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April 28 - May 4, 2015

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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Volume 9, Issue 399

Mt. Kisco Approves Police Consolidation With County

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Kisco Village Board unanimously approved consolidating police services with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety last week, but not without criticism from several residents.

The intermunicipal agreement (IMA) still needs approval from the county Board of Legislators. If consolidation goes forward, the village would save \$2.4 million over the first five years, according to county projections.

The first payment by the village to the county would be \$6.4 million. The agreement would run through 2019.

Mayor Michael Cindrich, who noted that negotiations lasted more than three years, said it was "the right thing to do."

"This did not happen overnight," Cindrich said.

If consolidation is approved by county



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Consolidation of the Mount Kisco Police Department with Westchester County took a significant step forward last week with the village board's approval of the move.

lawmakers, Mount Kisco's current police officers would have to resign from their positions and then be hired by the county.

County Legislator Peter Harckham (D-North Salem), a consolidation supporter, said the Board of Legislators

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New Castle to Take Next Step in Chappaqua Crossing Process

By Martin Wilbur

The New Castle Town Board will vote early next month whether to adopt the Preliminary Development Concept Plan (PDCP) for the Chappaqua Crossing retail proposal and a local law applying the commercial zoning to the property.

Town officials indicated last Tuesday night that the vote would likely take place within the next two weeks after Town Attorney Nicholas Ward-Willis incorporates revisions made last week into the PDCP. Officials could choose to vote on the two items, which, if approved, would trigger formal site plan review by the planning board, during its May 5 work session or the next regular meeting on May 12.

Last week the board ironed out several issues, including coming to an



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The New Castle Town Board and the development team for Chappaqua Crossing hammered out key issues last week, including the hours for delivery and opening of Whole Foods.

agreement regarding hours of operation and permissible times for deliveries for the 40,000-square-foot Whole Foods, the retail project's anchor tenant.

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They Can See Clearly Now



ED ELLIOTT PHOTO

Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce President William Flocks, left, and Mayor Peter Scherer, right, joke around with the chamber's Business Person of the Year, I Fetish Boutique owner Michael Marchica. A dinner reception to honor Marchica was held last Wednesday evening at Unique Affair Catering & Events in Pleasantville.

Brynwood Public Hearing on Zoning Change to Reconvene May 27

By Martin Wilbur

The public hearing on Brynwood Golf & Country Club's requested rezone of its 156-acre property on Bedford Road will resume on May 27 after having been adjourned nearly two years ago.

Last week the North Castle Town Board voted to accept the project's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) as part of the state's required environmental review process and reconvene the hearing on Brynwood's proposal to redesign its golf course, build 80 age-targeted luxury residences and renovate its clubhouse.

Frank Fish, of BFJ Planning, the town's planning consultant on the project, said he believed that the revisions made to the FEIS based on previous public comments was sufficient.

"We felt the changes made are really adequate and it is up to you, though, the town board, it's your document, so if you are sort of reasonably accepting of it, you can accept the document," Fish said.

Resumption of the hearing next month is to receive feedback from the public on the zoning text amendment requested by Brynwood for a Golf Course Community Floating Overlay District, a unique zone that has been proposed by the applicant to accommodate the project.

Although the hearing reconvenes next month, there is still a long planning process awaiting Brynwood, said Town Attorney Roland Baroni. For the project to move forward following closure of the hearing, the board would have to adopt a findings statement and decide whether to adopt the

continued on page 4

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Co-Director, Spine Surgery
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*American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

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Principal Spots Open Up at Westlake M.S., Hawthorne Elementary

By Neal Rentz

Two Mount Pleasant School District principals have announced they are retiring at the end of the current academic year.

Stepping down from their posts will be Hawthorne Elementary School Principal Jerry Schulman and Westlake Middle School Principal Dr. Robert Hendrickson.

Schulman said there was "a number of factors" that came together to influence his decision. "My family especially, and it was just that time," he said.

Schulman, who has spent 35 years in education, said it was "a tough decision."

"There are a lot of family things that I'd like to get involved in," he said, adding that he now may have time for different pursuits.

"I'm proud that I was able to start off as the assistant principal at Westlake High School for eight years, become the principal of Westlake Middle School for 12 years and now four years at Hawthorne Elementary School," Schulman said. "So I was able to be an administrator in three out of the four buildings in the district. I think that's kind of special for me."

Hendrickson said he knew it was time to retire.

"I wanted to go out when I was healthy, happy," Hendrickson said.

He said he would miss the "daily interaction with students."



NEAL RENTZ PHOTOS

Hawthorne Elementary School Principal Jerry Schulman, left, and Westlake Middle School Principal Dr. Robert Hendrickson will retire when the current school year ends.

Accomplishments at the middle school during Hendrickson's service include offering more Regents courses and introducing world languages for sixth-graders. Hendrickson stressed that staff was instrumental in the achievements made during his stay at the school.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Guiney said Schulman and Hendrickson had made significant contributions to Mount Pleasant.

"I don't think anybody has ever seen Jerry Schulman without a smile on his face," Guiney said. "He bleeds Westlake blue and we're going to miss him very, very much. He's brought a wonderful energy to

the school at Hawthorne for the teachers, for our parents, for our youngest learners."

"Dr. Hendrickson, in terms of longevity in the district, he's the newcomer, but he's been here four years," she added. "During that time he's brought a very strong academic foundation with him to the middle school."

During Hendrickson's tenure, instructional time in math and English language arts has increased and all eighth-graders now take an advanced science course.

"Bob has a wonderful wit and sense of humor which everyone appreciates very much. (He is) a very kind and

compassionate man," Guiney said. "He'll be greatly missed by our staff, our teachers and our parents. The kids know that he knows what it's like to be a middle schooler and they appreciate that."

Their retirements will leave significant holes in the district's administrative team. Guiney said officials are seeking to replace both principals in time for September. Typically the district first posts its openings internally before extending the search outside the district to gauge the interest and qualifications of other candidates, she said.

Community stakeholders, including teachers and parents, will be involved in the search, Guiney added.



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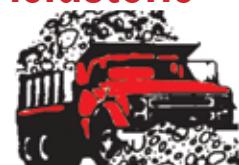
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Mt. Kisco Approves Police Consolidation With County

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would likely vote on the matter prior to June 1, the start of the village's new fiscal year. Before the vote, however, the agreement must be reviewed by the public safety and budget committees, he said.

Harckham said he doesn't foresee any obstacles on the county's side.

"We'll get it done before June 1," Harckham said.

For the recently completed 2015-16 village budget, municipal officials

budgeted for two scenarios--one where consolidation takes place this year and the other with continued funding for the local police department.

Despite the unanimous support of the village board, several residents at the Apr. 20 meeting opposed consolidation. Resident Kim Terlizzi called for a referendum and said she was concerned the village would lose police services.

Another resident, Richard Romeo, said a formal public hearing was needed before

the trustees could vote on consolidation.

Resident Ralph Vigliotti said he had no opinion on whether there should be police consolidation but criticized officials for the process, contending that residents were not fully informed. A referendum on the issue should be scheduled to allow residents to express their opinions, Vigliotti said.

However, Cindrich defended the process and said it was up to the board to make the decision.

"There's a referendum every two years," he said referring to the village elections.

Cindrich said it would be too costly for Mount Kisco to continue with its own police department, which includes an increasing amount of new technology needed for officers to do their job properly. Consolidation would also provide village officers with more opportunities for career advancement, he said.

Resident John Body was the only speaker to support consolidation, saying residents vote for trustees, whom they believe will "make the right decisions."

"You're doing the right thing," Body told the board.

Cindrich read a letter from PBA President Carlos Lopez endorsing the IMA. Police Chief Joseph Spinelli backed consolidation as well when he served as PBA president.

Deputy Mayor Anthony Markus called consolidation "the best option."

"We have great faith this is going to work out," Markus said. "We'll have better policing at a better price."

Police consolidation was criticized by attorney and Mount Kisco resident Patric Kilkenny, who ran in 2013 as a write-in candidate for mayor. Though he did not comment during last week's meeting, Kilkenny blasted the village board for its decision and its refusal to consider a referendum.

He also questioned the mayor's and the board's motivation behind consolidation.

"You consistently aver that a referendum is not required," Kilkenny said. "Maybe not, but to be truly transparent, why not give the people to whom you represent the opportunity to vote on this matter on Election Day in November, because there is an agenda that this mayor will continue to foster for his own reasons."

Brynwood Public Hearing on Zoning Change to Reconvene May 27

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zoning text amendments, Baroni said.

If the board agrees to do that, another hearing would have to be scheduled on applying the floating zone to the property followed by board approval. Then Brynwood would need its special use permit for a membership club amended. Also, if the applicant decides to join the water district, another hearing and approval from the town board is required.

Should all of that be in place, then Brynwood would need to appear before the planning board for site plan review.

The hearing, which was adjourned in July 2013, was before Brynwood revised its proposal that reduced the number of units

from 88 to 80 and offered a conservation easement to ensure the property is used only as a golf course or passive open space in perpetuity.

The developer also proposed a benefits agreement, which would require the owners of the project's 63 condominium units to pay the town the difference in taxes between condo taxation and what a single-family homeowner would pay for a house of similar value.

Debate over condominium tax rates, which are roughly half of a similarly priced house, was one of the key arguments against the plan.

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Ecologist Discusses Steps to Coexist With Coyotes in New Castle

By Janine Bowen

As coyotes enter pup rearing season, New Castle residents were advised last week how best to avoid the animals that have been making unwelcome visits in town for the last two years.

In an Apr. 20 talk at the Chappaqua Public Library sponsored by the New Castle Coyote Awareness and Safety Advisory Committee, wild canid ecologist Chris Schadler explained that coyotes only den once a year--from April through early June--when pups are born. Schadler said coyotes often try to establish dens as far away from people as possible, although residents must remain vigilant, especially during the spring.

Schadler, who emphasized coexisting with coyotes, said the public should be aware of ideal areas for dens, which range from wooded areas to drain pipes, and avoid those places during the den season, especially if they are walking a dog.

She said humans need to change their behavior if they want to keep the coyotes at bay.

"These are creatures without intent," Schadler said. "They don't look at a cat, for example, and say 'A pet, I think I'm going to eat that.' They look at a mammal that may be within reach and if the opportunity is there, may act on that."

The talk was held as town officials continue to consider what to include



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Wild canid ecologist Chris Schadler spelled out steps the public can take to safely coexist with coyotes at an Apr. 20 program scheduled by the New Castle Awareness and Safety Advisory Committee. Later last week, the Coyote Management Task Force disputed some of the recommendations.

in a potential coyote policy following presentations earlier this year by the advisory committee and the Coyote Management Task Force.

Last summer, town officials appointed the two groups amid concern over increased coyote sightings. The groups

have been at odds on several coyote management issues, including whether trapping should be used as an option. The task force supports trapping while the advisory committee opposes it except as a last resort.

During last Monday's program when one resident said an area near a Gedney Park playground has been a popular den site, Schadler responded that if coyotes have made their home that close to humans, the den needs to be disturbed. She said that local animal control officers or hazing experts should be contacted in that instance.

Prompted by a question about the park's safety from New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein, Schadler said parents should keep their children away from the area unless heavily supervised.

Schadler explained that coyotes do not usually attack humans, but will protect their pups if humans or animals come too close to a den. She recommended that people keep their dogs on leashes and not let cats outside. Coyotes typically eat small rodents, but are opportunistic and easily adaptable and will pursue any available food source.

Because young coyotes will begin emerging in the coming weeks, spring is the perfect time for residents to haze and instill fear, Schadler said. If a coyote wanders onto a property, humans should

walk toward the animal while making as much noise as possible to scare it away.

She also noted that residents must avoid leaving food, including bird seed, on their property. Bird seed often attracts small rodents, such as squirrels, which in turn attract coyotes.

Schadler implored the town to develop guidelines regarding issues such as bird feeders so coyotes don't see residential properties as enticing.

"A fed coyote is a dead coyote because that fed coyote is going to freak somebody else out," Schadler said.

She said trapping and hunting is ineffective and often creates the opposite effect. Coyotes manage their own population by having one breeding female in a given territory. Pups born to these females have a 50 to 75 percent mortality rate.

When coyotes are hunted, more females will have pups, often at a younger age, Schadler said. Because hunting temporarily eliminates competition, the increased food supply will allow more pups to survive to adulthood.

"That tells us now, in no uncertain terms, that if we want more coyotes, what we need to do is continue hunting them," Schadler said. "Hunting and trapping will not solve the problem in this town. It has never solved the problem in any town, it

continued on page 8

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New Castle Forced to Sink Additional \$400G Into Road Work

By Martin Wilbur

The long, hard winter may be just a memory but the damage has been done to New Castle's battered roads.

Last week the town board increased the paving budget by \$400,000 for 2015 after DPW Deputy Commissioner Gerry Moerschell warned officials that most of the town's roads have deteriorated to the point where the entire roadbed needs to be replaced, not just routine patching and filling of potholes.

"The biggest problem we face right now is our roads are in such bad shape, the vast majority of roads we have to do is a reclamation process," Moerschell said at the board's Apr. 21 work session.

As a result, the expense for the more extensive road work is about \$200,000 a mile as opposed to \$120,000 to \$130,000 a mile, he said. Moerschell estimated that between four and six-and-a-half miles of town roads require the more costly work.

He also asked that the board consider an eight-year plan to bond about \$1.5 million a year to catch up.

For 2015, the town budgeted about \$600,000 for road repairs but the persistent cold weather damaged the roads much more than expected. During a five-week period where temperatures remained below freezing, there were frequent frost swells and heaving, which accelerated the problem, Moerschell said.

While the work is costly, the town can

afford the request, said Comptroller Robert Deary. The town is prepared to add about \$1.3 million to its fund balance as a result of various surpluses from last year, Deary said.

The current fund balance sits at about \$5.5 million, about 28 percent of the town's budget, he said. Auditors recommend having fund balance levels at 15 to 20 percent of the operating budget, Deary added.

"I'm comfortable with \$400,000 to be used from that money," Deary said.

When informed of the extent of the damage, Supervisor Robert Greenstein inquired about whether the town could afford to put aside additional funds to make

repairs more quickly.

"The fact is we pay a lot in taxes. I understand why the roads were neglected, it was a tough recession," Greenstein said. "If we have the money, I think we owe it to our residents to give them new, smooth roads if possible."

However, a few other board members and Deary were hesitant to sink additional money into road repairs at this time. Deary said he wouldn't be comfortable with using more than an extra \$600,000, although he preferred to stay at \$400,000.

Councilman Jason Chapin noted that the \$400,000 would represent a 65 percent increase over what the board had originally

planned. Furthermore, both Moerschell and Deary had originally targeted \$400,000, he said.

"You never know what's going to happen," Deary said. "If you look at the fund balance and see how it did in 2005, 2006 when it was at its peak, and it wasn't far off dangerous levels in '09, '10, '11."

Officials opted to take only an extra \$400,000 from fund balance after Moerschell told them that the department's salt budget and supply has been virtually depleted. In September, when the salt suppliers reopen for business, the town is going to have to spend about \$200,000 to replenish that supply, he said.

Art Exhibit Opening Reception Saturday at Mount Kisco Library

The Community Living Corporation Foundation has scheduled the opening reception of a month-long art show for this Saturday, May 2 at the Mount Kisco Public Library from 2 to 4 p.m.

The artists are all developmentally disabled adults who have been clients of CLC. Artwork in a variety of styles and media will be featured in the exhibit, which runs through the end of May.

The CLC Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that enhances the quality of life for residents of the

Mount Kisco-based Community Living Corporation. It administers and manages special needs trusts for people with disabilities. The trust program is open to all people with disabilities whether or not they reside at CLC.

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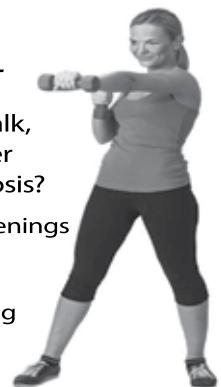
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New Castle to Take Next Step in Chappaqua Crossing Process

continued from page 1

Meeting with project representatives and Summit Development President and CEO Felix Charney, the board and applicant agreed that Whole Foods would open at 8 a.m., matching the starting time for the supermarket chain's other Westchester locations. Deliveries can be made as early as 7 a.m. to Whole Foods.

Meanwhile, all other businesses on the grounds, including the 25,000-square-

foot health and fitness center, may open as early as 5:30 a.m.

Operating hours and deliveries for Whole Foods was the most contentious issue discussed last week. Charney pressed for a 7 a.m. opening while Councilwoman Lisa Katz, who cast the dissenting vote last December on the rezone to allow retail, urged for a later starting time.

Charney said that since the store will be selling breakfast items, there should be

an earlier opening. There would be gym patrons looking for coffee, and since the complex is across the street from Horace Greeley High School, staff and students might also be searching for something to eat before the start of school.

"That would be the latest opening commercial enterprise that sells breakfast in Chappaqua," Charney remarked of the 8 a.m. opening. "When all your other stores open at 5:30, I think seven is the appropriate hour."

Katz countered that a 7 a.m. opening would mean deliveries could begin as early as 6 a.m., an hour that would be intrusive to neighboring residents.

"I get what you guys are trying to do, but I also want to protect the residents who are living across the street from a Whole Foods, which they didn't bargain for, and they don't want to hear that and have their children wake up at 5:30 or six in the morning because there's a giant box truck backing up right across from their house," Katz said.

The applicant's representatives agreed to Whole Foods opening at 8 a.m. after the town board informed them that the remaining establishments could start at 5:30 a.m.

Once that issue was resolved, Charney then pressed town officials on how quickly site plan approval could be granted by the planning board. He said that Whole Foods

had given a June 30, 2015, deadline for final approval for them to move forward.

"It would just be a shame to do all of this and run out of time," Charney said.

Public relations spokesman Geoffrey Thompson said in a statement last week that it is critical that construction on the project's retail component begin this fall so Whole Foods can open next year. Whole Foods is also connected to the overall leasing program.

"We continue to work cooperatively with the town in meeting this crucially important goal," Thompson stated. "A truly outstanding plan has emerged from the hard work and creative input of all involved. We are anxious to complete the final steps for the approval and to get the construction underway."

Town officials said it would be inappropriate to project how long it might take the planning board to complete its review.

Project planner Andrew Tung said if the PDCP and local law are approved in the next two weeks he would be able to submit the formal site plan application to the town sometime in June.

Ecologist Discusses Steps to Coexist With Coyotes in New Castle

continued from page 6
has never worked."

However, last Wednesday, the Coyote Management Task Force wrote a letter to the town board disputing several of Schadler's recommendations. Task force co-chair Eileen Gallagher said while much of her talk was informative and consistent with the task force's stance, the argument that limited trapping and removal would explode the population is erroneous.

"We have been told that is false," Gallagher said of Schadler's assertion. "If we remove one, two or even three problem coyotes that's not going to increase litter size."

The letter also stated that the task force

disagreed with putting a bell around a dog's neck, which would serve as a "Pavlovian response" for coyotes; having a pet owner's dog or even a human urinate on their property to mark territory; and installing a fence around a property. A fence would have to be at least six feet high and a foot deep to ward off coyotes, according to the letter.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation allows coyote trapping from October through February and hunting through the end of March. After that, residents can obtain a special permit to hunt or trap if a coyote is posing a threat.

Martin Wilbur contributed to this article.

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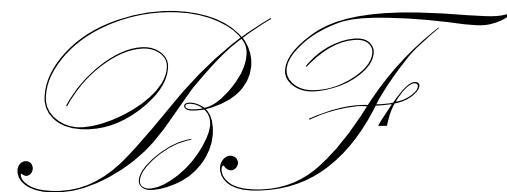
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Pace Students Rally to Fight Cancer in Relay for Life Event

By Janine Bowen

Pace University students rolled out the red carpet last Friday afternoon for their annual Relay for Life event.

This year's event featured a Hollywood theme complete with red carpet, movie-themed games of Trivia Crack, karaoke and a make-your-own-gown contest. As participants walked laps around the track inside the Goldstein Fitness Center from late Friday afternoon until Saturday, they were surrounded by photos of nearly three dozen celebrities who battled cancer.

Dr. Melissa Cardon, Pace's faculty adviser for Colleges Against Cancer, said the Hollywood theme was chosen to demonstrate that cancer affects people from all walks of life.

"Cancer touches everything, even stars and glamour, and so we sort of wanted to say it's the commoners, it's the special people. Cancer doesn't discriminate," Cardon said.

Cardon, who has been involved with Relay for Life at Pace for six years, said she is consistently amazed at the students' dedication and commitment. Since cancer affects about half of all men and one-third of all women, many participants at last Friday's event have known someone who battled cancer or have been diagnosed themselves.

Jessica Tuzzolino, president of Colleges Against Cancer and a Pace junior, gave this year's survivor speech and talked of her battle with Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Tuzzolino was in eighth grade and active in gymnastics when she was diagnosed. During practice one evening she fainted, and over the next couple of days, her friends began to point out that her neck was getting thicker. When her mother began to notice the change in her neck as well, they visited their pediatrician, who said that Tuzzolino needed to be taken to the hospital immediately.

After two days of tests and hospitalization, during which time Tuzzolino kept asking to go home, a doctor told her she had stage 3 cancer.

"I was 13, I didn't understand how I got cancer," Tuzzolino said. "That doesn't happen to normal kids. My life as I knew it was shattered in a matter of two days and I never thought it would go back to normal."

During her treatment, Tuzzolino was forced to remain at home, feeling like a burden to her family and a prisoner in her own house. In June 2008, just three months after receiving her diagnosis, she got the news she had been waiting for--her cancer was in remission.

Tuzzolino was able to attend her middle school graduation and begin high school with her friends. But in December, her monthly doctor's visit revealed that her cancer had returned. Tuzzolino was forced to undergo a more intense drug regimen and had a stem cell transplant.

In May 2009, Tuzzolino was once again



JANINE BOWNE PHOTO

Pace University junior Jessica Tuzzolino, who has survived Hodgkin's lymphoma, gives her survivor speech at the start of last Friday's Relay for Life at Pace. Tuzzolino was joined by her family who stood behind her during her remarks.

told that she was cancer-free and has remained so for six years.

Although she had to battle cancer twice, Tuzzolino said she remained strong thanks to the support of her family and friends. Despite her struggles, cancer was never able to take away the things that were important to her.

"If you think about it, cancer is so limited in what it can truly do," she said. "Cancer can't cripple love, cancer can't shatter hopes or dreams...and cancer can't silence courage or faith."

This year, Relay for Life aimed to raise \$65,000, about \$20,000 more than last year. William McGrath, senior vice president and

COO of Pace's Westchester campuses, said he was proud of the students' efforts.

This year, the event hit close to home for McGrath. Shortly after last spring's Relay for Life, he learned that his sister was diagnosed with a rare form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. His sister has been able to beat the disease, but McGrath noted that while much progress has been made in finding a cure, there is a lot of work remaining to ensure that nobody hears a cancer diagnosis again.

"Every year this event makes me the most proud of Pace University," said McGrath. "We will solve this problem someday."

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Obituaries

Sister Mary Moan

Sister Mary Dominic Moan, OP (Marian A. Moan) died on Apr. 23 at Rosary Hill Home in Hawthorne after a short illness.

She was 97.

Moan was born June 28, 1917, in Brooklyn. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Fanning) Moan. Her sister, Regina Carey, pre-deceased her. She is survived by a sister, Ruth (Moan) Brandt; two nieces, Marianne Brandt and Joanne (Tom) Koffer; and three great-nieces and a great-nephew.

Sister worked as a long distance telephone operator for AT&T before entering the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne. She entered the community on Jan. 21, 1939, and made her Profession of Vows on Sept. 14, 1940. She would have celebrated 75 years of religious profession this year. She was the last of our sisters to

have known our co-foundress, Mother Mary Rose Huber.

Sister Mary Dominic served at Our Lady of Good Counsel Home in St. Paul, Minn. and was part of the first group of sisters who opened that home in November 1941. She returned to Rosary Hill Home in 1962, where she was appointed novice mistress until 1970 and then later as administrator from 1977 to 1998. Sister was also assigned to St. Rose's Home in New York City where she served as superior from 1970 to 1976. She served on the general council from 1973 to 1977.

A wake was held on Apr. 26 at Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel, Rosary Hill Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Apr. 27 in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary at Rosary Hill Home followed by internment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

Bonnie Dahan

Bonnie B. Dahan left us on Apr. 22 after leading a vibrant and fulfilling life.

She was 73.

Dahan was born on Apr. 17, 1942, in Rochester, N.Y. to Louis A. and Olivia C. Babbitt. After graduating with a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, she worked in the fashion industry in New York City, where she met her future husband of 47 years, M. Marc Dahan. They were married in Forest Hills, Queens and together raised three children, Charles B. Dahan, Lisa D. MacCorkle and Sarah D. Caro in Briarcliff Manor. She loved her children very much and was always a source of support, comfort and encouragement to them. She enjoyed

gardening, attending Broadway shows as well as playing golf, bridge and mahjong with her many friends in New York and Naples, Fla. But she especially loved spending time with and spoiling her five grandchildren, Juliana Dahan, Ally MacCorkle, Charlotte MacCorkle, Max Caro and Olivia Caro.

Visitation was on Apr. 25 at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville. Interment followed at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center at Northern Westchester Hospital or the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Linda Sliter

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother and friend Linda Sliter passed away peacefully at

Phelps Memorial Hospital on Apr. 19.

She was 71.

Sliter was a longtime Valhalla resident and was a retired payroll clerk in the Valhalla schools. She was a past state officer in the Masonic Triangle and enjoyed leisure with her grandchildren. She was also musically inclined, playing and listening to music, especially jazz.

Sliter is survived by her husband, Charles Sliter; her sons, George and Andrew; daughter-in-law Elsa; three grandchildren, Christopher, Alexander and Victoria; a sister, Ellen Basso; and a brother, Leslie.

The family received friends at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville on Apr. 23. A funeral service was held on Apr. 24 at Beecher Flooks followed by interment at Kensico Cemetery.

Police Blotter

Mount Kisco Police Department

Apr. 19: Report of a possible grand larceny at Mrs. Green's on Lexington Avenue at 11:53 a.m. A 66-year-old Chappaqua woman stated that she had accidentally left her purse behind after paying for merchandise at the store. She talked to the manager but nobody had spotted the purse, which contained her wallet, or turned it in.

Apr. 20: Officers responded at 3:09 a.m. to a report of two individuals fighting at a Spring Street residence. When the officers arrived at the front door, they encountered two females, one of whom, a 29-year-old resident of that address, stated that she had been punched in the face by her boyfriend. The boyfriend, 32, is being sought.

Apr. 20: A 42-year-old woman reported at 10:55 a.m. that after she had gotten her children into her car and driven away, she realized that she had accidentally left the stroller with her pocketbook and wallet behind in the Village Centre parking lot. When she returned, the items were gone.

Apr. 21: A woman reported a larceny from her 2014 BMW at 1:49 p.m. while parked at the A&P parking lot on North Bedford Road. She told police that she had seen a heavyset middle-aged woman acting suspiciously and when she returned to the car, a large bag containing a makeup kit, various papers and her purse was missing. A few witnesses had also reported being suspicious of the heavyset middle-aged woman. They told police she had been in a small, older model American-made car. The matter is being investigated.

Apr. 22: Report of a possible burglary at a Forest Drive residence at 12:03 p.m. A woman resident at the address stated that when she arrived home she noticed items were missing. The matter is under investigation.

Apr. 22: A 23-year-old Mount Kisco woman was arrested at 5:13 p.m. on a bench warrant out of the Town of Cortlandt Justice Court. She was also charged with seventh-degree unlawful possession of a controlled substance when the arresting officer discovered a controlled substance

at her Carpenter Avenue residence. The suspect was arraigned and remanded to the county jail in Valhalla.

Apr. 23: A 33-year-old Mount Kisco woman was arrested at 5:38 p.m. and charged with third-degree assault for beating up a 28-year-old Mount Kisco woman on East Main Street in front of the old Friendly's. The incident was related to a dispute over a boyfriend.

Apr. 23: A 51-year-old Mount Kisco man was arrested at 5:40 p.m. at headquarters and charged with second-degree criminal contempt for violating an order of protection.

Pleasantville Police Department

Apr. 19: A dispute involving two brothers was reported on Hopper Street at 11:23 p.m. One brother, a 28-year-old village resident, was arrested and charged with assault.

Apr. 20: An 18-year-old Pleasantville woman was arrested on Romer Avenue at 10:48 a.m. and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.

Apr. 22: A resident reported at headquarters at 7:50 p.m. there had been fraud regarding a federal income tax return.

North Castle Police Department

Apr. 17: An Old Mount Kisco Road resident reported at 11:04 a.m. that a turkey has apparently been struck on Route 128 and is still alive. The responding officer reported that the animal has been dispatched. The North Castle Highway Department was notified for pickup.

Apr. 19: A party reported at headquarters at 1:03 p.m. that his windshield was damaged after it was struck by a golf ball while driving on Whippoorwill Road near the golf course. A report was filed for insurance purposes.

Apr. 20: Town Highway Department Foreman Norris reported at 11:19 a.m. that between Apr. 17 and this date the lock at the highway yard on Middle Patent Road was cut and organic material was dumped.

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Pace Celebrates Reopening of Kessel Student Center

By Neal Rentz

Pace University celebrated completion of one the first major components to its ongoing campus master plan last week with the reopening of the renovated Jeanette and Morris Kessel Student Center.

The 57,000-square-foot center, a hub for student activities and events, is one piece of the efforts to modernize and revitalize the 200-acre campus Pleasantville campus. The plan will lead to the eventual closing and sale of Pace's

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Briarcliff campus and all students will be moved to the university's Pleasantville side for the start of the 2015-16 academic year.

William McGrath, senior vice president and chief operating officer for Pace in Westchester, said the day was an important milestone nearly two years after the renovation projects began.

"One of my favorite things to do the last few months is to come up here and see how Kessel has been transformed into a vibrant student center," McGrath said. "It's become what we'd hoped it would become, it's a central part of the campus, the heart of the campus. It has a unifying impact on the campus the way it was designed, and most important, the way it's used by our students has been terrific."

Pace University President Stephen Friedman said commemorating the center was "incredibly exciting."

"To actually see this space come alive is so overwhelming," Friedman said. "Today's ribbon cutting is really the first of a whole series of ribbon cuttings we're going to have on this campus. Many people tend to think of a ribbon cutting as a culmination of years of planning and hard work. It's much bigger, I think, and much more accurate to think of it not as a culmination but as a beginning. It is the start of a new chapter of Pace in



NEAL RENTZ PHOTOS

A ribbon cutting ceremony last Thursday celebrated the reopening of the Jeanette and Morris Kessel Student Center at Pace University in Pleasantville.

Pleasantville."

James Fernandez, a 1978 Pace graduate and a retired executive vice president and CEO at Tiffany & Company, said the facility is the epicenter of the campus's transformation.

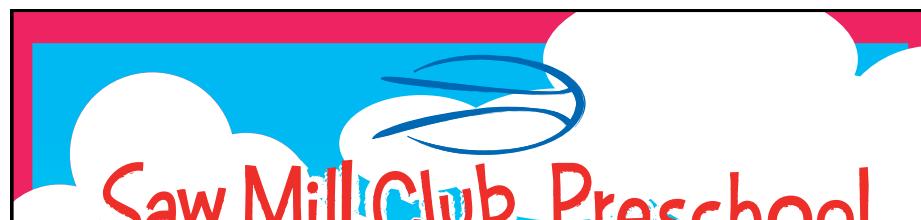
"This is where student life really happens," Fernandez said.

John Wrench, a senior and current president of the Student Government

Association, said the renovated center as well as the other portions of the projects will leave students with a sense of pride.

"We may sleep in our residence halls, but this is where come to live," he said.

Other major components of the university's campus master plan include new residence halls and improved athletic facilities.



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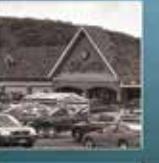
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P'ville Chess Master Holds Children's Tourney to Benefit Education

By Martin Wilbur

For close to 20 years, Jakob Stockel has been visiting Pleasantville's Bedford Road School twice a week to help students learn chess and develop their love for the game.

So it makes sense that there would be a local tournament in the longtime chess master's name, especially when it benefits education.

Sunday was the Jakob Stockel Annual Chess Tournament at the Masonic Lodge on Manville Road in Pleasantville. There were 14 children in grades 1-5 who participated in the two-hour competition.

Stockel, a 47-year Mason, said he broached the idea to the organization four or five years ago. Every year proceeds from the event, which has become a favorite among some of the village's chess-loving youngsters, goes to the Pleasantville Scholarship Fund.

He estimated that donations from parents usually amount to about \$400 with the lodge chipping in another \$200 for the scholarship fund. The lodge also assists with an annual tournament at the school each May that attracts about 120 children.

"It's a tremendous support from the lodge," Stockel said. "The lodge bought all these sets for the school and buys the trophies for the school every year."

There has been tremendous support from Stockel as well. For most of the past two decades he has donated an hour every Monday and Thursday overseeing chess



LORI STOCKEL PHOTO

Pleasantville's Jakob Stockel peers over two competitors in his annual children's chess tournament held last Sunday at the Masonic Lodge on Manville Road.

instruction. His tutorials have become so popular that the hour-long sessions were divided into half-hour periods to accommodate more children.

Stockel said he emphasizes discipline, concentration and common sense when teaching the game.

"Everything you learn in chess you can

use in life," Stockel remarked. "Don't take something for free unless you double-check why he is giving something for free, because he might give you a pawn and you lose your queen, and this is the same in life. Don't give \$1 for \$10 because if you're the one giving the \$10, you're going to lose."

Stockel's daughter-in-law, Lori Stockel,

said the tournament is only a passion for her father-in-law but the day has also become a family affair. She and her children help organize the event because they know how much Stockel loves chess and what it means to him.

"It's a great way to help support him and what he likes to do," she said. "He has a lot of passion for it."

The winner of Sunday's tournament, Bedford Road School fourth-grader Jack Murphy, said he entered the competition because he, too, loves playing chess.

"And Mr. Stockel is a really nice teacher," Murphy added. "I've been doing this since second grade, so it's been something I've been doing and I really like it."

Masonic Lodge President Pat O'Malley said having the lodge support the children's chess tournament was an easy decision. He said Stockel has been a stalwart at the lodge for so long that is the least the leadership could do.

Just last week, Stockel was bestowed with the Distinguished Service Award, an honor that is given to only a few Masons each year statewide.

"He really is a pillar of strength in this lodge," O'Malley said. "He's a very active member."

Stockel plans to remain active at Bedford Road School to help any youngster who wants to learn chess.

"I have a lot of fun teaching the children and that's why I do it," he said.

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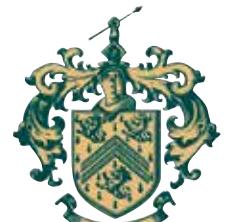
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Editorial

Mount Kisco Police Consolidation a Move That is Long Overdue

A generation ago it might have been unthinkable for a municipality to consider merging its police department with the county or state police.

It happened on occasion, but when it did it was often met with raucous protests and lines drawn in the sand by those marked as pro- or anti-police depending on which side of the issue they supported.

Times have sure changed, and this time it's for the better. Given today's reality of budgeting at the local level and the state-imposed property tax cap, town and village officials have no choice but to re-evaluate how they conduct their business and deliver services to their residents.

Many property owners are clearly tax weary. At least two-thirds of property taxes may be as a result of the schools, but when the bill comes due it doesn't matter which entity is responsible.

Moving forward, the only way for municipalities, and for that matter

school districts, to make a real impact on holding down taxes is to re-think the big-ticket items, which means analyzing whether a community needs its local police department or whether there are significant savings to be had in other departments. Relatively minor sharing of services is just not going to make a big enough difference when health insurance, and in some years, pensions increase prohibitively.

Should the county Board of Legislators approve the Mount Kisco police consolidation--and it appears will follow suit--it will undoubtedly be an uneasy moment for some community members.

Change can be difficult, but it should be reasonably comforting to know that there has been a short but apparently successful history of towns consolidating police services in Westchester. In the past 15 years, the towns of Ossining and Cortlandt have been able to negotiate arrangements;

Ossining's agreement appears similar to what Mount Kisco has with reliance on the county, while Cortlandt has used both state and county police.

While finances and taxes are critical, ultimately what's most important is whether public safety is as good, if not better, because of consolidation. With policing more sophisticated than ever and a heavier reliance on technology, it stands to reason that a smaller department often lacks the resources to have the best at its disposal.

A smaller community wanting to have local cops is a legitimate concern, but in previous discussions Mount Kisco's current officers will be the ones relied upon to police the village should consolidation take place.

It may have taken a long time for Mount Kisco and the county to come to terms, but all indications point to it being worth the wait.

Column

Ways to Make History Come Alive for You and Your Children

Historical Fiction

Revisit and rethink historical fact with inventive fictional novels inspired by true events. Historical fiction can be a fascinating way to get acquainted with history.

Check out one such new read, "The Lusitania Conspiracy," which explores events surrounding the infamous sinking of the RMS Lusitania, a British ocean liner, and at the time, one of the world's fastest and most luxurious passenger ships. In time for its 100th anniversary, history buff and author Ron Walters details a series of intense events involving mystery, murder and perhaps even crimes against humanity, offering one possible explanation as to what occurred so long ago on May 7, 1915.

According to Walters, the truth behind the sinking, which involved the loss of 1,200 lives is "the greatest story never told."

"The story of the Lusitania has been overshadowed by the Titanic's sinking for nearly 100 years, even though it's far more interesting and intriguing," Walters said.

Though it is fiction, the book is based on real events and features historical figures. After enjoying the novel, you can look forward to a film version, currently in the works. For more information, visit www.thelusitanianconspiracy.com.

Take a Vacation

The next time you travel, take an opportunity to get more deeply

acquainted with your destination by learning about its history. Were any battles fought there? Did important figures spend time there?

Almost every location has an interesting story behind it and seeing where an event took place can help bring facts to life and shed light on a story.

Consider planning a family vacation around an historical site like Gettysburg, site of one of the largest battles of the Civil War and President Abraham Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address. Or you can visit a place like Los Alamos, home to the Manhattan Project during World War II. There are many destinations with historical meaning that can be explored by your family.

Make it Personal

History extends beyond the famous and infamous. Everyday people have interesting stories to tell as well -- including your ancestors.

Delving into your own family's past is now easier than ever, as there are online services that can help you search historical records and documents to piece together your story far into the past. Supplement your research by conducting interviews with relatives and record the sessions for posterity.

History is not meant to put you to sleep. By seeking out more vivid interpretations and retellings of the past, you can make it come alive.

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Energy brings you...

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Dr. Michael Finkelstein Slow Medicine Doctor, Bedford

By Martin Wilbur

Nearly 15 years ago it appeared that Dr. Michael Finkelstein had all the ingredients for a happy and fulfilling life. He was medical director at Northern Westchester Hospital and he and his family lived in a handsome house in Bedford.

But behind closed doors Finkelstein was miserable. His marriage was deteriorating, he was failing to take the medication he would prescribe to some of his own patients, he was overstressed and suffering from chronic conditions and wasn't spending enough time with his three children.

By chance, a donor had given the hospital seed money to launch the Center for Health and Healing of Northern Westchester to phase in integrative medicine, which may include acupuncture, Reiki and better nutrition plans, among other strategies, to be used in conjunction with conventional medicine.

That introduction to integrative medicine was one factor that began Finkelstein's transformation and helped him reassess his life.

He would eventually leave the hospital and his practice and enroll at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and study under holistic health guru Dr. Andrew Weil.

Finkelstein, a University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine graduate, said he didn't turn away from conventional medicine but supplemented his knowledge with alternative medicine, Eastern philosophies and a desire to grow closer to the sun and the earth and achieve a better work-life balance.

He calls the approach "slow medicine," where a person's health can be improved by gradually addressing issues in their life in addition to their medical needs. It's part of the title of his book, "Slow Medicine: Hope and Healing for Chronic Illness," published in 2013.

"We need to work on the physical but we ideally will connect the physical to all the other pieces of life--our thoughts and emotions, our relationships with other people, community, the natural world and when we do that we sort of fully cultivate the soil in which we live, where things



grow," said Finkelstein who has been a clinical assistant professor at New York Medical College for more than 20 years. "It's not just alternative medicine, it's really the ideal medicine to make people feel more alive."

Finkelstein, 54, sold the house after his divorce and has lived in a converted barn on an adjacent parcel (he had right of first refusal to acquire the property) for the past 10 years. He counsels patients in his office, spending as much time asking questions about their life, who they are and what they care about, as he does on what might be physically ailing them.

Part of that transformation saw Finkelstein take a portion of the house and four acres, which he named SunRaven, and begin planting a wide variety of fruits and vegetables and herbs in a greenhouse and in 20 four-foot by 12-foot raised beds. Ten years ago he reached out to every contact he knew to see who wanted to join him.

Today, 21 families are signed up to help

work the soil--three families a day--from March until November, and they share in the bounty. While it doesn't provide Finkelstein, a longtime avid gardener, with all of his dietary needs, it does bring him closer to what he hoped his life would be like.

"I help people to reach the soil, which is a relatively basic recommendation," Finkelstein said. "It's slow living."

His book is filled with anecdotes about patients he's counseled and various approaches to life.

"My goal wasn't to write a book but then I realized that I'd like to help as many people as possible," Finkelstein said. "I can only see so many people a day, so I'd like to give a tutorial that can walk them through this process."

Finkelstein, a Long Island native, said many of his medical colleagues admired his courage to be able to remake his life. However, there were a few who viewed his decision disapprovingly.

"There was a much smaller group of people who said what you are doing is not legitimate," Finkelstein recalled. "When I say small, I would say maybe three or five physicians (out of 500) at Northern Westchester Hospital."

But during the past decade, Finkelstein's life and health have improved, and his relationship with his children, while strained a decade ago, is on solid ground.

"It's not about throwing anything out, but it's about being open to just about everything," he said.

"He's one big reason I never compromise on safety."

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Organizers Propose New and Improved Pleasantville Day

By Janine Bowen

Pleasantville Day has always succeeded in bringing village residents out of hibernation after a long winter, but this year will look a bit different.

The event, scheduled for Saturday, May 16, has been retooled by this year's organizers with new events and amusements.

Peter Rogovin, one of the organizers, said the changes aim to strike a balance between preserving what residents previously had loved about Pleasantville Day while creating more free opportunities for fun.

He said the changes were in response to some community sentiment that Pleasantville Day was no longer special. In addition, much of the activity had centered around buying from vendors.

"What people like about Pleasantville Day is seeing everyone in the community...but it was getting a little stale, and a lot of people commented that it felt too transactional," Rogovin said. "They said there was a lot of activity, but not enough happening. This year we want people to come and have fun and not feel that everything had an added cost. We also wanted to have more things that were fun for older kids and adults, too."

Two age-based zones with themed amusements and entertainment have been created. On Memorial Plaza, the Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce is



Pleasantville residents can look forward to updated attractions on Pleasantville Day, scheduled for Saturday, May 16.

sponsoring an Adventure Zone for older children. It features a rock wall, five-on-five human foosball and a bungee trampoline. No tickets are needed, but parents must sign waivers for their children to participate.

At the southern end of Memorial Plaza, there will be a Kids Zone organized and staffed by Kiwi Country Day Camp. It will feature an inflatable gaga game and a number of other fun camp games.

On the grass overlooking the train tracks, there will be other kid-oriented activities, including storytelling sponsored by the Mount Pleasant Public Library and theater games organized by Arc Stages. Animals from The Nature of Things, a nature and educational program

in North Salem, and a balloon twister will also be on hand.

Music will be moved to the north end of Memorial Plaza near the flagpoles. Musical sets, performed by Pleasantville Farmers Market alum Shovel Ready String Band, will be interspersed with a street performer featuring magic, juggling and comedy.

For adults, two fortunetellers will read palms, crystal balls and tarot cards. Roving magician Marco Frezza will engage the public throughout the event with close-up magic tricks.

"I think by turning up the fun part of Pleasantville Day, it's going to be feeling more like a celebration and that's what we're doing; we're celebrating the Pleasantville community," said organizer Petro Zorgman.

Rogovin explained that while entertainers will be performing, tipping is not expected or accepted. The lone exception will be a living statue, which moves only when onlookers deposit a tip into the jar. All proceeds from the living statue will be donated to local charities, he said.

Volunteers will hand out schedule

sheets to help participants plan their day. In addition, Pleasantville High School volunteers will help clean and organize a new seating area on Memorial Plaza where families can sit and enjoy their food.

For the first time in Pleasantville Day's history, the event has sponsors. The Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce and Camp Kiwi have offered financial and staffing support for the day.

"We are thrilled to partner with the village in this reinvention of a long community tradition," said Chamber Vice President Paul Alvarez. "I grew up here and have been going to Pleasantville Day for decades, and I think this will be the best one we've seen in a long, long time."

Similar to prior years, Pleasantville Day will begin with the Community Scholarship Fund of Pleasantville's 5K Run for Education. The race had more than 270 participants last year and raised almost \$10,000.

Although the application deadline for vendors has passed, Rogovin said limited space is still available. Anyone interested can submit an application at the Recreation Center on Marble Avenue. For the first time this year, vendors will not be allowed to park on Memorial Plaza to allow for more space, making parking limited for the event.

Pleasantville Day is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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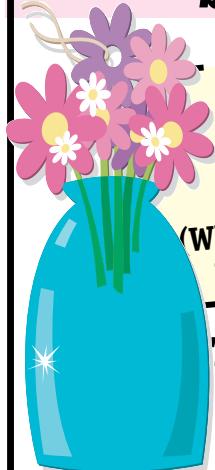
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Living With Other Noisemakers: Liking or Lumping it

Lately I've been made aware that I'm probably a noisy person. Not to myself so much, but maybe to others. More and more, if I'm watching TV in one room and my wife is in another, she'll say mine is too loud.

Just the other day, when I had driven into my property, which houses my PR business, and jumped out of the car without turning off the motor to unlock the place for my painters who are redecorating my offices, the realization really struck home. One of the painters who's worked for me for a long time looked at me askance and said, "Knowing the kind of man you are, I never would have thought you'd play loud music in your car!" I guess I was busted.

Yes, I like loud music, whether in my car or at home. Not rock or country, but Broadway show tunes that get my heart pumping. And it doesn't do the trick for me with earphones. The sound has to fill the room I'm in and reverberate off the walls to fully embrace me.

For more than 40 years I've lived on a property with no homes near me, but now that I'm also a condo owner with neighbors across and down the hall, I guess my reverberating days are over if I'm to be



By Bill Primavera

a considerate neighbor. Just last week, a gentleman across the hall asked if the piano playing he heard was coming from my unit. Oh, no, I thought! I'm only able to play the American Songbook, and I am so rusty after a 30-year absence from the keyboard that I'm sure Cole Porter and Richard Rodgers are rolling over in their graves.

Sheepishly, I admitted I was tinkering on the keys and apologized that I'm not a more accomplished musician. Since that time, I haven't been playing late and have been using the soft pedal when I do.

Most of us who live in Westchester or Putnam have some kind of proximity to a neighbor who is subject to noise we make as we share property lines or walls of apartments or condominiums. That can create problems, sometimes big ones.

When I moved into my first apartment in Brooklyn Heights, it was new, cheap construction and the floor above me had no carpeting. Living there was a single mother who must have worn spiked heels every waking moment and had a child who could only have been possessed by a demon.

In the days before cell phones and

when everyone had no fear of being listed, I looked up her number and called her so frequently to complain about the noise that I can still remember her name and exchange. Then, one day, her tough boyfriend came banging on my door, which I refused to open, calling me names, the least offensive of which was "a neurotic," threatening me serious bodily harm. That's when I decided to skip out on my lease and leave the building for a more solid pre-war building with better insulation from sound.

When my wife and I married and shared our first apartment in another new building, there was an older gentleman who lived in the apartment right off the lobby who loved to share his life with the building's other residents. He must have been involved with entertainment in the 1950s, because he would leave his door open and sing songs of that period without accompaniment. Only in New York, right? His favorite was "A White Sport Coat and a Pink Carnation." Whenever my wife and I want to refer to the intrusion of one person's lifestyle, aka "noise," into another's, all we have to do is sing that song as code and it speaks volumes.

When we moved to the country, the vagaries of close proximity were lessened for sensitive ears and far different. We have lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and the

biggest offender about which most of us complain, barking dogs, especially if they bark too long unabated. Most towns have in their codes the acceptable length of time an owner can have a dog bark before a neighbor can ask that a warning be issued by the code enforcement officer.

For those of us who share condo or apartment walls, we have the same issues that those in the city have. The other night at a dinner given by a social club I belong to, I discussed this subject with a fellow member who told me that he shares walls on either side of his unit with other retired people.

"I know most things about their lifestyles," he said, "like when the nice woman on one side of me can't sleep and I hear her TV go on in the middle of the night. We just adjust."

Failing all else, there are always earplugs.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com. His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com 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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HOME & GARDEN

What to Know Before You Replace Your Home's Siding

Whether you're building a home from scratch or contemplating an upgrade, when choosing siding, there's a lot more to consider beyond color. The type of material you use can impact durability, beauty and even energy efficiency.

Since siding is a long-term investment, you'll want to make a decision from an informed place, especially with more options now available in the marketplace. With that in mind, here are some things to consider about different siding materials.

Weather

Extreme weather events, including high winds and hot and cold temperatures, can damage or destroy siding. Look for a product that is certified to withstand these conditions. No matter where you live, this should be an important consideration, as weather patterns have become more unpredictable across the country.

Rot

Fiber-based materials (such as fiber cement planks) absorb water, which over time can make siding more prone



to rot, decay and even disintegration. At the store, ask to see siding options made of polymer-based materials, which are impervious to moisture.

Environmental Impact

For improved energy efficiency, choose insulated siding, which will prevent undue loss of warm air in winter and cool air in summer. Where environmental impact is concerned, vinyl is a good bet, as it complies with environmental standards known as LEED and ICC 700 National Green Building standards.

Maintenance

A certain amount of upkeep will be required to keep your siding looking great. However, vinyl siding requires only occasional soap and water, whereas fiber cement requires re-caulking and repainting to maintain color and help prevent moisture absorption.

First introduced in the 1960s, vinyl siding is the most popular home siding material today, due to its overall low cost, easy installation, durability and minimal maintenance. New products are particularly versatile, and easy to install

and maintain, such as Heartland Siding by ProVia. Their super polymer vinyl siding comes in a number of styles, colors and price points. Additionally, the energy efficiency of the company's CedarMAX line can help you save money down the line. Visit www.proviaproducts.com/vs for more information.

Whenever making a major home upgrade, learn more about your purchase for smarter, sounder investments.

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North Castle Launches Permanent Drug Take-Back Program

By Martin Wilbur

North Castle residents who are looking to safely dispose of old prescription and over-the-counter medications no longer have to wait for one or two days a year.

The North Castle Police Department announced this week that it has launched a new drug take-back program that allows the public to rid their homes of potentially dangerous medications in an environmentally responsible manner.

Police Chief Peter Simonsen said residents can come to the police department lobby at Town Hall around the clock on any

day of the year to drop off prescription and over-the-counter medications, prescription patches and ointments, vitamins and pet medications and place them in a drug collection unit, which is similar to a mailbox.

Previously, North Castle had participated in the federal Drug Enforcement Agency's drug take-back day, which usually coincided with the town's Zero Waste Day. Since the public's response was overwhelmingly positive, town officials sought a way to offer the service permanently.

"I think obviously this is something the community wants and we were looking to

be able to accommodate them," Simonsen said.

He said the town started the program about three weeks ago but waited until the week of this year's Zero Waste Day, which is being held today (Saturday), to publicize it since many residents had grown accustomed to having both initiatives run simultaneously.

Items that are not accepted are hydrogen peroxide, inhalers, aerosol cans and needles.

For more information about the new drug take-back program, call the North Castle Police Department at 914-273-9500.



The drug take-back bin in the lobby of the North Castle Police Department.

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League of Women Voters of New Castle to Host Healthcare Forum

If you became too sick to convey your wishes, would your family, friends or doctors know what kind of medical care you want? Do you struggle with knowing what end-of-life healthcare options are available for family members?

Planning ahead can reduce stress and allow greater autonomy when making end-of-life decisions for your family or yourself.

The League of Women Voters of New Castle is hosting a forum on Wednesday, May 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Chappaqua Public Library theater to start a conversation about palliative care, hospice, advance care planning and other issues to consider when taking charge of present and future healthcare decisions.

Dr. Hal Federman and registered nurse Dorothy Cafran of the Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center at Northern Westchester Hospital will discuss palliative care and healthcare decisions in the hospital setting.

Mary Spengler, executive director, and registered nurse Nancy Caputi of Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester, will talk about hospices and how they work.

Susan Ferlauto, Esq., senior staff attorney of the Elder Justice Unit at Pace Women's Justice Center, will speak on advance care planning, including healthcare proxies, living wills and powers of attorney.

The discussion will be moderated by Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs, senior minister at the First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, former hospital chaplain and author of "A Clergy Guide to End of Life Issues."

The Chappaqua Library is located at 195 S. Greeley Ave. in Chappaqua.

Refreshments will be served.

For more information please contact the League of Women Voters of New Castle at Iwwnewcastle@gmail.com or Amy McNamara at 914-238-8342.

Business of the Week

Casa DiLisio Mount Kisco

By Colette Connolly

While the Casa DiLisio brand of Italian frozen sauces is well known among the world's best hotels, cruise lines and restaurants, its creators, Lou and Lucy DiLisio, are as humble today as they were in 1973 when they first created their signature French-style scampi sauce.

Lou DiLisio, now 84, comes to work every day with his daughter, Linda, and a host of dedicated employees. The office where he and Linda share a common space is an extension of the small 3,000-square-foot factory on Lexington Avenue where the renowned sauces are created, including that original scampi sauce, which is now called Sauce Provencal.

It's where you'll see workers washing the top leaves of fresh basil, which arrives from Florida twice a week, then meticulously making the company's gluten-free sauces, combining the finest olive oil, pine nuts and freshly grated Pecorino Romano cheese.

The DiLisios have earned numerous awards in recognition of their specialty

sauces, including the pesto sauce, a no-nut basil pesto sauce, vegan basil pesto, sun-dried tomato basil pesto, fire-roasted (chipotle) red pepper pesto, cilantro pesto, roasted garlic pesto, Alfredo sauce and more.

The sauces can be used in a variety of ways, Linda DiLisio explained. For example, the roasted garlic pesto sauce is a good addition to mashed potatoes and pasta, or on sandwiches, seafood, chicken and pizza. It can also be used for dips and spreads. Recipe suggestions come with each sauce, adding to their versatility.

All of the Casa DiLisio sauces are made in small quantities and frozen to preserve their delicate, unique flavor and consistency, Linda DiLisio said. They are also trans fat free, low in sodium and suitable for vegans.

A former IBM employee, she remembers when she first joined the family business in 1985, then unaware of the complexities of the food industry. Today, Linda DiLisio pretty much runs the office with the help of two office clerks, although she quickly



COLETTE CONNOLLY PHOTO

Casa DiLisio creators Lucy and Lou DiLisio, with their daughter, Linda (center).

adds that her father is still in charge.

The DiLisios insist that customers taste the sauces, not simply hear about them.

"All of the advertising in the world won't help unless you taste the sauce," said Lou DiLisio, who is also a talented musician, having played clarinet during the 1970s for the Westchester Pops Orchestra and saxophone with the Yonkers Philharmonic, and leading his own band, called Lou DiLisio and the Sophisticates, for a time.

Early on, when DiLisio managed the original family business, DiLisio Body Shop, upstairs, the family would conduct tastings at local food stores and markets and look to friends and family for suggestions.

They admit the business was a tough sell at first, especially since pesto

was unknown to many, even Italian-Americans. But more than 40 years later much has changed and the company now produces about 750 tons of basil pesto annually.

While the company name is a staple in the food service industry, the DiLisios still attend close to 35 food shows a year, knowing that if prospective customers taste any of their 14 sauces, they'll have an excellent chance of selling to them later, Lou DiLisio said.

His perseverance in finding new distributors for the signature sauces over the company's 42-year history has paid off, said his daughter. That's evident in all of the photographs and well wishes that line the walls and cabinets of their small office. The family is pictured with an assortment of prominent chefs, the head of a well-known cruise line and many others, a testament to the respect they've gained over the years, Linda said.

The company's line of products are available through national and independent distributors and can be found throughout the U.S. and the Caribbean. Locally, the products can be purchased at Sgaglio's Marketplace in Katonah, Mt. Kisco Seafood and Chappaqua Village Market.

To learn more about Casa DiLisio and its many products, visit www.casadilisio.com.

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Saturday, April 25, 10am-4pm • Sunday, April 26, Noon-4pm

& during public consignment *these dates are self-drop off

PUBLIC CONSIGNMENT: Unsold consignment items will not be returned. (considered a donation to the church)

Mon, April 27, 9:30am-2pm & 6pm - 8pm • Tues, April 28, 9:30am-2pm & 6pm - 8pm

Wed, April 29, 9:30am-2pm & 6pm - 8pm

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED: Books, oversized furniture & exercise equipment, computer equipment, winter sports items & winter clothing



painting by Victor Mirabelli

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Happenings

Tuesday, Apr. 28

Drop-in Homework Help. Difficult math problems? Tricky grammar questions? Drop in to the Teen Zone after school for some extra help from a high school volunteer. For students in grades 6-8. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 3 to 4 p.m. Free. Also Apr. 30. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Italian Language and Culture With Mara De Matteo. Born and raised in Italy, De Matteo combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in her classes, creating interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present, through real-life anecdotes, literature, personal memoirs, films and photography. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887.

Wednesday, Apr. 29

Master Networker Meeting. Join this high-energy interactive membership network of learning-based, service-oriented entrepreneurs and business leaders. Come be a guest any Wednesday to learn more about this world-class business training and referral program. Mount Kisco Coach Diner, 252 E. Main

St., Mount. 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. RSVP suggested. Info and RSVP: Contact Julie Genovesi at 303-929-7203 or e-mail julie@eurobella.net or just drop in.

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.

Pound Fitness Program. A 45-minute full-body cardio and stress relief jam session, fusing Pilates, cardio, plyometrics, isometric movements and poses. Using lightly weighted drumsticks called Riptix™ and combining constant simulated drumming resulting in working the entire body. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10:15 a.m. \$20. Every Wednesday. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

Mommy Meet Up. Whether it's your first child or your fifth, this program is a great way to get out of the house, meet new friends and enjoy time with your baby. For newborns birth to eight

months old and their moms. Romperee Indoor Playground at World Cup Nursery School & Kindergarten 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua, 10:15 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except holidays) through June. Info: Contact Kim Bremer at 914-238-9267 ext. 20.

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.

Lil' Cooks. A hands-on cooking class for children three to five years old. Mount Pleasant Town Hall Tower Room, 1 Town Hall Plaza, Valhalla. 12:30 to 2 p.m. Also Thursdays 10 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2 p.m. Info and registration: 914-742-2310 or visit www.MtPleasantNY.com/rec.

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. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-666-8041.

Wednesday Night Bingo. Regular bingo tickets and specials available for sale. Includes coffee, tea and hot chocolate. Hot dogs and soda for sale. Holy Rosary School, 180 Bradhurst Ave., Hawthorne. Doors open at 6 p.m. Games start at 7:20 p.m. \$2 (for one card). Extra game cards may be purchased for \$2 or \$3 each along with a few specialty games. Every Wednesday.

Art Discussion Series: Domenico Ghirlandaio. Florentine heavy hitter Ghirlandaio wasn't just the master to apprentice Michelangelo, but a talented leader of the Florentine Renaissance and part of a family of gifted and sought after painters. A peer of both Verrocchio and Botticelli, Ghirlandaio's religious imagery and images of everyday life helped to make him one of the most sought after painters of his time. Led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Thursday, Apr. 30

"Strategies for Deer Management in Westchester's Suburban Communities." This symposium will include an overview of the history of deer populations in New York State; discussions on defining and measuring success of deer management efforts and those efforts in Region 3-S, which includes Westchester; and regional approaches to deer management.

We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Martin Wilbur at mwilbur@theexaminernews.com.com.

Westchester County Center, 198 Central Park Ave., White Plains. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free. Parking is \$7 in the lots. Advance registration required. Info and registration: Contact Jason Klein at 914-864-7322.

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-minute class. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-238-8974 or email claudiayogadance@gmail.com.

Story Time Playgroup. Join Miss Debbie for a story, music and playtime with toys and books in this new program. Children and a parent or caregiver can spend special time together and make new friends. For children six months to four years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 1:45 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-769-0548 or visit www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Read to Rover. Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. For children five years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Every Thursday. Info: 914-864-0130 or visit www.mountkiscobibliary.org.

Buddin' Cooks. A hands on cooking class for children in grades K-2. Mount Pleasant Town Hall Tower Room, 1 Town Hall Plaza, Valhalla. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Info and registration: 914-742-2310 or visit www.MtPleasantNY.com/rec.

Great Books Forum Series. "Half of a Yellow Sun" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie will be discussed. Led by Prof. Christine Bobkoff. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Room 131, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Professor James Werner at 914-606-6840 or e-mail james.werner@sunywcc.edu.

Tackling Teenage Homework and Test Prep. Neil Schwartz, of the College Planning of Westchester, will discuss homework patterns, overcoming the parental "denial" cycle, the homework conversational dynamic and test prep versus homework. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

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, e-mail [AddietudeDance@gmail.com](mailto>AddietudeDance@gmail.com) or visit www.Addie-tude.com.

Voting Rights and Income Inequality: continued on page 24

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Burns Film Series Spotlights Middle Eastern, North African Documentarians

By Neal Rentz

A groundbreaking new series featuring documentaries directed by filmmakers from the Middle East and north Africa will make their way to the Jacob Burns' screens starting this Friday.

The Greenhouse film series, which runs through May 6, consists of nine films, plus one work in progress, "The Dead Cannot Vote," by Sarra Abidi, the film center's latest international fellow. That documentary tells the story of the inhabitants from the filmmaker's hometown of Gabès in southern Tunisia, which is plagued by chemical pollution. Following the May 6 screening, Abidi will participate in a question-and-answer session.

The Greenhouse series refers to the organization that has helped to train more than 130 filmmakers whose documentaries have premiered and received awards at festivals. A common thread through all of the films is that directors must strive to create documentaries that promote more just, democratic and peaceful societies.

Jacob Burns Programmer Karen Sloe Goodman, who selected the films to be screened, said perhaps the series' most familiar film to audiences is "5 Broken Cameras" by Emad Burnat and Guy Davidi. It received an Oscar nomination



"Those Who Said No," a 2014 work directed by Nima Sarvestani, is the opening feature at the Greenhouse film series, which features documentary filmmakers from the Middle East and north Africa

for best feature documentary two years ago, the first Palestinian documentary to earn that distinction. The film, which will be screened on May 5, tells the story of life in a West Bank village surrounded by Israeli settlements.

The series will kick off this Friday with "Those Who Said No," a documentary made last year and directed by Nima Sarvestani. The film tells the story of the fallout from Ayatollah Khomeini's 1988 fatwa, which ordered the execution of all political prisoners in Iran. The period was known as the "the bloody decade" in that country.

"On the Way to School," the 2008 documentary by Orhan Eskiköy and



JACOB BURNS FILM CENTER PHOTOS

"On the Way to School," a 2008 documentary directed by Orhan Eskiköy and Ozgur Dogan, will be screened on May 5 as part of the Greenhouse film series at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville.

Ozgur Dogan that is scheduled for May 5, features a teacher who works in a remote Turkish village.

Goodman said she has been gratified to help with Greenhouse's mission in developing the series.

"It's great to be part of the process," she said.

The series is made possible by The

Kathryn W. Davis Fellowship for International Understanding Through Film.

The Jacob Burns Film Center is located at 364 Manville Rd. in Pleasantville. For more information, including schedules and ticket prices, call 914-747-5555 or visit burnsfilmcenter.org.

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Happenings

continued from page 22

Seeing the Connections. Westchester for Change, an all-volunteer, grassroots organization, will host this educational forum exploring how making voting easier in New York State may lead to economic changes. Speakers will be Julie Ebenstein, staff attorney with the ACLU's Voting Rights Project, and Kristina Andreotta, deputy organizing director, Citizen Action of New York & Public Policy and Education Fund of New York. Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Ave., Greenburgh. 7:30 p.m. Free.

Friday, May 1

Zumba Gold Class. A trial class featuring Zumba's low-impact approach. Drop in anytime. Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. Free. (\$12 drop-in fee after free trial class.) Every Friday. Also Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. Info: Contact Amy Olin at olin.amy@gmail.com.

Abraham Lincoln: 150 Years After. The New Castle Historical Society's annual luncheon will feature talk by Philip Kunhardt III who will explore themes related to the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's assassination. Mount Kisco Country Club, 10 Taylor Rd., Mount Kisco. 11:30 a.m. \$50. Reservations required. Info and reservations: 914-238-4666, e-mail director@newcastlehs.org or visit www.newcastlehs.org.

Junior Cooks. A hands on cooking class for children in grades 3-5. Mount Pleasant Town Hall Tower Room, 1 Town Hall Plaza, Valhalla. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Info and registration: 914-742-2310 or visit www.MtPleasantNY.com/rec.

Evening Howl for Pups of All Ages. Enjoy visiting the wolves during their favorite hour -- dusk. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why spring is a magical time for packs in North America. Guests will take a short sunset hike to howl with Ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and behold the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican wolves. Weather appropriate treats served. Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 6:30 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children (under 12): \$13. Also May 9 and 16 at 6:30 p.m. and May 30 at 7 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and registration: www.nywolf.org.

Friday Night Films: "The Commitments." This 1991 British Oscar winner, set in a poor working class neighborhood in Dublin, follows a young group of misfits as they try to find their voice and make their way out of the slums. Featuring an incredible soundtrack made of up of soul classics sung by the actors themselves. Discussion led by Professor Val Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19

Whippoorwill Rd., Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

WCC Film Series: "Bethlehem." A story of the complex relationship between an Israeli Secret Service officer and his teenage Palestinian informant. Shutting back and forth between conflicting points of view, the film is a raw portrayal of characters torn apart by competing loyalties and impossible moral dilemmas. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Davis Auditorium, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. Doors open at 7:10 p.m. Refreshments at 7:30 p.m. Screening at 7:50 p.m. \$11. Seniors (60 and up): \$10. Info: Contact Bob Bruckenthal at 914-723-3186.

"Dead Man's Cell Phone." Axial Theatre's presents Sarah Ruhl's bright, satirical comedy that received the 2007 Helen Hayes Award for outstanding new play. St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$25. Seniors and students: \$20. Also May 2, 9, 16 at 2 p.m., May 8, 9, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. and May 3, 10 and 17 at 4 p.m. Info and tickets: 1-800-838-3006 or visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1396632>.

Saturday, May 2

Pleasantville Farmers Market. The market moves indoors featuring vendors with winter-grown produce along with a variety of meats, cheeses, breads and prepared foods. Pleasantville Middle School, 40 Romer Ave., Pleasantville. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday through May 9. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.com.

Mount Kisco Farmers Market. St. Mark's Church, 85 Main St., Mount Kisco. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: Visit <https://www.facebook.com/MtKiscoFarmersMarket>.

Junior League of Central Westchester Tag Sale. Discover treasures and bargains for babies and children, including clothes, strollers, outdoor play equipment, books, games, bikes, Halloween costumes, women's clothing and accessories, small house wares and baked goods. Proceeds will support the Junior League of Central Westchester. Wayside Cottage, 1039 Post Rd., Scarsdale. Early bird admission from 8 to 9 a.m. General admission from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Early bird: \$5. General admission: Free. Info: Visit www.JLCentralWestchester.org.

Foxwood Annual Community Tag Sale. 17 Foxwood Drive, Pleasantville. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rain date: May 3. Info: 914-769-5189.

P.E.O. Tag Sale. The organization's Pleasantville chapter, a philanthropic group that supports undergraduate, graduate and doctoral-level programs for women, will hold this sale featuring collectibles, household items, linens, holiday decorations, costume jewelry, sporting goods, attic treasures and more. 21 Ashland Ave., Pleasantville. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sahaja Meditation. Led by Peter Simone. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Saturday. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0137.

Gan Shabbat. A monthly program of children's Sabbath services for nursery school-age students and their families featuring an interactive introduction to Shabbat songs, stories and prayers. A kid-friendly Kiddush of refreshments follows each service. Bet Torah, 60 Smith Ave., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-666-7595.

Tai Chi With Larry Attile. Learn specific feldenkrais and chi kung breathing techniques for deep relaxation and apply them to tai chi movement. A hands-on class that is geared to the level of experience of the class. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a floor mat or towel. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday in May. Info: 914-273-3887.

Saving a Species. Learn what it takes to help save a species from the brink of extinction. Guests will get an inside look at the process of matching potential breeders, what criteria must be met to recommend wolves for release into the wild, the husbandry challenge of caring for animals are rarely seen and how it feels to help Mexican gray wolves resume their rightful place in the wild. Guests will visit the ambassador wolves and the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$13. Children (under 12): \$11. Also May 30 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Adult Salsa Class. Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. Free. \$12. Every Saturday. Also Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Info: 917-215-1720 or visit www.addie-tude.com.

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 Saturday and Sunday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Pound Fitness Program. A 45-minute full-body cardio and stress relief jam session, fusing Pilates, cardio, plyometrics, isometric movements and poses. Using lightly weighted drumsticks called Ripstix™ and combining constant simulated drumming resulting in working the entire body. TADA Theatre And Dance Arts, 131 Bedford Rd., Katonah. 11:45 a.m. \$20. Every Saturday; also Wednesdays at 7:30

p.m. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

Nature Spies. Discover the different signs that animals leave behind. Learn the basics of animal tracking and explore tracks, pelts, bones and teeth. Along the way, try to figure out which animals have visited our trails. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 p.m. Members: \$5 per person. Non-members: \$8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Chappaqua Children's Book Festival Benefit.

Kiwi Country Day Camp is hosting a Gaga Fest and Family Fun Day to benefit the Chappaqua Children's Book Festival and the Pajama Program. Activities include an ultimate gaga tournament with 10 championship gaga courts, a SkyRider zipline, rock wall, crafts, inflatables and more. Each family should bring a new book, which will go to children in need nationwide via the Pajama Program. Kiwi Country Day Camp, 845 Union Valley Rd., Carmel. 1 to 5 p.m. \$35 per family (up to five people) or \$15 per child and \$5 per adult. (Includes all activities, t-shirt and food voucher for burgers and hot dogs.) Registration required. Info and registration: 914-276-CAMP or visit www.kiwicountrydaycamp.com.

North American Wildlife With Animal Embassy.

Animal Embassy Director and founder Chris Evers will introduce families to a diversity of animal ambassadors indigenous to North America. Meet an alligator snapping turtle, a soft-shelled Turtle, an Arizona Mountain King Snake, a rabbit and a Sonoran Desert Toad. Explore their habitats and learn how animals from other parts of the world have come to call North America home. Guests will visit the ambassador wolves and the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$13. Children (under 12): \$11. Also May 30 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

REAP Charity Gala: A Celebration of Rwanda.

An African-themed benefit to raise money for the Rwanda Education Assistance Project (REAP), a nonprofit organization based in Katonah that has been making great strides in Eastern Rwanda by partnering with the Duha Complex School, a regional public school that serves over 3,000 students .Featuring local singer-songwriters Lisa Lipkin, Jay Hitt and Friends. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. The Harvey School, 260 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. 7 p.m. \$125. Info and registration: Visit www.ReapEdu.org.

Full Moon Wolf Walk. Learn about the history of wolves in the United States, the importance of wolves in a healthy ecosystem and the efforts to save these magnificent creatures for future generations. Guests then take will take a short moonlit walk to visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr.

continued on page 28

Tennis Anyone? Some May Be Ready, Some Maybe Not

By James H. Cassell

Tennis season is now in full swing with the return of warm weather. It may be a great recreational activity, but it does come with its fair share of injuries.

The list of common injuries is long, but let's focus on two upper body injuries: tennis elbow and rotator cuff tendonitis.

Tennis elbow, or lateral epicondylitis, is a common injury associated with playing tennis, though in most cases it occurs in people who don't play the sport. Lateral epicondylitis occurs when there are micro tears and degeneration of the tendons of the elbow. The affected area is avascular and suffers from poor blood supply, which greatly limits the healing process. Most people who suffer from tennis elbow assume that allowing the elbow to rest will cure their pain. Unfortunately, this doesn't solve the problem.

Tennis elbow typically occurs in the extensor carpi radialis brevis tendon, which is one of the muscles that extend the wrist. This muscle runs from the lateral epicondyle in the elbow to the base of the middle finger. The muscle can be aggravated in numerous ways, but typically from faulty mechanics.

Since the muscle is a wrist stabilizer, it is activated primarily during backhand strokes to prevent the wrist from bending as contact is made with the ball.



By James H. Cassell IV

A "good" backhand stroke is performed by leading with the hands, but if the player does not get into the proper position, the swing can be led with the elbow, which shifts force away from the core musculature and onto the forearm musculature.

Players who use a two-hand backhand generally are at less risk of developing tennis elbow, as the non-dominant arm can take some of the force off of the leading arm. Using a racquet that has too large of a grip or is too heavy can also increase stress placed upon the wrist extensors.

Treatment involves stretching of the forearm musculature, strengthening of the forearm and rotator cuff muscles and performing deep tissue massage techniques, such as cross-friction massage and Active Release Techniques.

The length of treatment for tennis elbow can vary greatly, from six weeks to six months. Generally patients who address the issue quickly rather than putting off treatment will heal more quickly. If the wrist extensor muscles do tear, then surgery may be the best option but this is far less common.

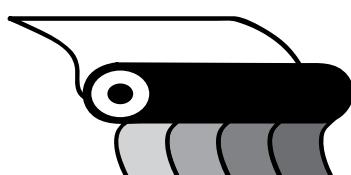
Rotator cuff tendonitis is another injury frequently seen in tennis players. The rotator cuff is a unit of four muscles in the shoulder that are responsible for shoulder rotation and stability. The most commonly injured muscle of the rotator cuff is the supraspinatus muscle, which runs along the top

of the shoulder. This muscle runs underneath the acromion process, which is the sharp, boney part of the shoulder. There isn't much space underneath the acromion process to begin with and with repetitive overhead movement such as serving, the supraspinatus tendon can rub against the bone. If there is enough friction against the bone, the tendon can become inflamed and even start to fray or tear.

Treatment for rotator cuff tendonitis generally involves strengthening and stretching throughout the shoulder to relieve pressure from the tendon. Most people have tightness through their neck and through their chest muscles with weakness of their back muscles, which shifts the shoulder blade forward (also called rounded shoulders). Strengthening the back muscles, stretching the chest muscles and strengthening the remaining rotator cuff muscles can create additional space under the acromion process, which reduces friction of the tendon. Treatment time for rotator cuff tendonitis is also highly variable, but as with most injuries, the healing process is shorter if the problem is addressed sooner.

These are two of the most common tennis injuries seen in the clinic. For more information on tennis and other sports-related injuries, call 914-202-0700 or visit www.proclinix.com.

James H. Cassell IV is a doctorate physical therapist at ProClinix Sports Therapy Chiropractic Wellness, PLLC in Armonk (located at EQUINOX).



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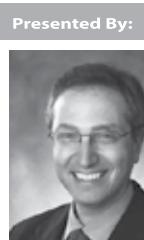
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Comparing the Production of Fine Wine to Fine Chocolate



By Nick Antonaccio

The natural and scientific components of winemaking are similar to the production of numerous other products. These products share the core processes and procedures of winemaking, but digress at some point in their unique lifecycles. The end results bear the imprint of the winemaking process but are distinct unto themselves.

Last week I focused on coffee making. This week, I'll focus on a comparison of the chain of ingredients and processes that result in your favorite chocolate bar.

The baseline agricultural environment: Select varietals of wine grapes will only thrive under a very specific balance of soil, climate, elevation and exposure to the sun (in the aggregate, referred to as *terroir*).

So, too, with cacao beans. (Editorial note: Raw beans are referred to as cacao; processed beans typically as cocoa.) The unique terroirs of equatorial countries are conducive to the best expressions of certain cacao bean varieties. As with grapes, cacao crops also vary by the cultivation practices of growers.

The core ingredients: The horticultural

species that produces the finest wine grapes is *Vitis Vinifera*. From this species, hybrids have been developed that thrive in specific regions. An example: Tuscan wines produced from the Sangiovese grape in the central region of Italy.

For cacao beans, the species commonly grown is *Theobroma*. Three strains of *Theobroma* dominate cacao bean production. The Criollo is the most highly prized by fine chocolatiers, yet yields only 5 percent of total annual production. A lesser, inferior bean is Forastero, which, with its higher yields, is favored by mass producers. Favored by large and small producers alike for its intermediate yield and quality is Trinitario, a hybrid of the two.

The finest cacao beans are grown within 20 degrees of the equator, where consistently warm and humid terroir produces thriving cacao trees and crops. The most highly prized countries are Ecuador, Venezuela and the West Africa region. Each region produces cacao beans with unique flavor, texture and structural elements, including earthy, bitter, robust and nutty.

The transformation process: Similar to wine grapes, cacao pods are harvested at their peak. About 50 beans are then extracted from the pod, fermented and dried. As with winemaking, fermentation is the key step that differentiates one

finished chocolate product from the next. This step, in the hands of a chocolate processor, the second link in the chain, creates the true flavors and textures that chocolatiers seek.

The final influences: Here wine and chocolate production differs. Typically, grapes that enter the winery leave as finished product. However, the chocolate making chain includes additional interventions.

A chocolate manufacturer purchases fermented beans from a grower, then roasts the beans, breaking down the components into a liquid (for flavor), a butter (for texture) and a powder (for finesse). The recipe for the proportions of these ingredients, combined with sugar, lecithin and vanilla, creates the ultimate bulk chocolate sold to chocolatiers.

The darkest chocolates are the most highly prized. The ideal percent of cocoa ingredients in a bar of chocolate is generally considered to be 60 percent (and about 40 percent sugar), but personal preferences (of chocolatiers and consumers) dictate levels as high as 80 percent, and a bittersweet designation. If a milk product is added to the recipe, milk chocolate is created; the percentage of cocoa ingredients drops,

the flavor is diluted, the color is lighter and the taste is sweeter.

Once a chocolate manufacturer produces a bulk chocolate, it is sold onward, in many cases to the precise specifications of a chocolatier. It is in the hands of artisans that the ultimate fine chocolate bar is crafted from carefully formulated recipes and processing, another similarity to winemaking. Be mindful, however, that just as there are mass-produced wines, produced by large corporate entities, so too with chocolate.

With the proliferation of artisanal chocolate styles and brands on the market today, it is often difficult to differentiate one chocolate bar – or truffle -- from the next.

Next week I'll offer guidance on selecting artisanal chocolates, evaluating them and pairing them with several styles of wine.

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

Nick Antonaccio is a 35-year Pleasantville resident. For over 15 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.

Happenings

continued from page 24

Please bring flashlights. Adults only. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 8 p.m. \$25. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Opening Gala for "Dead Man's Cell Phone." Axial Theatre's presents Sarah Ruhl's bright, satirical comedy that received the 2007 Helen Hayes Award for outstanding new play. Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and sweet treats and a talkback with the actors and director following the performance. St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$40. Info and tickets: 1-800-838-3006 or visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1396632>.

American Brass Quintet. Chamber music lovers are in for a special treat with this group that has been in residence at Juilliard since 1987. The program will include Elizabethan Consort Music edited by Raymond Mase; Osvaldo Lacerda's "Fantasia and Rondo;" David Snow's "Dance Movements;" Witold Lutoslawski's "Mini Overture for Brass Quintet;" Josquin des Pres' "Chansons," edited by Raymond Mase; and Eric Ewazen's "Colchester Fantasy." Sleepy Hollow High School's Kusel Auditorium, 210 N. Broadway (Route 9), Sleepy Hollow. 8 p.m. \$30. Students (18 and under): Free. Info:

and tickets: 914-861-5080. Tickets also available at the door.

Sunday, May 3

Blessing of the Bikes. Rev. Tim Dalton will conduct a short service and ask God to bless each rider and motorcycle to be safe for the upcoming riding season. The event will conclude with a biker's prayer.

A non-denominational community event. All welcome. First Baptist Church of White Plains, 456 North St., White Plains. 9 a.m. Info: 914-949-5207 or visit www.firstbaptistwhiteplains.org.

Spring Rummage Sale. Shoppers can find fabulous deals on new and used items, including women's, men's and children's clothing, house wares, linens, purses, furniture, electronics, toys, books, CDs, DVDs, baby equipment, sports equipment and many other items. Bet Torah, 60 Smith Ave., Mount Kisco. 1 to 5 p.m. Also May 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a special blowout bag sale for \$5, \$10 and \$20. Info: 914-666-7595.

Nature Story Time. Let your imagination run wild with this fun, nature-themed story time. Hear a story, meet a live animal, and have fun with a nature activity. Recommended for children three to six years old. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 p.m. Members:

\$5 per person. Non-members: \$8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Learn and Play Mah Jongg. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Every Sunday in May. Info: 914-273-3887

Italian Expo 2015. Enjoy a taste of Italy and the Italian culture. A variety of cars such as Ferraris, Lamborghinis, Maseratis, Alfa Romeos and motorcycles, including Vespas, will be on display. Westchester Community College's Classroom Building, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 1 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-606-6790.

Death Cafe Northern Westchester. A free-flowing conversation around the topic of death from any angle, including its place in this miracle of life. No affiliation with any religious or health care organization. Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 15 S. Bedford Rd., Mount Kisco. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Info: Visit Death Café Northern Westchester on Facebook or e-mail deathcafew@gmail.com.

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Monday, May 4

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. Every Monday. Info: 914-769-2021.

Student Art Display. Includes prints, drawings, paintings, sculptures, digital images, graphic designs and computer graphics created by students in various studio art classes. Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Building, Fine Arts Gallery, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Display runs through May 20. Gallery open daily (except Sunday) 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays 4 to 6 p.m. Info: 914-606-7867 or visit www.sunywcc.edu/gallery.

The Restaurant Examiner

Dave & Buster's Opens New Sports Bar and Game Complex

By Jerry Eimbind

A spacious Dave & Buster's food and entertainment center opened last week at Post Road Plaza, a shopping mall in Pelham Manor. The complex is located directly behind the mall's Fairway Market.

Occupying 39,500 square-feet, the new facility has two American fare dining rooms, an arcade-style game center, a sports bar and a three-table billiards room for use on a first-come, first-served basis. It can accommodate private events for up to 1,200.

Both dining rooms serve the same menus and have wait staff service, but one has hostess seating service for 88 while the other requires patrons to seat themselves and has a capacity of 160.

The game center contains 170 skill-challenging games. Plastic card tickets purchased at the reception desk track the scoring of points electronically. Accumulated points can be redeemed at the Winners' Circle for Apple products, Xbox games, sports memorabilia, t-shirts, stuffed animals, electric guitars and other merchandise.

Most of the games are high-tech but basketball players can earn points by shooting hoops. Games include Transformers Human Alliance, Mach Storm and Kung Fu Panda Dojo Mojo.

With the simultaneous opening by Dave & Buster's in Pelham Manor and another in Euless, Tex., the chain increases its establishments to 75.

The dishes at Dave & Buster's in Pelham Manor range from tasty comfort items to 12-ounce New York steaks, "Surf & Turf" (bacon-wrapped sirloin medallions with grilled shrimp) and shrimp and lobster Alfredo.

There is a wide variety of drinks, including beer and other alcoholic beverages, milk shakes, lemonade, juices, soft drinks and Red Bull energy drinks. There are free refills for fountain sodas, coffee and tea.

Innovative burgers are a big draw at Dave & Buster's. The menu also includes sandwiches, pretzel dogs, barbecued ribs, grilled mango-citrus Cajun shrimp on skewers, pasta, barbecued chicken and mac and cheese with chicken and bacon. The Mountain O' Nachos is very popular as a snack or appetizer. A children's menu is also available.

The parent company is introducing two new burgers at this time. One is a half-pounder called the Maker's Mark BBQ Burger."Priced at \$12.79, It comes piled high with smoky Ancho pulled pork and caramelized onions topped



Dave & Buster's steak, shrimp and lobster Alfredo.



JERRY EIMBINDER PHOTOS

The new Dave & Buster's opened in Pelham Manor last week. Right: The buffalo wing burger, part of the eatery's list of specialty burgers.



and a strawberry watermelon margarita made with strawberry-flavored ice cubes.

The Original CoronaRita has seven ounces of Corona made with Sauza Blue 100 percent blue agave tequila, DeKuyper Triple Sec and a squeeze of lime. The Miami Ice Snow Cone combines coconut vodka, coconut rum and lemonade with strawberry Bacardi premium mixer.

For munchers, a package deal called The 5:15 is offered. Priced at \$19.99, it consists of five buffalo wings, five quesadilla wedges, five pretzel dogs, five crispy fried shrimp and a stack of potato chips.

General manager Danny Eurell is still hiring; the completed staff is expected to exceed 300. Hours of operation are 11 a.m. to midnight seven days a week.

Dave & Buster's is located in the Post Road Plaza off of Boston Post Road (Route 1). The address is 881 Pelham Parkway in Pelham Manor, a short distance from Exit 7 off the Hutchison River Parkway. There is free parking. For more information, call 914-380-8500.



Salads are plentiful and include

chopped Thai chicken (\$10.29), Caesar with chicken (\$9.99), sweet apple pecan with chicken (\$10.99) and "The Lawnmower," a medley of chicken, garden vegetables, boiled eggs, Romaine and green lettuce, bacon bits and bleu cheese crumbles (\$12.99).

Desserts abound and include chocolate fondue, cheesecake, chocolate cake and the Brookie Sundae Tower — a warm, gooey combination of a giant chocolate brownie and a chocolate chip cookie topped with vanilla ice cream and chocolate and caramel sauces (\$8.79).

Happy Hour runs from 4:30 to 7 p.m. and returns from 10 p.m. to closing at the bar with a 50 percent discount for cocktails. However, the discount offer is not extended to Dave & Buster's signature-cocktail version of Long Island Iced Tea, called "D&B TNTea."

"Anyone who finishes drinking a D&B TNTea can take the glass home as a souvenir," said special events manager Beatriz Peneda.

This classic drink is a blend of Absolute vodka, Tanqueray gin, Bacardi Su-perior rum, Grand Marnier and Coca-Cola.

Cocktails include the Original CoronaRita and the Miami Ice Snow Cone, one of a variety of snow cones,

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FIRST 3 MONTHS

Briarcliff Native Brings Role-Playing Game to Local Stage

By Janine Bowen

When an audience goes to Arc Stages for a production, it typically sits back and waits to be entertained.

Next week local residents will have the opportunity to take the stage and shape a story, thanks to Briarcliff native and theatrical experience game designer Warren Tusk.

Tusk, 30, is the writer and designer of more than a dozen theater-style live-action role-playing (LARP) games. He will bring his most popular game, "The Dance and the Dawn," to the Pleasantville venue this Saturday evening, May 2.

Theatrical LARPs evolved from table-top role-playing games, such as Dungeons and Dragons, said Tusk, although the theatrical experience does not mirror traditional games.

"It's sort of like an improv acting exercise except that there is somewhat more in the substance of character for you to work with," explained Tusk. "It's not just 'you are this sort of person, go,' you've actually received some material explaining who you are and what's going on with you."

"The Dance and the Dawn" is a gothic fairy tale that revolves around six broken-hearted ladies who are sent to an island with seven lords to find



Briarcliff Manor's Warren Tusk, who has written and designed multiple theater-style live-action role-playing games, will bring his most popular effort to Arc Stages in Pleasantville this Saturday night.

true love. The story, which is capped at 15 participants, is framed around a sequence of dances, where the men and women pair off and talk to each other, ultimately picking the partner that their

character falls in love with.

Based on the specifications for the game that he created, Tusk will then tell the participants whether they chose the person their character was meant to fall in love with. Participants will have the opportunity to create the story of what happens to their character after making that choice.

The concept was based on a game that a friend of Tusk's created shortly after he graduated from college. After learning that the game's concept revolved around dancing, Tusk felt that it would be a perfect game to bring to the stage.

"I took a look at it and said this is a really good game, it needs to be live action," he said. "It's sort of fun moving chess pieces around a board, which is how his game worked, but this is a game about dancing and interpersonal interaction. You should make a game that has people actually dancing and actually interacting with each other."

Tusk, who has previously hosted games throughout the world, noted that because participants have the chance to shape their characters and drive the narrative, the experience is different each time despite the characters and goals remaining the same. He said people often get into their character and are immersed in the experience quicker

and easier than they expect, and find it to be an active and unique way of enjoying a story.

"It sounds hard, it sounds intimidating, but it's not either of those things," said Tusk. "To anyone who looks at the story...and says, 'That sounds like a neat story,' I would encourage you to experience it by coming to play the game. It's not that much harder than watching a play or reading a book."

Although "The Dance and the Dawn" has been performed multiple times, this is the first time that Tusk will bring the experience to Westchester. As of last week, four participants were on board. Local residents can join the performance for a \$25 ticket by registering at www.paracelsus-games.com.

Tusk said once people sign up, they will be given a questionnaire asking which type of character they're most interested in playing and what type of stories they are interested in telling. He will then cast each person in the role best suited for them and send them an overview as well as a series of documents providing background on their character and outlining the rules of the game.

The event is scheduled to run from 6 to 11 p.m. Arc Stages is located at 147 Wheeler Ave.

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Actors Learn About Themselves Through 'Dead Man's Cell Phone'

By Janine Bowen

We all rely on our gadgets to get through daily life, but Axial Theatre's latest production explores what happens when gadgets are all that remains after a person is gone.

"Dead Man's Cell Phone," a satirical comedy written by Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl, revolves around the character of Jean, who hears a man's cell phone ringing next to her in a café and receives a nasty surprise when she asks him to silence the ringer.

The man, Gordon, is dead and Jean takes the phone, determined to keep him alive by talking to the contacts stored in the device. In the process, she attends Gordon's funeral, meets his family, including his mistress, and finds love.

"It's this character who really didn't have a life of her own and through answering these phone calls, she steps in trying to keep him alive, essentially through keeping the communications going, only to find out that he wasn't quite the noble character that she thought he might be," said director Rachel Jones.

Jones, an Axial Theatre founding member, said when it was decided that she would direct the company's next production, she compiled a list of plays

and "Dead Man's Cell Phone" was near the top of her selections. She described the work as uplifting; the clever writing was what initially intrigued her about the play.

Jones said the play celebrates the small, an element that attracted actor Duane Rutter to the production.

Rutter portrays the character of Dwight, the man Jean falls in love with. The story recognizes that people often don't fit into defined personality boxes and Rutter drew on his own experience of being somewhat of an outsider to bring the character to life.

"I think the play says something about people who are different and unique in a way," Rutter said. "They're out there living their lives and maybe they go unnoticed but they find a way to be themselves."

Indeed, the character of Jean is able to discover her true identity by learning more about the deceased man and his life and lies. Actress Nancy Intrator, who plays Gordon's widow, Hermia, can relate as she was able to find herself through pretending to be others on stage. Intrator began taking classes with Axial in 2008 after a divorce and moved to progressively more advanced classes



LESLYE SMITH PHOTO

Siobhan McKinley and Michael Boyle, cast members in Axial Theatre's spring production, the award-winning satirical comedy "Dead Man's Cell Phone" by Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl. The play will be performed at St. John's Episcopal Church in Pleasantville on weekends from May 1-17.

before eventually being invited to join the theater company.

Intrator said the ability to take on a variety of roles and characters helped her to rediscover herself after a chapter in her life had ended.

"I love being someone else, I just

love the freeness to take on different characters, and this is also a very welcoming atmosphere...you can experiment and maybe find different aspects of your personality that maybe you didn't know about before," she said.

While some actors were able to find themselves through playing different roles, others face challenges in portraying a character that is different from their own. Siobhan McKinley, who plays Jean, is a very insular and insecure character. McKinley said she has to imagine leading an isolated life in order to bring an element of realness to the character.

"[I have] to keep reminding myself what it would feel like to be alone in the world and not have a significant connection with someone else," she said.

Performances of "Dead Man's Cell Phone" will be at St. John's Episcopal Church, located at 8 Sunnyside Ave. in Pleasantville, Fridays through Sundays, May 1-17. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$20 for students and seniors. They can be reserved online at brownpapertickets.com/event/1396632 or by calling 1-800-838-3006. Tickets for the this Saturday evening's gala, which includes wine, hors d'oeuvres and a talk with the actors and director, is \$40.

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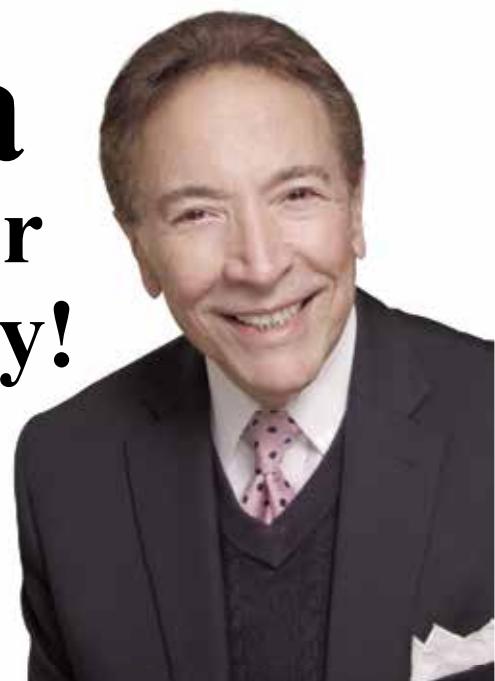
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