers; linguine alla vongole; a delicious, fresh branzino prepared tableside; classic veal or chicken



By Morris Gut

parmigiana; and from the grill filet mignon, New York sirloin steak, a hefty rib-eye or pork chops. The house-made smooth ricotta cheesecake is top-notch. There's also the bustling bar and lounge.

Alex's Bar & Grille is located at 577 N. Broadway in White Plains. Info: 914-358-1444 or visit www.alex577.com.

Cool Off at Village Creamery

A good place to cheer up, relax and cool off this summer is the Village Creamery & Sweet Shop in Valhalla. Walk down Broadway and stop at the most colorful shop in the hamlet.

Village Creamery owners John and Kristin Caldarola have done a charming job decorating their shop's front. It is decked out in a colorful palette highlighting all their tempting homemade ice creams, soft serve, Italian ices, crepes and waffles, candy and espresso, latte and coffees. They offer acai bowls now, too. There are a few tables out front.

Village Creamery & Sweet Shop is located at 32 Broadway in Valhalla.

Info: 914-421-1300 or visit www.villagecreamerysweetshop.com.

Visit Bustling P'ville Farmers Market

We had not visited the Pleasantville Farmers Market for quite some time and were anxious to catch up with some of the vendors. It was already very active when we arrived about 10:30 a.m., and we were pleased at how organized it was. Parking was controlled and easy. We like to walk through first before making a purchase and put a mental shopping list together.

The market offers a good mix of regionally sourced artisan foods, crafts and beverages. We were especially pleased to run into two old favorites: Bobolink Dairy & Bakehouse of Milford, N.J. and Gajeski Produce of Riverhead, L.I. Got to chat with a few vendors we had never met before, too.

The market operates at Memorial Plaza every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Parking is available at the Metro-North parking lot. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Mt. Kisco Restaurant Week

The Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce is holding its second annual Restaurant Week from July 18-24. At this writing there



Alex's Bar & Grille's decadent ricotta cheesecake.



Beautiful colors and delicious flavors can be seen and tasted at the Village Creamery & Sweet Shop in Valhalla.



The panko crusted lemon sole on a ciabatta roll with some of the best fries in Westchester at the Lexington Square Café in Mount Kisco.

were more than 20 participating eateries.

Each restaurant is serving its own unique dish or menu during the program. The good news is that Mount Kisco restaurants offer a lot of tasty diversity. This would be a fine way to give a few a try.

Among the participants are Exit 4 Food Hall, Village Social, Mt Kisco Seafood, Lexington Square Café, The Turk, Captain Lawrence Barrel House, La Camelia Tapas Bar & Restaurant, Locali, Mardino's Italian Cuisine & Steakhouse and Badageoni Georgian Kitchen. For the latest info, visit www.mtkiscochamber.com.

NYC Summer Restaurant Week

For those seeking summer bites around the Big Apple, the 30th annual NYC Restaurant Week will run from July 18-31. More than 500 participating restaurants in all five boroughs will be offering two- and three-course prix fixe lunches and dinners for \$30, \$45 and \$60. Each restaurant will set their own menu for the duration of the event. There are caveats, so patrons are advised to check ahead regarding menus, dates and serving times.

For the full list of participating restaurants and more information, visit www.nycgo.com/restaurantweek.

Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing



The classic chicken parmigiana at Alex's Bar & Grille, one of the many reliably delicious staples on the menu.

consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at 914-235-6591 or by e-mail at gutreaactions@optonline.net.

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From Ballads to Bird Song: The Life of Fannie Hardy Eckstorm

In six miles square, the most of that water, we have found so many songs that we never tried to count them.

We knew very well that we could not go into lumber camps and the forecastles of coasting schooners, nor frequent mill boarding-houses and wharves and employment offices and even jails, where the unprinted, and too often unprintable, songs of the kind we must seek originate and flourish...but no man appeared... (and) the old songs were fast vanishing.

By Brian Kluepfel

Fannie Hardy Eckstorm ventured into taverns, shipyards and logging camps to preserve the songs of the sailors and woodsmen in “Minstrelsy of Maine: Folk-Songs and Ballads of the Woods and the Coast.” (It was written with Mary Winslow Smythe in 1927.)

She knew the songs well, from early ventures into the woods with her fur-trading father.

*Let the frost be ee’r so keen,
It will not keep us within,
We will make the valleys ring,
With the falling of the pine.*

If ‘Minstrelsy’ had been her only endeavor, folklorists would be deeply indebted, but she hardly stopped there.



UNIVERSITY OF MAINE PHOTO

Fannie Hardy Eckstorm was an esteemed scholar, anthropologist and folklorist, but also made her mark in the world of ornithology.

A second book, this one on British ballads, followed, as did a pair of tomes on Penobscot woodsmen and their culture. Then came two on birds, including one on woodpeckers illustrated by the legendary Louis Agassiz Fuertes,

Audubon’s heir in avian illustration. She wrote on the language and legends of the Algonquin, publishing three books on Indian language (“Indian Place Names of the Penobscot Valley and the Maine Coast”), handicrafts and Old John Neptune, a medicine man also noted in Thoreau’s “Maine Woods.”

Eckstorm’s talents as a naturalist, and keen observational skills are evident in a 1902 article “A Description of the Adult Black Merlin” for The Auk, the journal of the American Ornithological Society:

Indeed, a large female in high autumnal plumage, taken on the Cranberry Islands, off Mount Desert, Maine, is strikingly like this Black Merlin, being very nearly as dark on the back and two thirds as black below; were it a blueblack instead of a sepia-black it might very well pass for the mate to this male.

Her renaissance bag of tricks helped in other ways, too: a University of Maine archival photo shows Eckstorm proudly posing with a passel of freshly-shot grouse. She knew its habits well: “No matter how cold it is, the grouse never goes south; if you are driving along country roads in early morning or at nightfall you may expect to find him gathering one of his two daily meals.

Up in a poplar, or a birch tree, he will be standing, snapping off the brittle ends of the twigs.” (“The Bird Book”)

“Every man his own poet,” wrote Eckstorm of the minstrels of the Maine woods.

And the same could be said of her. Tireless researcher and author, she was born and died in Brewer, Maine. She even founded its public library and seemed to live a dozen lifetimes – ornithologist, folklorist, mother, scholar, anthropologist – between 1865 and 1946.

My own interest in Eckstorm stemmed from her ornithological work, but as we see over and over, everything is connected in the natural world and you can’t touch one thing (birds) without stumbling on something else. (Native folklore, etc.)

Eckstorm recognized these connections and tried her best to understand the world from one small corner of Maine, maximizing her time on Earth and leaving a wealth of knowledge behind.

Ossining resident Brian Kluepfel is a member of Saw Mill River Audubon and encourages you to support its activities. He also writes for the Lonely Planet travel series, Westchester Magazine and Birdwatching Daily.

For The Birds

THERE’S A WORD FOR IT

A vocabulary-building quiz By Edward Goralski

Summer Smarts. The words in the quiz this week come from the book “100 Words to Make You Sound Smart.” The book is part of the 100 Words series from the editors of the American Heritage Dictionaries and “offers the coveted gift of gab to people who want to say it just right –wherever they are.”

1. **accolade** (n.)

A) a special acknowledgment B) a favorable reception C) conformity
2. **fait accompli** (n.)

A) supernatural powers B) a loyal friend C) an accomplished fact
3. **bona fide** (adj.)

A) overblown B) sincere C) pleasing
4. **ogle** (v.)

A) to unload B) stare at something C) counterbalance
5. **faux pas** (n.)

A) friendly regard B) a social blunder C) a short cut
6. **scintillating** (adj.)

A) pleasantly exciting B) producing knowledge C) animated and brilliant
7. **malingering** (v.)

A) to fake illness B) speak evil of C) linger behind
8. **baroque** (adj.)

A) stately B) harmonious C) extravagant

- ANSWERS:
1. A. An expression of approval; a special acknowledgment, such as an award

2. C. An accomplished, presumably irreversible, deed or fact

3. B. Made or carried out in good faith; sincere

4. B. To stare at something, especially in a desire for ornamentation

5. B. A social blunder

6. C. Lively and exceptionally intelligent; animated

7. A. To fake illness in order to avoid work or duty

8. C. Extravagant, complex, or bizarre, especially in ornamentation



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STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY COURT, WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax
Liens by Proceeding In Rem pursuant to
Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax
Law by The Village/Town of Mount Kisco

PETITION AND
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Index No. 1391/2022

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule A of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

Effect of filing: All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this petition are hereby notified that the filing of this petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding *in rem*.

Nature of proceeding: This proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in this petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.

Persons affected: This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of this petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.

Right of redemption: Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may on or before said date redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereof, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to the Custodian of Taxes, Village/Town of Mount Kisco, 104 Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York 10549. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.

Last day for redemption: The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the 26th day of September, 2022.

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RECEIVED

JUN 24 2022

JOSEPH C. IDONI
CLERK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

Service of answer: Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in this petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the Office of the County Clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.

Failure to redeem or answer: In the event of failure to redeem or answer by any person having the right to redeem or answer, such person shall be forever barred and foreclosed of all his or her right, title and interest and equity of redemption in and to the parcel described in this petition and a judgment in foreclosure may be taken by default.

Dated: June 22, 2022

Enforcing Officer:

Joann F. Cerretani
Joann F. Cerretani
Village Treasurer
Receives 8/1/22

State of New York)
County of Westchester) ss.:

I, Joann F. Cerretani, being duly sworn, depose and say: I am the Enforcing Officer for the Village/Town of Mount Kisco. I have read this Petition which I have signed, and I am familiar with its contents. The contents of this Petition are true to the best of my knowledge, based upon the records of the Village/Town of Mount Kisco. I do not know of any errors or omissions in this Petition.

Joann F. Cerretani
Joann F. Cerretani
Village Treasurer
Receives 8/1/22

Sworn to before me this
22nd day of June, 2022

Michelle K. Russo
Notary Public

MICHELLE K. RUSSO
NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 01RU8313298
Qualified In Putnam County

Attorney for Tax District: My Commission Expires 10-20-2022

Daniel Pozin, Esq., McCarthy Fingar, LLP, 711 Westchester Avenue, 4th Floor, White Plains, New York 10604.

SCHEDULE A

Serial No. 1
Radio City Ventures, LLC
2 Morgan Drive
Mount Kisco, NY 10549
Tax Map Designation: 80.55-1-2.1/4

2017 Town Tax - \$29,473.84
2018 Town Tax - \$27,428.63
2019 Town Tax - \$27,685.05
2020 Town Tax - \$26,346.68
2021 Town Tax - \$23,812.65

2017 Village Tax - \$13,569.24
2018 Village Tax - \$12,686.45
2019 Village Tax - \$10,358.33
2020 Village Tax - \$ 9,639.42
2021 Village Tax - \$ 8,782.49

Chappaqua Church to Be Part of Sacred Sites Open House This Weekend

On Saturday, July 23 from 1 to 5 p.m., The Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Chappaqua will participate in the New York Landmarks Conservancy's Sacred Sites Open House weekend.

The church, located at 191 S. Greeley Ave., was built in 1904 by the Rev. Dr. Frank Montrose Clendenin and his wife, Gabrielle, daughter of Horace Greeley, as a private chapel in memory of their daughter Muriel who died at five years old. The chapel was consecrated in 1906, inspired by the 15th century Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, Monken Hadley, in Middlesex, England, and is built in the English Gothic style of field stone from the walls of the Greeley farm.

From its beginnings it has been called one of the most beautiful country churches in the United States. Behind the church the Clendenins and their children are buried. The chapel became a mission under the Diocese of New York in 1913 and was incorporated as a parish in 1943.

Over its life of more than a century, the church has survived a major fire and has been enhanced by the generosity of many parishioners and friends. Notable among the church's treasured gifts are a window dating to around 1400 from the original structure of our sister church in Monken Hadley; the Norsemen Window, the baptistery with its Burnham stained glass and Monken Hadley replica font; the St. Mary windows; the Heilman Window; the St. Peter & Paul windows; the Miles Slater "Mother and Child"; and the Allen pipe and digital organ.

Gifts abound outside as well. The sundial



The Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Chappaqua will be one of dozens of churches throughout New York State that will participate in the Sacred Sites open house this weekend.

marking the hours since 1906, the bells which have rung in the tower since 1926, the stone altar for outdoor worship, the memorial garden offering a tranquil refuge and resting place of many of our departed family members, the adjoining Labyrinth inviting a walk and quiet meditation, and the integrated ramps and other aids making our buildings handicapped accessible. The church is a place of beauty, sanctuary and universal welcome.

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin will be one of dozens of religious institutions throughout New York State participating in the open house this weekend.

The Nerds Return to Kensico Dam Plaza for Summer Concert Series

Enjoy a night of rock and roll with The Nerds, New Jersey's #1 cover band, on Tuesday, July 26, at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

"Grab your folding chair and enjoy a great mid-summer night of rock and roll with friends and neighbors on the great lawn," said county Parks Commissioner Kathleen O'Connor.

All concerts will be ticketed-admission events, with purchase available through online pre-sale only. Tickets are \$10 per person. Children five years old and up require a ticket. Pre-purchase tickets online only at <https://maingatetickets.com/events/view/1303>. Tickets will not be available for purchase onsite on the day of the event.

Seating will be general admission-style.

Gates open at 6 p.m., concerts begin at 7 p.m. and parking is free. Bring blankets and lawn chairs for seating and coolers are permitted.

The remaining concerts in this summer's concert series are on Saturday, Aug. 13, featuring Songs in the Attic/All About Joel, a musical tribute to Billy Joel, and on Friday, Aug. 26, featuring 45 Riots and SAGE, a one-night festival of blazing R&B, jazz, soul and dance.

The Robison Summer Concert Series is presented by Westchester County Parks and Sharc Creative with Westchester Parks Foundation, and support from Westchester Talk Radio, 100.7 WHUD, 107.1 The Peak, Garcia's at The Capitol Theatre, Hamlethub, Palisades Mazda, The Premier Collection, Inspiria Outdoor Advertising and Westchester Magazine.

Kensico Dam Plaza is located at 1 Bronx River Parkway in Valhalla. For more information, call 914-864-PARK or visit parks.westchestergov.com.

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MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549
(914) 864-0034

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RICHARD F BRECK, MEMBER
C/O REYNOLDS & ROWELLA
2 MORGAN DR
MT KISCO NY 10549

July 1, 2022

555600 80.55-1-2.1/4
Location : 2 MORGAN DR

SCHOOL: 552002

Dear Village Taxpayer:

This is a reminder that your unpaid property taxes are now filed with the County of Westchester, Office of the County Clerk. These unpaid taxes are now a HELD LIEN against your property. The filing of this list will create a Notice of Pendency against your property. This is the first process in the foreclosure procedure.

YEAR	TYPE	BILL NO	PRINCIPAL	FEE	PENALTY	TOTAL
2017	91	122	8,413.77	693.10	4,844.50	13,751.37
2018	91	19	8,555.73	704.45	3,811.47	12,871.65
2019	91	48	7,654.31	632.35	2,237.40	10,524.06
2020	91	46	7,880.06	650.40	1,279.57	9,810.03
2021	91	39	7,959.20	736.33	260.87	8,956.40
Total			40,483.07	3,416.63	12,033.81	55,913.51

I urge you to pay your outstanding tax liens upon receipt of this notice. Failure to pay your property taxes will result in the loss of your property. All tax liens must be paid to this office and I will notify the County of Westchester when the tax lien is satisfied.

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (914) 864-0034.

sincerely,

Joann F. Cerretani
Receiver of Taxes

VILLAGE/TOWN OF MOUNT KISCO
104 MAIN STREET
MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549
(914) 864-0034

RADIO CITY VENTURES, LLC
RICHARD F BRECK, MEMBER
C/O REYNOLDS & ROWELLA
2 MORGAN DR
MT KISCO NY 10549

July 1, 2022

555600 80.55-1-2.1/4
Location : 2 MORGAN DR

SCHOOL: 552002

Dear Village Taxpayer:

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YEAR	TYPE	BILL NO	PRINCIPAL	FEE	PENALTY	TOTAL
2017	92	89	17,643.84	2,137.26	10,088.36	29,869.46
2018	92	44	17,857.95	2,182.95	7,808.15	27,829.05
2019	92	23	19,757.19	2,390.85	5,979.87	28,128.01
2020	92	21	20,799.69	2,515.98	3,497.35	26,813.00
2021	92	18	21,032.93	2,543.95	707.31	24,284.19
Total			97,091.60	11,750.97	28,081.14	136,923.71

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sincerely,

Joann F. Cerretani
Receiver of Taxes

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continued from page 22

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RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Devin Forbid!

Shrub Oak 8U Storm Fall, 7-3, to White Plains Bulldogs Baseball Academy

Shrub Oak Storm's Devin Hourahan charges hard and flies high toward 3B but is denied entry by Bulldogs Baseball Academy IF Micahel Lisiewski in the Storm's 7-3 setback last Wednesday in 8U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League action at Lakeland High School. The White Plains-based Bulldogs, coached by Harrison High head football Coach Jay Ciraco, improved to 8-2 and the Storm, who tied Yorktown, 5-5, the next day, sit at 9-2-1 with the playoffs on tap this week... see Focus on GHVBL

Sports



Brandon Rispoli of Briarcliff, who earned All-American honors, fires a shot at the cage in a 6-3 win at Pleasantville back in late April.



Dan DeVito of Westlake has control of the ball on the side of the cage in the Wildcats' home rout of Hastings.

Boys' Lacrosse 2022 *A Look Back*



Fox Lane's Will Shepherd makes his move to the cage during the Foxes' road game vs. the Pleasantville Panthers.



Eli Brail of Greeley gets a step on the defense during a home game back in early April.



Horace Greeley goalie Toby Moskow gets control of the ball just inside the crease behind the cage in the Quakers' late-season home win over Byram Hills.



Danny Lasalle of White Plains advances the ball up the field in the Tigers' home playoff game vs. Arlington.



Briarcliff All-American Jack Ricciardi does some high-stepping in the Bears' early-season road victory over the Lakeland/Panas Rebels.



Benny Rakower of Byram Hills races up the field with the ball during a Bobcat road game.



Lucas Proctor of Briarcliff moves the ball up the field in the Bears' mid-April win against Lakeland/Panas.



Ryan Challice of Pleasantville moves across the field with the ball as Fox Lane's Jesse Glickstein defends in the Panthers' lopsided win early in the season.



White Plains' Nick Armogida looks across the field before making a pass to a teammate in the sectional playoffs.

Sports



Jack Cicchelli of Fox Lane gets set to fire a shot on goal in the Foxes’ 13-7 home playoff victory over New Rochelle.



Michael Oronzio of Byram Hills is about to send a shot whizzing past the goalie vs. host Hen Hud.



Briarcliff goalie Evan Van Camp steps around the back of the cage as he looks to clear the ball during a Bear home game.



Greeley’s Ben Cohen tries to work his way around the back of the cage as he’s closely guarded in the Quakers’ home game vs. Arlington.



Westlake’s Chris Kalle takes the ball past midfield during a Wildcat home game in late April.



Elliot Jones goes on the attack for the Briarcliff Bears, who captured the Section 1, Class D championship.



Greeley’s Jameson Blakeslee (left) and Boden Bounds do some celebrating after a Quaker goal against the visiting Arlington Admirals.



Byram Hills’ Gavin Javorsky controls the ball in the Bobcats’ game at Hendrick Hudson.



Pleasantville’s Michael Hundzynski surveys the field as he heads toward the cage in a home win over Hen Hud.



Fox Lane goalie Henry Gilligan stays ready between the pipes.



Pleasantville’s Daniel Picart sets his sights on the cage as he controls the ball during a Panther home game.



Erik Coleman of Pleasantville (center) is greeted by teammates after scoring a goal in the Panthers’ home game vs. Briarcliff.

Sports

focus on GHVBL

Bulldog Baseball Academy Nips Shrub Oak Storm in Powerhouse 8U Battle



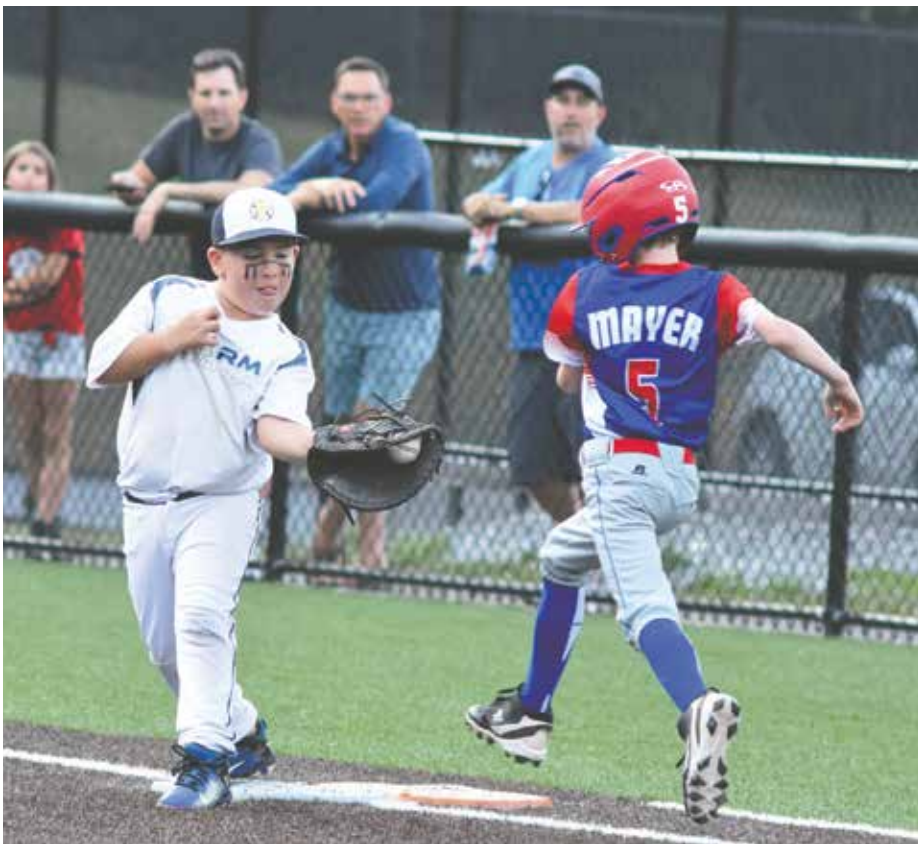
Putnam Valley P Eli Pierce delivers in host Wild's 5-2 loss to Dirt Bags in 14U GHVBL action Thursday at Union Field.



Shrub Oak Storm P Jacob Hobson fires pitch in Wednesday's 7-3 loss Bulldogs Baseball Academy at Lakeland High where the Storm fell to 9-2-1 in 8U GHVBL.



White Plains-based Bulldogs Baseball Academy P Luke Gianetti fired gem in 7-3 win over host Shrub Oak Wednesday when 8U Bulldogs improved to 8-2 in GHVBL action.



With perhaps a bit of help from the umpire, Bulldog Baseball's Jack Mayer reaches safely at 1B as Shrub Oak's Jack Turenchalk takes throw in 7-3 Bulldogs' 8U GHVBL win.



Shrub Oak Storm's Devin Hourahan takes off for 3B in Wednesday's 7-3 GHVBL loss to Bulldogs Baseball Academy at Lakeland High.

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Sports

Create Title 10 to Save Title 9



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
Editor @Directrays

I don't want to seem insensitive, because my wife will be the first to tell you; I'm a sensitive son-of-a-gun, who needs a thicker skin to deal with this crazy local sports scene I've wrangled for 33 years.

But if you fight for and strongly believe in women's rights – like I do – you have to recognize the problems with transgender women competing in sports against women born as biological women.

UPenn's 23-year-old Lia Thomas, the transgender NCAA championship swimmer, was recently nominated for the NCAA Woman of the Year honor, an honor designed to recognize "female student-athletes who have exhausted their eligibility and distinguished themselves in their community, in athletics and in academics throughout their college careers."

While it goes without saying that Thomas and all trans people should be treated with dignity and respect, there's also no doubt that she is at a competitive advantage having been born a biological man.

In my opinion, trans people can and should do whatever they want in life so long as the trail they blaze doesn't provide them with

an unfair competitive advantage. Why not create and then give Ms. Thomas a more distinct honor, say the "Transgender Athlete of the Year" award? While trans women clearly deserve every human right we all deserve, that does not also mean they're the same biologically as women born as women. There's a reason we all generally agree, across the political spectrum, that there's boys' sports and there's girls' sports.

The problem is, some young woman without the competitive advantage will be denied the honor of NCAA Woman of the Year in delivering the honor to Thomas. Prior to transitioning, Thomas was a member of the men's swimming team at UPenn, where Thomas didn't enjoy nearly the same success. But, after transitioning, she won a national title. It should be easy to see how we can respect Thomas's dignity by offering transgender athletic options and not unfairly hurt the competitive prospects of female athletes born as biological females.

Biologically, Thomas holds an unfair advantage over competition in the women's category, as evidenced by the rankings; the athlete has been propelled from No. 462 as a male to No.1 as a female.

Folks on both sides of the aisle are chirping. Tennis great and gay-rights-in-sports icon Martina Navratilova was among

the progressive voices to address the issue, chiming in recently on Twitter: "Not enough fabulous biological women athletes, NCAA?!? What is wrong with you?!!!!!!!? So I should be happy that biological women are pushed aside when it comes to sports? Not on your life...#biology matters. Do you understand the difference?"

Apparently, we don't, Martina. Connecticut has gone off the rails regarding high school sports: No guidelines, simply identify and you can play whatever sport you want.

"That is problematic," said Greenburgh-North Castle UFSD Athletic Director Anthony Nicodemo, who is openly gay and a proud trailblazer in Section 1 sports.

He added: "It's not as easy and simple as it is fair. If someone is deep into transition, it's fair."

But where is the line in the sand? What happens when a 6-foot-6 male transitions to female and joins the girls' hoops team and dominates like nobody before? This is where my dear friend Anthony and I will agree to disagree. With wide consensus about the importance of girls' sports, of girls competing against girls, we have all long acknowledged the inequity, from a competitive standpoint, of boys competing against girls. The same principle applies with transgender women competing against women born as women.

What do you tell that high school girl that has trained her whole life but takes second place in the 100-meter dash sectional final to a transitioned athlete?

"As you know, in this country, we can't get on the same page with anything," Nicodemo said. "If rules and fair guidelines were followed, you tell her she lost."

Remember, the squeaky wheel always gets the grease, and the current efforts are hurting Title 9, and everything we've done in this country to advance women's sports.

It's always been my job to put student athletes on pedestals, to fight against injustices and make them feel good about themselves. If Title 9 was intended for the betterment of young women across America, perhaps Title 10 should be instituted for trans athletes. Sports-governing bodies like the NCAA and prep sports throughout the states should create categories for competition so that transgender women can compete against transgender women and transgender men can compete against transgender men.

Athletes who went through male puberty, then transitioned and compete as women is not a fair and level playing field, but they do deserve the right to compete in sports and challenge for titles, so let's get cracking on a plan that's inclusive to the trans community and makes sense for all.

The beliefs espoused in Examiner opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of our organization.

Direct Rays

YAC 12U Huskers Sizzle, Win Allendale Tourney Title



Members of the 12U Yorktown Athletic Club Huskers Softball Team brought home the chip on July 17 after the girls went a perfect 5-0 at the 2022 Allendale Summer Sizzle Tournament and emerged champions behind a great team effort and strength in all areas of the game - pitching, hitting, fielding and outstanding base running.

Members of the unit include: Head coach: Nicole Fasce; Asst Coaches: Jim Pugliese, Charlie Slade, Pat Duffy and Allie Cortino

Top Row - L-R: Sofia Sladek, Avery Pugliese, Melina DiRenzo, Ella Duffy, Charlotte Binger, Cara Gomez; Bottom Row - L-R: Paige Baddeley, Avery Maher, Claire Duffy, Nina Fasce, Sophia Marcello, Jordan Vaught

Legacy Continued!



BETH LUFT PHOTO

CALL-Stars Crowned 10U District 33 Champs

Cortlandt American Little League Coach Jeremy Luft and assistants Dan Lindenbaum and Eric Vogel pose with their 10U champions last xxday when Fabian Coello, Luke Fialkovic, Zach Lindenbaum, Jake Luft, Noah Malfant, Joey Mayes, Christian Pichardo, Steven Puente, Nicholas Stazzone, Andrew Steele, Ottavio Tomao, Callen Vogel, Trevor Vogel and Joseph Walsh capped the District 33 season by winning it all and entering the next round of the Williamsport Little League Tournament this week.

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