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**Bedford Hills Wins Two WPBA Titles**  
See Pages 24 & 25

August 12 - August 18, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 362

## Jacob Burns Film Center to Add Two Theaters

By Neal Rentz

The Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville announced on Aug. 5 it was going forward with an expansion project that will include the addition of two screens and a renovated gallery.

Construction has begun on the new screens on the third floor of its cinema complex, which will add 80 seats. The theater will stay open through the construction of the new screens, which is scheduled to conclude in January 2015.

The JBFC will reconfigure the Jane Peck Gallery into a café and community gathering space for members and the public.

The final piece of the expansion will be to replace all of the original seats in the three existing theaters. The seat changes and the gallery project are set to

be finished by the fall of 2015, according to the JBFC.

"The new theaters will provide a greater opportunity to present vital new films from around the world, as well as innovative programs curated by JBFC staff, international fellows, emerging artists, and partnering organizations," said JBFC Programming Director Brian Ackerman. "We also look forward to creating a physical space that will encourage dialogue and connection."

"We need a facility that can enable us to fully execute our mission," said JBFC Board Chair Hugh Price. "Many people embrace this important next step, as we have already raised 60 percent towards our fundraising goal to meet the cost of the project. We now look to our community, as we need broad financial

*continued on page 2*

## Wildcats Take WBA 9U West Championship Crown



SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTO

The Sherman Park Wildcats captured the Westchester Baseball Association's 9U West championship crown Friday night by defeating the White Plains Hit-N-Run, 9-2, at Volunteer Park in Hawthorne. The Wildcats finished the summer season with a record of 13-1.

## Legion of Christ Property Preservation Discussed in Mount Pleasant

By Neal Rentz

If the Town of Mount Pleasant decides to seek to protect as open space a part of the undeveloped portion of the Legion of Christ property in Thornwood the Westchester Land Trust is willing to assist the town

At the Aug. 4 town board work session, Westchester Land Trust President Lori Ensinger discussed the Legion of Christ Property. "This is a very important and unique parcel in central Westchester," she said.

The Legion of Christ sold 100 acres of its property to EF International Academy, which will open a boarding high school in September.

Town Supervisor Joan Maybury said at last week's meeting that the New York City



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Westchester Land Trust President Lori Ensinger, left, and Valhalla resident Mary Hegarty, a natural resource and watershed management specialist, discussed the Legion of Christ property at the Aug. 4 Mount Pleasant Town Board work session.

Department of Environmental Protection is interested in preserving 60 of the 165

*continued on page 2*

## Borders Property Sells for \$6.5 Million, Future Use Still Unclear

By Janine Bowen

The Mount Kisco property that formerly housed Borders bookstore has finally been sold for \$6.5 million.

The winning bid at the auction, which was held at the Westchester County Courthouse on Aug. 5, was placed by Michael Blumenthal of Thompson & Knight LLP on behalf of the mortgage holder at the site.

The company, known as GCCFC 2007-GG11 Kisco Retail, LLC, had loaned \$6.3 million to the landlord of the site, Mount Kisco Associates LP, on September 4, 2007. The foreclosure auction was a result of a May 30 Supreme Court settlement between Greenwich Capital Financial Products and Mount Kisco Associates, which called for the former landlord to



The former Borders bookstore at 160 E. Main Street, Mt. Kisco, was recently sold at auction.

pay \$9.1 million to Greenwich Capital in principal, interest, and other costs.

Now that the lender is in possession of the property, Blumenthal explained that it will be classified as REO, which means a property is owned by a bank or government entity. The arm of the lending

*continued on page 5*

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## Legion of Christ Property Preservation Discussed in Mount Pleasant

*continued from page 1*

acres of the remaining parcel in an effort to protect its water supply. Maybury said she was not aware of a potential deal for a developer to purchase any of the remaining land from the Legion of Christ. "We haven't heard anything," she said. The town would be interested in working with the DEP to protect the land, she added.

Ensinger told the town board the Westchester Land Trust seeks to assist private and public homeowners to preserve their land permanently to protect and enhance the natural resources of Westchester and Putnam counties. Protecting land as open space has many benefits including protecting watershed

and drinking water; providing for natural flood mitigation; protecting air quality; creating new parks and land preserves; and protecting land dedicated to local food supplies, she said.

Ensinger also noted that studies have shown open space has other benefits including increasing property values for homes located adjacent to open space and reducing the burden on government services. Though open space dedicated to a municipality usually comes off the tax rolls; properties with easements typically stay on the rolls, she added.

Ensinger said the 60 acres her organization, the town and the DEP

are interested in preserving includes wetlands that drain into the Kensico Watershed, which provides drinking water for eight million residents of the New York metro area, including portions of Westchester County. The land, which abuts the Mount Pleasant Community Center and swimming pool complex, contains steep slopes on its western portion, she said.

The Westchester Land Trust could

provide advice on conservation land preservation studies and the potential for a conservation easement, Ensinger said.

Valhalla resident Mary Hegarty, a natural resource and watershed management specialist, said it was important to protect the undeveloped Legion of Christ property. "There is important wildlife," she said. "This is the headwater of the Bronx River."

## Jacob Burns Film Center to Add Two Theaters

*continued from page 1*

support to successfully complete every essential component of this campaign."

"This is a natural evolution in the life of the JBFC and a direct response to an insatiable demand from members, filmmakers, students, and teachers," said JBFC Executive Director Edie Demas. "It is also a shining example of a community coming together to learn, grow, and relish in the shared experience."

Nat Hoyt, the original lead architect for the conversion of the old Rome Theater into the three-screen JBFC Theater in 2001, will be working with the team who built the JBFC's Media Arts Lab in 2009, KG&D Architects of Mount Kisco. Yorke Construction Corporation of Manhattan is the building contractor.



KG&D ARCHITECTS PHOTO

An architect's rendition of the renovated Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville.

To learn more about the campaign to expand and renovate the JBFC Theater, send an e-mail to JBFC Development Director Judy Exton at [jexton@burnsfilmcenter.org](mailto:jexton@burnsfilmcenter.org) or call 914-773-7663 Ext.414.

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# No. Castle Planning Board Favors Changes to Residential Project

By Janine Bowen

Following a discussion with the Town Board in late July, Armonk developer Michael Fareri received positive recommendations from the North Castle Planning Board on Aug. 4 regarding revisions to his multifamily residential project at the old lumberyard on Bedford Road.

Fareri received planning board approval in May to construct a three-story, 24-unit structure at the former lumberyard site, but has amended those plans to build an additional two-story building that would contain 14 units on the half acre Green Property adjacent to the current site.

As part of the plan, the original structure would be reduced to 20-units and would be shifted slightly west on the property.

Under a town ordinance that stems from Westchester County's affordable housing settlement with the federal government, 20 percent of the units in the development must be designated as fair and affordable housing. Fareri plans to house all of the affordable units on the Green property, but there had been previous debate as to whether the number of affordable units required should be calculated based on the

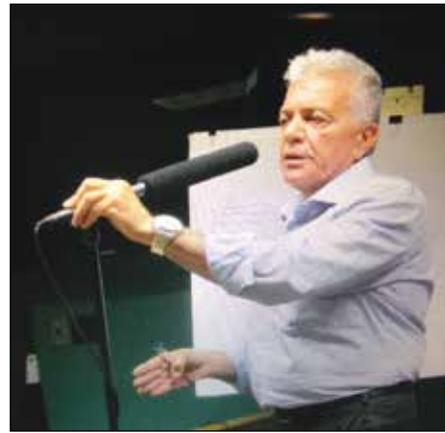
number of market rate units or total units.

The planning board unanimously agreed that affordable units should be calculated based on the number of market-rate units, meaning six units will be set aside for that purpose. Fareri's hope is that another developer will purchase the remaining eight units to satisfy their affordable housing requirements, thus making the entire structure fair and affordable.

Fareri said the sizes of the affordable units are well above the size requirements set by the town and county. The two-bedroom units would be 1,195 square feet, while the three-bedroom units would be 1,400 square feet. Each unit would also have a patio or deck, which is uncommon among fair and affordable housing options. He believes if the units are superior to other affordable options in the county, they will be easy to sell.

"They would probably be the best fair and affordable units that I've seen in the county because they really have everything. They're bigger than the rest...and it's just really a good location," said Fareri.

Fareri also sought a recommendation from the planning board regarding the necessary rezoning of the Green property.



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Developer Michael Fareri explains the revisions for his multifamily residential project to the Armonk Town Board in late July.

Finally, Fareri requested that the setbacks on the property be modified from what the current town code requires. He asked that the front setback be reduced from 50 feet to 15 feet, the side yard setback from 20 to 15 feet, and the rear yard from 50 to 5 feet.

He noted this is in keeping with other structures on that side of Bedford Road and his project would have less impact on traffic as well as on the sewer and water systems than a commercial building.

"It seems to me that this is a win for the community. It gives us the opportunity to get more fair and affordable units, which I think we desperately need," said Fareri.

The planning board gave a recommendation in favor of changing the setbacks on the property, noting that it will not have any negative or adverse impact in the area.

"Where this is going to be, it's really not an issue," said Town Planner Adam Kaufman.

Fareri is scheduled to be on the agenda for the next town board meeting on Aug. 13 to seek the recommended zoning change, and will need to appear before the planning board in the future to receive site plan approval for the project.

Currently, the parcel is designated as roadside business and would need to be changed to residential multifamily single structure.

"To keep it as roadside business doesn't make a lot of sense," said Fareri, who noted that the town's Master Plan indicates that a commercial building would likely remain vacant.

The planning board unanimously agreed it would be appropriate for the town board to vote to approve the rezone.

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# New Castle Master Plan Moves Forward with Public Engagement Report

By Janine Bowen

Following two months of meetings with residents and other stakeholders, the New Castle Town Board now has a comprehensive report of what residents hope to see in the Master Plan Update.

Throughout May and June, the Land Use Law Center at Pace Law School, which was retained by the town, conducted several meetings to determine which issues were most important to stakeholders in New Castle. A nearly 200-page report was released last week that details the results of the meetings. The information will be used by town officials to inform the ongoing Master Plan Update.

"We've had what I consider to be a successful public outreach and we're going to explore other options for public outreach," said Supervisor Robert Greenstein.

At each public meeting residents discussed a variety of topics and were asked to state what aspects they believed are currently working, what they felt was not working, and what strategies could be employed to fix those issues.

One of the major issues that repeatedly emerged throughout the process was the discussion of commercial development in the town. Many wanted to improve what they felt were dated storefronts in

town and hoped to facilitate a diversity of food and retail establishments while prioritizing local businesses over 'big box' stores.

Amidst the continuing controversy surrounding the proposed Chappaqua Crossing project, many residents were vocal about where future retail options should be allowed. Some suggested that the town look at Millwood as a potential option for future development and many wished to see development concentrated in downtown Chappaqua and near the train station.

At the Aug. 5 work session the town board discussed the possible appraisal of town hall properties, which Greenstein was in favor of because it would give the board a better idea of the potential for development in the downtown area.

"We should look at the downtown and start exploring those options. And one of those options is knowing what our property's worth, especially when it's property that very well could be developed one day if we decide to go that route," Greenstein said.

In addition to attracting shoppers to the town through commercial development, there was also a desire to bring more people to the area through more diverse housing options. Among the suggestions given by residents were affordable housing, specifically for

seniors and young residents, as well as mixed use development, rentals, and condominiums.

Although residents are focused on commercial development in New Castle, many were also concerned about the environmental impact that development will have on the character of the town. They hoped to keep family neighborhoods and historic buildings while protecting public green space in the area. The report also documents support for building new parks in the town while creating more accessible sports facilities both indoors and outdoors.

Residents hope the town could improve streets in order to facilitate safer conditions for pedestrians and create better lanes and parking options for bicycles. They also expressed a desire for better maintenance of town roads and more parking throughout New Castle, specifically at the train station.

Despite the release of this report, New Castle Town officials are still looking for ways to reach out and get more input from residents. Greenstein stated that they are considering the possibility of a survey for residents in the near future.

The Town board will have a meeting with The Land Use Law Center, as well as the Master Plan Steering Committee on August 12 at 5 p.m. to discuss future possibilities.

## Borders Property Sells for \$6.5 Million, Future Use Still Unclear

continued from page 1

company that oversee this process will then decide what to do with the property going forward.

"They could sell it, they could lease it, they could hold it. At this point I can't comment on that because I have no idea what they might do," explained Blumenthal.

The 154-162 E. Main St. space, which is approximately 20,000 square feet, has been vacant since 2011 when Borders filed for bankruptcy. Blumenthal said

that although the purchase is expected to be finalized within the next 30 days, it is too early to say when the building will be occupied or who the occupants may be.

Although several people attended the auction, Blumenthal only faced opposing bids from one other person. Rosa Cascardo, who bid on behalf of Allan Fried, bowed out of the auction with a final bid of \$6.3 million. Fried did not wish to disclose his plans for the property if he had succeeded in acquiring it.

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# Promotional Banners Give a New Look to the Village of Mt. Kisco

By Neal Rentz

Downtown Mount Kisco has had a new look since last month. A series of banners have been placed on flagpoles to promote the village in a joint effort

between the village and local businesses.

At the Aug. 4 village board of trustees meeting, Mayor Michael Cindrlich said the village contributed \$5,000 for the project and town employees helped to

put up the banners. The Chamber of Commerce worked with the village on the project and local business owners also paid for a portion of the project and have the names of their establishment on the signs, Cindrlich said.

The colorful banners are 37 inches high and 11 inches wide, Cindrlich noted after the meeting. The banners have such phrases as Shop or Eat Mount Kisco

### Police consolidation

In an interview following the board meeting Cindrlich provided a brief update on possible plans to have the Mount Kisco Police Department combine efforts with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety, a move that advocates have said would reduce costs for the village while increasing police services.

Cindrlich said work on the consolidation was continuing. "The IMA (intermunicipal agreement) is still in the draft form," he said. Lawyers from the village and the county are working on the language of the IMA, Cindrlich said.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Promotional banners are flying across the Village of Mt. Kisco in a joint effort by the village and businesses to make the streetscapes more attractive.

## New Mount Kisco Building Inspector Introduced

By Neal Rentz

The former Putnam Valley building inspector has recently taken over the same position in Mount Kisco.

Putnam Valley resident John Landi was introduced to the public at the Aug. 4 village board of trustees meeting "I appreciate the opportunity that you've given me," Landi told the board of trustees. "We have a great team (in the building department)."

Landi, who began his new job on July 28, is earning an annual salary of \$102,600.

In an interview following his appearance before the village board, Landi said he was the Putnam Valley building inspector for about four-and-one-half years.

Before entering government Landi owned a construction company in Putnam Valley for about 30 years. His company primarily did work in lower Westchester County, Landi said.

One of the reasons Landi wanted to



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

New Mount Kisco Building Inspector John Landi was introduced to the public at the Aug. 4 board of trustees meeting.

work in the public sector: "I wanted a little more job security," he said.

Landi was praised by Mayor Michael Cindrlich at last week's board of trustees meeting. "We think he's more than qualified" for the position, Cindrlich said.

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# Cockren Developers Amend Plans for Larger Units

By Janine Bowen

The developer of affordable housing on the Cockren property on Old Route 22 in North Castle has requested an amendment to its site plan.

Clark Neuringer, an architect employed by the developer, said at the Aug. 4 planning board meeting that there is a desire to slightly enlarge the

units by two square feet from what was originally proposed. In addition, one of the buildings on the property would need to be shifted 10 feet to the north.

Lou Larizza, the developer who recently took over the project, explained that by making the units bigger, he was able to increase the number of bathrooms and increase marketability.

"I'm taking the project where the units were 13 x 9 and yes it's wonderful, but it's not marketable," Larizza said of the previous plan.

In making the change, the property would lose one parking space, leaving 23 spots on the property. This, however, is still three more than required by the town, the planning board was told.

Although the planning board did not take issue with the enlargement of the units, members said they were concerned that it would be difficult to connect the site to the hamlet via the sidewalk. Town Planner Adam Kaufman said he has been in talks with Westchester County about the issue, but has yet to receive a response.

"I think it's a very important link and if, and only if, the county's not willing to solve this problem...then the developer may need to find a way to solve this problem," said planning board member Christopher Carthy.

The board also noted that developers on the site may need to find a way to allocate more green space on the property. Under town requirements, the developers are required to have 50 percent of the property designated as open space. Currently, the land consists of only 49.6 percent of open space.

The developers will need to get approval for their changes from the architectural review board in the coming weeks and then a public hearing will be scheduled by the planning board regarding the property.

## County Approves Road Project for Mount Pleasant

The Westchester County Board of Legislators passed a bond act in the amount of \$990,000 to rehabilitate West Lake Drive, County Road 144, in the Town of Mount Pleasant on Aug. 4.

At the urging of Legislator Michael Smith (R-Mount Pleasant), the bond act was reintroduced to the board earlier this year after it was stalled in a subcommittee backlog during the prior legislative term.

The bond act will fund the design, construction management, and construction associated with the proposed work, which seeks to rehabilitate approximately 0.74 miles

of West Lake Drive from North Kensico Avenue to Columbus Avenue. The scope of the project includes milling, resurfacing, catch basin repair, concrete curb replacement, new pavement markers, and the construction of shoulders from Prospect Street to North Kensico Avenue.

Smith, chairman of the Committee on Economic Development and Capital Projects, stated: "This critical capital improvement will ensure that West Lake Drive, from North Kensico Avenue to Columbus Avenue in the Town of Mount Pleasant, is better

sued to handle its annual daily traffic count of more than 5,500 vehicles. Most importantly, the roadway will be made safer for the traveling public in an economically viable manner.

The design phase of the project is scheduled to take six months, while construction is estimated to take five months following the award and execution of associated contracts.

"I thank County Executive Rob Astorino and the Department of Public Works and Transportation for their work in seeing that this bond act move forward," Smith said.

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## P'ville District Considering Changes to Help High School Students

By Janine Bowen

The Pleasantville Union Free School District is considering several changes at the high school in order to better serve its students.

According to Superintendent Mary Fox-Alter, district officials are currently discussing the possibility of opting out of the National School Lunch Program at the high school, due to the mounting number of restrictions that are being placed on the food that can be served.

Fox-Alter explained that under the mandates of the program, the school would be forced to reduce the number of choices that are available for lunch each day and would also need to reduce the portion sizes of each serving.

Fox-Alter and the Board of Education are concerned that the restrictions will drive students away from purchasing a school lunch on a regular basis.

"The guidelines are so restrictive, we don't think the kids will eat lunch at the high school anymore," explained School Board President, Shane McGaffey.

As it stands, current guidelines require all bread products to be wheat based instead of flour based, and require all students to have a serving of fruit and vegetables. Fox-Alter explained that, over the past year the district has seen a drop-off in the number of high school students that partake in school lunch program,

which is affecting revenue for the district. In addition, many who do participate end up throwing the food in the garbage, because they don't like it.

Fox-Alter said if the school modifies its participation at the high school level, they could serve students through a self-funded food service program. That would allow the district to continue to offer free and reduced lunches to students who qualify, but would allow for more meal options and a serving size that the district feels would be more proportionate to the needs of a high school student, she said.

"We will be providing more options and reasonable portions for our kids," said Fox-Alter.

In addition to changing the lunch program, the Pleasantville School District is also considering eliminating the Advanced Regents Diploma.

According to state mandates, every district in New York must offer a Regents Diploma, which requires students to take five examinations across four major subject areas. For an Advanced Regents Diploma, students are required to take three additional tests, two of which must be in trigonometry, geometry, or algebra two.

The desire for change stems from the introduction of the Common Core and the sudden changes to state tests since their implementation. In June, students



Pleasantville Union Free School District Superintendent Mary Fox-Alter.

on the same level as performance on the old exam, because students and teachers were not able to adequately prepare for the new examination, due to the way the Common Core was implemented.

"I'm very concerned about the quick roll out of assessments," Fox-Alter said. "Unlike the 3-8 [grade] assessments, the Regents ends up on a transcript. I don't want the implementation model to hurt our high school kids."

Fox-Alter fears that if the school continues to offer the tests for the Advanced Regents Diploma, students' grade point averages will suffer, and eventually affect their ability to get into the colleges of their choice. She said a district-made assessment would be able to offer an equally rigorous curriculum to students who want to be challenged, but would eliminate some of the issues of the Common Core.

In addition, Fox-Alter noted that in recent years, students who had sought an advanced designation upon graduation often turned to the national level, taking Advanced Placement exams that offered an opportunity to gain college credits.

There are already other school districts in the county that do not offer the Advanced Regents Diploma, including Scarsdale, Valhalla, and Rye.

were given the option to take the new Common Core Regents exam, as well as the old Regents exam, in the subject of algebra and chose the higher score for their transcript. The same class of students will be taking the new Common Core geometry exam next year.

Fox-Alter explained that performance on the new Common Core exam was not

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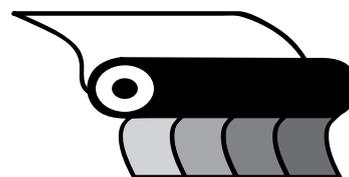
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# Controversial 12 Lot Subdivision Sought for Hawthorne

By Neal Rentz

A proposal for a 12-lot subdivision for Linda Avenue and Florence Avenue raised concerns of residents and Mount Pleasant Planning Board members at the Aug. 7 meeting.

G & F Associates is seeking subdivision and site plan approvals and a steep slope permit from the planning board.

The 9.46 acre parcel has portions zoned R-10 (which allows for one home per quarter-acre on the southern portion of the property and R-40 (which allows for one home per acre) on the southern part of the site.

Steve Dimovski, an architect employed by the developer, told the planning board that representatives of the developer have met on several occasions with neighboring residents of the property to listen to their ideas. "We've tried to address their concerns," he said.

Some of the concerns expressed by neighboring residents have included access to the site and stormwater management, Dimovski said.

The stormwater management plan being worked on by the developer would reduce flooding of homes in the area, Dimovski said. Each homeowner would be responsible for maintaining their home's catch basin, he said. By doing so the flooding of basements of neighboring homes would be reduced, he said. "It's going to help the people at the bottom of



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

More than two dozen local residents attended a Mount Pleasant Planning Board discussion of a proposed 12-lot subdivision in Hawthorne.

the hill."

Planning board member James Collins said he was concerned about the steepness of Florence Avenue, which would be the access street for the development. Ownership of the road would need to be transferred to the town, he said.

Planning Board member John Cohen said he had several concerns about the project, including the amount of cut and fill of earth that would be involved during the construction of the houses.

Most of the residents who spoke during

the meeting had questions and criticisms about the project. Steven Kavee, chairman of the Conservation Advisory Council, said he had a number of concerns, including stormwater management and the property's steep slopes. The planning board should instruct the developer to create an environmental impact statement for the project, he said.

Resident Allan Prop said he was concerned that several trees would have to be cut down in order to construct the houses. "What helps to hold back the

water back is those trees," he said, adding he also had concerns about access to the proposed homes.

One resident, Mark DiPaolo, said he could support the project. He said the developer has been listening to the concerns of neighboring residents.

Planning Board Chairman Michael McLaughlin said it was very early in the approval process. "There's a lot of work that needs to be done," he said.

No date for when the proposal would be back before the planning board was announced at the meeting.

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# Alleged ATM Robbers Arrested in Mount Pleasant

By Neal Rentz

Mount Pleasant police have arrested a man who allegedly has been involved in a string of ATM burglaries in the area over a period of several months.

Working with several police agencies, Cristian Vargas-Minaya, 32, of 569 Academy St., in Manhattan, was arrested on Aug. 1 by Mount Pleasant detectives for his alleged role in the burglaries in town. As the investigation continues, additional charges are expected from the other agencies involved, Mount Pleasant police said.

Mount Pleasant police have been investigating a spree of 10 commercial burglaries and two attempted burglaries that have occurred in the hamlets of Thornwood and Hawthorne between February 25 and July 5 of this year.

Police said that due to the similarities in the burglaries, they determined the same group of individuals may have been involved. The suspects targeted businesses that contained ATM machines, according to police. The ATMs would be compromised during the burglaries and any surveillance equipment on the premises would be taken along with other proceeds, according to police, who added the alleged burglars were "particularly brazen" because they spent an hour or more in a location.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department worked with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety Special Operations Unit Task Force to try to develop suspects. A burglary task force was created and headed by Mount Pleasant police for the purpose of identifying, arresting, and prosecuting the individuals responsible for these burglaries and the prevention of further burglaries, according to Mount Pleasant police.

Mount Pleasant detectives and the WCDPS Special Operations Task Force shared suspect information with the Westchester County district attorney's office. The burglary task force increased in size to include detectives from Greenburgh, Peekskill, Ardsley, Pleasantville, New York State Police, and the New York City Financial Crimes Unit. The agencies had experienced burglaries fitting the same pattern as the one in Mount Pleasant.

The Westchester County members of the task force developed intelligence regarding an impending burglary in the Bronx. The task force notified the NYPD Financial Crimes unit and in the early morning hours of July 31 three persons were arrested by the NYPD while in the process of a burglary in the Bronx. Miguel Rodriguez, 34, of Clinton Street, Sleepy

Hollow, along with two other subjects, was taken into custody by the NYPD. Mount Pleasant Police have lodged a warrant with New York City police for the arrest of Rodriguez for his role in the rash of Mount Pleasant commercial burglaries. Charges on the other two individuals are in abeyance pending analysis of evidence collected at the past burglaries, according to the Mount Pleasant police. An additional main player was tracked down by WCDPS Special Operations Task Force. The task force was also assisted by Sleepy Hollow police, Ossining Village police, and the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration.

Mount Pleasant Police Chief Paul Oliva said he perceived the series of burglaries in town as "an affront" and he dedicated all available resources to identify and arrest those responsible. Oliva said he is grateful for the resources that the Westchester County Department of Public Safety dedicated to the investigation along with the other agencies involved. Oliva said he was extremely proud of "the hard work and dedication of his entire detective division." Oliva also said he was looking forward to continued cooperation with other agencies in the future, in an effort to neutralize organized crime groups such as this one.

## Summer Blood Drive set for Aug. 20 in Pleasantville

Blood donations fall off dramatically during the summer when vacations and travel occupy more of everyone's time. The need for blood, however, does not decline and supplies rapidly dwindle.

To help ease the shortages, the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department and the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps will be hosting a special Summer Blood Drive at the Pleasantville Fire House at 75 Washington Ave. on Wednesday, Aug. 20 from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. Since it is also difficult to organize community drives during the summer, blood donors from all towns are welcome to come to lend their help.

For information, to sign up or to volunteer, call 914-747-2408 or send an email to [angela.usobiaga@verizon.net](mailto:angela.usobiaga@verizon.net). Although it is helpful to let the organizers know in advance that you plan to come, walk-ins are always accepted.

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# Police Blotter

## Mount Kisco Police Department

**August 2:** A 33-year-old Mount Kisco man reported being assaulted by an unknown suspect at 3:50 a.m. at 96 S. Moger Ave. When police arrived on the scene the man was bleeding from his face, but was unable to describe his assailant. The investigation into the matter remains open.

**August 2:** An elderly woman reported that clothing was stolen from her home at 1101 Amuso Drive at 6:50 p.m. Police report that there was no forced entry and there are currently no suspects.

**August 3:** A 34-year-old Mount Kisco woman reported being grabbed by the wrist, dragged to the floor and punched in the face at 6:30 p.m. at 40 W. Hyatt Ave. The assailant, a 51-year-old man who lives in Mount Kisco was later arrested on charges of assault and menacing.

**August 4:** Department store TJ Maxx, located at 506 Main St., reported a grand larceny at 2:10 p.m. According to the claim, \$1860.24 worth of merchandise was stolen from the store. Two men are currently suspected of the crime, but have not been caught.

## Pleasantville Police Department

**August 4:** A children's 12 speed bicycle

was reported stolen from a home on Thomas St. at 12:57 p.m. The bicycle was reportedly unlocked and sitting outside the home at the time of the theft. There are currently no suspects.

**August 5:** A 25-year-old resident of Queens was arrested at 7:17 p.m. for assault and larceny at 1075 Broadway. According to police, he punched a 21-year old Briarcliff resident in the face and stole his baseball hat.

## North Castle Police Department

**August 5:** A resident of 19 Washington Ave. called police at 8:22 p.m. to report numerous personal papers and a military ID was taken from his home. Police responded.

**August 6:** An employee of the Little Spot, 854 North Broadway, North White Plains, called police at 6:58 p.m. to report an unknown vehicle struck a large wooden barrier in the parking lot and left the scene. Police responded.

**August 7:** A person calling from 60 Business Park Drive, Armonk, called police at 1:51 to report she had been stalked by a female in a black vehicle for the last few days. The caller also told police she had no idea who the stalker was and a confrontation took place in the parking lot earlier in the day.

# Nick Vaccaro and Brian Brennan Win in Lions Hole-in-One Event

The weather cooperated for the Pleasantville Lions Club 3rd Annual Hole-In-One and Raffle event on July 26th when golfers came out at Parkway Field in Pleasantville to try their luck at the golf event and raffle.

Lions president Michael Cusack, John Apicelli and Bill Schiavo organized the event.

While no one won the \$1,000 Hole-In-One, a distance of 130 feet, Nick Vaccaro won \$100 for coming closest to the pin, (13 inches) and Brian Brennan won two \$50 prizes for coming in 29.5 and 30.5 inches. The raffle prizes were won by Bill Schiavo (\$100), Isuf Celaj (Nike golf bag), Colby Blanchard (\$50), Patrick Creegan, (\$50) and Toni Emerson (belly putter). All from Pleasantville, except Celaj (Thornwood) and Creegan (Briarcliff). Schiavo, Creegan and Emerson are members of the Lions.

On August 1, Lions Club member Patrick Fogarty of Pleasantville, also known as Velvet Paddy, entertained a crowded and enthusiastic audience at McArthur's American Grill in Pleasantville for the benefit of the Pleasantville Lions.

Proceeds from both events benefit charities that the Pleasantville Lions Club



Nick Vaccaro

supports, including Guiding Eyes for the Blind, the Vacation Camp for the Blind, the Lions SEE (Screening Eyes Early) Program scanning eyes of local children for potential eye problems, eye glass collection, books for the visually impaired and numerous local organizations.

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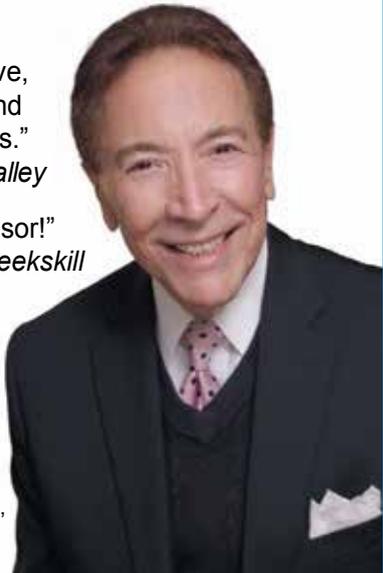
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## Letters to the Editor

### Choosing the "B" Voting Machine Option this Election Season

With the upcoming primary elections in September and general elections in November, I am reminded of discussions that I have had with people about how difficult the paper ballot is to read and mark at the same time. I want to remind everyone that there are other voting machines that you can vote on. The "B" machine is available for use by any voter who requests it at the polling places. This machine makes it easier to see the many candidates to choose from as well as the

three referendum items you will be asked to vote upon in the general election. Voters who use the "B" machine will still see their paper ballot printout and votes are counted the same way.

Last November I tested out the new voting machine and have seen how much better it is for viewing and filling out the ballot especially if you have forgotten your glasses or have a hard time seeing. The "B" machine does it all for you. The ballot appears on a computer screen

which allows the voter to adjust the sizing of the type on the ballot in order to make it easier to view all of the options.

I am hoping this machine will become more popular since it really offers an improved voter experience, and the more people use it, the easier it will become for poll workers to stay familiar with the "B" machine so it can be correctly utilized. Give it a try.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef

### Why is the Spectra Gas Pipeline News Coverage so Sparse?

Thanks for asking: In our society it is important to have news sources that cover all the news, especially that which concerns the health and safety of people of the region.

Some years ago "fracking" was an issue just getting publicity in New York. Many letters and comments were generated and several groups formed to raise awareness about the dangers to our air, water, soil and health. Though New York currently has a de-facto moratorium on fracking, in many other states the gas and oil industry just continued to "Drill Baby, Drill" and produce more and more gas.

With increased drilling came increased infrastructure to transport the gas. In our area, the gas company Spectra Energy said more gas was needed in New England so they proposed to increase the capacity to the existing Algonquin line from Rockland County, under the Hudson River, into Westchester near Indian Point. The expanded gas pipeline would then travel through Putnam and into New England. The Algonquin pipeline would connect to another Spectra pipeline, the "Maritimes and Northeast" that goes into Canada for export overseas where prices are higher.

A project of this magnitude that will affect many residents of this region should be on the front pages of news outlets. Surprisingly, coverage of the Spectra gas expansion has been very limited considering something as serious as a huge gas pipeline expansion near Indian Point is imminent. Experts are calling for independent risk assessments and local elected officials are, too, so why is there so little coverage?

Susan McDonnell

### West Nile Virus Found In Westchester, Residents Advised to Use Repellent

The Westchester County Department of Health has learned for the first time this year that a mosquito batch has tested positive for West Nile Virus.

The mosquito batch had been collected by County Health Department staff in New Rochelle and sent to New York State Department of Health for testing. Last year, seven positive mosquito batches were found in Westchester County and two human cases of West Nile Virus were reported. So far this year, there have been no reported human cases.

The Health Department will continue to trap and test mosquitoes and survey catch basins for mosquito larvae or standing water. No standing water was found near the trap that contained the mosquitoes that had West Nile virus, but catch basins on nearby streets will be reinspected and retreated with larvicide as needed.

The Health Department prepared for

the summer mosquito season by applying larvicide to catch basins throughout the county in an effort to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile virus.

The Health Department recommends that residents:

- Use insect repellent if you must spend time outdoors in the late afternoon and evening when mosquitoes are active and feeding. Be sure to follow the label instructions. Adults can apply insect repellents with up to 10 percent DEET once a day on infants over two months of age by applying the product to their own hands and then rubbing it onto their children, avoiding their hands. Products containing DEET should not be used on children under two months of age. Instead, consider keeping them indoors when mosquitoes are most active, at dusk and dawn.

- Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and socks when outdoors in the late afternoon or early evening when mosquitoes are active and feeding.
- Check property for buckets, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers that should be discarded or turned over.
- Remove standing water from children's toys and play houses left outside.
- Remove discarded tires.
- Drill holes in the bottoms of all recycling containers that are left outdoors.
- Turn over plastic wading pools, buckets and wheelbarrows when not in use.
- Change the water in birdbaths at least twice weekly.
- Sweep driveways after it rains to clear puddles.
- Keep storm drains and gutters clear of leaves and debris.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor spas and hot tubs and drain water that collects on their covers.

Residents who notice large areas of standing water on public property that could serve as potential mosquito breeding grounds should report this to the Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 813-5000.

### Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be

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### Dr. Michael Healy Mount Kisco Internist

**By Janine Bowen**

The body heals itself but sometimes you need a little help

That's the motto that Dr. Michael Healy likes to live by when treating patients at his Mount Kisco practice.

Healy opened his practice in 1989, after completing his residencies, but his exposure to the world of medicine dates back to his childhood, growing up in Yonkers. His father was a surgeon and his mother was a nurse who met during World War II and later married. His two older sisters went on to enter the medical field as nurses, while his older brother became a dentist and his younger sister became a doctor.

Following in his father's footsteps, Healy himself had two years of training as a surgeon before deciding to complete a residency to become an internist.

"I have training as an internist and I think I have a lot to offer in the community here," said Healy. "I can handle pretty much most adult medical problems."

In addition to having training as an

internist, he also spent three years working full time in emergency rooms where, as a resident, he would often work exhausting 36 hour shifts. He said that although that time was difficult, it helped to make him a better doctor.

"In the fog of really bad fatigue and sleep deprivation, when you have a task that you must perform, you learn how to cut through and get right to the essence of the problem and take care of it," he said.

Healy chose to open his own private practice in Mount Kisco because he wanted to remain in the county where he grew up as well as to be near Northern Westchester Hospital, which he believes is the best medical facility in Westchester.

He says that he is a doctor who aims to solve problems. Recently, he was able to use his expertise to diagnose a patient with Lyme disease and treat the issue, all before the results of the blood test were revealed. He noted that sometimes it is important to trust instincts and make decisions based on what you think is right.

"We have high stakes in medicine.



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Dr. Michael Healy outside his Mount Kisco office at 495 Main Street.

People come in and sometimes you don't know they have a serious problem while they're talking to you but you do what you're trained to do and sometimes you're pleasantly surprised that you did the exact right thing," said Healy.

Although he has the ability to solve complicated medical problems, he never lets his ego get in the way and won't hesitate to send a patient to a specialist when necessary. He says that one of the benefits of having a solo practice is that he is never obligated to send patients to a specialist who belongs to any specific group. He sends patients to the doctors he knows and believes will best be able to assist them.

"I have no conflict of interest or any restraints to specialists or subspecialists

that I would refer people to. I don't get pressured to send people to specialists," he explained.

In his practice, patients always come first and the office always tries to accommodate same day appointments and will even accept walk-in patients. He also gets to know individual patients very well. He believes that being able to talk with patients on a personal level is important to get them to relax and open up about what's bothering them.

"Sometimes patients just like to come and talk. Sometimes when you talk about something unrelated, it gives them a way in to talk about what they want to talk about," said Healy.

Outside of the office, Healy is heavily involved with his local church, St. Francis of Assisi. After discovering a renewed love for music in recent years, he taught himself to play the guitar and plays in his church choir.

Instruments are not the only skill that in which Healy is self-taught. He has learned some basic Italian to be able to speak with patients in their native language. In addition, he is fluent in Spanish.

In a community with a large immigrant population, his knowledge of languages is inviting to people who may not seek treatment otherwise. In addition, he will often see people who need medical attention but can't afford insurance.

"We can always work out an arrangement here," he said.

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# This School Year, Raise Grades With Online Learning Tools

Unfortunately, the pace of classroom learning can't be tailored to every student's individual needs -- particularly these days, as class sizes are growing and funding for special enrichment programs becomes limited.

In fact, at least 35 states provided less funding per student for the 2013-14 school year than they did before the recession.

Many children will need to spend some time outside the classroom going beyond their regular homework to keep up or get ahead in school. No matter what your child's education goals are, there are great ways you can help make this school year the best one yet.

- **Math Practice:** Square roots, polynomials, quadrilaterals. Learning these terms and concepts can get dicey quickly. Keeping up at home is important, and sometimes requires more than just doing the day's take-home assignment.

Consider supplementing homework with online tools. For example, Shmoop, an online learning and test prep provider, provides free study guides for

review and courses for remedial work in many academic topics, including social science, arts and music, science and English. Their math tutorials cover everything from Pre-Algebra to Calculus and the step-by-step explanations that the program offers can be helpful to any student looking for an extra edge.

- **Read the Classics:** Kids who read for pleasure can improve their grades. Not only will the exposure to literary giants like John Steinbeck, Mark Twain and Harriet Beecher Stowe build vocabulary and improve reading comprehension, there is much to be learned about history and culture from picking up a great book, such as "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

Be sure to use tools that can help clarify some of the denser material. Online learning guides can be a great place to get synopses and analysis.

- **Use Flashcards:** It may sound quaint, but there is really no substitute for quizzing yourself with a flashcard. Even the act of creating the flashcard can help reinforce concepts and facts.

- **Extra Help:** A little extra academic help after school can sometimes mean

*A little extra academic help after school can sometimes mean the difference between struggle and success.*



the difference between struggle and success. But between school and soccer practice, ballet lessons and getting dinner on the table, adding a tutor or after school class to the list might be a logistical impossibility.

Consider online courses that can be completed from the comfort of home and are Common Core aligned. For example, Shmoop's offerings are diverse, ranging

from seventh-grade math to second semester 12th-grade British Literature. For those students taking Advanced Placement courses this fall, check out their AP test prep courses. These courses help students nail the important, for-credit, year-end exam.

With a bit of extra effort and the use of savvy learning tools, kids can gain a competitive edge this school year.



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# Regular Exercise Can Help Kids Do Better in School

Physical activity may not be the first thing parents or teachers think about when they want to boost a child's academic performance, but evidence supports the notion that a bit of exercise for the body is beneficial to the brain as well.

In fact, kindergarteners who participated in Build Our Kids' Success (BOKS), a free before-school program involving physical activity and nutrition education, had significantly improved memory skills as rated by teachers, compared to their peers who did not participate. A study of the children's performance also concluded that those who participated in the program exhibited good behavior in the classroom.

"A sedentary life and poor eating habits can lower kids' performance in the classroom and start a cycle of health problems later in life," said Kathleen Tullie, founder and executive director of BOKS and the director of Social Responsibility for Reebok. "Simply stated, a healthy body and a healthy brain go hand in hand."

So how can you incorporate more healthy habits into your family's routine?

- **Active Weekends.** Instead of a lazy Saturday or Sunday, get outside and get moving. Take a soccer ball to the park for a pick-up game or hike a local



BUILD OUR KIDS SUCCESS PHOTO

As important as academics are, don't forget to have your child engage in regular physical activity to keep the body and the mind sharp.

trail. Make exercise on the weekends a regular habit for your family, and those habits will extend to the rest of the week as well.

- **Fuel Throughout the Day.** A hearty breakfast sets kids up for a great day. Follow that up with a healthful, satisfying lunch and snacks such as nuts and fruit, to help kids avoid the

pitfalls of the junk food machines.

- **Cook Together.** Take-out is great when you're crunched for time, but be sure to cook at home at least a few times a week. Not only are homemade meals one of the only ways you can be exactly sure of what you're feeding your family, but the act of cooking together is a great opportunity to

impart some lessons about nutrition and eating right.

- **Bed Time.** Adequate sleep is crucial for a healthy, functional mind and body. Setting a regular bedtime and sticking to it is best to ensure kids get a full night's rest.
- **Volunteer to Get Your School Involved.** Children should have one hour or more of physical activity daily, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Unfortunately, physical education class may not be sufficient. Investigate what other opportunities your child's school has for physical activity, such as before school programs like BOKS or after school sports. If your school doesn't have such a program in place, look into starting BOKS at your school.

BOKS, for example, can be run by anyone--parents, teachers, the school nurse or a community activist. To learn more, visit [www.BOKSKids.org](http://www.BOKSKids.org).

Healthy habits will not only reduce your child's risk for problems such as obesity, diabetes and heart disease, they can help prime children for more success inside the classroom and beyond. So give your children a leg up and encourage them to get moving.

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*Jim Christiansen Photo*

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# Explaining Therapy to Children

Children come to expect doctor's appointments. Every few months to a year children go to the doctor to get blood taken, for shots, and to have their teeth examined. These kinds of doctor's visits keep you healthy and are necessary, parents explain to children. Many parents have a harder time, however, if their child needs to see a psychologist or a psychiatrist. They have trouble explaining why their child has to visit this different kind of doctor. Many parents fear

that their child will feel different or become stigmatized for seeing a therapist.

However, parents often find that their child actually likes going to therapy once they get started. Here are some tips for helping you and your child get used to the idea of therapy.

Manage your own anxiety. Children pick up on apprehension. If

your child thinks you are reluctant to attend an appointment he will be too. Talk to your spouse, helpful family and friends, or your own therapist about your fears. Try to understand what exactly scares you so much about this particular appointment without burdening your children unnecessarily. Avoid putting too much pressure on yourself or your child. If this particular therapist or approach doesn't work for you or your family, you can find someone else who does.

*"Parents often find that their child actually likes going to therapy once they get started."*

Tell children what therapists help with. Children discuss a wide range of topics with therapists. Some kids find it useful to get help with friendships, difficult emotions, and family conflicts, to name a few. The therapist listens, provides support, and helps children develop coping strategies for when things get tough. They can also help children learn

to communicate better with parents and friends, which can be particularly useful as children grow into adolescents or teens and many topics become complicated.

Allow children some control. Let children have some control over their appointments when possible. Find out if your child would rather have you attend the session with him or if he'd rather go in alone. Ask if he'd prefer a break in between school and the session or if he'd rather go straight there. Don't force a weekly appointment if you don't have to. Every other week could be sufficient at least to start. Talk to the therapist beforehand so you know how flexible he or she is with regards to scheduling and approach. Many will try to work with you and your child to ease him into the process.

Talk to like-minded parents. You might be surprised to learn how many children are in individual and/



By Dr. Jaime Fleckner Black

or group therapy these days. The stigma isn't what it once was. In fact, many parents are looked down upon for failing to recognize their child's need for help rather than for seeking it. There are many support groups out there for parents of children with conditions like autism, but many times you won't have to look far beyond your child's own classroom

to find like-minded parents. Don't be afraid to be the first to speak up. Others won't be far behind.

Dr. Jaime Black is a licensed psychologist practicing in Westchester and New York City. Jaime works with high-functioning individuals on the autism spectrum, doing psychotherapy, conducting evaluations, and facilitating various socialization groups including an improv social skills group. Visit [www.spectrumservicesnyc.com](http://www.spectrumservicesnyc.com), e-mail [JaimeBlackPsyD@gmail.com](mailto:JaimeBlackPsyD@gmail.com) or call (914)712-8208.

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## Dirty Jobs Gal Reveals the Most Disgusting and the Most Horrific

When the bundle of energy that is Hillary Sheperd bursts into a room, or in this case, into the sidewalk café where our networking meeting was taking place, you can't help but take notice. I overheard her apologize to friends for her tardiness with snippets about "traffic" and just having had to deal that day with a really "dirty, dirty" job. My ears picked up.

"You mean you do dirty work like Mike Rowe on 'Dirty Jobs' on TV?" I asked her as soon as I could grab her attention. "Yes, I'm the female Mike Rowe," she responded, extending a friendly hand. More questions revealed that Sheperd is co-owner with her husband Forrest, a contractor, of a ServPro franchise serving the mid and lower Westchester area. The company handles fire and water cleanup and restoration, mold removal and remediation and other "dirty, dirty" jobs that "somebody has to do" as Mike Rowe, one of my favorite media personalities, always says and as the ServPro's tag line states: "Like it never even happened."

When I confessed to Sheperd that I always have held great admiration for women doing jobs typically associated with men and asked what attracted her to the business, she said, "I had worked with both Homeland Security and FEMA



By Bill Primavera

prior to buying this franchise and, especially with FEMA, I had dealt with the effects of disaster with that rash of hurricanes we had, one after another in 2011 and 2012. Many times I heard our 'old-timers' there recommend to victims of the storms that they reach out to services 'like ServPro' to help them clean up from disaster, rather than resort to the possibility of hooking up with some unscrupulous contractor who might take their money for materials and never come back, and they'd be victimized yet again. I knew that ServPro had a

good reputation and it would be a good match for my experience in dealing with immediate response to disaster."

As a journalist, it was my natural inclination to ask Sheperd to tell me about her most "disgusting" job and her most "horrific" job. After she told me, very honestly, I was sorry I asked, especially in the case of the latter, but I feel compelled to report it, to demonstrate the extent to which these valiant service providers must sometimes go to restore living environments for the protection and safety of others.

Sheperd reported that the most disgusting job her crew encountered was in a home where the occupant had a hoarding problem, including with her own human

waste which she kept in her bathroom, wrapped in toilet paper, completely filling the room over many months until its capacity had been reached. When the problem was discovered, help was sought through ServPro. "My crew had to don Tyvek non-porous protective clothing and respiratory masks, but still it was the most disgusting job they had ever encountered and they have seen it all."

The most horrific job involved the tragedy of the loss of a human life and a conflagration that resulted from that. "A woman was filling an oil lamp and, without realizing it, she got some of the oil on her clothing that was highly flammable," Sheperd explained, "and when she lighted the lamp, her clothing caught fire. Thinking fast, her daughter got out the fire extinguisher but, what most people don't know – and this can be a lesson – is that the type of fire extinguishers which are mostly talcum don't work with a hot oil or grease fire that should really be smothered with a blanket. The woman fled down a flight of stairs ostensibly to a downstairs bathroom shower destination as she was being immolated before her daughter's eyes. She became a human fireball through the house filled with electronic equipment that caught fire with a very hot burning blaze that took a long time to extinguish. The melted electronics and the resulting water damage made the job particular difficult for Sheperd to mitigate. It was also

difficult for her to share the story and for me to report here.

When asked, Sheperd volunteered that the most frequent request for cleanup is for issues regarding water damage, including sewage. "We have our own code for that," said Sheperd to lighten the subject, "which is 'OPP,' code for 'Other People's Poopie.'"

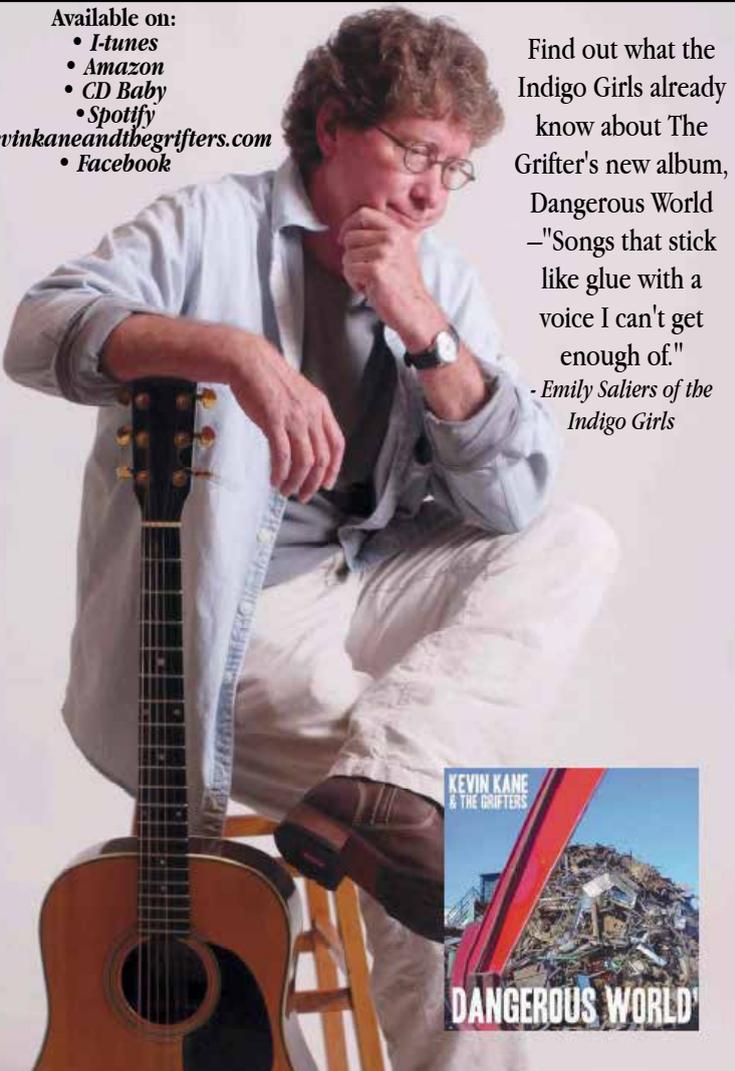
Pricing, according to Sheperd, is pretty much set by the insuring companies, such as State Farm, which have codes for payment for particular kinds of damage and, if it's a self-pay situation, the cost will depend on the people and time needed to get the job done.

As Sheperd explained her response to disastrous situations and her way of doing business, I took away the conviction that if I were to suffer a loss, I would want her steady hand and mind by my side to pull me through the ordeal.

Hillary Sheperd can be reached at 914-699-5181 or at [hsheperd@servprosmv.com](mailto:hsheperd@servprosmv.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](http://www.PrimaveraPR.com)), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is: [www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com](http://www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com) and his blog is: [www.TheHomeGuru.com](http://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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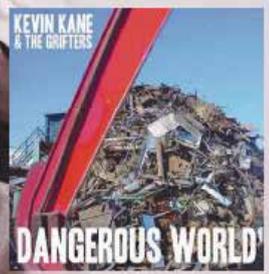
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# THE GIG IS UP

**Up on our website, that is. All this month, we're posting sets and highlights from the Pleasantville Music Festival. The stuff you want to relive, and the stuff you can't believe you missed. The bands you came to see, and the bands you just have to see again. New sets every week in August to watch on [pctv76.org](http://pctv76.org) and share with your friends. And why stop there? Search "music" and find years of performances recorded at the Festival and right in our PCTV studio. Talk about a sweet gig.**



**It's all about you.**

# Westchester Jewish Music & Arts Festival This Sunday

The 40th Annual Westchester Jewish Music & Arts Festival will be held this Sunday, Aug. 17 from 12 to 6 p.m. at the Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla. The festival is presented by The Westchester Jewish Council, The Westchester Klezmer Program and Kol Hazzanim—The Cantors of Westchester, in cooperation with Westchester County Parks.

The event headliner is Hasidic New Wave, whose music blends an intense mixture of ethnic and cosmopolitan sounds and fuses spiritual songs from Hasidic dynasties to funk and jazz, Arabic dances with avant-garde rock, and juxtaposes horas and freylekhs with improvisation. Other musical performers include the Westchester Klezmer Program Band, Kol Rinah, Kol Hazzanim—The Cantors of Westchester, The What's Up Band and the Shlomonos. Magician Phil Klipper and face painter Andrea McCafferty will also be on hand to provide family fun at the event, and Camp Zeke will sponsor Israeli dancing.

The event is free (including parking) and open to the public. It will be held rain or shine. Attendees are welcome



JACOB FREEDLAND PHOTOS

Camp Zeke staff and mascot Zeagle the Eagle lead children and adults in Israeli dancing during the 2013 Westchester Jewish Music & Arts Festival. The festival returns this Sunday to Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

to bring chairs, blankets and picnics. Kosher food will be available for purchase. A vendor exhibition area

with Jewish art and Judaica will be open throughout the festival.

“There is something for everyone at



Kenny Green, music director of the Westchester Klezmer Program leads the Westchester Klezmer Program Band during last year's Westchester Jewish Music & Arts Festival.

this festival. We hope all members of the community, regardless of faith, will join us for this very festive day,” said Elliot Forchheimer, executive director of The Westchester Jewish Council.

For more information, contact Westchester Jewish Council Assistant Executive Director Pam Goldstein at 914-328-7001 or email [pam@wjcouncil.org](mailto:pam@wjcouncil.org).

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### THERE'S A WORD FOR IT

A vocabulary-building quiz  
By Edward Goralski

**Mix and Match** The quiz this week is based on the Match Up game featured on the website The-FreeDictionary.com. The daily Match Up game tests your vocabulary knowledge by asking you to match words to its synonym. All of the words below were recently used in the Match Up game. As they say on the website, “Good Luck.”

1. lollygag (v.)	A) to indulge	B) waste time	C) talk incoherently
2. abstruse (adj.)	A) difficult to understand	B) hard to find	C) protruding
3. titter (v.)	A) to jiggle	B) wiggle	C) giggle
4. gasconade (n.)	A) a lover of good food	B) boastfulness	C) carbonated water
5. hornswoggle (v.)	A) to shock	B) intrude	C) trick
6. parapraxis (n.)	A) a minor error	B) a balcony	C) a nervous condition
7. rupicolous (adj.)	A) relating to farming	B) full of sorrow	C) inhabiting rocks
8. nonce (n.)	A) a particular occasion	B) existing briefly	C) a small portion

---

**ANSWERS:**

1. B. To waste time by putting things off aimlessly; dawdle  
 2. A. Difficult to understand; recondite; esoteric  
 3. C. To laugh in a restrained nervous way; giggle  
 4. B. Boastfulness; bravado  
 5. C. To cheat or trick; bamboozle  
 6. A. A minor error, such as a slip of the tongue,  
 7. C. Thriving among or inhabiting rocks  
 8. A. The present or particular occasion

# This Wizard of Oz at WBT Delights the Adult in All of Us

By Bill Primavera

There's too much to love in this production of The Wizard of Oz at the Westchester Broadway Theatre for the space allowed here to do a complete review justice, so this humble observer must be reduced to paying tribute only to the most outrageously, almost sinfully enjoyed pleasures derived from several extremely gifted performers who have brought new nuance and originality to the characters from the original 1939 MGM movie that we've come to love over our lifetimes.

You might ask how anyone could add new nuance and originality to such iconic characters created in the movie by the likes of Bert Lahr as the Cowardly Lion, Margaret Hamilton as the Wicked Witch of the West and Frank Morgan as the Wizard without copying at least a little of their predecessors' schtick, but with every line, every gesture, the actors Jayson Elliott, Nicole Tori and Ken Jennings in those respective roles pull off that feat with great flourish.

In fact, if I were king of the world and if it weren't unlawful, I'd issue a royal command that all three of these actors live in my court and perform daily for my personal amusement (do other people have such perverse thoughts?). Mr. Elliott, who should be signed to play Oliver Hardy in his life story, all but steals the show as the Lion. When he sings, "If I Were King of



EMILY FEHER PHOTO

The Oz quartet of with Chris Kind as the Tin Man, Jayson Elliott as the Cowardly Lion, Devon Perry as Dorothy, and Tim Dolan as the Scarecrow.

the Forest," he is. Ms. Tori as both Almira Gulch and the Wicked Witch is perfection as evil personified, but you have to love her when she delivers my favorite line in the whole show. Let me set it up for you:

When she asks the chief of her palace guards what their chant, "Yo-EE-oh-YO-oh" means, he responds that it means, quite simply, "Yo-EE-oh-YO-oh." Ms. Tori then wins our hearts when she deadpans the audience and says: "The next time I enslave a whole nation, I must check out

their intelligence first." Now there's a fun opportunity that the 1939 movie totally missed!

As for the small bundle of wonder that is Mr. Jennings, his rare talents just leap off the stage, especially as Professor Marvel. Of course, all the other performers are spot-on: Devon Perry carries Dorothy well, as does Tim Dolan as The Scarecrow with just as mobile a face as Ray Bolger brought to the screen, and Chris Kind as The Tin

Man, and Michelle Dawson as the Good Witch who just needs to be good.

Special note should be given to great production values for the illusion of a tornado with imaginative use of the stage lift. And, while I had wondered how the pomp and circumstance would be handled for the arrival at the Emerald City, it was accomplished masterfully through one of the best choreographed numbers I've seen on that stage over the years, courtesy of

Jonathan Stahl. It filled the stage with all the splendor and spectacle required and got the heart pumping.

There have been many stage productions of The Wizard of Oz, from the time the book was first written, but this is the first I've ever seen. This production was adapted by the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1987 from the original 1939 movie to include all the original songs, but it also included some new stage business that surprised and delighted me. Maybe the stage limits the effects for a tornado or a "horse of a different color" that could change colors before our eyes on screen, but on stage, the book calls for the crows pecking at the scarecrow to morph into a line of chorus boys and, later, the apple trees in the forest are three luscious chorines supporting the apples on their angled-arm boughs. It was fun to witness these little Broadway-isms that distinguished themselves successfully from celluloid.

Directed by WBT stalwart Richard Stafford, this show is not to be missed, especially by adults. Remember, Oz was written originally as political satire for adults as much as fantasy for children, so don't feel that you need the beard of a kid to get in to enjoy its wonder. It runs until September 21st. For days, times, prices and reservations, call 914-592-2222 or visit BroadwayTheatre.com.

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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, Aug. 12

**Kids Summer Dance.** Includes ballet, jazz, hip-hop and Latin dance. Addie-tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Affordable rates. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Aug. 21. Info and rates: Visit [www.Addie-tude.com](http://www.Addie-tude.com).

**Learn English With Stacey Fields.** Learn to speak conversational English with an emphasis on vocabulary and grammar. North Castle Public Library, 10 Clove Rd., North White Plains. 6:45 p.m. Free. Tuesdays through Aug. 19. Info: 914-948-6359 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Toddler Craft.** A half-hour program for toddlers to develop their fine motor skills creating simple crafts, using construction paper, markers and glue sticks. Cute crafts that your child can take home. For children 18 months to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Also Aug. 23. Info: 914-273-3887.

## Wednesday, Aug. 13

**Stories in Motion With Paulene.** Paulene reads and acts out stories, then encourages parents and children to act out various scenes from stories. Through games and play, children develop comprehension and an enjoyment of reading. For children one to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**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).

**Mad Science.** Engineered by Mercy and Robbin. For children in grades 3-5. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 4 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-238-4779.

**"Bidder 70" Screening and Discussion.** The story of contemporary American hero Tim DeChristopher, a University of Utah student, who bid \$1.8 million in a government auction to save 22,000 pristine acres surrounding Utah's national parks. He had no intention

to pay or to drill. DeChristopher paid with his future to save the land he loves. Discussion to follow film. 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).

**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.

**Music and Motion With Lori Jo.** Interact with your child through music and dance. For children six months to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 10 Clove Rd., North White Plains. 10:30 a.m. Free. Wednesdays through Aug. 13. Info: 914-948-6359 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**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. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-231-3260.

**New Mommy Meet-Up.** Whether it's your first child or your fifth, New Mommy Meet-Up is a great way to get out of the house, meet new friends and enjoy time with your newborn. For babies up to eight months old. World Cup Nursery School, 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday through Aug. 20. Info: Contact Kim Bremer at 914-238-9267 ext. 20.

**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 off 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, Aug. 14

**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).

**Play and Learn.** An hour-long program for children and their parent or caregiver. After 30 minutes of structured play, children and adults have an opportunity to play with building blocks, instruments, beanbags, etc. Designed to promote the basics of early literacy through play and adult-child interaction. For children one to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Also Aug. 21. Info: 914-273-3887.

**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. This hands-on project uses a variety of skills that promote comprehension and allow children the opportunity to interact with other children their age. For children four to six years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 3 p.m. Free. Thursdays through Aug. 14. Info: 914-273-3887.

**LEGO Club.** A one-hour activity of unstructured play with LEGOs. For each program a theme is chosen and children are able to create their own vision of the theme. All creations will be photographed and displayed at the end of each program. For children seven years old and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Thursdays through Aug. 14. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Introduction to Jewelry for Children.** Learn basic jewelry making skills, from making beads to creating bangles and necklaces. For 12-year-olds and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Thursdays through Aug. 14. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Sarah's Studio.** You scream for ice cream with Andy Warhol. For children in grades 1-3. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 4 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-238-4779.

**Zumba Fitness Class.** Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 7 to 8 p.m. \$15 a class. \$29 for four classes. \$55 for eight classes. Meets every Thursday. Also Saturdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Info: 917-215-1720, email [AddietudeDance@gmail.com](mailto:AddietudeDance@gmail.com) or visit [www.Addie-tude.com](http://www.Addie-tude.com).

**Mother Goose Story Time.** Children will enjoy stories and songs that focus on

colors, shapes, numbers, letters, animals and more during this 25-minute program. A fun opportunity for interaction between children and parents or caregivers. For children two to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Beading Workshop With Joan Lloyd.** Lloyd will teach attendees to make earrings with the understanding that for every pair they make to keep, they make one to donate to a battered women's shelter. She donates 700 to 800 pairs a month to about 25 shelters. From sixth-graders through adult. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

## Friday, Aug. 15

**Screenings Under the Stars: "Epic"** (PG-13, 2013). Bring a picnic supper; concession stand open throughout the evening. Bring chairs and blankets for seating; carpooling suggested. Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla. Gates open for picnicking at 5 p.m. Entertainment begins at 6 p.m. Movie at sundown. Info: 914-864-PARK or visit [www.parks.westchestergov.com](http://www.parks.westchestergov.com)

**Menus in the Movies.** "Daughters of the Dust" will be discussed. Led by food author and film buff Carol Durst. Homemade desserts and discussion to follow. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**Mommy and Toddler Yoga.** Join in a playful introduction to yoga using games and songs. For children one to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 10 Clove Rd., North White Plains. 10:30 a.m. Free. Fridays through Aug. 15. Info: 914-948-6359 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**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 a.m. to noon. \$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).

**"Much Ado About Nothing."** Join in the celebration of Shakespeare's 450th birthday with this screening of this 1993 comedic production starring Kenneth Branagh. Facilitated by Cathy Paulsen and Chris Trzcinski. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

*continued on page 21*

# Happenings

continued from page 20

## Saturday, Aug. 16

**Pleasantville Farmers Market.** Come experience the largest farmers market in Westchester, most celebrated in New York and 33rd in the entire United States by Farmland.org in 2013. This week, the market welcomes back Grammy-nominated father-and-son acoustic guitarists John Eurell Sr. and John Eurell Jr., also known as Sundad. They create music filled with beautiful rhythms and harmonies inspired by cultures from around the world. Also, there will be a culinary demonstration by a local chef. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Breastfeeding discussion from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Music from 10 a.m. to noon. Cooking demo from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Info: Visit: [www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org](http://www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org).

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

## Sunday, Aug. 17

**Church Service.** St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 8 and 10 a.m. Every Sunday in July and August. Info: 914-769-0053.

**How Easy Can it Be?** Composting for

the Whole Family. Come discover the magic of compost and learn how easy it can be to turn your yard and food waste into valuable fertilizer for your garden. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 a.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**40th Annual Jewish Music and Arts Festival.** Enjoy the best of Jewish Music and Dance. Entertainment includes headliner, Hasidic New Wave. Kol Hazzanim, Kol Rinah, The What's Up Band, Shlomon and the Westchester Klezmer Program Band will also perform. Dancers from Camp Zeke, a Jewish camp that celebrates healthy, active living will perform Israeli dances, along with magic by Phil Klipper and face painting by Andrea McCafferty. There will be exhibitions of Jewish art and Judaica. Kosher food available for purchase. Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla. 12 to 6 p.m. Free. Rain or shine. Info: Contact the Westchester Jewish Council at 914-328-7001 or email [Pam@wjcouncil.org](mailto:Pam@wjcouncil.org) or the county at 914-864-PARK or visit [westchestergov.com/parks](http://westchestergov.com/parks).

## Monday, Aug. 18

**"Many Moons" Puppet Show.** Based on James Thurber's classic. For children in

kindergarten and up. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-238-4779.

**Mount Kisco Housing Authority Meeting.** A meeting of the board of commissioners. Community Room, 200 Carpenter Ave., Mount Kisco. 7 p.m.

## Tuesday, Aug. 19

**College Planning: Resume Workshop for Teens.** Leave with everything you need to create a great resume for college fairs and applications and job or internship applications. Co-sponsored by WEBS Career & Educational Counseling Service, a program of the Westchester Library System. For students entering grades 8-12. (Parents may wait in the Teen Zone.) Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Free. Only registration only. Info and registration: Visit [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

## Wednesday, Aug. 20

**Summer Blood Drive.** The Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department and the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps will be hosting a special summer blood drive. Since it is difficult to organize community drives during the summer, blood donors from all towns are welcome.

Pleasantville Fire House, 75 Washington Ave., Pleasantville. 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info to sign up or volunteer: 914-747-2408 or email [angela.usobiaga@verizon.net](mailto:angela.usobiaga@verizon.net).

## Thursday, Aug. 21

**Sarah's Studio.** Save a tree, make your own paper. For children in grades 3-5. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 4 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-238-4779.

**Button-making.** Create your own artwork or use graphic novel illustrations to make unique buttons for bulletin boards or backpacks. For students in grades 7-12. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**High School, College and the Not-Distant Future.** Keith Berman, president of Options for College, covers finding the right match; how colleges admit students; what students have done in the past to get in and get the most out of college; and how to stay calm throughout the entire process. For students entering grades 9-12. Parents welcome. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

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## Justice Prevails in Wine Counterfeit Criminal Trial

*“for some, small solace”*



By Nick Antonaccio

Over two years ago I reported on the arrest of a wealthy wine aficionado. His crimes were ones of passion, of greed and unbridled ego. And one other that eventually got him arrested: selling

counterfeit wines.

Rudy Kurniawan, a 37-year-old self-proclaimed multi-millionaire, was arrested in 2012 by the F.B.I. on charges that he attempted to sell tens of millions of dollars of counterfeit wine.

Last week, after an extensive trial and guilty verdict that included testimony from the entire spectrum of the wine world from counterfeit experts to scammed producers to bilked wine investors, Mr. Kurniawan was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Mr. Kurniawan had diligently worked at building a reputation in every aspect of the exclusive club of high-end wine lovers. For 10 years before his arrest, he played a major role in the wine auction market and was highly regarded as a sophisticated aficionado, wine connoisseur, collector, dealer and authenticity expert.

One of the wealthiest collectors/dealers in the world, Mr. Kurniawan enjoyed a

lavish lifestyle. He was known to spend up to \$250,000 a night on wines at expensive restaurants. Court papers indicate he racked up \$16 million on his American Express card from 2006 to 2011.

It is believed he owned 50,000 or more bottles of very expensive wine. At one time, he was considered the world's most active wine buyer, influencing the prices for wines. He engaged in wine churning: buying and selling authentic - and counterfeit - wines to support his lifestyle.

In Mr. Kurniawan's home, the F.B.I. found empty bottles of famous, and very expensive, wines, shipped to him by restaurants that he patronized. Apparently he re-filled the bottles with inexpensive California wines, offering them at auction as the original wines (and guaranteeing their authenticity).

The trial was looked upon quite differently within the segmented inner circles of the wine industry. Certainly high-end investors who unwittingly purchased these counterfeit wines felt a small amount of solace - and retribution. Several, including billionaire Bill Koch, have been publicly embarrassed for being so gullible in pursuing personal passions, after having built a reputation (and fortune) for their acumen and savvy in

corporate matters. Mr. Koch has personally spent huge sums - on purchasing several million dollars of counterfeit wines and spending approximately \$25 million in legal bills to recover his investments.

At Mr. Kurniawan's sentencing last week, his defense attorney, Jerome H. Mooney, presented him as a victim of the legal system. While acknowledging his crimes, he asserted that many wine frauds have been perpetrated, and discovered. This was the first wine counterfeit trial ever prosecuted; Mr. Kurniawan was being singled out as a poster child for a vast undercover industry.

Mr. Mooney then pleaded for a reduced sentence, stating, "Nobody died. Nobody lost their job. Nobody lost their savings." Judge Richard M. Berman responded: "Is the principle that if you're rich, then the person who did the defrauding shouldn't be punished?" Chalk one up for the one-percenters.

What makes this tale enticing to me is that, while checks and balances work well at most levels of our society, the wealthiest can be the most gullible. Essentially Mr.

Kurniawan was at the center of each check and balance in the wine world's self-policing system.

Many in his closed circle regarded Mr. Kurniawan as generous and possessing impeccable standards. His arrest rocked the very foundation of the world of wealthy collectors of high-end French Bordeaux and Burgundy wines.

But not all is lost for those defrauded. Recognizing the fortune that Mr. Kurniawan had accumulated during his nefarious career, Judge Berman ordered repayment of \$28.4 million in restitution to victims. It is estimated Mr. Kurniawan has accumulated over \$20 million in property, including luxury homes, a winery, high-end watches and numerous works of art. It seems that, for the rest of his life, he will likely be drinking the same swill he sold to collectors - same wine, different bottle.

Nick Antonaccio is a 35-year Pleasantville resident. For over 15 years he has conducted numerous 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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# ExaminerSports

## Bedford Hills/Katonah Nine-Year-Olds Win WPBA Title

By Andy Jacobs

When they took the field Saturday morning for the championship game of the Westchester Putnam Baseball Association's nine-year-old division, the players on Bedford Hills/Katonah must have felt like they were part of a team of destiny.

After all, they had just won three times in the past week by one run, including last Thursday's remarkable 20-19 comeback victory in the playoff semifinals, a game in which they were forced to overcome a late eight-run deficit.

But facing Shrub Oak in the title game at Lakeland High School, Bedford Hills/Katonah's late-season flair for the dramatic was hardly needed. Scoring three opportunistic runs in the third inning and getting stellar pitching from Scott Esposito and Owen Morabito, BHK defeated the Storm 5-1 to capture the WPBA's summer league championship.

"We didn't have our big boppers hitting that well today, but, you know what, we played complete baseball on both sides of the dish and that's really what carried the day," said Bedford Hills/Katonah head coach David Morabito amid his team's post-game celebration.

Esposito, the BHK starter, went the first four innings, yielding just two hits and striking out five Shrub Oak batters. In the third, he stranded runners on the corners by retiring the Storm's Anthony Colasanti on a called third strike. By the time he turned the pitching chores over to someone else at the start of the fifth inning, his teammates had staked him to a three-run lead.

"He had the game of his season today," said Morabito about Esposito. "That was an incredible performance today. Really, his effort today set the tone and that made the difference."

Bedford Hills/Katonah had finished the regular season 11-7, three games behind Shrub Oak. Two of the losses had come against the Storm, but BHK erased the memory of those games for good by taking command in the bottom of the third inning.

Thomas Love led off with a walk and, one out later, Braden Wright reached on an infield hit. After a double steal, Logan Baumgartner walked to load the bases. BHK then broke the scoreless tie as Esposito hit a grounder past short for a two-run single. A wild pitch brought home Baumgartner with the third run.

In the top of the fourth inning, Shrub Oak's leadoff batter, Brendan Kenneally, reached on an error. But Esposito was hardly fazed and retired the next three hitters, ending the inning by striking out Chris Closi. Bedford Hills/Katonah stranded two runners in the bottom of the inning, but still held a three-run lead when Morabito turned



Owen Morabito of Bedford Hills/Katonah pitches in relief during his team's 5-1 win in the championship game this past weekend.



BHK shortstop Max Rapoport throws to first to complete a double play in the WPBA title game.

to his son, Owen, in the fifth to complete the job Esposito had begun.

Shrub Oak took advantage of three walks in the fifth inning to push across its only run of the game, but BHK answered with two insurance runs in the bottom of the inning. Leading off, Baumgartner was hit by a pitch and Esposito followed by dumping a single into right-center field. A grounder by Morabito produced a rundown that was misplayed by the Storm, enabling Baumgartner to score the fourth BHK run.

Max Rapoport, who had made a dazzling diving catch at short earlier in the game, then provided a single up the middle to bring in Esposito with the game's final run. Though Bedford Hills/Katonah left the bases loaded, it hardly mattered as Morabito soon settled in during his second inning of work and quickly put an end to any Shrub Oak comeback thoughts.

He struck out Ryan McArdle, then retired Jason Portella on a comebacker to the mound. The game ended with Morabito fanning Closi to set off the BHK championship celebration between the mound and home plate.

"I'm so happy for him," said coach

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Scott Esposito pitches for Bedford Hills/Katonah in Saturday's WPBA championship game vs. Shrub Oak.



BHK's Benjamin Gold gets a force out at second base and tries to throw to first for a double play in the WPBA 9-year-olds' title game.



Bedford Hills/Katonah's Christopher DiChiara sends a fly ball down the right-field line in Saturday's title game.

Morabito about his son. "We imagined this game together, and it never ended in a strikeout. So for this to end this way, and for him to come through, it's just a great day for Bedford Hills/Katonah baseball. An incredible run to the finish there with six wins in a row. Just highly unexpected, but I'm so glad."

It was highly unexpected because two-thirds of the way through the regular season, BHK was playing just .500 ball and Morabito wasn't quite sure what to make of his team.



BHK players, left to right, Logan Baumgartner, Owen Morabito and Scott Esposito celebrate after the final out of Saturday's WPBA title game at Lakeland High School.

"We were 6 and 6 at one point and we had a little gut check at that point," he admitted. "We had to ask the boys if they really wanted it, and we asked them if they really wanted it for themselves, not for the coaches, not for their parents. And they bore down and played baseball. That's when we went on a run and here we are today."

Moments after his players had received their individual trophies, Morabito took a moment to reflect on their improbable comeback from the fifth-inning, 16-8 deficit in the semifinals just two days earlier. What was going through his mind with defeat seemingly so close?

"I was thinking we had two more at-bats and we better start scoring some runs right now," he said. "I've always had faith in my boys to come back. I believe it, I've tried to express to them they should believe it, and obviously they did. They did it."

So a summer season that began with three losses in the first four games ended with six straight wins and a WPBA championship.

"It's a great accomplishment for them," said Morabito. "It's a great accomplishment for our program. All the dedication, today it finally culminated with a brilliant baseball game. And they'll remember this for the rest of their lives."



# Bedford Hills 11U Team Surprises the Dragons in WPBA Title Game

By Andy Jacobs

The Bedford Hills/Katonah 11-and-under baseball team sure picked a good time to turn the tables on local rival New Castle – the championship game of the Westchester Putnam Baseball Association.

After losing three straight times to the Dragons during the regular season, BHK got a huge measure of revenge on Saturday afternoon, winning the WPBA 11U title with an 8-6 victory at sun-baked Lakeland High School.

“Actually, we’ve played them four times in a row going back to last year and we’ve come up short every single time,” said BHK head coach John Samayoa moments after his team had finally ended its drought against the Dragons. “So it’s gratifying to get this win. It’s very sweet, very sweet.”

Bedford Hills/Katonah had dominated virtually all its other opponents this summer, putting together a 10-game winning streak and finishing atop the division with a 17-4 record. But New Castle, despite finishing a game behind in the standings, seemed to have BHK’s number, especially after jumping out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the second inning.

“I knew we would come back,” said Samayoa. “I just had faith in the boys. I mean, we’ve hit the ball well all season long.”

Sure enough, his players did come back, responding immediately with five runs of their own in the bottom of the inning. Luke Baumgartner and Christian Dinallo provided back-to-back two-run singles to highlight the big BHK uprising that began with a pair of errors by the Dragons. Dinallo’s clutch hit, a line drive to center field, broke a 3-3 tie and gave his team the lead for good.

New Castle had built its early advantage on an RBI single by Jack Fitzgerald, followed by a two-run hit from Jon Doyle. After BHK’s big outburst, the Dragons moved to within 5-4 in the top of the third inning by getting a one-out homer over the fence in center field by Tyler Rosenberg.

Rosenberg’s blast came against Easton Sayre-McGill, the second of four Bedford Hills/Katonah pitchers used by Samayoa. Baumgartner, the unlikely starter, was chosen because New Castle hadn’t seen him yet this season. He struck out the side in the opening inning and fanned two more Dragons in his second and final inning.

“They’re a great-hitting team,” said Samayoa about New Castle. “But we had a strategy coming in with our pitching. We pitched two kids they hadn’t seen before. So we were pretty confident that we could stop them today.”

Sayre-McGill retired the Dragons in order in the top of the fourth inning, but two of the outs came on long fly balls that nearly left the park.

“It brought back memories of some of the shots they hit during the season against



New Castle's Tyler Rosenberg trots around the bases after belting a third-inning homer in the WPBA title game.



Luke Padian of Bedford Hills/Katonah lines out to second base in the fourth inning.

us,” said Samayoa. “During the season, they were hitting ‘em in places that we just couldn’t get to. Today, they hit the ball where we could catch ‘em.”

“Those catches,” said New Castle head coach Paul Eiden, “they took the wind out of the boys’ sails a little bit when they hit the ball that far and they made fantastic catches out there in the field.”

The wind was taken from their sails even more in the bottom of the fourth as Bedford Hills, despite hitting just one ball out of the infield, added three important insurance runs to increase its lead to 8-4. C. J. Polworth provided a line-drive single to right-center field, but three other BHK batters reached on infield hits.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



BHK infielder Oscar Morabito chases after a pop fly in Saturday’s championship game vs. New Castle.



BHK's Easton Sayre-McGill rears back for a little extra as he pitches in the 11-and-under title game.



Ethan Shiekofer of New Castle fires the ball back to the infield during Saturday’s 11-and-under championship game at Lakeland High School.

“They were huge,” said Samayoa about the three insurance runs his team scored in the fifth. “We knew going in we needed at least four or five runs going into the last inning in order to stop ‘em.”

Samayoa had his ace, Stevie Soto, on the mound to start the final inning. But with one out and one on, Soto, with his arm hurting, gave way to Luke Padian, who, according to Samayoa “has been probably the MVP of our season.”

Padian was greeted by Matt Eiden’s hard-hit RBI single to right. Fitzgerald reached on an error one out later and Hoffman followed with a hit that deflected off of Padian and brought home another run to slice the New Castle deficit to 8-6. But with the tying runs aboard, Padian then got a called third strike to end the game.

“We fought to the very end,” said a disappointed Eiden, “just like the New Castle Dragons always do. The way the season went, this was the way it was supposed to be, our two teams in the final. It just didn’t end up the way we wanted it to. But I’m proud of all the boys. They did a great job.”

After losing all the regular-season games to New Castle, Saturday’s win in the title



New Castle's Nick Hubbe scores a run in Saturday afternoon's WPBA title game.



Luke Baumgartner of Bedford Hills/Katonah pitches in Saturday's WPBA championship game at Lakeland High School.

game couldn’t have been more satisfying to Samayoa and his BHK team.

“I’m happy for the boys,” he said. “It’s been a very gratifying season. As I told ‘em, it’s a season to remember, something for the archives.”



# Sports Scene

## 2014 WPBA Playoffs

### Mt. Kisco vs. Patterson



Liam Maher of Mt. Kisco pitches vs. Patterson last Tuesday evening at Leonard Park.



Mt. Kisco's Brandon Jordan watches the ball jump off his bat during last Tuesday's Challenge Cup game at Leonard Park.



Mt. Kisco's Joseph Nuzzi hits the ball in the lopsided playoff victory over Patterson.



Above: Mt. Kisco's Anthony Sandoval awaits a pitch vs. visiting Patterson.

Left: Liam Maher hits the ball down the right-field line last Tuesday in Mt. Kisco's win vs. Patterson.



First baseman Brandon Jordan searches for the fence as he chases a pop fly in last Tuesday evening's Mt. Kisco victory.



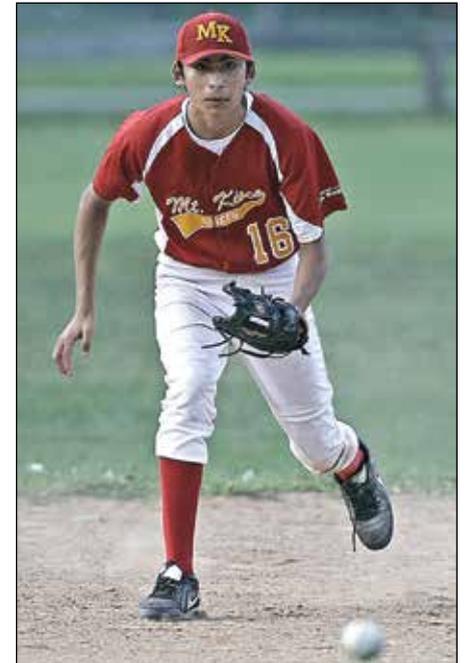
Shortstop Fernando Gonzalez waits for a late throw at second base last Tuesday evening in the 13-3 Mt. Kisco Challenge Cup victory.



Left fielder Liam Vallejo throws the ball back to the infield in last week's Mt. Kisco win.



Joe Varamo of Mt. Kisco blasts a triple in last Tuesday's WPBA playoff victory over Patterson.



Fernando Gonzalez sets his sights on a grounder to short in Mt. Kisco's 13-3 win.



Above: Joe Varamo dashes around second base last week in the Challenge Cup vs. Patterson, won by the Mt. Kisco 14 team two games to one.

Left: Mt. Kisco's Fernando Gonzalez takes a big swing in the 14-year-olds' Challenge Cup series vs. Patterson at Leonard Park.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

# Renegades Suffer a Rare Home Loss to the Crosscutters

By A.J. Martelli

The Hudson Valley Renegades have been virtually unbeatable at home, boasting a 21-3 record at Dutchess Stadium this summer heading into this past weekend's action. The magic of playing at "The Dutch" nearly appeared again in Friday night's game vs. the Williamsport Crosscutters when the Renegades had runners on first and second with two outs in the ninth, trailing by a run.

But the 2014 home magic fizzled as the Crosscutters held on to win 4-3 to avoid a three-game sweep and hand Hudson Valley only its fourth loss at home this season and first in the month of August.

Manager Tim Parenton liked taking the first two games of the series from Williamsport last Wednesday and Thursday, but admitted his players couldn't get a timely hit Friday night.

"It was a good series, the guys played hard," he said. "We just couldn't get the big hit when we needed one. We hit some balls right at them, they hit some balls at us. We had guys in scoring position and didn't make contact - that was the story of the game."

Tied 3-3 in the top of the eighth, Williamsport's cleanup hitter, first baseman Rhys Hoskins, lined a solo homer over the wall in left field. It was his sixth homer of the year and proved to be the decisive blow, but it wasn't quite enough to discourage Hudson Valley from an attempt at a rally.

Hot-hitting 'Gades slugger Hunter Lockwood, who has three walk-off home runs under his belt this season, was in the batter's box in the ninth with teammates Braxton Lee on second and Grant Kay on first. But with two strikes on him, he offered at a pitch out of the zone and missed to end the game and cut short the drama.

Lockwood had already homered in the sixth inning with the Renegades down 3-1, a towering shot to straight-away center field for his 13th round-tripper of the year - which made him the New York-Penn League's leader in the home run category.

"Hunter's doing a great job, making some adjustments at the plate," Parenton said. "He's starting to hit some balls all over the ballpark, and he's doing a great job for us right now."

With the Renegades trailing 3-2 in the seventh, Kay - who came into the game hitting an astounding .430 - drilled a single that scored Lee to tie the game. Kay had also



Renegades shortstop Alex Sole steps on second and throws to first to complete a double play during Friday's game at Dutchess Stadium.



Renegades starter Jose Alonzo throws a pitch vs. the Crosscutters in Friday's game at Dutchess Stadium.



Casey Gillaspie of the Renegades hits a line drive in Friday night's home game vs. the Crosscutters.



Hudson Valley's Bralin Jackson runs the bases vs. the Williamsport Crosscutters.

played a part when the Renegades struck for their first run back in the third inning, reaching on an error that brought home shortstop Alec Sole.

Hoskins scored Williamsport's first run in the fourth on an RBI groundout, and drove in the Crosscutters' second run with a hit in the sixth. His single, in fact, turned into a "Little League home run," as Hoskins came all the way around to score thanks to some shoddy defense and errant throws on the Renegades' part, which surprised Parenton a little bit.

"Defensively, it was the first time in a few weeks we had a few flaws out there," he said. "We threw the ball away a little bit, and that comes back to haunt you in good games."

The Renegades struggled to get going offensively against Crosscutters starter Ricardo Pinto. He tossed six innings and



The 'Gades' Hunter Lockwood watches his latest home run clear the wall in center field during the 4-3 loss to Williamsport.



Hudson Valley's Braxton Lee lines a single to left field early in Friday evening's home game. scattered seven hits, giving up just two runs while striking out six.

"In this league," Parenton said, "they can run a guy out there any day that can shut you down."

Hudson Valley starter Jose Alonzo was no slouch either, as he pitched through five and a third innings, yielding three runs. He didn't issue a walk and struck out five for a no-decision. Reliever Edgar Gomez surrendered the homer to Hoskins in the eighth and wound up taking his fourth loss of the year.

For the Renegades, the rare defeat was hardly demoralizing since they still hold a firm lead in the New York-Penn League's McNamara Division. Parenton feels his team is still in good shape.

"We're playing well, we've got to get ready for tomorrow," he said. "The company doesn't stop. Our guys will come out hard, do a little early work, and get ready to play Tri-City."

EXTRA INNINGS: The Renegades (39-16) arrived more than ready Saturday night,



Grant Kay, still batting .400 this season, swings the bat in the Renegades' game vs. Williamsport on Friday.

when they got right back in the win column with a 5-1 victory over the visiting Tri-City Valley Cats, the team the 'Gades beat to win the New York-Penn League title in 2012. Lee drove in two runs, while first baseman Casey Gillaspie and third baseman Coty Blanchard recorded an RBI apiece.

After a three-day road trip to play Tri-City, the Renegades return home this coming Friday night to face the Lowell Spinners in the first of a three-game homestand. The start time for Friday and Saturday is 7:05, while Sunday's game begins at 5:05.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

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