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August 5 - August 11, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 361

## Mosque Proposal Sparks Heated Debate in New Castle

By Neal Rentz

The Upper Westchester Muslim Society was back before the New Castle Zoning Board of Appeals July 30, a little more than one year after its application for a special permit for a proposed mosque on Pines Bridge Road passed through the Draft Environmental Impact Statement process.

Wednesday's meeting was a combined public hearing on the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the special permit.

Again, the project attracted an overflow crowd at town hall and the heated discussion lasted about three hours.

Michael Zarin, an attorney representing the Upper Westchester Muslim Society, noted that his client first proposed the mosque in 2006. Zarin's law firm is also representing an institutional land owner in White Plains where a similar controversy between an institution and the residential

neighborhood in which it resides has caused a special permit to take years in the review process with many changes made to the applicant's plan along the way.

Zarin said his client has been receptive to comments from town residents and the ZBA. For example, the revised proposal reduced the number of parking spaces originally sought by 45 percent, and UWMS has met with owners of adjoining properties to receive permission to use their lands for overflow parking during the high holy day services that take place on two days each year.

Diego Villarerle, a consultant employed by the applicant, said the 25,000 square foot building would be located on an 8.3-acre parcel located at 130 Pines Bridge Rd. The maximum number of persons allowed in the building would be 650, he said. The revised number of parking spaces sought

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## Local Organization Proposes Pleasantville Law to Ban Plastic Bags

By Janine Bowen

The average person uses 500 plastic bags a year, but members of Pleasantville Recycles are hoping to reduce that number at the local level by proposing a ban on single-use bags.

Three members of the group that is committed to educating Pleasantville on recycling, made a presentation to the village board Monday night requesting that a law be created to forbid the use of single-use plastic bags in local shops.

"This initiative is to help a global problem by focusing on what our village can do," said Pleasantville Recycles Committee member Lynda Shenkman Curtis.

Curtis, who made the presentation with Andrea Garbarini and Edwin Kuo, said more than 435 million bags are used

in Westchester and neighboring counties each year. On average, only 4 to 8 percent of those bags are properly recycled.

They noted similar towns, including Rye, have already banned single-use plastic bags. Consensus among Rye merchants is that while the ban may be a bit more costly, it is worth the reward of helping the environment. Hastings-on-Hudson is the most recent town to enact such an ordinance, banning not only plastic but paper bags as well. Locally, New Castle is also considering a plastic bag ban for most businesses.

Village trustees were divided on whether a law would need to be put on the books in order to get residents to adopt more environmentally friendly

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## Making a Splash in Mount Kisco



MEKEA FISHLIN PHOTO

The Mount Kisco Memorial Swim & Dive Team's 8 and under 100 Free Style Relay squad won on Saturday at the Division 2 Championships held at Memorial Pool and then participated as All Stars on Sunday at the Briarcliff pool. Pictured left to right: Oliver Fishlin, Brendan Morgan, Dylan Gourlay, and PJ Stonsby.

## P'ville Officials Search for Solutions to Sutton Place Traffic Problem

By Janine Bowen

Pleasantville residents and officials are continuing to work together to mitigate traffic issues on Sutton Place following a hit-and-run accident last December.

Residents have grown frustrated by parents who park on the street in order to pick their children up from nearby Bedford Road School. Following the reported accident and complaints about the street, village officials must take action to make Sutton Place safer, they said.

Mayor Peter Scherer suggested last Monday night creating a sidewalk on the corner of the street that would connect to Bedford Road. He said the sidewalk would more effectively separate pedestrians from cars and would square off the corners of the entrance to the

street to prevent vehicles from speeding around the corner.

He also asked all Sutton Place residents who live on the side of the street where parking is now prohibited to clear all objects from the village's three-foot right of way to create a safe walking path.

Finally, the village could amend the current no parking ordinance to include no standing between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. to prevent people from idling in their cars waiting for a pickup.

"If the officer goes there, he can't say 'Move it along' because it doesn't say 'no standing.' Unfortunately, that's the law," explained Trustee Mindy Berard.

Although residents are happy that steps are being taken, their chief concern is

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## Mosque Proposal Sparks Heated Debate in New Castle

*continued from page 1*

for the parcel has been reduced from the originally proposed 217 spaces to 120. If the project was approved the UWMS would be required to contact the town at least 45 days before a high holy day to explain where the overflow parking would be placed, he said.

Villarerle said the project also proposes to widen Hoag Cross Road by eight feet to a new width of 26 feet, which would allow emergency vehicle access to the street.

Several residents said the mosque was not a good fit with the neighborhood and the project should be rejected by the ZBA.

Resident Susan West noted that some

supporters of the proposed mosque have said that under federal law they have a right to construct a religious institution, but that applies to commercial, not residential areas, she said. If the structure was constructed there, Stillwater Lake would be threatened by pollution, she added.

Resident Ronald Steinwurzl said the mosque would be disruptive to the neighborhood. The Muslim Society has the right to seek to construct a house of worship, but, he added, "don't build it on this site."

Steinwurzl said the proposal does not meet several town codes, including

the town's master plan, which is in the process of being revised. The FEIS does not take into account new water quality regulations from the state Department of Environmental Conservation, which were enacted in March, he said.

If the town approves the project Steinwurzl said an Article 78 lawsuit from residents would be filed against the town to stop it.

Resident Eric Goldberg said a 25,000 square foot building was not in keeping with the rural character of the neighborhood. Resident Robert Buzak said the mosque would generate additional traffic to the area, which

already has too much.

Resident Joseph Field also said a mosque was not appropriate for the neighborhood. Constructing a mosque would be like having "a round peg trying to fit into a square hole," he said.

A supporter of the project, resident Elinor Griffith, said she has known members of the UWMS for years and their presence would be positive for the town. The Muslim Society "has been a good neighbor for many years," she said.

The ZBA voted 4-4-1 to keep the combined public hearing on the FEIS and the special permit application open for the board's next meeting on Sept. 22.

## P'ville Officials Search for Solutions to Sutton Place Traffic Problem

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enforcement of the current no parking laws as well as the proposed no standing ordinance.

"There are a select number of people who chose to park their car [illegally] on an ongoing basis, and I do believe that after one or two tickets and some enforcement measures that they'll get the message," said resident John McAndrew.

Some residents said they have repeatedly called police to complain about illegally parked cars on the street and have received little response in the past. In addition, when tickets were given, the same people returned to the street.

Scherer said Police Chief Richard Love agreed to better enforcement for Sutton Place. In the winter, police have the option to declare no parking on either side to make room for plows and emergency vehicles, he said.

Residents suggested that the board also consider no U-turn signs to prevent drivers from turning around in the middle of the street once they have picked up their children. This would be a moving violation and would result in a ticket with a higher fine, which would be a stronger deterrent, they said.

Scherer pointed out that three-point

turns are technically different than U-turns but they could look into the option.

Residents also voiced concern about the impact that a sidewalk might have on the road. Carol Lampert, whose house would be at the end of the proposed sidewalk, noted that there are already drainage issues on the road that could be exacerbated by a new sidewalk.

"What assurances do we have that we're not going to be dealing with an additional problem that we didn't have before?" she questioned.

The board will hold a public hearing on

the proposed changes to the Sutton Place parking regulations at its next regular board meeting on Aug. 11. Scherer said if trustees vote in favor of the changes, the signs and sidewalk could be installed in time for the start of school in September.

Board of Education President Shane McGaffey said that school officials have discussed staggered dismissal at Bedford Road School to ease the problem, but does not know the status of those talks or what changes may be in store for the upcoming school year.

Last month, teachers were asked to stop parking on the street, he said.

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## Local Organization Proposes P'ville Law to Ban Plastic Bags

continued from page 1

habits. Mindy Berard said she is leery of creating a law because enforcement would be difficult. The elimination or reduction of plastic bags could be achieved through educational efforts, she said.

"You could not find anybody who doesn't agree with the end result," Berard said. "There is no question that everybody would like to reduce their consumption of plastic bags. If we can get to that point without putting a costly law that we can't enforce on the books, I think we're ahead of everybody else."

Although enforcement could be an issue, Trustee Jonathan Cunningham said

that's not a reason to dismiss the request. Most stores, however, will not order and use hundreds of plastic bags in violation of an ordinance if it's on the books.

Berard said eliminating plastic bags in the village requires a change of mindset among residents, which she said is something that the government cannot force.

Other trustees noted, that sometimes legislation is required to change habits, citing laws that require the use of seatbelts and the prohibition of texting while driving.

"Sometimes education is not enough

to change the habits that are considered a part of everyday life but are actually of no value," Curtis said.

Trustee Coleen Griffin-Wagner said the only way she would give up the convenience of plastic bags is if she was forced to.

Pleasantville Recycles members agreed that most residents would not voluntarily make the change. At the recent Pleasantville Music Festival, the committee monitored trash receptacles to make sure people threw garbage and recyclables into the correct bins.

Board members expressed concern that

a ban on plastic bags might affect Key Food and drive residents to shop at supermarkets in neighboring municipalities. They requested that Pleasantville Recycles members speak with staff at Mount Pleasant supermarkets to see if they would be open to a similar ban.

Pleasantville Recycles has spent the last year educating residents and shop owners on the issue. Many are receptive, the members said, but are concerned about the financial impact. However, businesses could sell reusable canvas bags with company logos on them to make money and could also charge a fee to customers who request a paper bag.

The proposed ban would not include heavier plastic bags that are typically given out in places such as pet stores because technically they can be reused.

Pleasantville Recycles members don't believe that the ban would have a significant negative impact. They noted that wholesale stores such as Costco and Sam's Club are wildly successful despite having customers use boxes instead of plastic bags. Furthermore, customers can fit more into a box or reusable tote anyway.

"You use it for 12 minutes and it lasts in the world for a thousand years," Garbarini said of the single-use plastic bags.

The board agreed to schedule a public hearing on the proposal in the fall.

## North Castle Residents Warned to Be on the Lookout for Coyotes

By Janine Bowen

New Castle officials are warning residents to take caution following an increase in sightings of coyotes.

Over the past few weeks, several coyotes have been seen in the town and there have been reports of attacks by the animals on pets. Amy Silverman, a resident of Garey Drive in Chappaqua, lost her Pekinese, Oscar, to a coyote attack after he got out of the house unexpectedly.

"We are all devastated. He was our baby," she said.

In a press release from Town Supervisor Robert Greenstein, he stated that the town of New Castle is currently in



JOSHUA SILVERMAN PHOTO

Amy Silverman's Pekinese, Oscar, was an unfortunate victim of a recent coyote attack.

the process of forming a Wild Animal Task force to deal with the animals. In the meantime, residents are being

advised against leaving pets outside unattended.

Although it is rare for a coyote to attack a human, parents are also being warned to keep a close eye on children playing outdoors.

In addition, homeowners should make sure all garbage cans are closed and pet food brought inside, so as not to attract coyotes.

Residents should remember that it is dangerous to approach or feed a coyote and are asked to report any sightings of the animal to New Castle Animal Control Officer, James Moore at 914-238-6889.

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# Pace University Returns to Mt. Pleasant Planning Board

By Neal Rentz

Roughly one year after it approved the first phase of a major Pace University renovation plan, the Mount Pleasant Planning Board will consider some modifications to the project when it holds a public hearing on Aug. 7.

In July 2013 the board voted unanimously to approve Phase 1A of the multi-phase project. The university's plan, which was originally announced in late 2010, will have Pace sell its 35-acre Briarcliff campus, which opened in 1977, and add dormitories and other facilities to

the 200-acre Pleasantville campus. Pace is planning to have the Briarcliff campus students move to the Pleasantville campus for the start of the 2015-16 academic year.

Construction is taking place on a roughly 15,000 square foot, one-story Environmental Center on the northern portion of the campus, which is scheduled to be completed this summer.

"These are minor adjustments to the site plan," Geoff Thompson, a spokesman for Pace University, said last week.

The university is seeking to not move a small farmhouse that was used for

exhibits and offices adjacent to the current Environmental Center. Thompson said the aging structure would not hold up in the process of moving it. Instead, a new Environmental Center farmhouse is expected to open in either October or November of 2014, Thompson explained. The new building will be designed in the same architectural style and size as the current building, he said.

Another change sought by Pace is to reduce the size of the new athletic field house from the originally proposed 26,500 to 15,000 square feet, Thompson said.

The Kessel Student Center, which houses student meal and student union areas as well as other facilities would be expanded 500 square feet less than originally proposed, Thompson said.

The original plan called for adding 12,000 square feet to the building, but the revised plan is for an addition of 11,500 square feet, he said, adding the college is seeking to have the expanded center be 58,200 square feet once the project is completed.

The planning board is scheduled to meet Thursday, Aug. 7 at 8 p.m. at town hall.

# Mount Kisco Trustees Mulling Comprehensive Plan Update

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Kisco Village Board of Trustees is considering an update to the village Comprehensive Plan for the first time since 2000.

Mayor Michael Cindrich said on Aug. 3 he felt it was time to revise the document. "There have been many changes in the way business is conducted in our society. Internet sales are competing with retail establishments, more employees in the business world are working from home or in a virtual environment and big box stores remain attractive to the savvy price conscious shopper," Cindrich said. "A master plan review would give us the opportunity to review all zoning districts

and make changes consistent with today's world."

Cindrich has some idea for new development in Mount Kisco. "I would like to look at introducing high-end residential use into the downtown area, a use that would be attractive to commuters, young business professionals and empty nesters," he said. "We also may consider permitting more medical uses in certain areas where parking demands can be satisfied."

Cindrich said he also would like the plan to consider increased parking. "Two-family zones are suffering from the lack of off street parking, a problem that results in a continuing stream of complaints," he said, adding: "The village should consider

revising the plan to seek more parking in commercial areas."

The plan should consider the village's infrastructure needs, Cindrich said. "The demands on our infrastructure — water, sewer, parking, etc. — are almost at capacity. Modifications to the zoning ordinance would have to be predicated on the village's ability to meet those demands."

"In addition, the language of our code should be reviewed to set forth the spirit and intent of the laws with clear, concise and understandable language, Cindrich said.

"As of now we are in the talking stages, looking for funding and setting the parameters of the study."



Mount Kisco Mayor Michael Cindrich and the village board of trustees are considering an update of the village's Comprehensive Plan.

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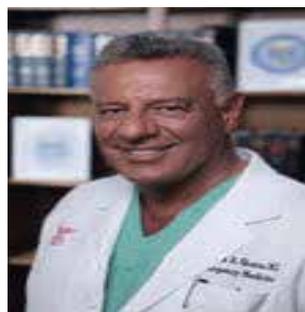
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# North Castle Officials Meet with County on Miller House Repairs

By Janine Bowen

The North Castle Town Board met with the Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino's office last week to urge the county to make repairs on the Elijah Miller House/Washington's Headquarters at its current location in North White Plains.

Last month, the town board unanimously passed a resolution, which

they presented to the county, regarding repairs to the 276-year-old house.

"We were able to communicate what the town had decided with their resolution the previous week and we will be following up with the county with a subsequent meeting to get a resolution for this," said Supervisor Michael Schiliro.

The latest development came after members of the Elijah Miller House

Committee and the Friends of the Elijah Miller House/Washington Headquarters, asked the town to make much needed repairs to the house while leaving it in its current location on Virginia Road. Previously, the county proposed moving the structure to the Kensico Dam or to a portion of Fountain Park in North White Plains, but both suggestions were deemed unsuitable.

The county has owned the property since 1917 and is required to maintain it under an agreement authored by the state attorney general's office in 1994. County officials voiced concern, however, about the idea of undertaking repairs to the home in its current location; citing the proximity to a cement factory and traffic issues in the area.

The house, which served as headquarters for George Washington and his generals during the Battle of White Plains in October 1776, used to attract thousands of school children each year but children have not been allowed in due to the condition of the building for more than a decade.

The town board passed the resolution regarding the Miller House/Washington Headquarters at their July 23 meeting and presented it to the County Executive's office last week. Schiliro stated that there is no word from the county yet in regards to how or when repairs may proceed. He explained that members of the county executive's staff are currently reviewing the town's resolution and he expects that North Castle officials will have a follow up meeting with the county in the coming weeks.

"We will continue to work together... and we'll keep moving it forward," said Schiliro.

## Mt. Kisco Child Care Center Receives More Than \$130G in Grants

The Mount Kisco Child Care Center (MKCCC) recently announced the gift of eight major grants totaling \$131,200. The Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF), Bari Lipp Foundation, Charles A. Frueauff Foundation, Westchester Community Foundation (WCF), The Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation, The Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation, Rusticus Garden Club and Ronald McDonald House Charities were the generous donors.

The center raises more than \$700,000 annually to meet the need for child care support in northern Westchester. It is able to provide significant scholarships for more than half of the 160 children enrolled throughout the year. Without this critical foundation support, MKCCC would be unable to accomplish its mission to make this important care available to those who seek it.

A \$50,000 grant was awarded by the IICF for need-based scholarship support of working families. The IICF Northeast division makes its grants in the focus areas of education, children at risk, disaster preparedness and the environment across the tri-state area. It was established in 1994 and is completely directed and funded by the insurance industry. Since its inception, IICF has contributed more than \$18 million in grants to charities and 163,000 volunteer hours to hundreds of community nonprofit organizations.

The Bari Lipp Foundation and the Charles A. Frueauff Foundation each bestowed a \$20,000 grant for need-based scholarship support. Westchester Community Foundation (WCF) presented MKCCC with a \$20,000 award to be administered over two years to promote the award-winning Joining Elders With Early Learners Intergenerational Program.

WCF's mission is to develop and manage philanthropic resources and to distribute them in a way that is responsive to donor interests and community needs. It is a division of The New York Community Trust, one of the largest community foundations in the country with assets of about \$2.4 billion.

The Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation awarded \$10,000 to support the MKCCC's Feed Me Fresh Program and JEWEL Intergenerational Program while the Louis and Anne Abrons Foundation contributed \$5,000 to MKCCC's Children's Fund Spring Challenge.

The Rusticus Garden Club gave a \$3,700 environmental grant for a new herb garden and herb IQ curriculum, which was introduced this year, and an additional \$2,500 was received from Ronald McDonald House Charities for MKCCC's Summer Camp Enrichment Program.

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# Businesses, Residents Play Golf to Help Wounded Warriors

By Janine Bowen

Everybody loves a relaxing day on the golf course, but on Monday Aug. 11, hundreds of Westchester residents and golfers across the country will come together to play for a good cause.

For the past three years, the second Monday in August has been host to the World's Largest Golf Outing, where

participants play 18 holes of golf at more than 100 designated courses throughout the country to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project.

"I can't think of a better cause than helping those that get injured serving our country. It's something that's close to us," explained Doug Armusewicz, assistant general manager at Hudson

Hills Golf Course in Ossining.

Hudson Hills is one of three courses in New York that will be participating in this year's event, which raised over \$700,000 last year.

Armusewicz said the Wounded Warrior Project is a foundation that is close to those at Hudson Hills because their parent company is Billy Casper Golf. The namesake of that company was not only a pro golfer, but also a veteran.

This year Hudson Hills is expecting more than 110 golfers, who play in teams of four, to participate in the event, which aims to raise over \$1 million. Armusewicz explained that that goal could not be reached without the help of local businesses who help promote the event.

"It's phenomenal. To see those in the local community just assist, offer to assist without being asked, it's a tremendous community we live in," he said. "We're just happy that we're able to do something that will affect so many lives."

Dozens of business from across the area have donated food and prizes for the day and several have formed teams and take donations in their shops. Lange's Little Store in Chappaqua is one such establishment that, according

to Armusewicz, has gone "above and beyond" when it comes to fundraising.

"It's a good thing. A lot of the residents and a lot of the employees of New Castle are very supportive of this and it's a good thing that we all get together and have a fun day but remember those that have served," said John Buckley, a golfer on the Lange's Deli team for the event.

To date, Lange's Little Store has raised over \$500 for the event, including an in-store contribution from former President Bill Clinton last Sunday. He explained that people can donate cash, or checks made out to the Wounded Warrior Project, in the store or if they wish to use a credit card, they can donate through the team's page at [worldslargestgolfouting.com](http://worldslargestgolfouting.com).

"Hopefully, whether it is a three-year-old boy or a former president of the United States that [people] would be motivated to do something good," Armusewicz said.

For those looking to be a little more involved in the event, teams can still register to play in the World's Largest Golf Outing until Aug. 7. The cost is \$75 per player, with \$10 of that going to the Wounded Warrior Project. In addition, Hudson Hills will accept donations from local business until the end of the day on August 8.

## Fall Mom's Day Out Registration Underway at Bet Torah

Registration has begun at Bet Torah Nursery School for the Fall 2014 semester of Mom's Day Out, a program of separation, socialization, sharing and fun for toddlers.

Classes will run from Sept. 9 through Dec. 18. Children 18 months old (as of September) and older may be enrolled for one or two mornings of music, art, story time, movement and indoor and outdoor play each week. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:45 a.m. A snack is provided. Enrollment is limited. Fees range from \$650 to \$1,400 for the fall semester.

An early childhood head teacher

and teacher assistants conduct each session while parents enjoy a morning or two out each week. Mom's Day Out provides a special time for young children to experience learning through play all in a beginning school setting.

Limited spots are also available for families wishing to enroll their children in Bet Torah's regular nursery school program for the upcoming school year.

Bet Torah Nursery School is located at 60 Smith Ave. in Mount Kisco. For more information, a brochure or to register for Mom's Day Out, call the nursery school at 914-666-7595 or visit [www.bettorah.org](http://www.bettorah.org).

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# Flood Sisters Foundation Hopes to Find Kidney Donor for Bedford Boy

By Martin Wilbur

Michael Dellorso and his family are playing the waiting game and it hasn't been easy.

The 15-year-old Bedford boy has been on the list for a kidney transplant at Montefiore Children's Hospital since last October when he began experiencing serious enough problems with his one functioning kidney to warrant dialysis.

Three times a week one of his grandparents or his aunt, Rosie Balic, drives Dellorso from his family's home to Montefiore Children's Hospital in the Bronx for the physically debilitating but life-saving dialysis sessions.

"Michael is in good spirits considering we go down with him to Montefiore three times a week but dialysis takes a toll on his body three times a week," Balic said of her nephew who is scheduled to enter Fox Lane High School in the fall.

With the help of a foundation that was established by a local family six years ago, Dellorso's wait for a kidney may end soon. The Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation of America, a nonprofit organization launched by former Pleasantville residents Jennifer, Cynthia and Heather Flood after they took to craigslist to find their father a kidney donor in 2007, is employing many of the same strategies they used to save their dad's life to help Dellorso.

Through social media and other networking efforts, they have already located potential matches for Dellorso. One donor went for testing at Montefiore on July 22 with a follow up visit on July 29. Another candidate has been scheduled for Aug. 9, Flood said.

Both candidates are O positive, although there is a battery of tests conducted, including the evaluation of the overall physical and psychological health of the donor to make sure they are fit and their organ won't be rejected by the recipient, Flood said. These candidates have also agreed to remain on the foundation's donor list in the event they are deemed unsuitable for Dellorso.

Considering that the average wait for a kidney for an O positive recipient is six to 10 years, the foundation's efforts could save him years of pain and discomfort.

"You're making a difference, which more people want to do because life is short," Flood said.

While signing up to be an organ donor is critically important, many people prefer the idea of "living donors," where they can see the benefit of their gift, she said.

Balic said although Dellorso, who was born with only one functioning kidney, rarely complains, the current schedule of three weekly visits for dialysis has been draining on him and the family. During the school year, it forced Dellorso to miss



Michael Dellorso's wait for a kidney donor could be coming to an end with help from a foundation started by a Pleasantville family six years ago.

school three days a week, which keeps him from his friends and interrupts the learning flow for a student.

With Michael's father working and his mother dealing with her own health issues, the responsibility of taking him to dialysis has fallen on extended family, Balic said.

Dellorso has also needed to wear a catheter since dialysis began, which

has limited his activity. But the die-hard Yankee fan has remained upbeat throughout his ordeal, she said.

"It's been nine months now and he's been dealing with it the only way he knows how. He's been dealing with it great," Balic said.

Since Dellorso is the only O positive in his family, neither parent nor his two siblings could help, she said.

What makes Dellorso's case special is that he's the first local resident whose case has been referred. Dellorso and his family are related to the Prospero family of Pleasantville, who Flood knows.

With having matched six previous kidney recipients, the foundation is now in the midst of four other cases, including two from New Jersey, one from Massachusetts and the aunt of actress Odette Annable, by far the most it has taken on at one time, Flood said.

"It is rewarding," Flood said. "We don't get paid for this and it can be overwhelming but it is rewarding"

Flood is also planning the foundation's first local fundraiser, an end of summer event at Crabtree's Kittle House in Chappaqua. No date has been set, but those interested in attending or for more information about the Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation of America, should check its website at [www.floodsisters.org](http://www.floodsisters.org).

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# Police Blotter

## Mount Kisco Police Department

**July 27:** A 53 year old resident of 217 St. Marks Place reported the violation of a temporary order of protection at 7:42 p.m. Police state that they are currently investigating the incident and looking into the alleged suspects, a 47 year old Mount Kisco woman and a 51 Mount Kisco man.

**July 28:** Police responded to a report of a male and female suspect entering parked vehicles at 200 Diplomatic Drive and removing property from the cars in the parking lot at 10:40 p.m. A 24-year-old South Salem man was arrested at the

scene.

**July 29:** A 19 year old Mount Kisco Resident and employee of La Marqueta at 222 East Main Street filed a complaint of verbal and physical assault at 6:38 p.m. She claimed that a 50-year-old Somers resident, who is the wife of the storeowner, threatened and struck her. The investigation into the matter is ongoing.

**July 30:** A North Salem man called the police department at 11:28 p.m. to report a suspicious vehicle with a Florida license plate in front of a home he owns at 36 Valley View Terrace. The occupant of the vehicle was discovered

to be a 41 year old, Hispanic male who was sleeping in the car. Police told the suspect to move on and ran the license plate and registration of the vehicle, which came up clean.

**August 1:** The owner of Volkswagen Auto Repair at 542 Main Street reported a male who was entering parked cars on the property. The call came after a customer at the shop found the man sitting in his car at 7:47 a.m. Police say that the suspect is a 53 year old Mount Kisco resident who they are in the process of locating.

## Pleasantville Police Department

**July 29:** A burglary was reported at 3:36 p.m. An abandoned building at 345 Tompkins Avenue was entered and sprayed with graffiti by an unknown suspect. Police are investigating the incident.

**July 30:** A 49-year-old Ossining man was arrested at 12:01 a.m. after a traffic stop on Bedford Road. He was charged with driving with a suspended license.

**July 31:** An 18 year old Pleasantville woman was arrested at 40 Romer Avenue at 1 p.m. She was charged with criminal possession of marijuana.

## North Castle Police Department

**July 24:** Police received a report from a person who struck and killed a deer on Middle Patent Road, just off Route 22 at 5:57 a.m. The caller said she was not injured and she drove away from the scene. Police were dispatched and reported that the matter was unfounded.

**July 25:** Police were called by a man experiencing left leg pain at 4 Norman Pl. at 1:55 p.m. The person was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital.

**July 26:** A caller from 670 North Broadway reported that people were seeking donations for an animal shelter. Persons were on the property with knowledge and permission of the manager. No violations were issued.

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# Interfaith Prayer Service Unites Westchester Religious Communities

By Pat Casey

As the violence in Gaza between Palestinians and Israelis continued last week, a gathering of about 250 people at Manhattanville College in Harrison, representing the Christian, Islamic and Jewish faiths, joined together spiritually to pray for peace and healing and to remember the four youths who were tragically killed just prior to the escalation of bloodshed.

These four youth are: Eyal Yifrach, 19, Gilad Shaar, 16, Naftali Fraenkel, 16, and Mohammed Abu Khdeit 16. The bodies of the three murdered Israeli teens were found just two days before the fourth, a Palestinian, was found apparently killed in retribution.

The service, which did not engage political considerations, was attended by members of religious congregations from all over Westchester County.

The Westchester Youth Alliance joined the co-sponsoring interfaith organizations American Jewish Committee, The Duchesne Center for Religion and Social Justice at Manhattanville College, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York, The Episcopal Diocese of New York, Turkish Cultural Center Westchester, United Methodist Church, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in bringing everyone together.



PAT CASEY PHOTO

At the podium Cantor Tracey Scher recites a memorial prayer. To the left Rabbi Gordon Tucker, Imam Musa, Abdul Majeed, and Rev. Susan Andrews.

Taking place on July 30th, thirty days after the first of the funerals for the teens, Rabbi Gordon Tucker of Temple Israel Center of White Plains, told the gathering he had just returned from Israel.

With the Rabbinical Assembly and Masorti Foundation, serving as co-chair of a solidarity mission, Tucker had visited with rabbis and community leaders in the South of Israel, met with Knesset leaders, and visited the graves of the three kidnapped and murdered Yeshiva Students.

In the Jewish faith, Tucker said, it is tradition to mourn for 30 days, but on the 31st day life must go forward.

Gordon said he had spoken with the mother of one of the Yeshiva students who said the only thing she could do was to pray and work for peace and reconciliation. The fact that an interfaith gathering in Westchester County, New York, was planned for the last day of her mourning, gave her light and hope. "It shown on her face," Tucker said.

Memorial prayers were read from their

own traditions by Cantor Tracey Scher, Larchmont Temple and Abdul Majeed, Yusuf Shah Mosque, Mt. Vernon. Text studies were given by Rabbi Tucker and Imam Musa.

Rev. Susan Andrews, General Presbyter Hudson River Presbytery spoke about the importance of building bridges in hard times.

Several other speakers talked about the importance of building interfaith dialogue, including Dr. Mahjabeen Hassan, chair of the American Muslim Women's Association.

Dr. Hassan was credited by David Arnov, of Neighborhood Interfaith Conversations, for initiating the interfaith service by being the first to attend a memorial service for the teens outside of her own congregation.

Vitalah Simon, a member of Scarsdale Friends Meeting (Quakers) led the group in a two-minute silent meditation. The sense of deep connection and solidarity was palpable in the room.

In closing everyone acknowledged the need to be rooted in community, but also the importance of reaching out.

Candles placed outside Reid Castle at Manhattanville bore the names of the many people killed in the ongoing violence and maintained the feeling of reverence as attendees went to their cars.

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Bill Primavera, left, with Steven Zwick, proprietor of Dylan's Wine Shop, participant in the "Giving Thanks Spectacular."

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## Editorial

### A Decade is Long Enough to Wait for Chappaqua Crossing Decision

In the latest chapter in the long and tortured saga of the Chappaqua Crossing applications, recently yet another controversy arose and another idea that should have been considered maybe three to five years ago was raised.

The controversy occurred early on during the latest session of a series of ongoing public hearings on July 22. It centered on the legitimacy of a survey paid for by developer and property owner Summit/Greenfield, whose representatives attempted to demonstrate that the town's silent majority, too intimidated by the same two dozen opponents to come out and speak in favor of the project, really want to see a Whole Foods supermarket as part of 120,000 square feet of new retail.

Then there was the late evening and way-too-late suggestion by Councilwoman Lisa Katz that the New Castle Town Board should consider a "short" moratorium, presumably about six months, while the town updates its Master Plan.

In between, there was an unrelenting level of minutia raised regarding vehicle counts at different hours under various hypothetical occupancy levels at the former Reader's Digest property.

While all very interesting discussion, very little of what was generated during about three hours of public hearings should factor into the decision of whether

officials should rezone a portion of the land for retail.

As far as the survey goes, its purpose was highly questionable. Most town board and planning board members pride themselves on making the best decision based on all relevant data at hand. Even if the survey is legitimate, this one looked bad, making Summit/Greenfield appear to have paid for the results it wanted.

If the moratorium suggestion isn't dead in the water by now it should be. From a layman's perspective, a moratorium would appear targeted principally at Chappaqua Crossing, no matter what the argument is about completing Mater Plan updates to support one. If there was going to ever be a moratorium in town to figure, it should have occurred years ago.

Furthermore, the way Master Plan updates operate, it's almost unheard of for estimated completion times to be followed. If it wouldn't be completed by early 2015, what would happen, a moratorium extension?

Lastly, for the town board to worry about traffic if the nearly 700,000 square feet of office space, or some greater percentage of the current 20 percent occupancy, was filled was a waste of everybody's time. It's theoretically possible but no entity is filling old corporate parks with primarily offices anywhere these days. Instead, most are

being repurposed, hence the Chappaqua Crossing proposal.

This December will mark a decade since Summit/Greenfield bought the property and close to nine years since it submitted its first application. The issue has now enveloped four administrations. While the developer has certainly made its share of missteps, the town government has continuously provided Summit/Greenfield with new ideas and a moving target that's nearly impossible to hit depending upon who was in office.

The most important contribution this town board can make is to wait for the planning board's upcoming recommendation and make a decision based on the information it has in hand. There is plenty to go by. If it's the right fit for the town, then approve. If it's deemed the roads can't handle the extra traffic, even with widening or adding turning lanes, or it would be a detriment to the town's business hamlets, then reject.

Unnecessarily elongating the process by ordering more studies or raising far-fetched scenarios is no way to govern and will likely land the town in legal hot water once again.

It is time to end New Castle's Tuesday night at the fights.

## Letter to the Editor

I would like to comment on the front page story appearing in your July 29-August 4 issue "Residents, Official Criticize Chap Crossing Developer's Survey" regarding the Chappaqua

Crossing Community Survey conducted by my firm, rkl3d llc, on behalf of Summit/Greenfield.

I was dismayed by the tone of the article as well as the specific comments made by town officials and residents. Having designed the survey and having personally executed 50 percent of the surveys, I am fully aware of every aspect of this matter.

1. The article states that "an unknown number of residents were told that the survey was being conducted on the town's behalf early on in the polling." It should be clarified that the question that elicited this response is "Who authorized you to be here?" Our survey team responded that our company was properly licensed by the Town to conduct the surveying, not that the Town was sponsoring the survey. When asked the question "On whose behalf are you undertaking the survey - our response was Summit Development". On July 3rd (day 5 out of 15) to provide more clarity, a more detailed description was provided to respondents making it

clear that Summit/Greenfield was the sole sponsor. Breaking out the 168 survey responses that were collected prior to July 3 (28 percent of the 587 total responses) we then analyzed the answers of the 419 resident surveys that were taken after this date. The findings and conclusions did not materially change.

- 84% of respondents were aware of the proposal for Whole Foods at Chappaqua Crossing (no change from previous findings)
  - The majority of respondents interviewed (68%) favor having a Whole Foods Market at Chappaqua Crossing (increase of 1%)
  - In addition to Whole Foods, the preference amongst (72%) of respondents is for small stores as co-tenants (decrease of 2%)
2. With regard to Councilman Brodsky's comments about the survey questions and the interview process, I would like to emphasize that there was no tailoring to elicit survey responses. Clearly Mr. Brodsky wasn't privy to most of the hundreds of survey discussions that took place. I am not sure which conversation Mr. Brodsky may have overheard, but it may have been a conversation in which one of our pollsters was providing a

clarification or suggesting that the respondent's comments be saved for a later portion of the survey. Contrary to his and some other comments, our survey does not tailor or skew data in favor of the developer. In fact, an extra effort was made to seek out the opinions of people who were not favorable to Whole Foods and/or retail development specifically to ensure the survey findings demonstrated a balanced perspective. Those opposed to the plan were not screened out.

I live in Larchmont, a community not dissimilar to Chappaqua and one with similar development challenges. I understand the emotions that development plans can generate. As I told the hundreds of people who spoke with me during our Chappaqua surveying, my company's job is to capture key data in the best and most objective way we can. We take our work seriously. While some may not like what the results show, I stand fully behind the validity and objectivity of the survey on Chappaqua Crossing and thank the 587 residents who took the survey for their time and candor.

Robin K. Liebowitz

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### Harry McCartney Mount Kisco Village Historian

By Neal Rentz

Mount Kisco resident Harry McCartney has had a passion for history and the environment for as long as he can remember. Chosen by the board of the Mount Kisco Historical Society, he has utilized his passions as the Mount Kisco village historian for the past two years.

McCartney, 66, said last week that when he formerly worked for IBM he was responsible for educating the company's new employees about the operations of their company. Today, he is using the skills he used for IBM in his role as village historian.

McCartney said he is particularly interested in educating the public about the intersections between history and the environment. "(People) don't realize it and that's the story we try to tell," he said.

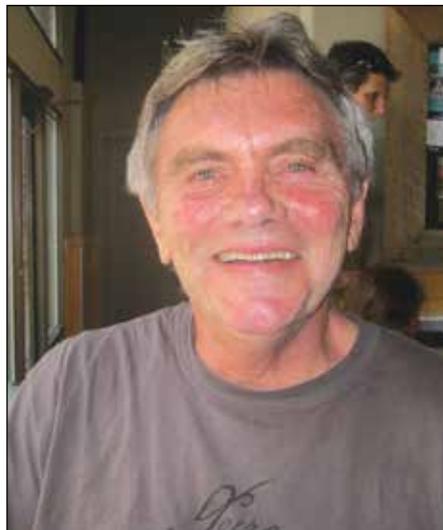
McCartney said early colonial settlers were drawn to Mount Kisco because of its natural resources, including water and the trees that were used for wood. The settlers understood the

topography of the village including its hills, something people do not take into account in contemporary times, he said. "In today's world you drive in a car on an interstate. Every window is up. Everybody's in their AC. They don't feel the wind," he said. "You don't even feel the hills anymore."

"If you were coming up from Long Island with horses, oxen and wagons you would know from your own experience what a hill is. You would know where the water drains. You would know where to put your grist mill," McCartney said.

"The foundation of our educational package (at the Historical Society) is the land and the water," McCartney explained. The drainage basins in Leonard Park that drain into the Kisco River are viewed during a walking tour conducted by the Historical Society. The tour then proceeds to the old foundation of the gristmill constructed in the 1700's on Byram Lake Road.

McCartney said the Historical Society has entered into partnerships with



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Mount Kisco Village Historian Harry McCartney.

other local historical societies and other organizations, including the Mount Kisco Public Library, where it conducts a series of programs. At the library, the Historical Society has presented a 12-segment program on Mount Kisco history. One of the segments is "Mount Kisco and the New York City Water System." Part of that program is about the involvement of the infamously corrupt "Boss Tweed" in the creation of a small dam in Byram Lake in the 1890's, McCartney said, adding the lake serves Mount Kisco's water system. The presentation about the dam is given by McCartney at the library and a few days later the Historical Society conducts a

walking tour at the lake.

The Croton Aqueduct, which is used for New York City's water supply, was constructed in Mount Kisco in the 1840's, which McCartney described as an "amazing engineering feat."

McCartney said "the most innovative" program provided by the Historical Society is "A Conversation with Community Elders" in which seniors who reside in Mount Kisco discuss the history of the village through their individual experiences. The interviews, which have been videotaped, are with residents in their 80s and older, he said. One of the people McCartney interviewed for the program is his 102-year-old mother-in-law Elizabeth Riepe.

McCartney stressed that others work with him to operate the Historical Society, including Madeline Kearin, Laurie Kimsal and Sue Ross and society president Eva Marshall, who have been influential in the efforts to restore the St. George's/St. Mark's Cemetery in the village. The cemetery is where George Washington met the French General Rochambeau, who had 5,000 of his troops camped before the Battle of Yorktown in Virginia.

The restoration of the cemetery is part of the mission of McCartney and the Historical Society. "It's all about education and making the past come alive," McCartney said. "Hear it. See it. Feel it. That's our mantra."



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## Financial Education

We are not a nation of Alex P. Keatons.

As the Connecticut Post recently reported, a financial literacy study by the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) shows American teenagers are flatly mediocre in their knowledge of money and finance.

According to the standardized test measuring how well teens around the world understand and can use financial concepts, our nation scored an average of 495. Compared to Shanghai, China, where students topped the list with 603, and Columbia, with the lowest average score of 378, we may not be the worst... but we sure have a lot to teach our kids.

Remember Alex P. Keaton on "Family Ties," that hilarious television sitcom that aired from 1982 to 1989? Alex was passionately interested in business and finance. His favorite TV show was "Wall Street Week." He was particularly fond of supply-side economics. He invested his parents' telephone company stocks



By Kevin Peters

in a video company in the Philippines. More than anything, he wanted to attend Princeton. At college, he majored in economics and afterwards accepted a job on Wall Street. By 2000, Alex P. Keaton had become a senator.

The PISA study tells us Alex had something few high school students in our society do: a true knowledge of, love of, and understanding of finance.

Granted, his level of understanding was improbable for a young man his age. But certainly, we can learn from him.

Our schools teach college-level math, science, and English. By the end of senior year many have debated global political issues or participated in mock trials. But where are the whiz kids with a working knowledge of stocks, bonds, and derivatives? Perhaps a few meet in an afterschool club. But the topics are typically not part of the curriculum.

Advanced math students may take additional courses in calculus, but a course that would focus on the monetary

requirements of life in a society that is based on financial transactions is rarely mandatory and in most schools, not even offered.

The PISA study went on to say that while 90 percent of 15-year-olds in Slovenia and New Zealand have bank accounts, only 51 percent of students in the U.S. do. How can teens learn the value of money, if not by seeing the dwindling amounts in their bank account? How can they decide if they should use cash or credit, if not because of their growing debt? How can they begin

to understand the ups and downs of the economy and growing inflation if their own money is not at stake?

What are other nations teaching their students that we are not? Other countries that scored above the international average in financial knowledge include Australia, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Estonia, New Zealand and Poland.

Similar studies in trends in international mathematics and science consistently show that American children

lag behind in math and science in the global arena. More intensive math and science schooling is advocated.

Who is advocating more fiscal education?

I suspect there may be something wrong in our approach if we, here in the US with our bountiful resources, talented teachers and dedicated education professionals, are being so clearly out-performed in so many areas.

PISA's test was given to a representative sample of about 29,000 students in 18 countries and regions.

A whopping 43 percent of Chinese students scored in the top performing level, compared to just nine percent of U.S. students.

Alex P. Keaton would have been in that top nine percent.

*Kevin Peters is a Goldens Bridge resident and Managing Director and Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management in Purchase, NY. He can be reached at 914-225-6680.*

### The Prudent Portfolio

*The information contained in this interview is not a solicitation to purchase or sell investments. Any information presented is general in nature and not intended to provide individually tailored investment advice. The strategies and/or investments referenced may not be suitable for all investors as the appropriateness of a particular investment or strategy will depend on an investor's individual circumstances and objectives. Investing involves risks and there is always the potential of losing money when you invest. The views expressed herein are those of the author and may not necessarily reflect the views of Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, or its affiliates Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC, Member SIPC.*

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## Can't Say "Mother/Daughter" Anymore? Is "Master Suite" Next To Go?

When I announced in the office sales meeting at William Raveis that The Home Guru Team was just about to list a great "mother/daughter" house, my office manager, Doris Ellias, gently advised me that "now it's suggested that we refer to them as 'extended family' houses."

Oh, no, I exclaimed mentally, now we have yet another widely accepted housing term that is considered either politically incorrect or unacceptable to the Fair Housing Act's advertising guidelines. I looked for any reference to support Doris' notation and couldn't find anything, but I'm sure she's right. After all, my friend, Steve Welles, lives in that kind of set-up with his two sons, Shane and Cody, and why should his house be called a "mother/daughter" and not a "father/son?" So, I guess "extended family" can cover a broader swath of new family situations, including all the in-laws, and all the other possibilities we now have with equality in marriage.

But, consider yourself lucky when you set out to sell your home that you've hired a professional realtor who's trained to navigate all the language land mines out there that protect citizens from discrimination in housing. We realtors have one heck of a time making sure that



By Bill Primavera

we are in compliance when we create copy for a listing, write a brochure or place ads. We might as well have a lawyer by our sides to make sure we are not in violation of those guidelines. Acceptable terms and phrases may seem arbitrary until they offend someone and spark a complaint to a government agency.

Section 804 (c) of the Fair Housing Act prohibits language that would foster discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin and, now, in some states, sexual orientation. Some limitations are allowed, such as "no smoking" and "no pets," but others are not, such as "no children," and may not state a preference for adults, couples or singles but rather can describe the properties, as suggested by the National Association of Realtors. We all know the obvious phrases that would denote a particular preference or those code words that imply limitations, such as "exclusive" or "private." Also we must be careful not to mention particular school systems or houses of worship that could imply a preference in a buyer or tenant.

And when we set about to describe the house itself, there are difficulties in describing its rooms with all the changes

that have come about with modern living and, in some cases, where a name may have one meaning but imply another. For instance, does having a master bedroom imply that slavery is still alive and well, or that only households with males at their head should consider buying the home? And, where would the mistress put down digs?

Scores of other questions come to mind about rooms' names. Why do we call it a John and not a Jill? And, I don't even want to venture a guess about the Jack and Jill bathroom.

So many room names have gone totally bye-bye just by virtue of the way we live differently from the way we lived years ago. Does anyone really live in the living room anymore? Hasn't it been completely replaced by the family room just off the kitchen? Shouldn't we just dump it from our housing vocabulary and our floor plans as well? And who decided that the great room should be a great room? Is that in contrast to a lousy room?

And have you seen a sitting room or sewing room lately? Or a library? That is, unless you live grandly, as some do. One of my favorite stories is about the time I visited the home of a client, Ella Brennan, matriarch of the family that owns Commander's Palace in New Orleans, and when she opened the double doors to her grand ballroom, I exclaimed, "Oh, you have a ballroom in your house!" and

she replied, "Doesn't everyone?"

And why do we still call the mud room the mud room? Has there really been any mud in it since we stopped being an agrarian society? Just in the past month I've listed two historic houses that have "birthing rooms" just off the kitchen. What in the world should I call them? And, remember the rumpus room when we were kids? All such vestigial rooms have been replaced courtesy of the Internet with the home office that people my age never had the luxury of and are now de rigueur in the modern household.

There are so many terms and room descriptions that are being pulled from our housing vocabulary for one reason or another, either because of lifestyle changes or the requirements of the Fair Housing guidelines, that someday we may be reduced to saying simply, "nice house for sale."

*Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is: www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.*

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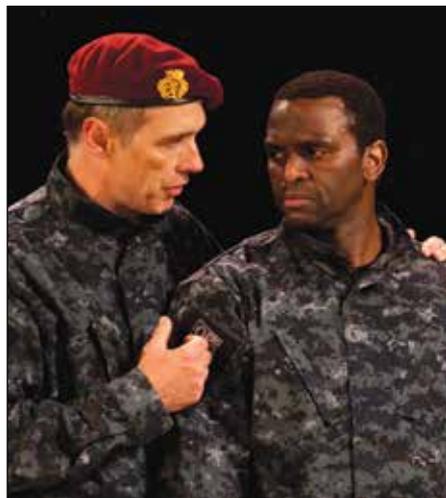
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# Hudson Valley Shakespeare's "Othello" Rings True Today

By Abby Luby

The current Hudson Valley Shakespeare production of "Othello" is a tour de force. Infused in this bear of a play is a resurgent energy that feels raw and invigorating as it unveils the intricate kaleidoscope of human nature splintered by malicious intent. Expertly directed by Christopher Edwards, his program notes set the initial tone: "We are lied to as many as 200 times a day. We are a society of deceivers walking a thin line between appearance and reality." Edwards skillfully catapults us from one scene to the next sustaining the tension throughout.

Written in 1603, Othello is one of Shakespeare's famous tragedies and the messages of deceit, racism, sexism, jealousy and revenge haven't lost their sting. Othello is a dark skinned Moor and a powerful military general who falls in love with and weds Desdemona, a white woman, a marriage that taps the hatred and envy of Iago, Othello's close military confidant. It's Iago's escalating and furtive dishonesty that is the eventual ruin of Othello. The deep emotional conflict between Othello and Iago are echoed by the backdrop of the battlefield where war is a constant. Edwards consulted with West Point officers directly across the river from the Boscobel stage and realistically assimilated today's military behavior into the play. Battalion guttural



WILLIAM MARSH PHOTO

Kurt Rhoades as Iago, left, and Leopold Loew as Othello in Hudson Valley Shakespeare's production of Othello.

shouts of "Hooah!" and "Yes sir!" come from actors wearing headsets and dressed in camouflaged uniforms while brandishing genuine looking semi-automatic weapons and aggressively drawn pistols as if they stepped right out of CSI.

Kurt Rhoades is brilliant as the lying and treacherous Iago. Right from the start Rhoades' pacing is masterful as he deftly draws us in initially portraying a cautious man who has nothing to hide. As he

elicits our skepticism and finally divulges his calculating and evil plan, the irony is blatant: while we recognize how vile Iago is, the characters don't really see it until the end. Rhoades' swagger and his Green Beret style cap and sunglasses suggest a crass and dangerous bully oozing from his every pore. By the end of the play Rhoades has us seething at him and his destructive motive of revenge.

Equally adept is the talented Leopold Loew as Othello. Loew superbly crafts Othello's incremental metamorphoses from a happy, loving man to one who has fallen into a jealous and deranged frenzy. Loew is sublime as he nears the slippery edge of the black hole of hate. Susannah Millonzi's Desdemona captivates us with a keen, buoyant innocence, a stark contrast to the social deterioration around her. When her exuberance is stripped from her, Millonzi offers a deep and passionate sense of loss without being overly dramatic. Millonzi and Nance Williamson, who plays Iago's abused wife, Emilia, create a stunning magnetic interconnection on stage as they each become transformed in their views of men. Williamson is a faithful and wonderful conduit here for Shakespeare's words on women's rights: "Tis not a year or two shows us a man: They are all but stomachs, and we all but food." Jason O'Connell is the frantic and beleaguered

Roderigo who loves Desdemona in vain and offers up a truly lost soul enslaved to Iago's heinous bidding. Stephen Paul Johnson is Brabantio, Desdemona's father whose rage at his daughter's bi-racial marriage is potent.

The famous singer and actor Paul Robeson played Othello when it came to Broadway in the 1940s, a time when this country was still rampantly racist. Perhaps it was with this in mind that Edwards, in creating the drunken party scene in the barracks, has Rhoades singing "Ole Man River" - the popular Showboat song about oppressed African Americans, a song that was sung by Robeson throughout his performing career. It makes a compelling parody, as does the contemporary social relevance of this production.

The HVSF 2014 season also includes Shakespeare's Two Gentlemen of Verona, directed by Eric Tucker and "The Liar" directed by Russell Treyz. All three plays will be presented through August 31. For 28 seasons the festival has performed in a beautiful, castle-like open-air theater tent on the grounds of historic Boscobel House and Gardens in Garrison, using the spectacular view of the Hudson River as a theatrical backdrop. For more information call the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival office at 845-809-5750, or visit [www.hvshakespeare.org](http://www.hvshakespeare.org).

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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.



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# A 'Most Happy' Musical for Mt. Pleasant Theatre Company This Weekend

By Janine Bowen

"The Most Happy Fella" may not be the most well-known play, but members of the Mount Pleasant Community Theatre are promising that residents will enjoy themselves when its version of the musical opens this weekend.

The story is set at an Italian winery and revolves around an older man marrying a younger woman. Ruth Murden, a volunteer at the show, said much of the music will be recognized by the audience's older members, but younger attendees will also find themselves entertained.

"It's really a very happy show," Murden said.

The annual musical is put together by the theater group in a short period of time. Auditions were held in mid-June followed by a six-week rehearsal period. Cast members meet five days a week. Director and choreographer Rose Cremonese-Norton explained that this year an extra week of rehearsal time was needed because of the difficulty of the music and dance numbers.

"I think the dancing parts are quite difficult and, of course, with this show, you do need legitimate voices. That was very important," she said.

Cremonese-Norton said although there were worries about finding singers who would be able to tackle the difficult lead vocal parts, she was able to fill the roles with



The cast of "The Most Happy Fella" rehearses for their opening performance, Friday, Aug. 8 at 8 p.m.

ease. More difficult, however, was finding chorus members to complete the ensemble cast. She said the extra week's rehearsal time caused scheduling difficulties for Westlake High School, where the production will be staged. Also, college students who usually volunteer were left with just over a week to spare before many start heading back to school, but Cremonese-Norton managed to complete the cast.

"The Most Happy Fella" marks the 44th Mount Pleasant Community Theatre production that has been directed and choreographed by Cremonese-Norton, a group she founded in 1971. This year, she chose a more obscure play because she wanted to do something unexpected.

"I just wanted something different this year and I hope that the audience will trust my judgment because I think it's a fabulous

show," she said.

Cremonese-Norton performed in a production of "The Most Happy Fella" years ago and still keeps in touch with some of those cast mates. Rosemarie Patane Stevens, the woman who played the female lead role of Rosabella when Cremonese-Norton performed, currently lives in Pleasantville and will be her special guest at the opening night of the performance.

Cremonese-Norton, who owns and operates Rose's School of Dance in Hawthorne, said organizing and directing the productions hasn't gotten easier, but it's something she's not ready to give up. A positive attitude is the key to creating a successful play year after year.

"I just love every minute of it. Every day is a new experience, and when you get to be my age, that's a blessing," said Cremonese-

Norton, now in her early eighties.

"Every year, we think this is going to be the last one, but she plugs away again," Murden added.

Murden said the cast is a combination of people who have been with the theater group since the 1970s and new members who want to give acting a shot. Even though Mount Pleasant Community Theatre is local, cast members hail from all over Westchester and even Rockland.

"It's the Mount Pleasant Community Theatre, but it encompasses anybody who wants to be with us. We're very, very happy about that," said Cremonese-Norton, who choreographs all of the production's dance numbers.

Sabrina Larkin and Gabriella Murden, both of whom studied dance with her from the time they were toddlers, return each year to teach the footwork to the cast.

"Once I get them, I keep them for life," Cremonese-Norton joked.

All five performances will be at the John S. Whearty Theater at Westlake High School starting this Friday, Aug. 8, at 8 p.m. and continuing through Aug. 16. (The theater was named for the school's first principal; his grandson, Justin Thomas, is a college student who is in this production.)

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for seniors and students. For more information or to buy tickets in advance, visit [www.mpctshows.com](http://www.mpctshows.com).



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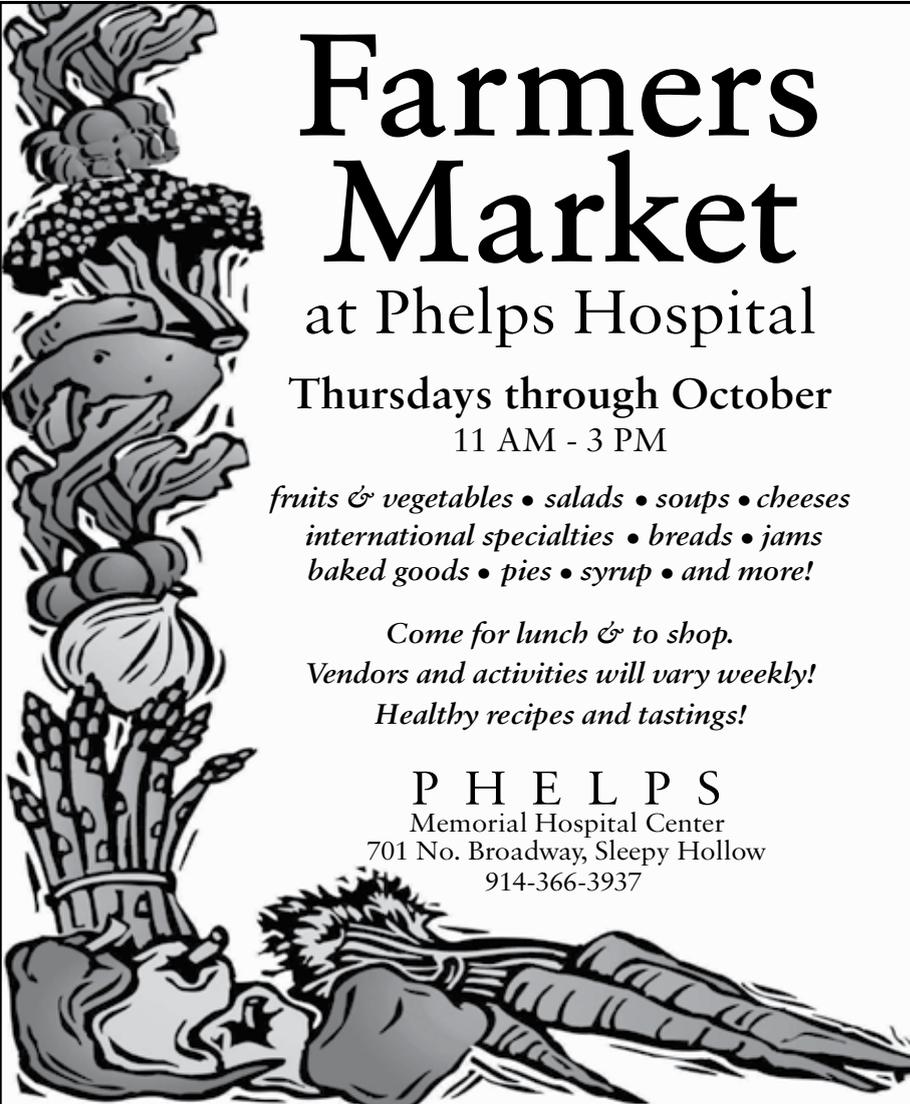


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# Happenings

## Tuesday, Aug. 5

**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).

## Wednesday, Aug. 6

**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.

**Bounce the Baby.** Simple stories, finger plays and songs. For children six months to two years old. A great opportunity for parents and caregivers to interact with their children while focusing on literacy. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Also Aug. 20. Info: 914-273-3887.

**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.

**Art History With Professor Valerie Franco.** Man Ray was one of America's most influential modernist artists, and a major contributor to the Dadaist and Surrealist movements. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group.** Northern Westchester Hospital at Chappaqua Crossing, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Registration

required. Info and registration: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

## Thursday, Aug. 7

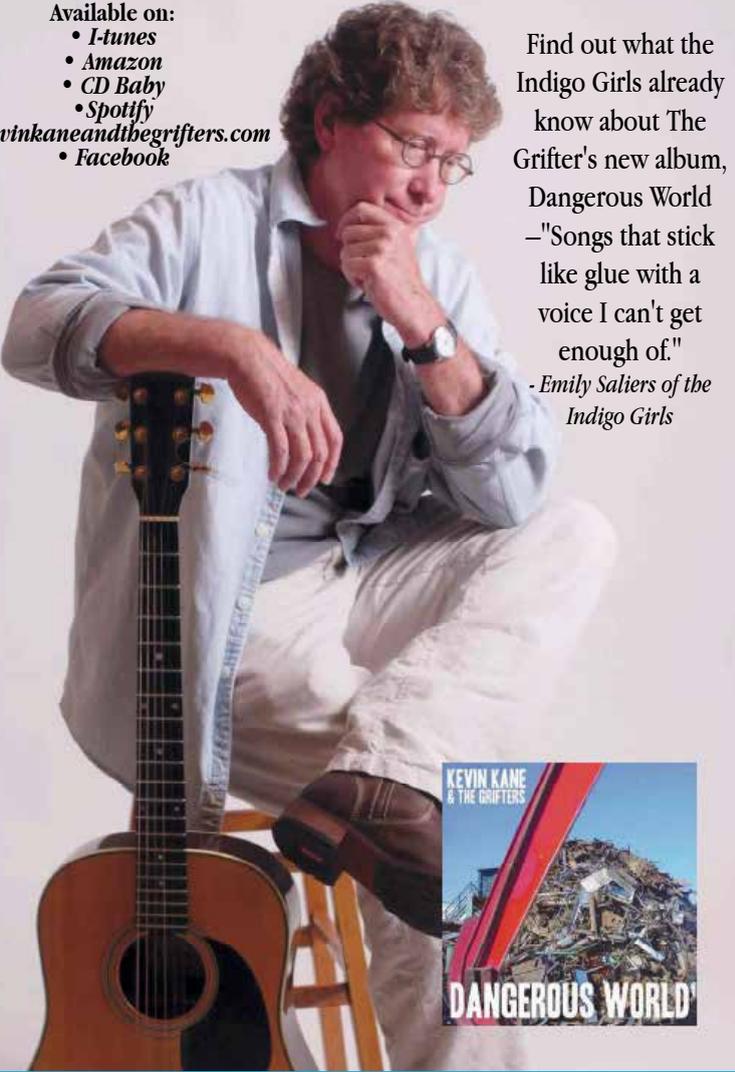
**Let Your Yoga Dance Classes.** The popular Kripalu noon dance class is now in Chappaqua! Combines easy dance, gentle yoga and great music. Come join this noncompetitive, heart pumping and joyful experience. Drop-ins welcome. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10 a.m. \$20 per 75 min. class.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

**Summer Art Adventures.** A five-session art workshop for children six to 12 years old. Inspired by the exhibition "ICELAND: Artists Respond to Place," explore concepts of land, space and environment through different lenses and materials. Please bring lunch. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Members: \$50 for each class. Non-members: \$60 per class. Discounts for multiple classes. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-232-9555 ext. 0.

**Play and Learn.** An hour-long program

*continued on page 20*

KEVIN KANE & THE GRIFTERS



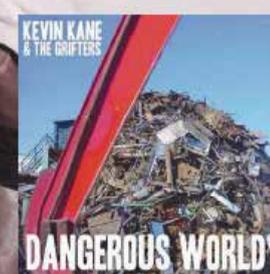
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Find out what the Indigo Girls already know about The Grifter's new album, *Dangerous World* — "Songs that stick like glue with a voice I can't get enough of." — *Emily Saliers of the Indigo Girls*



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**Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**  
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# Who's Your Daddy?



JAY WRIGHT PHOTO

Paul Shaffer, Lew Soloff and 'Daddy Bands' The Shaves, Ask Your Mom and ONL perform encore number at Daddy Bands concert on July 26. Proceeds from the concert benefit Northern Westchester Hospital's Music Therapy Program.

# Student Performance Workshop to Showcase Works of Axial Playwrights

Axial Theatre's Student Performance Workshop presents two parallel programs this month titled "At the Intersection of Love and Birth" and "At the Intersection of Love and Death." For the first time, these productions will be a collaborative effort between students of HMAActing and new and emerging playwrights who are members of the Axial community. The students will perform in one-acts written by playwrights selected from Axial's biweekly Sunday Writers Series, a developmental lab comprised of actors and writers, or recent graduates of the playwriting program run by AxialArtistic Director and head of HMAActing Howard Meyer. Meyer created a trilogy of pieces expressly for the summer workshop. All shows are directed by Rachel Jones; Lori Lowe, stage/TV/film actor, director, and private coach; and Jess Erick, a faculty member at HMAActing and an actor, playwright and singer/songwriter.



EMILY FEHER PHOTO

The cast, front row: Lori Sachare, Laurie Bonante, Andrea Aboulafia, Cornelia Groeger; middle row: Judy Permutt, Dianne Roxy Pennington, Rebecca Balbach, Brenda Hettmansberger, Rofa Abayon; back row: Anthony Barresi Jr., Dan Forman, Chris Bryant, Dan Walworth.

Performances will take place at the theatre company's space at 8 Sunnyside

Ave., St. John's Episcopal Church, Pleasantville. Showtimes for "At the Intersection of Love and Birth" are Friday, Aug. 15 at 8 p.m. and Saturday Aug. 16 at 2 p.m.; "At the Intersection of Love and Death" are Saturday, Aug. 16 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. Suggested donation: \$15. For information call 914-286-7680 or contact axialtheatre@gmail.com.

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# Happenings

continued from page 18

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.

**Duct Tape With Claire.** Use classic gray duct tape to create a different project each week. Trim each with crazy colors and patterns. 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).

**Night Owls.** Show us your PJs and we'll share good stories. For children of all ages. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Every Thursday in August. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**Thursday Night Book Discussion Group.** Selected Stories of Eudora Welty will be discussed. Led by Susan Zangler. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**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).

**Art Lecture.** Cherise Gordon leads a two-session course on what goes on behind the scenes at the New York's auction houses. Gordon, director and founder of Nu-Garde Gallery, art historian and former auction house employee, will give the audience an insider's glimpse of Christie's and Sotheby's auction houses, discussing how art is priced, record-breaking sales and the impetus that drives prices. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548.

## Friday, Aug. 8

**Stroller Tours.** Take a break from the ordinary and bring your little one with you. Moms, dads and caregivers of stroller-bound babies are welcome for special "before hours" tours of the unique landscape and contemporary art of Iceland in the Katonah Museum of Art's "Iceland: Artists Respond to Place" exhibition. For adults with children under 18 months. Breakfast snacks provided by Tazza Café. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 9 to 10 a.m. Members: Free. Non-members: \$10. Also Sept. 5. Info: 914-232-9555 ext. 0.

**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).

**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. 9, 16 and 23. Info: 914-273-3887.

**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).

**Arts and Crafts.** For children from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-864-0130.

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

**Family Films.** Feature-length films for all ages. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 4 p.m. Free. Also Aug. 22. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**"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).

**Movies, Books and Trivia: Read the Book, Play the Game, See the Movie.** Tonight, "Divergent" (PG-13), book by Veronica Roth, will be featured. Find out how much you remember of the book, win a prize and then see how the book translated into the movie. For teens and tweens. Light refreshments available. Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah. Book trivia game at 7 p.m. Movie at 7:30 p.m. Free. RSVP requested. Info and RSVP: 914-232-3508 or email [katref@wlsmail.org](mailto:katref@wlsmail.org).

## Saturday, Aug. 9

**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).

**Valhalla Lions Club's Stride for Sight Annual Fundraiser Walkathon.** Volunteers needed to walk. Benefits the Foundation for Blind Children. Refreshments served. Step off at 9 a.m. at A&P Supermarket, Rose Hill Shopping Center, 610 Columbus Ave., Thornwood. Finish Line at ShopRite Supermarket, Thornwood Town Center, 960 Broadway, Thornwood. Donations accepted at either location or by sending to P.O. Box 24, Valhalla, N.Y. 10595. Info: Contact Steve at 914-761-2298.

**Bridge and Scrabble Club Guided Play and Instruction.** Match wits with former Library Board Trustee Stan Kurzban. Bridge is not for beginners; singles, pairs and small groups welcome. All levels welcome for Scrabble. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10 a.m. Free. Also Aug. 16 and 23. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**India Day Celebration.** Participate in a cultural show depicting the heritage and diversity of India. There will be dances, songs, poems, music and food samples. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**American Songbook.** The Our Town and Chances Are quartets sing American classics. Presented by The Small Town Theatre Company. Wampus Brook Park, Maple Avenue, Armonk. 8 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.SmallTownTheatre.com](http://www.SmallTownTheatre.com).

## Sunday, Aug. 10

**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.

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

## Monday, Aug. 11

**Mommy and Toddler Yoga.** A 30-minute program introducing children to yoga. Poses are incorporated into games and songs, allowing playful exploration of yoga. For children one to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. Free. Mondays through Aug. 18. Info: 914-273-3887.

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

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# The Life and Times of Today's California Small Producer



By Nick Antonaccio

The California agricultural industry is the juggernaut of the food industry. It supplies more farmed products to the world than any other nation. On a micro level, the California wine industry supplies over 90 percent of wine consumed domestically. And wine is big business in the United States. Over 80 percent of all wine is produced by 2 percent of winemakers.

These winemaking behemoths impact the entire food chain, not to mention the influence they exert on consumers' drinking habits.

But what about the other 98 percent? Whether they are hobbyists dabbling in premium wines as a pastime or dedicated farmers seeking to eke out a living, these winemakers must cope with the same economic

conditions and environmental vagaries as the giants of the industry, yet oftentimes without similar capital wherewithal.

Just in the last two years, I've noticed

changes occurring up and down the California coast that are affecting the future of wineries, but seem to be placing a heavier strain on small producers as they cope with a realignment of the industry.

So what are these conditions and how are the 98 percent coping with them?

1. Economics and finances: A number of the small producers set out in the 1970's and 1980's as ambitious, idealistic farmers seeking to "get back to nature" and "buck the establishment." Back then land was inexpensive and their energy for farming that land was boundless.

Fast forward to the 21st Century.

Land values have skyrocketed. Prices for prime vineyard land have been growing at an average five to 10 percent. Today, an acre of prime Napa Valley land costs a whopping \$150,000. (By comparison,

land in Tuscany's Chianti Classico averages \$50,000). The astute winemaker investing in land in the late 1970's is living on and farming valuable property. But as many investors found out in the Great Recession, equity does not generate

the cash flow necessary to meet the rising costs of running a business. Longtime winemakers are overleveraged and are being forced to sell their operations, at

times at significant discounts.

2. Replanting vines: Grapevines do not age gracefully. Production begins to diminish after 20 to 30 years; vines are typically replaced within 30 years of planting. It is now that time in the vineyard life cycle in the United States. It is estimated that 15 percent of grapevines in Napa Valley will be replaced in the next few years - at a hefty cost of approximately \$50,000 per acre. This is placing additional stress on cash-strained winemakers.

3. Mother Nature: She smiled down on California's winemakers in 2012 and 2013 with excellent vintages, which produced excellent fruit and yields. The 2014 vintage is progressing well, with the impact of the prolonged drought not yet having any material impact on yields. Hope springs eternal in the breast of the stressed farmer.

4. Succession: As the first generation winemakers of the 1970's and 1980's near retirement age, there is rarely a family member willing, or ready, to take over the reins.

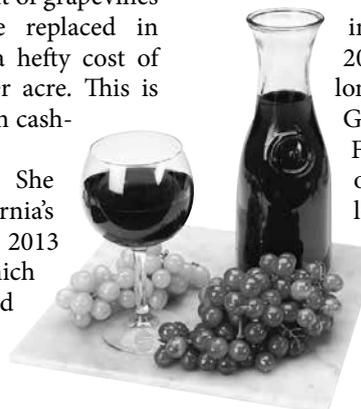
Winemakers in the United States face much higher costs than their Western European multi-generational counterparts and therefore a higher cash breakeven point. From the significant

cash investment in land to the hired help to manage and operate the winery, smaller wineries seem to be on the cusp of insolvency more often than not. Not an appealing proposition for the next generation, if indeed there is one in the family portrait.

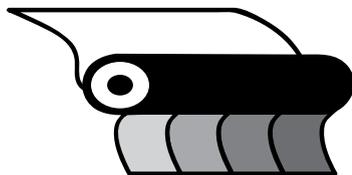
As the California wine industry heads into the 2014 harvest season, the long term effects of the Great Recession, and Father Time, are playing out. Consolidation in the last two years has been higher than any in recent memory. The 2 percent are slowly transitioning into the 1 percent as retiring or cash-strapped small producers exit.

What will the next two years bring to this industry? Perhaps only time - and the banks - will be able to tell us.

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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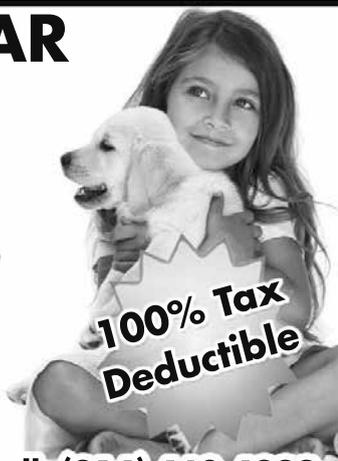
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# ExaminerSports

## Renegades Beat the Lake Monsters Before Hitting the Road

By A.J. Martelli

Hudson Valley Renegades manager Tim Parenton walked back to the clubhouse with an ear-to-ear smile, high-fiving fans after last Tuesday night's game at Dutchess Stadium. He had every reason to celebrate, as his 'Gades had just defeated the Vermont Lake Monsters 5-3, completing a three-game sweep before beginning a week-long road trip.

The Renegades have certainly found the formula for winning at home with a 19-3 record at "The Dutch" and haven't lost in front of their fans since July 13. Parenton is well aware that his team has mastered the art of home-field advantage, and discussed it with his players before last Tuesday's win.

"We're playing well," he said. "We talked about it after batting practice today. We always have a little team meeting and go over what's going on, what to expect and how to play."

This time, the Hudson Valley home-field magic arrived in the bottom of the seventh inning with the score tied 1-1. Left fielder Hunter Lockwood, the team leader in home runs, stepped to the plate with the bases loaded and two outs. He was promptly plunked by a pitch to force in the go-ahead run.

"It's never fun getting hit by a pitch, but tonight it helped our team out," said Lockwood, who had struck out three times earlier in the evening. "Every time you get hit by a pitch you get on base, but tonight it was a little bonus getting an RBI out of it. So it doesn't make it so bad."

Center fielder Coty Blanchard, who had walked with the bases full an inning earlier to produce the Renegades' first run, then cleared the bases by ripping a double down the line in left field to stretch the Hudson Valley lead to 5-1.

"I was just trying to put a good swing on it," Blanchard said of his big hit that broke the game open. "We had some runners on right there, so we decided to come through and get it done. It feels great to win here because we love playing here. The fans are great, they're here every game for us, and we hope we can keep it up for them."

The Lake Monsters, trailing by four runs as they batted in the ninth, sliced their deficit in half with one swing of the bat, a two-run homer by J.P. Sportman against Renegade reliever Ryan Pennell, a Mamaroneck native and Rye Neck alum.

Oscar Armenta started on the mound for Hudson Valley, throwing six innings of one-run ball. He scattered six hits, walked three and struck out five before giving way to hard-throwing right-hander Kyle McKenzie, who was perfect for two innings, striking out two, to collect his first win of the year.

"Their pitcher was very good tonight, so was ours - Armenta," Parenton said.



Hudson Valley designated hitter Daniel Miles runs toward third base vs. Vermont in last week's game.



Casey Gillaspie takes a mighty swing in last Tuesday's win vs. Vermont.

"1-1 into the sixth and when we go to the bullpen, our guys just stepped up and came alive."

The three-game sweep of Vermont came on the heels of a rare two-game losing streak that had concluded a long stretch on the road, during which the Renegades played 10 out of 11 games away from Dutchess Stadium. Faced now with six more road games that included stops in Jamestown and State College, PA, Parenton was cautiously optimistic his team would be up to the task.

"We're looking forward to every game, one at a time - the old cliché," he said. "We have to play everybody a couple times. We'll play Jamestown and see what happens, then go into State College and see what they got."

Lockwood had similar thoughts. "We're expecting some good series coming up," he said. "Jamestown Jammers are a good team, State College is a good team, so we've got to come out ready to play every day - doesn't matter if we're home or away."

The time away enables Lockwood and his Renegades teammates to fully appreciate the support they receive every time they return to Dutchess and step onto their own home field.

"It's great to be able to come here and

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



The Renegades' Jace Conrad is nipped at first base as Vermont's John Nogowski stretches for the throw.



The Renegades' Kyle McKenzie pitches in relief during last Tuesday night's game. He threw two scoreless innings and earned the win.



Hudson Valley's Braxton Lee lines a pitch down the third-base line in last Tuesday's 5-3 Renegade victory.

perform for our fans," said Lockwood. "It's special for us to be able to keep winning here and win for them. We know they like that."

**EXTRA INNINGS:** The Renegades played a doubleheader Thursday and were swept by Jamestown, losing the first game 4-1 and the second one 4-2. But Hudson Valley rebounded to earn a win in the series finale, beating the Jammers 2-1 in a game that featured a steal of home by Jace Conrad.

The Renegades then took the series opener from the State College Spikes Saturday evening, winning 5-2. Once again, a steal of home played a big part in the victory. Blanchard, leading the league with 18 steals, swiped the dish to give the Renegades the lead for good in the seventh inning.

Hudson Valley improved to a league-best 35-15 by blanking State College 2-0 on Sunday night. Nolan Gannon pitched the first five innings to improve to 5-1 this season. McKenzie, the third Hudson Valley hurler of the game, yielded just one hit in his two innings of work to earn his third save. Conrad finished with three hits and Lockwood added two for the 'Gades, who host Williamsport for three straight nights this week, all at 7:05, starting on Wednesday.



Hudson Valley second baseman Jace Conrad tags out Vermont's Ben McQuown during a rundown between first and second base.

The homestand continues with three games vs. Tri-City, Saturday through Monday. Sunday's game starts at 5:05.

# Local Tennis Team Overcomes Opponents and Father Time

By Janine Bowen

You may not guess it by watching them in action, but the players who graced the courts at the Pleasantville Tennis Club last weekend are all over the age of 50.

As members of the Westchester County Tennis League's Senior Division, which has been around for more than a decade, they are still near the top of their game. Currently undefeated through the first four matches this season, the Pleasantville 'A' team sits atop the standings in the Tully Division, the most competitive in the WCTL.

"We have a lot of good 50-and-older players in Pleasantville," said Bob Bull, the team captain.

With all of the players still actively involved in the sport past that milestone, it's no surprise that they've suffered from their share of injuries. Many have faced surgeries to repair or correct knee and back problems, and some have even had hip replacement. But those setbacks don't hamper their love of the sport.

"It's a game we're going to keep on playing through any number of injuries and ailments," said Richard Finn, 59. "I think it's the love and passion we have for the game."

Finn has had surgery on his knee and was fastening a brace to his leg before the match to ensure that he did not reinjure the already fragile area. Having played tennis since the age of 10, he conceded that he can no longer cover the court the way he used to. Now he plays with a partner, in doubles matches, because it is less strenuous.

"I certainly can't do the things that I did when I was playing junior tournaments or college tournaments, but I don't think any of us can," Finn said.

Bill Crawford, 58, has been playing in the league since he turned 50, and has suffered from a torn hamstring, a torn tendon in his elbow and two hip replacements. He said the most difficult part of playing competitively at his age is the amount of time it takes to recover from long-term injuries. He noted that it's important for players to make sure they remain in good physical condition, even though work and family commitments may make it difficult to find the time to exercise.

"I can pretty much always assure myself of knowing how to play tennis," he said. "It's just being well enough and



Greg Finn holds the latest addition to the Pleasantville Tennis Club's wall of championship plaques.



Roger Klepper tracks a lob during his doubles match.



Pleasantville Tennis Club's Kevin Kane moves forward to hit a volley.

conditioned enough to be able to play three sets."

Although many of the players taking part in the matches stated that they have given up other sports because of their intensity and a fear of getting hurt, at least one of them still continues to compete outside of tennis and just paid the price for it.

Todd Gordon was hit by a pitch playing baseball the day before, and showed up for his match despite an injured collar bone.

Regardless of the ailments, the players are still able to play, returning serves and smacking winning volleys as though it were simple. Bull said part of the team's success is because many of the players have been playing or have been around each other for decades and know exactly what their partner is going to do before it even happens.

The season consists of six matches that run through the summer months. That prompted Finn to jokingly wonder why

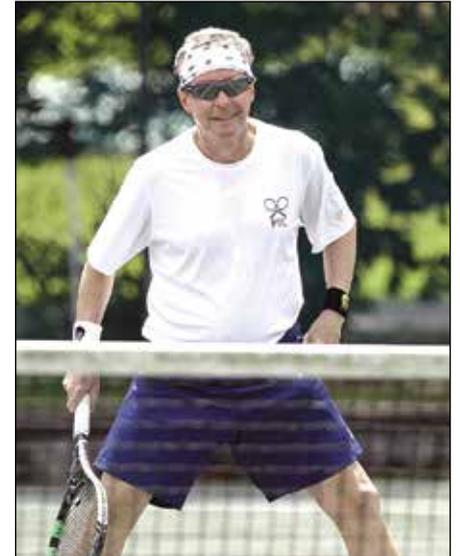
ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Todd Gordon prepares to hit a forehand vs. visiting Armonk.



Richard Finn puts away a backhand volley for the Pleasantville 'A' team.



Team captain Bob Bull stays ready at the net during his doubles match.



Doubles partners Peter Burack (left) and Jerry Hartnett walk toward the net after winning their match vs. Armonk.

the "old guys" play their best-of-three-set matches in the hottest months of the year while other leagues play in the cooler spring months.

Following their success last week against



Bill Crawford hits a forehand in last week's home match at the Pleasantville Tennis Club.

Armonk, which was their third and final home match this season, the Pleasantville players could be seen celebrating with a few beers, and maybe an ice pack or two.

"For all of us, at our age and with the amount of tennis that we've played," said Finn, "we always like to say if we're not hurting, we're not playing."

And play they will, Finn mockingly promised, until they physically have to — or at least until their wives make them — stop.

# USTA

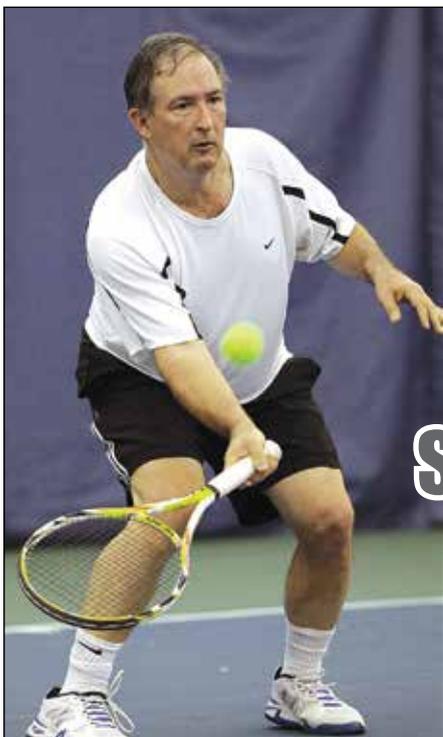
## Senior Tennis

### 2014 Millberg Cup

#### Friday, August 1

#### Saw Mill Club, Mt. Kisco

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Peter Snell hits a half-volley during his doubles match vs. Middle States.



Scott Kalb lines up a forehand return for the Eastern team in Friday's win over Middle States.



The 2014 Eastern team that defeated Middle States for the Millberg Cup on Friday afternoon included, left to right, Kevin Kane, Todd Gordon, Bob Bull, Charles Lacy-Thompson, Mike Morley, Steve Sokol, Paul Muss, Boris Sorebro and Peter Snell.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



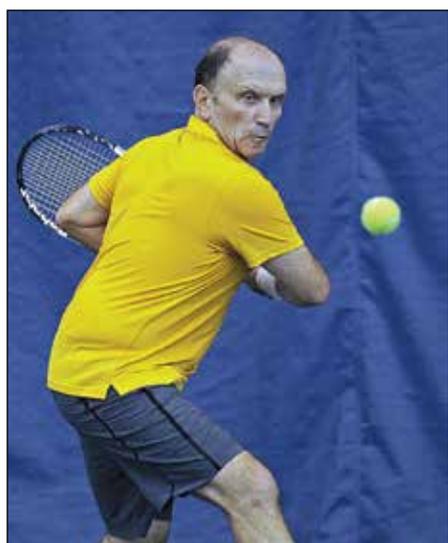
Above: Todd Gordon gets ready to smack a backhand en route to winning his singles match. Far left: USTA Eastern's Paul Muss drills a forehand return vs. Middle States. Left: Steve Sokol (left) and doubles partner Peter Snell wait to return serve during play in the Millberg Cup.



Charles Lacy-Thompson hits a serve during his doubles match vs. Middle States.



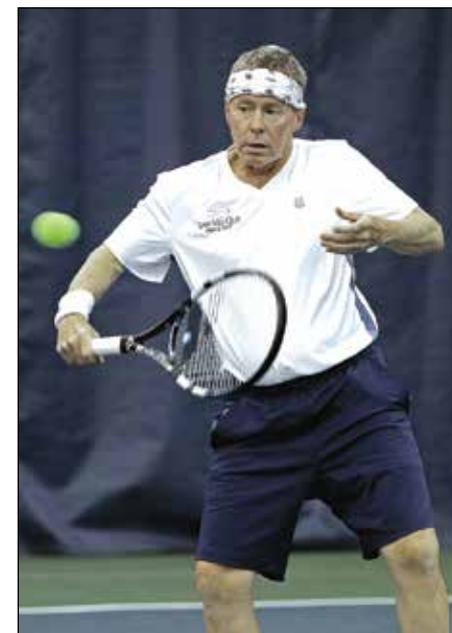
Eastern's Mike Morley scampers far to his left to make a backhand return.



Boris Sorebro sets his sights on a backhand return.



Kevin Kane concentrates on a backhand during doubles action at the Saw Mill Club.



Saw Mill Club's Bob Bull keeps his eyes on a backhand volley.

# Sports Scene Extra

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Mt. Kisco's Joseph Long pitches in the final inning of the Chiefs' easy win last week at Leonard Park.

Kensico's Jillian Caldarola fires to the plate in last week's 14-and-under softball tournament at Pat Henry Field in Valhalla.

Jamie Perfito of the Mt. Pleasant Thunder lines a pitch to center field in last weekend's tournament game vs. host Kensico.

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# Sports Scene

## Sherman Park Wildcats 8U Little League Baseball



Sherman Park third baseman Ryan Fudale stays ready in last week's WBA LL game.



C. J. Prosperino lines a pitch down the left-field line vs. New City.



Sherman Park infielder Mark Theriault moves to his right for a potential throw to second base.



Wildcat right fielder Chris Arrchiello fires the ball to home plate in last week's home game vs. the New City Generals.



Sherman Park's Matthew Pipcinski heads for second base in last week's Westchester Baseball Association LL game.



Above: Wildcats shortstop Robbie Ciliberti waits for a late throw at second base in last week's loss to New City, just the fourth in 15 games for Sherman Park.

Left: C. J. Prosperino beats the throw to second base during Sherman Park's home game at Hawthorne Elementary School.



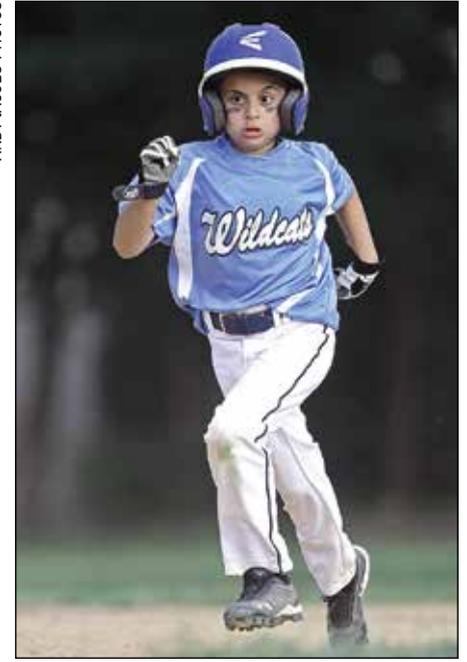
Sherman Park's C. J. Prosperino races toward third base.



Matthew Pipcinski pitches for the Wildcats in last Wednesday's game.



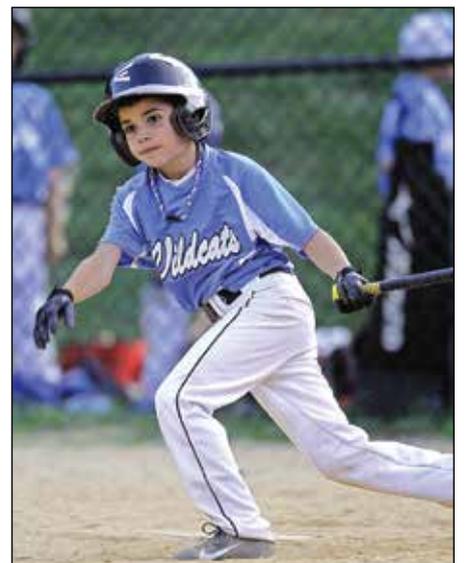
Robbie Ciliberti gets set to swing the bat vs. the Generals of New City.



Robbie Ciliberti runs the bases for Sherman Park's 8-and-under LL team.

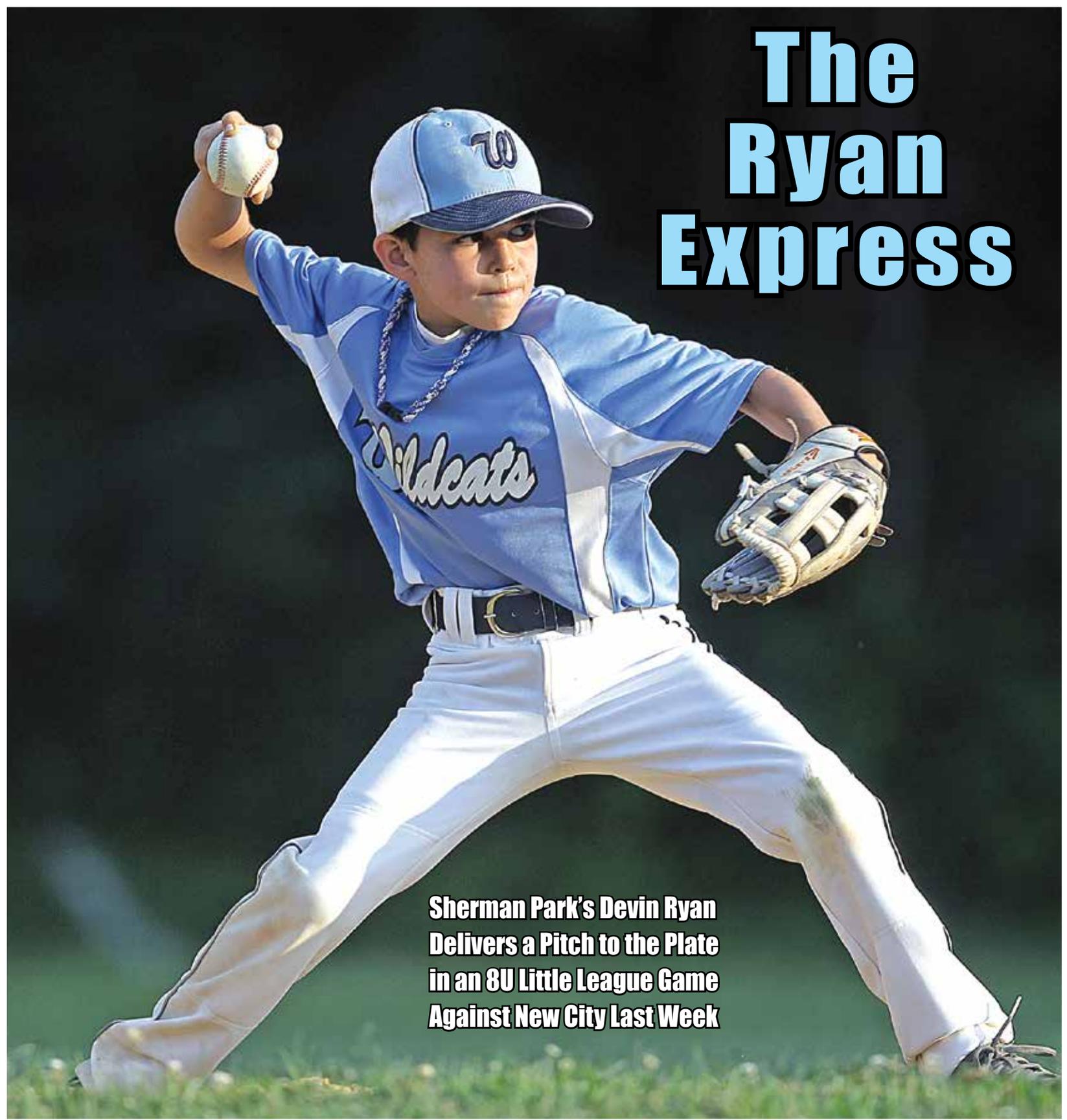


The Wildcats' Christian Knapp hits a single to right field in last week's game.



Devin Ryan of the Wildcats hits the ball to left field during last Wednesday's home game.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



# The Ryan Express

**Sherman Park's Devin Ryan Delivers a Pitch to the Plate in an 8U Little League Game Against New City Last Week**

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

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