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June 16 - June 22, 2015

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 9, Issue 406

Snafu in P'ville Energy Purchasing Resolution Causes Board Split

By Janine Bowen

Pleasantville village officials are revisiting participation in a community choice aggregation energy purchasing program after learning that a resolution approved last month failed to grant the village the authority to participate.

On May 11, the village board passed a resolution by a 4-1 margin that would have allowed Pleasantville to join several other local municipalities in the program through Sustainable Westchester. Under the program all residents who are currently using Con Edison as their energy provider would be automatically included in Sustainable Westchester's group-buying effort unless they choose to opt out.

Sustainable Westchester will present a Request for Proposal (RFP) for energy service companies (ESCOs) and will enter into a contract only if the initiative

demonstrates a significant savings over Con Edison.

Village trustees said Sustainable Westchester, a consortium of local governments that addresses sustainability issues, is now asking all participating municipalities to pass a local law to approve participation in the program because the state ruled the initial resolution did not give adequate authority to local governments to enact the program. Prior to approval, a public hearing must also be held, the timing of which caused a rift between board members.

Last week Mayor Peter Scherer wanted to hold the public hearing at the next regular meeting on June 22, but Trustee Mindy Berard objected, saying it did not give board members adequate time to review a proposed local law. Trustees

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Millwood Learning Center Seeks Move to Mount Kisco

By Neal Rentz

Devereux New York, which provides programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, has proposed to move its Millwood Learning Center to Mount Kisco.

The plan was discussed at the June 9 planning board meeting by Devereux New York's former executive director John O'Keefe, who is serving as a consultant for the project, and Dr. Cindy Alterson, the school's principal and program director. Devereux needs a special permit and change of use approval from the board.

The applicant is seeking to move into a 10,989-square-foot space at 27 Radio Circle, the site formerly occupied by Little Garden Day Care. The school has been operating at 14 Schuman Rd. in Millwood

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Former Devereux New York Executive Director John O'Keefe and Dr. Cindy Alterson, the school's principal and program director, discuss the Millwood Learning Center's proposed move to Mount Kisco.

NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Chappaqua School Officials to Discuss Subdivision, Sale Proposal

By Martin Wilbur

The Chappaqua School District is scheduled to discuss its plans with the New Castle Planning Board tomorrow (Wednesday) night to subdivide a 20.3-acre parcel that it owns on Buttonhook Road.

The school district hopes to subdivide the land, which is located near Garry Drive, a residential area, before selling it to a developer, said Assistant Superintendent for Business John Chow. It is anticipated that under the current proposal a developer could build six houses that are between 4,000 and 5,000 square feet, he said.

The parcel has been owned by the district since 1971 when school officials were entertaining thoughts of building a fourth elementary school, Chow said.

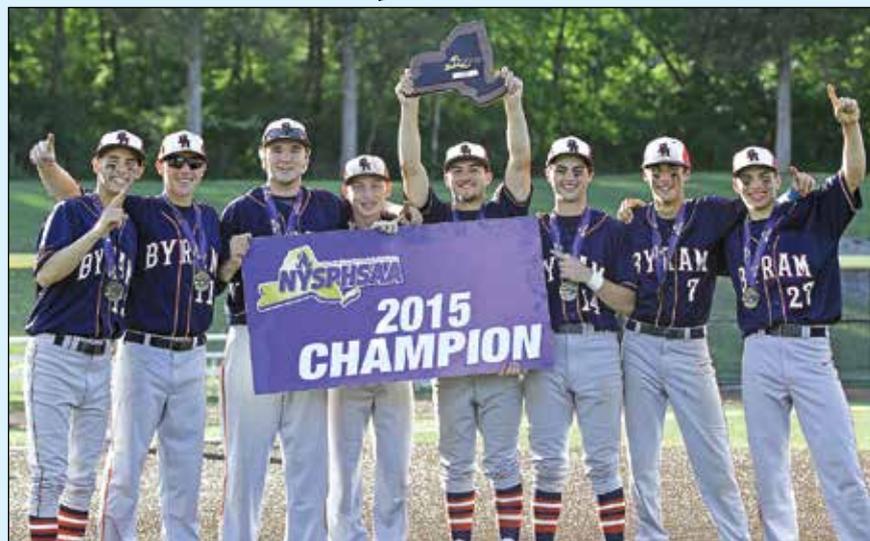
However, those plans never materialized and the district eventually built Seven Bridges Middle School.

"We hope to have this piece of property subdivided and realize some value, but also if we put this property back on the tax roll it'll benefit both the town and the school district," Chow said.

During preliminary discussions in front of the planning board, the district had been asked to devise a conventional subdivision, a conservation subdivision and a cluster proposal. A conventional subdivision would create the largest area of disturbance while the cluster proposal would cause the least, according to an Apr. 20 from the town's Director of Planning Sabrina Charney Hull. Each potential subdivision would have six lots.

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They Did It!



ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

The seniors on the Byram Hills High School varsity baseball team celebrate after defeating Queensbury 3-2 in the Class A state championship game late Saturday afternoon near Binghamton. It was the first-ever baseball state title for the school. For more coverage on the team's big victory, see sports

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Snafu in P'ville Energy Purchasing Resolution Causes Board Split

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were presented with the legislation at last Monday's work session, although Berard said she felt uncomfortable scheduling a hearing until she had more time to examine the law and speak with the village's attorneys to address questions and concerns.

"This is going into our laws. This is a totally different story [than the resolution]; we have not had time to vet it," said Berard, who cast the dissenting vote against the initial resolution. "Any law we've ever passed of this magnitude we've had a discussion about it, especially with counsel."

Scherer explained that participating in the program is time sensitive because the proposed savings that Sustainable Westchester believes it can achieve through ESCOs is based on low gas prices, which could rise in the future.

Berard responded that if the board is unable to approve a law by the time Sustainable Westchester issues an RFP, Pleasantville could participate the second time around, when the first contract expires and a new deal is sought.

Scherer and Trustee Colleen Griffin-Wagner said they'd like Pleasantville to participate in the program as soon as possible and were worried about depriving residents the opportunity for

savings.

"I would like to engage this discussion as soon as we can," Scherer said. "If, in the course of our review over the next two weeks and at the public hearing, it suggests that we need further review and we need to withhold our vote on this for days, weeks or months, that's perfectly appropriate."

Berard, who last month objected to how the program automatically enrolls all residents and forces them to opt out in order to return to Con Edison,

said she was uncomfortable setting a hearing and approving a law based on Sustainable Westchester's timeline. Trustee Joe Stargiotti also voiced displeasure, unhappy with setting a hearing based on a law he hadn't had time to read and analyze. Both agreed that holding a public hearing on June 22 would be moving too fast.

Berard also said she felt the approval of the initial resolution was rushed, although Griffin-Wagner disagreed and believed trustees were well prepared for

the vote.

"I didn't feel rushed making the last decision at all. We had more than enough information, in my personal opinion," said Griffin-Wagner.

Trustee Steve Lord was absent from the meeting.

Trustees agreed to discuss the matter at their June 22 work session, which precedes the regular meeting. They have tentatively scheduled the hearing for the July 13 board meeting.

Millwood Learning Center Seeks Move to Mount Kisco

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for about 20 years.

A public hearing on the application is scheduled for June 23.

O'Keefe said the organization informed its landlord in January it would not renew its current lease. Moving into the Mount Kisco site would save the agency \$100,000 a year in rent, he said.

Currently, the Millwood Learning Center provides programs for 48 students with a staff of 38 full-time employees and 17 part-timers. The school would continue to operate between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2:35 p.m. for students. Staff would work between 7:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m., Alterson said. Devereux is hoping to

move the center into the Mount Kisco site in July.

Alterson said the school, which serves individuals between 5 and 21 years old, would also have its students volunteer at workplaces throughout the community, such as Northern Westchester Hospital, to help prepare them for work as adults.

O'Keefe said no exterior work is needed at the site, but minor interior renovations are necessary.

While the board was receptive to the proposal, members expressed concern about the parking plan. Alterson said there are 60 parking spaces, 30 spaces on the property and another 30 located elsewhere on Radio Circle.

Village Attorney Whitney Singleton said if there is insufficient employee parking on the building's property, the off-site parking must be on an adjacent parcel under village code.

Devereux New York is no stranger to the local area. It previously sought approvals for group homes in central and northern Westchester. The Mount Pleasant Town Board rejected its request for a group home in March 2014. Last September the Somers Town Board declined to vote on an application for a group home for four men with autism, which under state regulations allowed the plan to move forward.

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A: Confusion over what constitutes a sprained ankle is common. A sprain is defined as a stretched or torn ligament – the tough, fibrous tissue that connects one bone to another and supports your joints. By far the most common type of sprain is in the ankle. Ankle sprains happen when the foot twists, rolls or turns in a manner that causes the ligaments to stretch beyond their normal length. While the intensity varies, pain, bruising, swelling, and inflammation are common to all sprains.

Q: If my ankle is swollen and tender, what should I do?

A: Be sure to practice RICE immediately: Rest, Ice, Compress and Elevate. Sit or lie down, put your ankle up on some pillows, wrap it with an ace bandage, and ice it for 20 to 30 minutes several times a day.

If you can't put weight on the joint, you should see a doctor immediately. After the ankle is evaluated and other injuries such as fractures or tendon damage are ruled out, and depending on the severity of the sprain, you may be able to start rehabilitating your ankle.

Q: What can I expect from rehab?

A: With a severe sprain, I often put a boot on the patient for two weeks or so and start physical therapy to strengthen the ankle as soon as possible. One exercise patients can try is writing the alphabet in the air with their big toe. Another is standing on one foot with your eyes closed. The goal is to work up to a minute. This improves your balance and strengthens the muscles that stabilize your joint.

Following through on rehab is key. The single highest risk factor for ankle sprain is having a history of sprain. Completing an appropriate rehabilitation program and utilizing at least short-term bracing will decrease future risk of an ankle sprain.

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Brynwood Granted Rezone Despite Unresolved Conservation Easement

By Martin Wilbur

Brynwood Golf & Country Club was granted its long-awaited zoning change last week that could eventually enable its group of partners to build 73 luxury townhouses with its proposed golf course redesign.

Four years after the applicant formally submitted its first proposal, the North Castle Town Board voted unanimously on June 10 to approve the findings statement under the state Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), amend the town's Comprehensive Plan and create a Golf Course Community Floating Overlay District.

The board also voted to schedule a June 24 public hearing to map the new zone on the 156-acre property on Bedford Road in Armonk. Should the board approve the zone's mapping, Brynwood will head to the planning board for site plan review.

The votes were taken despite two matters that have yet to be resolved: the finishing touches on a conservation easement to ensure that the overwhelming majority of the parcel remains a golf course or open space and whether Brynwood will ask to join the town's Water District 2 or rely on wells on its property to supply water to the residences and clubhouse.

At the request of residents, including members of Residents of Windmill (ROWI), a group representing

homeowners at nearby Windmill Farm, Supervisor Michael Schiliro said town officials are working to secure a second grantee that has experience in dealing with conservation easements, such as the Westchester Land Trust, to help oversee the agreement.

The town is also exploring other options to strengthen the language of the easement, which Schiliro described as "good (but) it could be better."

"We are making some progress but it's a very involved process with them," Schiliro said of easement talks with the Westchester Land Trust. "At the same time, we're not just holding out hope that that's going to work. We're looking at potential grantees, some other nonprofit organizations that are related to this type of thing as far as easements and land, and other legal mechanisms to tighten this thing up."

Windmill Farm resident Pete Coviello, who pressed the board on a list of issues before last week's votes, said he was uneasy that the board was prepared to move ahead with the votes before it had the conservation easement finalized.

Calling inclusion of a third party to enforce the easement "a crucial element," Coviello contended an agreement could be undermined by a future board that might look to permit more development at the site. The town board is the first

grantee.

"If you don't have that, the validity of the document is severely diminished because, as you know, any future town board no matter what (the easement) says, it can say in perpetuity, it can have the strongest language possible, but any future town board can take a vote and get rid of the easement," Coviello said.

However, Bob Greer, a member of the town's Open Space Committee for more than 20 years, said overriding a conservation easement is difficult to achieve.

"When you put in a conservation easement in perpetuity, you can't violate that," Greer said.

Town Attorney Roland Baroni said a future board would have to schedule a public hearing and vote to amend or suspend the easement. However, with the residential density limit of 73 units in place and building coverage of only 3.5 percent, those are further protections against future development at the site.

Regarding a potential request to join Water District 2, which serves Windmill Farm, Schiliro said Brynwood would have to submit a petition to the town. The town board, which acts as the municipality's water commissioners, would decide whether the golf club can join the district.

Brynwood representatives have stated that the club would have enough water

through on-site wells for the residences and the clubhouse, but may look to join the district to help spread trim costs for the existing homeowners, including the nearly \$10 million water main replacement project currently underway.

The town board would consult with Windmill Farm residents on the water district matter before making any decision, Schiliro said.

If Brynwood were to join the water district, golf course irrigation would still be done through wells.

Approval of the findings statement concludes the SEQRA process, said Frank Fish, a planner representing the town on the application.

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Chappaqua School Officials to Discuss Subdivision, Sale Proposal

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At last month's joint meeting of the board of education and town board, town officials were encouraged by the prospects of eventually returning a significant property to a private owner.

"I think it's great it'll be put back on the tax rolls," New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein said during the joint meeting. "That's to our benefit, selling the property. I would imagine there'd be a big profit, money that you'll need for our children's education and putting property back on the tax rolls."

Chow said last month that the district has been in discussion with potential buyers but

there has been no agreement reached with any developer.

The district also has two other undeveloped properties in its inventory; however, neither of those would be as attractive to a prospective buyer as the land on Buttonhook Road, said board Vice President Alyson Gardner.

"There's really nothing else that we have that's of this magnitude," Gardner said.

School officials decided to subdivide the property before it sells the land because it would likely make it more attractive to a buyer, Chow said.

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Young Scientist



EILEEN FERRELL/MOUNT PLEASANT SCHOOL DISTRICT PHOTO

Sophomore Meenu Mundackal captured first place in the medicine and health subcategory at the fourth annual Westlake Science Fair on June 6. The school hosted 382 first-year science research students from 24 schools in the Hudson Valley, the only science research competition of its kind in the state that sees first-year science research students present via poster board in a competitive setting.

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Improved P'ville Pool Facility Makes Big Splash This Summer

By Janine Bowen

Pleasantville swimmers might notice a few changes at the village pool this summer, thanks to completion of a nearly \$400,000 renovation project.

The pool house at the Lake Street complex has been modernized with aesthetic and functional improvements. Changes are immediately noticeable upon arrival, with a more defined entrance to the pool that includes a new walkway and plantings alongside the building. The previous walkway was made of Belgian blocks but had no drainage, which created problems with flooding.

In addition, the new walkway has been moved away from the building because it had been easy for vandals to walk up and enter the building by breaking a window.

"We were kind of inviting people to go right up to those windows," village Trustee Mindy Berard said of the old layout.

At the building's entrance, the old door, which Pool Director Kathy Laotaris said was so heavy it sometimes required multiple people to lift, has been replaced and leads to a renovated breezeway with new flooring.

Two new family bathrooms have been created. Berard explained that mothers were previously forced to bring a young son into the women's restroom if the child wasn't old enough to go into the men's

room alone. The bathrooms had not been updated since 1986.

Since the village camp uses the pool extensively, a large sitting area has been created to allow camp counselors to keep an eye on students while they go in and out of the new changing areas, the showers and bathrooms. It has also been brightly painted.

"It was like a dungeon," Laotaris said. "It wasn't inviting and it was dark."

The showers have been upgraded, a necessity because many pool patrons refused to use the previous outdated showers. In the men's bathroom, the communal showers have been replaced by stalls for more privacy.

An outdoor shower has also been installed after Berard and Recreation Department Superintendent Linda Bellofatto saw that feature at other local pools. Located next to the children's pool, the area allows visitors to rinse while still wearing their bathing suits. Since the new family bathrooms don't contain showers, the outdoor showers also make it easier for parents to wash off their children.

The interior of the building has also been reorganized. The pool director's office was moved from the front of the building to the back with a clear view of the swimmers and lifeguards. New lockers for lifeguards have been installed



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Renovations made to the locker rooms, showers and bathrooms should provide visitors to the Pleasantville Village Pool a better experience this summer.

and the first aid station has been moved further inside the building, away from the heat and sun.

The room that formerly housed the pool director's office now stores swim team equipment. Berard, who once led the team, said she used to store equipment in her living room during the summer because there was no space in the pool house.

Although most of the renovations are complete, Laotaris and Berard noted a few changes still have to be made. A large back room in the pool house will be

converted into an arts and crafts space for campers when rain forces them out of the pool. Berard said she would like to see the outdoor area that houses the chemicals and the pool's filtration system screened to make it more aesthetically pleasing. She also discussed the possibility of moving the concession stand onto the grassy area next to the pool.

Another big change for next year will be online registration and payment for annual pool passes. Berard said the village will also explore the possibility of installing free Wi-Fi at the pool.

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Students, Historical Society Unveil New Horace Greeley Exhibit

By Martin Wilbur

For more than 50 years Horace Greeley High School had no permanent exhibit of the man who the school is named for.

That's not the case any longer.

Last week the school unveiled a museum quality exhibit that was inspired by the New Castle Historical Society and completed by the students in Suzanne Mosca's 11th-grade American history class during the second half of this school year.

"This was a great opportunity for us," said junior Abby Furst, one of about 15 students who worked on the project. "We always wondered who is Horace Greeley and it's great to be able to find out who he is. It was fun to do."

Located in a display case in the hallway leading from the main entrance to the school's commons, the exhibit traces Greeley's life from his early days, through his rise as the influential editor of the New York Tribune, his move to Chappaqua where he became a major landowner and farmer to his foray into politics, which ended in his unsuccessful run for president in 1872.

Mosca said the historical society's trustees approached Principal Robert Rhodes to learn if there was interest among the faculty and students to work on a Greeley exhibit. Rhodes approached the Social Studies Department and Mosca saw that her American history class would be a good choice to undertake the project.



The students started their work in early February, took trips to the Greeley House downtown, worked with history society Director Cassie Ward and began outlining what would be included in the exhibit, Mosca said.

Many of the items in the display case have been supplied by the historical society or are digital reproductions, Ward said. The students wrote the exhibition text labels and also received direction from the school's art department on presentation to give it a professional look and feel. The

exhibit puts a human story behind the a historical figure, she said.

Ward said the students not only did an outstanding job but took ownership of the project.

"We're thrilled," she said. "I think the school is happy. It was just a pleasure to work with the students. I haven't had the chance to work with that many school districts. All of the students that I met... have been so polite, so engaging, so interested. You couldn't have asked for a better project."



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

Juniors in Suzanne Mosca's American history class who participated in the recently completed Horace Greeley exhibit at Horace Greeley High School.

William Powell, a student who worked on the project, said it was great to be involved, particularly seeing it progress from a concept on paper to reality.

"It's nice that all the people in the coming years can come experience and learn about Horace Greeley the same as we did and learn more facts about him that no one really knew before," Powell said.

Furst added that it will also be rewarding to return to the school in future years and see that the work she and her classmates did will be on display permanently.

The project has also strengthened ties between the New Castle Historical Society and the school district.

"We are thrilled to have forged this relationship and we hope that it will just continue to grow in the coming years," Ward said.

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New Castle Town Mobile Application to Keep Residents Informed

Last Tuesday night, the New Castle Town Board approved moving forward with a mobile application.

The town will be collaborating with My Community Mobile, a mobile application developer out of Las Vegas. My Community Mobile has developed dozens of mobile apps for cities across the country including, most notably, Little Rock, Ark. and Birmingham, Ala.

A mobile application will allow residents to obtain pertinent information about the town directly from their smartphones, a comprehensive directory for New Castle in your pocket.

"It is important for residents to be

informed and stay connected, and this is another avenue to do just that," said Supervisor Robert Greenstein.

"Most residents have a smartphone and they turn to it when they are in a hurry. With a mobile app they can quickly find town contacts and information they need."

The main page of the app lists several categories: Town Hall, Recreation, School Finder, Service Providers and School Finder. Town Hall is divided into two sections: Town Supervisor and Board and Departments/Services. The former provides short biographies of the town officials as well as one-button links for users to send them

e-mails or call them from a cell phone. The Departments/Services link lists all the options available within the town, including police, fire, comptroller's office, town clerk, public works, social services and more, with direct links.

The Recreation page also includes two sections. The Facilities feature provides photos and information on locations in town, including the library, community center and other facilities available to the public. Parks & Trails lists all the nature and playground sites in New Castle, with specific information to each site.

School Finder allows the user to instantly get information on any school

within the municipality.

Touching one of the available icons will bring up a map, directions or call the school from the phone. The Service Provider page lists various services that the town offers, including electricity, gas and water with contact information to each provider. A short history of New Castle is provided on the About Page, and a link to the town's complete website is also available.

Further links along the bottom provide access to weather, a compilation of the town's social media feeds and a comprehensive town calendar available in multiple formats for convenience with the ability to instantly add any events to the user's cell phone calendar.

Lastly, the mobile app allows the town to send Push Notifications to residents with the app on their phones. Push Notifications can be used in times of emergency to notify residents of road closures or weather conditions or can be used as reminders to let residents know about town board meetings or other events in town.

It will take about a month-and-a-half to develop and launch the application. It will be available for iPhones or Android devices and can be downloaded for free from the iTunes App Store or Google the Play Store upon release.

Cindrich: Borders Building Could Be Sold in Near Future

By Martin Wilbur

Mount Kisco Mayor Michael Cindrich said last week the property that housed the Borders bookstore may be on the verge of getting a new and permanent owner.

Cindrich indicated that real estate sources have told him a transaction to buy the building at 154-162 E. Main St. may be near, but the person or entity that takes it over is not going to be a tenant.

The roughly 20,000-square-foot split-

level building in the heart of downtown Mount Kisco has been vacant for close to four years since Borders vacated the site after it declared bankruptcy in 2011. Last August the property sold at auction for \$6.5 million to a limited liability company following foreclosure proceedings. The previous building owner was Mount Kisco Associates, which didn't care to subdivide the space.

If the transaction transpires, the new owner is going to have to find a tenant

for the space that once housed the bookstore. The size of the space as well as the two-level interior could make it difficult to fill, Cindrich said.

"Whatever goes in there is going to have to make sure we make it fit," he said.

Some residents and downtown merchants have pointed out that the highly visible vacancy has been a major drawback for Main Street and has hurt business on that street.

Police Blotter

Pleasantville Police Department

June 6: Report of a disturbance outside of Michael's Tavern on Bedford Road at 3:18 a.m. An investigation is ongoing; no further information is available.

June 6: A 19-year-old Pleasantville man was arrested on Bedford Road at 3:28 a.m. and charged with DWI after he was involved in a traffic accident.

June 7: Three individuals from Port Chester were arrested on Marble Avenue at 12:35 a.m. and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana, a violation. The suspects were an 18-year-old and 25-year-old man and a 19-year-old woman.

June 7: Report of a larceny on Memorial Plaza at 7:58 a.m. A woman reported that her cell phone was stolen from her bag as she waited in the breezeway at the Metro-North train station.

June 7: An Ashland Avenue resident reported at 4:05 p.m. that a mountain bike was stolen at Parkway Field. The matter is under investigation.

June 12: Two 19-year-old men were arrested and charged with exposure for urinating in public on Bedford Terrace. The first suspect, a Pleasantville resident, was apprehended at 1:06 a.m. The second suspect, a White Plains resident, was arrested at 1:57 a.m.

North Castle Police Department

June 6: A caller reported a road rage incident on Bedford Banksville Road at 5:01 p.m. that occurred about 15 minutes in the past.

June 7: Report of an erratic motorcycle driver on southbound Route 22 at 8:11 p.m. The caller stated that the driver was traveling at a high rate of speed and doing U-turns in the area of Route 120. The vehicle in question was a Kawasaki-type motorcycle with the operator wearing a green helmet.

June 8: A Cloverdale Avenue resident reported at 7:41 a.m. that her vehicle was stolen from her driveway.

June 8: A caller reported at 5:12 p.m. that there is a bad odor coming from a dumpster on Labriola Court. The responding officer reported that he discovered spoiled meat and other rancid food items that had been disposed of.

June 10: A Cloverdale Avenue resident reported at 7:38 a.m. that a vehicle has been parked in a no parking zone in front of her home since Monday. A check of the vehicle found that it was stolen out of New York City. The NYPD's Stolen Property Unit was advised.

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New Petition Needed to Address No. Castle Pond, Dam Repairs

By Martin Wilbur

The Town of North Castle has been forced to reformulate a petition for 18 private property owners surrounding Long Pond who want to form a park district to pay for dam repairs and maintenance.

Town Attorney Roland Baroni said he is drawing up a new petition because the state comptroller's office informed him that property owners in a park district are not allowed to evenly split the cost of the tax but it must be calculated based on assessed valuation.

Last month, North Castle officials and residents tentatively agreed that the town would contribute about 22 percent of the costs associated with the project because it was believed that the municipality owned that percentage of the water body. The 18 property owners, whose parcels extend to the pond, were set to pay what turned out to be \$1,229 each per year to cover the estimated \$310,000 project and debt over the course of a 20-year bond.

While the town can evenly distribute district taxes in other types of districts, that is not permissible in this case, Baroni said.

"It is true, the state comptroller told me last week that for some reason park districts are not included in those districts that can be formed on a benefit basis so everybody pays the same amount," he said. "We do have to revert to an assessment basis, an ad valorem assessment basis."

A plan addressing Long Pond Dam repairs and maintenance was required to be submitted to the state by last Friday after a blunt letter from the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) was received by North Castle on Apr. 29. If no action was taken by the town, the state could step in and do the work, then bill the affected homeowners.

Baroni said he intended to contact DEC before the end of last week to inform the agency what the town plans to do.

If the district is formed, the homeowner with the largest assessed valuation in the district would pay \$1,229 a year, Baroni said. The other homeowners would pay a portion of that cost based on the assessed valuation of their property compared to the property with the largest assessed valuation.

Baroni said town officials also learned that under state law the municipality cannot be a member of a district even if it owns property. Therefore, the town would contribute \$13,500 a year toward repairs and maintenance on a contractual basis, he said.

Late last month, the original petition was in the town clerk's office for the homeowners to sign. There needs to be signatures from owners of 51 percent of the assessed valuation of the 18 parcels. Baroni said he would draw up the new petition as quickly as possible.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

A special district needs to be formed to pay for urgent repairs and upkeep to Long Pond Dam in North Castle.

Last week North White Plains resident Anthony Futia questioned whether the town was adhering to the state's regulations and if taxpayer money should go toward repairs and maintenance. He said the town should consider selling its portion of the lake and dam to the homeowners for \$1.

Homeowners surrounding North Lake formed an association to take over expenses related to that water body and the same should be considered for Long Pond Dam, Futia said.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said most of the residents rejected taking over the lake. Since it was determined the town owns a

portion of the area, it should contribute to the cost.

"We own a portion of the lake. It's tough to find out exactly the portion that we have here," Schiliro said. "We have portion of the dam, according to DEC."

Baroni said the issue is a serious one not just regarding finances but public safety as well.

"Whether we own Long Pond Dam or not, the water is being held back by that structure, so we have an obligation not just to the 18 residents who live with that but to the entire town to protect them," Baroni said.

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Obituaries

Louis Picinelli

Louis Picinelli, most recently of Ridgefield, Conn. and formerly of Thornwood, died on June 7.

He was 87.

Picinelli was born on Oct. 8, 1927, to the late Santo and Loretta (nee Zambri) Picinelli in White Plains. He graduated from White Plains High School and proudly served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post 136 in Mount Kisco, a retiree of Sheet Metal Workers Local 38 and served as a volunteer with

the Thornwood Fire Department, the Mount Pleasant Auxiliary Police and as assistant scout master of Troop 81 for many years. Picinelli was a member of the Thornwood Neighborhood Group Senior Club. He loved playing golf, tending his rose garden and traveling with his family to many countries and throughout the United States. He was also a member of the St. Dominic Council Knights of Columbus in Thornwood.

Picinelli is survived by his devoted wife, Beneria (Betty) Picinelli, to whom he was married for 65 years; loving sons Michael (Cindy)

Picinelli and David (Ann) Picinelli; cherished grandchildren Michael, Melissa (Keith) Huttemeyer; step-grandchildren Cameron Zinman and Reid Ziccolella; great-grandchildren Kristian Huttemeyer, Celia and Griffin Zinman and Gia Ziccolella; his sisters, Natalie Dennin and Loretta Cavaliere; and several nieces and nephews. H was predeceased by sisters Ann Altamuro and Rose Longo and brother Dominick (Bea) Picinelli. Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on June 11. Entombment was at Ferncliff Mausoleum in Hartsdale on June 12.

John McGuire

John M. McGuire, a devoted husband, father and grandfather, died on June 7 surrounded by loved ones at his home in Chappaqua.

He was 75.

McGuire was born on Nov. 2, 1939, to the late Beatrice and Felix McGuire in Mount Kisco. He graduated from Peekskill High School in 1958 and served as an SP4 with the U.S. Army. He was honorably discharged in 1962 and married Barbara (Brundage) in August 1962.

McGuire spent 25 years working for the Somers Central School District before retiring in 1996 as superintendent of buildings. For the past 41 years, he was the superintendent for Fair Ridge Cemetery in Chappaqua.

He was also a diehard fan of the Mets, the Jets and classic western movies and TV shows.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a brother, Phil McGuire; four children, Michelle Huff, Debbie Krinitsky, John McGuire and Jennifer Weldon; sons-in-law Richard Huff and James Krinitsky; and seven grandchildren, Ryan and Paige Huff, Kevin, Thomas and Megan Weldon and James and Kaitlyn Krinitsky. He is predeceased by brothers Robert and Don McGuire.

Visitation was on June 13 at Beecher Flocks Funeral Home in Pleasantville. A graveside service followed at Oakwood Cemetery in Mount Kisco.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in McGuire's name to Hospice Care of Westchester and Putnam, 540 White Plains Rd., Suite 300, Tarrytown, N.Y. 10591.

Mary Maher

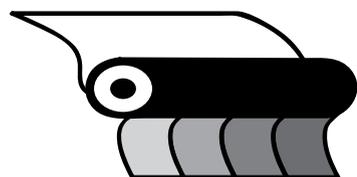
Mary E. Maher of Hawthorne and formerly of New Rochelle died on June 11.

She was 67.

Maher was born on Aug. 27, 1947, to the late Patrick and Jane (nee McGovern) Donaghy in New York City. She is survived by her devoted husband, Eddie Maher, of Hawthorne; her loving children, Eddie (Ted) Maher of Alexandria, Va., Bill (Lisa) Maher of Denver, Kathleen Maher of West Harrison and Mary Beth (Danny) Massett of Mahopac; one brother, Phil (Paula) Donaghy, of The Villages, Fla.; and her five cherished grandchildren, Charlie and Rowan Maher and Sean, Riley and Shay Massett. She was predeceased by her brother, Henry Donaghy.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on June 15. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Rosary Church in Hawthorne today (Tuesday) at 10 a.m. followed by interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to The American Lung Association would be appreciated.



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Louise Valuck

Louise Valuck passed away on May 30 at the Sarah Neuman Rehab Center in Mamaroneck.

She was 73.

Valuck was born May 9, 1942, in Elizabeth, N.J. to Martin and Susan Valuck. After graduating from Battin High School in 1960, she attended Wagner College in Staten Island, receiving a bachelor's in English. After graduation, she attended NYU and earned a master's in American literature, then continued her education at Columbia University in earning a master's in library science. Her early employment years were spent in New York City with Bowker Book Publishing Company.

Valuck moved to White Plains when she began her career with the New York Power Authority. She had a lifelong love of books and puzzles. She enjoyed traveling around the world and had for years been an active member in the Lutheran Church and the Columbia Alumni Association. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her love of her family and friends and her kind and gentle ways.

Valuck was predeceased by her parents.

A memorial service will be held on June 19 at 11 a.m. at Emanuel Lutheran Church, located at 197 Manville Rd. in Pleasantville. Donations in her memory may be made to Emanuel Lutheran Church.

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'Pro-Business' Cuomo Helps Kisco Car Dealership Celebrate Renovation

By Martin Wilbur

It's an unusual sight to see a governor cut the ribbon at the grand opening of a local business or new facility.

But that's what happened early last Thursday evening in Mount Kisco when Gov. Andrew Cuomo arrived at the Arroway Chevrolet Cadillac car dealership on North Bedford Road to help dignitaries, including village Mayor Michael Cindrich, use a pair of oversized scissors to snip the bright red ribbon.

Actually, Cuomo, surrounded by more than 100 invited guests, is a car enthusiast who happens to be a customer at the dealership and is friends with its owner, Lou Roberti, the former chairman of the New York State Automobile Dealers Association. It also was an easy trip for him to make; Cuomo lives about a mile away from the facility, which was celebrating its renovation that was completed last year.

Since there was a microphone, Cuomo used the opportunity to tout his administration's and the state's "pro-business" focus during the past four years. The improved environment, he said, helps new businesses to open and existing businesses to expand, something that New York had been losing out on to other states with regularity. Since the end



Gov. Andrew Cuomo joins Arroway Chevrolet Cadillac owner Lou Roberti and Mount Kisco Mayor Michael Cindrich to cut the ribbon on the dealership's renovated showroom.

of the crippling recession in 2009, New York is second in the nation in creating new jobs, outpaced only by Texas.

"It's like seeing a new bud on a plant, right? It means growth, it means moving forward, it means health and from the state's point of view, from our point of

view, when you see businesses growing that is the best sign of vitality for the state," Cuomo said.

He said that car sales on average account for 14 percent of the state's retail sales, making it a critically important industry and a key indicator of consumer

confidence. When working people go out and buy a new car, that usually means they're feeling good about the direction of the economy, the governor said.

Arroway opened at 175 N. Bedford Rd. in 2010 and completed a renovation last September, Roberti said.

Roberti called Cuomo "a personal friend" who has bought cars at the dealership and brings his vehicles in for servicing. Cuomo's Press Secretary John Kelly said the governor even has a vintage Corvette.

"He loves cars," Roberti said. "We talk about cars, it's not all politics. (It's) probably 20 percent politics and 80 percent cars. The guy lives locally and he cares."

Cindrich said the location, which is across the street from the shopping center that houses Target and A&P, has been a car dealership for more than 40 years and is a great place for that type of business. When customers come to Mount Kisco to car shop, a certain percentage of them may stop and get something to eat or buy something else while in town.

"It's a great complement to our village," Cindrich said.

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Girl Scouts Say 'Thank You' to the Troops With Their Cookies

By Janine Bowen

Girl Scout cookies are something of an American institution, so it seems only fitting that local troops band together each year to send the treats to those serving overseas as a reminder of home.

On Saturday morning at Westchester Community College in Valhalla, Girl Scouts from across the county spent several hours packing cookies into boxes and decorating thank-you cards to be sent to soldiers overseas.

An event that began in 2002 when volunteer Alison Bergman collected cookies with her own troop, Operation Cookie Drop is now run by the Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, which includes more than

30,000 members throughout the Hudson Valley who shipped 80,000 boxes of cookies overseas this year.

"It's so important because all of the troops who can't be home would love a taste of home, and what better taste (is there) than Girl Scout cookies?" said County Executive Rob Astorino, who attended the event.

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson CEO Pam Anderson said Operation Cookie Drop is a way for girls to learn about the sacrifices that others are making to protect their freedom. She acknowledged that while some of the youngest participants may not understand the concept of war, they know to express their gratitude when they see a man or woman in a military uniform.

"It's a way for our Girl Scouts to understand what true service means, to know that people are sacrificing for them and just to say thank you," Anderson said.

She explained that while the cookies will be shipped out on a barge in the coming weeks, they will likely not reach the Middle East until sometime in August. At that point, the recipients send photos of themselves holding the treats as well as thank-you notes for the girls.

Congresswoman Nita Lowey, who also attended the event, commended the scouts who spent hours in the hot sun packing boxes. She said by helping to take care of military personnel, they are helping to make the world a better place.

"The Girl Scouts are really a key part of our community, a key part of our country, and I am so proud to be part of this event because I (can only) imagine the faces of our veterans when they open those boxes of cookies," Lowey said.

Several servicemen and servicewomen attended the Cookie Drop, taking photos with the girls and helping out. Master Sgt. Mary Kay Messenger said it was wonderful to see future leaders participating and explained that the event helps to perpetuate the valuable lesson of appreciating service.

"It is overwhelming to see the outpouring and the veteran support," said Messenger. "We don't get that today. In school, certain teachers will teach it but it's important to



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Congresswoman Nita Lowey and County Executive Rob Astorino were among those who lent their support to Girl Scout troops Saturday for Operation Cookie Drop.

keep that legacy going."

During the opening ceremony, the scouts and Astorino honored one veteran, Vito Pinto, the recently retired director of Veterans Affairs for the county. Pinto received a Distinguished Service Award from the county executive and a certificate of appreciation from the Girl Scouts for his service and his contributions to Operation Cookie Drop over the years.

Pinto said he was pleased to see the girls continue to participate in the cause. Anderson echoed his sentiments, noting that the event will continue as long as there are troops serving overseas.

"On the one hand it's a shame that we keep having to send cookies to the Middle East, but while we do we want our brave men and servicewomen to know that we care," Anderson said.

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Mt. Pleasant Celebrates U.S. Army's Anniversary, Flag Day in Ceremony

By Martin Wilbur

Sunday was a great day to be in Mount Pleasant to pay tribute to an extraordinary group of men and women who after nearly two-and-a-half centuries continue to help make America great.

American Legion Post 112 in Hawthorne rolled out the welcome mat to help commemorate the 240th anniversary of the creation of the U.S. Army. As part of the hour-long ceremony outside Mount Pleasant Town Hall in Valhalla, local Boy Scouts led a flag-raising ceremony in honor of Flag Day and later two additional names were added to the town's Medal of Honor monument.

Peter Fiumefreddo, commander of Post 112, said the post was approached by the local branch of the Army's Bronx Company recruiting station, which includes Westchester in its territory, to host a celebration for the special anniversary of the United States' largest military branch. Fiumefreddo and his brethren jumped at the chance to be part of the program.

"We try to do more to get the Army recognized," he said. "We are all proud veterans. That's why we do it."

The older veterans were joined by a group of today's Army officers as well as future soldiers who have enlisted and were given their incoming oath by Lt. Col. Michael Stinnett, New York City

recruiting battalion commander. They will be on their way to basic training this month.

For the Army's anniversary's celebration, it is a longstanding tradition for the cake to be cut with an officer's saber, which was done with a large sheet cake. The oldest serving soldier then presents the youngest with a piece of cake.

Speakers at the event included Capt. Abigail Tassa, who served as the grand marshal for the parade that ended at Town Hall, and Rita Cosby, a network news correspondent, who has covered the United States military and whose father was a World War II prisoner of war.

Tassa said serving one's country sometimes comes at a steep price, but it is one that soldiers don't hesitate to pay.

"Of the soldiers standing here in front of you, I will tell you we are all well aware of the costs that freedom comes to all of us," Tassa said.

Not only does the U.S. Army serve and protect Americans, but also people who are seeking freedom around the globe. Cosby recounted the story of her father, who was born in Poland and as a teenager fought in the Polish resistance after the Nazi invasion at the start of World War II.

After five years of fighting, her emaciated father was one of about 60 prisoners who escaped a Nazi POW camp and headed out into a forest. Soon after,



Boy Scouts from Hawthorne Troop 1 raise the American flag in honor of Flag Day.



The two latest names are unveiled on the Town of Mount Pleasant's Medal of Honor monument.

world," Cosby said. "You are the greatest military. We are so blessed to be an American."

Before refreshments were served, Fiumefreddo unveiled the latest two names that were engraved into the town's Medal of Honor monument, which lists all 92 New York recipients of the highest award a soldier can receive.

William Shemin and Henry Johnson, who fought in World War I, were recently recognized in a ceremony at the White House with President Obama. Shemin, who was Jewish, and Johnson, who was black, exhibited extraordinary bravery while serving on the front lines in France in 1918, but were denied the Medal of Honor because of discrimination.

American planes were flying overhead and they dropped a note to tell the escapees that if they walked 15 miles to the American lines, they would be free.

All these years later, the story still brings tears to Cosby's father's eyes.

"I tell you that story to tell you what you represent, not just to this country, but what you represent to people in Poland and in so many countries all over the

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Editorial

Energy Purchasing Program Well Worth the Trouble for Pleasantville

What appeared to be something that could only be a plus for the residents of Pleasantville has somehow become way more complicated than it ever should have been.

The village board had signed on -- or so they thought -- to enroll in a community choice aggregation energy purchasing program last month. Municipalities throughout the county can decide whether they want to sign on to the program that allows Sustainable Westchester to see if a group-buying energy effort would provide residents with the cheaper electric bills that everyone craves.

If anyone has looked hard at their Con Edison bill lately, it's certainly an effort worth exploring. If Sustainable

Westchester, after they review any Request for Proposals received, can determine that money can be saved, then it would be a municipal board's responsibility to provide their residents such an opportunity.

However, last week it was learned that someone at Sustainable Westchester apparently committed a gaffe. The resolution that municipalities such as Pleasantville was approving failed to grant local governments the authority to put the program in effect.

Despite the embarrassing blunder, it shouldn't detract from what the program is trying to achieve for consumers. For many, energy costs have gone through the roof; it's time to see if there's a better way.

'While the problem with the resolution was unfortunate, that shouldn't give those who opposed the energy purchasing concept a fresh opportunity to cast flimsy doubts on the validity of the program or what it would attempt to do.'

Guest Column

This Father's Day Keep These Tips in Mind to Balance Family and Work

Professional obligations and family commitments can be at odds -- particularly for those who hold leadership positions or possess jobs with long hours. And many people learn that the hard way.

"At one point, I became quite one-dimensional. It was all work and I had little time for family or other activities," said Charles D. Morgan, CEO of PrivacyStar, who also served as CEO of Acxiom Corp. from 1972 to 2008,

overseeing the pioneering database marketing services and technology provider's growth from 25 employees to 7,000.

Morgan, a serial entrepreneur, reveals his work-life balance struggles in his memoir, "Matters of Life and Data: The Remarkable Journey of a Big Data Visionary Whose Work Impacted Millions (Including You)."

While working at his first job at IBM as a systems engineer, Morgan was called back just a few days into his honeymoon due to an urgent office matter, marking the beginning of an all-consuming career. Despite ups and downs in both the professional and personal arenas, he eventually hammered out a successful career and a peaceful family life. In time for Father's Day, Morgan is sharing some insights into the eternal challenge of striking the balance between competing interests.

- While you may feel compelled to be involved in every aspect of the business, delegating tasks to the people who can do a better job than you can, will benefit both you and the company. So know your strengths and weaknesses for better time management.

- Find systems that simplify operations and make things happen faster, even if it means rocking the



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boat. For example, when titles were eliminated at Acxiom, the cultural shift didn't make everyone happy, but in the end the company became more efficient and flexible, giving everyone more time at the end of the day.

- No matter what you are wrestling with at work, be available for your children during the day. Make sure your kids know that they are important to you. Attend their recitals and ball games and find hobbies that you can share with them. Be reachable as much as possible.

More information about the book can be found at www.mattersoflifeanddata.com.

Father's Day is the perfect opportunity for those struggling with the work-life balance to think about how to streamline work to make more time for family.

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Robert Balfour
Dentist, Pleasantville

By Janine Bowen

Robert Balfour has been a popular dentist in Pleasantville for more than three decades, but recently he has had to take a back seat to a four-legged co-worker.

Balfour began practicing dentistry 37 years ago and launched his own practice on Marble Avenue when an opportunity presented itself just as he completed his medical residency. At the time he had no patients and was working at several other facilities to pay the bills, but eventually the practice grew.

In 1997, Balfour relocated to Grant Street, where he remains today. Once his two daughters went off to college in Ohio, Doreen, his wife of 32 years, joined him at the office as his receptionist.

He said working with his wife took a little getting used to, but ultimately it was a perfect arrangement as Balfour handled the dentistry, a career he chose because he enjoyed the sciences

and liked working with his hands, and Doreen handled the business side.

"You have to learn to leave work here and not bring it home but it's fun," said Balfour, a New Jersey native. "We get along well here and it's a good match."

When his daughter began graduate school four years ago, Balfour also inherited Jack, an English toy spaniel that his daughter had adopted as a puppy but couldn't bring with her to school because her apartment prohibited pets.

Since the Balfours were spending all day at the office and the dog did not like to be left alone at home, they began bringing him into work. Initially, Balfour kept Jack in his private office, but eventually he began to wander around the waiting room. The reaction from patients was overwhelming.

Balfour explained that patients often pet the dog, which is named after Captain Jack Sparrow from the "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies, while sitting in the waiting room. One day a patient



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Pleasantville dentist Robert Balfour, his wife Doreen and Jack.

asked if they could bring Jack into the exam room. Balfour said he was surprised that someone wanted to hold the dog during their checkup and was concerned that Jack might be frightened by the sound of the dental tools, but he allowed it to happen.

"I didn't know how he'd react with all of the noises and stuff but he's fine with it. Most of the time he curls up on the patient's lap and just goes to sleep," Balfour said.

Since that day, Jack's popularity in the office has grown. Doreen Balfour stated that she now has patients who call to make appointments and request that the dog be there with them. The spaniel has had a calming effect on patients who are nervous about having dental work

done, especially children. The couple agreed that many children look forward to coming to the office and playing with Jack, which helps them forget that they are there for a dental appointment.

"It helps them out so they're not so nervous and they love coming here to play with him," Doreen Balfour said.

When the dog isn't curled up in the exam chair with a patient, he can often be found lying in front of the office fireplace or in his dog bed, which is often filled with treats brought to him by patients. Doreen Balfour stated that she has actually received calls from patients after their appointments asking which treats the dog likes best, because they wanted to buy them to show appreciation for his help. Balfour said one patient even bought an English toy spaniel for her two sons after seeing how well they interacted with Jack.

Balfour joked that he has been feeling a little neglected since Jack began coming to the office because the dog receives more attention than he does, not to mention the presents. But he's happy that the decision to bring the dog to work has provided an unintentional benefit to patients of all ages.

"That's become the running joke. When people come in they ask if Jack's here and I always kid them and say nobody asks if I'm here, everybody asks for Jack," said Balfour. "Jack's become the star of the office."



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Kaitlyn Corbett
Nuclear Engineer

Kaitlyn Corbett has always called New York home. Born and raised in Buffalo, she earned her degree in nuclear power engineering at SUNY College of Technology and moved to Peekskill to start her career at Indian Point. Safety is the single most important mission for Kaitlyn and her 1,000 colleagues at the plant, and it's been the focus of her years of study and training in the nuclear power industry. Every day, engineers are graded on their performance by inspectors from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The NRC recently gave Kaitlyn and the team at Indian Point its highest safety rating — for the fifth year in a row.

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'Feng Shui'd' Anew, Not Without Some Trepidation

After a year of great upheaval in my personal and professional domains, having moved to a new residence and expanded space in my office building, I was feeling off kilter. I was a little uncomfortable in my own skin, not sleeping well and working in a tangle of misplaced folders, temporary filing boxes and a jumble of crossed wires.

Six months ago, I moved from my large historic property that for over 40 years had housed my public relations business and domicile to make way for an ever-expanding enterprise after my wife had declared "Enough! I've lived 'above the store' my entire married life and now I'm living inside the store!"

That's when we purchased a new residence at Trump Park in Shrub Oak, which we've been decorating madly, while at our historic property we converted our former living quarters into new offices.

The transition has involved a massive displacement of furnishings and fixtures and the addition of new office equipment to accommodate a doubling of staff, all of which had left me in a state of anxiety.

Perhaps it was not totally accidental that I received a call from the fabulous Deanna Trust, feng shui consultant extraordinaire,



By Bill Primavera

about whom I had done a column a while back. The universe has responded to my need to be "feng shui'd" at home and at the office to make sure that I hadn't bollixed my environments with all this moving.

"Come visit me fast, at both places," I implored. "I need to get organized for a feeling of calm."

Within the month she arrived and I had my video production crew on hand to record the process. There was one terrible snag, which I hadn't anticipated: my wife Margaret.

I should explain that a happy marriage of nearly a half-century can be built on the attraction of opposites, and my wife doesn't go for this kind of stuff. When Trust mentioned on the phone the night before that she would be bringing many crystals to "paste to the ceiling" of our new home to energize it, I was able to say with full confidence that, knowing my wife, that wasn't going to happen. We agreed that we could work around this issue and I promised that at my office she could plaster the entire ceiling with crystals, like stalactites in a cave, if she liked.

At home, as soon as Trust entered the

front door, she told me that the residence was "stable, a happy place, well-designed for good fortune and happiness."

While Donald Trump didn't actually build the building – that honor goes to Louis Cappelli -- he did attach his name to it, and since he has a feng shui consultant for every one of his projects, I'm sure he wouldn't have allowed that unless he were fully confident that the place represented him well.

Trust cleansed and blessed my home quickly, feeling that I had pretty much followed pointers she had given me from a consultation a year earlier. I had made some errors in my bedroom with too much "water" representation in my seascape paintings -- six of them -- which have to be replaced in favor of "action" representation. There were other minor tweaks, like having plants in two corners to stimulate good fortune and growth, but nothing that Margaret would consider too weird.

It was then on to the office building where I admitted unabashedly that I want to soar with success. After three hours I was exhausted. There was the creation of an altar, then the most exacting interpretation of each room from our reception area, to my manager's office, other offices, a conference room, my office and the kitchen. There was rearrangement of wall art, wall color

suggestions, and a biggie, my office chair, which was not commanding enough it seems. It was suggested that I need a chair that comes up high enough to cover the back of my head. Wouldn't you know, I had just bought an expensive one that didn't have that feature.

There were also loads of crystals to be added in every room, some hanging directly from the ceiling -- one directly at the entrance -- others in corners and some from chandeliers. Certainly prospective clients may wonder about that and ask whether I really believe in it all. I guess I'm like those who say they decide to live a good life not knowing whether there's a heaven or hell, but just in case...

If you feel you want to improve your chances at happiness, good fortune and better health, call Deanna Trust at 973-366-3570 or visit www.trustfengshui.com.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). 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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Cancer Survivors and Their Doctors Celebrate Triumphs of Survival

By Janine Bowen

More than 100 dinner guests at the DoubleTree Hotel in Tarrytown last Thursday had something in common: they all were triumphant in their battle against cancer.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, which has facilities in Sleepy Hollow and West Harrison, hosted the annual Survivor Celebration, which brought cancer survivors from across Westchester together to celebrate with each other and their doctors.

Dr. Chau Dang, chief of medical oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering in West Harrison, said one of her favorite parts of the event is the chance for the participants to step out of their traditional doctor-patient roles and interact in a more informal way.

Dang noted that while all of the guests had been cured of cancer, the definition of a survivor also includes anybody who is currently battling the disease. From the moment there is a cancer diagnosis, the patient is deemed a survivor, and

being able to say they are cancer-free is the ultimate goal.

"It's a journey that we hope all of our patients get to take from the diagnosis, through treatment and moving forward with their life," Dang said.

All of the survivors who attended have been in remission for varying lengths of time, some having only won their battle this year while others have carried the label of cancer-free for more than a decade. However, many said the fear remains in the back of their minds that the disease could reemerge. Some said they are often overly cautious when going to the doctor, asking a lot of questions to make sure that none of their symptoms is a return of the disease.

Breast cancer survivor Rose Marie Schulman of Pleasantville takes a different approach. A registered nurse and licensed hypnotherapist, Schulman used the power of positive thinking and visualization to help her through the treatment process and employs the same mentality in her recovery to cope with

the fear that the disease will return.

"You have to build, you can't destroy anymore, so we have to build our mindset to say that we survived.... We don't have cancer anymore and we have to keep reminding ourselves that every ache and pain that we have is just part of aging," Schulman said.

Not everybody is as fortunate as Schulman when it comes to remaining cancer-free. Schulman said she sat next to a woman at last week's dinner who beat breast cancer several years ago, but was recently diagnosed with liver cancer and had to cope with the fact that she would be fighting for her life a second time.

Anna Look, a Hartsdale resident who won her battle against stomach cancer in 2011, noted that the Survivor Celebration, which is held during National Cancer Survivorship Month, is a way to meet and relate to people who have gone through the same journey. It also served as a time to remember those who were unable to win their fight against cancer.

"We all have our own different lives and we do different things, and to be able to come together, it sort of reminds you that you are a survivor, just like all these people in this room, and it reminds you that you should be grateful that you are here because so many people did not make it," Look said.



JANINE BOWEN PHOTO

Dr. Chau Dang, chief of medical oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering in West Harrison, was one of many doctors last Thursday who celebrated their patients' successful battles over cancer.



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Bronx Students Receive Fun Italian Lesson at Kisco Restaurant

By Martin Wilbur

Fifth-graders from a Bronx charter school took in something they had never experienced before when they went on a pre-graduation field trip to Italy.

Okay, the students from the Bronx Charter School for Better Learning really didn't cross the ocean to Europe. Instead they took the train up to Mount Kisco last Thursday and received a lesson about Italian culture and some of the most influential Italians in history at Via Vanti!

When the hour-long lesson was through, the children were then treated to a lunch of one of five different kinds of pizzas and gelato for dessert, which certainly made an impression on the youngsters.

"It's been a lot of fun because I was going someplace special with my friends that I've never been to before," said student Michael Sharpe.

This is the third year that the restaurant's owner, Carla Gambescia, has introduced the graduating class at the Bronx Charter School for Better Learning to her passion for Italian culture and some of her specialty pizzas that were tweaked a bit to appeal to a child's palate.

A close friend of Gambescia founded the school several years ago, which is how she started participating in these year-end

lessons/celebrations for the students who are moving on next year. Gambescia also isn't shy to let others know that she is a supporter of the charter school concept.

"We try to do things that have a learning element to them in a fun way here," she said.

Gambescia, who has written articles and has compiled a book of stories on Italian culture, engaged the children in discussions about Michelangelo, Dante, Vivaldi and Galileo. Choosing those great Italians covered the fields of art, literature, music and science, she said.

She also offered each of the students, about 25 to 30 of them, with the selection of one of five Via Vanti! pizzas, four of them named after the historical figures that she spoke of. The ingredients of each pizza reflected qualities of those four famous people, Gambescia said.

The Michelangelo contained sausage and peppers; the Dante featured bacon and spinach toppings; the Vivaldi had peppers and tomatoes (for his red hair); and the Galileo has mushrooms and onions. A fifth pizza that Gambescia made available, the Queen Margherita, contains tomato and basil.

The students seemed to enjoy the discussions and, of course, getting out of the classroom for a day and munching on



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Via Vanti! owner Carla Gambescia leads a lesson in her restaurant's dining area on some of the great Italians in history.

some pizza.

Student Kelechi Akabuogu said she enjoyed learning about Italy. The only European country that she and her classmates had previously studied to any extent in class was Spain because of that country's many explorers. Like many of

the students, she hopes to visit Italy one day.

Sharpe said he enjoyed the discussion about Michelangelo, who is known to many as a painter because of his work on the Sistine Chapel, but was actually a sculptor and architect.

P'ville Masonic Lodge Offers Two Saturday Movie Nights at BRS Field

By Martin Wilbur

It's become increasingly popular for local organizations to find a way to get families out together on a warm weekend summer's evening to view a free family movie.

Westchester County has done it a couple of times each summer in recent years at Kensico Dam Plaza and it has become a summer rite of passage in other towns.

For the next two Saturday evenings the Pleasantville Hiawatha Masonic Lodge will be offering movies on the field at Bedford Road School. This week local residents will have the chance to see "The Karate Kid." On June 27, the lodge has arranged for "E.T." to be shown.

Masonic Lodge member Tony Burton said the gates should open about 7:30 p.m. with the movie scheduled to begin at dusk.

Burton said the lodge's members have a long history of lending their efforts

to various projects and causes in and around Pleasantville but hoped to do something that was a little different.

"It's one of the things where we wanted to be active members of the community because that's what we're about," he said.

The movie nights were only announced last week because the Masons and the school district needed to work out details of using the facility, Burton said. They also needed to get village officials involved because if the weather is good there will be crowds.

Burton said lodge members were pleased that the district was able to make Bedford Road School available because they would like as many people as possible to walk to the field.

There will be some food vendors at the school's field on both Saturday nights, although people are also welcome to bring blankets and a picnic basket, he said.

The screenings would be canceled in the event of rain.

Mitzvahs & Milestones



Teens from Chappaqua recently gathered on a sunny June afternoon at the Goldsmith Center for Adolescent Treatment to dedicate a sports pavilion, picnic tables and benches built with \$25,000 they raised.

Joined by their parents and the staff and residents of the Hawthorne-based residential treatment facility, the 11 teens officially dedicated the new addition to the center's athletic field. This was done under the auspices of Mitzvah & Milestones, a UJA-Federation initiative designed to add a philanthropic component to milestone celebrations.

Their fundraising started three years ago as a volunteer project in preparation for their upcoming b'nai mitzvah. Every three weeks, these boys, ages 12 and 13, laced up their sneakers, grabbed their water bottles and headed out for a friendly game of basketball. Those friendships — and commitment to philanthropy — grew over the years.

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Business of the Week

A.N.S. Seafood Pleasantville

By Martin Wilbur

Andy Konstantakopoulos knows where to look to find top-notch seafood.

After 40 years of owning seafood restaurants, selling fish from behind supermarket counters in Westchester and the Bronx and operating a wholesale seafood outlet in Elmsford, Konstantakopoulos uses one rather simple rule to keep customers satisfied and coming back for more.

"We have a lot of experience with good fish, and it's where the fish comes (from). It's very important to know where the fish comes," he said. "If nothing else, that's the most important (thing). Most good fish come from colder water."

Konstantakopoulos is the owner of A.N.S. Seafood and has leased space in Pleasantville's Key Food Marketplace on Pleasantville Road for the past 14 years, maintaining longtime and loyal customers, some of whom drive out of their way, to pick up their fish from him.

That's because he and his staff, which

is comprised of mainly family, including son-in-law Paul Zorbas, make sure to maintain high-quality products and service. There is a full display case of choices that you would find in any of the best seafood outlets: Alaskan halibut, flounder, swordfish, Alaskan and Norwegian salmon, Boston cod, lobster and shrimp and many others.

Zorbas said having a good product that customers can trust to be tasty and fresh every time is critical. They're also responsive to changing tastes and demand. For instance, most customers prefer fillets today rather than steaks so they don't have to pick through the bones.

They're also fortunate to be in Key Food because there's a certain amount of built-in foot traffic and less overhead than if they were in a storefront of their own, Zorbas said.

"The business comes to you if you have a good product," Zorbas said. "We built this product up from the



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Andy Konstantakopoulos, left, owner of A.N.S. Seafood, with his son-in-law Paul Zorbas in front of their counter at Key Food in Pleasantville.

beginning before it was a Grand Union, before it was a Key Food and no other supermarket privates out their seafood or their meat or their sushi and this is what this company does."

Although he's been out of the restaurant business for a while, which is where he got his start, Konstantakopoulos still operates his seafood outlet in Elmsford, selling both wholesale and retail. He's been in the business so long that he has been dealing with many of the same suppliers for about 30 years and knows who to trust.

"So we try to buy from good companies," Konstantakopoulos said.

With an oven in their space, one

convenience that Konstantakopoulos and Zorbas provide customers is pre-preparing meals for people to pick up on their way home from a busy day at work. There are dishes such as seafood penne with their own marinara sauce, calamari marinara, linguine with clams, baked clams and stuffed mushrooms that can be warmed up and ready to eat.

Konstantakopoulos said it's important not to add too many spices when you have fresh fish, just the right amount of seasoning.

They also take orders from customers who may look for a large quantity for a party or for a fish that is out of season. Zorbas said if a customer gives them at least 24 hours notice, they can fill most requests.

"If you're looking for three dozen little neck clams, those are easy to do, but if you're looking for more expensive things like bluefish, which is seasonal, it's sometimes harder to do depending on how much you want to purchase," Zorbas said.

Communication with their customers is crucial, including remembering regular customers' name.

"He's been in the business so long they know him by first name," Zorbas said of his father-in-law. "You can't replace that. It's a family."

A.N.S. Seafood at Key Food Marketplace is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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Happenings

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

Tuesday, June 16

The College of New Rochelle Graduate Programs Open House. Learn about the college's masters degree and certificate programs in education, human services, art and communication studies and nursing, including masters programs in public administration, art therapy, mental health counseling, marriage and family therapy, family nurse practitioner and many others. Meet with current students, faculty and administrators and a financial aid representative will be on hand to answer questions. College of New Rochelle, Sweeny Student Center, Rooms A and B, The College of New Rochelle, 29 Castle Place, New Rochelle. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 1-800-933-5923 or visit www.cnr.edu.

Subway Series Doo-Wop. Featuring John Kuse and The Excellents, The Dimensions, The Quotations and The Fireflies. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Show at 8 p.m. \$84 per person, plus tax. Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit www.BroadwayTheatre.com.

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 Whipoorwill Rd East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Tuesdays through June 23. Info: 914-273-3887.

Wednesday, June 17

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 Ripstix™ 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. Romperie 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.

Chair Yoga. Experience greater flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, improved balance, strengthening and toning of muscles, better digestion, stress reduction, mental clarity, improved breathing, relaxation and an overall sense of well-being. Led by Alka Kaminer. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Knitting Club. Come learn to knit, or if you already know how, bring your current project and enjoy a visit with other knitters and crocheters. Beginners should bring a pair 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.

Art Discussion Series: "June Italian Word Artists." In honor of Poetry Month, examine the art world's use of words as creative tool and revolutionary weapon. At once visually exciting and intellectually provocative, the idea of "words in freedom" created by Italian Futurism's founder Filippo Marinetti combined poetic elements and visual imagery to put forth revolutionary ideas. Led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

"People Places Things." The story of Will Henry, a newly-single graphic novelist balancing parenting his young twin daughters and a classroom full of students while exploring and navigating

the rich complexities of new love and letting go of the woman who left him. Followed by a post-film discussion and Q&A with the director, Jim Strouse. The Picture House, 175 Wolfs Lane, Pelham. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$6. Non-members: \$12. Students and seniors: \$10. Info: Visit www.thepicturehouse.org.

Thursday, June 18

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.mountkiscoliberal.org.

Marketing Toolkit Presentation. This session will reveal some simple but effective best practices and considerations for the small business or nonprofit seeking to make their e-mail newsletters more effective. Led by David Fischer. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill 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 or visit www.Addie-tude.com.

Friday, June 19

Movies in Millwood: "Tangled." The Chappaqua-Millwood Chamber of Commerce and Drug Mart present the third of four screenings of family movies on consecutive Friday nights. Millwood Park, Route 100, Millwood. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. Movie at sundown. Free. Food available for purchase or may be brought in. Info: See the chamber of commerce's Facebook page.

Friday Night Films: "56 Up." Director

Michael Apted's latest installment in his groundbreaking documentary series, which looks at several individuals whose lives have been revisited every seven years since they were first interviewed 49 years ago as children. Discussion led by Professor Val Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd., Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

"High School Musical...The Musical." A Lighthouse Youth Theatre production. The Chappaqua Crossing Theatre, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Children (12 and under): \$18. At door: \$23. Also June 20 at 1, 4 and 7:30 p.m. Info and tickets: Visit www.standingovationstudios.org.

"I Am My Own Wife." The Small Town Theatre Company presents this one-man Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Doug Wright. The story of a German transvestite Charlotte von Mahlsdorf who operated an antique business for years despite the encroaching dangers of the Nazi and later Communist regimes. Starring Tom Kramer and directed by Mara Mills. Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah. 8 p.m. \$20. Also June 20. Info and tickets: Visit www.SmallTownTheatre.com.

Saturday, June 20

Pleasantville Farmers Market. Come experience the largest farmers market in Westchester, the one voted Best of Westchester 2014 by the readers of Westchester Magazine for its 18th outdoor season. With over 55 vendors, seven nearby parking lots and creative weekly programming, it's a delicious good time every Saturday. This week, listen to the masterful European sounds of Le Nozze di Carlo, that will make you want to bicycle to the market and shop and dine with friends. Also, the Mount Pleasant Public Library will have a read-aloud event for children and learn more about the market's lead sponsor Phelps Memorial Hospital. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: Visit pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Chappaqua Farmers Market. Brining locally-raised and produced food to the community in a weekly market, creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers in the region. Featuring about 40 vendors weekly. Also includes music, children's activities and a food demonstration. Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

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>.

Tai Chi With Larry Attile. Learn specific feldenkrais and chi kung breathing

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The Restaurant Examiner

Mt. Kisco Wine Bar Part of Dinner With Rare Kentucky Bourbon

By Jerry Eimbinder

A special six-course, whiskey-paired tasting dinner will be held at Harper's Restaurant and Bar in Dobbs Ferry on June 23.

In a collaboration between Harper's and Pour, a boutique wine bar and eatery in Mount Kisco that also specializes in craft whiskeys and spirits, a prix-fixe dinner will be offered for \$500 per person, including gratuity and tax. The event, which gets underway at 7:30 p.m., will be prepared by Harper's executive chef Chris Vergara. The menu had not been determined as of last week, but Harper's owner Justin Montgomery said it would be elaborate.

Six different whiskeys from the Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery in Frankfort, Ky. will be offered during dinner. Pour owner Anthony Colasacco will be on hand to answer questions about the whiskey.

"The Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery's bourbon, often called Pappy Van Winkle or simply Pappy, is a cultural phenomenon," Montgomery said. "Bourbon connoisseurs have long held it up as one of the world's best, while limited production has ensured that it also is one of the world's most sought after bourbons."

According to Garden & Gun, a sporting life and Southern food magazine, "a growing body of aficionados believe (Old) Rip Van Winkle's aged bourbons to be the finest whiskeys on Earth."

Julian P. Van Winkle III, president of the Old Rip Van Winkle Distillery, won the James Beard Foundation Award

for Outstanding Wine and Spirits Professional in 2011. His grandfather, known as "Pappy," started the business in the 1870s.

"Bars and restaurants are limited to the amount of Old Rip Van Distillery whiskey they get by allocation," Montgomery said, "To put it in perspective, we at Harper's get one bottle each year."

The six whiskeys being offered were obtained for the dinner by partnering with Pour.

"Pour is one of the very few places in the tri-state area that carries the full selection of Old Rip Van Winkle," Montgomery mentioned.

The whiskeys include the distillery's most famous products -- a 20-year, 90.4-proof bourbon Family Reserve and a very rare 23-year-old 95.6-proof bourbon Family Reserve.

The other whiskeys are a 10-year, 107-proof bourbon cited for its smoothness; a sweet bourbon recommended as an after dinner drink; one of the oldest rye whiskeys available in the marketplace; and a younger version of the 20-year-old bourbon.

Harper's is named after Rose Harper, Vergara's colorful great aunt who died in 2010 at 101 years old. She had a long career in marketing and promotion and was a writer and author. Her achievements included writing "Mailing List Strategies: A Guide to Direct Mail Success," a book published by McGraw-Hill in 1986.

She is said to have consumed at least

two glasses of Scotch daily, beginning at 19 and continuing until she was 91. During Prohibition, Harper drank three glasses per day in silent protest. She often ate two bowls of ice cream in a sitting and during much of her life smoked two packs of cigarettes daily. A bit of a fashionista, she had more than 300 hats in her closet.

A unique attraction of the restaurant during its early days was an impressive display of professional chefs knives, including butchering and boning knives and meal cleavers. The display was dismantled when Vergara needed many of the tools for the kitchen.

Vergara attended the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park and cooked at La Panetiere, a French restaurant in Rye, and at Lincoln Center's Mediterranean restaurant Picholine before co-founding Meritage, an Italian restaurant in Scarsdale, in 2004. He is also the executive chef and a partner at Saint George, a French bistro in Hastings-on-Hudson.

Daily specials at Harper's include a beer and burger on Monday for \$18, half-price wine by the bottle on Tuesday, no corkage fee on Wednesday for customers who bring their own bottles and \$1 oysters on Thursday. During Happy Hour (5 to 7 p.m.) draft beer and wine by the glass is half-price.



JERRY EIMBINDER PHOTO

Justin Montgomery, owner of Harper's Restaurant and Bar in Dobbs Ferry, which will be partnering with Pour of Mount Kisco to present a special dinner on June 23 featuring rare Kentucky bourbon.

Harper's has a poured concrete bar, 90 table seats inside the restaurant and an additional 30 on a secluded patio at the back of the restaurant.

It took over the space in Dobbs Ferry previously occupied by Mimosa in December 2010. Meritage replaced Il Cigno in 2004 and Saint George moved into a site formerly occupied for 33 years by Buffet de la Gare in 2013.

Harper's Bar & Restaurant is located at 92 Main St. in Dobbs Ferry. Call 914-693-2306 or visit www.harpersonmain.com for more information.

42 Restaurant & Events Will Hold Cooking Lessons for Kids

By Jerry Eimbinder

The summer cooking camp for children Cooking With Ms. Angela & Friends will begin classes on June 29 at 42 Restaurant & Events in White Plains. The pupils will be organized into small groups with each child given an opportunity to work hands on with food and kitchen tools at stations.

"More and more kids are enjoying cooking," said Angela Bastone-Goncalves who is in charge of the program. "Why not give them some tricks and tips so they're not just making typical mac and cheese?"

Chef Anthony Goncalves and guest chefs not only teach the campers how to mix and measure but also how to put some "pizzazz" in their family meals, she added.

"The kids will learn the basics such as how to follow a recipe but also will get tips on how to give ordinary ingredients some pop," Bastone-Goncalves said. "Eggs might



JERRY EIMBINDER PHOTO

Students at the summer cooking class at 42 Restaurant & Events in White Plains.

be nestled in holes dug into French bread or fruit might be folded into butter."

The children will be divided into two age groups -- 7 to 9 and 10 and over. A class for the younger children will be held from Aug. 3-7 for \$275. For the older group, two sessions will be held -- June 29 through July 3 and July 6-10. Each class costs \$320 to enroll.

For more information, visit www.cookingwithmsangela.com.

42 Restaurant & Events is located in the Residences at Ritz-Carlton Westchester.

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Kurt Rhoads in The Two Gentlemen of Verona, 2014. Photo: William Marsh

Happenings

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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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday in June. Info: 914-273-3887.

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 (except June 14). 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.

Natural Wonders Meadow Hike. Come from an easy hike through the new native wildflower meadow. Stay “busy as a bee” while learning about the productivity of pollinators and meet some of the local plants and animals that thrive in the meadow. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale 1 p.m. Members: Free. Non-members: \$8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Argentine Tango Dances. Great music and dancing on a 3,500-square-foot dance floor. Enjoy a pleasant time with friends. Refreshments served. Broadway 26 Dance, 26 Broadway, Hawthorne. 8 p.m. to midnight. \$16. Also the first Saturday of each month from 3 to 6 p.m. \$12. Info: 914-725-3023 or 914-484-5101 or e-mail sampelayo@optonline.net.

Pleasantville Movie Screening: “The Karate Kid.” The Pleasantville Hiawatha Masonic Lodge will present the first of two movie screenings for the community to enjoy. Food available for purchase or bring a picnic. Bedford Road School field, 289

Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Open at about 6:30 p.m. Movie at sundown. Free.

Sunday, June 21

College Safety and Prevention Awareness. Topics to be discussed include sex crimes, domestic and dating violence, alcohol and drug abuse and theft prevention. Led by Officer Matt Leach. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Also June 28. Info: 914-273-3887.

What’s the Buzz With Honeybees? Celebrate Father’s Day and the Summer Solstice and learn about the busy life of a honeybee hive. See why and how honeybees are critical players in our lives and in the global economy. Includes a tasting of local honey. 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.

Monday, June 22

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.

Wild Encounters Story Time. Nature discovery for youngsters. Enjoy a nature-themed story and discover the wonders of nature while exploring fields, forests or landscaped grounds. Dress for outdoor activity. Except in extreme weather conditions, a portion of each class is spent outdoors. For children three to five years old; with a parent or caregiver. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$9 per child. Non-member: \$12 per child. Every Monday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Zumba Class. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome; no membership needed. PFX, 101 Castleton St., Pleasantville. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$10 a class. Every Monday. Info: Contact Amy Olin at olin.amyj@gmail.com.

Tuesday, June 23

The Hit Men. A group of amazing performers, superb musicians, superior vocalists, great arrangers and creative composers. They have reunited to go on tour again to relive the magic they created on stages in recording studios and around the world. Featuring performing and/or recording members of megastar acts including Frankie Valli & The 4 Seasons, Tommy James & The Shondells, The Critters, Carly Simon, Jim Croce, Cat Stevens, Barry Manilow, Elton John and Kiki Dee. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Show at 8 p.m. \$84 per person, plus tax. Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit www.BroadwayTheatre.com.

Wednesday, June 24

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

Art Discussion Series: Stained Glass From Cathedrals to Sculptures. Donatello and Ghiberti to Tiffany, stained glass as an art form has had many purposes and interpretations. Examine certain hallmark stained glass works as well as looking at the various methods of creation from the Middle Ages through the early 20th century. Led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Thursday, June 25

Genealogy Workshop With Jackie Graziano. Receive an overview of the process, including tips for starting and for getting past “roadblocks.” Focus is on using records held by government offices, libraries and historical societies combined with strategies for using the Internet. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Friday, June 26

Movies in Millwood: “Jungle Book.” The Chappaqua-Millwood Chamber of Commerce and Drug Mart present the last of four screenings of family movies on consecutive Friday nights. Millwood Park, Route 100, Millwood. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. Movie at sundown. Free. Food available for purchase or may be brought in. Info: See the chamber of commerce’s Facebook page.

Opening Reception for “Knit Knit Bomb Bomb” and All-Age Art Workshop. Pelham Art Center’s outdoor Courtyard will be colorfully ablaze this with a yarn bombing installation that will cover stretches of its brick walls, tree branches, benches and other objects with knitted garments. This community knitting project led by Maureen McCourt and Gail Heidel transforms the context of everyday objects as a new way to activate public space. In conjunction with the new work local artists exhibit. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Aug. 31. Info: 914-738-2525 or visit www.pelhamartcenter.org.

THERE’S A WORD FOR IT

A vocabulary-building quiz by Edward Goralski

Wait, there’s more! Recently about 6,500 words were added to the Collins Official Scrabble Words list. The list reflects how English is used around the world, with words from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, the UK and the U.S. In total the word list takes up 1,216 pages in hardback. It’s also an app if you don’t want to flip through all those pages. Perhaps a few of this week’s words will be added to your vocabulary.

1. oxyc (adj.) (worth 13 points in Scrabble)

- A) caused by a poison B) involving oxygen C) resembling an egg

2. schvitz (v.) (24 points)

- A) to gossip B) sweat C) haul away

3. zeda (n.) (14 points)

- A) a grandfather B) a unit of time C) the last item

4. dench (adj.) (11 points)

- A) obscurely prophetic B) derived from a noun C) excellent

5. coqui (n.) (16 points)

- A) a tree-dwelling frog B) a small clam C) a long necked duck

6. paczki (n.) (23 points)

- A) dried coconut meat B) an infant cereal C) a filled doughnut

7. wojus (adj.) (15 points)

- A) exhibiting great woe B) of a poor quality C) damaged by long use

8. qamutik (n) (22 points)

- A) a sled with wooden runners B) an extinct volcano C) an intermittent fever

ANSWERS:

1. B. Involving oxygen
2. B. To sweat
3. A. Grandfather
4. C. Excellent
5. A. A type of tree-dwelling frog
6. C. A round filled doughnut
7. B. Of a poor quality
8. A. A sled with wooden runners

Author Advises Mt. Kisco Parents on Raising Substance-Free Children

“You do not have to trust your child” was among the more unexpected suggestions given to parents at a Mount Kisco Public Library event on June 6. If you learn your child has been lying to you, why would you continue to trust him or her?

The question was posed by author and speaker Karen Milici Palmiero, whose presentation on ways to keep children substance-free was a collaborative venture between the library and Mount Kisco Partners in Prevention, a federally funded community coalition and a project of the Mount Kisco Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Council.

Palmiero is a licensed mental health counselor who is currently on the administrative staff at Phoenix House, a rehabilitation organization that offers 120 programs in 10 states. She began her career as a middle school teacher, then moved into counseling. Through her years of treating adults, young people and families affected by substance use and addiction, Palmiero has accumulated a wealth of suggestions for parents on how to deal effectively with a child’s inevitable exposure to substance use in our society.

“Understand that even if you shield them from the [bad] news, they will hear about it at school,” she cautioned.

Palmiero said she noticed a shift about eight years ago when more teens were needing detoxification from opiate abuse. Up to that point she saw kids using alcohol and marijuana, and detox was generally something only for adults. Today there is an “opiate epidemic,” according to Palmiero. Her claim is supported by the Centers for Disease Control, which also labels current illicit opiate use in the United States as an “epidemic.”

“Experimentation is not a rite of passage,” Palmiero said. “Listen to your gut, not your child,” while pointing out that a child who is using various substances is not going to admit it.

Palmiero is outspoken and unflinching in her advice, but it is delivered with a large measure of compassion for parents, who must struggle constantly with the influences of media, youth peer pressure and society’s general tendency to deny problems related to teens who are involved with



drugs and alcohol.

“Don’t waste years thinking it can’t happen to you, because it can, and it does,” Palmiero urged. “The best parent can wind up with a using kid, because it isn’t about being a good parent versus a bad parent or even having a good child versus a bad one. Addiction is a brain disease.”

Palmiero stressed the biggest mistake parents make is to wait until their child is in high school to think about whether they might be using drugs and alcohol. She places the onset of substance use disorder usually in middle school and recommends that parents have a prevention plan that spans their child’s toddler years through high school graduation.

Her practical suggestions for that plan—all 90 of them—are available in her book “90 Ways to Keep Your Kids Drug Free—from Toddlers to Teens.” The book is available at www.amazon.com.

Westchester County Health Department’s Rabies Prevention Tips

As summer approaches, Westchester County Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler advises residents to take a few simple precautions to prevent themselves, their families and their pets from being exposed to rabies.

“With warmer weather, residents spend more time outdoors in closer proximity to wildlife,” Amler said. “It’s great to enjoy the outdoors, but remember to keep away from wild and stray animals, teach your children to avoid them, too and keep your pets’ rabies vaccines up to date.”

It’s equally important to keep creatures out of your home to avoid rabies exposure. So far this year, 17 residents were treated after an exposure to a bat. In 2014, 120 residents were treated. Of the 147 animals that were submitted for rabies testing through the end of May, 12 were confirmed rabid, including eight raccoons, two bats, one fox and one skunk.

“To keep bats out of your home, check to see whether your soffits and attic vents are tightly screened,” Amler said. “If a bat gets inside, capture and contain it safely and call the Health Department immediately. That way, if you, a pet or a family member was exposed, the bat can be tested for rabies, which can help

you and your family avoid a series of rabies shots.”

What can you do to keep animals away from and out of your home?

- Always make sure doors and windows are secure and that any small openings that will allow an animal entrance into your home are closed off. This includes screening, chimneys, attic vents and air conditioners.
- If a bat finds its way into your house, confine or capture it (without further exposing yourself) for possible rabies testing. Never release a bat due to the possibility of pet or human exposure. Instead, call the Health Department at 914-813-5000 to arrange for testing.

- Cover garbage cans securely to avoid attracting animals.
- Bring pet food and water dishes inside and don’t scatter birdseed or crumbs on the ground.
- Do not leave food outside unattended.

How can you tell if an animal is rabid?

- Unusual behavior may be the first sign of rabies in an animal.
- A rabid animal may become either abnormally aggressive or unusually tame.



- Staggering and frothing at the mouth are sometimes noted.

What should you do if bitten or scratched by a wild or stray animal?

- Wash the bite or scratch with warm, soapy water.
- Call your doctor or hospital to find out if additional treatment is needed.
- Report the incident to the Health Department, 24 hours a day, at 914-813-5000. If calling after business hours, follow the recorded instructions for reporting public health emergencies.

What should you do if your pet fights with another animal?

- Wear gloves when handling your pet

during and after an encounter with another animal.

- Call your veterinarian and the animal control officer in your community to report the incident.
- If your pet is exposed to a suspect rabid animal, try to keep the animal in sight until the police or a wildlife trapper arrive.
- If your pet bites or scratches someone, confine your animal and call the Westchester County Health Department immediately at 914-813-5000. There are a few simple procedures to follow so that the injured person does not need rabies post-exposure treatment. You should also contact the veterinarian for your pet’s rabies vaccine records.

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Presenting The Unique Wine Palate of Americans



By Nick Antonaccio

Americans drink more wine than any other nation. And most of the wine we consume is produced in the United States.

So what wines do we prefer? Is there a national preference for certain styles of wines over others? Do we tend to consume wines produced from a select few grapes or are our palates more expansive? Is there such a thing as a national palate, whereby Americans have honed a common preference for wine tastes, aromas and bouquets?

This week I'll explore the American palate. From the early days of the democracy, a preference for sweeter styles of wines prevailed. Over the ensuing centuries, we experimented with various styles of wines. But surprisingly, our national taste for wine has changed little since the Founding Fathers tipped Madeira and Cabernet Sauvignon.

But for the 13-year respite when Prohibition put a halt to legal alcohol consumption, Americans appetite for alcohol has grown over the centuries, yet our preferences have not changed significantly. Today, Americans still prefer fruit-forward wines with mild

tannins and acidity. Most Americans who prefer this style of wine don't think of these wines as having a sweet profile. Yet comparatively speaking, Europeans have been drinking far dryer and more sophisticated wines over a much longer period of time.

How is the term palate defined for the intent of this week's column? According to the Oxford Dictionary, it is "a person's appreciation of taste and flavor, especially when sophisticated and discriminating." Certainly, each of us has preferences for a particular grape variety and style of wine. Typically, one's palate is honed over a number of years and eventually is able to discern nuances beyond taste and flavor.

But can there be a national consensus palate? Apparently so.

The Americans' national palate has come to dominate the world wine market. As the largest consuming nation, winemakers across the globe clamor to craft their wines to satisfy the palates and wallets of the American market.

What are Americans winemakers producing to satisfy the American populace? The top five grapes grown in Northern California, which accounts for a dominant share of American wine production, are Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Merlot and Syrah. Do you recognize your drinking preferences in this list?

Across the globe, winemakers are shifting their production to these same grape varieties, oftentimes in direct conflict with ages-old vineyard and winery plantings and processes. For example, 50 years ago very few of the top five grapes were grown in Italy. That was before Italian winemakers set their sights on the American consumer. Not only are they now dedicating increased acreage to these varieties, but in a number of instances they have changed the style of wine being produced to meet the profile of the American palate. This has created a debate in wine circles that the Italians (and certain Spanish and French winemakers) have sold out to the Americans and abandoned their centuries-old traditions.

Another reason that Americans consume more wine than any other nation is our penchant for stand-alone wine consumption. In Western Europe, wine is rarely consumed away from the dining table. In the United States, we enjoy a glass of wine as a social lubricant as much as we do as an accompaniment to a meal. The American traditions of the after work glass of wine, group cocktail parties and wine bars

are unique amongst wine-consuming nations.

Here's the rub. Over the centuries, Americans' palates have been honed to enjoy fruit-forward, balanced wines with low tannins and acidity. These wines tend to be in-your-face fruit bombs that lack subtlety and complexity. When we encounter other styles of wines from around the world, our palates may not be able to discern the nuances and finer characteristics of those wines.

Have American palates been desensitized to enjoy more sophisticated wines? I think not. In spite of efforts from profit-motivated winemakers, and wine critics who prefer big, fruity wines, alternative wines are being produced and should be sought out. Through continuous experimentation, a discerning palate can be

developed.

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.

*You Heard It
Through the
Grapevine*

Their Presence Was Felt



LYNDA SHENKMAN PHOTO

The Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester held its 21st annual Humanitarian Award Dinner on June 6 at the Westchester Hilton in Rye Brook. Brian Skanes, left, the 2015 Humanitarian of the Year recipient, and Nethmi DeSilva, this year's Youth of the Year, were joined by the Boys & Girls Club's president R. Todd Rockefeller and CEO Alyzza Ozer.

Fastball Joins Pleasantville Music Festival Lineup

The organizers of the 11th annual Pleasantville Music Festival announced recently the addition of the band Fastball to its amazing list of headliners.

Fastball joins the Gin Blossoms, G. Love & Special Sauce, the legendary Marshall Crenshaw, Westchester-based up-and-comers Lost Leaders and Rebecca Haviland & Whiskey Heart and the amazing funk-ska band out of Orlando, Beebs and Her Money Makers. The festival will spotlight 16 acts on three stages for nine hours of music on Saturday, July 11 at Parkway Field. Gates open at 11 a.m.; music goes from 12 to 9 p.m.

For 20 years, the Austin-based Grammy-nominated power trio named

Fastball has been laying down tracks and playing live. After their 1996 debut, "Make Your Mama Proud," their 1998 sophomore album, "All The Pain Money Can Buy," sent them into the limelight, propelled by top-20 hit "Fire Escape," top 5 "Out Of My Head" and their major chart-topper "The Way."

The complete lineup will be announced soon as the last contracts come in. Festival-goers will want to get their tickets early before they sell out and save money by buying in advance. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster outlets, www.Ticketmaster.com, or the Pleasantville Music Festival box office. Details are available at www.pleasantvillemusicfestival.com.

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ExaminerSports

Bobcats' Dream Season Ends With a State Championship

By Andy Jacobs

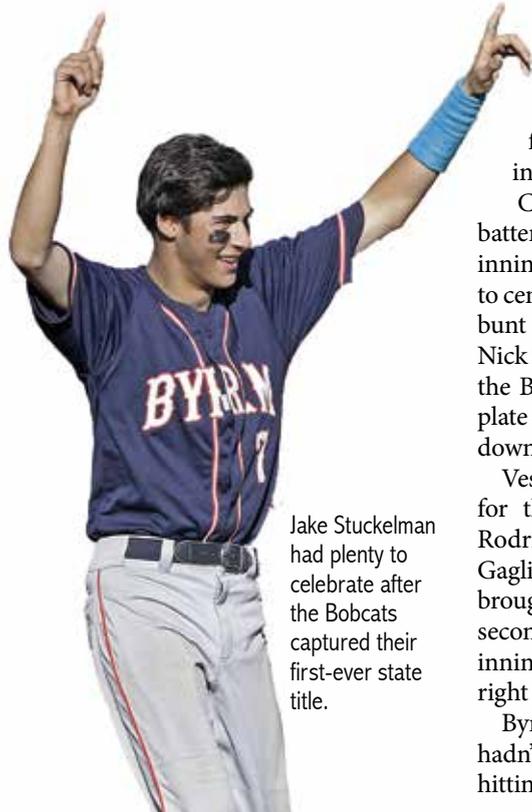
Maybe there really wasn't any other way this dream season for the Byram Hills baseball team could conclude — with Frankie Vesuvio, the heart and soul of the Bobcats, turning what would have been a nightmare that haunted him forever into a most fitting and dramatic finish in a town named Endwell.

Vesuvio's leaping, twisting, backhanded catch in center field late Saturday afternoon with the bases loaded and the Bobcats desperately clinging to a one-run lead put an emphatic end to a Queensbury seventh-inning comeback bid and gave Byram Hills a heart-pounding 3-2 victory in the Class A state championship game at Maine-Endwell High School.

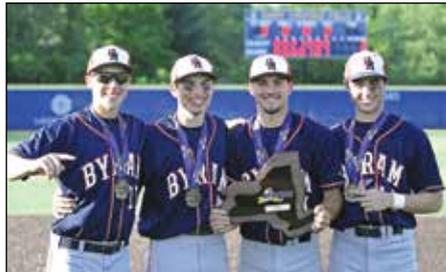
"He made it interesting, but, hey, we'll take it," said euphoric Bobcats head coach Scott Saunders moments after Vesuvio's game-deciding grab put one final flourish on a magic carpet ride of a season for his team. "It was unconventional the way he tracked it down, but whatever works, man, whatever works."

"Yeah, I actually misread the ball, came in on it a little bit," conceded Vesuvio. "I saw it floating over my head, had to go back. I slipped and I almost fell. I just leaped, had it in my glove. That was a feeling like nothing else."

Well before Vesuvio made the play that will long be remembered, Byram Hills had to survive a tension-filled semifinal earlier in the day against Long Island champ Division that wasn't decided until Jake Stuckelman came through with an RBI single in the bottom of the 10th inning, lifting the Bobcats to a 4-3 victory and a



Jake Stuckelman had plenty to celebrate after the Bobcats captured their first-ever state title.



Byram Hills players, left to right, Nick Contillo, Tommy Gagliardi, Matt Gertz and Kellen Hatheway celebrate with the championship plaque after defeating Queensbury in the state final on Saturday.



Tommy Gagliardi, who had two hits in each game Saturday, watches a foul ball head down the right-field line vs. Queensbury.

berth in the state championship game.

There was much less drama for Section 2 champion Queensbury, which then took the field and defeated Section 6's Hamburg 7-1 while the Bobcats retreated to their hotel to rest, refresh and refocus before the final. They returned to face Spartan ace Kyle Chambers, who had just pitched four and two-thirds scoreless innings in the win over Hamburg.

Chambers retired the first six Byram batters he faced, but in the top of the third inning Kevin Wietsma led off with a single to center field. Michael Aberman's sacrifice bunt moved him to second base and then Nick Sapone drew a base on balls. Vesuvio, the Bobcats' leadoff hitter, stepped to the plate and belted a run-scoring double deep down the left-field line.

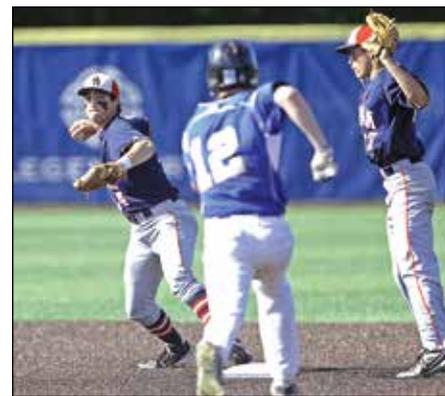
Vesuvio's hit brought a pitching change for the Spartans, who turned to Brett Rodriguez. He was greeted by Tommy Gagliardi's ground ball to short that brought home Sapone with the Bobcats' second run. But in the bottom of the inning, Queensbury threatened to get right back in the contest.

Byram Hills pitcher Matt Gertz, who hadn't started a game since nearly no-hitting Lincoln in the sectional semifinal

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



With this backhanded catch in front of ironic signage in center field, Frankie Vesuvio put an end to Queensbury's seventh-inning comeback bid in the state final.

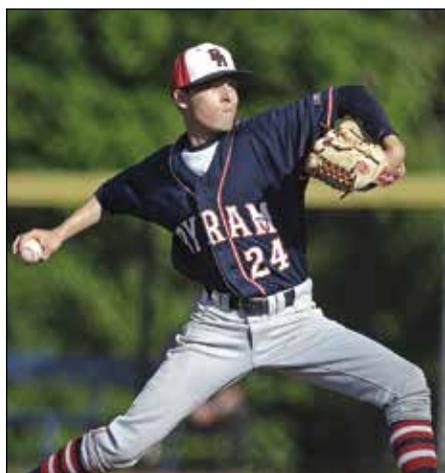


Byram Hills shortstop Kellen Hatheway steps on second and throws to first for a double play as teammate Tom Gagliardi looks on in Saturday's state final.



John Spadafino of Byram Hills sends a fly ball toward left field in the state championship game at Maine-Endwell High School.

more than two weeks earlier, yielded a leadoff hit to Joe Rodriguez. Hunter Scott reached on an error and Brett Rodriguez followed with a long fly that moved the lead runner to third. Gertz then got out of trouble as Erik Wettersten bounced to short, where Kellen Hatheway fielded the ball, stepped on second and threw to first for an inning-ending double play.



The Bobcats' Anthony Russo pitches in the seventh inning of the Class A state championship game.

Just as they had against Division earlier in the day, the Bobcats soon built a 3-0 lead, adding another run in the top of the fourth aided by one-out walks to Nick Contillo and Stuckelman. Contillo eventually scored what proved to be the game's decisive run on a wild pitch with two outs. Unfortunately for the Bobcats, the inning ended with the bases loaded as Vesuvio was called out on strikes.

"Yeah, you always wanna tack 'em on when you have the opportunity to do so," said Saunders about leaving the bases loaded in the fourth. "You never want to get complacent with a lead. Certainly it would've been nice to bust it open there. But credit our boys. They don't let that get them, they bounce right back, and we recorded that final out."

The Bobcats nearly added to their three-run lead in the top of the fifth as Gagliardi led off by lining a single to left and Hatheway, the Bobcats' all-time hits leader, just missed a home run, sending a Rodriguez pitch foul far down the left-field line near the 315-foot sign. The inning ended with Gagliardi stranded at second base.

In the bottom of the inning, the Spartans

continued on next page

Bobcats' Dream Season Ends With a State Championship

continued from previous page

finally got to Gertz as Matt Zita doubled down the left-field line and came around to score on a single by Brett Rodriguez. But with two runners aboard and just one out, Wettersten sent a fly ball toward right-center field. Vesuvio raced over to catch it in front of Sapone, quickly spun and fired a perfect one-bounce rocket to third baseman Stuckelman that arrived just in time to cut down Hunter Scott trying to advance.

Gertz yielded a leadoff walk in the sixth, but then retired the next three Queensbury batters. In the seventh, the Bobcats stranded a pair of runners, including Gagliardi, who had reached with his second hit of the game. That set the stage for the dramatic finish in the bottom of the inning.

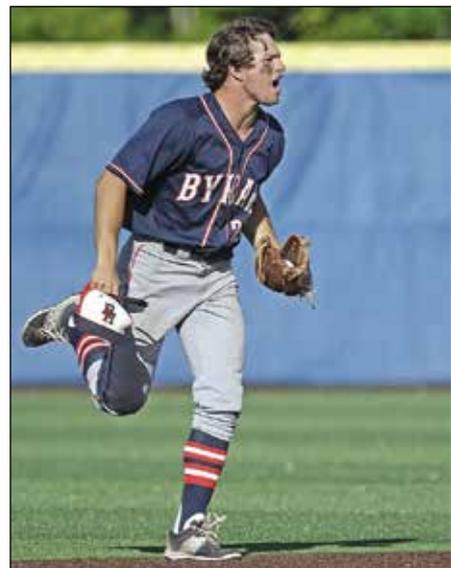
"Well, yeah, we were hoping for a 1-2-3 inning," said Vesuvio, "so that the top of the order didn't come up."

"Wow, we just had to make it interesting," added Hatheway. "We couldn't just go out and have an easy win."

Gertz, who had already pitched briefly in relief in the semifinal, managed to get one out in the seventh. But he departed with two runners aboard after walking Scott on a full-count pitch. In came Anthony Russo, the Bobcats' ace a year ago who hadn't thrown a pitch all season following shoulder surgery. He promptly plunked Brett Rodriguez to load the bases.

The Bobcats, still leading by two runs, moved to within one out of the state title when Russo got Wettersten to pop out to Hatheway at short. But the Spartans narrowed their deficit to 3-2 as a walk to Chambers forced in a run. Saunders summoned junior southpaw John DiMarco to replace Russo and the drama continued to build.

A 2-1 pitch to cleanup hitter Justin Troelstra caromed off the lefty batter's right shoulder, seemingly forcing in the



Byram Hills center fielder Frankie Vesuvio races in to join the Bobcat celebration in the infield after his dramatic catch gave Byram Hills the state championship.



Byram Hills second baseman Tommy Gagliardi tries to complete a double play in the Bobcats' 3-2 win over Queensbury in the state final.



Byram Hills' Matt Gertz, the winning pitcher in the state championship game, delivers to the plate on Saturday afternoon.

tying run. But since Troelstra made no effort to get out of the way, and even leaned into the pitch, he wasn't allowed to take first. The count eventually went full, and with the runners in motion Troelstra lined a shot toward center field where Vesuvio started in and to his left, before suddenly realizing the ball was about to sail over his head.

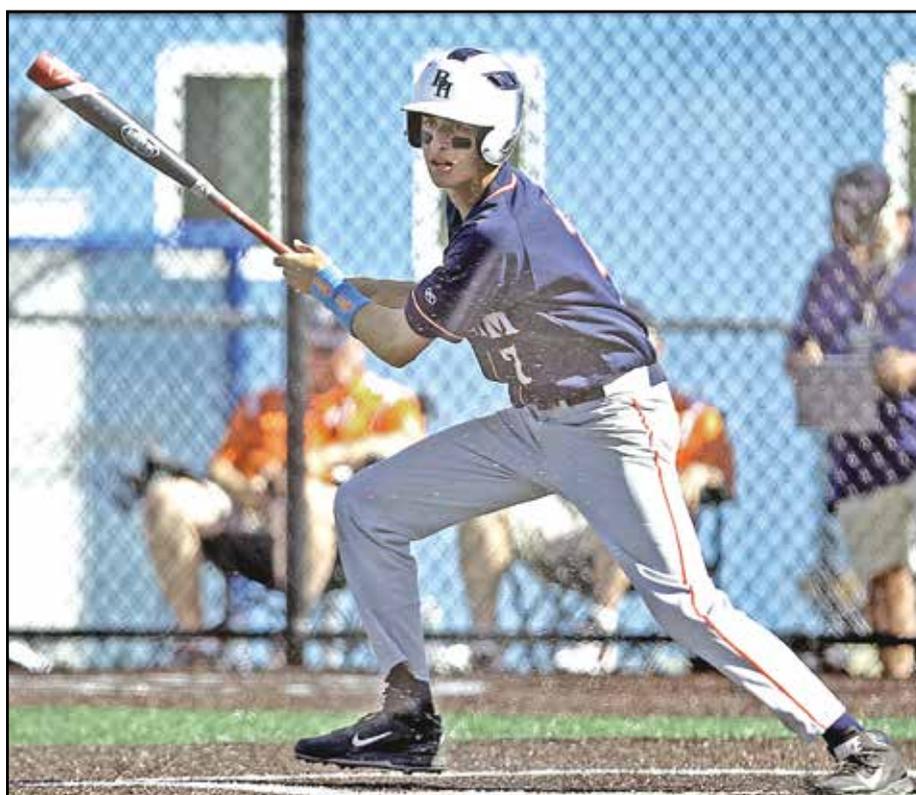
At the last possible second, he reached up and backhanded the ball just in time to make sure the Bobcats' dream season didn't turn into a nightmare.

"Frankie, on that last, oh my, I lost it," said Hatheway. "Frankie on that last catch goes in, then back, and then makes a leaping catch. It was unbelievable. It was crazy."

"You know," said Saunders, "Frankie's been the most talented player we've ever had in our program. And if you want the ball hit to anybody, he's certainly a good choice. He made it interesting, but we'll take it."

"I mean, just the fact that I almost dropped that ball made it a little interesting," said Vesuvio, still clutching it in his glove as a treasured souvenir nearly 20 minutes after making the grab

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Jake Stuckelman, who delivered the game-winning hit for the Bobcats vs. Division in the state semifinal, smacks the ball to left field in the championship game Saturday.

that gave Byram Hills its first-ever state championship.

Vesuvio, who had pitched the Bobcats to a win over Rye in the Section 1 title game and another over Saugerties in the regional final, was back on the mound at the start of the day, facing a Division team that was ranked first in the state. He held the Blue Dragons hitless through five and a third innings, while the Bobcats got RBI singles from Aberman in the second and Stuckelman in the third and grabbed a 3-0 lead that held up until the sixth.

Division scored three times in the top of the sixth to tie the game, which wound up in extra innings. Vesuvio was replaced on the hill after eight and Gertz was needed in the top of the 10th to extricate the Bobcats from a big jam when the Blue Dragons loaded the bases with just one out.

In the bottom of the inning, Hatheway was hit by a pitch, moved to second on Russo's sacrifice bunt and easily scored the winning run when Stuckelman dropped a single down the left-field line. Stuckelman's walk-off hit sent the giddy Bobcats into the championship game and moved them within one victory of fulfilling a dream.

"Absolutely, it's something we dream about," said Saunders. "It's something that we sit there and we talk about how sweet it would be and, to finally get here and just do it, words can't describe. They really can't."

"It's been a day of excitement, that's for sure," said Hatheway. "It's definitely something I'm gonna remember. I mean, my four years, I was hoping to get to a section championship. And to get to a state championship is absolutely unreal."

"Since we were nine," added Vesuvio,

"we've been playing together and we always fell short. This time, we finally won something."

And just in case he thinks it's all just a dream, all he has to do is open up his glove. There's a very special baseball tucked inside.



Tommy Gagliardi does some celebrating shortly after the Bobcats won the state title with a 3-2 win over Queensbury.

Class of 2015 Athletic Awards & Scholarships

The Senior Athletes of Fox Lane High School's Class of 2015 were honored at last evening's Annual Senior Athlete Sports Award Dinner, held at the Holiday Inn in Mount Kisco. Beth Staropoli, Athletic Director, hosted the evening, in which over two hundred people attended. In addition to those special awards listed below, the Fox Lane Varsity Coaches presented each Senior Athlete with an award acknowledging their participation in Varsity sports.

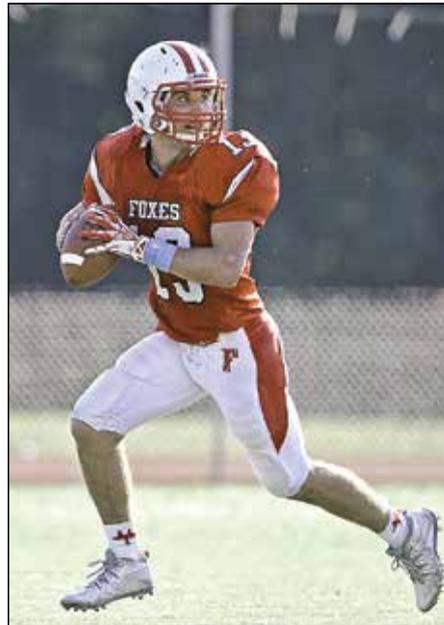
The special commendations were presented to the following Senior Athletes:

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Maggie Marino
Victoria Darling
Keely Connors
Casey Hunter
Luke Verrochi
Victoria Groner
Emily DePalma
Halle Vernon
Jacob Rauch
Spencer Gutierrez



Luke Verrochi
Male Athlete of the Year

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Maria Abrams
Zoe Belasco
Paige Calian
Daniela DiCapua
Casey Hunter
William Wortmann

SPORTSMANSHIP

Lia Golden
Harrison Hipolito
Ethan Kenney
Brendan McCree
Colin Reed
Kerry Schwartz
Halle Vernon

COURAGE & HARD WORK

Jonah Avidon
Lucas Beni
Edwin Colindres-Juarez
Arianna Delli-Carpini
Arben Gecaj
Emily Moccia
Anthony Nappi

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Owen Azrak
Hannah Bradsell
Caroline Christie
Nick Delfico
Emily Gannon
Marina Karr
Jillian Lombardi
Jaime Villeda
Andrew Workman

THREE SPORT SENIOR ATHLETES

Kirk Atkinson
Jonah Avidon
Ethan Barton
Kenny Duffy
Chris Gourd
Maya Hartleben
Grace Peck
Steffi Sastera
Kerry Schwartz
Dodge Sgaglio
Luke Verrochi
Brittany Wayda

FOUR SPORT SPECIAL OLYMPIANS

Zoe Abrams
Grimaldo Fernandini
Ryan Morris
Megan Sinnott
Dominic Valvano

JOHN McLAUGHLIN JR. (Coach 'Mac') MEMORIAL ATHLETIC AWARD

Jacob Rauch

SCHOLAR ATHLETE - MALE

Robert Purvis

SCHOLAR ATHLETE - FEMALE

Lauren Prisco

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR - MALE

Luke Verrochi

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR - FEMALE

Keely Connors



Keely Connors
Female Athlete of the Year

The Senior Athletes listed below were awarded scholarships as indicated:

COACH JOSEPH AMUSO WRESTLING SCHOLARSHIP

Frank Surace

ELAINE BIZA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ethan Barton

THOMAS V. CAIONE ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

Arianna Delli Carpini
Anthony Nappi

FOX LANE SPORTS BOOSTERS CLUB ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

Owen Azrak
Maya Hartleben

E. RICHARD 'DAPPER' McDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ethan Barton
Hannah Bradsell
Ian Campbell
Jillian Lombardi
Frank Surace
Luke Verrochi

JOHN McLAUGHLIN SR. MEMORIAL ICE HOCKEY SCHOLARSHIP

Angus Ferguson



Watts Wins State Title in the 800

Pleasantville standout Patrick Watts established a new school record and won the Division 2 state title in the 800-meter run at SUNY-Albany this past weekend.

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Saw Mill Club Gives Young Tennis Players the Edge

By Richard Finn

Caitlyn Ferrante, Lucy Carpenter, Claire Weis, Olivia Ashton and Sachin Ganesh all had the winning edge in Eastern Tennis Association (ETA) and scholastic tournament competition this spring and winter season.

They are all members of the Saw Mill Club's advanced junior competition Edge program coached by an all-star staff of professionals featuring recently graduated collegiate standouts and seasoned veterans under the hands-on direction of program founder Zuka Mukhuradze.

"After graduating more than 25 players from the Edge program in 2014, of which more than 20 are currently playing college tennis in Division I to Division III schools, today's roster of players is younger and with so much promise," Mukhuradze said.

"That promise is already being fulfilled by Caitlyn, Lucy, Claire, Olivia and Sachin. They are as good a group of players that we ever had come through the Edge program since it started in 2008. They are a daily inspiration to our other players in the program that hard work, dedication and determination are the three keys to success. They are truly going to be special and we look forward to more success on the court for them in the coming years.

Big things are also expected from Luke Queiroz, Lindsey Weis, Alyssa Margolin, David Domanski, Marko Arboleda, Justin Greenfeld and Noah Payes.

Ferrante has a USTA national ranking of No. 120 in the girls' 14s division and is ranked at No. 17 in the ETA 14s. She also is No. 67 in the ETA 16s. At only 14, she has won three ETA girls' 16s tournaments in a row. Also, she placed fifth in a USTA National Super Six girls' 14s tournament.

Ferrante was the No.1 singles player for the Yorktown High School varsity team as an eighth-grader and has a handful of 16s singles titles and runner-



Sachin Ganesh, a Fox Lane freshman, gets set to smack a forehand at the recent sectional tourney.



Pleasantville eighth-grader Olivia Ashton hits a backhand return during a singles match last fall.



Noah Payes holds his winner's trophy after a recent tournament.



Clair Weis holds her championship plaque.



Alyssa Margolin is one of the young tennis stars in Saw Mill Club's Edge program for advanced junior competition.



Blake Quieroz & Henry Nicklin

up showings in doubles this season.

Carpenter is ranked in both the ETA 12s and 14s divisions, at No. 17 in the 12s and No. 71 in the 14s after winning a 14s singles tournament this spring. She has been runner up several times along with a strong showing in the Empire Cup national doubles tournament with partner and fellow Edge player Ashton.

As an eighth-grader, Ashton played No. 2 singles on the Pleasantville High School varsity team and is projected to play No. 1 next season.

Weis is a recent winner of the Level 1 girls' 12s singles tournament and holds a No. 37 ranking in the division in the East. She has several runner-up singles results and also has had a strong showing in the Empire Cup national

doubles event.

Ganesh broke into the top 20 in the boys' 14s in the East at No. 18 on the strength of consistent good results in recent tournaments. Most recently he reached the semifinals of a USTA National Super Six tournament. As a freshman he played No. 1 singles for Fox Lane High School's varsity team and finished in the top 4 in the varsity conference singles tournament as well as the sectionals singles tournament.

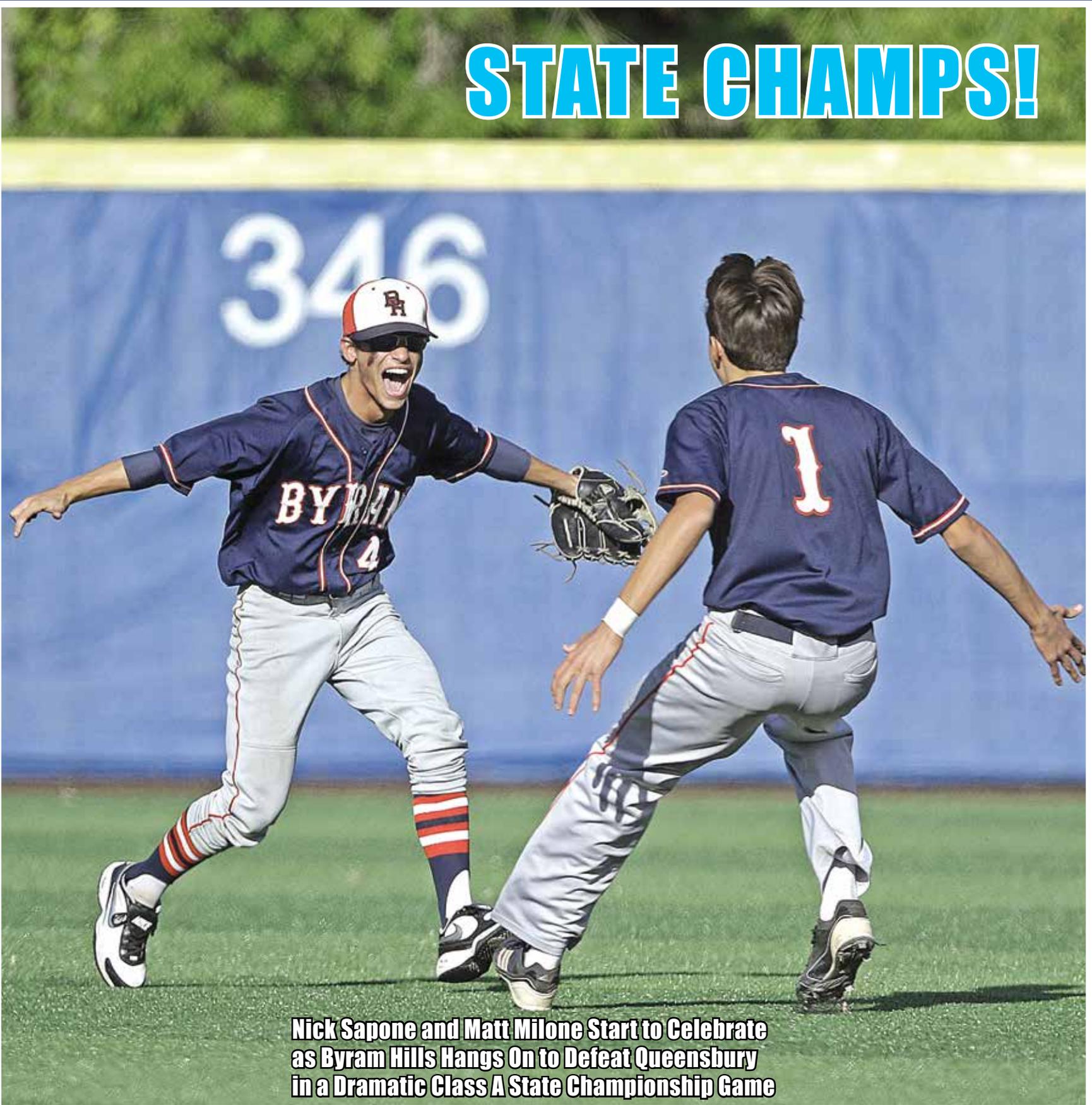
Saw Mill Club's Director of Tennis Bob Bull cites the camaraderie of the Edge players as a big reason for their success.

"Zuka and the rest of the pro staff emphasize how it is a team effort, that

the Edge players are responsible to one another in training and competing," he said. "The Edge kids have made great friendships here. The Edge program also influences our junior training and 10-and-under programs, providing inspiration to those kids that are newer to the game."

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ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

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