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January 26 -February 1, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 438

One Resident Dead, Another Injured in Mt. Kisco House Fire

By Arthur Cusano

One person was killed and another injured in a fire in a multifamily house in Mount Kisco last Thursday.

The fire at 121 St. Mark's Place was spotted by village employees picking up recycling at around 8 a.m. on Jan. 21. The employees entered the house and were able to help a female resident escape with just a few minor burns.

Mount Kisco firefighters were called in to fight the fast-moving blaze, but they were unable to reach to another resident, Haniel Reyes-Rosario, who was in his bedroom in the home's basement.

"We couldn't get to him due to heavy smoke and heavy fire," said Mount Kisco Fire Chief Mario Muccioli.

The fire was extinguished by several responding fire companies after about two hours.

Westchester Department of Public Safety spokesman Kieran O'Leary said

the fire was started by a candle.

"Either it was knocked over or fell over, and that started the fire in the house," O'Leary said.

He said the homeowner was an elderly woman who also managed to escape. There were reports that a family had been living in the upper level of the house and had escaped unharmed, a detail which has not been confirmed by the fire department or county police.

On Monday, a younger woman claiming to be the homeowner, Matilda Corado, said she was still living on the second floor of the house and planned to make repairs. The rescued woman, who Corado said is named Francesca Luppino, was okay after being treated at Westchester Medical Center.

Staff in the Mount Kisco Building Department office declined to comment on the status of the house and whether

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Well-Prepared for Mother Nature



ARTHUR CUSANO PHOTO

Highway and Department of Public Works crews in the area and throughout Westchester tackled the first snowstorm of the season last Saturday, where at least a foot of snow fell. Since the storm hit early on a weekend morning, plows faced few impediments — other than the weather. For more coverage, see page 3.

Elderly Pleasantville Man Struck, Killed on Washington Avenue

By Arthur Cusano

A 90-year-old Pleasantville man was killed Sunday when he was struck by a car on Washington Avenue, village police said.

Hercules Faranda was struck at around 11:30 a.m. in front of his home at 520 Washington Ave. Pleasantville Police Chief Richard Love said his death appeared to be nothing more than a tragic accident. Faranda was cleaning snow off of a car in his driveway when he wandered into the road and was hit, Love said. He was taken to Westchester Medical Center where he later died.

"It's sad," Love said. "It happened right in front of his house, and family members were home when it happened."

On Monday, relatives at the house where Faranda lived did not open the door to talk to the press. A sign asking not to knock was posted on the front door. There was little evidence of the tragedy at the accident scene, just spray paint on the road and a few small pieces of debris.

Love said the driver who struck him was a neighbor who lived down the street.

"The man was driving to work when he realized he had forgotten his phone,

continued on page 2

Survey Outlines Mt. Pleasant Schools' Infrastructure Needs

By Neal Rentz

A study of Mount Pleasant School District facilities released last week highlighted a series of infrastructure projects that should be completed, but district officials must figure out how to pay for the improvements if work is pursued.

The Building Condition Survey, unveiled to the public at the Jan. 20 board of education meeting, is a visual inspection of all district buildings and their systems and must be done by a state-licensed architect or engineer.

The state mandated survey, which each

district must complete every five years, was compiled by H2M Architects and Engineers. The results will be used by district officials to compile a five-year capital plan that will be submitted to the state Education Department (SED) by June, said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Guiney.

Guy Page, vice president of H2M Architects and Engineers, said the survey will be reviewed with the director of facilities and the district's Health and Safety Committee.

Some of its key points found that fresh air ventilation at Hawthorne and

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One Resident Dead, Another Injured in Mt. Kisco House Fire

continued from page 1

the apartments are legal. They directed all inquiries to the office of Village Manager Edward Brancati, who could not immediately be reached for comment.

Discussion regarding overcrowding in residences and violations of the village's zoning code have been recurring issues in the village in recent years.



ARTHUR CUSANO PHOTO

A fire last week at this multifamily house on St. Mark's Place in Mount Kisco killed one resident and injured another.

Elderly Pleasantville Man Struck, Killed on Washington Avenue

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and turned around and headed back, and that's when the accident occurred," Love said.

The chief said the driver remained at the scene until police arrived. He was tested for alcohol intoxication but was found to be sober.

The car was temporarily impounded and Washington Avenue was closed for several hours as an accident reconstruction team

from the Westchester County Department of Public Safety worked at the scene. Love said he did not expect any charges to be filed against the driver. There was no indication that weather played a factor in the accident.

The Westchester Medical Examiner's office in Valhalla said Faranda's autopsy had not yet been completed as of Monday morning.

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Ask the Doctor

Navid Mootabar, MD

Chief, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Director, Institute for Robotic & Minimally Invasive Surgery
Northern Westchester Hospital

nwhroboticsurgery.org/DrMootabar

Q: What causes cervical cancer?

A: Human Papillomavirus (HPV) causes about 90 percent of all cases. HPV is a sexually transmitted virus that is so common, most people will have it at some point in their lives. Certain strains of HPV can cause changes on a woman's cervix that may result in cervical cancer. Additional risk factors include smoking, extended use of birth control, and having many sexual partners.

Q: What are the symptoms of cervical cancer?

A: It's important to realize that in most cases, there are no symptoms. Uncommon symptoms include unexplained vaginal bleeding, bleeding after intercourse and abnormal vaginal discharge. Given that the HPV strains that can lead to cervical cancer are themselves asymptomatic, it becomes clear why you must be regularly screened for cervical cancer.

Q: How often should I have a Pap smear?

A: New guidelines recommend women have a Pap smear and HPV test every three years starting at age 21 until age 65, provided you have no risk factors or abnormal Pap smears. This regimen makes it extremely likely the disease will be caught while still in the highly curable pre-cancerous stage. Some women require more frequent screenings.

At each visit, your gynecologist will evaluate all risk factors and determine if you need a Pap smear. Although the recommendations call for getting a Pap smear every three years, annual gynecologist visits are extremely important to your health. Pelvic exams, Pap tests and breast cancer screenings help detect problems at an early and potentially highly treatable stage.

Q: What about the HPV vaccine to prevent cervical cancer?

A: Two other forms of prevention include the condom and the HPV vaccination, which protects against several strains of HPV known to cause cervical cancer. It does not, however, protect against all strains. I often recommend to my patients that they get the vaccine when they are considering becoming sexually active. Note that the vaccine does *not* replace the need to practice safe sex or to get regular Pap smears.

Visit www.nwhroboticsurgery.org/DrMootabar to learn more about Dr. Mootabar and his work at Northern Westchester Hospital.

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Towns, County Overcome Last Weekend's Snowstorm

By Martin Wilbur and Neal Rentz

Some area residents may have been taken by surprise with the intensity of last Saturday's snowstorm, but area highway department and DPW crews were fully prepared for the foot or more of accumulation that piled up.

While weather forecasts for central and northern Westchester initially had more modest snowfall totals, the county and local municipalities had personnel and equipment lined up and prepared to go well before dawn on Saturday morning.

On Friday, about 18 hours before the first flakes fell, County Executive Rob Astorino addressed the public through the media outside Westchester's Department of Public Works facility in Valhalla with 1,300 tons of salt in the background and trucks ready to roll.

"We've all been through this (before), unfortunately," Astorino said. "We've all been through this a lot over the last several years and we're hoping that people don't do dopey things as sometimes people do. If they can stay off the roads and they are cautious, that's how things will get cleaned up quicker with less accidents, with less emergency services."

By 11 a.m. Saturday the county had suspended Bee-Line bus service. The Village of Mount Kisco declared a snow emergency.

The public overwhelmingly heeded



ARTHUR CUSANO PHOTO

A single car navigates the curve on the southbound Saw Mill Parkway near the Manville Road exit in Pleasantville during the height of last Saturday's snowstorm. The storm arrived on the weekend, which ensured most residents were hunkered down.

the warnings, local officials said. It also helped that it was very early on a weekend morning.

"It was a Saturday and we didn't have many people out," said North Castle Town Administrator Joan Goldberg. "It's the vehicles on the road that cause the

most difficulty."

The entire town's highway and parks and recreation departments reported to work by 2 a.m. on Saturday. By then roads had already been pre-treated. Crews went home on Sunday at 11 a.m.

Mount Kisco Highway Foreman Joseph

Luppino said there were no difficulties in cleaning up from the storm, which dumped about 14 inches on the village. Residents obeyed the snow emergency, which included an on-street parking ban and forcing car owners to use the village's

Luppino complimented the 24 highway department employees for doing "a great job." They were in by 1:30 a.m. prepared to tackle the snow in the 18 vehicles dedicated to clearing roads and snow removal. About 200 tons of salt was used, he said.

In Mount Pleasant, which received about a foot-and-a-half of snow, Highway Superintendent Peter Sciliano said there were no real problems.

"It went very well," said Sciliano, whose department used about 260 yards of salt.

Since this was the first storm of the winter, all of the towns had plenty of material on hand and had not used any of the overtime budgets needed for snow removal.

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Survey Outlines Mt. Pleasant Schools' Infrastructure Needs

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Columbus elementary schools does not meet state requirements, said Dana Hochberg, H2M's senior architect. Parking and roadways have deteriorated at both elementary schools, the fields need renovations, masonry cracks must be repaired and lockers have exceeded their useful lives, Hochberg said.

At Hawthorne Elementary School, a new HVAC system is needed and the Columbus Elementary School ceilings should be replaced, Hochberg said.

At Westlake Middle School and Westlake High School, fresh air ventilation does not meet state standards; boilers, roofing and interior ceilings are substandard; parking and roadways have deteriorated; and vinyl asbestos tiles need to be removed, Hochberg said.

At the high school, exterior masonry



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Guy Page, vice president of H2M Architects and Engineers, discussed the Mount Pleasant School District's Building Condition Survey at the Jan. 20 board of education meeting.

and structural steel repairs are needed.

Trustee Thomas McCabe, concerned about air quality in the schools, asked H2M representatives whether it's safe.

"It's not unsafe," responded Page, adding that new ventilation systems are needed as alternatives to having windows open.

Hochberg added that while the fresh air ventilation is failing to meet state standards, the district is not obligated by the state to take action because the schools were built decades ago, before the current regulations were in place.

Trustee John Piazza said if district officials decide extensive capital improvements are needed, the board should consider putting up a bond for residents' approval.

He said paying for the work through the

annual operating budget would cost more money.

In November 2014 and March 2015 voters resoundingly defeated expensive capital projects bonds that would have funded primarily infrastructure work at the district's two secondary schools.

Guiney said it's too early for her to make a recommendation about how to pay for any capital improvement projects. The options would be to pay for infrastructure work either through the budget or a bond.

Mount Pleasant is currently moving forward with a roof replacement and boiler project at Columbus Elementary School and masonry and related work at Hawthorne Elementary School. Both projects are funded through the 2015-16 operating budget approved by district residents last May.

No. Castle Agrees to Operate Town Pool for Another Summer

By Martin Wilbur

An agreement between the Town of North Castle and the Anita Louise Ehrman (ALE) Recreation Center to operate the municipal pool for next summer was approved earlier this month by the town board.

Conditions for the one-year extension of the agreement are virtually unchanged from last summer, the first time the town took over the Greenway Road facility. Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the board held off on signing up for a second

summer of operation until it could analyze the finances with the town's Budget and Finance Advisory Committee.

Schiliro said the board wanted "to continue the pool for another year and get another year under our belt and then move forward from there."

Under municipal operation in 2015, the town reported attracting close to 450 memberships, which amounted to about 1,500 pass holders. During the 2016 town budget deliberations, \$393,000 was budgeted for the pool next summer.

Revenue projections are conservatively pegged at \$200,000 in the current year's budget, just under last year's totals.

Town officials, who can renew one-year agreements with ALE through 2019, hope with more advance notice Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Matt Trainor can schedule additional programs that will boost revenue.

Councilman Jose Berra said given the pool's popularity last summer it turned out to be a success. It is also critical that the town camp have a swimming facility

to bring the children.

"I think it's been a good approach the way the town's going about it," Berra said. "It's important for a lot of residents but I think it's especially important for kids and the camp."

The town took over operation of the pool after a three-year run by North Castle Pool & Tennis, which was run by town resident Joseph DiMauro. ALE ran into financial difficulty in the years following the facility's refurbishment nearly a decade ago.

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Mt. Kisco, New Castle Approve Community Choice Energy Program

By Martin Wilbur and Neal Rentz

In an effort to reduce the cost of electric bills for consumers, officials in Mount Kisco and New Castle approved their municipality's inclusion in the Community Choice Aggregation program last week.

Following months of discussion and review, the Mount Kisco Village Board voted 3-1 on Jan. 19 to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) with Sustainable Westchester. Trustee Karen Schleimer was the dissenting vote.

On the same night, the New Castle Town Board approved the resolution unanimously.

New Castle Sustainability Advisory Board Chairman Steven Wolk said he expects Sustainable Westchester to go out to bid possibly as soon as this week that would lead to a contract with an energy service company (ESCO). The goal of the program is to obtain a deal that would achieve a savings over current Con Edison energy prices through a group-buying effort.

"They're looking for a pretty quick turnaround," said Suzi Novak, a co-chair of Sustainable Westchester's Outreach/Education Subcommittee. "As soon as the bids go out, they're looking for two weeks, maybe three weeks max, before they come back."

Residents would continue to have their electricity transmitted by Con Edison, which will still bill customers. Sustainable Westchester is seeking to enter into a contract with an energy supplier for a period of up to three years.

There are about 25 Westchester municipalities that are expected to be involved in the program, according to Leo Wiegman, executive vice president of Croton Energy Group, Inc., who spoke to the New Castle Town Board about the program earlier this month.

Residents who do not want to participate in the energy program will need to opt out.

Mount Kisco Trustee Peter Grunthal said the program has the potential for "slightly lower prices" for energy consumers and urged the board to move forward with the MOA.

Since the board received the MOA the Friday before last Tuesday's meeting, Schleimer said she did not have enough time to analyze the documents.

"I'm concerned about how this program is going to work," she said.

Grunthal said if the board did not approve the MOA, Mount Kisco would be in danger of missing out on savings for residents in the initial agreement.

Mayor Michael Cindrich said the MOA has been reviewed by Village Attorney

Whitney Singleton. If Singleton had concerns, the village would not go forward with the program, he said.

In New Castle, discussion last week centered on the public education campaign that will be undertaken by the Sustainability Advisory Board to explain to residents what the program is about. There will be mailers as well as e-mail messages that will also be posted on the town's website.

Part of the process will be to make sure residents understand that they have the chance to choose a "green option," Wolk said. That would consist of a sizeable portion of the energy being derived from renewable sources such as wind and solar, he said.

The alternative would include conventional fossil fuels.

Wolk estimated that the green option could cost consumers one to two cents more per kilowatt hour, which would translate to an extra \$10 to \$20 a month for the average household. That could negate any savings for consumers by participating in the Community Choice Aggregation Program.

However, New Castle has had a strong history of having a large portion of its residents care about the environment's well-being, Wolk said.

"The more people that demand green,

which will come primarily from wind, but solar as well and hopefully different types of options, it sends a signal to the market that we want green and the more they produce green, the less it's going to cost," Wolk said.

Novak added that Bedford 2020, a group that has worked on sustainability issues for that town, has been collaborating on an education campaign with Sustainable Westchester.

The municipalities are seeking to have a new supplier provide energy by Apr. 1.



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New Castle, Ossining Explore IMA to Provide Water to Village

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle and the Village of Ossining are considering an agreement to send up to 600,000 gallons a day of town water to the village while Ossining officials build a new water plant.

The proposed six-year intermunicipal agreement (IMA) would also enable New Castle to import 100,000 gallons a day from Ossining to service roughly a dozen homes along Spring Valley Road and the Sunshine Children's Home and Rehab Center, which is proposing a major expansion project, said town DPW Commissioner Gerry Moerschell.

"They have hit the limit on their water treatment plant because they built the plant back in the '60s, I believe, and they did an expansion of the plant in the '80s, which allowed them to go through to the 21st century," Moerschell said of Ossining's plant "That's it."

Moerschell said capacity for New Castle's water facility, located off of Campfire Road, is not an issue. Designed about 25 years ago, it has a daily capacity of 10 million gallons. Typically, it uses about 3.5 million gallons a day and has not exceeded 7.5 million gallons even during summer and periods of drought, he said.

The town also expects to lose the Whippoorwill Club as a customer, which

is drilling wells on its property that will halt its need to purchase water, Moerschell said. The plant also can be expanded to accommodate an additional two million gallons a day.

If approved, Sunshine Children's Home would install a water main from its expanded facility to make the connection to a hydrant at its own cost.

A side benefit for New Castle is that the agreement will provide Spring Valley Road resident with 100,000 gallons a day that will enhance fire protection, officials said. There are currently no hydrants along that road. Under the plan, an active hydrant would be installed every 500 feet along Spring Valley until the intersection with Glendale Road, Moerschell said.

"The beauty of this whole thing, this would put a fire hydrant right here at the intersection of two major through roads in town," Moerschell said.

The closest fire hydrants are on Route 134 near the firehouse and on Quaker Ridge Road, he said.

Town Administrator Jill Shapiro said New Castle water would be provided to Ossining primarily during times of high usage, typically during the summer and dry spells. The two municipalities have entered into agreements previously, she said.

"We have the capability and we have

the history with Ossining to provide them water," Shapiro said. "We have in the past."

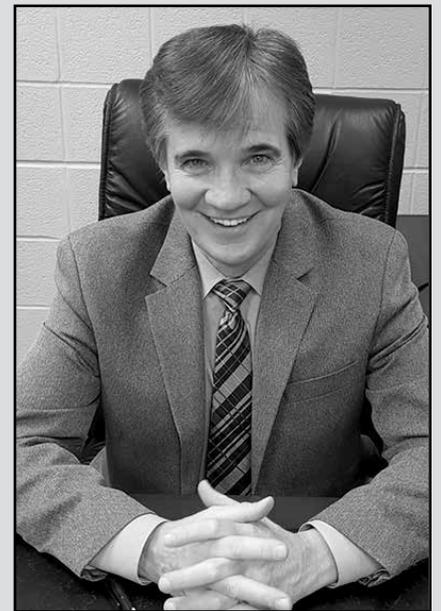
New Castle also has sold water to other municipalities, most notably its relationship with the Village of Pleasantville that began in 1998, which brings 1.5 million gallons a day to the village, Moerschell said. It also supplies the IBM Watson Research Center and Kitchawan Water District in Yorktown and some customers in Mount Pleasant.

Although the language in the IMA was not finalized as of last week, town board members appeared to have few qualms about entering into the agreement once details have been worked out.

"Like a good neighbor, we provide water, and like a good town board looking after our residents, I think, if we can get some residents on town water and increase fire protection, it's a pretty good thing," said Supervisor Robert Greenstein.

New Place, Familiar Face

Former Pleasantville Superintendent of Schools Dr. Donald Antonecchia was appointed earlier this month as chief operating officer at St. Christopher's, Inc., which serves the needs of teens with emotional, behavioral and learning disabilities. Antonecchia brings more than 35 years of education experience to the post, serving most recently as superintendent of schools and assistant executive director at Leake and Watts Services, Inc.



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Mt. Pleasant-Blythedale Students Call for New Graduation Options

By Arthur Cusano

As state lawmakers debate Common Core standards needed to earn a Regents diploma, many New York students continue to find themselves unable to graduate high school with any diploma at all.

The state Education Department (SED) more than a decade ago eliminated the less academically rigorous non-Regents diploma, often referred to as a local diploma, for non-disabled students. But students who are unable to pass the five Regents exams find themselves with no other option than to settle for a degree they say has negative connotations.

One such student is 17-year-old Jonas Urena, who was diagnosed with Guillain-Barré Syndrome, a neurological disorder which effects muscle control, just before his senior year of high school. Urena is one of hundreds of students who pass through Mount Pleasant-Blythedale, a state recognized school district offering classes for patients at the adjacent Blythedale Children's Hospital. Urena was one of dozens of students who spoke on the topic at a Jan. 22 forum at the school.

"To earn a local diploma, you need an IEP," Urena explained. "Which means that if you earn a local diploma, employers will know that you have an IEP"

Earning a Regents diploma requires a student to pass a Regents exam in English, history, math, science and a foreign language with a grade of at least 65. Students with a learning disability are allowed to waive the foreign language requirement.

"If I don't pass with a 65, or if I am a student with a disability and I get a 55 on the U.S. history Regent, am I not worthy of graduating from high school?" Urena asked.

Gaby Mileti, the mother of a Blythedale student for seven years, said the current system leaves those students unable to meet the most rigorous criteria no other option.

"What do we do with the children who don't meet those (state) criteria? Mileti asked. "The ones with speech issues like my son, the ones who can't hold a pen like my son and some of you. The ones who



ARTHUR CUSANO PHOTO

Regent Judith Johnson, center, speaks to students at the Mount Pleasant-Blythedale School during a Jan. 22 forum on graduation requirements.

need to be pulled out of class every day for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech. What do we do with those kids?"

The only alternative for students unable to earn a local diploma is to get a Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential, a degree with little value in the job market, Mileti said. Parents need to push the state for the creation of another degree for disabled students, she said.

Friday's forum was attended by two members of the state Board of Regents, Kathleen Cashin and former Peekskill and Mount Vernon school superintendent Judith Johnson. Southern Westchester BOCES Superintendent Harold Coles also attended.

Johnson said the current curriculum was created with good intentions to help students get a deeper understanding of the subject.

"The mistake that was made was that some people translated higher standards into test scores," Johnson said. "Some people translated higher standards into more tests. Some people translated higher standards into really tough questions that

still don't answer the question of why do I have to learn this?"

Some New York City schools are only requiring students take two Regents exams. Instead, those schools make students complete projects that demonstrate they know how to use what they've learned. Johnson said feedback from students like the ones at the forum was essential to getting similar alternatives in place statewide.

"Not everyone needs five Regents exams for a high school diploma," Johnson said. "The question is, how do we put criteria in place that you believe in and that we believe in that (demonstrates) you are ready to move on to the next phase of your life?"

The forum was also attended by Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti (D-Pleasantville) and state Sen. Terrance Murphy (R-Yorktown).

Murphy, who has three children in public schools, said he has seen the difficulty caused by the Common Core curriculum and has worked on legislation to revise it. Calling the rollout a disaster, he told students that he was able to succeed without a Regents diploma.

"I graduated high school with a non-Regents diploma because I wasn't sure I wanted to go to college, and I ended up spending nine years in college with a doctorate degree," Murphy said. "So you never know when it's going to click."

Abinanti said the education system has been turned into an industry, but to return to offer more options for students.

"Education has to be set up so that everyone, no matter what their ability, can take something from it and improve their lives and eventually give something back to others," he said.

Abinanti said appointing new Board of Regents members, including Johnson, who were looking to make changes, has been the most important task in his five years in office. Two more openings will be filled this year.

Mount Pleasant-Blythedale Superintendent Ellen Bergman said it was the students who called for the forum due to their frustration with the current graduation options.

"They all know what it means to have a high school diploma," Bergman said. "It's that ticket to the rest of your life. And they heard that they may reach the age of 21 without getting that and (wondered) what they were going to do."

Students at schools like Mount Pleasant-Blythedale have to overcome a variety of obstacles, such as health or legal issues, that make it difficult to complete a diploma on time, she said.

Bergman said many special act schools are funded through a complicated formula. They don't receive state aid, but are tuition funded.

"We're public schools with public diplomas but we're funded like private schools," Bergman said. "This year we're asking for direct reimbursement of our public expenses. It's just not right."

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Mt. Kisco Marijuana, Drug Paraphernalia Measures Weighed Feb. 1

By Neal Rentz

Discussion on potential legislation regulating the distribution of medical marijuana and the sale of drug paraphernalia are tentatively scheduled to be scheduled for the Feb. 1 Mount Kisco Village Board meeting.

Village Attorney Whitney Singleton is in the process of researching and writing proposed measures on both matters at the board's request.

Deputy Mayor Anthony Markus said he hopes to learn if the village can ban medical marijuana dispensaries and stores that sell drug paraphernalia. If those facilities cannot be prohibited, the village should have the power to regulate them, Markus said.

During the Jan. 19 village board meeting, he said the village should consider following the Town of Wheatfield, N.Y., which banned paraphernalia that

facilitates the illegal use of controlled substances, including marijuana.

Singleton said one possibility to help ban head shops is to consider them a non-conforming business under the village's zoning code.

Mayor Michael Cindrich said he has asked county officials regarding provisions in Westchester's law that bans drug paraphernalia sales.

The distribution of marijuana for

medical purposes went into effect in New York earlier this month.

Markus said although New York is allowing the distribution of medical marijuana, doing so is still illegal under federal law.

"We don't know if the federal government will enforce the law," he said. Markus said the next president could choose to enforce the marijuana ban after taking office next January.

Northern Westchester Hospital Celebrates Centennial Anniversary

By Martin Wilbur

Northern Westchester Hospital (NWH) celebrated a century of serving the community with a special ceremony last Thursday and the unveiling of an electronic interactive timeline that traces the history of the hospital from its roots until today.

Originally called Mount Kisco Hospital

home for all members of our community – regardless of their ability to pay,” Seligman said to the gathering of roughly a couple hundred staff members and community leaders at the hospital.

In addition to introducing the large flat screen interactive timeline with touch activation, items from the hospital's early years were displayed, including early 20th century crutches, a doctor's bag and a book containing the names of hospital visitors in 1917.

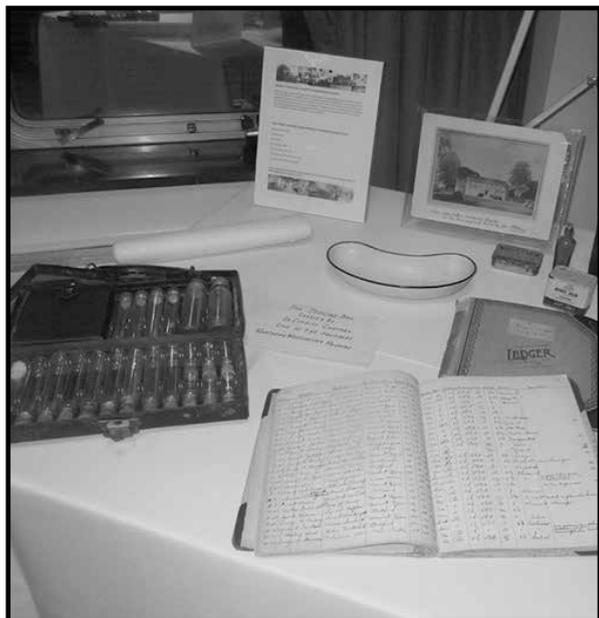
There was also artwork provided in the hallways by the Katonah Museum Artists Association. The Westchester Photographic Society provided the photographs on display in the hospital's Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center, which opened in 2004.

Nancy Karch, a Bedford resident who is the current chair of the NWH Board of Trustees, said the hospital is one of the community's most important assets, both as a major employer in the area and the difference it makes in people's lives.

“We provide each and every individual with high quality, patient-centered care that helps them on their journey to wellness,” Karch said. “Who could have imagined that in 1916?”

On hand for the nearly hour-long ceremony were longtime community members, including former Mount Kisco mayor Patricia Reilly, her sister, Joan Stewart, and current Mayor Michael Cindrich.

Others attending were Henry Schriever, NWH's first pastoral care chaplain; Sue Moga, whose grandfather, Roberts Richie, was a founding physician of Mount Kisco Hospital; retired physician Hal Federman, who began the palliative care program;



Some of the items that were used during the early days of Northern Westchester Hospital, formerly called Mount Kisco Hospital, that were saved, including a doctor's drug bag and visitor's sign-in book.

when it opened on Aug. 20, 1916, on Stewart Place, about a mile from its current site, a group of community leaders at the time wanted local residents to have access to quality health care near home rather than traveling to New York City.

After 10 years of fundraising, they raised \$12,500 to launch the original 15-bed facility, said Joel Seligman, NWH's president and CEO.

“That is the genesis of the Northern Westchester Hospital story and I'm proud to say that 100 years later that mission remains true today: to provide the highest quality, patient-centered care close to



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

Left to right, Northern Westchester Hospital President and CEO Dr. Joel Seligman, Board of Trustees Chair Nancy Karch, former Mount Kisco Mayor Patricia Reilly and longtime village resident Joan Stewart cut the ribbon in front of NWH's interactive timeline to celebrate its 100th anniversary year.

Dr. Herb Kaufman, who performed the first flexible endoscopy at NWH; Dr. Scott Hayworth, president and CEO of Mount Kisco Medical Group; and Dr. Peter Mercurio, president and CEO of Westchester Health.

George Oros, County Executive Rob Astorino's chief of staff, said he has a personal connection to NWH: his son, now 25 years old, was born at the hospital.

He said the hospital not only serves residents' health care needs, but is one that can rival many of the finest facilities in the metropolitan area.

“The people can get specialized treatment now without going to New York City,” Oros said. “That's not only important for the patient, it's very important for the local area because (families) don't have to traipse all the way into New York City.”

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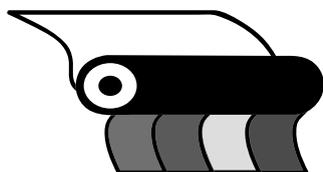
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Police Blotter

Pleasantville Police Department

Jan. 15: A 20-year-old Pleasantville man was arrested at 9:57 p.m. on Maple Avenue and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana, a violation.

Jan. 20: A report that jewelry had been stolen from a village residence. An investigation determined the complainant's son had stolen the items.

Jan. 21: A 40-year-old Briarcliff woman was arrested at 12:45 p.m. and charged with petit larceny, a Class A misdemeanor, after she was caught leaving Key Food on Pleasantville Road with \$66 worth of groceries without paying for them.

Jan 22: A village resident reported an

unknown person used their social security number to illegally acquire a Toys R Us credit card. The card was used to purchase merchandise. The same victim had also reported a Target credit card had been opened using the personal information earlier in the month. A police report was filed, which is required by some credit card companies to verify illegal purchases.

North Castle Police Department

Jan. 15: Report of a possible illegal dumping incident on Byram Brook Place at 2:11 p.m. A complainant stated that a large blue water tank had been left next to the dumpster at the listed location and believes it may have been dumped overnight. The responding officer observed a blue Champion water tank with no other

identifying markings. The information will be forwarded to the patrols.

Jan. 16: A Chestnut Ridge Road resident reported at 11:48 a.m. smelling a burning odor inside her house starting about an hour in the past. The responding officer stated that the odor was caused by a faulty electrical outlet.

Jan. 18: Report of a suspicious incident on Gina Lane at 4:52 p.m. A caller reported a red truck with Vermont plates pulled up to their neighbor's property and began performing some kind of work apparently without the knowledge of the homeowner. The responding officer reported the residence is secure and no work was done on the property.

Jan. 18: Report of a dispute at a laundromat on North Broadway at 7:52 p.m. A female patron reported that another patron has been harassing her. The responding officer spoke with both parties; the matter was adjusted.

Jan. 19: A caller reported at 4:03 p.m. that he found his lost dog on Hallock Place but advised that it fell down a window well on his property and he will need help retrieving it. The dispatching officer notified 60 Control. The canine was assisted by the fire department.

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Obituaries

Father John Quinn

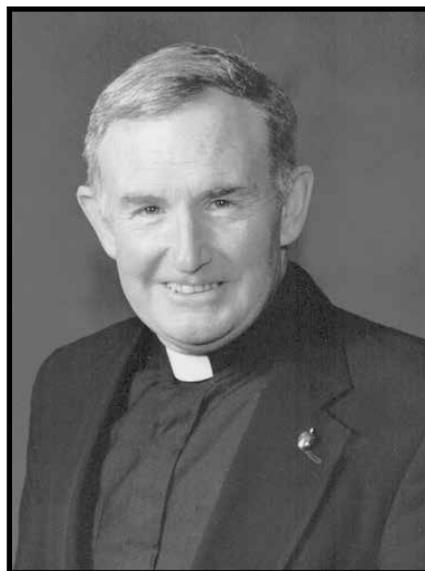
Father John F. Quinn passed away on Jan. 14 at 70 years old.

He was the devoted son of Margaret and John Quinn and is survived by cousins Pauline Weldon and John Corless as well as cousins in Ireland, England and Australia. He is also survived and treasured by many devoted lifelong friends.

Father Quinn was a graduate of Cardinal Hayes High School and

Fordham College. After graduating from Fordham, he went on to earn a master's in history from the university, a Master of Divinity from St. Joseph Seminary and had completed the course requirements at Fordham University for a doctorate in biblical studies.

Father Quinn was ordained a priest at St. Patrick's Cathedral on May 29, 1971. He served as a teacher and Religion Department chairman at Archbishop Stepinac High School and Maria Regina



High School, as Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Sorrows in White Plains from 1990 to 1994 after serving for 17 years as a visiting weekend associate. He was pastor of St. Patrick's in Armonk from 1994 until 2013.

Father Quinn was noted during all his years of ministry for a clear voice in bringing the message, consolation and love of the Lord to each person he met – child, youth, engaged couple, young parents, troubled people and seriously ill and older citizens.

A wake service for Father Quinn was held at St. Patrick's Church in Armonk on Jan. 18. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Patrick's on Jan. 19 at 10 a.m. Interment took place at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Muriel Gebhart

Muriel A. Gebhart, a longtime Hawthorne resident, passed away peacefully with her family at her bedside on Jan. 19 at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla.

She was 93.

Gebhart was born on June 12, 1922, to the late Augusta and William

Longernecker in New York City where she was raised and educated. She was employed by Equitable Insurance Co. in Manhattan for over 45 years until her retirement in 1965. In her spare time she enjoyed traveling across the United States and to several Caribbean Islands. She was also an avid reader of various books, enjoyed music and was a faithful member of the Holy Rosary Parish in Hawthorne.

Gebhart was predeceased by her husband, Henry Thomas Gebhart, in 2006; her brothers, Raymond and Frederick; sisters Lillian and Eleanor; and grandson Michael. She is survived by her daughter, Geraldine, of Hawthorne and Cold Spring; her son, Robert, of Putnam Valley; daughter Patricia of Holly Hill, Fla.; several grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and her beloved Veline Henrietta.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Jan. 21. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Rosary Church in Hawthorne on Jan. 22 followed by interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Diabetes Association or Guiding Eyes for the Blind would be appreciated.

Mt. Kisco Camp Registration to Begin Feb. 1

Mount Kisco Recreation will begin accepting registration for both Camp Iroquois and Mount Kisco Teen Travel Camps on Monday, Feb. 1. Registration booklets are available for pick up at the recreation office, located in Village Hall at 104 Main St., or the Memorial Pool complex in Leonard Park. Booklets can also be printed by visiting www.mountkisco.org/recreation.

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New Castle Mosque Findings Statement Vote Delayed Until Feb.

By Martin Wilbur

The New Castle Planning Board postponed voting on approvals for the Upper Westchester Muslim Society's proposed mosque and religious school on Pinesbridge Road until issues regarding the backup septic system are resolved.

Board Chairman Robert Kirkwood said planners did not have sufficient time to review a draft findings statement that was presented to them just before the Jan. 19 meeting.

Furthermore, board members recently received notification from the Westchester County Department of Health that it wants the applicant to construct the septic

expansion area at the same time it installs the primary system, Kirkwood said, which is an unusual situation.

"I think in every case, as least in my memory, and I've been doing this a long time, the county has always said, build your primary (septic system)...and only when there is a failure of the primary do you then need to build a secondary," said board member Thomas Curley.

As a result, a vote on the findings statement, which will cover a subdivision amendment, lot line merger and steep slopes, wetlands and tree removal permits is now scheduled for Feb. 16.

Although the Upper Westchester

Muslim Society's representatives were surprised at the county's correspondence, project engineer Diego Villareale said the septic system's expansion area is currently located under pavement. It is mainly beneath what will be the driveway to the site and a portion of the parking lot to keep it out of the wetlands buffer, which could explain the county's reasoning on the matter.

The property is in an Environmental Overlay District requiring 150 feet of buffer from the wetlands.

"You have an area that's under pavement, that if you had to build the expansion system, you would have to rip

up and replace in kind," Villareale said.

The board also asked last week for the applicant to save as many healthy trees as possible that will provide screening for neighbors. Curley requested representatives to make arrangements to go out to the property with the town's environmental consultant to determine which trees should be removed and those that can be saved.

The Upper Westchester Muslim Society, which has been located in Thornwood, received zoning board of appeals approval for a special permit in December 2014. Its application moved to the planning board last year.

New Castle Makes Safety Improvements for Sledders at Gedney Park

Last year, the New Castle Town Board approved an amendment to the Town's Park and Recreation rules that now requires minor children to wear a helmet when sledding at Gedney Park. Children must wear a bicycle helmet, skiing/snowboard helmet or equivalent when sledding.

"Safety is our number 1, 2 and 3 priority," said New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein. We live in a beautiful area surrounded by trees. But sledding and trees make for a dangerous combination. I am confident that these improvements will keep our children safer when sledding at



The re-graded hill at Gedney Park in Millwood that will help make sledding safer.



The rules posted by the Town of New Castle regarding sledding safety at Gedney Park.

Gedney Park." In addition, the hill at Gedney Park was also regraded so it no longer slopes toward the woods. The sledding surface was fenced in to prevent sledders from entering the wooded area. A fence was also

installed to shorten the hill's incline. The town also installed barriers at the bottom of the hill where sledders stop.

"We are committed to providing the safest play experience possible for the residents of New Castle," said Superintendent of Recreation & Parks Robert Snyder. "The work performed by our Parks Department could not have been possible without the full cooperation and assistance from the Town's engineering and highway departments. We hope that the improvements to the sled hill at Gedney make the sledding a more enjoyable experience."

History Matters

By Edward Goralski

Countries Music. In the book "Republic or Death! Travels in Search of National Anthems," author Alex Marshall brings the stories of the world's national anthems to life. In uncovering the fascinating cultural and musical history of the world's anthems, Marshall also asks us to consider what they mean for us today. Let's see if you can uncover the correct answers in this week's quiz on anthems.

1. Where was Francis Scott Key when he wrote the words to the "Star-Spangled Banner?"
A) In a Baltimore hotel lobby B) On a British ship C) Inside of Fort McHenry
2. In which city was "La Marseillaise," the French anthem, written on the night of April 25, 1792?
A) Avignon B) Strasbourg C) Marseilles
3. The book title "Republic or Death" is also the title of which nation's national anthem?
A) Paraguay B) Bolivia C) Uruguay
4. In what year did the "Kimigayo" become the official anthem of Japan?
A) 1869 B) 1949 C) 1999
5. The tune to "God Save the Queen," the U.K. anthem, is also the tune for which nation's anthem?
A) Andorra B) Liechtenstein C) San Marino
6. The lyrics to the anthem of South Africa employ how many languages?
A) 5 B) 7 C) 11
7. The anthem of Nepal is titled "Made of Hundreds of _____?"
A) Mountains B) Heroes C) Flowers
8. What is an interesting feature of the anthem of Bosnia and Herzegovina?
A) The title changes yearly B) It lasts 35 seconds C) It is wordless

ANSWERS:

1. B. Key was on a diplomatic mission aboard a warship about to attack Ft. McHenry
2. B. The original title was "The War Song of the Rhine Army"
3. A. The lyrics were written in 1846, the music in 1934
4. C. Written in 1869, it took the "Act on National Flag and Anthem" to make it official in 1999
5. B. Liechtenstein does not have a queen, but it does have a prince
6. A. The 5, of 11 official languages, are Xhosa, Zulu, Sesotho, Afrikaans, and English
7. C. Following a public contest in 2006, the anthem was chosen from 1,272 submissions
8. C. Politics has kept the anthem without official lyrics since it was adopted in 1999

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Westchester Nonprofits Resume Fight for Fiscal Fairness

By Martin Wilbur

State government's faulty economic and tax policies over the past 30 years has left millions of New Yorkers struggling and many municipalities unable to afford critical services, the head of an Albany-based nonprofit said last week.

Ron Deutsch, executive director of the Fiscal Policy Institute, an organization committed to improving the plight of the state's residents, said last Friday during a program attended by representatives from some of Westchester's nonprofit organizations, that greater advocacy at the state level is needed to help reverse the trend.

At the event, "Fiscal Fairness for Westchester County: Funding the Common Good," held in Irvington and organized by Nonprofit Westchester (NPW) and the Westchester Women's Agenda (WWA), Deutsch echoed the sentiment of a growing chorus that contends income inequality, caused in part by an unfair tax burden for lower wage earners, is conspiring to drag down the economy.

"The reality is we have a significantly regressive school and local tax structure despite having a very progressive income tax structure," Deutsch said. "The reality is the rich are getting richer and the poor are

getting poorer, by and large."

Despite that progressive state income tax structure, top earners are now paying among the lowest rates. The top 1 percent pay 8.1 percent of their income in state taxes while the lowest 20 percent see 10.4 percent of their income go to the state, he said. The belief is that those with more money will create more jobs.

Deutsch said the Fiscal Policy Institute backs Gov. Andrew Cuomo's initiative for a \$15 an hour minimum wage. The current plan outlined by Cuomo in his State of the State address earlier this month calls for New York City's minimum wage to reach that level by 2018 and by 2021 for the rest of the state.

Paying workers a more livable wage will benefit the state because studies have shown that the lower and middle class spend much of the extra money they earn, boosting local economies. It will also help keep more people off public assistance.

"If you think about \$15 an hour you're talking about \$30,000 a year," Deutsch said. "In reality, it's tough in New York to live on \$30,000 a year."

Counties also have their own challenges, most notably the expense of Medicaid. New York is now the only state that forces counties to pick up a share of Medicaid costs, which hurts the property taxpayer

since that financial obligation often results in fewer services and its impact is felt by local governments, Deutsch said.

Combined with the 2 percent tax cap, there is little wiggle room for counties to offer the type of programs and services that many of its constituents need, he said. That was a struggle that played out in the recent budget deliberations in Westchester.

One of the most wasteful expenses, Deutsch contended, has been the hodgepodge of economic development programs throughout the state. While all are well-intentioned and some actually help, others generate far too little for the amount that is invested. START-UP NY, for example, which allows new and growing businesses to operate tax-free for 10 years in certain areas, has created just 76 jobs at an average cost of \$697,000 per job.

"With START-UP NY, all we have is promises," Deutsch said. "The jobs haven't been created yet or coming on line, so START-UP NY is another example of a failed economic development policy that both the right and the left agree is bad public policy."



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Ron Deutsch, executive director of the Fiscal Policy Institute in Albany, talked to a group of representatives of nonprofit organizations from throughout Westchester last week about some of the fiscal inequities facing the state.

Nonprofit Westchester, a coalition of 138 local nonprofits, and the Westchester Women's Agenda, have designs of being a factor on the state level, said Kathy Halas, who is on the board of both organizations.

During the county budget hearings, representatives from the organizations pressed for the need for continued funding for many social safety net programs, she said. Much of the funding that had been proposed to be slashed was restored.



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Columns

Homegrown Flavor for Winter Meals From an Indoor Garden

By Melinda Myers

Add some homegrown flavor to your winter meals. From microgreens to tomatoes, it is possible to grow produce indoors.

Microgreens are a quick and easy way to add some flavor and crunch to your plate. Just plant seeds labeled for sprouting or microgreens in a shallow container filled with a sterile potting or seed starting mix. Within two weeks you will be harvesting nutritious mini vegetable and herb leaves for salads, sandwiches or snacking.

Take it one step further and grow a few of your favorite herbs on a warm sunny windowsill. Select a container with drainage holes and set on the appropriate size saucer to protect your woodwork. Fill the container with well-drained potting mix and plant seeds or transplants. Purchase basil, chives, parsley, oregano and rosemary plants from your local garden center or the produce department.

Greens, like lettuce and spinach, will also grow in a sunny window or better yet under artificial lights. Grow them in a container filled with a well-drained potting mix similar to your windowsill herb garden. Plant seeds according to the seed packet. Continually harvest the outer leaves when they are four to six inches tall.

Those that like a bit of a challenge may want to try growing a compact tomato,



GARDENER'S SUPPLY COMPANY PHOTO

Energy efficient and long lasting, high intensity grow lights provide the greatest yields when growing tomatoes and other fruiting plants indoors.

pepper or eggplant. You'll get the best production with a combination of natural and artificial light or full spectrum lights.

Natural sunlight and full spectrum lights contain the variety of light plants need to grow, flower and fruit. Blue light promotes leaf and stem growth, while red combined with blue promotes flowering. Consider investing in energy efficient and long lasting, high intensity grow lights for the greatest yields when growing tomatoes, peppers, eggplants and other fruiting plants indoors.

Leave lights on for 14 to 16 hours each day. Plants need a dark period as well as bright light each day to grow and thrive. Use a timer to ensure the plants receive the right duration of light.

Most flowering and fruiting plants need a high intensity of light, so keep the lights six to 12 inches above your plants. Use reflective surfaces under and around the

plants to bounce light back into larger plants.

Increase your indoor growing space by going vertical. Shelf units with built-in light fixtures like the Stack-n-Grow Light System (www.gardeners.com) provide multiple layers of growing space.

And once your tomatoes, peppers and eggplants start flowering, you will need to shake things up a bit. Gently shake the plants several times a week – better yet daily –

to move the pollen from the female to the male parts of the flower so fruit will develop. A gentle breeze from a fan or vibrations from a battery-operated toothbrush work well.

Indoor gardening won't yield the same results as a sunny outdoor garden, but the flavor can't be beat when gardening outdoors is not an option.

Gardening expert, TV/radio host, author and columnist Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of horticulture experience and has written more than 20 gardening books, including "Small Space Gardening" and the "Midwest Gardener's Handbook." She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening for Everyone" DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV and radio segments. Visit www.melindamyers.com for more gardening videos and tips.

Ways You Can Create Fun Family Time Using Technology

From long weekends to birthdays to rainy days in the house, family time together is what you make of it. Now more than ever, technology can help us get creative with how to make time with family more meaningful, and then help us capture all the fun so the memories last far longer than just a moment.

Here are a few ways to use technology to power some family fun with your loved ones.

Make Things to Share

Interactive computers such as Sprout by HP are recreating what it means to make things by merging the physical and digital worlds. Sprout is what HP calls an Immersive Computer; it comes with a touch screen, touch mat, overhead projector, HD camera and 3D scanner.

With Sprout, you can grab items from the real world – like your child's birthday cake or lunchbox – and easily scan them into the device. There are several different free apps available that can help you create,

learn, interact and share.

Do-It-Yourself Decorating

If you're in the mood to get crafty with the family, you can make non-traditional items such as party favors out of leftover sprinkles from birthday cakes you bake for loved ones. JoJotastic.com blogger Joanna Hawley doesn't throw away leftover ingredients; instead she recycles them for a decorating project. Take her lead by throwing some sprinkles on the touch mat to scan, print and cut the images into your favorite shape. Then, tie each piece to ribbon and voila, festive party favors to hang on the wall for any birthday party.

Beat Rainy Day Boredom

Spending time at home can be a nostalgic, cheerful experience. But between baking cookies together and watching movies, there are bound to be stretches of free time – especially for the kids. Borrow a few tips from LunchboxDad.com blogger, Beau Coffron, who uses creative boredom busters to keep the kids busy. Like Beau

and his family, you can explore apps like Crayola DJ to brighten up a rainy day. The kids will love interacting with the projected turnstiles on the touch mat to show off their musical skills.

Direct a Family Video

Give the traditional family video a new twist by recording quirky moments and piecing them together on apps like Video Capture. Lunchbox Dad likes the eye-catching DreamWorks Story Producer app that lets you create and direct your own How to Train Your Dragon animated film. You can even choose the difficulty level. Try challenging the family to see who can get the fastest time.

Don't Forget To Share

When used imaginatively, technology can unite the family to inspire new, meaningful traditions.

Celebrate your creations on social media by sharing the hashtag #GoMakeThings and see what others have created with their families.

Energy brings you...

know your **Neighbor** Joseph Tuano, Young Artist, Fox Lane High School Student

By Martin Wilbur

Like a lot of young children growing up, Joseph Tuano would naturally pick up pens, crayons or other writing and drawing instruments.

It wasn't until his freshman year at Fox Lane High School when Tuano took his first art class that he realized how much he enjoyed what he was doing. That initial experience motivated him to enroll in a studio art course each of the next two years, where he mostly completed paintings and drawings.

This year as a graduating senior, the 17-year-old student has been taking AP Art. But it was his entry competing against students from high schools from the lower Hudson Valley and Fairfield counties that became the most thrilling art experience for him yet.

Tuano created the winning image for the invitation for the upcoming Young Artists 2016 exhibition at the Katonah Museum of Art, which opens for two weeks on Sunday, Feb. 7 featuring work from 400 students around the region. The piece was

submitted last fall as part of a one-day graphic design workshop at the museum where the instructors introduced students to what constitutes dynamic work as well as analyzing elements of successful design.

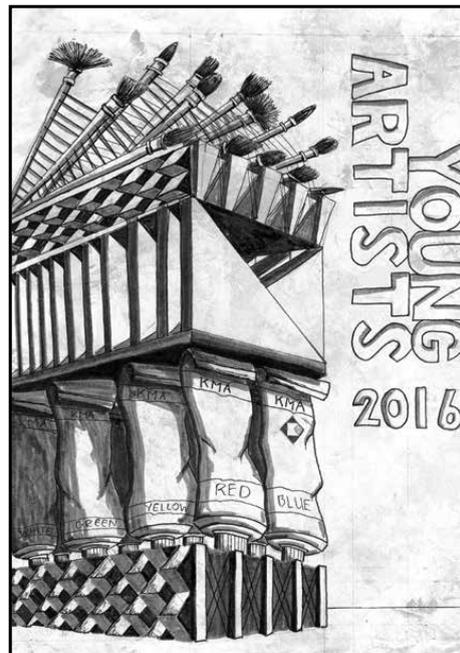
The judges for the competition were museum staff, volunteers and members of the Katonah Museum of Art board. Considering that he was one of 43 talented young artists who submitted an entry, the selection was a big breakthrough for Tuano.

"I guess I wanted to prove to myself that I could create for other people," Tuano said. "I had always done art for me and not for others. To my surprise, it was selected. I was ecstatic."

Tuano said much of the inspiration for his work comes from combining two fascinating elements: architecture and nature.

"When I go to the city it's kind of fun to look around and see how architecture and nature come together," he said. "It's a different way to look at the world, I guess."

Looking at the winning entry, Tuano



Joseph Tuano's winning artwork that was selected for the invitation to the upcoming Young Artists 2016 exhibit at the Katonah Museum of Art.

incorporates what appears to be the museum's logo into a building that is adorned with artist's materials.

It isn't all that surprising to learn of Tuano's attraction to architecture and how structures relate to their surroundings when you consider that his father was a former architect. A native of the Philippines, Tuano moved to the San Francisco area with his family when he

was five years old.

For high school, the family moved to New York, initially settling in Mount Kisco where Tuano enrolled at Fox Lane High School. He didn't know anyone at the school at a difficult age to start making new friends. But he eventually found his niche, helped by the fact that Fox Lane was smaller than his middle school in California.

"I feel like I found myself the past four years," Tuano said. "I came to Fox Lane without knowing anyone and it's been good."

He stays after school on Mondays to participate in the school's AFS Club, which promotes intercultural exchange and education. He also is part of a group of students who have created their own language.

The family occasionally returns to their homeland and they hope to visit again this summer, the first time he will go back to the Philippines since 2009.

While Tuano has serious interest in art and architecture, he doesn't necessarily look at those as career options, mulling a teaching career instead. He must soon make his decision soon about which college he plans on spending the next four years.

Coming up first, though, is the Young Artists 2016 exhibit at the Katonah Museum of Art. It will be on display from Feb. 7-21. For more information about the exhibit, visit www.katonahmuseum.org.



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Watch Out for Gaps in Your Insurance Coverage

Now that we're mostly dug out of the recent snowstorm, I find myself remembering a friend whose home was damaged due to freezing conditions. That difficult event was made worse for her because her agent had neglected to give her proper coverage, selling her a condominium policy when she actually lived in a townhouse, a mistake she lived with for more than 25 years without knowing. The out-of-pocket expenses she had to bear were higher than they would have been with the correct policy.

Aside from these out-and-out errors, there can be other gaps and oversights in your homeowner's insurance that can cause problems later on if they're not caught now. A few are listed here, but you might consider meeting with your insurance agent to ask questions if you have any doubts or have made any changes recently in your living situation.

Actual Cash Value vs. Replacement Cost: Which one are your belongings covered for? The answer can affect how much you receive, especially if you are insuring older items. To understand the difference, imagine your three-year-old laptop was damaged when your basement flooded. Brand new, it may have cost \$2,000, but its value on the day of the flooding had depreciated to \$700. With actual cash value coverage, you would only receive \$700 – enough to buy another three-year old computer – but with replacement cost

coverage, you would receive the \$2,000 needed to buy a new, similar computer.

Undervaluation: The popular home design magazines and websites seem to frequently feature makeovers and remodelings intended to boost the value of your home. The expense of the bathroom redesign will ideally be exceeded by the increase it gives to the house's sale price. What many homeowners forget, however, is to adjust their policy to cover the increased value of their home. If anything happens to the house before it is sold, you will want your homeowner's insurance to cover the investment you made in making the improvements.

Primary Residence: If you plan to move out of your home while still owning it, your coverage for the house may immediately cease. It's vitally important to call your insurance agent as soon as you know you will be moving out. Together you can find a policy that will protect the value of the building for as long as you own it.

Home Business Insurance: Your regular homeowner's policy may cover the medical expenses your brother incurs if he slips and falls on the ice in your

driveway while paying you a visit. However, if your visitor is the FedEx person and his delivery is related to your home business, then the cost of his medical care may not be covered. Home business owners will find that they have special insurance needs, and they should decide which type of coverage will suit them best. A rider to their regular homeowner's or renter's policy will not cover medical expenses if a visitor or delivery person is injured, but if they work alone and handle all of their correspondence online, it may be enough.

An in-home business policy covers injury liability and the cost of more equipment. If you need to protect against an even higher level of loss, consider a business owner's policy instead. This field is complicated, so call your agent to learn more.

Renter's Insurance: Not all homes are owned by their occupants. Your landlord should be paying for the coverage of the house or apartment you are renting, but your insurance needs don't stop there. If a fire or some other calamity should occur causing you to lose your furniture, clothing and other possessions, would you be able to replace everything out of pocket? If not,

take advantage of the low monthly cost of renter's insurance to protect yourself if you need to replace your possessions. Putting together a home inventory can save you money by helping calculate how much coverage you really need (a good idea for homeowners as well).

Fine Art, Jewelry and Other Special Items: Your policy will have a cap on how much it will pay out for your belongings, but if you own any artwork or jewelry of unusually high value, your policy may be insufficient to cover its loss from theft or damage. You may receive enough coverage with a fine art floater added to your policy, or you may need to turn to insurers who specialize in protecting art. These specialists will also be familiar with the risks involved in transporting art that other insurers may not know.

This is a long list of potential gaps, and there are probably more beyond this. Contact your insurance agent to see what coverage you may be missing. That's what they're there for, after all.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (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.



By Bill Primavera





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The Restaurant Examiner



Meet the Chef: Giuseppe Fanelli to Open New Italian Restaurant in Purchase

By Jerry Eimbinder

An Italian restaurant called tredici NORTH is scheduled to open in Purchase next Tuesday, Feb. 2.

Heading the kitchen will be Executive Chef Giuseppe Fanelli, former chef at a restaurant of almost the same name (actually spelled with a space between: “tre” and “dici”) in Manhattan that was closed last summer after the building in which it was located for 11 years was condemned. The structure had been declared unsafe following a construction mishap at an adjoining building.

The restaurant’s owners opted to move to Purchase after learning that reopening in Manhattan could be at least 18 months away.

Many dishes from tre dici’s New York City menu will be available at the Purchase restaurant, and new dishes will debut as well. Three new appetizers are scheduled to appear – veal cheeks, chicory flan and octopus with pork belly. New entrees will include kobe ravioli and quick-smoked Long Island duck with porcini and vanilla oil over pappardelle.

Price ranges for dishes at the 80-seat tredici NORTH will be \$10 and up for appetizers and \$16 to \$24 for pastas. Entrées will range from \$18 to \$32.

One of Fanelli’s specialties is “Inside-Out Meatballs” because parmigiana



BAYER PR PHOTO

Giuseppe Fanelli, the executive chef at tredici NORTH, which will open next week in Purchase.

occupies the core of the meatball.

For lovers of spicy food, Fanelli recommends “angry lobster,” a dish prepared with fried chili pepper flakes and garlic and served in a cast iron pan. The seafood selection will also include Black Sea bass with gigante beans, nduja sausage, aged balsamic and lobster reduction, which is simmering shells from shrimp or lobster, for example, with cooking done off the liquid to make stock, sauce or soup.

Zucca also will be found on the menu – burrata ravioli with pumpkin

and butternut squash crema, browned butter and sage bruléed with smoked whiskey sugar; veal chop Valdostana; wild boar; and cayenne-dusted lamb chops.

Nutella Napoleon will be on the dessert list along with peanut butter and jelly panna cotta and chocolate flan. Desserts will be house-made and are typically priced at \$8.

Popular drinks will include a jalapeño tequila cocktail made with pineapple juice and served with smoked ice cubes and a Skinny Mule vodka cocktail.

The restaurant will initially provide only dinner service; lunch will be offered a few weeks after the doors open. Sunday brunch will follow at a later date. Prix-fixe dinners with wine paired to game courses are under consideration, Fanelli said.

Fanelli’s father owned a farm and groves in Puglia, Italy, where he raised vegetables, spices and herbs. After growing up in Elmsford, Fanelli moved to Sleepy Hollow 12 years ago.

“My two brothers, my sister and I learned to cook at early ages from my mother and my two grandmothers,” he said.

The education paid off when he worked as a server at a restaurant and one of the cooks was injured. Fanelli was pressed into service as a last-minute replacement. Inspired, Fanelli enrolled in culinary

school in preparation for a career change.

After graduation, he was hired to head up the kitchen at Baldoria, the sister restaurant of the legendary Rao’s in Manhattan’s Theater District, and began cooking Neapolitan home-style cuisine, special northern Italian delicacies and classic southern Italian favorites.

After being promoted from chef de cuisine to executive chef at F. Illi Ponte Ristorante in Tribeca, Fanelli became the sous chef at Felidia, the restaurant of celebrity chef/television host Lidia Bastianich.

Fanelli also achieved television celebrity status with his participation in Travel Channel’s “Man Finds Food” with host Adam Richman, The Food Channel’s “Kitchen Casino” and as the champion of the Food Network’s esteemed culinary competition “Chopped.”

Michael Colucci joins tredici NORTH as general manager. Colucci began working at New York City’s Fulton Fish Market when he was 12 years old and was a busboy at 13. He joined tre dici at age 24, where he had been employed for over 10 years. Pierre John Bruno is the event coordinator.

Open seven days a week, tredici NORTH is located at 578 Anderson Hill Rd. in Purchase. For more information, call 914-997-4113 or visit www.tredicinorth.com.

Westchester’s Most Delicious Dishes: Columbian Breakfast at Iron Vine

By Jerry Eimbinder

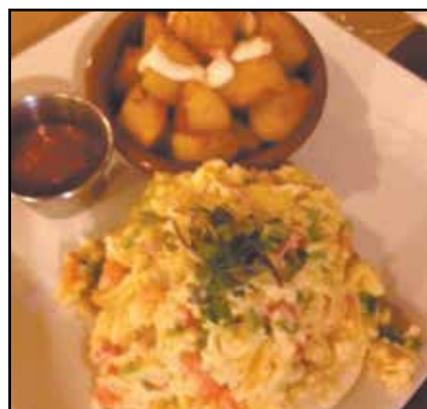
For a creative variety of yummy brunch treats, a good place to go on weekends is a Columbian-American restaurant in Peekskill called Iron Vine.

A standout attraction at the Iron Vine, which opened in December 2014, is the scrambled eggs that are part of the Columbian Breakfast. They are fluffy and creamy and reasonably priced at \$12. The eggs are served on a sweet-corn flatbread (arepa) with a soft cheese (queso blanco) and are flavored by finely cut tomato,

onion, garlic and celery and accompanied by bite-size potatoes. Chorizo or bacon can be added for \$2.

Other tempting brunch dishes are steak and eggs topped with chimichurri and served with papas (\$18) and four-egg omelets with patatas. The omelets can be ordered with a wide selection of add-ons for only \$10 if two ingredients are chosen. Additional ingredients such as cheese, ham, tomato, mushrooms, peppers and onions can be added for \$1 each.

The Fresas Con Crema French Toast



The Columbian Breakfast at Iron Vine in Peekskill.



Fresas Con Crema French Toast at Iron Vine.

is a sweet treat: two thick slices of bread soaked in custard and coated in corn flakes, and served with strawberries and vanilla syrup (\$11).

The Blue Crab and Avocado Eggs Benedict is likely the most exotic dish on the menu: lump crab cakes rolled in panko with poached eggs in tomato sauce and avocado crema on top of a shrimp and lobster cream sauce.

The coffee is superb, but you would expect that. After all this is a Columbian restaurant.

Brunch is available every Saturday and Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. Reservations

are strongly advised since the restaurant has a seating capacity of 45. Every table was occupied when I visited last Sunday.

Iron Vine is beautifully outfitted with a wrought-iron inner entrance to the dining area and a copper-tiled ceiling. The building dates back to the 1830s and was restored over a four-year period by Chef Gabriel Arango and his father, Gabriel Sr.

The Iron Vine is located at 992 Main St. in Peekskill. For more information, call 914-930-8507 or visit www.ironvinepeekskill.com.

Best Chef’s Gala Set for This Thursday at Hudson Harbor

April’s Child will be hosting a best chef’s celebration this Thursday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Hudson Harbor Lodge in Tarrytown. Chefs from 121 Restaurant, Chatterbox 54, Crabtree’s Kittle House, Infusion, Le Jardin Du Roi, RiverMarket Bar & Kitchen, Ruth’s Chris Steakhouse, Zuppa and other acclaimed restaurants will be cooking tasty bites. There will also be desserts by Iron Tomato and Susan Lawrence and beer, wine and vodka by

Slovenia Vodka, Yonkers Brewing Co. and others.

April’s Child is a Westchester-based nonprofit whose mission is to strengthen families in an in-home intervention so that children can grow to become happy, healthy and productive citizens.

Tickets cost \$100. For more information about the celebration, visit www.bestchefs.dojiggy.com.



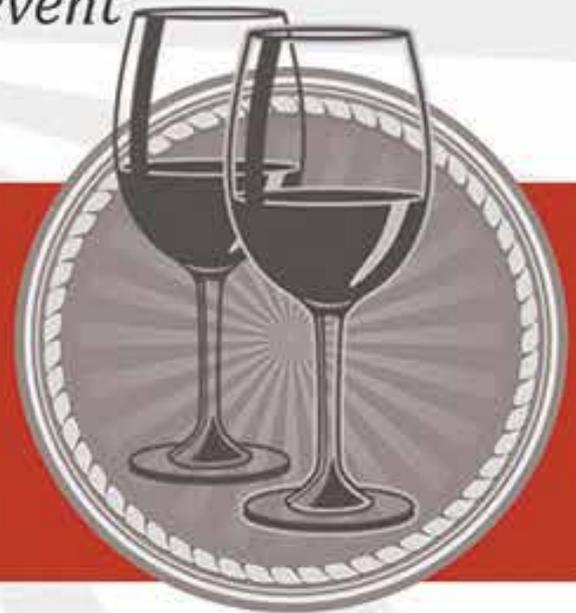
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DiFiore Confirmed as Chief Judge; McCarty Named Acting D.A.

Janet DiFiore was confirmed last week by the New York State Senate as the new chief judge of the state's Court of Appeals.

Upon her confirmation, DiFiore resigned her position as Westchester County district attorney. First Deputy District Attorney James McCarty is now the acting district attorney.

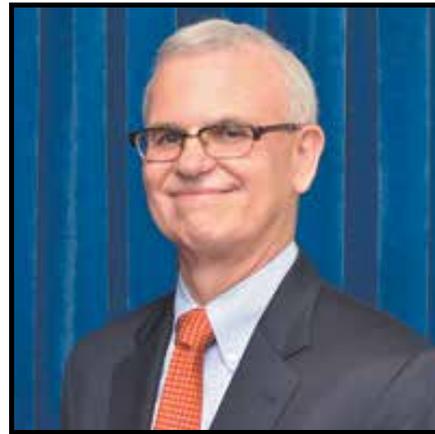
DiFiore, 60, served for 10 years as an assistant district attorney before succeeding Jeanine Pirro in the top spot 10 years ago. She replaces Jonathan Lippman as the chief judge after he reached the mandatory retirement age of 70.

"Now, having been officially confirmed by the New York State Senate, I want to again thank the governor and the Commission on Judicial Nomination for their faith in my ability and for recognizing my experience, qualifications and fitness to become chief judge," DiFiore said in a Jan. 21 statement. "I also want to recognize all the members of the



Janet DiFiore, who served as Westchester County district attorney for the past decade, was confirmed by the state Senate last week to become the new chief judge of the state's Court of Appeals.

Westchester County district attorney's office, prosecutors, investigators and support staff who I have worked with



Longtime prosecutor James McCarty has been named acting district attorney.

for two decades for their continued dedication and professionalism."

A special election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 8 to elect a new district attorney.

McCarty is a graduate of the University of Rochester and Albany Law School.

"It has been an absolute honor to serve under Janet DiFiore during her tenure as the Westchester County District Attorney," he said. "There is no one serving in the public sector that I hold in higher esteem. I look forward to leading the excellent staff she has assembled over the coming year."

Before becoming acting district attorney, McCarty served as the chief of trial operations directly overseeing all trials in the superior and local courts in the county, and as an assistant district attorney since 1980. McCarty was the deputy division chief of the Superior Court Trial Division for the previous six years.

He has tried over 100 cases, including the successful prosecutions of Carolyn Warmus in the "Fatal Attraction Murder Case" and serial killer Patrick Baxter.

Music & Miles Benefit Reception Rescheduled for April

Due to last Saturday's snowstorm, the Music & Miles Benefit Reception in conjunction with the Lettuce concert at The Capitol Theatre in Port Chester has been rescheduled for Friday, April 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. All tickets that had been purchased for the event will be honored on the new date.

Music & Miles: Changing Minds is a pre-show benefit reception to raise funds and awareness about mental health and suicide prevention among young adults with a special appearance by members of Lettuce, a funk band. All proceeds from the reception will benefit The Jed Foundation and The Miles Applebaum

Music Scholarship Fund at Lagond Music School, established to honor and remember Miles Applebaum, a 21-year old jazz guitarist from Armonk and former Lagond student who suffered from depression and took his life in late 2014. The scholarship will help provide disadvantaged aspiring musicians an

opportunity to study music at Lagond where Applebaum received his training.

For more information about the scholarship fund and the benefit, visit www.musicandmiles.org.

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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, Jan. 26

Italian Language and Culture. Mara De Matteo, born and raised in Italy and passionate about her native language, combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in her classes. She creates interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present, through real-life anecdotes, literature, personal memoirs, films and even photography. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

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.

Baby Time. A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.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. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10:15 a.m. \$20. Every Wednesday. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

New Mommy Meet-Up. A great way to get out of the house, meet new friends and enjoy time with your baby. For babies

up to eight months old and their moms. Romper Indoor Playground at World Cup Nursery School and Kindergarten, 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 10:15 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday through June 24 (except holidays). Info: Contact Kim Bremer at 914-238-9267 ext. 20.

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Senior Benefits Information Center. Counselors offer older adults one-on-one counseling covering a broad range of topics including Medicare health and prescription plans, food stamps, HEAP, EPIC, weatherization, minor home repair and tax relief programs. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 Main St., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-231-3260.

Preschool Storytime. This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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., Bedford. 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.

Chair Yoga With Alka Kaminer. Experience greater flexibility, cardiovascular endurance and improved balance, strengthening and toning of muscles, better digestion, stress reduction, mental clarity, improved breathing, relaxation and an overall sense of well-

being. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

The Explorers Club. A new literacy/activity program this fall. Join Miss Debbie to explore a new theme each week (science, art and more) through literacy and hands-on activities. Come read, discover and create. For children five to seven years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Registration required. Info and registration: www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Knitting at the Library. Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels. For ages 10 and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-864-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

Art Series: "Canaletto." Born in 1697, Giovanni Antonio Canal, otherwise known as Canaletto, was a master of Italian landscapes of Venice. His eye for detail and remarkable presentation of these images known as verdure, place him among the master painters of his time. The Dutch generational painters Jan Weenix (father and son) are among the many artists in the incredible arts collection at Highclere Castle, the location for shooting the runway PBS hit "Downton Abbey." Led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Zumba Toning With Amy. Sculpt and tone muscle groups while dancing and shaking toning sticks to the sassy sizzling rhythms of the Zumba. Toning sticks provided. PFX Fitness, 10 Castleton Rd., Pleasantville. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Drop-in fee: \$12. Every Wednesday. Info: E-mail [HYPERLINK "mailto:olin.amyj@gmail.com"](mailto:olin.amyj@gmail.com).

Take Charge of Your Health Wellness Lecture Series. A three-session series led by Dr. Michael Kennis. St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$10 requested donation. Also Feb. 3. RSVP required. Info and RSVP: E-mail office@stjohnspleasantville.com.

Thursday, Jan. 28

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info:

914-741-0276 or [HYPERLINK "http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org"](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org) www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Preschool Storytime. This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or [HYPERLINK "http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org"](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org) www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Mahjongg Club. Intermediate players welcome. Participants must bring their own set. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-864-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

"NT Live: Les Liaisons Dangereuses." Following the hugely successful broadcasts of "Coriolanus" and "King Lear," National Theatre Live brings the Donmar Warehouse's highly anticipated new production to cinemas – broadcast live from the Donmar's London home. Directed by Josie Rourke, the cast includes Elaine Cassidy, Janet McTeer and Dominic West. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Members: \$25. Non-members: \$35. Info and tickets: Visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org"](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org) www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Storytime Playgroup. Come hear a story and music and join in on playtime with toys and books. Children, parents and caregivers will make new friends and share time together. For children one to four years old; with a caregiver. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 2 to 2:45 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Bereavement Support Group. For those who have lost a spouse. Led by Bereavement Coordinator Bess Steiger. Phelps Memorial Hospital Center, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 2:30 to 4 p.m. \$10 per session suggested donation. Also Feb. 4. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3325 or e-mail bsteiger@pmhc.us.

Gaming Old School. Join old school gaming enthusiasts to play board games like a kid again. Open to all ages. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every

continued on next page

A Bottle of Wine is Filled With Longstanding Traditions



By Nick Antonaccio

Wine is rich in tradition.

It is rich in the ethereal tradition that embodies the efforts of millennia of winemakers who have produced wine following the time-honored precepts of their forbearers.

It is rich in the dynamic tradition of millions who have enjoyed it as a symbol of celebration. Raising a glass with others in a toast is a time-honored symbol of success, of special occasions of camaraderie and even of military victory.

It is also rich in the more mundane traditions that have been passed down to 21st century wine consumers. Much of our interface with a bottle of wine comes to us from the limitations that early European winemakers faced in delivering wine from their winery to consumers.

From the format of bottle labels, to the means of sealing the contents, to the shape of the bottle, every known means was employed to insure the preservation of wines as they were stored in cellars and as they traversed the highways and dusty, bumpy byways to their destination.

Today, as we partake of a bottle of wine, several of these traditions and histories tend to lose their import.

I was reminded of this over the weekend when dining at a fine restaurant. As my wife and I settled in for the ritual of a restaurant meal – the proper dinnerware, the placement of the silverware and glasses at table, the fawning of the waiter and sommelier, the multiple food courses and the presentation of the bottle of wine, I began to focus on one aspect of our dining experience.

Having perused the wine list (for an interminable period of time, which I am prone to do, and am always reminded by my wife), I ordered a bottle of wine for us to enjoy, confident in my choice.

When presented with the bottle, the “somm” cradles the bottle for my inspection. The tradition behind this? Simply to verify what is about to be poured is my selection. I believe this may have been one of the derivations of the term “bait and switch,” when the

wine poured was not necessarily the wine ordered. I always check for the name of the producer and especially the vintage. It is upsetting to be presented with a wine from a more recent vintage. “We haven’t updated our wine list,” is not an acceptable reason to present the wrong wine.

Next, the somm will open the bottle in my presence, again to validate the authenticity of the wine.

Then I am presented with the cork, which I dutifully sniff. The tradition? In times past, wines were not always stored under ideal conditions. A dry cork may portend an oxidized wine; a cork should be moist. A cork with crystals? Not a problem – it’s a natural byproduct of cellar conditions. For a high-end wine, I always compare the name on the cork to that on the label. Yes, counterfeit wines have duped trusting somms and consumers for centuries.

Now the moment of truth. I am offered a sample from the bottle. The tradition? One in 15 bottles is corked, conveying an odor of “wet dog.” This is a valid reason to reject the wine. I rarely feel the need

to taste the wine; a deep sniff into the glass informs me if the wine is corked, if it is past its prime or has any off-putting aromas. Remember, our ultimate appreciation of wine is determined by our sense of smell, not taste.

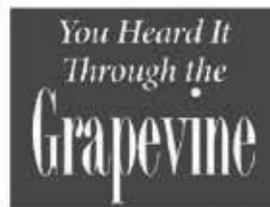
Once I’ve sampled and approved the bottle, I can comfortably offer it to my patient wife.

If the wine passes my evaluation yet doesn’t meet my expectations? Sorry, this is not a reason for rejecting a bottle. Consider the experience a learning opportunity to refine your palate.

Traditions are steeped in history. Even in our age of instant gratification and search engine wisdom, they hold the answer to our enjoyment of fine wine.

Next week: The traditions of bottle shape and size and the reasons for corks and foils.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick’s credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



Happenings

continued from previous page

Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalary.org.

West Exam 1030PM

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. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalary.org.

“Buck and the Preacher.” Sidney Poitier blazed new trails when he took over the direction of this 1972 saga of freed slaves fleeing oppression to find a new home in the West. Also featuring a soundtrack composed by jazz legend Benny Carter and performances from Harry Belafonte and Ruby Dee. Followed by a discussion with Vassar College Associate Professor of Film Mia Mask. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Friday, Jan. 29

Zumba With Amy. Low-impact Zumba for the older active adult or beginners. Ladimax Sports & Fitness, 1 Commerce St., Valhalla. (The Cliffs complex). 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Drop-in rate: \$10. Every Friday. Info: 914-643-6162 or e-mail olin.amyj@gmail.com.

Zumba With Amy. Low-impact Zumba for the older active adult or beginner. Addie-tude Dance Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11 a.m. Drop-in rate: \$12. Every Friday. Also Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Info: 914-643-6162 or e-mail olin.amyj@gmail.com.

Friday Night Cinema: “Pride.” This 2014 English dramedy looks at the devastating 1984 coal miners’ strike in Wales and the unique alliance that was forged between London’s young up-and-coming gay community. With a stellar cast, including Bill Nighy and Imelda Staunton, and sharp writing, this film looks at the ways everyone must stand up for what is right, regardless of class or gender preference. In English and Welsh with subtitles. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Page to Stage High School Edition: Valhalla. Professional actors will bring the students’ literary works to life on stage. Patterned after the “Page to Stage” series where playwrights can see their works-in-progress and invite audience feedback. Directed by Philip Cutrone, the artistic director for White Plains Performing Arts Center’s “The Nak’d Stage” and who has acted in many of the center’s productions. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 7 p.m. \$5. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www.wppac.com.

www.wppac.com.

Saturday, Jan. 30

Pleasantville Farmers Market. The Pleasantville Farmers Market is the largest year-round farmers market in Westchester, and the one voted “Best of Westchester” in 2014 and 2015 by the readers of Westchester Magazine. With over 40 vendors participating in the indoor market the delicious good time continues every Saturday. Pleasantville Middle School, 40 Romer Ave., Pleasantville. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday through March. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Chappaqua Farmers Market. Bringing 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. First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, 210 Orchard Ridge Rd., Chappaqua. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through April. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

Practice Tai Chi With Larry Atille. Learn specific feldenkrais and chi kung breathing techniques for deep relaxation and apply them to tai chi movement. This is a hands-on class that will be geared to the level of experience of the class and challenge all participants. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a floor mat or towel. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East. Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Adult Coloring. If you’re an adult looking for a relaxing, fresh and new activity that will help bring stress relief to your busy life, try this new coloring class. Drop in anytime. Materials provided. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Every Saturday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalary.org.

Adult Salsa Class. Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. Free. \$12. Every Saturday. Also Wednesdays 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. Program runs about 30 minutes. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday and Sunday. Info: 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

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LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PARANDA MEDIA, LLC, ARTS OF ORG. filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/11/2006. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail process to: 80 Vaughn Ave, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GELIX, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with Sect'y of State of New York (SSNY) on 9/17/2015. Office location in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 333 N. Bedford Rd. Ste. 230, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Thrive HR Solutions, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/27/15. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corpora-

tion Agents, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of M.J. Fish LLC filed with the Secretary of State of NY on November 17, 2015. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be served. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY shall mail process to 302 West Main Street, Suite 155, Avon, CT 06001.

Notice of Formation of HSN Property, LLC Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/27/15. Offc. Loc: Westchester Cty. SSNY design. As agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 2 Overhill Road Suite 260, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful business activity.

Notice of Formation of Invariably Digital, LLC Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 9/9/2015. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Invariably Digital LLC, 143 Park Dr, Eastchester, NY 10709 Purpose: any lawful purpose

Notice of Formation of Jenny Dobell Gardenscaping, LLC Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/17/15. Offc. Loc: Westchester Cty. SSNY design. as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 10 Central Ave. Rye, NY, 10580. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Sabina Global Communities, LLC. Sabinagc.com filed with Department of State of New York on 8/28/15. Office location: Westches-

ter County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. Suite 202; 7014 13th Avenue Brooklyn NY 11228 designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to United States Corporation Agents, Inc. Suite 202; 7014 13th Avenue Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

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Latimer: Bipartisan Support Seen to End Gap Elimination

By Martin Wilbur

State Sen. George Latimer (D-Rye) wants to see termination of the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) for the 2016-17 state budget that would reinstate millions of dollars for schools in Westchester and throughout the state.

Latimer said he supported the Senate Republicans' measure, which passed last week, calling for restoration of 100 percent of the funds to school districts this year.

In Gov. Andrew Cuomo's proposed budget, half of the funds would be reinstated; however, the districts located within the 37th Senate District that Latimer represents, only 42 percent of

the money is returned. For some school systems in his area there is less than one-third restoration.

For the 15 school districts in Latimer's district, about \$4.75 million is currently slated to be returned, still leaving a more than \$6.5 million gap.

"Throughout my tenure in the Senate, I have fought to end the GEA," Latimer said. "It is an undue burden unfairly imposed on our schools. It shortchanges our students, limits our teachers and hampers education."

If Cuomo's proposal stands, school districts would still see outstanding GEA money of more than \$425 million statewide, he said.

Last week's vote drew bipartisan support in the Senate, overwhelmingly passing by a 53-9 margin.

The GEA was devised in 2010 to help the state cover budget shortfalls by diverting money from public education. During the past two years, the GEA has been reduced by about 60 percent.

However, with school districts facing a maximum tax levy increase of .12 percent under the state imposed tax cap and no mandate relief in sight, school officials have expressed concern about how current programs and staff will be maintained.

While Cuomo's budget advertised that about half of the outstanding funding

would be restored, in some local districts it's much less than that. White Plains would receive \$198,000 of its \$402,000 outstanding Gap Elimination funding, but Byram Hills in Armonk would receive \$95,985 under the governor's executive's proposal. It is owed nearly \$320,000.

The Harrison School District would need \$420,015 to be made whole, but is slated to receive \$126,004.

Latimer said a telling and hopeful sign is that last week's vote received broad support on both sides of the aisle.

"I believe we have to negotiate this into the budget," Latimer said. "The Republicans support it and I support it, too."

Happenings

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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.

Winter Wildlife. A naturalist introduces some of the nature center's animals with a focus on winter survival techniques. This entertaining and informative program allows visitors to hear, see, smell and touch many of the fascinating, furry, feathered and scaly friends. Recommended for children five years old and up. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: \$5 per person. Non-members: \$8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

"Faith, Food and Friends." A weekly gathering that includes prayer, song, discussion and dinner for all. Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 197 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 5 p.m. Free. Every Saturday. Info: Visit www.emanuelelc.org.

Jim Brickman: The Platinum Tour. Listening to Brickman, a Grammy Award-winning pianist, is an experience of emotion, intimacy, warmth and humor that's fused together with hits like "Valentine," "Rocket to the Moon," "Love of My Life" and "If You Believe." Marking the 20th anniversary of his dynamic career, he will showcase new music along with the hits that made him the most charted Billboard® Adult Contemporary artist. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 8 p.m. \$30 and \$45. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www.wppac.com.

Sunday, Jan. 31

20th Century Photography Masters

Exhibitions. Simultaneous exhibitions that explore some of the most notable photographers from the last century. One exhibit examines the work of three lifelong friends: Ansel Adams, Willard Van Dyke and Edward Weston who, throughout their careers, sought to promote photography as a fine art. The second exhibit, "The Instant as Image," explores the camera's unique ability to capture movement. Centered around Barbara Morgan's exuberant images of Martha Graham and her dancers performing for the camera and Larry Fink's photographs of partying socialites and rural folk, 12 other artists are also featured working in documentary, street and snapshot style, depicting motion as an expressive device rooted in the real world. Neuberger Museum of Art, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 12 to 5 p.m. \$5. Seniors: \$3. Museum hours are Tuesday and Thursday through Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday 12 to 8 p.m. Exhibit continues through June 5. Info: 914-251-6100 or visit www.neuberger.org.

Enrique Granados Commemorative Concert. Featuring Adam Kent, pianist and music director at Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation in White Plains, pianist Jason Cutmore, violinist Airi Yoshioka and cellist Sibylle Johner of the Damocles Trio performing the masterpieces from the Spanish classical tradition. The concert marks the 100th anniversary of the Spanish composer Enrique Granados's fateful visit to New York City. A family-friendly talk on the music is incorporated into the program. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 1 p.m. \$20. Seniors and students: \$10. Children: \$5. Maximum for families: \$45. Info and advance tickets: 914-946-1660 ext. 6. Tickets also available

at the door.

Stand for Wolves. The Wolf Conservation Center and sherry b dessert studio will host Ambassador Wolf Atka, one of the most endangered mammals in North America, for a family educational event celebrating wildlife conservation. Activities will include a free craft table for kids and a children's program about the gray wolf and red wolf and conservation efforts. The event will conclude with a special visit from Atka. All proceeds from merchandise and menu sales will be donated to the Wolf Conservation Center. sherry b dessert studio, 65 King St., Chappaqua. 2 to 4 p.m. Free admission. Rescheduled from Jan. 24. Info: 914-238-8300 or visit www.sherryb.com.

Danceworks for Children. Westchester Community College's dance company will perform a special program for children, who are invited to get into the action on stage and have great fun. The troupe, a diverse ethnic and cultural combination of college students and alumni, is led by company director Mollyann Franzblau. For children three years old and up. Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Theatre, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 3 p.m. \$10. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. Info and tickets: 914-606-6262.

Pleasantville Chamber Music Society Concert. Featuring five distinguished performers who comprise the Quintet of the Americas. The quintet's diverse program includes music from three centuries ago (a Bach concerto) through 2015 ("Variable Winds" by Daniel Ott and commissioned by the quintet). Pleasantville Presbyterian Church, 400 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.pvillechambermusic.org.

"What's Motivating Hayes?" A documentary about UC Berkeley biologist Tyrone Hayes who was retained in 1998 by Syngenta, an agribusiness that produces agrochemicals and seeds, to have him study the effects of its herbicide atrazine

on frogs. When Hayes' research found that the herbicide causes major reproductive defects in frogs, it set in motion a David and Goliath-like battle with Syngenta set on destroying his credibility. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 5 p.m. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Monday, Feb. 1

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.

Knitting Circle. This group is open to everyone who has an interest in knitting. Live, love, laugh, learn and have fun together during these creative journeys. Come share patterns and ideas and celebrate creative spirits together while enjoying the ancient art of knitting. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Every Monday and Thursday. Info: 914-273-3887.

Art Exhibit. An exhibition featuring works by Katie Bell, Joseph Montgomery and Lumin Wakoa examines the materiality and object hood of painting through the reassembling of objects, materials and forms. The artists utilize the process of painting as a catalyst for the generation and regeneration of ideas and imagery. Fragments collected from a wide array of sources, including earlier works, are recycled and reconstructed to create new compositions that challenge the traditional constraints of painting through collage and assemblage. Westchester Community College's Fine Arts Gallery, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day except Sunday and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Apr. 16. Info: 914-606-7867 or visit www.sunywcc.edu/gallery.

ExaminerSports

Vikings Prevail Over Westlake in Overtime Thriller

By Justin Thomas

Sparks are always bound to fly whenever Valhalla and Westlake match up, but Thursday night's girls' basketball game at Valhalla between the two schools was nothing short of sensational.

After the Wildcats' Angela Mangione hit a game-tying 3-pointer with three seconds left in regulation to send it into overtime, Valhalla was able to take care of business in the high-flying overtime period and win 61-55 to improve to 12-3 on the season.

"We knew coming into this that it was going to be a close match," Westlake coach Sean Mayer said. "I told our girls that I don't think either team is going to run away with it. We're going to need every possession, every minute of every quarter. It's going to be a drag-out, four-quarter, really tough game."

It was all Valhalla early, as the Vikings went up 10-0 while the Wildcats struggled to get their shots to fall. But once they started to make some shots and get the

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Valhalla's Sam Morillo grabs a rebound in last Thursday's overtime win vs. visiting Westlake.

7 rebounds, 10 assists) was happy to keep feeding the ball to her.

But the eighth-grade Sekinski kept answering for the Vikings, hitting a three on one possession, then coming back down and cashing in on her own offensive board on the next one. Just before the end of the third quarter, Sekinski stole the ball and took it in herself for a basket that pushed the Valhalla lead to seven, the largest gap there would be for the rest of the game.

The fourth quarter began with a fervor as Westlake's Jamie Perfito and Valhalla's Sofia Mazza traded 3-pointers. Then the Wildcats came right back down and found Perfito behind the arc again for another three, only to have it answered right away by Sekinski. Moments later, Sekinski drained another 3-point shot, giving the Vikings a 42-37 lead.

Alfieri provided some fire of her own, driving hard through the lane and scoring to bring the Wildcats within three points. She then took on the role of distributor, driving to the lane and dishing it out to Kali Oswald for back-to-back baskets that gave Westlake a 43-42 lead.

With their team suddenly down and less than two minutes left to play, it

started slowly, but ended up looking like a duel between Valhalla's Shelby Sekinski (20 points, 7 rebounds), and Westlake's Lauren Holzer (8 points, 13 rebounds). Holzer found the hole in the Valhalla defense and exploited it as much as she could in the third quarter, and point guard Natalie Alfieri (11 points,



Westlake guard Natalie Alfieri takes the ball to the basket as Valhalla's Sam Morillo tries to block her shot.

was time for Sam Morillo (20 points, 21 rebounds), and Frankie Guzzo (10 points, 12 rebounds) to step up big for the Vikings. Morillo grabbed a huge offensive



Westlake freshman Jamie Perfito passes the ball while being pressured in the corner by Valhalla's Sofia Mazza in last Thursday game.

rebound, and put it back up and in despite being fouled to put the Vikings back on top. Guzzo then followed suit with a clutch shot to give the Vikings a four-point lead with less than 50 seconds left.

A huge 3-pointer by Perfito made it a one-point game with 11 seconds left. After two clutch free throws from Mazza, the Vikings held on to a three-point lead with just eight seconds left to play. The Wildcats drew up a play and found Mangione on an inbound pass beyond the arc. Mangione turned and tossed up a 3-point shot that banked in to send the game to overtime.

"Westlake and Valhalla always seem to play these barnburners," Valhalla coach Stephen Boyer said. "The girls showed a lot of composure in dealing with it, because they were a little bit upset. But we came out and we got the ball inside to Sam. I think that was big. I think Sofia made big

plays in the game. She got fouled, hit two free throws, and also she got an offensive rebound...and kicked it back out and they had to foul Frankie."

Morillo got things going for the Vikings in overtime, drawing first blood in the extra session by grabbing an offensive board and then banking it in. Alfieri came right back with a drive to the hoop to tie it. Morillo and Alfieri traded inside baskets for the first four field goals of overtime, but it was Guzzo and Mazza who finished off the game for the Vikings.

Guzzo made a big mid-range shot with one minute left to push the lead to three, and after two Sekinski free throws extended the Valhalla edge to five points, Mazza grabbed the most important rebound of the game on the offensive glass. The Vikings maintained possession with the shot clock off. After a Viking miss, Mazza crashed the boards to grab an offensive rebound and give Valhalla possession with the shot clock turned off. Guzzo soon made two free throws, then sealed the game by intercepting Westlake's inbound pass along the sideline.

Coach Boyer had high praise for the effort he witnessed from Guzzo.

"She's awesome," he said. "She's a senior, she's a captain, and I guess she's a money player. If she's not scoring a lot, she does other things, and that's a credit to her because some players, if they're not scoring, they put their head down and don't participate. She just keeps working. When she's not scoring, she rebounds. She runs the floor, she runs the defense. You don't see it on the scoreboard a lot, but the team knows that Frankie's running the show on the court almost every time."

For the Wildcats, the hard-fought, grueling loss dropped them to 8-8 on the season, but coach Mayer knows there are still some positives to take away from the effort even through the heartache.

"We had a long talk after the game," Mayer said. "Sometimes you play in close games. You'd obviously like to win them, but they've got nothing to be ashamed of. What was it? Twelve seconds left to score six points? That's pretty good on our end.... Although we would've rather won, it's going to help us prepare for the games ahead. I told them, 'The next close game, let's remember a little bit how we feel now.' So that's what it's going to prepare us for."

On the other side of the coin, the Vikings will now look to ride the momentum of their overtime victory.

"I hope they realize this is a big win," Boyer said. "This is a great team they played, and it's a big win, and it's called momentum. So we are the hunted. And I've told the girls, people are going to come after us every game. So we've got to come play and be ready to go."



Sofia Mazza of Valhalla holds the ball along the right baseline after dribbling past Westlake's Lauren Holzer.

ball moving, it became a grind-it-out, back-and-forth contest for the rest of the evening.

From the start of the second quarter on, the teams were hardly ever separated by more than two possessions in either direction, with the Vikings and Wildcats trading blows and going shot for shot.

After Westlake bounced back to trail by just a point at halftime, the third quarter

Foxes Pull Away in the Second Half to Defeat Byram Hills

By Andy Jacobs

It's been nearly a month since the Fox Lane boys' basketball team last lost a game, and each passing week seems to bring more and more believers that a Class AA sectional championship this season is not beyond its grasp.

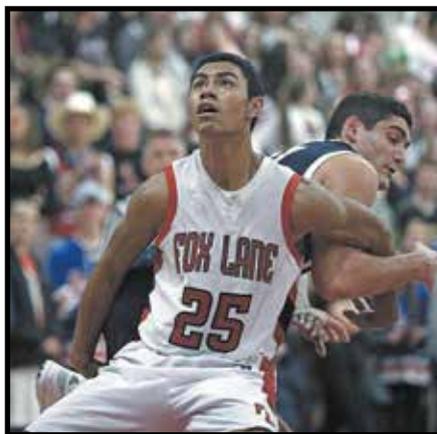
On Friday night, the Foxes passed yet another hurdle on their path to Westchester County Center glory. With Matt Redhead scoring 19 points and Sean New adding 13, they turned back a spirited upset bid by rival Byram Hills, winning 61-50 before a raucous and

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Byram Hills guard Matt Milone passes the ball while being pressured by Fox Lane's Emmett Robin during Friday's game.

For a good portion of the evening, though, the Bobcats, now 12-4 this season, kept the outcome in doubt. Junior center Matt Groll made 11 of his 17 shots from the field and finished with a game-high 26 points, nearly single-handedly enabling Byram Hills to match the Foxes basket for basket over the first three quarters.

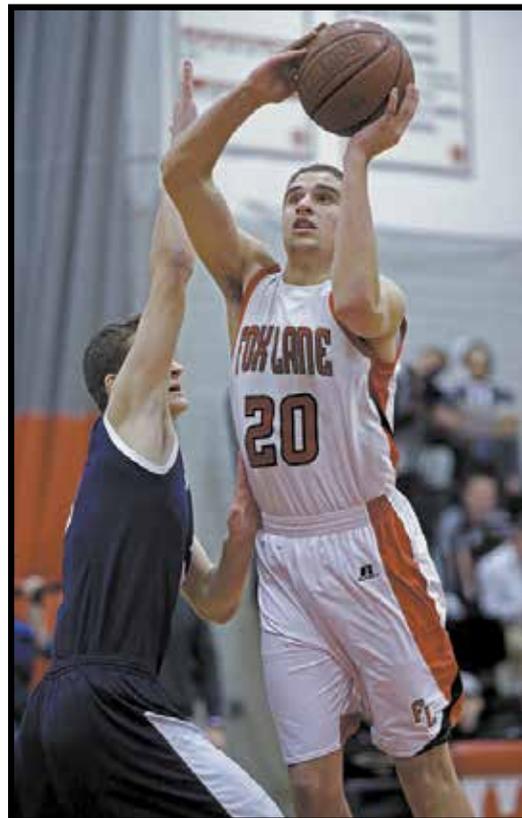


Fox Lane forward Alex Olsen awaits a rebound as he boxes out Lou Filippelli of Byram Hills.

"Yeah, he played one heck of a game," said Bobcats coach Ted Repa after watching Groll score on a variety of shots in the paint all night. "He's really developing. His upside is very high."

It was Groll who scored three baskets in the final 77 seconds of the first half, including a fast-break dunk that just beat the buzzer, sending his giddy Bobcat teammates off the floor at intermission trailing by just two points.

"It's basketball. It's a game of ups and downs," said the Foxes' Tomassi about the heroics from Groll late in the half that wiped out most of the Foxes' eight-point advantage. "You take the good with the bad. Unfortunately, that



Matt Redhead of Fox Lane gets set to shoot the ball in the lane as Matt Groll of Byram Hills defends during Friday's game, won by the host Foxes.

happened, but, hey, to be up two with one of our better players (Alex Olsen) in foul trouble, I'll take it."

Redhead, too, found himself in some foul trouble after getting whistled for his third with just over two minutes left in the third quarter. His emphatic two-handed dunk after driving the left baseline to start the second quarter delighted the home fans and he later provided the Foxes with three baskets in the fourth quarter, including two in the midst of Fox Lane's 10-1 spurt at the start of the period that turned a precarious lead into a 55-39 cushion.

"Those runs will come if we do what we're supposed to do," said Tomassi. "In the second half, we were able to do that. I feel like when we are playing the type of basketball that we're capable of, we're pretty good. And in the second half, we bore down and did what we needed to do."

Still, the Bobcats found themselves trailing by only three points after Groll made a pair of free throws with 2:03 left in the third quarter and a layup 30 seconds later. But with 36 seconds remaining in the period, the Foxes got a big lift from an unexpected source. Reserve guard Aaron Winkler came flying into the lane to grab an offensive rebound, then scored in traffic while getting fouled. He added the free throw, giving the Foxes a 42-36 lead.

"He's just a tough, hard-working kid and I love everything about him," said Tomassi about Winkler. "Kid gets in the game and instant factor just because of how hard he works. I thought that was a big turning point."

Another turning point came with five

seconds to go in the third quarter as Nick Rosati hit a 3-pointer that increased the Fox Lane lead to 45-38. The final period began with a New runner in the lane and then an Olsen put-back. Suddenly, the Foxes' lead was up to 11 points and Byram Hills never recovered.

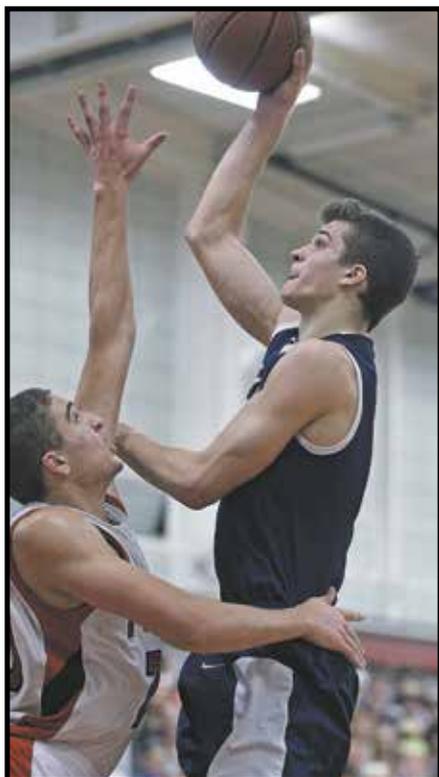
By the time the Bobcats' Skylar Sinon made a 15-foot jumper to end the Foxes' run at the start of the fourth quarter, the Byram Hills deficit had swelled to 16 points. Groll made back-to-back baskets that cut the Fox Lane lead to 57-45 with three and a half minutes left, but layups by Redhead and New put an end to the Bobcats' hopes.

"That's a real good basketball team we lost to," said Repa. "They're very polished. At the end of the third quarter, they went on that big run. From there, it felt like we were climbing uphill and we could just never get there. We got a few turnovers down the stretch, but the lead was 15 when we started to come back. A little too late."

"I knew they were gonna keep fighting," said Tomassi about the vanquished Bobcats. "It's a rivalry game. I knew they weren't gonna stop. They weren't gonna go down without a fight. Coach Repa's not like that, either. He's gonna play to the final whistle. It's just two good teams going at it."



The Foxes' Emmett Robin gets ready to shoot an off-balance shot in the lane as Byram Hills' Jared Friedberg tries to stop him.



Matt Groll of Byram Hills shoots a jump hook over Fox Lane's Matt Redhead in Friday night's game.

overflowing home crowd that filled every available inch of their gymnasium.

"It hasn't been this packed in a long, long time," said head coach Mike Tomassi after his 11-2 Foxes had delighted their large cheering section with another victory. "It's a great atmosphere. I told the boys before the game this would be a night they remember forever. We wanted it to be a positive memory."



Fox Lane's Sean New looks for an open teammate as he's pressured in the backcourt by Jared Friedberg of Byram Hills in the fourth quarter.

Home-Court Advantage



Fox Lane basketball fans look on from the bleachers during Friday evening's rivalry game against Byram Hills. The Foxes defeated the Bobcats 61-50 before a standing-room-only crowd in Bedford.

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Fourth-Quarter Somers Blitz Leaves Foxes With a Familiar Feeling

By Andy Jacobs

For the Fox Lane girls' basketball team, Thursday afternoon's home game against Somers turned into what one renowned philosopher once described as déjà vu all over again.

Just as they had a couple of weeks earlier, the Tuskers overcame a small fourth-quarter deficit against the Foxes and went on to win by a dozen points, this time 57-45. Once again, star guard Gabby Rosenzweig finished with a game-high 19 points, leaving Fox Lane coach Kris Matts convinced the sequel was precisely the same as the original.

"The exact same thing happened," he said. "You could clone the games, basically. We did a couple things differently, but the end result was the same. It's painful to go through it once, but to go through it twice when you know it's coming and you've drilled it and practiced it, I'm doing something wrong."

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Fox Lane's Sorvina Carr shoots the ball in the first quarter vs. visiting Somers.



Sophomore guard Lucy Crerend dribbles the ball near midcourt in Fox Lane's home game last Thursday afternoon.



Emily O'Mahoney of Fox Lane dribbles past the 3-point arc in the Foxes' home loss to Somers.



Fox Lane center Maria Violante searches for an open teammate early in Thursday's game vs. Somers.

The Foxes, now 7-6 with the start of sectional playoffs three weeks away, found themselves trailing 26-24 after a first half in which the lead changed hands six times. The second quarter had begun with 12-2 Somers ahead by four points, but three straight baskets, two of them by Katie Mitchell, put Fox Lane briefly back in front.

In the third quarter, the Tuskers opened up a six-point lead in the opening two minutes. But a Sorvina Carr basket and then a drive along the right baseline for another bucket by Emily O'Mahoney, who led the Foxes with 13 points, cut the Tuskers' edge to 30-28.

A put-back basket by Maria Violante, who was limited in the first half after

getting whistled for her second foul with 19 seconds to go in the opening quarter, followed by a right-corner 3-pointer by sophomore guard Lucy Crerend with 45 seconds remaining, enabled Fox Lane to take a 33-32 lead into the final quarter.

Violante, the Foxes' talented sophomore center, finished the day with nine points after scoring just one basket in the first half, and Matts was disappointed he couldn't keep her on the court longer.

"Maria had a lot more opportunities in the first game and even that wasn't enough," he said. "She shot 80 percent from the field in the first game and only shot the ball eight times, basically. And this game, she got in foul trouble early on some questionable calls. That took her out of the first half, which kind of changes the momentum a little bit. When she came back in the second half, I thought she did a great job to battle her way back into the game. But it's tough when you're sitting for an entire



The Foxes' Tara Lombardi lines up a 3-point shot during last Thursday's home game against the Tuskers.

quarter to get the rhythm back."

Unfortunately for the Foxes, the one-point lead they were clinging to after three quarters disappeared in the blink of an eye. The Tuskers' Hannah Angelini connected on a 3-pointer from the right corner just 12 seconds into the fourth quarter and Somers never trailed again. Sharpshooting guard Livy Lipski soon followed with a pair of 3-pointers 30 seconds apart, leaving Fox Lane suddenly trailing 41-34.

"Basically three possessions in a row of defensive lapses," said Matts. "The



Fox Lane's Katie Morales guards Gabby Rosenzweig of Somers in last week's game, won by the Tuskers.

whole game plan was to zero in on No. 3 (Rosenzweig) and No. 11 (Lipsky), who are basically their only offense. And we lost No. 11 three straight possessions. So that's what it comes down to right there. That's the difference in the game, defensive lapses right there."

A 15-foot jumper by Violante and a driving layup from Carr, sandwiched around a Rosenzweig runner in the lane, brought the Foxes within 43-38 with 5:17 left in the game. But that was as close as they would get as Somers answered with an 11-3 spurt to seal the outcome.

Afterwards, Matts was struck by how similarly both contests against Somers had played out.

"The first game, we were up the entire time," he said. "We lost the lead at the end of the fourth quarter. And 11 and 3 hit 3-pointers and killed us. This game, we're winning going into the fourth quarter. Eleven and 3 killed us. Defensive lapses, that's on coaching. That's all coaching right there. I've got to take both these losses as mine."

Matts figures his team might have won both games if Rosenzweig could have been contained a little more.

"I would've preferred if we made her go left," he said. "Once would've been nice, but she's incredibly talented. The way that she's playing this year, it's hard to argue that she's not MVP of the league. She's burying big shots, but she also distributes, the ball's in her hands the entire time. She's a very, very good player. It's very frustrating. I've got some very good defenders on her too and she still manages to get her shots off."

With the postseason just around the corner, the Foxes will be hoping to soon start building some needed momentum. But tough games against Rye and Brewster await.

"I think the key is to try and stay together and get the girls all pulling in the same direction," said Matts. "Especially after a tough loss like this, the danger is that that togetherness is lost a little bit."

Pace Stays Even for One Half Before Falling to Bentley

By Andy Jacobs

It didn't seem to matter last Wednesday night that the Pace men's basketball team, facing perhaps the best team in the Northeast-10 Conference, took the court minus two of its usual starters — at least for one half, anyway.

Led by star senior Tyler McFarland, the visiting Bentley University Falcons broke open a game that was tied at halftime



The Setters' Shelton Mickell drives to the basket in last Wednesday's game vs. Bentley.

and went on to a 73-55 victory over the Setters at the Goldstein Fitness Center. McFarland, a muscular 6-5 forward, finished with 30 points and 10 rebounds as the first-place Falcons improved to 10-1 in the conference.

"Extremely tough," said Setters head coach Matt Healing afterwards about trying to contain McFarland, currently second in the NE-10 in scoring. "He can do it all. He can shoot from three, he can post you up, he can take you off the dribble. So we knew it would be a tall task for us, and our guys fought and did the best they could."

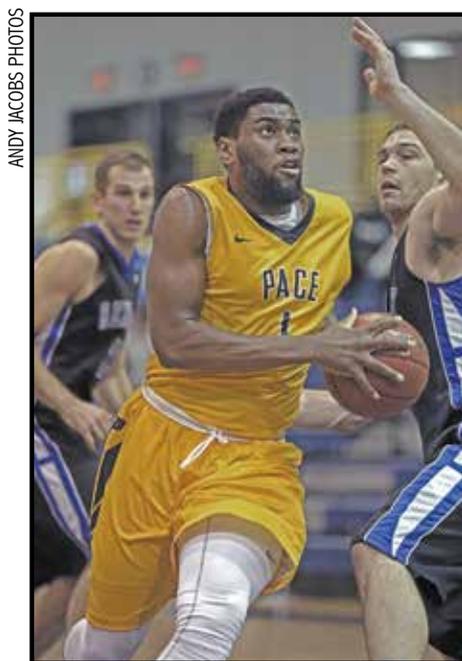
Playing without injured center Victor

An Early Lead Disappears as the Setters Lose to Bentley

Even as the Pace University women's basketball team built a 14-point lead early in the second quarter against formidable Bentley last Wednesday evening, coach Carrie Seymour knew it was only a matter of time before her red-hot Setters would see the real Falcons.

Sure enough, visiting Bentley stepped it up late in the first half, outscoring Pace 15-0 over the final three and a half minutes to grab a two-point lead, and went on to a convincing 68-54 victory in a Northeast-10 Conference game at the Goldstein Fitness Center.

"They're a good team and they weren't really putting a lot of pressure on us in the beginning," said Seymour after her team had dropped to 10-9 this season, 5-6 in the NE-10. "We were getting a lot of wide-



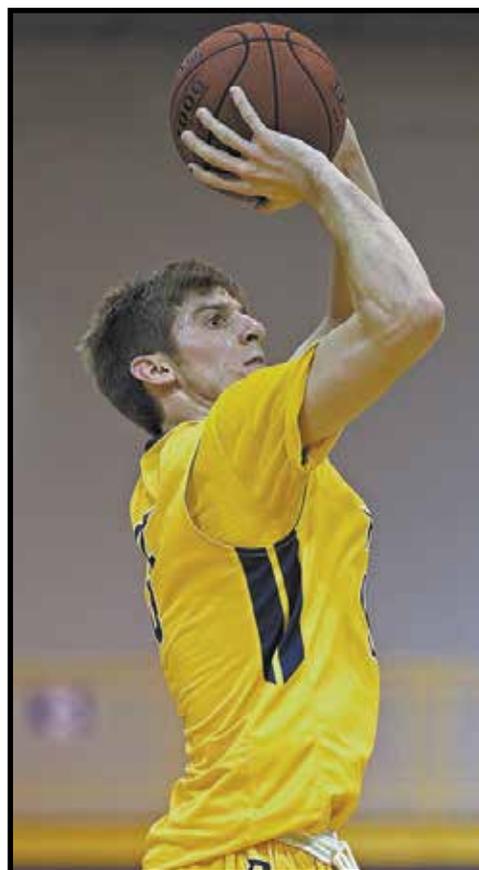
Pace forward Austin Mofunanya takes the ball through the lane during last week's home game.

Jusino and suspended forward Kyle Pearson, the Setters still managed to match the Falcons basket for basket over the game's first 20 minutes. Even though their last lead of the night came just four minutes into the contest on a Bryan Rivers jump shot that gave them a 6-4 edge, the Setters stayed close throughout the opening half.

When Bentley opened up a 27-21 lead with six and a half minutes to go before intermission, Pace answered with a 17-foot jumper by Luke McLaughlin and then back-to-back drives for layups by Shelton Mickell to even the score. Another McLaughlin jump shot with 30 seconds left in the half tied the game for the sixth time.

McLaughlin, a freshman, had six of his career-high eight points in the opening half, and Austin Mofunanya also provided eight of his 10 to help the Setters make up for the absence of two key players.

"Yeah, a couple guys that haven't gotten



Pace University freshman Luke McLaughlin fires a jump shot last Wednesday evening against the Falcons.

a ton of playing time lately have gotten a chance to step in and do some things," said Healing about the first-half contributions from McLaughlin and Mofunanya. "I thought they played really well tonight."

A layup by Brandon Wheeler to start the second half gave Bentley a 33-31 lead, but Mickell, who led the Setters with 20 points, tied the game once again with an off-balance basket in the lane nearly a minute later. McFarland's 3-pointer from left of the key 90 seconds into the half gave the Falcons the lead for good and ignited a 13-5 run.

McLaughlin's final points of the night, on a 15-foot jumper, moved the Setters to within 46-40 with just over 12 minutes

remaining, but that was as close as they would get. A pair of free throws by freshman guard Paton Gibbs narrowed Pace's deficit to 64-52 with 4:24 to go before the Falcons, with McFarland scoring five points, closed the game on a 9-3 run to build their largest lead.

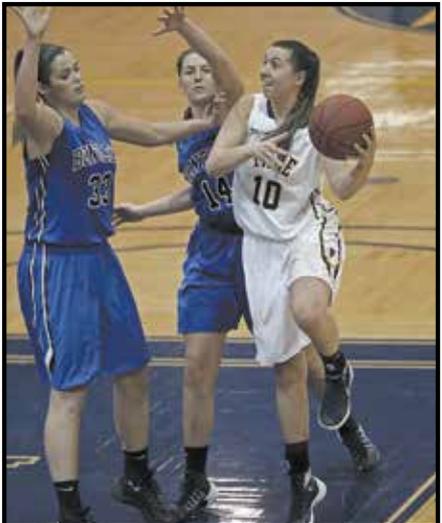
"The score might not indicate it," said Healing, "but a good effort, good energy, and I'm just proud of the guys for fighting hard tonight. You can only hold a team like that down for so long. They average 85 points a game. We held them to the 70s. We fought, they just played a good game and we kind of ran out of gas there."

The Setters, 7-12 overall and 4-7 in the NE-10 after the loss, made just nine of 32 shots from the field in the second half when they were being outscored 42-24. They finished the game with just one 3-pointer in 19 attempts.

"No, I don't think anybody's feeling sorry for themselves," said Healing about his Setters having to play shorthanded against the Falcons. "It's a long season. College basketball, it's a grind. Guys are gonna be hurt at times and guys are gonna be out of the lineup and in the lineup. But you've just got to persevere. We've still got a month to go. We're gonna keep fighting every day. So nobody's getting down. We're gonna fight all the way to the end."

PACE PLUS: The Setters ended their week with a 75-61 NE-10 win at Assumption on Friday. Mickell had a game-high 20 points, while Ryan Peterson, Mofunanya and Gibbs each finished with 12. Point guard Rivers added 11 points and a game-high nine rebounds.

Pace returns to the Goldstein Fitness Center tonight (Tuesday) for a 7:30 matchup against Franklin Pierce. The Setters travel to Southern New Hampshire on Saturday, then host Adelphi on February 3 at 3:30.



The Setters' Gabby Rubin sends up a left-handed shot in the fourth quarter vs. visiting Bentley.

open looks, but they weren't going to play like that all night. They're first place in the conference. They usually play very, very physical."

The Setters took advantage of Bentley's initial indifference, making 15 of their first 22 shots from the field and using a 13-2 run at the start of the second quarter to open up a 31-17 advantage. The lead was still 13 points after Pace's Shanice Maynard made a layup with 4:47 left in the half, but the Setters never scored again before intermission, enabling the Falcons to finally take control.

"I just think they wore us down," said Seymour. "They're very physical. In the first quarter, they weren't. After that, they were. It changed the tone of the game."

While the Setters misfired on their final

five shots of the second quarter and turned the ball over three times, Bentley, now 8-3 atop the NE-10's Northeast Division, went on its huge spurt, led by sophomore guard Lauren Green, who erupted for 10 of her game-high 15 points during a three-minute blitz that completely turned the contest around.

"It's a 40-minute game, and they're a very, very good team," said Seymour. "A very strong team. We had to play a lot better, a lot more solid fundamentally for it to be a competitive game. And, unfortunately, we had a lot of breakdowns."

Still, the Setters tied the game 30 seconds into the third quarter on a layup by Geena Rosalbo and even took a 40-38 lead when freshman guard Allie Monteleone nailed a

continued on next page

3-pointer with 8:39 left in the period. But the Falcons' Macchi Smith soon provided a pair of treys and eight points in a 10-0 Bentley run that left Pace playing from behind the rest of the way.



Pace University guard Geena Rosalbo dribbles toward the basket in the Setters' home loss to Bentley last Wednesday.



Pace center Kirsten Dodge tries to get to the basket in last week's home game at the Goldstein Fitness Center.



Pace University head coach Carrie Seymour talks to her team in the second half of last week's game vs. the Bentley Falcons.

A 17-foot jumper from the right baseline with 10 seconds left by Jen Gemma, the league's leading scorer who was held to 10 points, half her average, gave the Falcons a 55-46 cushion heading to the fourth quarter. The Setters didn't score for nearly four minutes to start the final period, and by then found themselves trailing by 15 points.

A put-back basket by Victoria Lux with 3:52 remaining in the game gave Bentley

its largest lead of the night, 65-47. Gabby Rubin, who led Pace with 14 points, dropped in a lefty layup that moved the Setters to within 11 points with 1:21 to go, but by then the outcome had already been decided.

Kirsten Dodge, the Setters' 6-5 center who scored 13 points and added a career-high nine blocked shots, provided one final highlight for the home fans late in the contest when she scrambled out to the

right corner to smack an Amy McConnell 3-point shot high and far into the nearby stands.

"When she wants to make plays, she can make plays like that shot block in the corner," said Seymour. "She's a better athlete than she shows everybody. I thought by this time in her career she'd be a dominant player. She's not there yet, but I think she can be."

If and when Dodge becomes the force

Seymour envisions, maybe the Setters will be able to maintain a big lead against an elite team.

"Right now, we're not the level of Bentley," she said. "They were down last year because they had a whole slew of injuries. Two years ago, they won the national championship. That's their culture. Even when they got down, they believed they were going to win the game."

-Andy Jacobs

HORACE GREELEY Basketball



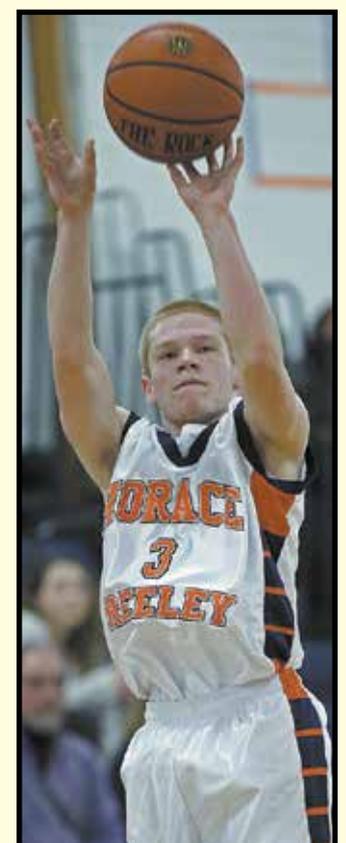
Greeley's Jeff Merchant shoots the ball over Fox Lane's Matt Redhead in last Tuesday's game.



The Quakers' Brandon Spiegel drives the left baseline in last Tuesday's home loss to Fox Lane.



Jack Baron of Greeley tries to dribble past Fox Lane's Sean New during last week's game in Chappaqua.



Greeley guard Ben Wolfensohn shoots a jumper in the second half vs. visiting Fox Lane.

Marquee Matchup



Byram Hills Junior Center Matt Groll is Chased by Fox Lane's Sean New Before a Packed House in Bedford

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