Langley Defeated by McConville in Putnam Sheriff Re-election Bid

By Abby Luby

Democratic Putnam County Sheriff Robert Langley Jr. lost his bid for a second four-year term as the county’s top law enforcement officer on Election Day after he was solidly defeated by challenger Kevin McConville.

Langley, a Philippstown resident, spoke to a crowd of about 60 people awaiting the tally at Four Brothers Pizza Restaurant in Mahopac last Tuesday night.

“We fought like hell but there were a lot of lies and information was leaked,” Langley said. “The Putnam legislature did everything they could to win. Now we have to hold them accountable. They work for you.”

Kevin McConville whose early vote count lagged, pulled ahead with 12,222 votes to Langley’s 9,074.

“We ran a professional and positive campaign that resonated with voters who pointed (to) the need for experienced leadership and management of the Sheriff’s Department,” McConville said. “I want to thank the voters of Putnam County for their support and confidence. I will be the sheriff for everyone.”

McConville, a former chief of the police force, said his priority will be to file for department accreditation.

As we move through the transition we will identify the best and brightest as we put together a command staff that will be there to provide counsel and guidance to the men and women of the sheriff’s department,” he said.

In his concession speech, Langley accused the Putnam County Legislature of running a nasty campaign against him, indirectly referring to County Executive MaryEllen Odell, who publicly attacked him on the county website.

“And if that’s what it takes for them to win, we’re in big trouble,” he said. “Now I can speak my mind.”

Earlier in the evening, Langley reminded friends and colleagues that 11 members of the Putnam Republican Committee had openly backed him for re-election.

“The dynamics are changing and it’s not about party, we all work for the people of this county,” Langley said. “The Republicans (in office) wanted me to work for them, but we don’t work for a political party.”

Speaking to the crowd while also checking the Putnam County Board of Elections website was Jennifer Colamonico, chair of the Carmel Democratic Committee.

“We built an amazing coalition and we are grateful for our friends’ support,” she said. “We saw more enthusiasm to be involved.”

Republican Candidates Dominate in Putnam County Races

By Rick Pezzullo

Republican candidates dominated most local races in Putnam County on Election Day.

In Putnam Valley, GOP Councilwoman Jacqueline Annabi was elected supervisor, defeating Democratic Councilman Ralph Smith, 1,719 to 1,207. Annabi will succeed retiring Supervisor Sam Oliverio.

“I want to thank the voters of Putnam Valley for electing me as your next town supervisor. Thank you for having faith in me, I won’t let you down,” Annabi said.

In the Town Board contest, Republicans Christian Russo (1,711) and Stacey Tompkins (1,660) won the two available seats, beating Councilwoman Wendy Whetsel (1,226) and Terry Raskyn (1,059).

In the Town of Kent, Republican Councilwoman Jaime McGlasson was elected supervisor, defeating Democrat Kathy Kahng, 1,605 to 1,339. McGlasson will replace retiring Supervisor Maureen Fleming.

Two new Town Board members were elected with Republican Jorma Tompuri (1,665) and Democrat Anne Campbell (1,226) being the top vote getters. Republican Noelie Botte (1,135) finished third, followed by Democrat Simon Carey (1,128) and Deputy

Republican American Club of Mahopac and Former President Honored

New York State Senator Pete Harckham commemorated Italian American Heritage Month recently by honoring the Italian American Club of Mahopac and former club president Luigi Cefaloni (right) during a special ceremony held at the club’s monthly meeting. Harckham presented a New York State Empire Award and framed State Senate Commendation to Giulio Cefaloni (left), president of the Italian American Club of Mahopac, for the organization’s longstanding contributions to the well-being of residents and the cultural life of the region. Luigi Cefaloni, Giulio’s older brother and a former president of the club, received a State Senate Commendation award from Harckham as well, along with a special State Senate Medal of Excellence.
Green Chimneys in Brewster Welcomes Third Camel

On October 18th, Green Chimneys in Brewster welcomed the newest resident of its Farm & Wildlife Center: Bunni!

Hailing from Texas, Bunni is a nine-year-old male Arabian camel, also known as a dromedary – the breed characterized by one hump – and his name (pronounced boo-knee) is Arabic for “brown.” Bunni joins Bactrian camels Sage and Phoenix, who have been at Green Chimneys since 2012. The pair had been cautiously curious, but the three camels have quickly become accustomed to each other.

Bunni was accompanied by Doug Baum, who is recognized as one of the top camel trainers in the United States. He is proprietor of Texas Camel Corps, a camel trekking business that provides guided tours and offers educational camel demonstrations for museums, schools and community groups. The Green Chimneys farm has had a long-time connection with Baum, benefiting from his expertise for over a decade. Doug’s heartfelt concern for the welfare of his animals is what ultimately brought Bunni to Green Chimneys.

As a therapeutic school and residential treatment center for children with special needs, Green Chimneys’ education and clinical programs focus on teaching youth to cope with complex emotional and learning challenges. Through a unique nature-based approach, students become regularly involved in farm activities, including animal care. Making connections with the natural world, experiencing empathy, and taking pride in caring for another living being integrate into a student’s learning experience and contribute to their growth, both in the classroom and in their lives.

Having some special needs of his own, Bunni is a perfect addition to Green Chimneys. He has a genetic condition known as sunken fetlocks, which means his ankle joints are hyperextended, preventing him from being ridden or performing other weight-bearing activities. Baum noticed that Bunni was having increasing difficulty within his herd. It was determined that moving Bunni to a smaller herd where he’d have extra attention and care from humans, would suit him well. It’s a most relatable story for children who attend Green Chimneys, many of whom have experienced difficulty fitting in or feeling safe and supported. And, of course, living with a significant challenge.

Green Chimneys Equine Program Manager Samantha Arevalo is excited to welcome Bunni to campus. “Bringing a third camel to our program opens the door to new experiences for our students,” she explains. “Camels have diverse personalities and behave in unique ways that make them perfect teachers for our students. Although large in size, they are relatively calm and gentle, and provide a wonderful opportunity for students to observe and interact with them directly.” Despite his physical challenges, there are many activities that Bunni will be able to participate in, and will involve students in teaching him what he can do.

“I struggled with the concept that there might be a better home than mine,” Baum shared following his arrival at Green Chimneys. “But Bunni will now participate in lessons - both learning AND teaching - about touch, trust, boundaries, and emotional development. We should all be so fortunate.”

Putnam Signs Contract with Company to Provide 911 Service

By Rick Pezzullo

Putnam County has entered into an agreement with a company to provide three advanced life support first-response units and two advanced life support ambulance services to residents. Ambulnz will be offering its first dedicated 911 system to the Putnam Bureau of Emergency Services.

“The health of our community is a top priority and we are thrilled to Partner with Ambulnz to bring a new standard of care to the residents and visitors of this county” said Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell. “We’re thrilled to be the first county to work with Ambulnz on a dedicated 911 system, which will enable us to provide top tier emergency medical services.”

Legislator Ginny Nacerino, Chairwoman of the Putnam County Legislature’s Protective Services Committee, said, “After a lengthy process of vetting each submission to our request for proposals we are confident the right partner has been selected to provide advanced life support and ambulance services to our county.”

The contract with Ambulnz takes effect on January 1, 2022.

“We’re excited to have the opportunity to partner with and to provide advanced life support services in Putnam County,” said Michael Witkowski, Chief of Operations at DocGo. Ambulnz is a subsidiary of DocGo. DocGo is a leading provider of last-mile mobile care services and integrated medical mobility solutions. With Mobile Health, DocGo facilitates healthcare treatment, in tandem with a remote physician, in the comfort of a patient’s home or workplace.

GOP Candidates Dominate in Putnam County Races

continued from page 1

Supervisor William Huestis (837).

In the Village of Cold Spring, Trustee Kathleen Foley, running on the Forge Ahead Party, was elected mayor, beating former County Legislator Vincent Tamagna, who ran on the Better Together Party, 584 to 294.

Two open board seats were won by Eliza Starbuck (586) and Cathryn Fadde (353). Jeffrey Phillips finished third (300). In a special election race to fill a vacancy, Tweens Woods defeated Yaslyn Daniels, 549 to 284.

In Carmel, GOP incumbent Councilwoman Suzi McDonough, first elected in 2009, was reelected with 4,115. Her Republican running mate, Stephen Baranowski, was elected to his first term with 3,973 votes. Falling short were Democrats April Daly (1,884) and James Carmody (1,711).

Mike Cazzari was elected supervisor in an uncontested race and will succeed seven-term incumbent Ken Schmitt.

In the Town of Southeast, GOP incumbent Councilman Eric Larca was reelected with 1,974 votes, while Planning Board member Erik Cyprus, also a Republican, also won a seat with 1,884. Zach Disador finished third (1,041), Gail Levine (1,013) was fourth and Carla Lucchino was a distant fifth (1,424).

In Philipstown, Councilman Jason Angell was reelected with 2,226 votes, along with his Democratic running mate Megan Cotter (2,186). Republicans Neal Tomann (1,226) and Sarina Tamagna (1,232) finished out of the running.

Meanwhile, in the three races on the Putnam Board of Legislators, three incumbents retained their seats.

In District 1, Democrat Nancy Montgomery defeated former Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra, 2,438 to 1,534, to remain the one Democrat on the board.

In District 4, Republican Ginny Nacerino won a fourth term, beating Democratic challenger Stacy Dmont, 1,256 to 752.

In District 7, incumbent Republican Joseph Castellano also earned a fourth term, beating Scott Reing, 1,313 to 682.
Latimer Easily Wins Second Term as Westchester County Executive

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County Executive George Latimer easily won re-election to another four years in office Tuesday night, defeating Republican challenger Christine Sculti.

Latimer declared victory and spoke to supporters at The Opus Westchester hotel in White Plains, pledging to continue fighting to improve the quality of life for the county’s residents while reaching for common ground among those who disagree.

“We here in Westchester County created a template and the template is results matter, that we don’t accept that we can’t build a New Rochelle Family Court, we don’t accept the thought that the Miller House is going to collapse,” Latimer said.

“We’re going to succeed in department after department because we believe in things to make people’s lives better,” he added.

Latimer defeated Sculti 97,753-60,324, according to the Westchester County Board of Elections. Sculti, a Harrison resident, had served as former county executive Rob Astorino’s chief adviser during his eight years in office.

At a briefing the following morning he called his victory “a significant vote of confidence.” He pointed to the county’s handling of the COVID-19 crisis and the county’s 91 percent vaccination rate. Latimer said he expected the pandemic to still be an issue during the next four years.

In 2022, the county tax levy will decline in 2022, the county tax levy will decline, Latimer easily won re-election to another term.

Latimer defeated Sculti 97,753-60,324, according to the Westchester County Board of Elections. Sculti, a Harrison resident, had served as former county executive Rob Astorino’s chief adviser during his eight years in office.

At a briefing the following morning he called his victory “a significant vote of confidence.” He pointed to the county’s handling of the COVID-19 crisis and the county’s 91 percent vaccination rate. Latimer said he expected the pandemic to still be an issue during the next four years.

In 2022, the county tax levy will decline, whether that can be extended in the ensuing years will depend on whether fresh non-property tax revenues can be identified and on how will expense are held in check.

“T o the tens of thousands of voters who welcomed our message and placed their trust in me, I am humbled by your support,” Sculti wrote on her campaign’s Facebook page. “I heard your voices, and I will continue speaking out on your behalf. Going forward, the issues we campaigned on – the need for lower taxes, safer communities and checks and balances – will not be going away and it is our collective responsibility to continue to hold government accountable.”

The victory for Latimer, 67, continues his streak of never having lost an election starting with his service on the Rye City Council in the 1980s. He has also served on the Board of Legislators and both houses of the state legislature before winning his first race for county executive in 2017.

In the county clerk’s race, Democratic incumbent Timothy Idoni defeated Republican challenger Scooter Scott 90,560-55,704 to win a fourth term.

County Executive George Latimer was successful in his re-election bid against challenger Christine Sculti last week.
**Incumbents Hold on to Win Local County Legislator Seats**

By Abby Luby

Democrats will still hold a supermajority on the Westchester Board of Legislators for the next two years, although some of the races involving local county seats last week were closer than anticipated.

Democratic legislators Colin Smith (D-Peeksill) Vedat Gashi (D-Yorktown) and Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining) all won re-election while Katonah resident Erika Pierce, in her first run for public office, won the race for an open seat in District 2.

In the District 1 race, Smith was re-elected to a second term, edging former Peeksill Councilman Joe Torres, 5,965-5,651.

“I won re-election because the people saw I was focused on delivering results and making things better,” Smith said. “Our county executive set the tone with his slogan this year – results, not rhetoric – but that was my guiding philosophy from the moment I took office.”

While Torres has a mathematical chance to catch Smith, it is unlikely. According to the Board of Elections, 416 absentee ballots have been received, but about 60 percent are from registered Democrats.

I’ve always sought to bring people together to deliver meaningful change, not score cheap political points, and that’s exactly what I will continue to do over the next two years,” Smith said.

Gashi in District 4, covering Yorktown, New Castle and a portion of Somers, was re-elected to a second term after defeating Republican challenger Robert Brower Jr., 8,179-7,038.

For most of the evening last Tuesday, the election was extremely tight before Gashi pulled ahead late.

“We had a great campaign even though it was a rough environment for Democrats, but the results are a testament to the great work the board did during my first term,” he said.

Gashi added that he was humbled by the overwhelming support, but there is a lot of work to do.

“We will continue investing in the infrastructure and try into find way to keep Westchester affordable,” he said.

Pierce will succeed Legislator Kity Covill, who announced early this year that she would not seek a third term. Pierce defeated her Republican challenger, Gina Arena, 7,838-5,738. The district covers Mount Kisco, Bedford, Lewisboro, North Salem and part of Somers.

Pierce, who served as Covill’s legislative aide, thanked her supporters for her success but was disappointed that voting reform measures on the ballot last week failed.

“As a group of Democrats and voters with similar sensibilities, we cannot walk away from yesterday without recognizing the urgency for the continued work ahead,” she said.

Arena also thanked those who backed her.

“We did not get the election results we wanted, but I appreciate the support and enthusiasm I received from so many people on Tuesday,” Arena said.

Borgia easily won re-election over Republican Charles Brause, 6,864-3,375. This will be Borgia’s sixth and final two-year term as a county legislator because she is term-limited.

Another incumbent, Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant), was victorious in her bid for a fourth term representing District 3, which includes Mount Pleasant, North Castle and parts of Briarcliff Manor and Greenburgh. Cunzio defeated Pleasantville Village Trustee David Vinjamuri, 7,325-5,307.

“Thank you to the residents of District 3 for their overwhelming support,” Cunzio said in a statement. “It has been a privilege to serve them over the last six years. I will continue to work in a nonpartisan manner to achieve meaningful results for our community and all of Westchester County.”

Vinjamuri said he was happy to run despite falling short.

“My campaign was entirely positive and issue-based and I intend to keep fighting for the issues I believe in as Pleasantville village trustee,” he said.

Vinjamuri said he called Cunzio to congratulate her.

“I believe she will continue to work hard for the county!”

Democrats will hold a 15-2 majority on the Board of Legislators next year. The one seat snatched from them was by Republican James Nolan who defeated incumbent Ruth Walter in District 13, which includes portions of Yonkers and Bronxville. The final tally gave Nolan 5,477 votes to Walter’s 4,715.

Ten of the Board of Legislators races were uncontested.

Rick Pezzullo contributed to this article.
Winning New Castle Slate Calls on Board to Table Form Based Code

By Martin Wilbur

The hard-fought New Castle town election may be over but it remains to be seen what will become of the Form Based Code.

Last weekend, Supervisor-elect Lisa Katz called on the current board majority to suspend any anticipated action on the code for the remainder of the year given the outcome of last week’s election.

Unite New Castle, the ticket that Katz led, swept the four Town Board seats that were contested as they campaigned vigorously against the Form Based Code. They contended it would allow developers to construct four-story buildings throughout downtown Chappaqua with well over 900 residential units that would crowd the Chappaqua School District.

But the first item on the board’s Wednesday evening work session agenda is a discussion item on the proposed findings statement for the Form Based Code and its status. The board approved the Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement last month.

“I’m not sure what will happen, but I would hope my colleagues see what voters were saying and table that decision,” Katz said.

The three remaining board members, Acting Supervisor Jeremy Saland and councilwomen Lori Morton and Lauren Levin, have supported the code but only Saland will remain on the board after the end of the year.

In a statement released last week, the Unite New Castle slate, which also included Tara Kassal and Victoria Tipp urged Saland, Morton and Levin to refrain from taking any action on the Form Based in the remaining weeks of 2021.

They called the election a referendum on the Form Based Code.

“What has often been mischaracterized as the few voices of a loud minority is clearly much more than that, and the outcome of this race is an unambiguous, undeniable statement from our residents that they are looking for a different solution than the one that has been proposed,” their statement read in part.

A fourth member of the ticket, Andrea Sanseverino Galan won a seat but has already announced via social media she will not serve because she is moving out of town. Her running mates have announced they intend to appoint Chris Hildenbrand to the vacant seat.

Reached last week, Morton gave little indication about what the board might do.

“I think that as a board we will be talking out our individual perspectives on the path forward and arriving at an action or a no-action that’s in the best interests of the town as we see it,” she said.

Messages left for Saland and Levin last weekend were not returned.

However, if the board were to move forward with adoption of the findings statement or any action to advance the Form Based Code, the new board in January “will use every legal means at its disposal to have this action reversed,” Unite New Castle’s statement read.

The winning slate also warned downtown property owners not to rely on any new zoning based that would be moved forward between now and the end of the year.

“We are hereby putting every party on notice that they should not have any reasonable expectation that they can rely upon any resolution passed relating to the proposed Findings Statement or Form-Based Code unless it is ratified or established by the newly elected board after it has been sworn in,” they stated.

Championship Smiles

Proud parents of the Byram Hills High School girls’ varsity tennis team celebrate together last Friday after their daughters returned home following its first-ever state championship. The Bobcats capped an undefeated season, defeating Friends Academy 5-0. Pictured with the parents is head coach Michael Racanelli.
Let’s Be Thankful. Things Are Getting Better!

--Supervisor-Elect Lisa Katz and Councilmembers-Elect Victoria Bayard Tipp, Tara Kassal and Chris Hildenbrand
Parents Appeal to Un-Mask P’ville School District Students

By Abby Luby

Students wearing face coverings in schools has become a flash point at Board of Education across the United States.

Recently, two mothers made an emotional appeal to Pleasantville school officials to unmask the district’s students, especially the youngest children.

Addressing the Board of Education during a recent public hearing on the district safety code was Mandy Yasiniski and Ellen Norton, two of the 63 signees of an online petition titled “Parents in Pleasantville School District Support to Lift Mask Mandate in School.”

Yasiniski, a mother of four children attending high school and middle school, pressed for answers, especially since new COVID-19 cases among students in the district are negligible. Last week the district reported no positive cases.

“What are the parameters from the (Department of Health) to justify the use of emergency mask measures in schools? Is there a threshold that would trigger an end to the masking?” Yasiniski asked.

Last August the state Health Department issued an emergency regulation requiring all students in public or private schools, along with faculty and staff, to wear masks inside school buildings. The mandate followed the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.

Yasiniski cited a large-scale study published by the CDC last year that covered more than 90,000 elementary school students in 169 schools in Georgia. The first of its kind, the study was inconclusive. It found no clear benefit for masking requirements for students without also studying mitigation measures such as improved ventilation systems and social distancing.

In her executive summary last summer, Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter wrote that the district would be maximizing the capacity of its air handling units, roof-top units and/or classroom vents. It installed high-quality MERV filters, which goes beyond the state requirement.

In the middle school, where there were older systems in some of the original classrooms, the district installed HEPA air handling purification units.

“I am looking for reliable scientific evidence,” Yasiniski told the board.

She cited the Food and Drug Administration’s April 2020 statement about Emergency Use Authorization relating to non-surgical face masks saying “labeling should not state or imply that the product is intended for antimicrobial or antiviral protection or related uses or is for use such as infection prevention or reduction, nor should it be used for particulate filtration.”

“Masks do not kill viruses,” Yasiniski said. “And misrepresenting the use for masks intended for antimicrobial or antiviral protection is deceptive.”

Norton, the mother of three young children, two in elementary school and one in preschool, criticized the negative consequences of young children wearing masks, with some having difficulty learning to read.

“I imagine trying to learn how to read when you can’t see the teacher’s face,” Norton said.

“That’s a great impediment to my children’s learning. So there is a failure happening.”

Crediting the district for making what she called a “valiant effort” to educate children, she added “We all have the same objective. However, it must be said how our children are getting the short end of the stick this entire time.”

Fox-Alter said she respected both women’s questions and added that the district had to follow the original mask mandate ordered by the governor and the state Education Department and shared by all agencies including the Westchester Department of Health.

“However, I do agree with you and many here agree with you that your questions about metrics are all incredibly valid and that some level of understanding of when and how long this will continue. That’s an important question,” Fox-Alter said.

While Fox-Alter said the district will follow the law, it has been in contact with the county health department and the state about testing protocols. Other professional organizations are asking the state the same questions.

Fox-Alter offered to share both women’s information with County Executive George Latimer and with other professional organizations she meets with regularly.

Sharing a Special Gift

The Bedford-Armonk Rotary Club shared the gift of reading by donating 500 new children’s books to Open Door Family Medical Center and Northern Westchester Hospital.

This fall, the Rotary Club met at the home of Immediate Past President Abbot Fleur to organize books, apply bookplates, enjoy fellowship and promote literacy.

On Oct. 24, club members distributed the books to Open Door and additional books will be delivered to Northern Westchester Hospital ahead of the holiday season.
Police Blotter

North Castle Police Department

Oct. 29: Caller reported a tractor-trailer struck the building at 99 Lafayette Ave. at 2:52 p.m. No injuries were reported. The responding officer stated that an accident investigation was conducted with assistance from the state police’s Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit. The tractor-trailer was impounded due to a violation discovered during an inspection of the truck.

Oct. 31: At 2:31 p.m., a report of mail having been removed from a Sunrise Drive resident’s mailbox on Friday, but the resident was unable to make a report at that time. The responding officer secured depositions. A report will follow.

Nov. 3: Caller reports that her vehicle was struck by a school bus on Evergreen Row at 3:34 p.m. The incident occurred at the driveway. No injuries reported.

Pleasantville Police Department

Oct. 30: An illegally parked vehicle was impounded at the Memorial Plaza parking lot at 5 a.m.

Oct. 31: A report was filed at 2:39 p.m. concerning a previous incident of a car impairment, possibly concerning personnel at Paulies Bar on Marble Avenue.

Nov. 4: Report of a suspicious person in the area of Bedford Road at 10:30 a.m. The subject was later verified as a homeless male. No criminal activity involved.

Nov. 5: At 2:23 p.m., a dispute regarding a parking spot on Memorial Plaza was resolved.

Yorktown Police Department

Oct. 28: Rommel Velez, 38, of Carmel, was charged with driving without a license and in possession of a forged registration and license plate after being stopped on Route 6 at 10:45 p.m. for failing to use a designated lane.

Oct. 31: Daniel George, 21, was charged with driving while intoxicated after being stopped on East Main Street at 3:53 a.m. for driving without a rear bumper and having an inoperative taillight.

Nov. 6: Erik Migliore, 28, of Yorktown, was charged with driving while intoxicated following a traffic accident on Route 202 at 11:56 a.m.

Calendar Submissions

We’re happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words “Calendar Submission” in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Abby Luby at aluby@theexaminernews.com.

Obituary

Antonia Cannizzaro

On Nov. 5, Antonia (Antonietta) Cannizzaro passed away peacefully at the age of 87.

Antonia was born Apr. 4, 1934, in Favara, Sicily to Giuseppe and Rosa Terrana. In August 1960 at the age of 26, she immigrated to the United States where she reunited with her parents and six siblings, finding her home in Pleasantville. She worked for several years as a seamstress at the dress factory in Pleasantville until she later met and married Antonio (Tony) Cannizzaro, who preceded her in death in 2010.

They are survived by three children, Roy Cannizzaro of Pleasantville, Vivian and husband AJ Nikolatos of Pawling, N.Y. and Joe Cannizzaro of Pleasantville, as well as their two grandchildren, Jason and Andrew Nikolatos, of Pawling. Of her six siblings, Antonia was predeceased by Giuseppina (Sister Rita) Terrana, Rosalia Terrana and Gaspare Terrana. She is survived by sister-in-law Joan Terrana, Cologero and Serafina Terrana, Salvatore and Jane Terrana and Dominic and Judith Terrana, as well as her nieces, nephews and cousins, all of whom will miss her dearly.

Visititation was on Nov. 7 at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville. The funeral service was held at Our Lady of Pompeii Chapel in Pleasantville on Nov. 8.

ERA Insite Realty Expands Sales and Rental Teams

Two of the newest members of the ERA Insite Realty family, Teresa Badagliacca left, and Deezyr Torrado, who recently joined the Pleasantville and White Plains offices, respectively.

ERA Insite Realty recently welcomed two agents to their sales and rental teams. Both agents selected ERA thanks to the endorsements of other agents within the firm and their enthusiasm about all the company has to offer.

Teresa “Terry” Badagliacca was recently added to the ERA Insite office in Pleasantville, while Deezyr Torrado joined the office in White Plains.

Badagliacca has been a licensed real estate salesperson since 2015, most recently working at another real estate brokerage in Mount Pleasant. She holds her Commercial & Investment Real Estate Certificate (CIREC) and is working toward earning her Home Staging certification.

Past sales have included properties in Westchester, Dutchess County and Connecticut. Badagliacca studied architecture and holds a bachelor’s degree in facilities management from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston. She previously worked with her father, Rudy, at his namesake engineering firm, Petruelli Engineering in Valhalla.

A Mount Pleasant resident, Badagliacca is involved locally as a Girl Scout troop leader and in local political campaigns.

Torrado has joined ERA’s sales and rental team based in the White Plains office. Coming to real estate after working in the food service and nutrition industry, she brings skills in business planning, personal consultation techniques and communication and an exceptional work ethic to benefit her real estate clients.

Torrado is a native of the Bronx and Yonkers and is fluent in English and Spanish.

“As we continue to serve clients in diverse geographies and with a wide range of real estate needs, we are always looking to expand our agent roster to meet those needs,” said Lou Budetti, ERA Insite’s founder and principal broker. “Terry has great connections in the Mount Pleasant market, while Deezyr is helping to serve our extensive list of tenants and landlords, as well as our bilingual clients.”

ERA Insite Realty Services, part of the ERA global network and the region’s number one ERA company, has been serving the Westchester market for over 35 years out of the same headquarters located at 600 N. Broadway in White Plains, in addition to operating successful offices in Bronxville, Pleasantville, Yonkers and Bethel, Conn.

You may contact Terry Badagliacca at the Pleasantville office at 914-769-2222 and Torrado at the White Plains office at 914-949-9800.
New Organization Provides First Steps to Help Domestic Violence Survivors

By Martin Wilbur

When the warnings were sounded in the early days of the pandemic to shelter in place, a chill went down Jacquetta Jenkins’ spine.

At five years old, Jenkins’ mother removed her and her younger sister from their home in Mount Vernon to escape domestic violence. The pandemic proved to be the impetus for her to help others who had been in a similar situation as her family, knowing that there were going to be residents who would have to choose between the health danger of COVID-19 or the physical threats from a violent home situation.

“I couldn’t imagine sheltering in place back then when we grew up, and so I wanted to do something to help domestic violence survivors and their children, but I really didn’t know what that looked like,” said Jenkins.

By last February she had officially launched the nonprofit organization First Steps to Heal, which provides immediate assistance to low-income Westchester residents with minor children who must leave their home to escape violence.

With the help of the Westchester County Office of Economic Development’s accelerator program Launch1000, which lends support to county residents looking to create new businesses or nonprofits, Jenkins created First Steps to Heal. Thus far, she has partnered with four hotels in the county to provide a safe haven for a parent with children in the 5-11 age group with the fastest timeframe to six months, which takes victims out of a dangerous situation and gives them time to find a stable situation elsewhere.

“I asked them what they needed most when they needed to leave a violent situation,” explained Jenkins, who formerly worked for the Mount Vernon School District and currently lives in Elmsford. “They told me emergency shelter, more emergency shelters were needed. But not just in a shelter facility. There are a lot of adults, according to Amler. There would most likely be arm soreness in the area where the shot was administered or a chance of a mild fever, but little more than what a child might experience from other vaccines, she said. If there are symptoms more serious than that, parents should contact their pediatrician.

She said one significant advantage for a child to get the vaccine is if they are exposed to COVID and have been vaccinated, as long as they have no symptoms they can continue to attend in-person classes and avoid quarantine. Another is to protect older family members who could be at greater risk for serious illness if they tested positive for COVID-19.

Baker, who had his 10-year-old son Aaron and nine-year-old daughter Sophie vaccinated, said getting their peers to get the shot may also visit the state Department of Health website to learn where vaccines for children are being administered in their area.

The emphasis on children comes as the county vaccination rate stands at just over 91 percent for residents 18 years old and up,” Latimer said. The number of active cases in the county has been stagnant at about 1,100 for the past few weeks, he added.

While that is down from the August highs this summer of about 2,800 cases, Latimer said it bears watching because most residents are spending more time indoors as the weather turns colder.

“We are in a period of time of transition because we’re leaving the fall season (and) entering the winter season, more of our activities are going to be indoors, which may open the door for us to have some concerns about greater spread,” Latimer said.

Westchester Pitches Vaccine to Parents of Younger Children

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County health officials appealed to parents of 5- to 11-year-olds on Monday to consider having their children inoculated, including protecting any older relatives such as grandparents, that they may come in contact with.

Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler and county Board of Health chair Dr. Robert Baker said there are good reasons for getting children inoculated, including protecting any older relatives such as grandparents.

More than 8,300 children in that age group have been hospitalized nationwide since the start of the pandemic through mid-October, she said. In Westchester, 5- to 11-year-olds comprise about 9 percent of all COVID-19 positive cases.

Risk of side effects are mild, similar to more serious than that, parents should contact their pediatrician.

She said one significant advantage for a child to get the vaccine is if they are exposed to COVID and have been vaccinated, as long as they have no symptoms they can continue to attend in-person classes and avoid quarantine. Another is to protect older family members who could be at greater risk for serious illness if they tested positive for COVID-19.

Baker, who had his 10-year-old son Aaron and nine-year-old daughter Sophie vaccinated, said getting their peers to get the shot may also visit the state Department of Health website to learn where vaccines for children are being administered in their area.

The emphasis on children comes as the county vaccination rate stands at just over 91 percent for residents 18 years old and up,” Latimer said. The number of active cases in the county has been stagnant at about 1,100 for the past few weeks, he added.

While that is down from the August highs this summer of about 2,800 cases, Latimer said it bears watching because most residents are spending more time indoors as the weather turns colder.

“We are in a period of time of transition because we’re leaving the fall season (and) entering the winter season, more of our activities are going to be indoors, which may open the door for us to have some concerns about greater spread,” Latimer said.

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS
Letters to the Editor

Not Everyone is in a Position to Support Restaurants

Re: “Support Your Favorite Local Restaurants, Especially for Restaurant Week,” by Larry Penner (Nov. 2-8).

While the author’s letter may be well-intentioned, I find it to be extremely tunnel-visioned.

Much of this country cannot afford to eat out and tip 20 percent. When I was supporting two children and a wife, it was everything I could do to keep a roof over our heads and food on the table. Now that I’m divorced, child support long over, one child grown and completely independent and another semi-grown and semi-independent, I have a few discretionary dollars. I still look for the cheapest gasoline, shop in discount stores,

Correction

In last week’s article concerning the recent passage of the Mount Kisco leaf blower legislation, the story inadvertently neglected to add that the seasonal prohibition on gas-powered leaf blowers from May 1 to Sept. 15 will not go into effect until 2024. The Examiner regrets the omission.

Stepinac Blood Drive Results in More Than 50 Pints Donated

Students, administrators, faculty, staff, parents and supporters donated 51 pints of blood in Stepinac High School’s recent drive to benefit the New York Blood Center (NYBC). Much of today’s sophisticated medical care (transplants, heart surgeries, etc.) relies on blood transfusions. Car accident and trauma victims may need as many as 50 or more red cell transfusions and severe burn victims may need as many as 20 platelet transfusions.

For more information or to make an appointment to donate blood, call 800-803-2566 or visit www.nybloodcenter.org.

The Dangers of Thinking That Elections Are Rigged or Stolen

Donald Trump has repeatedly said that our elections are rigged and that there is massive voter fraud.

In Putnam Valley, there are more registered Democrats than Republicans. And Donald Trump has repeatedly said that our elections are rigged and that there is massive voter fraud, and I don’t hear Republicans disagreeing with him.

In Putnam Valley the election results tell us that Republicans trounced the Democrats. How can I believe that when Donald Trump has repeatedly said that our elections are rigged and that there is massive voter fraud, and the rest of the party does not disagree? I don’t hear the Republicans disagreeing with him.

I charge the Republicans with stealing the election in Putnam Valley and, for that matter, all of Putnam County. Because Donald Trump has repeatedly said that our elections are rigged and there is massive voter fraud! How can I think otherwise?

The corrupt Republican Party just stole Putnam Valley and Putnam County. All their victories are illegitimate. Why? Because Donald Trump has said so and the rest of the Republican Party does not refute him. So, obviously, in Putnam, the election was stolen.

Get it? Do you see how dangerous this is?

Nicholas Kuvach
Putnam Valley Democratic Committee and Putnam County Democratic Committee member

A Time to be Grateful

A time to be grateful for so many things in our lives, grateful for our families when we gather around the Thanksgiving table and to the men and women on the front line and to those who volunteer in so many ways to make Cortlandt such a great place to live and to raise our families. We give praise to our volunteers who are very dedicated. To our police, firefighters, EMS, paramedics and to our military for defending our country. We are grateful.

I am so thankful for the 34 years of support and trust I’ve received to be first a councilwoman (four years) and then as town supervisor (30 years). I have always tried my best to live up to that trust and to work hard every day to improve the quality of life in our community. Cortlandt is not just a place, it’s home. I have cherished every day as supervisor and have taken this responsibility very seriously.

Thanksgiving for me has always been a day of joy, smiles, good food and a day of renewal as we remember our past days and those we’ve loved and lost but to always go forward and think about what we can do for others in the present and future.

Please join me in giving thanks for our lives, our community and for those we love. Happy Thanksgiving!

Linda Puglisi
Supervisor, Town of Cortlandt

To advertise in The Examiner, call 914-864-0878 or e-mail advertising@theexaminernews.com

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to mwilbur@theexaminernews.com. The Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.
Choose a partner, not just a plan.

MVP Medicare Advantage

Having the right partner for Medicare really makes a difference.

With an MVP Medicare Advantage plan, you can feel confident knowing you’ll have:

- **Access to expert, convenient care where and when you need it**, with $0 primary care visits, $0 MVP virtual care services, and free transportation to medical appointments, with some plans
- **Valuable benefits and extras**, like preventive dental coverage (and the option to add more dental benefits) and an allowance for over-the-counter pharmacy purchases, with some plans
- **MVP’s Living Well Advantage**, including a FREE SilverSneakers’ membership, fitness classes and health programs, and up to $200 in rewards for healthy activities

Let’s work together.

Call 1-833-368-4619
(TTY: 1-800-662-1220)
Seven days a week from 8 am–8 pm
MovetoMVP.com/compare

Meet Emilia.
She or one of our other local, experienced MVP Medicare Advisors can offer guidance and advice, provide tools to understand your benefits, and ensure you make a smooth transition to MVP.

The annual election period for MVP Health Care Medicare Advantage health plans is Oct. 15–Dec. 7, 2021. MVP Health Plan, Inc. is an HMO-POS/PPO/MSA organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in MVP Health Plan depends on contract renewal. Virtual care services from MVP Health Care are provided by UCM Digital Health, Amwell, and Physera at no cost-share for members. (Plan exceptions may apply.) Members’ direct or digital provider visits may be subject to co-pay/cost-share per plan. Y0051_5550_M
WE’RE HIRING

HIRING EVENT ALL DAY EVERY WEDNESDAY

In-Person and Virtual Job Interviews with On-The-Spot Hiring Offers!

For More Information Call:
914-739-2244
or Email Careers@YorktownRNC.com

Join our Fun, Family-Like, Dedicated and Supportive Quality Care Team Today!

RNS, LPNS CNAS
RESIDENT ASSISTANTS
NO CERTIFICATION NEEDED, GET PAID TO TRAIN AS A NURSING ASSISTANT!

HOUSEKEEPING & DIETARY ASSISTANTS
FULL-TIME, PART-TIME AND PER DIEM POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

• Competitive Pay
• Generous Benefits Flexible Hours!
• Staff Recognition Programs!

• Certification at NO Cost!
• Child Care Center On Site
  - Employee Discounts Provided!

2300 Catherine Street, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
www.YorktownRNC.com

Employee Transportation Provided To and From Local Bus Stops and Metro North Stations

LUCRATIVE SIGN ON BONUSES FOR ALL NURSING POSITIONS
New Croton-Harmon Superintendent of Schools Named

By Rick Pezzullo

The Croton-Harmon School District has announced that Stephen Walker has accepted the role of superintendent of schools.

The Board of Education unanimously approved Walker’s contract last week. He will take over on Jan. 4, replacing Dr. Deborah O’Connell, who has served as superintendent for four years and will be officially retiring on Jan. 3.

“I am incredibly honored to have been selected as the next superintendent of the Croton-Harmon schools,” Walker said. “The district is renowned for its high achievement, forward-thinking culture and focus on educating the whole child, and I am excited to get to know and work with the faculty and staff, students and the broader community.”

Walker joins Croton-Harmon from Sullivan West Central School District in Sullivan County, a roughly 1,100-student district where he has served as superintendent since August 2018.

In that role, Walker oversaw advancements in technology and social emotional learning, including the creation of an instructional technology facilitator position in each school and the incorporation of a specialized middle school program within the district’s secondary school.

He also helped develop several innovative high school classes, including cybersecurity, drone production, social justice and the Advanced Placement seminar.

“Throughout his career, Mr. Walker has championed a student-centered approach, ensuring equity in education for all learners and essential professional development for faculty and staff,” said Croton-Harmon Board of Education President Sarah Carrier.

“Throughout the interview process, board members were continually impressed by his experience, measurable successes, and positive energy.”

Prior to his position at Sullivan West, Walker was deputy superintendent and assistant superintendent for human resources at the Suffern Central School District in Rockland County. He has also held the position of director of pupil personnel services in Suffern and in the Marlboro Central School District, where Walker began his career as a special education teacher and principal.

Norman Leaves GW Elementary School for New Role in Lakeland

By Rick Pezzullo

Dr. Tracy Norman recently left his longtime position as principal of George Washington Elementary School to begin a new role as acting assistant superintendent of instruction in the Lakeland School District.

Norman, who has worked in the district for 21 years, assumed his new job on Oct. 25 and was replaced at George Washington by Marc Casey, who has been an assistant principal at Copper Beech Middle School since 2015.

“He is a passionate advocate for all students and an accomplished leader in our district,” said Karen Gagliardi, Lakeland’s interim superintendent of schools. “I am confident that Dr. Norman will make great strides in his new role.”

Norman, a major in the Army National Guard, said it was an honor serving as principal of George Washington for 19 years.

He said he had mixed emotions about making the switch.

“Over the years I have enjoyed the many wonderful and challenging experiences of serving as the principal of George Washington Elementary,” Norman said. “At this time, my career ambitions and desire to make change for the greater good of the Lakeland community make it necessary to accept the position of acting assistant superintendent of instruction.”

“I will always be grateful for the cooperation and support of the Board of Education, district office administration and the George Washington faculty and staff. I am particularly grateful to all the parents, both present and past, for your years of partnership and service to the children of the George Washington community,” he added.

Thank you, Yorktown voters.

I am honored to have earned your support and look forward to serving as Yorktown Town Justice.

It will be my privilege to serve my hometown as a tough, fair, and compassionate jurist.

Aviah Cohen Pierson
Saw Mill Club Named Mt. Kisco Chamber’s 2021 Business of the Year

The Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce recently named the Saw Mill Club as its 2021 Business of the Year.

Saw Mill Club has been serving the community and surrounding area a dose of healthy living since 1973. Its slogan – “Highest Quality. Greatest Variety. Family Friendly.” – aptly describes the club’s services, including children’s education and fitness, Forever Active senior programming, tennis and aquatics for all and hundreds of group fitness activities that encourage families and individuals to change their lives through fitness.

A Mount Kisco landmark business for 48 years, Saw Mill Club has experienced a variety of changes since its start as a tennis-only club. With a signature passion for a more-variety-is-better approach to successful healthy lifestyles, it has stayed on the cutting edge of the industry with annual investments in new technologies, expert staff and exciting new fitness and sports formats. Very simply, if it is healthy, it is here.

Saw Mill Club furthered its commitment through major investments in the expansion of facilities over the years. In 2011, the club made a bold move with the addition of a second Mount Kisco location, Saw Mill East, deepening its commitment to providing a path to wellness for all area families.

As one of Mount Kisco’s largest employers, Saw Mill Club fulfills its role as an economic driver in the community, employing more than 200 people who reside in Mount Kisco and the surrounding areas. Saw Mill Club also has a long history of civic and community outreach including support for Hope’s Door, the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry, Toys for Tots, Northern Westchester Hospital, all area schools and many local organizations. Total wellness has been an individual as well as community goal for nearly 50 years.
The following is a Proof of your ad that will appear in the St James Directory.

To:   Jonathan Garcia      Email/Fax: jonathanbcfh@gmail.com

Balsamo-Cordovano Funeral Home
(845) BAL-2144 • 15 Church Street, Carmel, NY

Balsamo Funeral Home
(718) 597-8380 • 3188 Westchester Avenue, Bronx, NY

Harrison Funeral Home
(914) 835-0284 • 329 Halstead Avenue, Harrison, NY

Balsamo Family of Funeral Homes
- Pre-need Specialists - Cremation Packages
- 3rd Generation, 75 years established
- Large Parking Area

WE SUPPORT:
Our Lady of the Lakes Knights of Columbus - Carmel Police Dept.
Carmel Fire Dept. - Carmel Veteran Organizations
FAMILY OWNED AND MANAGED

Joseph J. Balsamo
Jonathan W. Garcia - Licensed Manager
John R. Balsamo
NYS Specialized Funeral Directors

CUTTING EDGE
EQUIPMENT
845-306-7597
109 Old Rt 6 Carmel, NY 10512
Saws • Blowers • Trimmers
Numerous Holiday Gifts in Stock Now!

RESERVE YOUR INCOMING ARIENS SNOWBLOWER NOW!

• SCAG • SALES
• STIHL • SERVICE
• GENERAC

In appreciation of those who have served our country!

WE SERVICE ALL BRANDS OF POWER EQUIPMENT
PICK UP AND DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE
www.cuttingedge-equipment.com     cuttingedgecarmel@gmail.com

C&A Auto Service
Family owned and operated since 1964
SERVICE AT ITS BEST

In gratitude to those who have served!

287 Route 6, Mahopac, NY 10541
www.caAutoService.com
845-628-0808 • 845-628-8472

Thank You!
VETERANS

“We’d love to take a moment to thank all of the men and women serving our beautiful great nation. You are the greatest honor of our land! May God Bless You and Your Families.”

- Carl & Anita Albano

Albano Agency
INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE
Serving Putnam & Westchester Since 1977
ALL FUEL CO.
The Shelley Family
Home Heating Fuel
1606 Rte 22, Brewster

• Burner Sales, Service & Installation
• Tank Removal & Installation
• Propane Available for Cooking & Heating

845-278-7312

Lighting with Style, Quality and Value!
Competitive Pricing with Service You Can’t Get Online!

Mid-County Lighting Showroom
P.O. Box 894, 240 Rte 6, Mahopac, New York 10541
845-628-9106
www.midcountylighting.com

With gratitude for those who served!

Patrick B Kohlman
Principal Agent
57 Route 6
Baldwin Place, NY 10505
914-259-4988 x101
914-259-8977
Patrick@KohlmanAgency.com
www.KohlmanAgency.com

“In appreciation of the sacrifices of those who have served!”

FRASER’S HARDWARE
EST. 1969

845.628.0174
frasershdw@gmail.com
Mahopac Village Centre
153 Route 6 (Next to ACME)
Mahopac, NY 10541
Hours: Mon-Sat 8-6 • Sunday 9-5

With gratitude for those who served!
17

We Honor Those Who Protected Us!

Unique Gifts, Wooden Toys, Games and Puzzles for the Whole Family
Featuring Eco-Friendly and Products Made in the USA

86 Main Street, Cold Spring, NY • gift hut06@aim.com • 845.287.3786
Open Wednesday-Sunday

The Gift Hut

Same Family. Same Location. Since 1848.

Dain’s Sons Co.

LUMBER
HARDWARE
DOORS
WINDOWS
FLOORING
WE HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED
(914) 737-2000

DECKING
SIDING
MOLDING
SAWMILLING
LIVE EDGE SLABS

2 N. WATER ST. PEEKSKILL, NY . WWW.DAINSLUMBER.COM

SEPTIC SYSTEMS INSTALLED • REPAIRED • CLEANED

Tyndall
SEPTIC SYSTEMS INC.
Since 1968

EXCAVATING CONTRACTORS

www.tyndallseptic.com

Family Owned and Operated
“Our Reputation Is Our Greatest Asset”
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

(845) 279-8809
Quality & Service
Lic. #93

• CURTAIN DRAINS
• WATERLINES
• LAND DRAINAGE
• SITEWORK
• UNDER ROAD BORING

• SEWER HOOKUPS
• RESIDENTIAL
• COMMERCIAL
• RADIO DETECTION SERVICES

Joseph J. Smith
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

WE HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED

692 Route Six, Mahopac, NY 10541
(845) 621-1992 • Fax: (845) 621-0849
director@jjsmithfh.com.com
josephjsmithfuneralhome.com

“Thank You To All Our Veterans!”

FEEHAN INSURANCE AGENCY

845.278.7070
Service@feehaninsurance.com
FechanInsurance.com
2350 Route 6, Brewster, NY 10509

We salute our veterans to whom we owe so much!”

Red Mills

575 Route 6N
Mahopac Falls, NY
628-9879
In honor of those who have sacrificed for our country

Red Mills Convenience Shell

575 Route 6N
Mahopac, NY 10541
845-628-9745

Some things are more important than others. Like serving our community, With Compassion. With Integrity. With Sincerity. We care for the individuals and the families we serve when they most need it. We believe it is one of the most important things we do. We know our responsibility is to you. “Where The Difference Is In The Caring”

Family Owned & Operated
945 East Main Street
Shrub Oak, NY 10588
(914) 962-0700
www.YorktownFuneralhome.com
yh945@gmail.com

The Putnam Diner/Restaurant

2600 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563 • 845-878-8000
Open Mon-Fri 6am to 1am • Sat-Sun 6am to 2am

We Salute and Honor Those Who Served

Breakfast specials - starting at $4.95
Lunch specials - starting at $6.95
Dinner specials - starting at $13.95
(complete dinner)

Fully stocked bar!
Delicious bakery items all done on premises!

Open Seven Days a Week!

Full Catering Menu
Private Parties Up to 30 People
Take Out and Home Catering

www.putnamdinerny.com

This Veterans Day, Remember the Service of Our Veterans.
DONATE TO ANY VETERANS ORGANIZATION OF WHICH THERE ARE MANY.
NO VETERAN SHOULD BE HOMELESS OR JOBLESS.
Every Veteran Deserves Our Support and Respect Because They've Earned It!
Local Author Writes the Ultimate John Wayne Quote Book

By Martin Wilbur

Mark Orwoll has been an enormous John Wayne fan since childhood, so it isn’t surprising that he would write a book about the Duke, one of the most celebrated Hollywood actors.

But the 26-year Pleasantville resident didn’t pen a biography or delve into Wayne’s personal life. Orwoll strictly focused on the larger-than-life figure’s quotes and lines from his voluminous filmography in his book, “John Wayne Speaks,” that is scheduled for release by St. Martin’s Griffin this week.

Despite being deceased for more than 40 years, Orwoll believes that John Wayne remains a highly appealing actor and person because he was such a strong and versatile performer who stood out in voice and stature.

Along with his many westerns, people sometimes forget Wayne played a leading man during his earlier career and appeared in lighter films as well, he said.

Orwoll divided each of the 19 chapters by category of quotes, such as How to Woo a Gal, In Service to His County, which centered on patriotism, war and life in uniform, and Make Mine a Double. There is one chapter near the end that includes John Wayne quotes from interviews, speeches and public appearances.

What’s fascinating about Orwoll’s work, in which he watched every one of Wayne’s 173 credited roles that spanned 50 years (although the early Wayne movies were silent films), is what is not included in the book. There are perhaps dozens of lines that have been attributed to Wayne over the years, even though he never uttered them, Orwoll said.

There’s no “A man’s gotta do what a man’s gotta do” or “Courage is being scared to death but saddling up anyway.” Wayne happens to be in that small pantheon of famous people where his name evokes a certain mythology.

Orwoll believes John Wayne fans will enjoy the book as will people who love Hollywood, particularly its Golden Age after World War II. He said many teenagers and younger adults are familiar with Wayne through their parents or grandparents.

In fact, Orwoll contacted Brian Downes, who runs the John Wayne Birthplace Museum in the actor’s hometown of Winterset, Iowa, to inform him he had written the book. Downes wrote back, “Does it include the quote ‘Life is tough, it’s tougher if you’re stupid?’"

“I wrote back (that) John Wayne never said that,” Orwoll recalled. “He wrote back a one-sentence response: ‘Send me the book.’”

For Orwoll, some of his favorite John Wayne movies were from the heart of his career, including “Fort Apache,” “She Wore a Yellow Ribbon” and almost anything else directed by John Ford.

He doesn’t apologize for enjoying the actor’s work, even though he acknowledges some of the moves would never be made today. Orwoll, who identifies as a liberal Democrat, also doesn’t get into Wayne’s politics.

“If you’re not able to separate an artistic product from the actual human being’s history, who created it, then you’re going to have a lot of wonderful artistry in this world that is off limits to you,” Orwoll said.

He also made sure to credit the screenwriters who wrote the lines. What turned out as “a contagion-inspired compendium” while being homebound during the pandemic has received strong feedback.

“I’m very proud of the book,” Orwoll said.

Meet the Future.

@ OPEN HOUSE

November 13 > 10 a.m.

Who is the “future you” going to be? We’ll help you find out. See how you can pursue a fulfilling, high-paying career with a valuable degree from Vaughn College.

**Engineering and Technology**

Learn what it takes to design, program and build—and see the future through an engineer’s eyes.

**Management**

Being an effective leader never goes out of style. Find out what it’s like to run an airline or airport.

Learn about marketing, production, safety, finance and more.

**Aviation**

Soar into the future and learn about aircraft navigation and radar. Come and see our state-of-the-art flight simulator, air traffic control and aviation maintenance labs.

**REGISTER FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE TODAY AT**

MeetTheFutureYou.com
Feeling Safe at Home: Does it Take a Gun?

The pandemic has inspired a surge in gun sales, I have read, not really understanding why. But research shows that having firearms in the house won’t necessarily help in a dangerous moment—and it can heighten other risks, such as accidents with children finding them.

Discussions about guns and their safety or dangers have also been sparked by the recent accident on the Alec Baldwin movie set for the film “Rust,” where a crew member was killed when the gun Baldwin was firing was somehow loaded with real bullets rather than blanks.

Early in my career, I applied for a job with a public relations agency where the interviewer told me that the job had become available when a former account executive had walked off the job when it came time for him to board a plane. It seems that he had a fear of flying, which he could not overcome when it came time to visit a client in another city.

The interview was going swimmingly, my emphasizing that I loved to fly, until the moment. I was quickly dismissed without getting the job after being told that every single book in our rather large library had been opened. The intruder was obviously checking for hidden cash.

Still, I began fantasizing about what I would have done if I had woken while the burglar was in the house, with the scenarios of my having and not having a gun. If I had a gun under my pillow and awoke, would I have blown him away? Or would I have just said “Hands up?” Probably the latter, but I really don’t know, considering the alarm of the moment.

One of my friends suggested that, rather than a gun for home protection, I might consider having a can of wasp spray close to my front and back door. Wasp spray was recommended because it shoots more directly at its intended target. I even mentioned the possibility in one of my columns, only to have a reader upbraid me by saying, “Right, go blind another person, then see how you feel.”

Considering the pros and cons of having a gun in the house, I suppose I would recommend to others that they invest instead in a quality home security system to protect themselves from the criminal elements among us, which thankfully are not high in our region.

Bill Primavera is a realtor associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2676.

Tim Beyrer, Agent
710 Route 6
Mahopac, NY 10541
Bus: 845-628-9100
tim.beyrer.mdth@statefarm.com

State Farm, Bloomington, IL

Thank You
To all our Veterans

“Leaf” it to the Professionals to clean your gutters before winter comes!

We are your Home Improvement Specialists.

Miracle Home Improvements

ROOFING • WINDOWS • SIDING • DOORS • SKYLIGHTS
DECKS • SEAMLESS GUTTERS • LEADERS • REPAIRS

Robert & Mary Sniffen, Owners

Exceptional Quality and Service at Affordable Prices.
Visit our larger office and showroom. Or we will BRING the showroom to you!

www.miraclehomeimprovements.com
SAVE ENERGY FOR WHAT REALLY MATTERS

New York State and Con Edison are working together to make energy improvements more affordable. Take advantage of increased incentives, including the opportunity to get 100% of your upfront costs covered or low-interest rates, so that you can save money and create a healthier, better place to save your energy.

Claim your incentives at SaveEnergy.ny.gov.

Questions or comments? Call 1-888-772-2050 or email energyinfo@coned.com.
Love Kids?

Ensure children are safe and learning while their parents work, and prepare them for success in school and life. There's no career more important or rewarding!

There are a variety of child care jobs available in Westchester. Some have experience/education requirements, others do not. And, you may qualify for free training through your employer or the Child Care Council of Westchester.

To see open jobs or upload your resume/profile, scan the QR code.

www.childcarewestchester.org
Creating Memories: SMRA Bird Calendar a Perfect Stocking Stuffer

By Brian Kluepfel

Although there are many reasons to become a birder, probably the primary reason many do so is because birds are visually stunning. Here in North America, where the number of avian species pales in comparison to global birding hotspots, we still get hundreds of individuals of different colors, sizes and shapes, from the miniscule hummingbird to the magnificent eagle.

During these pandemic times, many of us have been challenged to look both inward and outward. Some of those doing the latter have entered the world of birding, and many of them, the related hobby of bird photography.

Though I have splashed thousands of words across the pages of this and other publications relating the wonder of birds, the stories hardly compare in impact with the power of a photograph. Luckily, local photographers have always come to my rescue in this regard. We often rely on Audubon stalwarts like Suzanne O’Rourke (https://www.flickr.com/photos/sueorourke) to add a splash of visual panache to offset my ponderous prose.

Starting last year, the Saw Mill River Audubon (SMRA) began producing a calendar of bird images taken by local photographers which allow us to appreciate the seasonal variety of bird life in the Hudson Valley and tip our collective cap to these talented and patient maven’s of the lens.

One relative newbie birder and photographer is Rebecca Bell of Briarcliff Manor, who now posts on Facebook as @Briarcliffphotography. Her stunning image of a red-tailed hawk alighting in her backyard graces the October 2022 calendar page. As she jokingly wrote upon receiving the news, “Bucket list item achieved – I’m finally a calendar girl! Miss October, to be precise!”

Another calendar contributor is Mitch Goldfarb, whose photos will grace the April and August pages. Goldfarb moved up to Westchester during the pandemic, and an old bird feeder in his parents’ garage and a camera of more recent vintage got him started. Beginning with colorful species like the American goldfinch and the pileated woodpecker, he has now catalogued 230 species in the tristate area.

Goldfarb credits his friends at SMRA with much of his success. “I’m constantly learning,” he said. “So much of that is thanks to the fantastic programs and people involved with the Saw Mill River Audubon, which continues to be an amazing resource and way to connect with other people who share a love of birds,” he said.

While many would like to get the ultimate snap of a beautiful bird, there are limits. The golden rule of birding photography is “do no harm.” Remember that these are wild creatures trying to survive and feed their young. Audubon has published guidance for ethical bird photography on its website at https://www.audubon.org/get-outside/audubons-guide-ethical-bird-photography.

I’d like to dedicate this month’s column to Pleasantville photographer Jeff Seneca, who was well-respected in the local birding community for his wonderful images (https://www.jeffsenecaphotography.com) and all-round personality. We lost Jeff in the early days of the pandemic and we miss him tremendously. To quote his website: “Jeff lived his life in the manner of his pictures, vibrantly and full of life and color.”

SMRA Executive Director Anne Swaim added, “We started the Birds of New York calendar to highlight the work of local bird photographers and the beauty and diversity of the birds found in our area. Our first calendar was for 2021 and featured two spectacular pictures by Jeff Seneca, one of the leading bird photographers in our area who was lost, much too young, to COVID in April 2020.”

Another wonderful photographer and personality lost in 2020 was Croton-on-Hudson’s Edward Mertz, whose appreciation of Westchester wildlife was contagious. Luckily for us, these men live on through their photographs.

Feel free to buy one, or several, 2022 Saw Mill River Audubon calendars at www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/calendar.

Brian Kluepfel is a longstanding Audubon member and encourages you to support efforts in protecting and enjoying local wildlife habitats. Visit SMRA sanctuaries and attend their events, online or in person.

All are welcome.
**NOTICE: NEW YORK RESIDENTS**

Homeowner Funding enables families to make necessary energy efficient home repairs who:

- ARE UNABLE TO PAY CASH FOR NECESSARY HOME REPAIRS.
- CANNOT AFFORD HIGH OR ADDITIONAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS.
- HAVE BEEN TURNED DOWN FOR FREE STATE OR GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.

**REPAIRS INCLUDE:**

- ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS • DOORS & MORE...

**up to $25,000**

**NO MONEY DOWN** **NO Equity Required**

QUALIFY TODAY:

(800) 736-9629

or visit NYImprovementFund.com

Approved applications will have the work completed by a quality repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING

---

**EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds**

**Classified Ad Deadline** is Thursdays at 5pm for the next week's publication

**ANTIQUES & ART/COLLECTIBLES**

- MOST CASH PAID FOR paintings, antiques, furniture, silver, sculpture, jewelry books, cameras, records, instruments, coins, watches, gold, comics, sports cards, etc. PLEASE CALL AARON AT 914-235-0302

**ATTORNEY**

- DIVORCE $389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380.

**BUYING/SELLING**

- Buying diamonds, gold, silver, all fine jewelry and watches, coins, paintings, better furs, complete estates. We simply pay more! Call Barry 914-260-8783 or e-mail AmericaBuying@aol.com

**EDUCATION / CAREER TRAINING**

- COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! (844) 947-0192 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

- TRAIN AT HOME TO DO MEDICAL BILLING: Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 855-543-6410. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

- GOLD / SILVER WANTED HIGHEST PRICES PAID Visit Westchester's Top Buyer for Gold, Silver, Diamonds, Coins & Currency, Watches, Jewelry. Licensed, Professional, No Appointment Necessary. Tuesdays-Saturdays 10am-6pm, Mt. Kisco Gold & Silver, 139E Main Street. 914-244-9500

**GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING**

- GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING®

- AUTO DONATIONS

  - Drive Out Breast Cancer: Donate a car today! The benefits of donating your car or boat: Fast Free Pickup - 24hr Response Tax Deduction - Easy To Do! Call 24/7: 855-905-4755

- **ANTIQUES & ART/COLLECTIBLES**

  - **COMIC BOOKS WANTED!** TOP PRICES PAID! 30 years experience. Reliable and honest! Call or Text: 917-699-2496, or e-mail: smileLP@aol.com. Thanks.

- **ATTORNEY**

  - DIVORCE $389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380.

- **BUYING/SELLING**

  - Buying diamonds, gold, silver, all fine jewelry and watches, coins, paintings, better furs, complete estates. We simply pay more! Call Barry 914-260-8783 or e-mail AmericaBuying@aol.com

- **EDUCATION / CAREER TRAINING**

  - COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! (844) 947-0192 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

  - TRAIN AT HOME TO DO MEDICAL BILLING: Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 855-543-6410. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

  - GOLD / SILVER WANTED

   - HIGHEST PRICES PAID Visit Westchester's Top Buyer for Gold, Silver, Diamonds, Coins & Currency, Watches, Jewelry. Licensed, Professional, No Appointment Necessary. Tuesdays-Saturdays 10am-6pm, Mt. Kisco Gold & Silver, 139E Main Street. 914-244-9500

  - **GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING**

    - GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING®

- **GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING®**

  - Give Something that Means Something®

  - PWRcell, Generac’s fully-integrated solar + battery storage system, stores solar energy that can power your whole home during utility power outages and save you money on your electric bill.

  - REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

  - GENERAC®

  - FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* A $695 Value! Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

  - Special Financing Available Subject to Credit Approval

    *To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

  - ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A $300 SPECIAL OFFER!* (888) 871-0194

  - 50 DOWN FINANCING OPTIONS!!**

    *Offer value when purchased at retail.

    **Financing available through authorized Generac partners.

---

continued on page 26
It’s Best to Think of Daydreaming as Theater of the Mind

“And you can be sure that if you’re feeling right
A daydream will last long into the night
Tomorrow at breakfast you may prick up your ears
Or you may be daydreaming for a thousand years”
--John Sabastian

Writing is my profession though daydreaming is my full-time job.

Like most artists, and as an existentialist, I find my creativity in daydreaming, though one does not have to be an artist or an existentialist to daydream.

Daydreaming can be viewed as the theater of the mind since this is where we stage our life’s ambitions, fantasies and even create new realities. Anecdotally, mind-wandering has been associated with creativity for centuries. New research on daydreaming is offering validation that mind-wandering can make us happier and more creative.

“I was trying to daydream, but my mind kept wondering”
--Steven Wright

To master the art of daydreaming, one must avoid constrained thoughts where we ruminate over unpleasant events and topics. And, to focus on thoughts that are free-moving, meaning they skip from one pleasant topic to another. Positive mind-wandering has also been shown to enhance convergent thinking; that facilitates the kind of solution that just comes to you as a “a-ha” moment in a flash, not knowing how we got there.

I have personally experienced such moments. A solution in the flash that trumps methodical testing and elimination of options.

“Sit in reverie and watch the changing color of the waves that break upon the idle seashore of the mind”
--Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Current research shows when our minds wandered in more fantastical ways, like playing out implausible or bizarre, funny scenarios, we tend to be more inspired and creative and it elevates our mood. This is especially true for writers since we think through stories as means to harness our creativity to find our a-ha moments. Artists use these moments to present to our audiences in the hope they will experience a catharsis brought on by our work.

“Daydream, imagine, and reflect. It’s the source of infinite creativity”
--Deepak Chopra

As mentioned, one does not need to be an artist or existentialist to daydream. Taking an existential view to crafting our dreams may help us to better frame and navigate our life experience; especially when we consider all the possible things to think about, for many the negative possibilities outnumber the positive ones.

And, if we think of higher unobtainable goals, the higher the possibility of disappointment. If we create elusive realities in our daydreams, we find we are only living in our own nightmares. As Pascal said, humans may be as fragile as reeds, but they are thinking beings; in their consciousness they reflect the immensity of the universe.

Existentialism is the attempt to transmute our mere existence into essence, no easy task for sure. For life is full of adversity, and at times can be outright cruel. It’s this absurdity that, especially when we consider all the possible things to think about, for many the negative possibilities outnumber the positive ones.

Existentialism is the attempt to transmute our mere existence into essence, no easy task for sure. For life is full of adversity, and at times can be outright cruel. It’s this absurdity that, especially when we consider all the possible things to think about, for many the negative possibilities outnumber the positive ones.

Existentialism is concerned with ontology, the study of being, and makes no claims to be a comprehensive philosophy or way of life, but an endeavor to grasp the reality and adversity of life. It does not paint life with rose-colored glasses, and quoting the philosopher Sartre, we are the result of our choices. True, we must address life’s realities and adversaries during our waking thoughts to address our material needs, but we also have the choice to daydream with free-moving positive thoughts to counter our negative impulses.

In closing, I’m an artist, existentialist and oftentimes a procrastinator – more often than I like to admit. So, as I was ruminating about my editor’s deadline, I took a break to do some positive mind-wandering, and low and behold, I had my a-ha moment. Just in time to meet my deadline.

Be well. Be safe. Be happy. Be nice. Amor fati!

Dr. Richard Cirulli is a published author, playwright and retired professor. His body of works can be viewed at www.demilassplayers.com. He looks forward to your comments, and can be reached at profcirulli@optonline.net.

---

THERE’S A WORD FOR IT

A vocabulary-building quiz  By Edward Goralski

“No” – vember. You may have noticed that the calendar has made its way to the month of November. To make note of that event, the quiz words this week all begin with “no.” Ready to take the quiz? There’s no time like the present.

1. nonfeasance (n.)
   A) failure to conform
   B) failure to act
   C) failure to communicate

2. nosh (v.)
   A) to eat a snack
   B) point out
   C) observe with care

3. notion (n.)
   A) to eat a snack
   B) point out
   C) observe with care

4. nonce (adj.)
   A) a footnote
   B) something unusual
   C) small useful items

5. nonceptive (adj.)
   A) active at night
   B) noticeably bright
   C) painful

---

WILD BLAST FITNESS

We will be open from 6am to 10pm Monday to Friday Saturday from 6am to 7pm Sunday 6am to 6pm
We offer four classes a week, morning and afternoon.
1-on-1 Personal Training too!

Monday - Wildblast Bootcamp Tuesday - Cardioblast
Wednesday - Bootyblast Thursday - Coreblaster
Friday to Sunday - Young Athletes Program - Ages 7-16

Morning Sessions 9AM-12PM
Afternoon Sessions 3-6PM
(Sessions lasting one hour)

845 422 6396 • getfitwithjcl@gmail.com
www.wildblastfitness.com
2A John Walsh Blvd, Suite 2, Peekskill, NY
MONTHS! 866-440-6501 FREE. $200.00 OFF + 2 FREE APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND Care Home Warranty COVERS Home Repairs Again!

continued from page 24

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-763-2379

Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. $200.00 OFF + 2 FREE Months! 866-410-6501

MISCELLANEOUS

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! $59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 888-508-3313

TV INTERNET PHONE

DISH TV $64.99 For 190 Channels + $14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/21/22. 1-888-609-9405

Get DIRECTV! ONLY $69.99/month! 155 Channels & 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

DENTAL Insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

Call to get your FREE Information Kit 1-855-225-1434 Dental50Plus.com/nypress

Winning the War of Ideas on the Afghan Battlefield

A Scarsdale lawyer teamed with an Iraqi refugee and an immigrant from Singapore to create a non-profit that brings liberal ideas to the Arab world. Their next mission: Afghanistan

By Andrew Vitelli

You are reading this week’s print edition excerpt of Examiner+, a digital newsmagazine serving Westchester, Putnam, and the surrounding Hudson Valley. Need to subscribe — or upgrade your Examiner+ subscription to enjoy full access to all of our premium digital content? Visit www.examiner-plus.com

Two months after the final American troops left Afghanistan, the media and much of America have moved on. The initial wave of intensive coverage has long since abated, even as the threat to troops remains.

But as American forces left the country, New York-based non-profit Ideas Beyond Borders in 2017 with Melissa Chen, a journalist and an immigrant from Singapore. The organization, which relies on private donors to fund its $1.8 million in annual spending, runs several initiatives. Its flagship program, called House of Wisdom 2.0, employs some 120 translators and has translated 20 books and more than 22,000 articles into Arabic, as well as hundreds into Kurdish and Farsi.

IBB’s board includes Steven Pinker, a Canadian psychologist once named one of Time’s most influential people in the world, and former Reason editor-in-chief Nick Gillespie. The board chairman is Scarsdale resident Sam Hershey, a restructuring litigator at White & Case.

IBB founder and president Faisal Saeed Al Mutar

PHOTO: IBB

IBB’s board includes Steven Pinker, a Canadian psychologist once named one of Time’s most influential people in the world, and former Reason editor-in-chief Nick Gillespie. The board chairman is Scarsdale resident Sam Hershey, a restructuring litigator at White & Case.

An Iraqi refugee, Al Mutar understands the importance of both combating extremism and promoting free thought in the Middle East. Now 30, he grew up under the rule of Saddam Hussein and saw his reality shaped by the dictator’s regime-run media. “All of the information, and I mean all of it, was controlled by the state,” he recalls. “The punishment for acquiring information outside of the country, through satellite television or radio, was either jail or death.”

The climate following Saddam’s removal was not much better; Al Mutar says the country went...

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

We hope you’ve enjoyed this week’s excerpt from Examiner+, We love honest feedback. Tell us what you think: examinerplus@theexaminernews.com

John Pizzarelli Trio

Sunday, November 21, 2021  4:00pm  - Gardiner Theater

While John Pizzarelli — guitarist, singer and a foremost interpreter of the Great American Songbook — is known for working with artists such as Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, and Antônio Carlos Jobim, the musician he calls his hero is the legendary vocalist and pianist Nat King Cole.

Please note the afternoon time.

Tickets & Information:  www.pawlingconcertseries.org

The Westchester Bank

Built on Integrity and Exceptional Customer Service.

"The Westchester Bank
shares our values and are trusted partners in our success."

Robert Weisz
Chairman & CEO
RPW Group

The Westchester Bank.com

The Westchester Bank
Banking Made Personal®

Mamaroneck
305 Mamaroneck Ave.
(914) 315-2486

MT. KISCO
51 S. Moger Ave.
(914) 752-4262

OSSINING
240 S. Highland Ave.
(914) 502-4421

RYE BROOK
800 Westchester Ave., 4th Fl.
(914) 368-0987

THORNWOOD
994 Broadway
(914) 984-5446

WHITE PLAINS
464 Mamaroneck Ave.
(914) 290-6330

YONKERS
1900 Central Park Ave.
(914) 337-1900

John Tolomer
President & CEO
The Westchester Bank

Robert Weisz
Chairman & CEO
RPW Group

RPW Group
Chairman & CEO
Robert Weisz

The Westchester Bank

PERSONAL SAVINGS • MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS • CHECKING WITH ONLINE BANKING AND BILL PAY

examinerplus@theexaminernews.com
The glittering 30th annual Holiday Train Show is on track to start on Nov. 20 and run through Jan. 23 at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx near Fordham University.

It’s a seasonal treat, a must for the young and the young at heart. Thousands of Westchester residents, myself included, look forward to visiting the Botanical Garden, walking through the beautifully restored Enid Haupt Conservatory and seeing the seductive floral arrangements and dramatic plantings. It is one of the first Christmas events of the season.

For starters, enjoy the palate-pleasing lagniappe of marinated carrots, hot peppers and crusty Arthur Avenue bread. Great appetizers include the hot antipasto platter for two and the Spiedini al la Romana (skewered deep-fried mozzarella sandwiches).

Move on to entrees such as the penne rustica with sausage; stuffed braciola napoletana; osso bucco the size of Mount Vesuvius; or the traditional chicken parmigiana.

Open Tuesday through Sunday. There’s a free parking lot and valet service.

Mario’s is located at 2342 Arthur Ave. in the Bronx. Info: 718-584-1188 or visit www.mariosrestaurthurave.com.

Artie’s Steak & Seafood

There is an enhanced craft beer list as well as specialty cocktails and wines by the glass. There are also big combination platters to share, a loaded lobster salad roll at lunch and a deluxe-size hamburger platter.

Owner Spiro Chagares and his staff offer patrons a fine melding of traditional and contemporary dishes served with flair. Sit back in one of several dining areas and enjoy delectable lamb sliders, hearty seafood chowder; a seafood platter for two; tender short rib; a massive Zuppa Di Pesce; tender oven roasted rack of lamb; American shellfish jambalaya; chardonnay poached salmon with seafood; and fresh lobster prepared in a variety of styles.

Check out the bar and lounge in the evening for good networking. Open seven days. Free parking.

Artie’s Steak & Seafood is located at 394 City Island Ave. in the Bronx. Info: 718-885-9885 or visit www.artiescityisland.com.

Jack’s Bar

Jack’s is the new kid on the block – and a darn good one, too. Seasonal decorations are up, and owner Shane Clifford has been drawing a fine crowd. It has been remodeled and offers an enhanced Irish-American tavern menu on steroids. That’s the best way to describe it.

Generous specialties coming out of Chef Brendan Donohoe’s kitchen include spicy chicken ranch pizza; pepperoni and salami calzone; half roasted duck; decadent short rib mac and cheese; Jack’s meatballs; burrata pizza cooked in their wood-fired oven; Berkshire pork chop; and grilled lamb sliders. The staff could not be friendlier.

Open daily. There’s indoor and outdoor seating and televisions to watch. Municipal parking is free in the evenings.

Jack’s Bar is located at 219 Main St. in Eastchester. Info: 914-652-7650 or visit www.jackseastchester.com.

continued on next page
Enjoy the Holiday Train Show Followed By Some Great Eats

continued from previous page

Maria
Two-time winners of Michelin’s prestigious Bib Gourmet Award, brothers Peter and Giovanni Cucullo have been causing a stir in New Rochelle, drawing patronage from all over Westchester for their flavorful riff on Italian and global cooking. I love their happy hours from 3 to 7 p.m. when they offer favorite beverages and small plates that are loaded with flavor. I am already hooked on eclectic dishes like the glazed pork ribs, truffled green beans, grilled sausage with sweet and spicy Peruvian peppers, meatballs, cauliflower fritters and roasted shishito peppers.

A comfy dining room and bar is filled with artifacts from Mom. Friendly staff, too. The family also operates the bustling Fratelli Pizza & Pasta next door. Open Tuesday through Sunday.

Maria is located at 11 Huguenot St. in New Rochelle. Info: 914-636-0006 or visit www.marianewrochelle.com.

Gusto Pizza
David Masliah and Chef Erwen Perez of Encore have opened an artisanal pizza shop next to their popular bistro. One taste of their pies and your palate will fly off to foodie heaven.

The imported wood-burning pizza oven is named Victor, after David’s father, who was a pizzaiolo in France for many years. There’s wine by the glass, appetizers, salads and delicious personal-size pizzas such as the Margherita (tomato, fresh mozzarella and fresh basil) or the Pancetta (tomato, pancetta, crème fraîche, onion and mozzarella). A cozy and colorful setting.

Open seven days, from 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 11:30 a.m. Friday through Sunday.

Gusto Pizza is located at 18 Chatsworth Ave. in Larchmont. Info: 914-881-3466 or visit www.gustopizzany.com.

Macelleria
This high-end Italian steakhouse offers classic cuts of prime beef and chops along with a hearty helping of Italian-American specialties. Tony Lala and his crew will take good care of you.

Be seated in the handsomely renovated dining room and bar and lounge and peruse the menu over a glass of wine. There are diver scallops, steak tartare, slabs of Canadian bacon, spaghetti carbonara, pappardelle with short rib Ragu, zuppa di pesce and even a classic burger to enjoy. Carnivores should consider the lamb chops, veal chop or New York strip steak.

Open seven days for lunch and dinner.

Macelleria is located at 111 Bedford Rd. in Armonk. Info: 914-219-5728 or visit www.macelleriaitaliansteakhouse.com.

Mughal Palace
Owner Mohammad Alam serves a delicious variety of regional Indian specialties. Look for the Lasuni Gobi (cauliflower florets tossed with bell peppers, onion and garlic and green herbs); chicken barbecue kabab (marinated boneless chicken cooked in the tandoor oven); lamb bhuna (pieces of lamb cooked in a medium-spiced sauce of bell peppers, tomatoes and fresh Indian herbs); and mango chicken (boneless chunks of chicken cooked with fresh mango, ginger, garlic and dry spices). A glass of lassi with help wash it all down. Cocktails are served. Open seven days.

Mughal Palace is located at 16 Broadway in Valhalla. Info: 914-997-6090 or visit www.mughalpalace.com.

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

Are you a veteran?
Let us treat you!

Join us for a complimentary meal and information on how to secure your burial benefits!

Call to register:
(914) 949-0566
SPCA Announces Star-Studded Virtual Gala to Air November 18

SPCA Westchester announced its star-studded lineup for its Welcome Home Virtual Gala, which is the one online event of the year not to be missed!

Viewers will enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the SPCA’s new state-of-the-art animal rescue center, which opened this past summer. Throughout the Welcome Home Virtual Gala, various wings of the new building will be introduced by a long list of celebrities who support the SPCA’s many life-saving programs.

Special appearances include Broadway legend and Tony-Award winner Bernadette Peters, Grammy-winning artist Rob Thomas, musician Paul Shaffer, comedian Robert Klein, NHL coach John Tortorella, Yankee broadcaster Suzyn Waldman and many more.

“This year’s virtual gala gives us an opportunity to showcase our new home, which is truly an amazing space for our rescue dogs and cats,” said Shannon Laukhuf, SPCA Westchester’s executive director. “If you’re unable to visit and take a tour of our rescue center, not to worry, we can bring the SPCA to you. We encourage all animal lovers to tune in to learn more about the SPCA and to get an inside look at what we do to support our community. And when else are you going to see an old English library and music room made especially for rescue animals to live in?”

The SPCA is looking to raise critical funds for its many rescue and community outreach programs during this special event.

For further details or to support SPCA’s Welcome Home Virtual Gala, visit spcawestchester.org or contact Lisa Bonanno, director of development, by e-mail at Lisa@spcawestchester.org. SPCA of Westchester’s YouTube page can be found at YouTube.com/spcawestchester.


Dying is Not the Problem!

Dear Mr. Di Costanzo:
Is having a Last Will and Testament enough?

When I meet with individuals regarding their estate planning needs, I am often asked to “put their affairs in order.” In most cases, they are asking for a Last Will and Testament. You might be surprised, however, to learn that a will might be the least important document in your estate plan.

Understand that a will only takes effect upon your death. Until your death, it has no legal significance.

While planning for the orderly disposition of your assets upon your death is important, planning for your disability or incapacity is of greater importance. If you fall ill and have taken no action to protect or preserve your assets, you run the risk of losing them to the cost of long-term care. As such, one of the most utilized and sought-after planning techniques of an elder law attorney is the Medicaid trust.

A Medicaid asset protection trust is paramount to a will. In fact, a power of attorney is paramount to a will. Without proper asset protection planning, there may be no assets to pass to your heirs under a will. For the above reasons, an estate plan that only considers a will may be deficient.

Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with the firm of Maker, Fragale & Di Costanzo, LLP located in Rye and Yorktown Heights. Mr. Di Costanzo is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law and estate planning. He can be reached at (914) 245-2440 or via e-mail at smd@mfd-law.com. Visit his practice specific website at www.plantodayfortomorrow.com.
Wine in the Time of Jesus – and in Today’s Catholic Mass

By Nick Antonaccio

Last week, I attempted to follow the history and antecedent practices leading to today’s Christian celebration of the Eucharist, the celebration of Christ’s Last Supper. In this week’s column, I address the two questions I left unanswered: Which wine did Christ likely consume during his life on earth? What type of wine do we consume at mass in the 21st century?

Christ’s wine? The four gospel writers don’t mention a specific varietal, vintage or producer. That is not unusual. In all likelihood, it was the house wine that was served in that upper dining room as Christ and his disciples reclined at the table – Christ’s last supper.

Fast forward to today’s restaurant dining experiences. Do you remember the wine served to you the last time you ordered “a carafe of the house red?” Wine was a natural accompaniment to food in Christ’s time, not of the house red? Wine was a natural experience. Do you enjoy as a pairing experience with the accompaniment to food in Christ’s time, not of the house red? Wine was a natural experience. Do you

Supper.

but little resemblance to ancient wines. Across the globe, modern wines are of a higher quality, with more discerning taste and aroma profiles.

Except in church.

For Catholics, the prescripts for the production of sacramental wines are codified in the Code of Canon Law. Published in 1983, the Code of Canon Law codifies the production of sacramental wines. It dictates that the wine for the Eucharist in the 21st century offerings in accordance with the Code of Canon Law. They offer a number of choices, yet names printed on the bottle labels tend to be more brand-related than varietal type. Names such as Tokay, Burgundy and Port are generic descriptors not alluding to the contents, which are rarely disclosed.

There are three basic categories: dry, light and sweet, the latter being the most prevalent. These wines typically are a proprietary blend of California grapes that result in a red, or orange, or yellow, or amber, or brown, or pink wine.

The most widely grown blending grapes are Chenin Blanc, French Colombard, Chardonnay, Petit Syrah, Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon – and in many instances an underpinning of Thomson seedless grapes. Many are fortified with natural brandy or alcohol (as a preservative). The limit mandated for alcohol content is 18 percent. They typically are screw-cap bottles costing under $7 each, but don’t look for them in your local wine shop; they’re generally sold only to churches.

Christians seeking the certainty of consuming a natural, organic wine with no additives and a long history of ancient practices and symbolic legacy need look no further than their local church. One caveat: whether it meets your personal preferences and taste should not be a criterion.

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.

The most widely grown blending grapes are Chenin Blanc, French Colombard, Chardonnay, Petit Syrah, Zinfandel, Cabernet Sauvignon – and in many instances an underpinning of Thomson seedless grapes. Many are fortified with natural brandy or alcohol (as a preservative). The limit mandated for alcohol content is 18 percent. They typically are screw-cap bottles costing under $7 each, but don’t look for them in your local wine shop; they’re generally sold only to churches.

Christians seeking the certainty of consuming a natural, organic wine with no additives and a long history of ancient practices and symbolic legacy need look no further than their local church. One caveat: whether it meets your personal preferences and taste should not be a criterion.

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.
INTRODUCING...

Examiner+

WESTCHESTER’S DIGITAL NEWSMAGAZINE
Examiner-Plus.com | @ExaminerMedia

Sign up now for a FREE subscription to Examiner+ for partial access OR join as a paid member and enjoy FULL ACCESS to all of our premium news and feature stories. Support professional, independent local journalism.

Examiner+ goes deeper, wider, and longer in our storytelling. Vivid photography, infographics, and deep dives. Local lifestyle: food and drink, home and garden, arts and entertainment.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY
www.Examiner-Plus.com