



September 6 - September 12, 2022

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 663

Hen Hud Elementary Students Return to New Alignment of Schools

By Rick Pezzullo

When the 1,013 elementary school students in the Hendrick Hudson School District returned to the classroom Sept. 1, they may have found themselves in unfamiliar surroundings.

Why? Because the 2022-2023 school year kicked off the district's first endeavor with the Princeton Plan where its three elementary schools were realigned as Pre-K-1 (Frank G. Lindsey), 2-3 (Buchanan-Verplanck), and 4-5 (Furnace Woods) buildings, rather than the K-5 arrangement that had been in place prior.

It is also the first year Hendrick Hudson offers Pre-K. Currently, 34 students are enrolled.

The Board of Education voted in April 2021 to implement the Princeton Plan after much community debate. The move was made as district officials grappled with ways to deal with the closing of the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan and

the \$25 million annually Hendrick Hudson would be losing. For years, Indian Point has been supplying funding for almost one-third of the district's operating budget.

"The decision was it brings greater financial stability and mitigates larger tax increases each year," Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter explained this week. "It also addresses equity in that we can better control for class sizes and distribution of students, demographically, than in the former model. Those are just two examples. In short, the Princeton Plan eliminates school boundaries by geographic lines and assigns students to schools by grade."

Hochreiter has said switching to the Princeton Plan could save the district an estimated \$2 million annually and result in a 4.5% property tax avoidance. One of the downsides is about eight staff positions in kindergarten through fifth grade were eliminated.

Several other school districts in the region

have adopted the same learning model, including Somers, Ossining, Yorktown, Peekskill, and Brewster.

Meanwhile, it was announced a few weeks ago by State Senator Pete Harckham that Hendrick Hudson would be receiving an additional \$1 million in financial aid this year.

"We remain strongly committed to helping the entire Hendrick Hudson community with the negative impact caused by the loss of tax revenue during the closing and decommissioning of Indian Point," Harckham said. "The taxpayers in the school district, especially homeowners and small businesses, are facing challenges through no fault of their own, and this infusion of funding will help ensure students here receive the educational opportunities that they deserve."

Hochreiter said every \$1 million the district receives equals approximately a 2.25% tax levy increase avoidance.

"The intent was for the money to offset future tax levy increases. So, we can use the



Furnace Woods Elementary School Principal Josh Cohen greeted students and parents on the first day of school Sept. 1.

\$1M in future years to keep potential taxes down," Hochreiter said. "We are in regular communication regarding Indian Point-related initiatives and work well together to advance our interests regarding additional funding, as well as increased safety and security measures as the plant enters decommissioning."

Community Mourns Ossining Man Killed in Motorcycle Crash

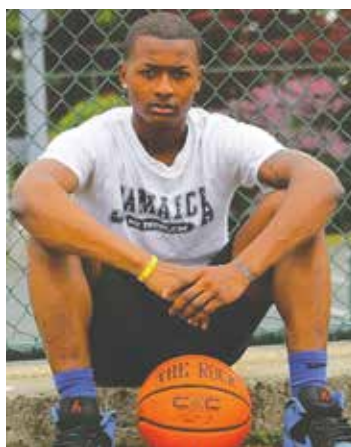
By Rick Pezzullo

Hundreds of residents attended a vigil at Nelson Park in Ossining last Wednesday to mourn a 22-year-old village man who died in a motorcycle crash Aug. 28.

Kasheem Trotter was pronounced dead at the scene on the night of Aug. 28 on the Bear Mountain State Parkway in Crompond.

"An amazing young man gone way too soon," stated Town of Ossining Councilwoman Liz Miller Feldman, who was among the sea of people at the vigil.

Trotter left his mark in Ossining as being part of the inaugural group of players for Project105, a program and camp that provides affordable and structured athletics for youth. He later became a coach.



Kasheem Trotter

"This is a huge loss for his community of basketball friends and family," Whitley Humes stated on a GoFundMe page set up to help with funeral costs.

"Kahseem was an amazing young man who left a huge and positive mark on everyone that crossed his paths. As he was truly loved by all and will be dearly missed because he was one of the most genuine, authentic, athletic, and respectful young person that I've ever known."

"I had the privilege of getting to know KJ while working with him as a camp counselor during the summer of 2016. His sense of humor, energy, and personality was unmatched," Cal Lepkowski stated.

Trotter played point guard for Ossining High School. He attended SUNY Broome and later found his niche in the custom automobile industry. He had a business called Kay's Auto Works.

"Kahseem has inspired multiple generations within his community,



Hundreds gathered at Nelson Park in Ossining for vigil.

both older and younger than him, and continues to do so in his passing," Isaac Newman stated.

Nearly 500 people have

contributed almost \$30,000 to date on the GoFundMe page, which can be found at <https://gofund.me/72c32f54>.



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Meeting Slated on Proposed \$57M Capital Projects in Lakeland

By Rick Pezzullo

A public forum on the Lakeland School District's plans to perform \$57 million in capital projects is scheduled to be held Thursday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Lakeland High School.

The meeting, which is advertised as a question-and-answer session with district officials and the Board of Education, is the second the district has set up to discuss the details of the envisioned infrastructure improvements and state-of-the-art media centers.

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. The remaining \$37

million would come from a referendum that residents would vote on Dec. 6.

If the referendum is approved by voters, 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.

The main thrust of the project, according to district officials when they met with the public in July, is updated technology in common learning spaces such as library media centers to help students in science, technology, engineering, arts, math (STEAM) subjects.

Thursday evening's forum will also be live streamed on LocalLive.tv.

Bye Summer, Hello School



The Ossining School District and Ossining Police Department sponsored a fun event last week for children to enjoy the last days of summer before returning to school.

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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?

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Northwell Health Cancer Institute

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Paused Community Energy Program to Re-start in November

By Martin Wilbur

An increasingly popular community energy program that had to be paused at the end of June because of surging costs will resume on Nov. 1.

Sustainable Westchester will restart the Westchester Power Community Energy Program after the terms for a new two-year contract were recently finalized with Constellation New Energy following an open bid process. The new contract runs through Oct. 31, 2024.

For the more than 90,000 customers in 24 participating municipalities across the county that had been enrolled in the program, that's good news. Spiraling energy prices earlier this year, made worse by the

war in Ukraine, combined to push the price per kilowatt hour into the stratosphere preventing a new agreement to be reached.

Con Edison customers who had signed up for the program under the previous 18-month contract that expired June 30 had an initial rate of 7.4 cents per kilowatt hour for the renewable option; however, there was a variable rate that kicked in once prices spiked.

Then Sustainable Westchester was unable to negotiate a new rate in time as prices were at or near their highest in June.

"We went into the bid carrying the collective trepidation of all of our experience with this volatile market over the past year which saw Con Edison utility rates as high as 17 cents and averaging over 11

cents through August," said Dan Welsh, Sustainable Westchester's program director for Westchester Power.

"Though the new contract rates are much higher than our last contract, we're pleased that our bid results are competitive with today's rates for renewable energy from the major (Energy Services Companies) which range from the low 16 cents to well over 19 cents. Staying at the lowest end of comparable offerings, as the program has done consistently in the past, was an important benchmark for us."

The new rate, which will be fixed for the length of the contract, is 13.364 cents a kilowatt hour for the standard supply and 15.128 cents for those customers who choose the 100 percent renewable supply.

The fixed-price format will provide insurance against market volatility. Residents can choose to opt out or in at any time without a fee or penalty. While the previous contract had a base price of 7.4 cents per kilowatt hour for the renewable option there was a "not-to-exceed" clause, which allowed price escalation to 12.5 cents, which was later revised up to 13.9 cents, Welsh explained in June.

Aside from saving customers an estimated 10 percent on their energy bills, participation in the program resulted in the reduction of 166,000 metric tons of CO2 last year, or the equivalent of taking 36,800 cars off the road for one year, according to Sustainable Westchester.

Eligible participants will receive

enrollment notification letters in the mail and be alerted to the 30-day window for the initial opt-out before the rates go into effect and they become enrolled. Information sessions will be held during the 30-day opt-out period for community members to learn more about the program.

Then participants will begin enrolling in the program starting on their first meter-read date on or after Nov. 1. Upon receipt of a letter, eligible participants do not need to take action if they want to be enrolled in the program.

The six-year-old program is looked at as a model for community energy programs in New York State, offering both the standard supply and renewable options to residents and small businesses located in Westchester's participating municipalities.

Local communities that are part of the program include Croton-on-Hudson, Ossining, Mount Kisco, New Castle, Pleasantville, Peekskill and White Plains.

NYSEG customers who have signed up for community energy have been unaffected during these last few months. They are locked into their contract at 10.2 cents per kilowatt through November 2023. The City of Yonkers, which is also in Con Edison territory, has its own agreement with the utility for 8.7 cents. That contract also doesn't expire until a year from November.

Anyone with questions can e-mail westchesterpower@sustainablewestchester.org or call 914-242-4725 ext. 111.

A Helping Hand

State Sen. Peter Harkham addresses food bank representatives outside the United Methodist Church in Mount Kisco, site of the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry, last Friday to make Empire Award presentations to 10 local food pantries on National Food Bank Day. Since the start of the pandemic, Harkham has organized 13 food drives, one each in Sleepy Hollow, Peekskill, Mohegan Lake, Bedford, Pleasantville, Carmel, Croton-on-Hudson, Somers, Yorktown Heights and Brewster and two in Mount Kisco.



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Mt. Kisco Approves Findings Statement for Eminent Domain Potential

By Martin Wilbur

The Mount Kisco Village Board voted to continue with the eminent domain process last week for a 25-acre parcel that would serve as open space and replacement parkland if a proposed cell tower is relocated to Leonard Park.

By a 4-1 vote, the board accepted the findings statement and to potentially pursue the purchase of 180 S. Bedford Road, although it remains unclear whether officials will ultimately move in that direction.

“Accepting findings and voting affirmatively to move forward does not commit us to making this acquisition through eminent domain if at any point in time we choose not to,” Mayor Gina Picinich said after the Aug. 29 vote.

Complicating the process is that there are two applicants, Homeland Towers and SCS Sarles Street, LLC, that are looking to site a cell tower and an array of solar panels, respectively, at 180 S. Bedford Rd. The village also remains in negotiation with Homeland Towers regarding a possible lease for the cell tower that the village must eventually site, Picinich said.

The board has received intense criticism from some residents adamantly opposed

to using a piece of Leonard Park, in the general vicinity of holes 6 and 7 of the disc golf course, to site a cell tower. Other residents in the village and in Bedford, which the property borders, have been in favor of the move to save the South Bedford Road property from being used for a solar array and cell tower and to be possibly part of a network of walking trails.

Picinich said the village has requested to view the leases that have been signed by Homeland Towers and SCS Sarles Street with 180 S. Bedford Rd. property owner Skull Island Partners. The mayor, who acknowledged that the land owner is under no obligation to furnish the leases, said officials want to have as much information as possible since the village is considering buying the property without invoking eminent domain.

The land was last bought about eight years ago for \$1.5 million and has almost certainly increased in value.

Last week, Picinich said she was against using eminent domain unless it’s absolutely necessary.

“I am, generally speaking, opposed to the government taking property from a private property owner unless there’s an important public need,” she said. “If the village wanted to acquire the property for

open space, active and passive recreation, I would prefer to purchase the property outright.”

The property is in the Conservation Development zone, which places a 35 percent maximum threshold on development of the parcel.

Deputy Mayor Lisa Abzun said while it isn’t known whether the village will decide to obtain 180 S. Bedford Rd., last week’s decision keeps all options on the table.

“We need to make sure that we enable ourselves, our board and our village to have as many tools available and get the greatest benefit for the people in our village,” Abzun said.

Trustee Karen Schleimer, who also supported the action last week, said by keeping alive the possibility of eminent domain, it does not mean the board is approving the cell tower relocation to Leonard Park.

“It merely means the possibility of acquiring the 25 acres is still in play, is still open,” Schleimer explained. “If we don’t vote to approve the eminent domain and decided to do it later, we go back to square one with public hearings and the approval of the short form Environmental Assessment Form as we talked about this evening. It sets us back and makes us

repeat steps that we’ve already taken.”

Trustee Anne Bianchi was the dissenting vote against accepting the findings but did not explain why she came to that conclusion.

The Village Board has up to three years to decide if it wants to move forward with eminent domain under the law. If it is pursued, the courts would decide the fair market value of the South Bedford Road property.

“This board is really doing their due diligence and trying to make the decisions that have the least negative impact that benefits the whole community,” Picinich said.

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September 11 Ceremonies Scheduled for the Area

Cortlandt: The town and the villages of Buchanan and Croton-on-Hudson has scheduled its tri-municipal September 11 ceremony at the 9/11 Remembrance Memorial at the Croton Landing at 1 p.m.

Mahopac: Mount Carmel Baptist Church and United for the Troops will be partnering for a program titled "Honoring Our Heroes - Remembering 9/11 at Mahopac Chamber Park, located at 953 S. Lake Boulevard in Mahopac on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m.

Mount Kisco: The Mount Kisco Fire Department's 9/11 memorial service and

ceremony will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11 at 6:15 p.m. at the memorial near the intersections of routes 117 and 133. A road closure from the one-way entrance into the Blackeby Lot to the Main Street-117 intersection will be required from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

New Castle: The town's 9/11 ceremony will be held at Gedney Park on Route 133 in Chappaqua.

North Castle: Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Wampus Brook Park Gazebo on Maple Avenue at 5 p.m.

Westchester County: The annual



Memorial Ceremony at The Rising will take place at 3 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla. For anyone attending in person, the county is encouraging an RSVP to communications@westchestergov.com. The ceremony can

also be viewed on Facebook at Facebook.com/westchestergov.

These are the ceremonies scheduled where information was available at press time.

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Races for All Runners to Support WMCHHealth Hospitals Sept. 18

Get your heart rate going and support healthcare as you race, jog or walk around and about WMCHHealth's Valhalla campus on Sunday, Sept. 18.

The Big 5, Westchester Medical Center Health Network's fall active fundraiser, supports a range of medical services while supplying the perfect opportunity to get fit and have fun.

The Healing Half Marathon, The Kyle Goldberg 10K, The Evan Lieberman 5K and the Go the Distance Walk and Family Fun Day will start on the WMCHHealth campus at 100 Woods Rd. in Valhalla. There is also the option to combine races and sign up for two races at a discounted price.

Here is a description of the races and the services they support:

Healing Half Marathon

A moderately challenging run with friends, a team or solo for 13.1 miles on and around Westchester Medical Center's campus before turning onto the paved North County Trail in collaboration with Westchester County Parks. The course includes campus, road and paved bike trail. This event offers several opportunities for a training run with friends or solo for those planning to run the New York City Marathon.

The race supports the construction of a Critical Care Tower at Westchester



On Sunday, Sept. 18 residents can choose one of five runs or walks organized by WMCHHealth around the Westchester Medical Center's Valhalla campus to help raise money for a variety of medical services and programs.

Medical Center, which would bring together trauma care services in one five-story facility and allow the hospital space to convert to private rooms with all the modern amenities and technology.

Start: 8 a.m.

Registration: \$50

Kyle Goldberg 10K

A moderately challenging run with

friends, a team or solo for a 10K run on and around Westchester Medical Center's campus turning onto the paved North County Trail in collaboration with Westchester County Parks.

The race supports The Kyle Goldberg Turning Point Program and Behavioral Health Initiatives to address substance abuse.

Start: 8:15 a.m.

Registration: \$40

Evan Lieberman 5K

A short jaunt around Westchester Medical Center's campus. The course includes campus roads only. The race supports the Joel A. Halpern Trauma Center and trauma programs at Westchester Medical Center.

Start: 8:30 a.m.

Registration: \$35

Go the Distance Walk and Family Fun Day

Join supportive community members, former patients and their families, doctors, nurses and other hospital workforce members in support of Maria Fareri Children's Hospital. A casual, one-mile walk followed by family activities and entertainment.

Start: 11:30 a.m.

Registration: \$0

Pick Two Challenge

Pick two races for a discounted \$50 registration fee.

To learn more about the Big 5 and how to support WMCHHealth, visit WMCBig5Races.com.

This is a press release provided by WMCHHealth. It has been lightly edited and is being published by Examiner Media as a public service.

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Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

Sept. 1: Officers responded to West Street at 1:26 p.m. after a resident reported that his wallet had been stolen. Upon arrival, the man advised that he may have lost his wallet but believes it was stolen from him the day before. He was unable to say where it might have been stolen and who might have been responsible.

Sept. 1: Officers responded to Kirby Plaza at 6:18 p.m. after a resident reported that he had been threatened by a relative during an argument on Barker Street.

Sept. 2: A Grove Street resident reported at 9:09 a.m. that graffiti had been spray-painted on the back of a road sign. The responding officer notified Mount Kisco DPW, which made arrangements to cover the graffiti up.

Sept. 2: A resident reported at 10:03 a.m. that she has been receiving harassing texts and phone calls from a person known to her who lives in Connecticut. An officer assisted the woman in blocking the number the calls were coming from. The officer also contacted police in Connecticut to report the matter and request assistance as the investigation continues.

Croton-on-Hudson Police Department

Aug. 24: A Grand Street resident reported at 7:16 a.m. that a person wearing a hooded sweatshirt, hat and what looked like a track suit walked onto his property at 4:38 a.m. The caller stated that the person walked up to one of his vehicles with a small flashlight, tried the door handle of the vehicle, which was locked, looked into the window of the other vehicle in the driveway, but did not attempt to open the

door and then walked away.

Aug. 24: A caller from Maple Street reported at 9:26 a.m. that a person entered his unlocked vehicle and stole \$2,700. Patrol responded and an investigation is ongoing.

Aug. 24: A caller reported at 8:21 p.m. that there was a suspicious package outside The Black Cow on Old Post Road South. The package was described as a cardboard box with duct tape over the top. Patrol investigated and found that the package in question was discarded construction materials.

Aug. 26: A Mount Airy Road resident reported that an unknown person submitted a request at 3:10 p.m. to the U.S. Post Office to have her mail forwarded to an unknown address in Brooklyn.

Aug. 29: A civilian arrived at headquarters at 7:34 p.m. to report that someone used his credit card number to purchase two iPhones online to be delivered to an Apple store in Manhattan. The store notified him that the items were ready for pick-up, but he advised them that he did not make the purchases.

North Castle Police Department

Aug. 26: A caller reported at 12:29 p.m. seeing a Facebook post regarding a suspicious 2022 Honda Civic bearing New Jersey license plate C87PKZ involved in mail theft in town. The caller advised that he had just observed that same vehicle, possibly occupied by two males, on Limestone Road. The driver was described as a heavyset male wearing prescription glasses, and the passenger may have had a beard. The responding officers reported that Limestone Road, Hadley Road and the surrounding area checked clear. The vehicle in question had apparently fled the

area prior to their arrival.

Aug. 26: A High Street resident reported pry marks to the front door of his residence at 6:15 p.m. No entry was made into the residence. The caller reported he noticed the damage yesterday. Officers responded and stated that the damage may be several months old. Photos were secured; a report will follow.

Aug. 28: Report of a suspicious gray Nissan on High Street at 8:15 a.m. The caller asked the driver of the car what he is doing and the driver said he was out of gas. The vehicle then continued down the road and stopped on the wrong side of the street. A second caller reported the vehicle was parked in her driveway. The responding officer was advised and located the vehicle. The officer requested a tow for the car, which was disabled. An e-Justice check uncovered the driver's license had been suspended on Aug. 7 for failure to answer a summons in the Village of Mamaroneck. The vehicle was removed by Armonk Garage and the arrest was processed roadside.

Aug. 29: A complainant arrived at headquarters at 9:50 a.m. to report that her mail was stolen during the overnight on Aug. 26. A few days later, the complainant noticed that there was a check cashed in the amount of \$20,000 to an unknown party. A report taken as a matter of record.

Pleasantville Police Department

Aug. 31: A Vanderbilt Avenue resident reported at 4:30 p.m. that packages left outside their door were opened and the contents stolen.

Sept. 1: An Ashwood Avenue resident reported at 12:47 p.m. that he was a victim of wire fraud. The complainant stated he would report to headquarters to file a

report.

Sept. 1: A Saratoga Avenue resident reported at 8:04 p.m. that fraudulent accounts were opened in his name.

Sept. 2: A Hobby Street resident reported at 5:03 p.m. that his 2009 Honda Odyssey sustained damage.

Yorktown Police Department

Aug. 29: At 8:08 p.m., a 49-year-old Brooklyn woman was charged with criminal possession of stolen property and criminal possession of a controlled substance, both Class A misdemeanors, plus several traffic infractions, after being observed traveling on Route 6 in a vehicle with an inoperable head lamp, unlawfully tinted windows and an expired temporary New Jersey registration. A Michael Kohrs jacket valued at \$180 along with an antitheft device was observed in the back seat and a quantity of Oxycodone was also discovered.

Aug. 30: James Vastola, 29, of Pleasantville, was charged at 2:34 a.m. with third-degree criminal mischief, a Class E felony, for allegedly throwing a recycling bin at a woman's vehicle following an argument. He then allegedly kicked the vehicle, causing damage to the passenger side door. He was arrested after being located walking on Lexington Avenue.

Aug. 31: A 20-year-old Yorktown man was charged at 7:44 a.m. with driving while intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor, and numerous traffic violations following a rollover car accident on Route. 6.

Editor's note: The Examiner will print the names of suspects arrested if they are charged with a felony and based upon availability from the local police departments.

Staged Readings of AA Co-Founder's Writings Presented on Sept. 24

Nearly everyone's network is touched by alcoholism, and Stepping Stones, the historic home of Bill and Lois Wilson in Katonah, builds public understanding of alcoholism.

The story of Bill Wilson inspires recovery by preserving and sharing their home, listed as a National Historic Landmark, and archive of Wilson, the co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. Lois Wilson was the co-founder of Al-Anon Family Groups.

In celebration of National Recovery Month, Stepping Stones presents a staged reading of the play "Bill W. & Lois W.: Their Journey in Letters." The play only uses the diaries, letters and other writings of the Wilsons to tell their eventful, moving love story.

The ticketed presentations are on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the Walker Center for the Arts at The Harvey School, located at 260 Jay St. in Katonah.

"Bill W. & Lois W.: Their Journey in Letters" takes the audience through the eventful lives of the Wilsons – from falling in love and the start of Bill's 17-year descent into alcoholism through his recovery, co-founding of AA and writing the 12 Steps of Recovery. Acclaimed actors John Bedford Lloyd and Anne Twomey Lloyd will play the roles of older Bill and older Lois. Rising stars Eileen Hanley and Bradley Lewis play the younger Lois and younger Bill.



Bill and Lois Wilson, who were Katonah residents and the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon Family Groups, respectively, in Paris in 1950.

The play shines a light on the lives of the Wilsons, longtime New Yorkers who are relatively little-known but had a major, lasting impact in fostering worldwide 12-Step recovery programs. (AA was founded in 1935; Al-Anon in 1951) These programs continue to aid millions of people and families decades after Bill's passing in 1971 and Lois's death in 1988.

Tickets are \$10 to \$25 each and can be purchased by visiting <https://SSFPlay.eventbrite.com>.



STEPPING STONES PHOTO

A recent photo of Stepping Stones, historic home of Bill and Lois Wilson in Katonah.

About Stepping Stones

The Wilsons moved to their northern Westchester home in 1941 after two years without a home and later named it "Stepping Stones." Lois left the 8.17-acre homestead along with 110,000 objects and documents to the nonprofit she founded, The Stepping Stones Foundation.

The house museum and archive site are on the state and national registries of historic places, the New York Women's Heritage

Trail and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2012. The Stepping Stones Foundation offers tours, online presentations, off-site events, access to its archive (online and in person) and a play program.

For more information, e-mail info@steppingstones.org or visit www.steppingstones.org where "Homecoming – Stepping Stones," a video introduction to Stepping Stones, is available.

Pleasantville Farmers Market as Popular as Ever 25 Years Later

By Martin Wilbur

When Pleasantville decided to experiment with a farmers market on two Saturdays in the fall of 1998, it was mainly an attempt to breathe a bit of life into a struggling downtown at the time.

More than two decades later it would have been difficult to forecast the popularity that brings hundreds, if not a few thousand, local shoppers to Memoria Plaza each Saturday morning in what has become the largest and one of the longest-running year-round farmers markets in Westchester.

On Saturday, the village, volunteers, vendors and the public celebrated the 25th anniversary year of the Pleasantville Farmers Market, recognizing how the once fledgling operation has mushroomed to become a model for other communities.

"In the early years, the idea was to create some vitality downtown on a Saturday morning at a time when there wasn't much," Mayor Peter Scherer said. "That was achieved not just (because of) the market but lots of other things that happened over the last 25 years. But the market grew sort of organically based on the fact that a whole lot of folks, not just Pleasantville folks, but people from the whole region wanted to come and have access to this kind of food, produce, stuff straight from the producers."

As part of the celebration, which included a corn roast, Scherer and market operators honored Mead Orchards of Tivoli, N.Y. in northern Dutchess County as the lone vendor

that has continuously been at the market since its inception. Nearly four years ago, Chuck Mead sold the business to Scott Blasdell who has continued the tradition.

"We did well here. We always did well," Mead said of his loyalty to Pleasantville. "In the beginning it was kind of tough, but farmers markets, when they start, are always poor and you stick with them and some of them get good and some of them don't and this one did."

Blasdell said someone would "have to pry this market from my cold dead fingers" for his operation to stop showing up on Saturday mornings. He said the fact that local volunteers run the market, through the nonprofit organization Foodchester, makes a significant difference because those involved are vested in its mission.

"A distinguishing feature between here and other successful markets is that it's run by volunteers," he said. "The difference between that and a for-profit market is night and day."

Market Manager Steven Bates said the only other market that he knows that has operated for longer than Pleasantville's is in Ossining. What had been a spring through fall market for about the first 15 years, evolved into a year-round operation when the indoor winter market debuted nearly 10 years ago inside Pleasantville Middle School, he said.

Once the pandemic hit in March 2020, they could no longer stay at the school, so the decision was made to move outside year-round, although for shorter hours from December through March. During the past two years, online ordering from Tuesday



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

More than 60 vendors are affiliated with the Pleasantville Farmers Market on Memorial Plaza. The market is celebrating the market's 25th year this fall.

through Thursday was also introduced.

Today more than 60 vendors are affiliated with the Pleasantville Farmers Market, with anywhere from 35 to more than 40 of them at Memorial Plaza each week, Bates said. Some are there weekly; others are on a rotation with other similar vendors.

Music, children's activities and special programs are all part of the experience.

"There has to be community interest and there has to be food artisans and grower interest," Bates said of a successful market. "If the bond is there, you're just managing a happy relationship. That is a lot of work, but it really starts with the community and the farmers and

the food artisans."

Sharon AvRutick, vice chair of Foodchester, said the farmers market serves as a community meeting place for many in a relaxed atmosphere on a weekend morning.

"The sense of coming together in a space where people are happy, and food is generally is a great focus for gatherings and we sort of build on that, and then what happens is the shoppers get to know the people who grow their food and you know about their families and it just builds, relationship upon relationship," AvRutick said.

The Pleasantville Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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Columns

A Raccoon, Giant Minions and a Parade of Kids: The Magic of Small-Town Baseball

A towering raccoon mascot, a race of kids dressed as Minion characters and a Captain America shield toss in the outfield combined with the Hudson Valley Renegades' spirited game with the Hickory Crawdads at Dutchess Stadium on the last Sunday in August to make it a day of baseball magic.



By Michael Gold

It was Marvel

Superheroes Day at the home of the Renegades, the Yankees' High A minor league affiliate. The first thousand fans to walk in the gate were given a Black Panther bobblehead doll.

But the Renegades provided kids of all ages with thrills of their own on one of the fading days of an unbearably hot and humid summer. Eight of the nine Renegades got a hit in their 9-7 win over the Hickory (N.C.) Crawdads, affiliated with the Texas Rangers. Centerfielder Jasson Dominguez (nickname: The Martian) made a diving catch in the outfield in the top of the third to rob a Crawdad of a base hit.

The Crawdads, shaking off a 15-1 bombing at the hands of the Renegades the day before, had a 7-6 lead going into the bottom of

the seventh inning. But the Renegades, led by Kyle Battle, stomped ahead with three runs.

The great baseball writer Roger Kahn once wrote a book about the minor leagues and its players, titled "Good Enough to Dream." From a fan's perspective, the Renegades were more than good

enough to watch for the more than 3,300 people in attendance.

My wife, daughter and I met some friends from Connecticut, and we sat in the last row on the third-base line. The heat was a merciless beast, the late August sun relentlessly scorching the parched and wounded hills outside the stadium, with irritating patches of too many brown trees reminding us of the drought.

We happily left our sun-struck seats for the relative cool of a shaded row near the PA announcer's box. The public address system played all manner of music and sounds, from the "Addams Family" theme and "La Cucaracha" to The Ramones' "Hey, Hey, Let's Go" and

deeply felt wolf howls, to stir up the crowd to clap and shout for the home team.

In the bottom of the first, the Renegades seemed to continue their spree from the day before, scoring four runs, with a bases-loaded triple by Carlos Narvaez, then a sacrifice fly by Battle.

The Crawdads struck back. They scored four runs in the third inning, then a run each in the fourth and fifth. Hudson Valley snagged two runs in the bottom of the sixth, with three doubles. After Hickory took a one-run lead in the top of the seventh, In the bottom of the seventh, Battle's single to right scored two runs, which made the difference. The Crawdads had 12 hits, so there was plenty of action.

The sights and sounds of the game were extremely satisfying. We could hear an occasional smack of the ball from the Renegades' pitcher into

the catcher's glove, from hundreds of feet away. The Hudson Valley batters often drove the ball into the outfield with enviable power. Even the pop-

ups were picturesque, flying high up into the air like moonshots before falling back to Earth into a fielder's glove.

The other great part of the experience were the between-

inning contests and events, including pool noodle bucket tosses, an Army veteran being recognized and celebrated on the field, trivia contests and Rascal the Renegade raccoon, the team's mascot, dancing on the dugout roof with the stadium crew. I got to shake Rascal's hand, too, which shouldn't have thrilled me, but did, as if I were an eight-year-old.

After the game, Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York" played on the stadium's speaker. I sought out the PA announcer, Rob Adams, as what seemed like an endless parade of boys and girls walked out of the stands to run the bases, many with their moms and dads right next to them every step of the way. The kids joyfully sprinted around the field in the golden glow of late afternoon sunshine.

"I'm just glad to see the fans out here having a good time," he said.

The Renegades are shooting for the Southern Atlantic League playoffs, competing with teams with colorful names not usually found in the majors. We have IronBirds (Aberdeen, Md.), BlueClaws (Lakewood, N.J.), Blue Rocks (Wilmington, Del.), Cyclones (Brooklyn), Grasshoppers (Greensboro, N.C.), Hot Rods (Bowling Green, Ky.) and even a Dash (Winston-Salem, N.C.).

Football may be the most popular



MICHAEL GOLD PHOTO

Rascal the Raccoon, the Hudson Valley Renegades mascot, signs a baseball for a young fan. It is one of the many attractions that makes a minor league baseball game a great time.

sport in America today, but it can't match minor-league baseball in its ability to get the fans involved and build a sense of community. This is small-town America at its best.

Pleasantville resident Michael Gold has had articles published in the New York Daily News, the Albany Times Union, The Virginian-Pilot, The Palm Beach Post, other newspapers, and The Hardy Society Journal, a British literary journal. Miriam Gold provided research assistance for this article.

On the Street

Other Factors Rather Than State's Bail Reform Responsible for Crime Spike

By Kathleen M. Valletta

The recent opinion piece, "Suburbs Beware: NY's Bail Reforms Are Threatening Your Safety," (August 23-29) which was co-authored by Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater and former NYPD detective and Fox television regular Paul Giacomo, is just that, opinion, and is most certainly not based on facts.

Slater espouses the unsupportable premise, that the cause of New York's rising crime rate is the bail reform bill that was enacted in 2019.

Mr. Slater's opinion is, "from the moment the law took effect, crime skyrocketed."

Nationwide, evidence shows a rise in crime since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The recent rise in violence has been concentrated in areas characterized by poverty and racial segregation. New York's bail reform is simply a concurrent rather than a causal event for the rise in crime. This is made very clear by the fact that states without similar legislation are suffering increased crime rates, which are greater than those experienced in

New York. Ignoring that correlation and these facts, for the sake of sensational headlines, is the stuff of politics and I'm not playing that game.

New York State's Bail Reform Bill did not abolish bail. Judges still have the option to set bail for incidents which involve a violent felony. Bail reform did greatly reduce the role of money in determining whether an individual charged with a crime is released or not, pending trial. New York's law is based on the constitutional right to the presumption of innocence. Bail reform preserves this presumption and further reduces the risk that someone would be jailed because they could not afford to pay for their release pending trial. The role of money in determining whether one is released had, in effect, criminalized poverty.

Slater's opinion piece would push the conclusion that pretrial incarceration prevents recidivism and protects us from violent offenders. In this political narrative we presume the guilt of the non-violent defendant before trial and assume he or she, the non-violent alleged offender, will reoffend with a violent crime prior to trial on the first charges.

Setting aside my objection to Slater's penchant for accepting reinterpretation of our constitutional rights (as has happened with his taciturn acceptance of the Dobbs decision), the fact remains: Bail is not a deterrent to recidivism.

In reviewing the data obtained over the past two years since the implementation of

bail reform, New York State Unified Court System data shows that arrested people (who have been charged and held over for trial) reoffend at similar rates to those who are out on bail. Bail is not a factor in determining whether or not a criminal reoffends.

Although there is no evidence that bail reform has driven the increase in crime, we need to continue to monitor its effect. We need to look for other ways to address crime. Social distancing and disruptive lockdowns have severely hindered the reach of those institutions that help preserve neighborhood safety.

Expanded mental health treatment services could identify and help people in crisis, as could addiction and substance abuse treatment, interventions that provide safe places for young people and reduce opportunities for conflict. Supporting programs to expand affordable housing could reduce strain and improve quality of life, health and safety.

These initiatives are proven to address crime, and will receive continued support as a realistic humanitarian approach to crime during my tenure as a state legislator. My time will be spent working on solutions, rather than on headlines.

Kathleen M. Valletta, a Carmel resident and attorney, is the Democratic candidate in this year's election for the 94th Assembly District.

Renee Fogarty
Yorktown

Letter to the Editor

Additional Steps, Along With Bail Reform, Would Make for Safer Communities

A recent Examiner column called for rolling back New York's bail reform law. Dead wrong on this issue, these individuals are shamefully stoking public fear with the false claim that reform is a "threat to your safety."

Research shows that pretrial incarceration increases the likelihood of future arrests and undermines the health and safety of individuals, families and their communities. Our communities deserve true solutions to safety, including investments in violence prevention, affordable and permanent supportive housing and access to jobs and

economic opportunity. Jailing more New Yorkers without a trial is not a solution. We already know what unchecked judicial discretion looks like: the mass incarceration of New Yorkers of color.

The state legislature was informed by evidence when it created bail reform in 2019; now, it must go further to focus on real solutions for community safety and to reject calls from uninformed politicians who create unnecessary public alarm.

Obituaries

Anna Ferri

Anna Ferri passed away peacefully on Friday, Aug. 26, surrounded by loved ones at her home in Yorktown Heights. She was 91 years old.

Anna was born in Sora, Italy, to the late Antonio and Restituta. Shortly after World War II, Anna, her sister and mother immigrated to America to join her father, arriving through Ellis Island. Anna immersed herself in the American culture by taking English classes at night after working as a seamstress during the day.

On Oct. 18, 1953, Anna married Serafino "Sam" Ferri and was married for 66 years. They started their lives together in Queens. In 1969, they moved to Yorktown Heights where they raised their five children and remained there until both of their passings.

Anna is survived by her five children, Rose (Peter) Connolly and Denise (Sabino) Martinelli of Ossining, Stephen (Susanne) Ferri of Yorktown Heights and Angelo (Kathy) Ferri and Anthony (Adrienne) Ferri of Cortlandt Manor, as well as her 13 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and her sister, Maria Ljubicich, of Flushing. Anna was predeceased by her husband, Sam Ferri, and her grandson, Matthew Ferri.

Anna devoted her life to her growing family. She was an exceptional cook and the best memories were of her making pasta with her many loved ones. She would spend hours making gnocchi or ravioli on a Saturday morning and the reward for her was eating the final product at dinner with her large family. Not to be outdone by her cooking, Anna was an equally skilled baker. Anyone who came by could always count on cookies to come out of the cabinet to

enjoy.

Every August, Anna and her husband would make hundreds of jars of tomato sauce with the help of their children and grandchildren. It was always during the hottest days in August, which led to everyone complaining about the heat and having boiling sauce splash on them. It was those memories that will be forever cherished by all who experienced them.

Anna's face would always light up when her great-grandchildren came over to see "Nonna." She loved watching her family grow. The words of wisdom from Anna were to have an endless amount of love for family and to let little things go. Anna will be dearly missed but her memory will live on through her family and with the passing down of stories and recipes.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Patrick's Church or Northwell Health Hospice Care in Westchester and Putnam.



Anna Ferri

Ellen Mancini

Ellen Marie Mancini (née Winter), 88, born on Dec. 30, 1933 in Hackensack, N.J. to Edith (Stroomke) and Horace Winter, died on Aug. 24.

Ellen was an only child but was born into a large, loving family and grew up surrounded by aunts and uncles Rudy and Frieda, Mildred and Clifford, John and Helen and Elsie and William; grandparents Marie and John; great uncle Walter; and cousins Rudy and Ralph, Dennis and

Karen, Johnny and Bobby and Bette Ann (on her mother's side), and on her father's side, uncles Francis, Wilfred and Leslie. Ellen's extended family was always very important to her, and she remained great friends with her cousins long after moving from New Jersey.

After graduating from high school, Ellen went to New Hampshire to train as a nurse at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital School of Nursing. She graduated in 1955,

and while there met many lifelong friends including Joan Spahr, Jay Magoon and Eunice Porvaznik.

After graduation, Ellen and her friends went on an adventure across America to California, working as nurses in Palo Alto and seeing the country. Afterwards, Ellen moved to Boston and then New York, where she worked at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital.

While living in New York, a group of Ellen's nurse friends got together for a picnic with a group of architecture students who were studying at night at Columbia. She met Anthony (Tony) Mancini and they were married in 1961. Ellen and Tony lived in Jackson Heights, Queens, where as always, Ellen made wonderful friends. But with a growing family and following Tony's dream to design his own house, they moved to Armonk in 1969. They lived in Armonk until 1993, raising their children Bart, JoAnne and Anthony Jr. (TJ) there. During this time Ellen was involved in community and civic organizations, including the League of Women Voters, and spent many happy years working as an obstetrical nurse at Phelps Memorial Hospital. As always, Ellen continued to expand her lively social circle, again forming lasting friendships in Armonk and at Phelps.

In 1969, Ellen and Tony also went for the first time to Eastham on Cape Cod. They loved spending their summer vacations

there, and in 1972, began building their own place in Eastham, which gave Ellen the opportunity to make even more friends on "the Loop" during many happy summers.

In 1993, Ellen and Tony moved to Eastham year-round, and Edith moved in with them for several happy years before she passed away. At this time, Ellen also had the chance to fulfil her own lifelong dream of world travel, and in the next decades she and Tony visited destinations on all the continents except Antarctica.

Although Ellen enjoyed living on the Cape, Tony found the winters very long and snowy, so in 2003 they moved to Port St. Lucie, Fla. Once again, she made many new friends, who were especially caring to her after Tony passed away in 2014. Ellen continued to spend winters in Florida and summers in Massachusetts until 2020, when she returned to Westchester.

Ellen was predeceased by Tony and by a beloved baby son who passed away in infancy.

She is survived by children Bart, JoAnne and TJ and their spouses, Debra, Graham and Alicia; and by cherished grandchildren Brianna, Gabrielle, Ryan and Aidan, Victor and Noel and Henry, Edith and Robert.

Ellen will be buried with Tony in the Massachusetts National Cemetery on Cape Cod. There will be a celebration with family and friends at the beach house in the summer of 2023.





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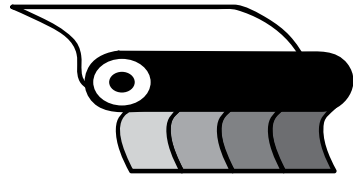
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Mt. Kisco Playwright Spreads Joy of Creating Plays Through Workshops

By Martin Wilbur

Serena Norr understands as well as anyone the impact of being able to create your own stories.

The Mount Kisco playwright and director has had works performed at a variety of theaters across the country, including locally at the White Plains Performing Arts Center and the Westchester Collaborative Theater in Ossining.

But it is also Norr's mission to have others express themselves in their own voice as well.

Early next Monday evening, Norr launches her first-ever six-week playwriting class for adults in partnership with the Mount Kisco Arts Council. Participants will learn how to develop characters, write dialogue and establish a setting as the foundation to help them write their own play.

"I think for people who are exploring playwriting, it's really a great way to connect with yourself and your story and your ideas, but also with other people and to really understand the human experience, how other people talk and through other people's stories," Norr said of the program's benefits. "It's just a great way to understand yourself (and) other people."

That afternoon, Norr will also begin



Serena Norr is leading playwriting workshops for children and adults in Mount Kisco and Chappaqua this fall.

a nine-week playwriting workshop for students in grades 7-12 at the Tea House in Leonard Park where she partners with Women Unite. She also will be leading a nine-week workshop for children in grades 3-5 at the Collective by Jabfit at 10 S. Greeley Ave. in Chappaqua.

By the end of the sessions, workshop

members will have their work performed as part of a fully-staged production done by actors or each other for the final session.

"It's so beautiful to see everyone come together," said Norr. "Everyone has so many different ideas, which is so cool. We're really learning about each other, their styles, about what they care about and just helping them get there."

Although Norr described herself as someone who has long been interested in writing dialogue and had a strong imagination, she thought that maybe she would pursue acting while studying English and theater at Hunter College. However, she fell in love with plays and developing dialogue.

It opened Norr to a different style of writing, one that she has thoroughly enjoyed.

"I love telling stories through other characters and having a way for them to speak," she said. "So as all of these characters are coming out of you and it's all one process, but you're shaping so many different ideas through all these different characters, and I love that."

The idea for creating playwriting workshops was devised out of the COVID-19 shutdown. Norr was connecting with people virtually while also trying to produce shows virtually. Last fall, she began offering workshops for kids.

While the classes for the different age groups cover similar ground, she tailors the workshops so they are appropriate for each. For example, typically adults who participate have a deeper thinking mindset than their younger counterparts, Norr said.

Over the summer, she also held a one-week playwriting camp for children at the Beacon Performing Arts Center, so Norr stays busy.

For anyone who wants to try the classes, there is no theater background required.

"We really go slow and go through all the things, so not to be intimidated by that because everyone is pretty much at the same level, even if you took theater years and years ago," Norr said.

For the Monday evening adult class, there were still several openings as of late last week. The sessions convene from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Mount Kisco Arts Council space at 175 Main St. in Mount Kisco. The six-week class costs \$125. Those interested in signing up can visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/monday-playwriting-lab-tickets-3930871733>.

The teen class runs from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Mondays for nine weeks and costs \$300. Registration can be completed at www.wmnunite.org/upcomingevents.

For more information about future programs, visit www.letsmakeaplay.com.

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It's Almost Time to Welcome Fall Chores in the Garden

While I no longer garden, thanks to the fantastic outdoor crew where I live, I reminisce each fall about my many autumns on a large property, preparing for winter weather.

For me, autumn in the garden was the most gratifying time of year as deciduous trees and perennials start to yawn, preparing for a long winter's sleep, accompanied by that sweet smell that comes from plants releasing their chemistry and the crisp, clean sound of decaying leaves falling to the ground.

It forecasts the fleeting months of shorter days, much like when the children are asleep. The only outdoor chore that remains is clearing walkways of snow and ice.

While spring is probably everybody's favorite time in the garden, helping its rebirth after being pummeled by winter, the fall signifies the finiteness of garden chores. When a weed is pulled, it stays pulled and doesn't replace itself with double the aggression. When perennials are deadheaded, the gardener can take a furlough from assuring that they are properly fed and watered, but will welcome them back in spring after they both have rested.

The proportions of any garden change as the perennial and annual growth are whacked back, which makes the vistas more open from one bed to the other. Also, it eliminates many of the planning mistakes



By Bill Primavera

from one season to the next, as errant plans are abandoned and bulbs and perennial roots are moved to other locations.

More creative joy comes from choosing which mums to feature as the color transitions from fall to winter. While you will see drifts of mum plants on some properties that have every color in the fall palate, I always liked to stick to one color, or at the most two.

For the longest display of mum flowers, it's best to buy those where most of the plant is still buds. When the mums fade, just leave them where they are; they maintain a nice mound throughout the winter, and you can cut them back in the early spring. If you're lucky, they may return, but sometimes they don't, depending on winter conditions.

My most gratifying fall job, as well as a good aerobic/resistance training exercise, has always been building up the mulch beds to make them look well-tended, as well as to keep the perennial roots from heaving. I always asked my tree service provider to send me a truckload of wood chips if they are very clean (no leaves) and processed into smaller chips. Truly, it's as good as expensive mulch. In fact, I like it better because it offers more texture and somehow looks more natural to me.

Here are other garden tips at this time of year:



- Harvest any vegetables left on plants. It's important to pull out all of the crops because debris left over the winter can cause diseases to enter the soil and reappear the next spring.
- This is the time when you can add horse manure or compost to the soil, because that allows plenty of time for them to break down.
- For those who like to bring houseplants inside, they should all be gathered into a shady area for a few days to get them used to low light levels. Make certain that they are clean and free from little critters.
- Perennials that are overcrowded or growing in a large ring with the center portion missing means that it's time to subdivide. You'll become popular with your neighbors if you share the excess. (As an adolescent gardener, I thrilled to the time when a generous neighbor would subdivide her iris and share the excess with me). Cut back the remaining perennials to three to six inches.
- Prepare for brilliant displays of daffodils,

tulips and crocuses in spring by planting bulbs now. Do not plant them in tidy rows but rather "broadcast" them in drifts on the surface and plant them where they land for a more natural look.

- For those who have the patience to endure the rigors of rose maintenance, it is time to prune dead branches and cut off any old flowers. Rose bushes should be mounded using topsoil or mulch and the canes should be cut back to six to 12 inches. For even better protection, the bush can be covered with a bushel basket.
- Also, this is the best time to transplant shrubs or young trees to new locations.

I don't advise readers here about preparing lawns in the fall for next spring because I must confess that for years I didn't aerate and thatch the soil, and I didn't fertilize. Because my former single-home property was first cultivated in the early 18th century, I felt that I got a free pass to a very naturalized lawn accepting both crab grass and dandelions with grace.

But then, I engaged a wonderful lawn care service that took care of all those great chores that I say I was too busy to do. I do hope that it wasn't because I was too lazy.

Bill Primavera is a realtor associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

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Westchester Mom, Daughter Prep for 'Walk to End Alzheimer's'

By Adam Stone

Growing up in a poor Italian family in the Bronx, Caroline LoCascio and her mom, dad and eight siblings embraced FDR's famous quote as something of a family motto to deliver strength: "We have nothing to fear but fear itself," they would say.

A lifetime later, in the early 2000s, after raising a family in Westchester, and following a successful career in fashion, including her own Larchmont boutique, LoCascio began slipping into the dread of Alzheimer's.

Daughter Lisa LoCascio began to see the signals. The bedrock of her family – the matriarch – began showing signs. Confusion with the checkbook, getting into pickles, hiding mistakes.

It crystalized into stark focus for Lisa when Caroline forgot that her beloved older sister Anna had passed away, about a month after she died.

Initially Caroline resisted Lisa's intervention. But secretly, she got herself checked and her fears were confirmed: a clinical diagnosis of progressive dementia.

"Heartbroken," Lisa recalled, "I embraced her and gently said, 'As long as we have each other...right mommy?'"

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself," her mother replied.

In that moment, she remembered.

The mother-and-daughter team (both Pelham residents) plan to participate in the Walk to End Alzheimer's on Sunday, Oct. 2.

Caroline will be clutching a blue flower in honor of people living with dementia during the event's opening ceremony at Westchester Community College in Valhalla. The Alzheimer's Association ceremony features four flower holders, with each flower's color representing a different relationship to the disease.

It's especially important to Lisa to spread awareness about the walk to propel local action in the battle against the disease. In a writeup of her own that Lisa prepared to tell her mom's story, she quotes Caroline as saying: "As long as we continue to help the Alzheimer's Association support new research, the future looks bright."

Despite the optimistic note, it's impossible to sugarcoat the current reality of the disease's impact.

"Nobody plans for this," Lisa remarked in a phone interview Saturday morning.

One deeply important message Lisa wants to ensure people understand is how Alzheimer's isn't just a disease impacting the elderly.

One of the greatest benefits Lisa received from the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter was the sense of community she was provided, especially in the early days of the pandemic.

Zoom sessions with other caretakers offered a window inside the lives of other local residents navigating similar terrain. Lisa met a young woman, in her 20s, who takes care of her father, a middle-aged man who could be enjoying his prime if not for the cruelty of Alzheimer's.

"I never once felt overwhelmed during the pandemic," Lisa recalled, crediting the

association's Zoom sessions.

When Lisa and her brother were teenagers, they saw their mom go from housewife to businesswoman in 1976.

Along with her best friend and sister-in-law, Joyce LoCascio, Caroline opened a boutique in Larchmont aptly named Sweet Caroline's.

Of course, observing her "mompreneur" mother endure the impact of Alzheimer's has been exceedingly difficult for Lisa. But people who meet Caroline for the first time often don't know she has the disease.

When speaking by phone to the 91-year-

old Caroline, she evokes warmth and intelligence to an interview on the other end.

"I couldn't possibly tell you all she does for me," Caroline said, also noting the "quality of her love," referring to Lisa.

"She's my right hand and left foot," Caroline concluded wistfully.

To register for the walk and get more details, visit www.WestchesterWalk.org.

Pelham's Lisa LoCascio is a caretaker for her mother Caroline. The pair will be participating in the Alzheimer Association's Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's on Oct. 2 in Valhalla.



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Back to School



Is It Time to Break Up With Your Internet Service Provider?

Surprise fees, contracts, price hikes. It's no wonder that broadband customers are the least satisfied customers in America, according to the American Consumer Satisfaction Index.

But having reliable and affordable internet access is no longer a luxury. Today, home internet is essential for everyday activities, like connecting us to our classrooms, workplaces, healthcare providers, loved ones and so much more.

Here's what to know about the biggest pain points broadband customers experience, and a few tips for avoiding them.

Switching

According to industry leaders working to disrupt broadband, switching internet providers is often easier said than done.

"Broadband customers are stuck and switching almost never happens. Internet providers rank dead last in customer satisfaction out of all industries year after year and people want to switch," said Mike Sievert, CEO of T-Mobile. "Internet providers make switching such a nightmare. You have to wait for your installation window, sometime between now and next February, drill holes in your walls, then spend the next week resetting all your connected devices. All that before you even know if it is going to work for you."

New services that offer a trial period without locking you into a long-term contract, as well as help cover the cost of terminating your current contract, can make



things easier, Sievert said.

Pricing

Internet providers are notorious for luring customers in with low promotional prices, then jacking them up after the first or second year. On average, providers raise prices more than 30 percent after the promotional period ends. And that's before all the fees – fees for activation, equipment, installation, even self-installation.

In 2020 alone, internet providers charged customers more than \$9 billion just in monthly fees. At a time when prices for everything are going up, locking in your price for internet access can help you plan your long-term budget. Look for a modern

contract that locks you in at an affordable price, and then read the fine print to ensure there are no hidden taxes or fees – or future price hikes planned.

Cable

Millions of Americans are still stuck in a costly cable TV and internet bundle, where the price for one service skyrockets as soon as you drop the other. Companies like T-Mobile are helping customers cut the cord. With T-Mobile's Internet Freedom, you can get great streaming deals, like \$50 off any streaming device with Home Internet and any T-Mobile voice line, and 50 percent off YouTube TV for 12 months with Home Internet and Magenta MAX.

YouTube TV is a good alternative to cable TV at a fraction of the cost. Plus, T-Mobile customers can get Netflix, Paramount+ and other streaming deals when they sign up. Internet Freedom will also cover any early termination fees up to \$500.

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The frustration doesn't stop with residential internet customers. Most business owners know how messy, complex and costly staying connected can be. Many internet providers slap additional fees onto contracts just to label it "business internet."

Even worse, businesses with multiple locations are forced to navigate a patchwork of providers, all with different contracts, prices, policies, equipment, service level agreements and customer care teams. With Internet Freedom from T-Mobile, businesses can get high-speed internet at affordable rates, with features like static IP addresses and content filtering, so businesses can be sure their connection is used only for business purposes.

To learn more about Internet Freedom from T-Mobile or to see if broadband service is available at your address, visit www.t-mobile.com/isp.

If you're unsatisfied with your current internet provider, there's no need to feel stuck. New services can help make the switch affordable and stress-free.

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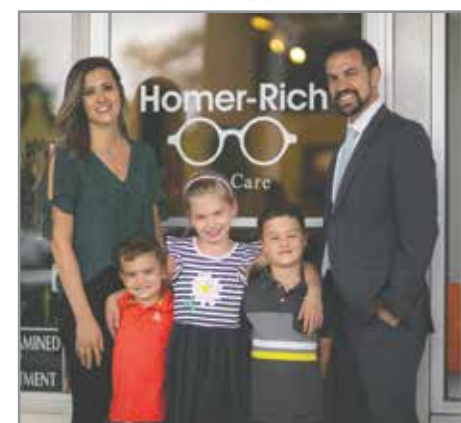
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Back to School



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Experts warn that these products also pose safety risks and should be kept away and out of sight and reach of young children.

"We've seen this play out recently with melatonin supplements," said Mary Leonard, managing director, Consumer Healthcare Product Association (CHPA) Educational Foundation. "Recent data show that between 2012 and 2021, the annual number of pediatric ingestions of melatonin increased more than 500 percent, with approximately 220,000 ingestions by young children reported to U.S. poison centers. Pediatric hospitalizations and more serious outcomes also increased, largely due to an increase in unintentional melatonin ingestions. Much like medication, you take vitamins and supplements to feel your best, but they can be dangerous if left out and within reach of children in the home."

To keep kids safe, the CHPA Educational Foundation in collaboration with the Up and Away campaign of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-led PROTECT Initiative, is reminding families that safe medicine storage also includes vitamins and other supplements.

To prevent accidental ingestions, keep all medicines, vitamins and other supplements – including those in gummy form – up and away and out of sight and reach of young children.

The following tips can help:

- Keep medicines, vitamins and other supplements (including those carried in purses, bags, pockets or pill organizers) in a safe location that is too high for young children to reach or see.
- Never leave medicines or vitamins out on a counter, table or at a sick child's bedside.
- At home or away, keep medicines in child-resistant containers until right before you take them.
- Always relock the safety cap on bottles.

If it has a locking cap that turns, twist it until you can't twist anymore or until you hear the "click."

- Teach children what medicine and vitamins are and why you or another caregiver must be the one to give it to them.
- Never tell children that medicine or vitamins are candy so they'll take it, even if your child doesn't like to take their medicine.
- Remind babysitters, houseguests and visitors that purses, bags or jackets that have medicines or vitamins in them should be kept up and away and

out of sight when they're in your home.

- Keep the Poison Help number in all of your phones: 800-222-1222 or text "POISON" TO 797979 to automatically save it.

For additional tips, safety information, and resources to spread these messages visit upandaway.org.

"Children are curious by nature, always getting their little hands into something they shouldn't. We can't stop their inquiring minds, but we can keep them safe by keeping medicines, vitamins, and supplements out of their sight and reach," Leonard said.



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The Zoom Revolution: Virtual Legal and Medical Communications

In terms of originality and staying power, the opening of "The Brady Bunch" stands alone. Headshots of six kids, two spouses and Alice share the screen simultaneously in a tic-tac-toe grid of filmed images. All the characters' facial expressions and movements are captured as they appear to look around at the other cast members.

More than 50 years later, thanks to the Zoom revolution, virtual client meetings have the look of a classic TV show title sequence but have the ability to connect families to professionals so that time and distance are no longer impediments to achieving results.

Virtual meetings give families access to professionals who are geographically distant and time constrained. If a parent is ill in New York and the adult children live in different states, setting up an in-person meeting to discuss long-term care issues with an attorney or medical results with a physician would be extraordinarily difficult.

Contrast that with a Zoom or Teams meeting hosted by a professional sitting at their desk meeting virtually with family members in California, Florida and Arizona. Virtual meetings offer seamless integration of document and computer sharing along with breakout rooms for larger group events. Phone conferences are less than ideal because without visual cues, a cacophony of voices can be distracting.

While other businesses and institutions have incorporated document technology to allow virtual contract signing, law still insists on pen and paper signatures. One work-around that New York law has authorized is the allowance for witnesses and notaries to watch a document execution through video meeting technology and complete their parts of the execution process. For disabled individuals and bed-bound seniors, one family member or health aide with an iPhone can bridge the logistics gap and set up a document execution.

Telehealth and the variety of virtual healthcare portals and platforms are vitally important to patients and families seeking the best specialists. Law may be controlled by your state residence and the attorneys licensed to practice in that state, but in medicine crossing state lines to receive care from the right practitioner is not unusual. Maintaining a productive physician-patient relationship requires coordination with virtual meetings if regular visits cannot be conducted easily.

The Zoom revolution is also an organizational revolution. Professionals utilize virtual meeting technology and online portals to set-up appointments with reminders, add events to a calendar and join a variety of individuals together. If all parties are using smartphones or computers, then the meetings can be conducted on time, with greater shared intelligence and information and less wasted time.



By Alan D. Feller, Esq.

Time is really at the center of the Zoom revolution. Physically gathering everyone together involves driving, traffic and complex scheduling. One delay on the highway can end a meeting before it begins. With virtual meetings, one smartphone and a couple of clicks can get the ball rolling.

For those families with loved ones experiencing a crisis, lost time can be heartbreaking. Virtual meetings allow legal and medical professionals to create a foundation for simple, clear communication, no unnecessary travel and convenience.

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Alan D. Feller, Esq. is managing partner of Sloan & Feller Attorneys at Law, located at 625 Route 6 in Mahopac. He can be reached at alandfeller@sloanandfeller.com.

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

REVERSE MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, INC.,

V.

JOHANNA PURVIS, ET AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 21, 2019, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester, wherein REVERSE MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, INC. is the Plaintiff and JOHANNA PURVIS, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in the LOBBY OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 111 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD., WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601, on October 4, 2022 at 9:30AM, premises known as 89 CHAUNCEY AVENUE, NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801: Section 5, Block 1442, Lot 13:

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The Science and the Art of Pairing Wine and Chocolate



By Nick Antonaccio

In a previous column, I focused on the similarities in the life cycles of wine and chocolate, from raw ingredients to finished product. In the growing, harvesting and production of wine, I compared each step to similar steps in

the making of chocolate. The similarities run deep and broad.

In another column, I alluded to the pairing of each product as a synergistic relationship that brought pleasure to my palate and my senses. In pairing wine and chocolate, a third level of appreciation is achieved. Beyond the sensory experience of wine enjoyment, beyond the ethereal pleasure of enjoying chocolate, comes the third sensation, one that builds on the combination of consuming wine and chocolate together, creating a higher level of sensory and ethereal pleasure.

Reactions from readers on pairing wine and chocolate ran the full gamut. "Wine and chocolate?" "Wine and chocolate!" "Wine and chocolate!!!?"

This brought me to the inspiration for this week's column: the why and how of pairing these comparable foods.

As with any wine pairing, the goal is to enhance the characteristics of a particular wine and a particular food. Fine chocolate

'So, which wines with which chocolates?'

has a high cacao butter fat content, coating the tongue and otherwise muting any food that comes after. The overall goal is to find compatibility between a wine and chocolate that raises the experience to a new level of enjoyment.

Certain wines have a relatively high acidity that can cut through the coating on the tongue, setting up one's palate to enjoy fully the next bite of chocolate. More fruit-forward wines cannot accomplish this; the conflict between the astringency of the wine and the bitterness of the chocolate ruins these pairings. Likewise, sweeter chocolates tend to be overwhelmed by sweet wines; high tannic dark chocolates are invariably incompatible with high tannic wines.

So, which wines with which chocolates? A logical inference might be a wine having characteristics of sweetness and acidity, and a chocolate that is dark and semisweet.

The wines: In my opinion, Port reigns supreme in pairing with chocolate. Older, heavier style Ports tend to be too cloying when paired with dark chocolate. Lighter styles, such as tawny and ruby, are excellent.

Their livelier style brings out the best in dark chocolate's creaminess and pungency.

The chocolates: There are so many fine chocolates on the market today. Seek out medium to small producers who focus on a (bitter) sweet spot of 60 to 70 percent chocolate. Lesser levels of chocolate make for a too-sweet confection; higher levels for a mouth-puckering, lingering bitterness.

Not into Port? My next favorite is Zinfandel. Many producers craft Zins that are bold with a touch of sweetness, acidic but well-balanced. Bella Vineyards in Sonoma County and many of the California Ridge Zinfandel blends pair well with fine dark chocolate. I've also enjoyed several dessert wine pairings such as Vin Santo.

When in doubt in my pairing decisions, when I'm in a quandary over selecting a wine to pair with chocolate or many other foods, my go-to wine is sparkling wine made in the Méthode Champenois style. The acidity and bubbles cut through the oiliness,

creaminess or heat of most foods, setting up one's palate to enjoy each bite.

If you prefer the sensual experience of wine and chocolate pairing without the effort of selecting examples of each, try Amarone wine from the Valpolicella region of Italy. Its terroir and winemaking processing frequently produce a robust wine with aromas and flavors of chocolate in every sniff



and sip.

Whether you enjoy pairing your favorite chocolate with a particular wine or your favorite wine with a particular chocolate, be mindful of the sensory dichotomies present. Strive to seek a combination that results in a higher level of enjoyment. Just as in life, diversity and compatibility result in the best relationships.

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.

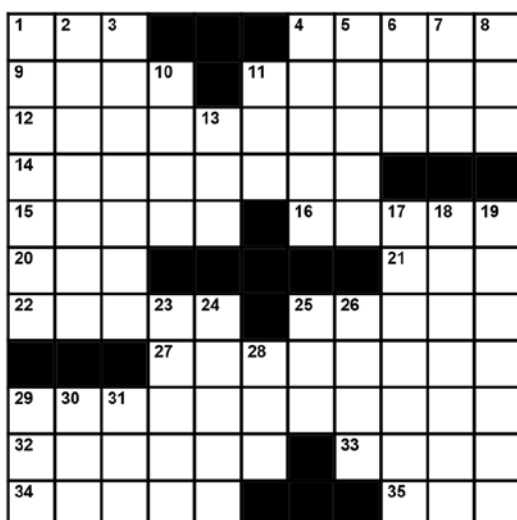
Crossword

Across

1. Golf tour
4. City on the Arkansas River
9. Goofs
11. Jazz's George _____
12. Research of plants and animals
14. Yorktown electrical contractor, _____
15. Laid inside
16. Bugle
20. Check for accuracy
21. Father's Day gift
22. Vote in _____
25. Daytime operas
27. Public performers
29. Gallardo is one
32. Viva voce
33. "Indeed!"
34. Strengthen
35. Pitching stat or Westchester realtor, _____

Down

1. Dreamy
2. Anchor
3. Professional entertainer
4. Electrical wizard Nikola
5. Up to
6. Southern campus on the Mississippi R.
7. Turf
8. At all



10. Positive
11. _____ canto
13. Like many a general, abbr.
17. One _____ (singly)
18. Maturing agent
19. Sicilian seaport
23. Monthly bill
24. "Lord of the Rings" bad guy
25. John Hancock, abbr.
26. Government safety org.
28. Stab
29. Gatos or Angeles
30. Craftsmanship
31. Daisy _____ of "Li'l Abner"

Answers on page 30

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ovulation

- Benefits male infertility
- What Hinders Fertility?**

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Hormonal Imbalances. Acupuncture

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By Andrea Gurciullo

supplementation.

By remedying the underlying imbalances and increasing blood flow, acupuncture may improve sperm count, motility and morphology after only a few months.

Andrea Gurciullo is a licensed acupuncturist in New York and New Jersey and is a master of traditional Oriental medicine who studied acupuncture and

traditional medicine at the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine in San Diego, where she was also an associate professor. She treats patients in ProClinix's Armonk, Pleasantville and Larchmont locations. For questions about this article or the injuries or conditions she provides care for, contact her at 914-919-2888 or at agurciullo@proclinix.com.

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Filmmakers Explore Today's Emotions Behind the American Flag

This is a reprint of an article that appeared in the May 17-23 issue with minor revisions. The screening and panel discussion for "Flagged" was abruptly postponed in May because of a spike in COVID-19 cases but has been rescheduled for this Thursday evening.

By Martin Wilbur

In the days and weeks following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Andrea Garbarini received American flags from all over the United States from both children and adults.

Some were hand-stitched, others were drawn while some appeared on shirts or other objects.

It meant a lot to Garbarini to receive the unsolicited gifts because her husband, Charles, was one of the 343 New York City firefighters killed that day.

"I looked at those flags and I hung some of them up on my walls, and I looked at them, and to me it represented a collective hug and a unity with this country," Garbarini said. "And I look at it fondly."

But over the past five or six years, Garbarini said she started feeling the flag was being used differently. Like so much else in the country, it was being politicized, particularly by the supporters of former President Donald Trump administration. Others have concluded the flag was being co-opted or no longer or never did represent them.

In 2019, Garbarini decided to make a documentary about Americans' views about the stars and stripes, whether they believe the country is polarized and what can be done to pull it back together.

That film, "Flagged," which earlier this year won Best Short Documentary at

the Piermont Film Festival in Rockland County, will be the next screening for Films on Purpose this Thursday evening, a Pleasantville-based organization that periodically shows movies with social justice themes followed by a panel discussion.

Garbarini teamed with fellow Pleasantville resident Shane McGaffey, Pleasantville Community Television's station manager, to produce the 38-minute film. They not only interviewed people locally, but they traveled the countryside, particularly in the South where in some communities displaying the flag on your property is expected.

They spoke to people of color, Native Americans, political consultants, attended Trump rallies and ended up in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 6, 2021, when in some instances the flag was literally being used as a weapon.

McGaffey said he was especially struck by a story a woman told when putting her house on the market. The real estate agent suggested she remove her flag because she risked polarizing what could be a significant percentage of prospective buyers.

"We've come to a place now where our flag, in my mind, is supposed to represent everybody but people no longer have that feeling," he said. "How did we get there?"

"Flagged" is Garbarini's third film. In 2011, she collaborated with three other 9/11 widows for a film for the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11. In 2018, her second film followed several busloads of grandmothers from New York to McAllen, Texas who protested the policy of separating migrant children from their parents at the border.

In a country where there is no longer



"Flagged" filmmakers Andrea Garbarini and Shane McGaffey, who will present a screening this week of the 38-minute film in Pleasantville.

agreement on a basic set of facts in many instances, Garbarini said the question may be whether Americans can stop and listen to people who they don't agree with and find common ground.

"You can agree or disagree with the people who you talk to on a daily basis. One thing is for sure, that we actually, I think, really do want the same things when it comes down to it," Garbarini said. "Basically, we want

our kids to be safe, we want good schools for our children, people should have food on their table and a roof over their head and a job that's secure and a living wage. I think everybody really believes in that."

The evening begins this Thursday, Sept. 8 with a reception at 6:30 p.m. on the porch of the Marmaduke Forster House, located at 415 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville. The screening will be at 7:30 p.m. across the street at the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church. The church is located at 400 Bedford Rd.

The free screening will be followed by a panel discussion on the subject. Proof of vaccination is required to enter the church and masks are recommended.

Nominations Still Sought for 40th Annual Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

Nominations will remain open for the 40th annual Westchester County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame inductions.

Celebrate a senior who makes a positive difference in the county through their contributions by nominating them to be part of this year's Hall of Fame class.

"We look forward to this yearly tradition, as we have for the past four decades, to honor those who have given of their time and energy to improve the quality of life for our seniors throughout Westchester," said County Executive George Latimer. "Our senior community deserves special recognition, so if you know someone who has truly gone above and beyond, please nominate them for this special awards ceremony."

- To be nominated, a person must:
- Be at least 60 years old and live in Westchester, and cannot be a past Hall of Fame inductee (past honorees can be found at <https://seniorcitizens.westchestergov.com>);
 - Have made significant contributions to improving life in Westchester;

- Be an outstanding leader or advocate;
- Have professional achievements that reflect innovative solutions to fulfill unmet community needs (if based on the nominees' paid professional work).

"Our Senior Hall of Fame is an important tradition as we recognize those who have helped shape the quality of life in Westchester through their significant contributions," said Mae Carpenter, commissioner of the Department of Senior Programs and Services. "The Senior Hall of Fame is one of the highlights of our year, and we look forward to celebrating our older generation."

Nominations are due by this Friday, Sept. 9, and will be reviewed by a judging committee. A nomination should be submitted for each person, with organizations and individuals to be allowed one nomination only.

To complete a nomination form for a senior, visit www.bit.ly/WPPPHOF2022. For questions about the nomination process, contact Amanda Seebeck

at 914-218-3968 or e-mail Info@EventsRemember.com.

This year's Senior Citizens Hall of Fame will be held virtually on Friday, Dec. 2 at 11:30 a.m., and will be streamed from the Westchester Public Private Partnership website at www.westchesterpartnership.org. The event will include a slide show of this year's selected honorees.

The Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services (DSPS), Westchester County Parks and the Westchester Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services will be hosting the celebration; sponsorships and congratulatory journal ad opportunities are available for purchase. For more details or to make a purchase, visit www.westchesterpartnership.org.

For additional information about this year's Senior Hall of Fame, call 914-813-6300 or visit www.westchestergov.com/seniors.

This is a press release provided by Westchester County. It has been lightly edited and is being published by Examiner Media as a public service.

Crossword Answers

1	P	2	G	3	A	4	T	5	U	6	L	7	S	8	A
9	E	R	R	10	S	11	B	E	N	S	O	N			
12	N	A	T	13	U	R	E	S	T	U	D	Y			
14	S	P	I	R	E	L	L	I							
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**SMALL NEWS
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Examiner Sports

Sledge Klammer!



Carmel Senior Scores Twice, Puts Hammer Down on White Plains in 4-1 Ram Win

Carmel senior M Kyle Klammer (9) celebrates one of his two goals with teammate Cole Kasbarian (14) as White Plains captain Andrew Fajardo (6) looks on befuddled in the Class AA Rams' 4-1 win over the visiting Tigers (1-1) last Friday. A weary Carmel club (2-1) could not sustain that momentum in Saturday's 3-0 loss to undefeated Class A Yorktown (2-0), who caught the Rams on back-to-back days with less than 18 hours rest.. see Boys' Soccer Notebook

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Sports

Football Notebook

focus on **Fox Lane/Byram Hills Football**



Byram Hills senior RB Gavin Javorsky, who scored a TD, races toward the left sideline in 21-16 Bobcat win over host Fox Lane Friday.



Byram Hills QB Jon Accurso fired one score and rushed for another in Bobcats' 21-16 win over host Fox Lane Friday.



Sean Siegel of Byram Hills, who caught a TD pass from Jon Accurso, gets block for extra yards as he carries in the first half of Friday's 21-16 Bobcat win over host Fox Lane.



Dario Amicucci of Byram Hills breaks off big gain in Bobcats' 21-16 win over host Fox Lane Friday.



Fox Lane quarterback Max Travis throws on the run to Charlie Hoyt as Byram Hills' Colin McManus applies defensive pressure during Friday night's season-opening game.



Fox Lane sophomore running back Declan Connors picks up big yardage in Friday night's 21-16 home loss to Byram Hills.



Kevin Navarro of Fox Lane carries the ball near midfield while Byram Hills' Sean Siegel tries to chase him down in the second half of the Bobcats' 21-16 season-opening win.



To read our article about this game, visit www.theexaminernews.com and click on the "Sports" tab.

Sports

Football Notebook

Yorktown, Mahopac, Lakeland Impressive in Week Zero Wins

Meyreles, Koch, Carroll with Dominant Performances

By Ray Gallagher

Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays

Every coach in the game loves a good Swiss Army knife, and that's exactly what **YORKTOWN** Coach Pantelis Ypsilantis has in QB/RB/WR/DB Justin Meyreles, who rushed for 220 yards, including a TD, on 33 attempts in the Huskers' 34-27 overtime triumph of host John Jay CR Friday.

"Always props to the guys up front," Meyreles said. "It felt great to get some revenge on these guys for the way we lost to them the previous two years."

The versatile senior added a TD catch and an INT.

"Meyreles is just a great football player," Ypsilantis said. "He can pretty much do anything on the field. We asked him to do a



Mahopac RB Joey Koch celebrates one of his three TDs with brother Danny (3) in Indians' 42-28 win over Goshen Friday.

lot and he showed everyone what he can do. He's had to deal with a lot of adversity in his career with COVID and the injury last year. His confidence never wavered and we know that wherever we use him be it at QB, RB, receiver, safety, corner whatever, he's going to make impact plays."

In his varsity debut, Husker QB Kaden Gonzalez was impressive under center, firing three TD passes and throwing for 100 yards on 11-of-20 passing, most of which went to Thomas Costello (4 catches, 100 yards, 2 TDs).

MAHOPAC's 42-28 win over visiting Goshen was quite the home opener for the Indians, who saw their pregame fireworks run into the game when senior tailback Joey Koch (10 totes, 154 yards) scored the first of his three touchdowns, a 94-yard game-opening kick return. Indian junior signal caller DJ DeMatteo (5 carries, 46 yards), taking over at quarterback for his brother Anthony under center, threw a 57-yard touchdown pass to junior RB Danny Koch (2 carries, 22 yards) after splitting a pair of Gladiator defenders en route to paydirt for another score. In all, the Koch boys accounted for four scores and 233 yards from scrimmage.

"Yeah, I was ready to go to the opening kickoff," Joey Koch said. "It's my senior year now and I was so pumped to run out on that field with my brothers, most of whom I have been playing with since third grade. My line played awesome, so huge shout out to them."

In **LAKELAND's** 23-8 win over rival **PANAS**, Hornet QB Grady Leonard threw a TD pass to Stephen Carroll (his first receiving touchdown) and rushed for another. Behind a solid defensive effort – Carroll (13 tackles), Ian Wisker (11 tackles-



Lakeland's Stephen Carroll (5) and Anthony Farroni celebrate TD in Hornets' 23-8 win over host Panas Saturday.

BILL KENNEDY / TONY HUMBERTO PHOTOS



Mahopac junior QB DJ DeMatteo (1 Td rush, 1 TD pass) leaves Goshen defenders in dust as he heads for end zone in 42-28 win Friday.

forced safety), Andrew Mendel (9 tackles-2 sacks) – the Hornets got themselves ready for this week's battle at Nyack. Jack Nugent, DJ Brody and Brian Martins all had eight tackles. Anthony Jennings added an interception and Kyle Gallagher rounded out the scoring with pick-6 to end it.

Captain Mendel knows there's work to do, but proud nonetheless.

"No doubt, this is just the beginning," he said. "We have a lot of work to do, but we will get better as we get more practices in. I was just glad I was able to start off my senior season with the people I love and get a W!"

BIG GAMES ON TAP: Friday; Carmel at New Ro (6pm), Byram Hills at Hen Hud (6pm), John Jay at Somers (6:30pm), Rye at Brewster (7pm)



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Sports

Boys Soccer Notebook

Crazy Week 1 Ends with Class A Yorktown on Top

Huskers Shutout Class A Carmel, Port Chester; White Plains Up then Down

By Ray Gallagher

Examiner Sports Editor @Directrays

It's too early in the season to draw conclusions from what we saw in Week 1 of the Section 1 soccer season, but a pair of teams emerged as potential Class AA heavyweights in John Jay EF, which toppled reigning NYS Class A champion Somers, 2-0, and White Plains, who knocked off reigning Section 1 AA champion Mamaroneck in convincing fashion. But, and this is a big BUT, Carmel then turned the tables in a 4-1 thrashing of White Plains Friday, only to be shut out by Class A Yorktown, 3-0, Saturday. Welcome to Section 1 soccer in 2022... where anything can and will happen.

When **WHITE PLAINS** junior Fran Giglio headed home the game-winning goal last Wednesday off an assist by Isaiah Mercado Torres, the gorgeous overlapping run ensured the Tigers a 3-1 victory over a strong Mamaroneck club that enters 2022 as the reigning Class AA champs. That great start by White Plains, which was followed by Friday's 4-1 clunker to host Carmel, which signifies Class AA might be up for grabs this season unless somebody can put a saddle on John Jay EF and break the upstart Patriots.

Against Mamaroneck, in a span of 18 seconds, senior F Gael Baraldi (from Sergio Collana) cranked home a goal off the keeper before Giglio spotted White Plains a 2-1 lead. Senior M Jair Cano beat two defenders before finding Rhaymani Alexander for the final margin. Tiger G Milo Kris needed just four saves as White Plains dominated from the 18th minute on.

"Any win over Mamaroneck is huge," White Plains Coach Michael Lambert admitted. "This gives us a little revenge over the one they stole from us last season, too. Our depth proved key today, several guys came off the bench and we didn't lose a step. Two sophomores (Charles Reid and Chris Madrigal) logged their first varsity minutes."

CARMEL opened the season with a 2-0 win over Suffern on goals by Neel Walia, off a Ben Davila throw in. Walia then set up Kyle Klammer in the second half for the final margin. G Joe Galeano made five saves for

Carmel. The Rams then went to town on White Plains when Alex Kozlowicz set up Neel Walia right off the bat for a 1-0 lead. Klammer made it 2-0 from Kevin Hernandez and Walia tapped home a PK before Klammer padded the lead just before halftime off a James Ardisana assist. White Plains senior Gael Baraldi drilled PK to avert the shutout.

"The boys played with better intensity and a sense of urgency from the start," Carmel Coach Vasiliy Shevelchinsky said. "We kept our shape well and worked as a unit. White Plains is a great team and has many gifted and talented players, so we needed to make sure we were focused and didn't over commit."

The Tigers seemed flat and played uninspired the first 40.

"We didn't have it today, it was a major let down," White Plains Coach Mike Lambert said. "Nothing went our way and Carmel was physical and hungry. They deserve credit, but I feel the goals were all based on our errors and losing foot races. Every season has a defining game, and sadly ours occurred in our second match. We'll rebound and be better because of this. We were able to adjust in the second half and penetrate their back line but were unlucky on finishing and they had very solid play from both goalies."

OSSINING has another Lenaghan in its arsenal, so it was Alex Lenaghan making moves like his recently-graduated brother, All-Section M Nolan, while netting a first-half goal from Jason Osorio for a 1-0 win over mighty Arlington. Pride keeper Nixon Merino made eight saves in the shutout.

CLASS A

YORKTOWN notched a 4-0 shutout of Class AA Port Chester to secure its first big match of the season. The Huskers, one of the premier clubs in Class A got on the board when Lucas Buono drilled a PK and Chris Coppola padded the lead when he beat several defenders and shot from outside the box for an unassisted tally. Adrian Pjetri (from David Beitler) and Matt Pozzo (from Matt Duffy) scored to put the game on ice. Husker G J.P. Frucco and Jason Douglas combined for the clean sheet, making two saves each.

"One game at a time," cautious Husker

boss Zoran Milojevic said.

The Huskers followed that up by shutting down a Carmel club that had scored six goals in its first two wins. Huskers Nick Varella (assisted by Jake Levine), Beitler (assisted by Nick Varella) and Michael Munson (assisted by Beitler) each found the back of the net while Husker G Frucco (7 saves) notched the second Husker shutout in two games.

"I am not sure they had a shot on goal," Milojevic said. "We press high; dominate the midfield with numbers. We also scored very quickly, in the second minute, and they were tired after 25 minutes, so we just kept pressing."

Bryan Jaramillo (2G, 2A) had a hand in four of **LAKELAND's** six goals in a 6-1 win over **BREWSTER**. Horner G Oban Rader lost the shutout in the last 10 minutes when Juan Ingunza scored for the Bears on a Matt Ryan setup. Lakeland senior Mike Rodriguez added two goals and an assist. Connor Daly (G, 2A), a junior with much promise, had a big game as well. David Rodriguez added a Lakeland goal.

Luke Healy (from Colin Waring), Manny Perez and Shane Waring scored in succession and goalie T.J. Walsh (4 saves) recorded his first shutout of the season in **MAHOPAC's** 4-0 win over **FOX LANE**. G Joshua Martinez Arana had six saves for the Foxes.

Class B **CROTON** sent Class A **WALTER PANAS** packing in a 3-2 OT triumph when Marcos Goni stroked home a cross from D Alex Mashenko in sudden victory. Panas junior Koky Duarte scored the equalizer for Panas, unassisted with 2:18 to play. Alex Guevera spotted the Panthers a 1-0 halftime edge, but Croton's Jordan Gould set up Harrison Darling on a corner kick, before scoring unassisted to turn the tide.

CLASS B

In the opening round of the Mt. Pleasant Cup, **BRIARCLIFF** edged **PLEASANTVILLE**, 2-1, behind goals from Connor Dornau and Justin Plank from Theo Molinoff and Miles Prosperino. Will Peacock gave the Panthers a short-lived 1-0 lead off a feed from Oliver Giebelhaus. Toby Young made three saves in the Briarcliff cage, setting up the championship against **VALHALLA**, a last-minute 2-1 winner over **WESTLAKE**.

Oliver Tecuapetla was the hero of the day, scoring off a Julian Amorosa feed with 11 seconds left. Viking Vincent Reyes tied the game at 1-1 after Wildcat Robert Molina scored for a 1-0 Westlake lead at the break.

In the championship game, Briarcliff took home top honors, following suit behind the Lady Bears who did likewise when Nathaniel Rohde found the back of the net in



Carmel GK Joe Galeano (1) and D Kevin Hernandez combine to halt charging White Plains captain Gael Baraldi (R) in host Rams' 4-1 win over Tigers Friday.

a 1-0 shutout behind G Toby Young (4 saves). Valhalla G Leo Dragone (8 saves) had a big day and four Bears made the All-Tourney team, including Justin Plank, Alexander Josey, Miles Prosperino and MVP Ethan Klar.

Recent JV call-up Ryan Nichols scored both goals in **BYRAM HILLS' 2-1** win over Nanuet Monday, including the OT game-winner from senior captain Jesse Goldstein in the Westchester vs. Rockland Showcase.

CLASS C

HALDANE had four different scorers in a 4-0 blanking of Dobbs Ferry, including Ryan Eng-Wong, Clem Grossman, Matt Silhavy and Matt Nachamkin while G Ronan Kiter needed just four saves for the shutout. The Blue Devils (2-0) then went on to rock Walter Panas, 3-0, behind a hat trick from EngWong off assists from Aiden Sullivan-Hoch, Clement Grossman, and Brandt Robbins. Kiter (4 saves) notched his second shutout. After scoring 23 goals last season, En-Wong is on quite the pace with four through two games.

PUTNAM VALLEY beat Woodlands, 5-1, on the strength of Josh Leal (3G, 1A) and Joey Montanaro (2G, 1A).



Carmel's James Ardisana (12) and AJ Cunha (8) fend off a run by White Plains F Francesco Giglio in host Rams' 4-1 win over Tigers.

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS



White Plains senior M Jair Cano and Carmel soph Kevin Hernandez battle for 50-50 ball in Tigers' 4-1 loss to host Rams Friday.



Carmel junior captain Alex Kozlowicz and White Plains junior M Chris Salazar crash for header in Rams' stunning 4-1 thumping of visiting Tigers Friday.

Sports

Girls Soccer Notebook

Vano Nets Two Hat Tricks in Pair of Yorktown Wins

By Tony Pinciario

Jules Vano wasted little time demonstrating why she is one of Section 1's most lethal playmakers/scorers. Vano had a hat trick in Yorktown's season-opening 3-1 win over Eastchester. She added a second consecutive hat trick, and collected two assists, in a 7-0 win over Port Chester.

"It was a great start for Jules," Yorktown Coach Rich Armstrong said. "As a senior captain, you love to see a player come out and be hungry. We got some early goals from Jules and she was able to distribute and find her teammates to get on the board."

Eastchester took a 1-0 lead, but Vano answered back 10 minutes later. She converted a penalty kick to give Yorktown the lead and completed her day by finishing off an Emily Ward pass.

Six goals and two assists through the first two games will garner Vano added defensive attention this season. However, Vano is prepared for everything and equally proficient in setting up her teammates.

"I approach every game like I would every other game, no matter the opponent or what was said prior," Vano said. "Depending on the formation we use, it can be easier to set up my teammates when attention is on me. Our normal starting formation is created to guarantee forward opportunities when played correctly."

A four-year varsity player, Vano and her teammates are looking forward to building off a 9-5-1 '21 season. Yorktown reached the Section 1 Class A quarterfinals last year, but lost to Horace Greeley on penalty kicks.

Even though Yorktown graduated four starters, the Cornhuskers returned a strong nucleus with renewed energy.

"From last year and all the years prior, I think we take our determination to succeed and work hard with us every year," Vano said. "We have a good group of hard-working girls that want to win."

Yorktown will host its annual tournament, Thursday and Saturday. The Cornhuskers play Arlington B in a first-round game, Thursday, with Lakeland and R.C. Ketcham facing off in the other game. The championship and consolation games are scheduled for Saturday.

Winning its first two games was just what Yorktown wanted.

"We are a new group of girls playing together so communication is a main piece we are working on that helped us start our 2-0 season so far," Vano said. "Starting with two wins gave our team a positive start to the season and started our momentum on a high note."

Armstrong agrees with Vano regarding the momentum-boost, especially going into their tournament, but he knows his team understands the challenge with each game.

"We know we will have some tough games ahead and we will look to improve each and every time we train or have a match," Armstrong said. "It is certainly exciting to see the girls compete and have goals for a memorable season."

HEN HUD opened the 2022 season winning its annual tournament with two shutouts.

The Johnsen sisters – Lena and Liv –



Hen Hud Sailors pose with title trophies after beating Croton 4-0 in finals of Hen Hud tourney. Lena Johnsen (1G, 2A) was MVP.

each had a hat trick as the Sailors defeated Putnam Valley in the first round. Liv Johnsen also added three assists. Kiely Morley and Fiona Doyle also scored and Oakley Gougelmann, Morgan Parks and Jess Redmond collected assists. Lexi Schaffer registered the shutout.

PUTNAM VALLEY goalie Raven Pierre made 11 saves. Lena Johnsen had a goal and assisted on two others in Hen Hud's 4-0 title-game victory over Croton. Eleni Schattman scored her first varsity goal and Liv Johnsen and Morley added goals. Lena Johnsen was named tournament most valuable player. Kat Couch, Johnsen, Doyle and Parks were all-tournament selections.

"We played really well, with high intensity and high energy for all 80 minutes in both games," Hen Hud Coach Bill Pagel said. "We really liked the way we moved the ball around the field and this created scoring chances. It was a total team effort with everyone performing their role extremely well. I couldn't have asked for a better start to the season."

CROTON beat Haldane, 4-0, in a first-round game of the Hen Hud Tournament behind a goal and an assist from Lucia Thoreson. The Tigers also received goals from Natalie Barillaro, Maddie Sena and Pia Aspinwall. Shayna Caguano and Ariel Gagne registered assists and Maddie Boglioli made two saves for the shutout. Gwen McManus, Emily Nielsen and Poses earned all-tournament honors. Hen Hud coach Bill Pagel cited Boglioli for making some big saves in the championship game. Putnam Valley lost, 3-1, to Haldane, in the consolation game. Gigi Cartategni was consoling to the all-tournament team.

LAKELAND received a hat trick from Grace Hahn in a shutout over Putnam Valley in the Hornets' season-opener. Kayleigh Mula and Laura MacDonald scored and sophomore Maddie DiMarco registered her first varsity goal.

"I was very happy with our passing," Lakeland coach Shawn Sullivan said. "The girls are doing a really good job of looking for

each other and getting us in great positions to score."

Deanna Lage assisted on two goals and Riley McConnell, MacDonald and Mula also had assists. Lily Merriam and Emily Fields combined for the shutout.

Pierre made nine saves for Putnam Valley. Lakeland hosts Croton, today, then

will face R.C. Ketcham, Thursday, in a Yorktown Tournament first-round game. The other first-round matchup is Arlington B-Yorktown. The consolation and championship games are Saturday.

Girls' soccer coaches are encouraged to hit up Tony Pinciario at tfinch23@optonline.net for inclusion in our weekly notebook.



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Examiner Sports



TONY HUMBERTO PHOTO

Lakeland Handles Panas, 23-8, to Usher in New Era

Lakeland High grid Coach Ryan Shilling, in his first year atop the Hornet program, is hoping to have the kind of effect on Lakeland that he had during his heyday at Carmel High, and the rookie boss notched his first win in Saturday's 23-8 win over host Walter Panas where Stephen Carroll found paydirt (inset) and led the team with 13 tackles... see Grid Notebook



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