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June 3 - June 9, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 352

## No. Castle Appoints Provisional Chief Amidst Charges of Cover-up

By Martin Wilbur

The North Castle Town Board appointed Peter Simonsen provisional chief of the town's police force last Wednesday night replacing Geoffrey Harisch, who announced his resignation last month because of alleged harassment by Town Administrator Joan Goldberg.

Simonsen, 50, who has been with the department since 1990, took over the reins on Sunday. He began his law enforcement career in Pound Ridge in 1989 before transferring to North Castle and working his way up through the ranks.

Harisch, elevated to chief last August, will be allowed to return to his previous lieutenant's position under civil service law because he was still within his one-year probationary period.

"(It's) an honor to have earned the confidence and trust and the endorsement of this board, and a privilege to be the

next chief of the Town of North Castle Police Department," Simonsen said at the May 28 town board meeting.

"I am very proud to be part of this department and look forward to a bright future of continued success and accomplishment," he added.

However, the appointment was overshadowed by continuing controversy surrounding Harisch's decision to step down from the post. The outgoing chief read his May 15 resignation letter during the public comments portion of the meeting.

The letter accused Goldberg and the town board of failing to act on overtime abuses that the former chief uncovered by retired Lt. William Fisher and refusing to appoint two officers to fill vacancies that would have provided the department with adequate manpower.

Harisch said if he would have continued

*continued on page 2*



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Peter Simonsen was appointed North Castle's new police chief last week following last month's resignation of Geoffrey Harisch. However, the controversy involving Harisch and Town Administrator continues.

## New Castle Agrees to Keep Shapiro as Administrator for Full Two Years

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein announced last week that the town board majority has agreed to retain Administrator Jill Simon Shapiro for the post for two years after being satisfied with her performance during the probationary period.

Shapiro, who was appointed in early January for a temporary six-month stint, has a contract to remain in the position through 2015.

The agreement was officially made public by Greenstein late last Tuesday



New Castle Town Administrator Jill Simon Shapiro will remain in the post through the end of next year.

night when he released a statement following the board's executive session where the decision was reached.

"We have confidence in Jill's abilities and we are grateful for her service," Greenstein's statement read in part. "We value the fact that our Town Administrator has those same values and comes from our Town, and fully appreciates the issues that face the Town. Her experience has proven

invaluable. We will not look elsewhere for that perfect candidate. We have the

*continued on page 4*

## New Exercise Facility Approved in Mt. Kisco Despite Parking Debate

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Kisco Planning Board last week approved a new exercise facility but fewer patrons will be allowed initially during certain hours because officials maintained there could be parking concerns.

The planning board amended the change of use for the property at 145 Kisco Ave. to allow for the operation of Flywheel, a physical training studio. The facility will use 13,000 square feet of the 24,000-square-foot structure, with 89 parking spaces available for the entire building. The site was vacated by the Mount Kisco Athletic Club several years ago.

Planning board members said they wanted to limit the number of visitors that could exercise at Flywheel during the early morning and evening hours. They asked

the applicant to return in five months so the board can evaluate whether there is sufficient parking before agreeing to the originally requested capacity.

Michael Zarin, an attorney representing applicant 145 Kisco Ave. Corp., said his client wanted to be able to have 60 patrons come to Flywheel between 5:30 and 8:15 a.m. and after 5:30 p.m. Zarin said he understood there needs to be a 32-customer limit during the rest of the day.

He said adequate parking is available during the early morning and evening hours because the other businesses in the building do not use parking spaces at those times.

However, planning board members disagreed with Zarin. Board Chairman

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# No. Castle Appoints Provisional Chief Amidst Charges of Cover-up

*continued from page 1*

as chief it would have negatively affected the department and left him without job security.

"I was denied an opportunity in my career and they knew that," Harisch said on Thursday. "I needed to go back to my union-protected position. I had to be protected. I have no choice."

On Thursday, he and Jason Berland, the attorney who represented Harisch on his notice of claim filing against Goldberg and the town in January regarding similar allegations, continued to call on officials to conduct an independent

audit of the department's compensatory overtime records since 2000. Harisch said he had spoken with a Westchester County assistant district attorney who made the same recommendation.

But Wednesday night Town Attorney Roland Baroni told Harisch that his conclusion was wrong. Baroni read a letter sent to the town from the district attorney's office earlier this year, which never mentioned that an independent audit should be conducted.

"It was our determination that this matter should be handled administratively by the Town of North

Castle," Baroni said, reciting the letter. "Accordingly, we are referring this matter back to the Town of North Castle for whatever administrative action is deemed appropriate."

Harisch and Berland countered that the current town board never conducted proper investigations into Goldberg's alleged abusive behavior or the excessive police overtime. However, after meeting with Harisch Apr. 30, officials docked \$15,000 from Fisher's terminal leave pay in acknowledgement of some level of wrongdoing, Berland said.

Berland, who filed another notice of claim against Goldberg and the town on behalf of his wife, former comptroller Faith Berland, who also has charged the administrator with harassment, said the town is trying to sweep Goldberg's actions under the rug.

"To be crystal clear, there was no investigation into Joan Goldberg's harassing behavior," he said in a statement last Thursday. "Nobody spoke to Chief Harisch once he came forward to illuminate Goldberg's deplorable and illegal actions. The only conversation the board had with Chief Harisch involved abuses of overtime pay."

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the town's special labor counsel had completed its investigation and found no evidence of wrongdoing on Goldberg's part.

He lauded Goldberg for her professionalism and Fisher's dedication to the community.

"I have found (Joan Goldberg) to be a very professional municipal employee," Schiliro said. "We have our debates and disagreements. I always try to learn something from them. I hope she learns something from me. I find her to be competent and knows the municipal world very well and I always appreciated anything I can learn from you."

But retired water and sewer superintendent Anthony Futia said some of the complaints outlined by Harisch are similar to the harassment he endured during his 44 years working for the town when he tried alerting officials to abuses.

Futia charged that the town board wants the police department to be under its control instead of letting the law enforcement professionals do their job. At one point he referred to Goldberg as "a tyrant."

"Joan could make (Harisch's) life miserable, the town board could make his life miserable, and I don't blame him for not wanting to be in a situation like that," Futia said.

Despite the swirling controversy, Simonsen said he and Harisch have had a good working relationship and doesn't expect there to be problems switching posts.

# New Exercise Facility Approved in Mt. Kisco Despite Parking Debate

*continued from page 1*

Joseph Cosentino said Flywheel should be limited to 45 patrons after 5:30 p.m. The facility will have the 32-patron maximum during the traditional workday hours to assure adequate parking for the building, he said.

Planning board member Ralph Vigliotti said the board should only agree to 60 customers in the early morning and evening hours once the applicant can prove for four to six months there was adequate parking.

"I think that's fair and reasonable," he said.

Zarin responded that Flywheel needs a 60-person capacity to make the business economically viable. Otherwise "it's going to be very hard to get the tenant," he said.

"There's more than enough parking," Zarin maintained.

Despite Zarin's protests, the board granted approval for the change of use amendment with conditions for a maximum of 45 patrons for early morning and evening hours and 32 customers during the remaining hours of operation. The board also agreed to have the applicant return in five months to get the limits adjusted if it can be demonstrated there is sufficient parking.

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# Neighbors: Revised New Castle Legionaries Proposal Wrong for Area

By Martin Wilbur

Homeowners near the 96-acre Legionaries of Christ property in New Castle last week blasted a developer's proposed multifamily housing project and urged officials to reject the requested rezone because it could have devastating environmental impacts.

Residents from Tripp Street and Route 128 spent close to two hours explaining to the town board during the May 27 scoping session that Soder Real Estate Equities' new plan, Rosehill, that would build 60 condominium units would threaten the character and tranquility of the neighborhood.

Soder Real Estate of Montclair, N.J. has requested the two-acre single-family property be rezoned to a floating designation called a Unique Property Preservation (UPP) district that would allow for the multifamily development to be built. The applicant recently withdrew a larger plan that proposed commercial uses including a hotel, restaurant and spa along with about 50 condo units.

"Yes, this property does have unique architectural, environmental and open space features; however, the proposed project does the opposite of preserving these features," said Tripp Street resident David Schlesinger. "It threatens to destroy them."

Several residents contended that

building 60 two- and three-bedroom units, many of which would be in the 2,500- to 3,000-square-foot range, will likely attract families with children, not the empty nesters the applicant claims would be drawn.

Resident Sharon Greene said the units will be bigger than many of the private homes in the neighborhood. She also said getting enough water and a large enough septic field to build the project, issues that dogged the mixed use proposal, remain in place.

"So without any type of age restriction on that, it's absolutely absurd to expect that you're not going to have families on this," Greene said. "And that has impact on the taxes and the schools, but it has impact on the water usage."

The property is within the Bedford School District. Mark Betz, the district's assistant superintendent for business and administrative services, said school officials have yet to speak to the developer or his representatives. He also asked that Soder Real Estate go need to detail the method they will use to calculate the number of schoolchildren generated by the project.

Attorney David Steinmetz, who is representing the applicant, said that analysis would be completed and released along with many other findings, but did not expect the number to be significant.



Developer Stephen Oder, shown here last month listened to sharp criticisms last week of his proposed 60-unit condominium project during a scoping session before the New Castle Town Board.

Another Tripp Street resident, Jodi Buren, was one of several residents who questioned why the town was entertaining a significant zoning change. She said she was angry because if the request is granted the zone would be completely out of character with the surrounding territory.

She also took a swipe at a comment made by Steinmetz, who stated that the revised application was submitted after listening to the neighbors' concerns about the larger mixed-use project.

"The neighbors were very clear: they said it's two-acre zoning and that's what they believe should be here," Buren said. "They don't believe there should be condos in their backyards and it was not based on what the neighbors said."

Other residents voiced displeasure that the proposed building's 40-foot height was not in keeping with town zoning and would tower over their homes. Steinmetz responded that the new wings would be no taller than what is at the site today.

Resident Jeff Goldstein said he was "extremely disappointed" that the majority of the town board has yet to visit Tripp Street and that three members of the board, who have been so vocal against the controversial Chappaqua Crossing project, have been silent with Rosehill.

"We may not be in the Chappaqua School District, we may not have a Chappaqua address, but we vote, we pay taxes and we expect each one of you to respect our interests," Goldstein said.

Councilwoman Lisa Katz assured the residents that the board will take all residents' comments and its review of the rezone request seriously.

"We'll study this just as hard as any other project," Katz said.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein and Councilman Adam Brodsky told residents the board would visit the site soon and will also return when the leaves are off the trees in winter.

The scoping session was closed, but the public has until Monday, June 16 to submit written comments. The public hearing on the rezone was tentatively scheduled to begin at the town board's June 24 meeting.



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# New Castle Agrees to Keep Shapiro as Administrator for Full Two Years

continued from page 1

perfect person doing the job right now.”

Shapiro, who previously served as town clerk from 2005 through last year, will earn a \$135,000 salary. Before her service as town clerk, Shapiro also had worked as receiver of taxes and was town prosecutor for 16 years.

Greenstein acknowledged that he and the board majority have been criticized for selecting Shapiro without conducting a search for other candidates. However, the supervisor said spending time on a search when a majority of the board was

happy with the performance of a highly capable administrator would give the wrong impression.

“The reason is we chose not to do a search because it sends a message that you’re not happy with the job that the person is doing,” Greenstein said.

He also stated that since there was no deputy administrator in place, Shapiro was extremely helpful in assisting the new board through the early transition period.

Greenstein mentioned that since Shapiro has been the administrator the relationship with the Chappaqua School District has improved.

But Councilman Jason Chapin, who opposed Shapiro’s probationary appointment in January because the entire board wasn’t consulted and involved in the interview process, said his position hadn’t changed since that time.

“I felt it was a problem then and we still weren’t getting to the root of the problem and the town board wasn’t exercising (its) fiduciary responsibility,” he said.

Chapin stressed that his decision not to back Shapiro wasn’t a reflection on her performance.

Councilman Adam Brodsky said Shapiro’s institutional knowledge coupled with her performance since the start of the year justified the board’s decision.

While he respected Chapin’s point of view, there was no reason to risk losing a dedicated public servant in Shapiro.

“I don’t think that it would have been the right thing to do for our community and I don’t think that would have been

the right thing to do for Jill,” Brodsky said.

Board members said they did not know how long a search would have taken or how much it would have cost.

# North Castle to Draw Up RFP to Search for Comp Plan Consultant

By Martin Wilbur

The Town of North Castle is preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to search for a consultant to help officials update the municipality’s Comprehensive Plan for the first time in nearly 20 years.

Director of Planning Adam Kaufman will be submitting a draft of the RFP for the town board to inspect. Kaufman said it the goal of the town to bring aboard the consultant in the early fall.

“The more direction we can put in the RFP the better the proposals we’re going to get from the consultants,” Kaufman said. “I do want to take the time to make sure we have it right.”

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the key focus of the Comprehensive Plan update will be the commercial districts in the town’s three hamlets--Armonk, Banksville and North White Plains.

Each one of those commercial

centers currently have unique issues and challenges, he said. Revitalization of the Banksville commercial district is a priority while sprucing up North White Plains is essential. Properly managing Armonk’s recent commercial growth spurt is also key.

“In Armonk, there’s a lot of good things going on in the hamlet but how do we maintain it,” Schiliro said.

The last time North Castle updated its Comprehensive Plan was 1996. The blueprint, which was first unveiled in 1967, was also update in the 1970s.

The town board announced that it is looking for residents to volunteer for the special board to help with the Comprehensive Plan process. The board will have seven members. If anyone is interested, they may contact the town clerk’s office.

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# No. Castle Eyes Rec Center Lot Expansion for More Armonk Parking

By Martin Wilbur

North Castle officials are moving forward with a plan to add parking at the Hergenhan Recreation Center as part of a strategy to ease the crunch in downtown Armonk.

The current proposal calls on the town to enlarge the parking area behind the building to accommodate more than double its current capacity, from 20 to 44 vehicles, and to pave the gravel lot on the side of the building to make room for up to 29 cars. Currently, about 21 cars can fit in the side lot, although with a poor surface and the lack of defined spaces drivers often park haphazardly limiting capacity, officials said.

Cost estimates for the work at the recreation center are about \$445,000 for the two lots, including between \$250,000 and \$300,000 for the back lot, said Director of Planning Adam Kaufman. The work could be paid for through borrowing, fund balance or the use of capital projects money.

Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto said she supported rehabilitating and enlarging both areas because of the pressing need for more parking in the hamlet.

"I think that this is going to be money well spent. This is not frivolous and I feel very strongly that I would like to see us construct better parking areas,"

DiGiacinto said.

Kaufman said it has been recommended by the town's engineers to not only expand the rear Hergenhan lot but to reconfigure the area to improve flow and maximize space.

The town has been searching for ways to add parking in downtown Armonk, particularly since the opening of Armonk Square last year. However, DiGiacinto said the issue has been a headache for years even before the new shopping center opened.

Officials are also exploring other methods to increase parking elsewhere. Kaufman asked the board to evaluate a fee in lieu of parking arrangement that would allow the owners of new businesses that would otherwise be unable to meet the town's parking requirement to pay a predetermined sum for each space they fall short of that requirement.

North Castle would then use the money collected to construct new parking, such as converting town-owned land at the end of Kent Place, Kaufman said. Kent Place parking would cost roughly double the expense of the back lot because there are environmental issues for the town to navigate, he said.

He said there have been businesses, particularly restaurants, that had been eyeing Main Street but had to be turned away because of the parking shortage.

"It would be our recommendation to build the easier parking at Hergenhan first, potentially establish this fee in lieu of, establish a bank of money and that would be used to construct the more expensive parking at Kent Place in the future, should we need it," Kaufman said.

He estimated there could be about 45 parking spaces created in the Kent Place area.

Furthermore, Supervisor Michael Schiliro said he has plans to speak with representatives from Verizon in the coming weeks to discuss the possibility of using a portion of that company's lot to add to the downtown parking inventory. If the town gained access to the Verizon lot at least 30 spaces would be added.

Another possibility for parking is about 20 spots at the new park at Maple Avenue and Bedford Road referred to as Wampus

Park South, should the town move forward with that proposal.

"The good problem is there's a lot of vibrancy in the hamlet and people are coming and it's a good problem to have," Schiliro said. "We just need to figure out how to park better."

He added that he plans to reach out to state and federal representatives to see if there is any money available to offset costs.

The town's engineers were instructed to move forward with design for the recreation center work.

Town Administrator Joan Goldberg said the town's bond counsel could prepare a resolution enabling the municipality to borrow for the Hegenhan parking lot work if the board decided that would be the best way to pay. The resolution has a 10-year expiration date, she said.

## Carnival Atmosphere

This weekend the Armonk Lions Club will be holding its annual Fol de Rol at Wampus Brook Park to raise money for various causes and organizations. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the event. For more information, see page 16.



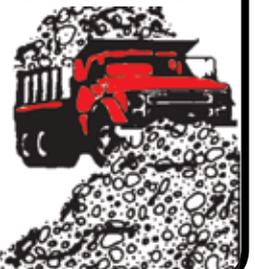
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## Rejected Applicants Gear Up to Challenge Chap Train Station Lease

By Martin Wilbur

The two proprietors whose applications were recently rejected to operate a restaurant at the Chappaqua train station have begun collecting signatures to force the Town of New Castle to schedule a referendum to challenge the lease.

Chappaqua residents Carla Gambescia, owner of Via Vanti! in Mount Kisco, and Peter and Erin Chase, who own a worldwide hospitality development company, decided

last Friday to try and force a permissive referendum, about a week and a half after the town board made its decision.

In a 4-1 vote on May 20, the board awarded a 10-year lease to Leslie Lampert, owner of Ladle of Love and Cafe of Love in Mount Kisco. Lampert plans to open a bistro called Love at 10514 at the town-owned train station building.

In a joint statement from Gambescia and the Chases, they decried a process that they

contended lacked transparency. They have also launched a Facebook page titled Our Station, Our Town highlighting the issues.

"We are fully confident we will be able to gather the required number of local registered voters' signatures, resulting in the issuance of a Permissive Referendum on the lease and restarting the (Request for Proposal) process based on a fair and transparent approach," the statement read in part.

Gambescia said on Monday that the petition to trigger a referendum would have to be filed by June 19. They would need about 350 valid signatures from registered voters in the town.

Gambescia said that while she and the Chases had different issues with the board, they agreed there were irregularities with how the RFP was handled.

"We're pursuing this because we don't feel it was a fair and open process," said Gambescia, who stated if a referendum is scheduled the new establishment would likely have to wait. "It's about the process."

Gambescia was told by the previous town board she would be awarded the lease. After the current town board was seated she had a disagreement about the public's access to the bathrooms.

At the time of the board's vote two weeks ago, Supervisor Robert Greenstein said Lampert's proposal "meets the needs of our community and provides the best re-adaptive use of (the) depot's beautiful interior space."

Meanwhile, Lampert said she is still planning on moving into the space this summer. While hesitant to comment, she said she hoped to provide a positive experience for the community.

"We're just really focused on everything that's we're set up to be creating," Lampert said.

## Deck Replacement Plan Divides Mt. Kisco Condo Owners

By Neal Rentz

A proposal to replace decks at the Timber Ridge Condominium complex in Mount Kisco is dividing some of the residents.

The condo association is seeking to replace 45 decks in the 49-unit complex because they are aging, dating back to the 1970s. Four of the units have never had decks and are not part of the plan.

Condominium association President Stefanita Vasilesca said many of the current decks need to be reinforced.

Charles Martabano, an attorney representing the condo owners, told the planning board that the association is currently before the zoning board of appeals because about half of the decks would require a variance.

"The majority of them are not safe,"

Martabano said.

Planning board comments were sought regarding the condo association's plan by about 20 unit owners who attended the May 27 meeting. The association previously appeared before the planning board for amended site plan approval in 2011 but decided against moving forward at the time.

According to a survey taken three years ago, 84 percent of Timber Ridge condo owners agreed with the plan to replace the decks with longer decks.

Planning board members said they did not want to interfere with the ZBA's deliberations and would not provide comments.

"The ZBA is more qualified to make their own decision," Vice Chairman Anthony Sturniolo said.



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# Labor Board to Preside Over Mrs. Green's Trial in July

By Janine Bowen

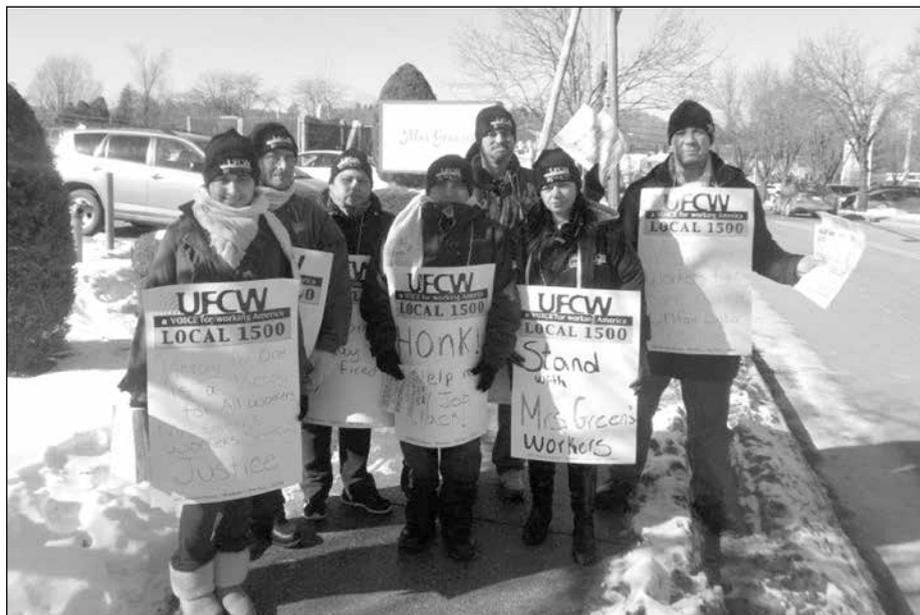
A date for a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) trial has been set to hear the case regarding eight employees who were fired by Mrs. Green's Natural Market in Mount Kisco.

Mrs. Green's was charged on May 15 with unlawful termination of the employees by an NLRB regional director. The January firings allegedly took place because the employees supported formation of a union.

The case will be heard before an administrative law judge on July 14.

United Food and Commercial Workers Union (Local 1500) spokesperson Joe Fedele said an internal investigation by the NLRB found merit in the union's claim that the employees' firings constituted unfair labor practices. The NLRB has also revoked a previous settlement stemming from unfair labor practices that it agreed to with Mrs. Green's last November.

Earlier last year the company was accused of intimidating and interrogating employees to dissuade them from voting to establish the union. In the settlement, Mrs. Green's agreed to "create a safe, intimidation free work environment." It was also required to post a notice informing employees of their rights, which include the right to form a union, for 60 days. The notices were taken down prematurely following the termination of



The eight fired Mrs. Green's workers at the company's Mount Kisco store have been joined on the picket line by various supporters since January.

the eight employees, which constitutes a breach of the agreement.

Fedele said the previous settlement's revocation will help the workers' case, some of whom had been with the company for more than a decade. They all want to return to work.

"It's been a good grassroots campaign and it just seems blatantly obvious that this was a major screw up by the company

and I think we're in good shape now after this announcement," Fedele said.

Since January, the terminated employees have been picketing in front of the store on Lexington Avenue in Mount Kisco. They have received support from several local organizations and elected officials. There are 18 Mrs. Green's stores throughout the metropolitan area.

A spokesperson for Mrs. Green's, John

Collins, voiced concern that the union has been dispensing information that is incorrect and out of date.

"This is just the process moving forward, there's nothing new in this," he said of the information regarding the trial.

Collins noted that the company has provided 1,000 new jobs in 2013, and is concerned with the well-being of its employees.

"Mrs. Green's Natural Market is proud of its workers and continues to invest in them - employing more full-time workers than its competitors, giving bonuses and discounts to hourly employees, and creating profit sharing and promotion opportunities for our employees," Collins said in an email statement. "We provide our workers with a path to the middle class, helping them build a better future for their families across the New York region."

Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) has been one of the elected officials who have been supportive of the picketing employees, and hopes to see the fired employees return to work.

"The right to organize a union is a basic principal of labor law," said Buchwald. "Especially now that the NLRB has weighed in, the workers at Mrs. Green's who were inappropriately terminated should be reinstated to their jobs."

*B.F.*

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# Greeley Assistant Principal Selected to Lead Seven Bridges

By Martin Wilbur

The Chappaqua School District announced on Friday afternoon that Horace Greeley High School Assistant Principal Andrew Corsilia will lead Seven Bridges Middle School starting in 2015-16.

In her letter to the community, Superintendent Dr. Lyn McKay said

Corsilia, who has worked at Greeley for the past 16 years, was the best candidate for the job following an extensive two-year search to fill the vacancy. She said that he "has earned the respect and admiration of colleagues, students and parents."

"From the beginning, our Board of Education and I were committed to

finding the best possible principal for Seven Bridges," McKay stated in her letter. "I am confident that we have found that person, right here in Chappaqua, and now I am committed to making this transition work well for both schools."

The board is scheduled to vote on whether to approve Corsilia at its meeting this Wednesday night.

McKay said that the year's delay will insure a smooth transition process for the school and the district. Corsilia will see next year's senior class to graduation while former Grafflin Elementary School Principal Dr. Michael Kirsch will continue in the role of interim at Seven Bridges for next year.

The vacancy was created when Martha Zornow, the previous Seven Bridges Middle School principal, left the district last June.

Corsilia began his career at Greeley as an English teacher in 1998, then became the school's English Department chairman. He has been assistant principal for the last two years.

He earned his bachelor's in English from the University of Vermont and



Andrew Corsilia

his masters in teaching from Teachers College, Columbia University. Later he obtained a masters in Building and District Leadership from Bank Street College.

## New Teachers Contract Approved in Mount Pleasant

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Pleasant Board of Education last week unanimously approved a new five-year teachers' contract retroactive to July 1, 2012.

The board's vote followed the May 20 ratification by the Mount Pleasant Teachers Association (MPTA) of the new pact by a 188-22 margin. The MPTA represents 212 teachers, teaching assistants, support staff and school nurses. The contract runs through June 2017.

Union President Ellen Igo said union members' salaries will rise a total of 3.6 percent over the duration of the contract. Health insurance

contributions by union members will rise from the current 12 percent to 14.5 percent by the final year of the contract.

The agreement also calls for the continuation of the block scheduling format at Westlake High School for the next three years.

Coming to terms on the new contract was not easy, Igo said.

"The negotiating process took over two years to complete," she said. "It was a difficult process due to the economic climate and the tax cap."

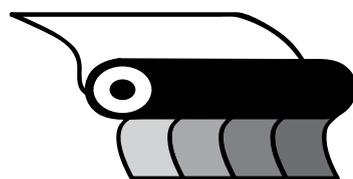
Messages left for Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Guiney were not returned.

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# Police Blotter

## Mount Kisco Police Department

**May 23:** A 65-year-old Mount Kisco man was arrested at 9:14 p.m. for urinating in public on South Moger Avenue.

**May 24:** Report of an incident of criminal mischief on Diplomat Drive at 6:12 a.m. The owner of a 2006 Honda Accord told police that paint on the vehicle had been scratched.

**May 25:** Two Bedford Hills men, 20 and 25 years old, and a 23-year-old Pleasantville man were arrested on South Moger Avenue at 11:39 p.m. and charged with disorderly conduct following a report of a fight in progress.

**May 26:** Report of a male holding a rock near the North Moger Avenue parking lot. The complainant was concerned that the subject would throw it at someone or at cars. The subject, a 33-year-old homeless man who is often seen in the village, did not throw the object.

**May 27:** Three individuals reported a suspicious incident at headquarters at 12:58 a.m. that had occurred several

moments earlier. They stated that they saw a male riding a bicycle on Kirby Plaza, then he stopped to get off the bike, leave it on the street and get into a 2013 Lexus. Later that day, Mount Pleasant police located the car and confirmed it was stolen. The subject was being sought.

**May 28:** Report of a grand larceny involving a debit card on North Bedford Road at 11:46 a.m. The investigation is still ongoing; no further information is available.

**May 29:** Report of a domestic incident at a Foxwood Circle residence at 1:56 a.m. Following a disturbance, a 32-year-old man who lived at the residence was arrested and charged with two counts of second-degree criminal contempt and fourth-degree criminal possession of a weapon. The criminal contempt charges stemmed from him failing to surrender his weapons while an order of protection was in effect against him. The disturbance started when his ex-girlfriend appeared at his home and found that he was with another woman. The ex-girlfriend, a 32-year-old Easton,

Conn. woman, was arrested for third-degree assault for throwing her wallet and striking the other woman in the head.

**May 30:** Report of criminal mischief on Main Street at 9:05 a.m. A construction crew that was working on a new business that will open reported that someone had disturbed freshly poured cement causing about \$5,000 worth of damage.

## Pleasantville Police Department

**May 25:** Report of a larceny on Broadway at 8:47 p.m. The incident is under investigation; no further information is available.

**May 26:** At 11:41 a.m., it was discovered that part of a fence was stolen from a property on Academy Street.

**May 30:** A 29-year-old Tarrytown man was arrested at 9:21 a.m. and charged with driving with a suspended license following a traffic stop on Brentwood Drive. The suspect had several outstanding vehicle and traffic violations pending.

## North Castle Police Department

**May 25:** A woman arrived at headquarters at 1:52 a.m. to drop off a black and white Husky she found running loose near routes 22 and 128. The dog had no tags and was placed in the kennel. Two Huskies were reported missing on May 24 at about 10:10 p.m. from La Quinta Inn on Business Park Drive.

**May 25:** Report of a grand larceny at the Brynwood Club on Bedford Road at 6:54 a.m. The golf course's superintendent reported missing property.

**May 28:** A complainant reported at headquarters at 11:13 a.m. that she received a "threatening" phone call.

**May 28:** A caller reported at 11:35 p.m. that two parties were fighting on North Broadway. The responding officers stated that the subjects were apparently play fighting and have since stopped.

**May 29:** Report of a larceny from a vehicle on Business Park Drive at 9:57 a.m. The caller stated that one of his company's cars had a window broken and the GPS was stolen.

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# Kaplowitz Optimistic County, Feds Can Resolve Housing Settlement Issues

By Neal Rentz

Westchester County Board of Legislators Chairman Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) said the county can meet its obligations in the affordable housing settlement if it completes reports to the satisfaction of the federal monitor.

At a May 28 press conference, Kaplowitz said the remaining piece of the settlement is the Analysis of Impediment. The county must also submit the state Berenson socioeconomic test to see if there is exclusionary zoning in Westchester, and the federal Huntington test, which has not been appropriately analyzed by the county, he said.

The Huntington test, which is a racial analysis of a community and the potential impact on zoning, has not been completed to the satisfaction of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Kaplowitz said.

"The big news today is that the monitor has agreed, at no additional cost to the taxpayers of Westchester County, to engage in the data collection, the analysis and the reporting on the Huntington test," Kaplowitz said.

The monitor had found that seven of Westchester's 31 communities named in the 2009 housing settlement had potential exclusionary zoning. Kaplowitz said Mamaroneck has voluntarily modified its zoning. Five of the six remaining

communities-- Pelham Manor, Pound Ridge, Lewisboro, Ossining and Croton-on-Hudson--are in discussions with the federal monitor, who is scheduled to provide a report to the county this summer. The other community, Harrison, has discussed its zoning among its own officials but has not yet met with the monitor, Kaplowitz said.

The county must test to determine if there is exclusionary zoning, Kaplowitz said. He said he doesn't believe there is, but if the study uncovers problems the affected communities could make voluntary changes.

The Huntington test was completed by County Executive Rob Astorino's office; however, the monitor determined that more work needs to be done. Kaplowitz said the county has failed to follow up.

If the county agrees, the monitor could submit his completed version of the Huntington study by August, he said.

"There's been a contention out here that this is a sellout," Kaplowitz added. "Absolutely not. We are buying into reality. We are buying into an opportunity to finally bring (an) end to this impasse, which is costing the taxpayers significant dollars. There's no exclusionary zoning out there. There's certainly no intentional exclusionary zoning."

Following Kaplowitz's comments, Legislator John Testa (R-Peekskill) took issue with the board chairman, who



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Westchester County Board of Legislators Chairman Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) discussed the county's affordable housing settlement with the federal government at a May 28 press conference in White Plains.

contended that having some municipalities change zoning laws would be relinquishing local control.

Testa, who attended Kaplowitz's press conference but did not address the chairman, said he credited him with trying to bring the outstanding issues to a close but was troubled with the approach.

"It's a very dangerous path we seem to be taking, it seems to me and some of us on the board, to turn over our local zoning and home rule to the federal government," Testa said. "We all have seen over the last number of months how the federal government handles things and doesn't do a very good job."

Testa also said the county completed the Huntington test eight times but "HUD was never going to agree with the results."

The county lost \$7.4 million in federal Community Development Block Grants

(CDBG) from Fiscal Year 2011 as a result of its disputes with HUD. Westchester's \$5.2 million allotment for Fiscal Year 2012 has been in jeopardy but the agency has agreed to continue discussions with the county. Although the money has been withheld, there has been no decision to reallocate the funds, Kaplowitz said.

He said the county needed to continue working with the federal government so it won't incur fines, penalties and further loss of federal funding.

"We are seeing municipalities voluntarily working, without county involvement, working quietly, working appropriately as they always do to review their zoning and working upon recommendation of this federal monitor to make changes as appropriate, and in fact, be able to prove once and for all that there is no exclusionary zoning," Kaplowitz said.

Testa said communities such as Peekskill are not named in the settlement but have lost critical CDBG funding. He said he was also concerned that the county may be required to go beyond the terms of the settlement.

"No amount of money is worth selling out the county, local zoning and local home rule to the federal government," Testa said.

The county must build 750 units of new affordable housing by the end of 2016. Kaplowitz said Westchester remains ahead of schedule.

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#### Q: What causes back pain?

**A:** Strains are the most common cause of back pain and usually occur from awkward lifting or even a sudden movement. Structural problems are also a common source of back pain. Discs can bulge and press on the spinal nerves, the vertebrae can develop arthritis, narrowing and pressing on the spinal cord, or osteoporosis can develop. Although rare, it's possible to get infections or cancer in the spine.

#### Q: What if my back pain won't go away?

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#### Q: When should I see a doctor for my back pain?

**A:** Your pain can be your guide – if you're worried about your back, definitely make an appointment. Some signs that your back trouble might be serious are if the pain:

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# Lowey Vows to Battle Westchester Heroin 'Epidemic'

By Sue Guzman

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) announced last week her co-sponsorship of the federal Stop Overdose Stat Act (SOS) pledging to fight her congressional colleagues to fund Drug Free Communities grants to stem the heroin epidemic in Westchester.

"Right now we have to deal with the immediate threat and that's why Narcan (Naloxone) is so important because it saves lives," Lowey said. "In addition, we have to get into the schools with federal money, combined with the state and local support to help kids look at new directions, to help them understand there are alternatives and to provide counselors if they're having problems emotionally, financially and in every other way."

Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi, who hosted the news conference at Town Hall, said the heroin epidemic hit home in the town, which lost two young residents to overdoses earlier this year--Thomas Cogan of Buchanan and Tyler Seeger of Cortlandt in January.

"The statistics are just frightening. It is a very serious epidemic and a crisis in our community, mostly with our young people," Puglisi remarked. "Since their deaths we have held forums with our school districts, with our school superintendents and school boards to bring this awareness to the issue in our community. And there



SUE GUZMAN PHOTO

Nita Lowey and Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi, center, lead a press conference last week to discuss steps being taken to help the county deal with the rampant use of heroin.

are more to come."

Other local community officials were also on hand to discuss the problem. Robert Kelly, executive director of the Westchester Intelligence Center with the district attorney's Office, said the number of young people turning to heroin has skyrocketed in the past few years.

"From the period of 2010-2013 we have seen almost 300 fatal overdoses in this

county. That's a staggering number for a county smaller than a million people," he said. "The district attorney's office is three-pronged--enforcement is a deterrent for some, prosecution for the larger drug trafficking organizations and certainly the most critical piece is intervention and treatment."

Ellen Morehouse, executive director of Student Assisted Services in Tarrytown,

said outreach and awareness of the problem have made a significant impact in preventing heroin use.

"One of the things that we've seen that's working in terms of prevention, is that kids are more aware of the dangers, so we're getting many more friends referring their friends, students coming in and saying 'I'm worried about my best friend, or I'm worried about my boyfriend, or I'm thinking of trying heroin this weekend, tell me again what are the dangers,'" she said.

"We've never gotten as many referrals from friends for prescription drugs and for heroin as we've seen in the last year. That's a big step. We tell them what to say to their peers, what to do, how to get help. We give them all the options," Morehouse added.

Between 2011 and 2013, there was a 69 percent increase in the number of youths entering drug treatment programs for heroin and other opiate addictions.

In September, Lowey helped secure \$1.3 million in Drug Free Communities grants for 10 local organizations to prevent youth substance abuse. She promised to fight for more in 2015.

Lowey said she's hopeful she will secure an increase in funding for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program (HIDTA), which provided \$400,000 to Westchester law enforcement this year to combat the heroin threat.

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# Mt. Kisco Group Holds Parent Meeting to Fight Substance Abuse

By Neal Rentz

There is more that parents can do to guard their children from using alcohol and drugs.

That was the central message at the Mount Kisco Partners in Prevention first parent support group meeting held last Thursday evening. Partners in Prevention is a federally funded program that seeks to curtail underage drinking and drug use.

Coordinator Dr. Nan Miller said the organization provided funds for Fox Lane High School students to create a public service ad that has recently aired on local cable television stations. The ad was shown during the meeting.

The May 29 event was the initial support group meeting to help parents cope with their children's exposure to drugs and alcohol, Miller said.

"We want to give parents support in tackling underage drinking," she said.

The parents in attendance were addressed by two representatives of the Tarrytown-based Student Assistance Services: Judith Mezey, assistant director for community-based programs, and Andrea Fallick, assistant director for school-based programs.

Mezey informed parents of several slang terms for alcohol and drugs that parents should know, such as "shotgunning," which means getting as drunk as possible as quickly as possible, and "Zanibars," a term for prescription medications.

Mezey said "4:20" is slang for marijuana, which is more potent today than it was 10 or 20 years ago.

"We need to know the lingo. We must know what's going on," Mezey said.

One of the most negative aspects of marijuana use is that it impairs judgment, which can make an activity such as driving even more dangerous, she said.

Contrary to popular opinion, marijuana can be addictive. According to a Columbia University study, "people go into withdrawal" after they stop using it, Mezey mentioned.

Fallick, who has worked with Fox Lane students for nearly 20 years, said substance abuse can exact a toll on youths because the brain is not fully developed until people reached their mid-20s. Drugs and alcohol are also dangerous with teens because they take more risks than adults, she said.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Andrea Fallick, an assistant director for community-based programs for Student Assistance Services, spoke at the May 29 Partners in Prevention parent support group meeting at the Mount Kisco Public Library.

Sixty-five percent stated that drugs and alcohol helped them feel better about themselves, while the same percentage did so to look cool, she said.

Parents must speak with their children and emphasize the need to reject alcohol and drug use and unwanted sex, Fallick said.

"We need to be good role models," she said.

If a child uses drugs or alcohol for the first time, parents should be careful not to overreact but take the opportunity to teach them about its dangers. Appropriate discipline, such as confiscating a child's driving privileges for a specific period, could be done in reaction to a first and second offense, Fallick said.

For a third instance, a parent ought to seek professional help for their child. If the child refuses, the parent must have the resolve to find the appropriate assistance, she said.

Fallick added that it was appropriate for parents to search their child's room if they suspect drug or alcohol use.

For more information about Mount Kisco Partners in Prevention, visit its Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/mountkiscopartnersinprevention](http://www.facebook.com/mountkiscopartnersinprevention).

A 2008 Partnership for a Drug-Free America survey found that 73 percent of the respondents used drugs and alcohol to deal with school pressure, Fallick said.

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## The Examiner

Adam Stone  
astone@theexaminernews.com  
**Publisher**

Laura Markowski  
lmarkowski@theexaminernews.com  
**Associate Publisher**

Peter Stone  
pstone@theexaminernews.com  
**Chief Financial Officer**

Martin Wilbur  
mwilbur@theexaminernews.com  
**Editor-in-Chief**

Neal Rentz  
nrentz@theexaminernews.com  
**Assistant Editor**

Amy Borrelli  
**Copy Editor**

Janine Bowen  
jbowen@theexaminernews.com  
**Reporter**

Annette van Ommeren  
annette@theexaminernews.com  
**Page Designer**

Dina Spalvieri  
dspalvieri@theexaminernews.com  
**Advertising Designer**

Andy Jacobs  
ajacobs@theexaminernews.com  
**Sports Editor**

Nick Antonaccio  
nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com  
**Contributing Columnist**

Paul Cardi  
pcardi@theexaminernews.com  
**Senior Account Executive**

Jeff Ohlbaum  
johlbaum@theexaminernews.com  
**Senior Account Executive**

Nina Harrison  
nharrison@theexaminernews.com  
**Account Executive**

Corinne Stanton  
cstanton@theexaminernews.com  
**Media Consultant**



PO Box 611,  
Mount Kisco, NY 10549  
914-864-0878  
www.TheExaminerNews.com

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## Column

### Senator is Forever Grateful to Have Served in Public Office

By Sen. Greg Ball

What an amazing opportunity it has been to serve our community and the people of this state for nearly a decade. It is important to take a moment and thank my supporters, friends and family for their unwavering loyalty. I am proud of my strong grassroots support as indicated by seven successful elections in eight years and I have come to know many of my constituents as family.

As many know, I term limited myself in the Assembly and am proud to now follow through on that same pledge in the Senate. For eight years I have enjoyed a tremendous opportunity to serve. Those memories and friendships will last a lifetime and I am forever grateful.

As an elected official, and unlike many, I swore to make the position my full-time job and to not accept outside employment. I kept my word and am proud to have done so, but now it is time to return to the private

sector, and eventually, hopefully take time to raise a family.

In just four terms I have been through four general elections and three primaries and I've lived a lifetime of experiences in a condensed period of time. I gave the community every ounce of energy I had, working seven days a week. I'm proud of my record in public service and honored to have had the opportunity to shape public policy for the good, specifically for service disabled and other veterans, victims of human trafficking and domestic violence, small business owners, sportsmen, seniors, taxpayers, the special needs community and our four-legged friends.

I didn't run for office to embrace the status quo or to make friends, yet I am proud to have kept my independence even while making strong friendships along the way. I genuinely believe in servant leadership and I term limited myself in the Assembly and

similarly term limited myself in the Senate. Breaking that pledge was never an option and leaving this seat open two years from now, during a presidential election where we would be hard pressed to maintain the seat, would have been selfish.

My late announcement was timed with one purpose, to keep this Senate seat in Republican control. Until a month ago, we didn't even have a replacement candidate and I was never going to walk away from my Republican conference, unless this seat was secure. With Terrence Murphy, I am now confident that we will maintain this seat not only during this election, but also for many years to come.

*State Sen. Greg Ball (R-Patterson) represents the 40th Senate District, which includes Mount Kisco, New Castle and Mount Pleasant.*

## Letters to the Editor

### June 10 Meeting for College Seniors, Graduates Facing Employment Crisis

Are you a recent college graduate out of work? Are you a college senior dreading graduation?

Are you the parent of a college graduate who is working as an UNPAID intern?

You paid \$250,000 for your child's college education over the past four years and now he/she is back home, living with you as an unpaid intern.

I'm scheduling a meeting of college graduates and college seniors who have been having difficulty finding employment for Tuesday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Ave. The goal of

the meeting is to address unemployment problems that recent graduates have had and to explore other options such as providing graduates with information on how to start their own businesses.

Elizabeth Skovron, a Tarrytown resident and an honors student at SUNY Albany, is an intern in my office. Her summer project: organizing an initiative to help recent graduates find work.

Elizabeth told me that many of her friends and peers (including recent Ivy League graduates) are scared – they can't find employment.

Current college students and graduates will meet to discuss action steps they could take to enhance their futures. Among the initiatives that will be explored: providing students with ideas as to how they could start their own businesses. During the summer we will meet with people who have had success stories starting their own businesses.

If you know of any college student or graduate who might be interested in participating in this initiative or sharing their unemployment horror stories, please email eskovron@albany.edu or me at pfeiner@greenburghny.com. Please encourage those with horror stories to attend the meeting.

Paul Feiner  
Greenburgh Town Supervisor

### Administrator Goldberg Continues to Be a Problem Employee for Town of North Castle

Re: the May 16 article "North Castle Police Chief to Resign, Blames Administrator." People need to know that North Castle Town Administrator Joan Goldberg is a problem. A problem that was solved when she was terminated back in December. The problem returned when newly elected Supervisor Mike Schiliro's first order of business was to immediately, and inexplicably, rehire Goldberg. It should be noted that the friction between Police Chief Harisch and Goldberg is not an anomaly. Goldberg has had several complaints and lawsuits filed against her in 16 short months of employment.

Remarkably, the North Castle Town Board has yet to provide an explanation why they brought back such a problematic and controversial employee after she had already been terminated. To add insult to injury there is every indication that Supervisor Schiliro will be renewing Goldberg's contract in August. Goldberg

effectively runs the operations of all departments in North Castle. She is for all intents and purposes the supervisor, and Mike Schiliro is a part-time figure head with the title of supervisor.

Goldberg was forced to resign her position as comptroller in Yorktown under suspicious circumstances, and alleged corruption in that town. North Castle made a mistake to hire her in the first place, but corrected its mistake when previous supervisor, Howard Arden, terminated her employment. Supervisor Schiliro has given no good reason why he chose to immediately bring back this problem employee, and apparently will be extending her contract to a position that perfectly suits her tendencies toward abuse of power and harassment.

Anthony Futia  
North White Plains

### Mount Pleasant Councilwoman Didn't Intend to Offend Current Merchants

Several weeks ago a comment that was made by me during a Town of Mount Pleasant work session was printed in an edition of The Examiner ("New Shopping Center Proposed for Mount Pleasant," Apr. 22-28). Please know that this comment was taken out of context. I simply wanted to say that an additional option for busy families to pick up "nutritious meals" at the end of a hectic day MAY be welcomed. It was never my intention to offend anyone, especially established business owners.

Laurie Rogers-Smalley  
Councilwoman, Town of Mount Pleasant

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### Rose Cremonese-Norton Dance School Owner, Pleasantville

By Martin Wilbur

Rose Cremonese-Norton didn't have the chance to immerse herself in dance classes during her childhood.

What she had growing up in White Plains and then in Pleasantville where she went to high school, was natural talent, a passion for dancing and some good fortune to cross paths with people who recognized her ability and believed in her.

"I just had wonderful people help me so much, people that gave me so many opportunities and because of them I got experience," she said.

Cremonese-Norton, 81, has spent most of her adult life teaching thousands of students who have passed through the doors of her studio, Rose's School of Dance on Elwood Avenue in Hawthorne. The longtime Pleasantville resident has been at that same address now for 50 years.

While some other thriving dance schools have expanded and moved to larger facilities, that wasn't an option for Cremonese-Norton. She preferred to know every child, every student even if

they weren't blessed with a world of talent.

In fact, she usually found it more gratifying to help those who weren't particularly gifted and see them improve and gain a greater love for dance than it was to teach the most impressive students.

"I think what I've appreciated most has been those students who come back and say 'Rose, I want you to know how much you influenced me,'" she said.

On June 14 and 15, Cremonese-Norton's annual two-day dance recital at Westlake High School will be a tribute to the half century of students she's taught, many of whom are returning to participate. Students from each of the five decades will have the chance to be part of the recital, that will see a different dance style represented for each 10-year period. It is scheduled for June 14 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. and June 15 from 12:30 to 4 p.m.

While Cremonese-Norton was fortunate in many respects to do what she enjoyed most, the path to being a beloved dance instructor and studio owner was difficult. Cremonese-Norton's mother died when

she was two years old, and she was raised with the help of her aunt in White Plains while young.

For high school she moved back with her father, who lived in Pleasantville, mainly because she was old enough to take care of many of the household chores.

However, as a man with an Old World view, Cremonese-Norton's father held a dim view of his daughter's growing interest in dance. But Pleasantville High School is where Cremonese-Norton discovered her love for the art, participating in the early days of the school's annual musical productions.

At 15, Cremonese-Norton taught her first student. A parent of a young girl was so impressed, she hired her to teach her daughter after school. Word spread of this high school student having a gift with young children and she was in business for the first time.

"I was in my living room with this young kid who was seven years old," Cremonese-Norton said. "I'm still friends with her."

After high school, Cremonese-Norton wanted to study dance, but knew her father would never approve. She asked her aunt what she should do and to her surprise received the encouragement and the financial support needed to follow her dreams.

"She went to her bedroom, when she came back out she handed me a



bankbook," Cremonese-Norton recalled. "The money that my father was giving her she put away and put it in a savings account."

For four years, she traveled to Manhattan to study with Wanda Oswald, a ballet dancer from the Chicago Ballet who took her under her wing.

At 21, Cremonese-Norton married and would eventually have two daughters. But the marriage had problems, and even though it lasted for 24 years, Cremonese-Norton, was concerned how she would support herself. In 1963, she decided to follow her dreams and her talents by launching her own dance school. She signed a lease to move into the space at 338 Elwood Ave. and has been there ever since.

Along the way, Cremonese-Norton has dedicated her life to her studio and the community. She founded Mount Pleasant Community Theatre in 1971, and for many years served as its producer, director and choreographer.

While Cremonese-Norton, who has been married to her second husband for 30 years, might be at an age where many of her peers are thinking of retirement, she has no such plans to leave what she loves to do most.

"I'm not rich financially but, boy oh boy, whatever I've done in life I did it my way," Cremonese-Norton said. "And thank you, God."

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# Wanna Have Fun? Come Out for the Armonk Lions' Annual Fol de Rol

By Martin Wilbur

The Armonk Lions Club's annual Fol de Rol didn't need a milestone celebration to get everybody looking forward to later this week at Wampus Brook Park

For four decades, residents throughout Armonk have circled the same June weekend on their calendar. While it may not be in the consciousness of some of the town's newbies, it doesn't take long

for relatively recent arrivals to learn about the fun, games, food, rides, crafts and vendors available to keep children and adults of all ages happy and occupied.

"Everybody in Armonk looks forward to the Fol de Rol," said Armonk Lions Club President Doug Martino. "It's been going on for 40 years. It's a great event."

Aside from the fun and games and interaction with neighbors, what makes

the Fol de Rol great is that it's the Lions' largest fundraiser of the year. The service organization donates all of the proceeds to a variety of organizations and causes in town, Martino said. Over the years, the club has funded the construction of the gazebo at Wampus Brook Park, donated to the Armonk Fire Department and paid for the trailer used by the North Castle Citizen Corps Council, he said.

Recently, the country fair-type event has raised on average between \$25,000 and \$30,000 each year, Martino estimated. Of course, the better the weather, the greater chance the Fol de Rol will be more successful. After a 50 percent chance of thundershowers for Thursday's opener, Friday, Saturday and Sunday look dry and comfortably warm, according to weather.com.

This year there are a few new events to spice up the Fol de Rol. On Saturday at 10:30 a.m., there will be the first pet parade, which will line up in the parking lot near the North Castle Public Library.

Maintaining the animal theme, there will be an appearance from the Jersey Disc Dogs, a performing dogs team, on Saturday and Sunday, said Linda Trummer-Napolitano. There will also be a visit from the famed llamas, an authentic colonial village exhibition and some special rides and attractions.



There's something fun for everybody at the Armonk Lions Club's annual Fol de Rol, which opens Thursday evening. This is the 40th year the organization is holding the event.

## Strawberry Festival Set for This Saturday in Chappaqua

The 77th annual Strawberry Festival will be held this Saturday, June 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church, located at 191 S. Greeley Ave. next to Robert E. Bell Middle School, in Chappaqua.

Toddlers to teens can enjoy a day of games and prizes, bounce castles, music, barbecue and, of course, the festival's traditional strawberry shortcake and smoothies. The featured musical act is the long-adored Annie and the Natural Wonder Band, which will perform on the great lawn from 12 to 12:40 p.m. and 2 to 2:40 p.m.

For adults the event also features a wide variety of craft vendors, attic treasures, raffles, a bake sale and other musical

acts throughout the day. Proceeds benefit the parish's outreach fund that supports a number of local philanthropic organizations.

"Each year St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church looks forward to connecting with the residents of Chappaqua and the surrounding communities through the Strawberry Festival," said Jackie Burton, chairperson of this year's event. "From games to face painting, attic treasures to our Strawberry Café, musical performances to prizes, we offer something for people of all ages. And, what's more, our proceeds then allow us to make sizeable donations to those in need in our communities."



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# PLEASANTVILLE FIREMAN'S PARADE



ADAM CHOY PHOTO



ADAM CHOY PHOTO

Every year Pleasantville honors the men and women who sign up and serve for the village's volunteer fire department with the annual fireman's parade. That was held early last Friday evening as firefighters from throughout the area joined Pleasantville's first responders to march along the route, from Bedford Road School, down Bedford Road, onto Memorial Plaza and then to Washington Avenue to the department's firehouse. Residents lined the streets to give the volunteers a hearty applause as well as listen to various marching bands and bagpipers from many different fire companies. Despite a few showers early that moistened the streets, the skies cleared in time for the village to recognize the outstanding job Pleasantville firefighters do to serve and protect their community.



ED ELLIOTT PHOTOS



# The Freedom of Going Stark Naked (With Windows, That is)

"Oh, no!" I exclaimed when I came home one evening to see the monstrosity of a commercial sign that had been installed directly across the street from our townhouse in Brooklyn Heights.

It was a large glaring light box with the name "G. Marcolini & Sons Wine & Spirits," so outsized that it actually reached a few feet over to the building next door, which the family also owned. The sign lit up the entire block.

Like a wild man, I ran across the street into the store and accosted old man Marcolini, asking how he could perpetrate such an outrage in New York City's first historic neighborhood. Being no slouch himself, he responded with a few choice Italian expressions, which I didn't fully understand but got the general gist. We never spoke again.

That sign was in direct alignment with the main rooms of our house: the living room on the first floor and our bedroom and sitting room on the second floor. To deal with the explosion of light in the evening hours, we re-dressed our windows like Fort Knox. On the first level we installed solid wood interior shutters, which we closed as soon as the sun went down. On the second floor we had heavy blackout shades and equally heavy brocade draperies.



By Bill Primavera

Having lived that way for several years, when my wife and I moved on to Westchester's greener pastures it was almost an automatic response for us to approach our window treatments in similar fashion. We brought our wooden shutters with us, as well as our heavy draperies, and were all set for privacy in the country, even though there is not another house that we can see from our house.

Through at least three hardcore home renovations and as many re-decorations, we started to peel back the defense mechanisms. It dawned on us there was no one looking back at us, with the possible exception of deer munching on our sprouting hosta, when we looked out at green lawns, our pool or the woods.

First, the windows in the wing that houses our professional offices were stripped of blinds and curtains, then the kitchen curtains went, then our bedroom's swags and jabots, although the blinds remained for light filtration in the morning.

The big, big step for us comes just this week when our pink brocade curtains in the living room, which date back to the Civil War and have seen better days, will come down and not be replaced.

Soon after we made the decision,



BILL PRIMAVERA PHOTO

Home stager Susan Atwell peels back heavy draperies in The Home Guru's living room to reveal that window framing alone can serve as a picture frame to the outside.

I happened to be in the company of decorator/home stager Susan Atwell of AtWell Staged Home, with whom I am forming a professional relationship, offering her services to those clients whose homes I list. I asked what she thought about "naked windows."

"The framing of the window, especially if it is in contrast to the color of the wall, can be considered the frame of a picture," she responded. "Especially if you are staging a home, it's the window frame that is going to be staying with the house. If I am working with a house for sale, we just take the window treatments down. Window treatments, just like a light fixture, can date

a home.

"I had a home where there was a beautiful picture window looking into the backyard. We painted the walls a deep green with a white trim around the picture window where the eye was drawn, and it looked beautiful," Atwell continued. "The frame of the window becomes the treatment, and it lets in the light. If you feel some softening is needed, perhaps something sheer like a panel on each side, can be used and that doesn't block light."

Of course, there are times when blinds, shutters and drapes are indeed required for privacy, but for those windows that enjoy views of nature and not neighbors, why not invite the outside in?

For decorating and staging services, Susan Atwell can be reached at 914-525-0454 or email Susan@AtWellStagedHome.com.

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), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is: www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

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# P'ville Girl Scout to Represent Regional Council at National Meeting

By Janine Bowen

Madison Spears earned her Girl Scout Bronze Award in fifth grade, and last fall was one of 360 girls in the seven-county council to receive a Silver Award, the second-highest honor awarded to Girl Scouts.

Since kindergarten, the 15-year-old Pleasantville High School freshman has been dedicated to the organization. Now she hopes to inspire other young girls to become strong and empowered leaders.

In October Spears will head to Salt Lake City as one of four delegates who will represent the Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson at a National Council Session, the Scouts' major governance meeting.

Getting the opportunity to attend the national council meeting, which occurs once every three years and includes delegates from every Girl Scout council across the country as well as some from overseas, is something that Spears has been looking forward to since learning about it in first grade.

"I really want the leadership skills to apply when I go for my Gold Award and also in life when I'm working," Spears said. "I want to know how to interact with people in the workplace and be able to speak and not be afraid of public speaking."



Pleasantville High School freshman Madison Spears, who will represent Girl Scouts' Heart of the Hudson at its triennial national conference in October in Salt Lake City.

Getting selected to represent the local chapter was not an easy task. All candidates were required to fill out

a four-page application, answering in-depth questions about their Girl Scout achievements. The applications were then reviewed by four separate volunteer committees, with each group narrowing the pool of applicants. The final four were ultimately chosen by a board of directors.

Spears is currently working toward her Gold Award, the highest Girl Scout honor. In order to reach her goal, she must devote 80 hours to a community service project. Spears wants to host a unique clothing drive, taking old pillowcases to make dresses for girls in Third World countries.

Leadership is a big focus of the council session. Spears and the other girls will participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Institute before joining the adult delegates to help make decisions on important issues.

Spears will serve as a representative for Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson for the next three years, and hopes her role will help inspire younger girls.

"I think it is kind of motivational to want to be in Girl Scouts for a long time and for the younger girls to look up to the older girls and want to be a leader when they grow up," she said.

Her mother, Monica Spears, is the leader of Madison's Girl Scout Troop 2287. Mother and daughter agree that

being part of Girl Scouts helps boost members' self-esteem and teaches them valuable life skills, which they then can use to help their communities.

Monica Spears said she is proud to see her daughter and other Girl Scouts taking leadership roles at a young age.

"I think that it shows girls what's possible," she said. "It gives them some motivation ... to see that one of their own, one of their peers, are involved in an organization that does give them an opportunity to express themselves in so many different ways."

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## Washington Avenue Mixed Use Building Receives Approval in P'ville

By Janine Bowen

A mixed use proposal on Pleasantville's Washington Avenue was granted conditional approval last week, one of three projects at different stages on the thoroughfare.

The three-story building at 101-117 Washington Ave. will house office space on the ground floor and 14 apartments, seven each on the second and third floors. It's a space that previously was the site of a funeral home and a residential building.

"The mixed use is consistent with the village's downtown development strategies and goals," said Village Administrator Patricia Dwyer. "Specifically, new mixed use development will provide housing opportunities and office/retail opportunities on the ground floor."

Building Inspector Michael Testa said the developer, Trinity Associates LLC, received conditional site plan approval at the May 28 Planning Commission meeting. The developer is expected to meet with the Architectural Review Board this week with a final resolution

on the project tentatively scheduled before the Planning Commission next Wednesday, June 11.

Testa said that within the next month he expects the demolition work to begin on the existing structures on the parcel. Trinity Associates may then start obtaining permits to begin construction.

Review of Toll Brothers' 68-unit condominium project at the site of an old office park continues for village planners. The builder's representatives are expected to appear in front of the Planning Commission before the end of June. Recently the commission took issues with the height of a retaining wall, the Washington Avenue sidewalk and several of the landscaping features.

Testa said there has been no movement on another Washington Avenue property that has been under foreclosure for several years. The building, located across the street from the firehouse, is currently being marketed by the bank that has assumed ownership, he said. Although a few interested buyers have been located, no sale has been consummated.

## A Pleasant Day for Congressional Candidate

Chris Day, the Republican candidate in the 17th Congressional District this November against long-time incumbent Rep. Nita Lowey, spoke with residents in Pleasantville's Memorial Plaza last Wednesday. The appearance is one of a series of campaign stops he has made throughout Rockland and Westchester counties since he announced his candidacy in March.

"I think that what is going to win the race in the end is going to be the grassroots efforts," Day said. "The volunteer coordination, getting palm cards out to friends and making phone calls."

For about a half hour, Day spoke about how he hopes to help make reforms at the congressional level, to prevent tax increases from trickling down to municipalities and how he hopes to tackle local issues such as holding down the toll for the new Tappan Zee Bridge.



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Friends and supporters surround Chris Day, center, the Republican candidate who will oppose Rep. Nita Lowey in the fall for the 17th Congressional District.

He claimed that Lowey has been avoiding him, reportedly refusing to pose for a photo with Day at an event earlier this year. Day asserted that she is out of touch with constituents, having become a career politician. While he will have to overcome a sizable Democratic voter registration advantage, Day said he believes people are willing to cross party lines.

—Janine Bowen

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

# The State of the Largest Wine Consuming Nation



By Nick Antonaccio

Whatever happened to the artisanal goods of years past? Where have the locally grown and produced products gone? With all the talk these days about farm-to-table and farmers markets, the vast majority of products we purchase and consume are controlled by mega companies.

When you walk into your local grocery store, what brands do you see? The evolution of food production and marketing changed from hyper local products through the 1960s to dominant national brands in the 1990s. Today, that evolutionary process has resulted in more store shelves dominated by private label brands. (Think ShopRite eggs or CVS toothpaste.) The economics are simple: store brands are less costly to sell, carry lower prices and are more profitable to stores than local or national brands.

Across the United States, wine shops are evolving in a similar fashion. Small producers and national brands compete for shelf space. Many stores sell wines that are private labeled, produced by mega wine producers sans a mega corporation label.

All of this change makes for a dynamic and changing wine market. As Americans

*'Americans consume 13 bottles per year per capita'*

consume more wine and develop brand loyalty, the wine industry is feverishly seeking to carve out its distinct niche and to capitalize on this growing market.

Here's my view of the state of the wine industry today.

My opinion is that it is influenced primarily by two 21st century phenomena: polarized supply sources and micro-focused marketing.

Polarized supply sources:

- More so than in other industries, wine market share is a battle between small producers and industrial giants. There are less hand-crafted wines and significantly more mass-produced wines. Fewer than 2 percent of all wineries in the United States account for 84 percent of all wine production.

- Last year Americans consumed 700 million gallons of wine (13 bottles per year per capita), more than any other country. This is a huge demand, which is impossible to satiate by small producers. The arithmetic: the average small winery production is less than 5,000 cases. The number of wine companies in the United States is about 9,000. Therefore, to meet

the current demand would require nearly 33,000 small producers. This huge void can only be filled by the behemoths, as noted above.

- Where do the two percenters source such a vast volume of wine? Domestic production is insufficient. Increasingly they rely on bulk wine juice purchased in the open market. Chile, Australia and New Zealand export huge vats to United States docks in mega barrels and bulk tankers; only bottling and labeling take place stateside.

Micro-focused Marketing:

- The universal tenet of marketing across all products has always been branding. Establish a name, build a reputation and then work incessantly at maintaining loyalty. In the American wine industry, consistency and price have been the benchmarks of marketing efforts.

1. Consistency. Americans are creatures of habit. They want the same fast-food burger wherever and whenever they travel in the United States and they expect no less from their wine. They expect a consistent product that is available wherever they purchase their favorite

wine and a consistent taste from vintage to vintage. Mega producers go to great lengths to deliver sameness.

2. Price. We don't like to pay a lot for our favorite wine. At the local wine shops in our home towns, 80 percent of all wine consumed is priced under \$10. On store shelves many of these labels are ubiquitous whether you walk into a wine shop in Portland, Me. or Portland, Ore.

- Labeling has become the mantra for marketing wines. Cute pet names or pictures

(Yellow Tail, Dancing Bull); sexual connotations or images (Marilyn Merlot, Ménage a Trois); and sensationalized names (Fat Bastard, Arrogant Frog) all seek to tantalize consumers and stand out from the competition, regardless of quality.

We all have an image of a bottle of wine being produced in a bucolic setting by a family winemaker, nurturing each bottle of wine to perfection. We all need to change our perception.

Nick Antonaccio is a 35-year Pleasantville resident. For over 15 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. 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](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.

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# Happenings

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 "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Martin Wilbur at [mwilbur@theexaminernews.com](mailto:mwilbur@theexaminernews.com).

## Tuesday, June 3

**Financial Empowerment Workshops: "Y Success" Money Management for Women.** The second of three introductory money management classes designed for women. Learn how to budget and take control of your finances. Tonight's topic is budgeting your money. YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester, 515 North St., White Plains. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Workshops continue on June 10. RSVP required. RSVP: 914-949-6227 ext. 147 or email [events@ywcawpcw.org](mailto:events@ywcawpcw.org). Info: Visit [www.ywcawpcw.org](http://www.ywcawpcw.org).

## Wednesday, June 4

**Zumba Fitness.** Achieve long-term benefits while having a blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life. For all fitness levels. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. Every Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

**Knitting Group.** Hats for our servicemen and women overseas and other ongoing projects for care centers and hospitals. Clinton Street Center, 1A Clinton St., Pleasantville. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Meets

every Monday and Wednesday. Info: 914-769-2021.

**Bounce the Baby.** Children will enjoy simple stories, finger plays and songs. For children six months to two years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Wednesdays through June 11. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Senior Benefits Information Center.** Counselors offer older adults one-on-one counseling covering a broad range of topics including Medicare health and prescription plans, food stamps, HEAP, EPIC, weatherization, minor home repair and tax relief programs. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 Main St., Mount Kisco. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-231-3260.

**Preschool Story Time and Crafts.** Children first listen to a story and then materials are provided to make a fun craft based on the story. For children three to six years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Wednesdays through June 11. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Knitting Club.** Come learn to knit, or if you already know how, bring your current project and enjoy a visit with other knitters and crocheters. Beginners should bring a pair of size 8 or 10 straight knitting needles

and skein or worsted weight yarn. Open to knitters and crocheters 10 years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Meets every Wednesday. Info: 914-666-8041.

## Thursday, June 5

**Let Your Yoga Dance Classes.** The popular Kripalu noon dance class is now in Chappaqua! Combines easy dance, gentle yoga and great music. Come join this noncompetitive, heart pumping and joyful experience. Drop-ins welcome. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10 a.m. \$20 per 75 min. class. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-238-8974 or email [claudiayogadance@gmail.com](mailto:claudiayogadance@gmail.com).

**Toddler Craft.** Toddlers develop their fine motor skills creating simple crafts, using construction paper, markers and glue sticks. Cute crafts that can be taken home. For children 18 months to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Yiddish Vinkle.** Yiddish speakers (or dabblers) enjoy Yiddish poetry, current events, short stories, humor, songs, music and great camaraderie. Rosenthal JCC, 600 Bear Ridge Rd., Pleasantville. 1 to 3 p.m. \$6 suggested donation. Meets every Thursday.

Info: 914-741-0333 ext. 24 or visit [www.rosenthaljcc.org](http://www.rosenthaljcc.org).

**Multilingual Mother Goose.** Learn and share songs and rhymes in other languages. For children birth to five years old; with an adult. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 2:30 p.m. Free. Meets every Thursday. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-238-4779.

**Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group.** Northern Westchester Hospital at Chappaqua Crossing, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Meets the first Thursday of each month. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

## Friday, June 6

**Zumba Gold.** Try this low-impact approach to Zumba for the older active adult and baby boomer with the same sassy, sweaty, fun-filled cardio workout in an easy learning environment. Ongoing classes; drop-ins welcome. Addie-tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. \$12. Four- and eight-week cards available. Meets every Friday. Info: 914-747-0808 or email instructor at [olin.amyj@gmail.com](mailto:olin.amyj@gmail.com).

*continued on page 24*

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# NWH Recognizes Three Nurses for Outstanding Performance

Northern Westchester Hospital announced last week the recipients of the annual Janet Harrower Nurse of Distinction Awards. The awards recognize three exemplary nurses who have been selected by their nursing peers and physician colleagues. These nurses represent the culture of caring, compassion and competence that makes NWH a leader in nursing excellence.

The award is named after Janet Harrower, who was a nurse leader at Northern Westchester Hospital, and demonstrated these qualities every day. In her memory, the Nurse of Distinction Awards recognize these same qualities in three categories: an experienced nurse, an up-and-coming nurse and a physician-nominated nurse.

Elizabeth Galloway was the recipient of the Experienced Nurse award. A Registered Nurse III working in ambulatory surgery, she has been part of the NWH family since 1999. She lives



The three recipients of Northern Westchester Hospital's Nurse of Distinction Awards, left to right, Elizabeth Galloway, Amanda Schwartz and Mary Voda.

in Brewster.

Amanda Schwartz received the Up-and-Coming Nurse award. She has been working at the hospital since



2012. She is a Registered Nurse II in cardio/pulmonary. Schwartz resides in Hawthorne.

Mary Voda, Mount Kisco resident, has been with NWH since 2007, received



the Physician-Nominated Nurse award. She is a Registered Nurse III in cardio/pulmonary.

## Second Annual Project Yellow Light Race Raises \$3,200



Page Lockimo of Yorktown, center, and her winning team in the Prototype Class.



Left to right: Addison Albano, Kelly Albano, Ben Albano, Peter Albano, Austen Albano.



GTLM Class winners.

Grand Prix New York in Mount Kisco recently hosted the Second Annual Project Yellow Light Race, which raising more than \$3,000 for the charity.

This year's race was organized by three local brothers who teamed up to spread the word on the dangers of distracted driving.

Greenwich High School senior Ben Albano, the 2013 MAZDASPEED Challenge Summer Series Champion and 2012 Rookie of the Year, along with his brothers Addison, a junior at Brunswick School and Austen, a freshman at King, organized the race and signed up participants from high schools throughout Fairfield and Westchester counties.

The 90-minute endurance race took place at Grand Prix New York on Apr. 25, attracting more than 85 participants from local high schools.

"With the generous help of our corporate sponsors, we raised awareness for the dangers of distracted driving and raised money for Project Yellow Light, helping to eliminate one of the greatest threats to our age group," Ben Albano said.

This year's race coincided with National Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

"We were very happy to time the event this year with National Distracted Driving Awareness Month and bring together schools from Connecticut and Westchester to support this cause," Addison Albano said.

The event raised \$1,000 more than last year's race, taking in about \$3,200 for Project Yellow Light.

## Taconic Opera Inviting Choral Singers for Verdi's 'Falstaff'

For choral singers who are interested in a new, unique and exciting experience, Taconic Opera will be holding auditions for the company's fall production of Verdi's "Falstaff," to be performed on Oct. 16, 18 and 19, 2014, at Yorktown Stage.

This opera was the second of two comedies and the last of the 28 operas composed by Verdi. "Falstaff" contains the right amount of choral work to make it appealing to singers without making it a burden to learn, especially important for singers who have little or no opera experience.

Requests to participate in the chorus are ongoing through June 28. New members may be accepted after June 28 based on their experience and musical abilities. Singers who have a conflict with the complete rehearsal schedule may likewise be accepted based on experience and ability. Experienced choral singers do not require an audition.

Based on a type of personality that appears in one form or another in

four of Shakespeare's plays, the opera's lead role, Falstaff, is an opportunistic, bumbling and comically unsuccessful seducer who must be taught a lesson by the women he attempts to deceive. Imagine the fun of singing world class music in Italian in the company of experienced and highly talented professional lead singers, and throwing in a bit of staging and acting as well. Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, June 11 and take place on Wednesdays from 7 to 8:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 3 to 4:45 p.m. at the Cortlandt School of Performing Arts, located at 24 Old Albany Post Rd. in Croton-on-Hudson.

There are no fees to join the chorus, but members must secure their own music and, if applying early, may be able to participate in special group prices for the score that is arranged for chorus members.

For further information, contact Mary Corda at 914-649-1826 or email [divamaryc@aol.com](mailto:divamaryc@aol.com) or visit [www.taconicopera.org](http://www.taconicopera.org).

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# Happenings

continued from page 22

**Rummage Sale.** Ladies boutique, bric-a-brac, kitchen items, linens, toys, appliances, furniture, clothing and shoes. All proceeds will go to local charities for women and children. Presbyterian Church of Mount Kisco, 605 Millwood Rd. (Route 133), Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also June 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. Info: 914-666-7001.

**"Nature's Spectrum."** The Briarcliff Manor Garden Club presents this standard flower show. Atria on the Hudson, 321 N. Highland Ave., Ossining. 2 to 6 p.m. Free. Also June 7 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: 914-762-1980.

**Sun Prints.** Use Cyanotype paper and the sun to capture images of leaves, feathers and flowers. For students in grades 7-12. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**Magic: The Gathering With Lucas.** Drop-in and play. Beginners and experienced players welcome. For students in grades 7-12. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Meets every Friday through June. Info: 914-238-4779.

**Introduction to Jewelry for Children.** Learn basic jewelry making skills, from making beads to creating bangles and necklaces. For children seven years old and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Zumba Fitness Class.** Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$15 a class. \$29 for four classes. \$55 for eight classes. Meets every Friday. Info: 917-215-1720, email [AddietudeDance@gmail.com](mailto:AddietudeDance@gmail.com) or visit [www.Addie-tude.com](http://www.Addie-tude.com).

**"Les Liaisons Dangereuses."** The Small Town Theatre Company presents this staged play reading written by Christopher Hampton and directed by Tom Kramer. Adapted from the 1782 novel of the same title by Pierre Choderlos de Laclos. Hergenhan Recreation Center, 40 Maple Ave., Armonk. 8 p.m. \$15. Also June 7. Info and tickets: Visit [www.smalltowntheatre.com](http://www.smalltowntheatre.com).

## Saturday, June 7

**Chappaqua Farmers Market.** Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30 to 1 p.m. Info: Visit [www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org](http://www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org).

**Learn Chair Yoga.** Experience greater flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, improved balance, strengthening and toning of muscles, better digestion, stress reduction, mental clarity, improved breathing, relaxation and an overall sense of well-being. No previous yoga or fitness experience exercise necessary. Led by Alka Tewani, registered yoga therapist and certified chair yoga instructor. North Castle

Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Gan Shabbat.** Children's Sabbath services for nursery school age students and their families. This interactive introduction to Shabbat songs, stories and prayers is for toddlers to children in second grade. Followed by a kid-friendly Kiddush of refreshments. Bet Torah, 60 Smith Ave., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Info: 914-666-7595.

**77th Annual Strawberry Festival.** Music, food, vendors and fun for children and adults. Face painting, magic tricks and bouncing castles. Also featuring Annie and the Natural Wonder Band. The parish hall will have attic treasures, a room full of great bargains on household items and jewelry. Proceeds go toward the church's outreach fund, which supports philanthropic causes. Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin, 191 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: Visit [www.smtv.org](http://www.smtv.org).

**Feeding Fun.** It's mealtime for our animals. Come see what's on the menu and learn a bit about how we keep the critters healthy. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: Free. Non-members: Free with museum admission. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).



The Westchester Chordsmen will perform the music of the Rat Pack at their concert Saturday night in Irvington.

**Westchester Chordsmen Chorus: "Swingin' With the Rat Pack."** The Westchester Chordsmen Chorus presents this musical trip down memory lane with Frank, Dean and Sammy performing the great songs of these remarkable singers from the early 1960s. Featuring a special guest appearance by the award-winning a cappella doo wop group Classic Sounds. that tour the country with the top headliners of the doo wop era. Irvington High School, 40 N. Broadway, Irvington. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Afternoon show: \$20. Evening show: \$25. Tickets and info: 914-713-4311 or visit [www.chordsmen.org](http://www.chordsmen.org). Group sales only: 914-736-6729.

**Lagond Music School Benefit Concert.** Featuring R&B funk fusion band Thirsty For More, classic rock band Hurricane and indie rockers The Joe Duraes Band. Includes cash bar, snacks and raffles. All proceeds go to the Lagond Music School's programs and facilities. Lagond Music School, Haven Stage, 9 Haven St., Elmsford. 7:30 p.m. to

midnight. \$10. Info: 914-345-0512.

## Sunday, June 8

**Pentecost Services.** Followed by Sunday School graduation and the parish picnic. St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 8 and 9:15 a.m. Info: 914-769-0053.

**Teaching Trails: A Community Path for Environmental Education.** Join guided trail experience through the woodland forest. Discover who left that track, which tree makes the best animal home or which plant makes its own heat to help melt through the late winter ice. Program runs about 30 minutes. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Sunday in June. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**Learn MahJongg.** Led by Westchester's premier instructor Regina Klenosky. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Creatures of Woodfrog Pond.** Start indoors with a short introduction featuring live animals, then walk to the pond and use a net to catch some of the creatures living there. Dress appropriately; limited enrollment. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

## Monday, June 9

**Play and Learn.** After 30 minutes of structured play, children and adults have an opportunity to play freely together with building blocks, instruments, beanbags and more. For children one to three years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Also June 13. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Veterans Roundtable.** Informal discussion and camaraderie among members and public service projects. Clinton Street Center, 1A Clinton St., Pleasantville. 1 to 2 p.m. Free. Meets every Monday. Info: 914-769-2021.

**Ulysses Discussion Group.** Explore James Joyce works to experience the humanity, morality, philosophy, puzzles, puns, comedy and his sheer exuberance. Led by Joan Schulman. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 2 p.m. Free. Also June 23. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**American History Book Group.** Discussion group led by Barry Levy. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

## Tuesday, June 10

**Senior Health and Resource Fair.** The Pound Ridge Library and the Pound Ridge Recreation Department will co-host this event along with the Boxwood Alliance, an aging in place organization for older adults and their families in northern Westchester

and Putnam County. Attendees can speak directly with health, financial, legal, housing, nonprofit service and program providers and more. There will also be free blood pressure and blood-sugar screenings and a telehealth demonstration. Light refreshments will be served. Pound Ridge Library, 271 Westchester Ave., Pound Ridge. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Free. Info: Contact the Boxwood Alliance at 914-764-3014 or the Pound Ridge Library at 914-764-5085.

**Financial Empowerment Workshops: "Y Success" Money Management for Women.** The last of three introductory money management classes designed for women. Learn how to budget and take control of your finances. Tonight's topic is credit and financial planning. YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester, 515 North St., White Plains. 6 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Workshops continue on June 10. RSVP required. RSVP: 914- 949-6227 ext. 147 or email [events@ywcaawpcw.org](mailto:events@ywcaawpcw.org). Info: Visit [www.ywcaawpcw.org](http://www.ywcaawpcw.org).

**Farm to Table Book Discussion Group.** "Tender at the Bone" by Ruth Reichel will be discussed. Led by food author Carol Durst. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaquapubliclibrary.org](http://www.chappaquapubliclibrary.org).

## Wednesday, June 11

**Support Group for Alzheimer's Caregivers.** Temple Shaaray Tefila and Westchester Jewish Community Services have scheduled this forum to provide a place for caregivers to discuss their feelings, share their experiences and support one another. A specialist from the Alzheimer's Association will lead the group and provide educational materials and information. All welcome. Temple Shaaray Tefila's Youth Lounge, 89 Baldwin Rd., Baldwin Corners. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Registration required. Info and registration: Contact the Alzheimer's Association at 800-272-3900 or visit [www.alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://www.alz.org/hudsonvalley).

**Nature in Your Landscape: Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Bugs and Bats.** Learn the value of conserving and protecting natural resources when designing your landscape. Practical design ideas include reducing lawn area, use of native plants and edibles, organic plant care and vertical gardens. Presenter Jay Archer is the founder and primary designer of Green Jay Landscaping, a Go Green New York landscape design/build and maintenance company serving the region. Presented in partnership with the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. For adults and high school students. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. Refreshments at 7 p.m. Program at 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

# Support Connection Launches New Website as 20th Walk Approaches

By Adam Choy

For 20 years people locally and nationally have been receiving assistance after receiving breast and ovarian cancer diagnoses through the nonprofit organization Support Connection.

Last week Support Connection hit a milestone in their mission by launching an updated website with several new features.

The redesigned site, 11 months in the making, will continue to include all of the information that has been available along with new features, including an articles tab that connects visitors to a page filled with survivors' stories and news.

The survivors' stories page was "a good way for people to feel inspired and hopeful and to see what their support means to people," said Barbara Cervoni, Support Connection's director of services and communications.

"This is a very momentous occasion for us and the timing was great considering this website launch coincides with the 20th anniversary of our walk," Cervoni said.

She said the public is encouraged to submit stories for online publication.

Another exciting element on the site is the video "Help and hope for People Living with Breast and Ovarian Cancer."

The moving film shows how Support Connection's free services makes a difference in the lives of people who are affected by breast and ovarian cancer. It includes personal interviews with staff members and people who have benefited from the organization's services. The video was produced by Emmy Award nominee Bill Powers.

In addition, the website offers up-to-date news on major calendar events such as golf outings and charity walks, new and easier ways to get into contact with a representative of the company, a donation tab that allows anyone to volunteer for the organization in their free time and



The annual Support-A-Walk is the biggest event of the year for Support Connection, which recently launched its redesigned website.

## Ubuntu Africa Founder to Speak at Harvey Commencement

The Harvey School has announced that Whitney Johnson, the founder of the not-for-profit Ubuntu Africa (UBA) and its executive director, will deliver the keynote address at the school's June 5 commencement.

Inspired by her college experiences while studying abroad in Cape Town, South Africa and volunteering in an orphanage in the nearby township of Khayelitsha, the 29-year-old Bedford native founded UBA, dedicated to improving the health and well-being of children living with HIV in underserved communities.

Johnson, a 2006 graduate of Colorado College with a degree in psychology, has been a frequent visitor to the Harvey campus the past few years and has inspired Harvey students to initiate fundraising activities on behalf of UBA, including the highly successful Ubuntu Benefit Fashion Show held during Black History Month the past two years in February.

The 75 members of the graduating class will also hear an address from valedictorian Lillian Brouwer of Stamford, Conn. She is Harvey's top scholar and will be attending Barnard College in the fall.



Harvey School alumnus and commencement speaker Whitney Johnson, left, with Head Master Barry Fenstermacher.

a section that lists resources for those battling cancer and their loved ones.

This year's Support-A-Walk will take place on Sunday, Oct. 5 at FDR State Park in Yorktown Heights. It was started in 1995 by local residents to bring attention to the needs of people affected by breast and ovarian cancer and raise critically important funds. People travel from throughout the Hudson Valley and the tri-state area to take part in the inspiring event.

To learn more about Support Connection, its website and the 20th annual Support-A-Walk, visit [www.supportconnection.org](http://www.supportconnection.org).

### THERE'S A WORD FOR IT

A vocabulary-building quiz By Edward Goralski

**Spot On.** Geoffrey Wheatcroft's recent New York Times Magazine profile of the anti-European British politician Nigel Farage, entitled "A Spot of Tea Party?" is the source for the quiz words this week. You may not agree with Farage's U.K. Independence Party's politics, but you might elect to add some of these words to your vocabulary.

1. creed (n.)  
A) an oath of allegiance      B) a set of beliefs      C) a short oration
2. placate (v.)  
A) to set in motion      B) proclaim publicly      C) soothe
3. duopoly (n.)  
A) control by two powers      B) an act of duping      C) a counterpart
4. convivial (adj.)  
A) firmly united      B) sociable      C) dedicated to a cause
5. loquacious (adj.)  
A) wordy      B) not widespread      C) dignified
6. roistering (v.)  
A) to risk danger      B) stir up      C) carouse
7. mountebank (n.)  
A) a plan of action      B) a boastful pretender      C) complete freedom
8. contumacious (adj.)  
A) stubbornly disobedient      B) simultaneous      C) promoting improvement

- ANSWERS:**
1. B. A set of fundamental beliefs
  2. C. To soothe or mollify, especially by concessions.
  3. A. Preponderant influence or control by two
  4. B. Sociable; jovial or festive
  5. A. Given to fluent or excessive talk; wordy
  6. C. To engage in noisy revelry; carouse
  7. B. A boastful, unscrupulous pretender
  8. A. Stubbornly disobedient; rebellious

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# ExaminerSports

## Foxes Fall in the Sectional Final to Roy C. Ketcham

By Andy Jacobs

It's only been two years since the Section One playoffs were moved to Rockland County's Provident Bank Park, but the impressive new stadium has already turned into a house of horrors for the Fox Lane baseball team.

Just 365 days after squandering a six-run lead to Arlington in the last inning of the 2013 Class AA championship game, the Foxes returned to Pomona on Saturday afternoon in pursuit of the title once more and again headed home empty-handed.

Top-seeded Roy C. Ketcham jumped out to an eight-run lead after just two innings and cruised to a 9-2 victory over the Foxes, who stranded 11 runners over the first six innings on the way to their third runner-up finish in the last four years.

"It's hard going down in an 8-0 hole, but sometimes that's baseball and that's what happened today," said Fox Lane coach Matt Hillis shortly after his third-seeded team had been retired in order in its final turn at the plate. "You could point to a lot of things in this game, but we just didn't deliver a key hit with runners on base."

On a spectacular spring day, the Foxes' inability to drive in base runners started shortly after the improvised singing of the National Anthem by three dozen "Ketcham Krazies," the exuberant RCK student section behind the first-base dugout, who grew tired of waiting at least 45 seconds for the music to start blaring over the stadium's P.A. system.

Kenny Hayden led off the game with an infield hit and John Cannon followed with a walk. But Ralph Nuzzi was retired on a check-swing pop fly to short left. Andrew Workman, who had pitched the Foxes past Mamaroneck in the quarterfinals and then drove in the winning run against Suffern with a sixth-inning single in Wednesday's semifinal, flied out to right for the second out. The Foxes' threat ended when Dion Austrie grounded out to short.

The Indians, who had already beaten Fox Lane during the regular season, served notice that it might be a long day for the Foxes when leadoff batter Jacob Morgenstern blasted the second pitch from Workman to deep left field, sending Will Peacock retreating all the way to the wall to make the catch.

After a walk to Mark Joao, Jordan Bishop drilled a deep drive to left that Peacock nearly grabbed with a sparkling backhanded try. But the ball bounced off his glove, setting the stage for Tim Zehnbauser's two-run single to center field that put RCK on the scoreboard first.

Ketcham's Greg Blum yielded a two-out infield single to Jake Cohen in the top of



Jason Bracco of Fox Lane smacks one of his two hits in Saturday's Section 1, Class A championship game.

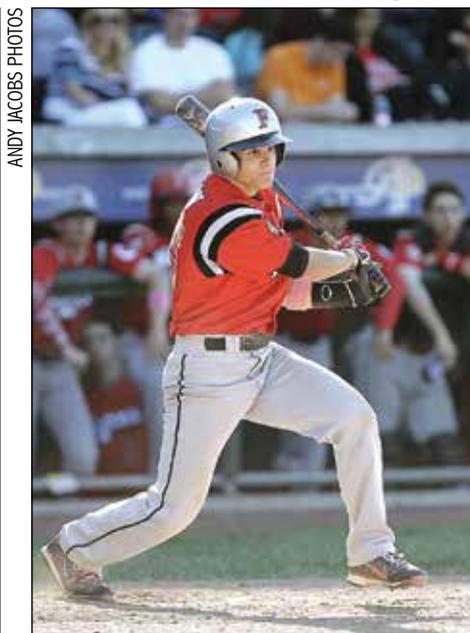


Fox Lane's Ralph Nuzzi slides home with the Foxes' first run in Saturday's Class AA championship game at Provident Bank Park.

the second, but retired Jason Bracco on a pop-up to third base. When they came up to hit in the bottom of the inning, the Indians all but ended any doubt about the outcome. They sent 11 batters to the plate and scored six runs, bringing a quick end to Workman's day on the hill.

The first three RCK batters to face Workman all reached and then Dan Alonzo, later named the game's MVP, cleared the bases with a double down the left-field line that extended the Ketcham lead to 5-0. Morgenstern drove home Alonzo with a line single to the gap in left-center field and Joao reached on a walk. Hillis summoned Henry Jacobs from the bullpen, but the Indians scored two more times before Jacobs finally ended the disastrous inning by striking out Nicholas Shephard.

The Foxes got one run back in the third as Nuzzi walked with two outs and came all the way around when Workman ripped a double down the line in right. An inning later, Fox Lane got hits from Joe Fraioli and Bracco, but left the bases loaded as Dylan D'Anna came on in relief and retired Cannon on a short fly along



John Cannon hits the ball toward right field in Fox Lane's loss to Roy C. Ketcham in the sectional final.



Fox Lane shortstop Dion Austrie waits for the ball as RCK's Matt Lynch steals second base in the sectional final.

the right-field line that was caught in foul territory.

"I thought we had some opportunities, for sure," said the dejected Workman afterwards. "You never really lost hope. You always had a feeling, but unfortunately today wasn't our day."

In the fifth inning, Nuzzi led off with a single and Fraioli provided a two-out infield hit. But the Foxes stranded both runners as Peacock was called out on strikes. Ketcham added its final run in the bottom of the inning as Joao walked with the bases loaded.

Cohen drew a walk to begin the sixth inning and Bracco followed by lining a single to right. Two outs later, the upper-cutting Nuzzi actually fouled a pitch to the seats behind the Fox Lane dugout right into the hands of his father, a well-known coach in the Mt. Kisco Little League. Nuzzi then laced a run-scoring single to left center, but Workman popped out to retire the side with the Foxes still trailing by seven runs.

Aaron Winkler, the sixth Fox Lane pitcher of the day, came in with two on and two outs in the bottom of the sixth and got Matt Lynch to foul out to Bracco, the Foxes' catcher. But in the seventh, there would be no miraculous comeback



Fox Lane's Aaron Winkler pitches in relief during the sixth inning of the Class AA championship game.



The Foxes' Joe Fraioli gets ready to throw the ball after tagging out a Ketcham player in a rundown between second and third base on Saturday afternoon.

similar to the one Arlington staged a year ago, especially when Austrie, leading off, was robbed of a hit by a diving catch in center field.

"We kept putting runners on base, putting runners on base, putting runners on base," said Hillis. "Unfortunately, we just couldn't deliver. There were moments where I thought maybe we were one big hit away from climbing back into it. But it didn't happen."

"You know," said Workman, "we had a good season. We proved a lot of people wrong and we feel good about ourselves. I think the way we like to look at it is, coming into the season, people thought we were a team that had nobody, but we knew we were a team that had everybody that nobody knew yet. And I think we proved that getting to the final."



Byram Hills' Kim Bacon watches the flight of her tee shot at last Wednesday's Section 1 championship.



Kristina Grimaldis of Byram Hills drives the ball during the second round of the girls' sectional golf championship last week.



Byram Hills golfer Ally Steffen lines up a putt on the 18th hole at Whipoorwill County Club in last Wednesday's final round of the Section 1 tourney.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Shortstop Kevin Louie of Briarcliff fields a ground ball during last Wednesday's home playoff game vs. Valhalla.



Shortstop Brandi Coon of Valhalla chases a pop fly in the Vikings' Class B playoff victory over Briarcliff last week.



Briarcliff's Denise Haxhia pitches in last Tuesday's season-ending playoff game against host Valhalla.

# SPORTS SCENE



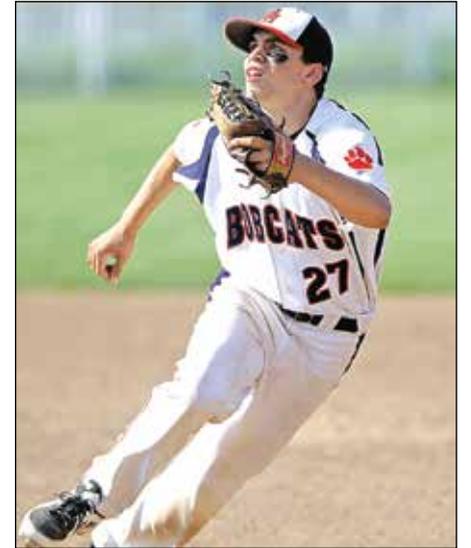
Chris Marinaccio of Briarcliff throws a pitch during last Wednesday's Class B quarterfinal playoff game against Valhalla.



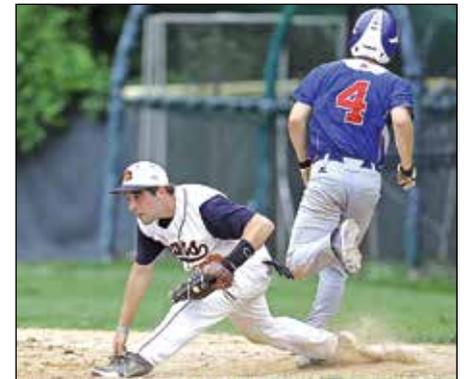
Above: Fox Lane third baseman Joe Fraioli plays in on the grass during last week's semifinal playoff win over visiting Suffern.

Upper right: Armend Pushka of Byram Hills pitches in the Class A semifinal playoff game vs. Lakeland last Wednesday.

Right: A dejected Nick Contillo of Byram Hills sits near second base during the Bobcats' semifinal loss to Lakeland.



Tommy Gagliardi of Byram Hills tracks a pop fly in the Bobcats' Class A quarterfinal playoff win over Tappan Zee.



Briarcliff first baseman Joe Marano stretches for a putout in the Bears' playoff victory over visiting Blind Brook last week.





Fox Lane's Benjamin Barton



Fox Lane's Vicky Martinez



Valhalla's Samantha Lanjewar

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Briarcliff's Caroline Pennacchio

# TRACK & FIELD

## State Qualifying Meet Day One — May 29, 2014 Arlington High School



Pleasantville's Olivia Heintzman



Pleasantville's Kevin Proctor



Valhalla's Jackie Goyco



Pleasantville's C J Yahia



Above: Valhalla's Michael DiMattia

Left: Pleasantville's Eli Waxler

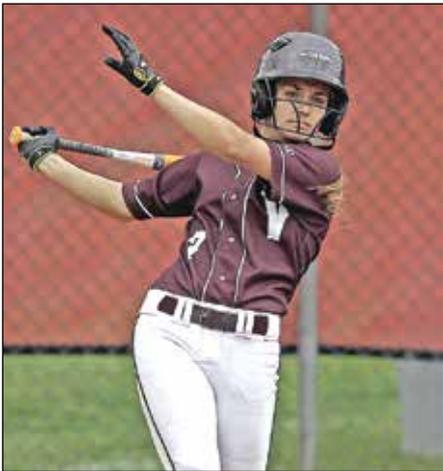


Below: Briarcliff's Molly Rickles



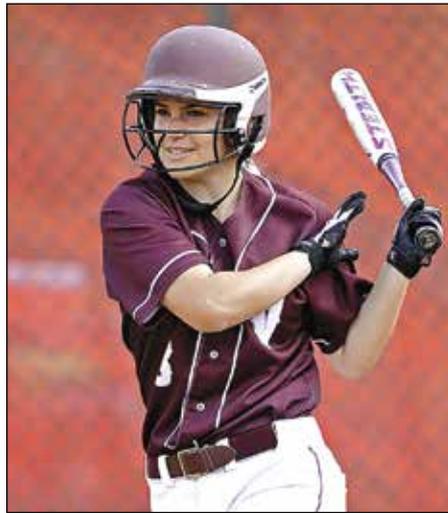
Westlake's Umair Azhar

# Vikings Win Their Sixth Straight Sectional Title

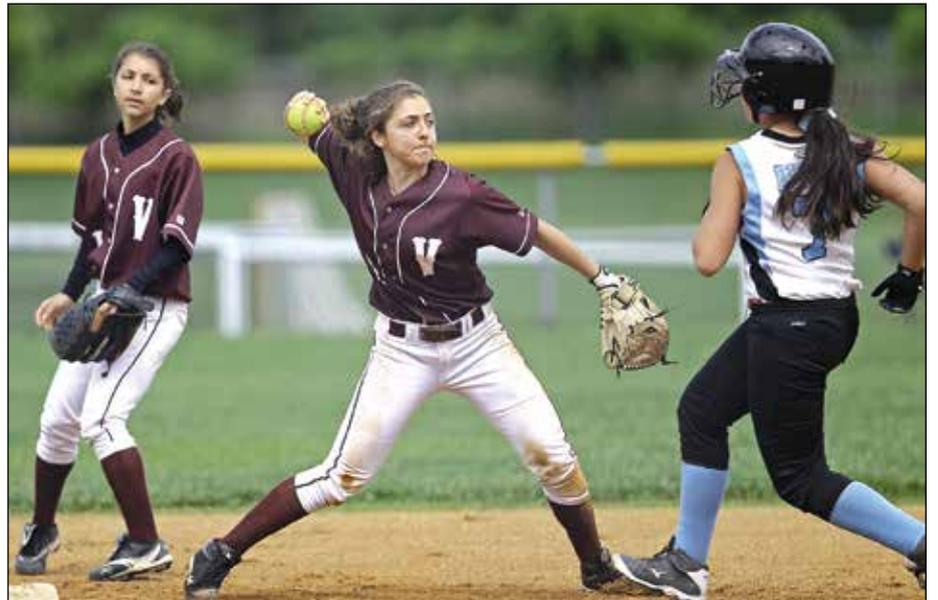


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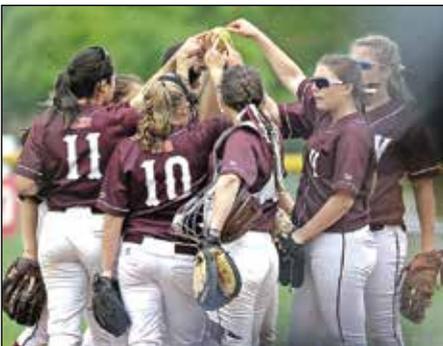
Kaylie Dymek provided a big three-run triple in Valhalla's victory over Rye Neck for the Class B championship.



Valhalla's Alyssa Dolan swings the bat in the Vikings' win in the Class B final.



Vikings shortstop Brandi Coon tries to complete a double play during Saturday's Class B title game vs. Rye Neck.



The Valhalla infield meets on the mound in the first inning of Saturday's playoff game at North Rockland High School.



Valhalla softball coach John Hayes shares a laugh with Sydni Holtz (left) and Isabella Riguzzi during Saturday's Class B final vs. Rye Neck.

The dynasty continues for the Valhalla softball team.

Sydni Holtz pitched a five-hit shutout and Kaylie Dymek smacked a three-run triple in the fourth inning to break open a close game as the Vikings defeated Rye Neck 8-0 in the Section One, Class B championship game on Saturday afternoon at North Rockland High School.

The fourth-seeded Vikings, who had crushed No. 1 Tuckahoe in the semifinals, were clinging to a slim lead before

Dymek's big hit in the five-run fourth gave them some breathing room and helped clinch their sixth successive sectional title. Holtz finished with six strikeouts and shortstop Brandi Coon turned in a sparkling defensive play in the bottom of the fifth to take away a hit and leave two Rye Neck base runners stranded.

The Vikings now move on to the state tournament, which begins on Thursday at 5 p.m. with a regional playoff game against Section 9's Highland Huskies, again at North Rockland.

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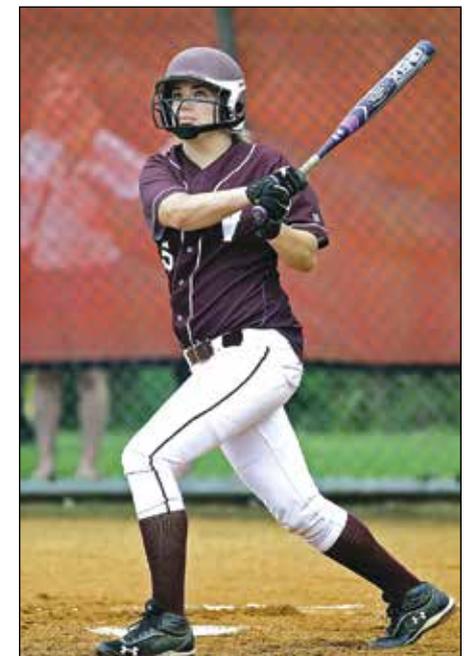
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Valhalla's Sydni Holtz pitches during the Vikings' 8-0 rout of Rye Neck in the Class B championship game.



Jenna Saldi of Valhalla hits the ball toward left field early in Saturday's championship game.

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# Valhalla's Surprising Playoff Run Ends in North Salem

By Andy Jacobs

It would've been very easy to overlook the Valhalla baseball team as a contender in Class B when the Section One playoffs got underway last week. After all, the Vikings stumbled badly down the stretch in the regular season, dropping their final six games and watching their sectional seeding fall all the way to No. 12.

Yet there they were on Friday afternoon, taking the field in the semifinals at North Salem High School against the top-seeded Tigers with a berth in the championship game at Provident Bank Park just a day and a victory away.

With playoff wins on the road against fifth-seeded Albertus Magnus and fourth-seeded Briarcliff, the Vikings seemed to be putting a Cinderella finish on their 2014 season. Unfortunately for them, though, the clock struck midnight against North Salem sometime in the bottom of the fifth inning.

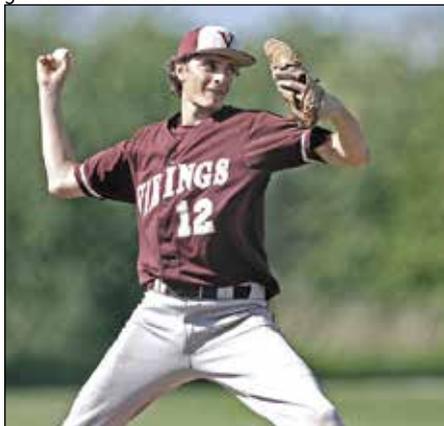
The Tigers used four consecutive walks to take the lead and then added four unearned runs an inning later en route to a 6-1 win that brought a disappointing conclusion to the Vikings' surprising playoff run. Luke MacKenzie went the distance, limiting Valhalla to six hits, and Dan Capra provided a key two-run double in the sixth as North Salem improved its gaudy record to 21-1.

"We didn't play like a 12th seed the first two games and, really, for this game we didn't play like a 12th seed until the very end," said Vikings coach Josh Wolfson shortly after a lengthy post-game chat with his dejected team. "Unfortunately, when you play like a 12th seed, you're gonna lose."

After three scoreless innings, the Vikings had a chance to get on the board first in the top of the fourth when Sergio Osorio reached on an error and then moved to



Valhalla shortstop Sergio Osorio fields a late throw at second base in Friday's Class B semifinal playoff game at North Salem.



Valhalla senior Mark Kinnally pitches in relief during the Vikings' 6-1 semifinal loss on Friday afternoon.

second base on a sacrifice bunt by Sam Gannon. But Osorio was soon cut down at the plate following a line single to center field by James Gerster.

Chris Strnad followed with another hit to center, but Wolfson held Gerster at third base after having just seen the throwing arm of the Tigers' Jack Walter. MacKenzie then got out of the inning by retiring Christian Lovecchio on a ground ball.

In the bottom of the inning, North Salem grabbed a 1-0 lead as Reilly Cotter belted a long drive to left field that hit the top of the fence and bounced over for a home run. The Vikings wasted little time getting even, using some small ball in the fifth to score their only run. Carl Bespolka led off with a single to right, moved to second on a wild pitch and to third on a stolen base. One out later, he somehow managed to score after getting caught in a rundown on a botched squeeze play.

"We had a squeeze on and, it turned out, the runner didn't run and the batter (George Koeltl) missed the bunt," said Wolfson. "Got in a rundown and you have three feet on either side of the line, so he (Bespolka) took the three feet and ended up scoring. But, unfortunately, that's all we could muster up."

The Vikings' starter, Chris Strnad,



Vikings infielder Sam Gannon gets a force out at second base and prepares to fire to first during the Class B semifinals on Friday afternoon.

who had pitched two innings of relief in Wednesday's quarterfinal win over Briarcliff, had been impressive over the first four innings against the Tigers, striking out four and walking just one. But in the bottom of the fifth, after striking out MacKenzie to start the inning he suddenly lost his command and walked three straight batters.

Phil Capra stepped to the plate for North Salem and he wound up walking on four pitches, forcing in the game's go-ahead run. Wolfson turned to Mark Kinnally to relieve Strnad and the 6-foot-7 righty retired Terry Beyer on a called third strike and Cotter on a long fly to center to end the inning and strand three Tiger runners.

"We went with him as long as we could," said Wolfson about Strnad. "He had been pitching well up to that point and it just got away quickly. It happened so quick, the guys in the bullpen needed a little more time."

Osorio led off the sixth inning by ripping the first pitch to center for a single. Another sacrifice bunt by Gannon moved him to second base and a grounder to the right side by Gerster advanced him to third. But he was stranded there and in the bottom of the inning the Tigers all but put the game away.

With two outs and a runner on third, Tommy Bond sent a ground ball to second that the Vikings' Gannon bobbled for an



Chris Strnad of Valhalla delivers to the plate in Friday's Class B semifinal against top-seeded North Salem.



Christian Lovecchio swings the bat in Valhalla's season-ending playoff loss at North Salem High School.

instant, then decided not to throw to first, enabling North Salem to score its third run. After a walk to Walter, Capra slammed his big two-run double just beyond the outstretched glove of Gerster in right field. Later in the inning, the Tigers scored their final run when Kinnally walked Cotter with the bases loaded.

"The kid at second made an error," said Wolfson, "but, you know what, he's fielded that ball 99 times out of a 100. It just happened. It's one of those things where it happened and they tacked on four runs, and that's where it really got away from us."

MacKenzie retired the Vikings in order in the seventh to end it, getting Lovecchio and Kinnally to ground out, sandwiched around a fly to center by Bespolka. After an improbable run to the sectional semifinals, the season was suddenly over for Valhalla after 10 wins in 23 games.

"We were the 12th seed," said Wolfson. "Nobody thought we'd even win the first game. We battled for two and went toe to toe with the No. 1 seed, so I'm very proud of the guys. The thing that I'll take away from this year with these guys is that they competed and they battled from Day One in March. Every day, they came to play and they competed. They never stopped competing when we had that six-game losing streak at the end of the year."



Mark Kinnally (left) and Carl Bespolka celebrate after Bespolka scored a run for Valhalla in the fifth inning of Friday's playoff game.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

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