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October 25 - October 31, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 477

Board Walks Out, Cops Called in at Tense Chappaqua School Meeting

By Anna Young

The Chappaqua Board of Education meeting took a turn for the worse last Tuesday evening when trustees and administrators walked out of their meeting and called New Castle police for assistance.

Parents in attendance had grown increasingly frustrated after the board of education addressed other items on the agenda before taking open comments from the public. Since the start of the school year, some parents have consistently attended board meetings harshly criticizing the district's handling of the Christopher Schraufnagel sexual abuse controversy.

"You're filibustering the public comment," said parent Will Wedge, a community member who has continually called for the resignations of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Lyn McKay and board President Alyson Gardner.

After a 90-minute interactive presentation involving students and teachers about the district's STEAM

program, the board spent an additional half-hour discussing the construction of a turf field, ignoring the full room of restless parents waiting their turn to speak.

An outraged Wedge, one of many residents who has demanded action in the wake of growing discontent as details have emerged about Schraufnagel, the former Horace Greeley High School theater teacher, stood up and interrupted the meeting. He stated how the public wants to comment on matters that are important.

Trustee Jeffrey Mester quickly called Wedge rude before warning him that if he didn't stop interrupting he would be asked to leave. Wedge responded that the board was responsible to the community and urged it to open public comment.

When other parents joined in to voice their aggravation, Trustee Karen Visser threw her hands up in frustration and walked out, quickly followed by the rest of the board and administration.

"This is a huge disappointment," Barbara

Buxbaum, leader of the local group Families Advocating for Children and Transparency at School (FACTS) yelled out as they were leaving. "This is what happens when concerns aren't addressed over a year and a half."

Parents converged at the Oct. 18 meeting at Horace Greeley High School to once again demand answers regarding how Schraufnagel was permitted to engage in inappropriate activity with students over several years. Schraufnagel was originally charged in a seven-count indictment last October. He pleaded guilty to three misdemeanor charges in August, but that plea has since been rejected by Town Justice Douglas Kraus.

With parents questioning whether the meeting was adjourned or in recess, Gardner told the emotional crowd that the board's recess "will last as long as it needs to."

Sandra Nohavicka, along with several

continued on page 2



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

New Castle police officers talk to several angered parents during a recess at last Tuesday's Chappaqua Board of Education meeting, which became tense when the public demanded its turn to speak.

Mt. Pleasant School District's \$39.6M Bond Easily Approved

By Neal Rentz

After rejecting a referendum each of the past two years, Mount Pleasant School District residents overwhelmingly approved a \$39.6 million capital projects bond last Tuesday night.

The final tally was 1,735-967, which included absentee ballots.

"I am incredibly grateful to the community of Mount Pleasant," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Guiney moments after the votes were counted at the Westlake High School gym. "Everyone participated in encouraging people to come out and vote. They provided accurate information and they were very supportive and they showed the confidence they have in our board of education and school district."



ALYSON WALSH PHOTO

Mount Pleasant School District residents and officials wait for votes to be tallied last Tuesday night for the proposed \$39.6 million capital projects bond. The referendum was overwhelmingly approved by voters.

Residents and district officials had expressed increased confidence prior

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New Controversy Sparked in Fareri, No. Castle Affordable Housing Fight

By Martin Wilbur

A new controversy erupted last week between developer Michael Fareri and the Town of North Castle.

Fareri has thus far been rebuffed by the town in his quest to convince North Castle officials to sign off on a required restrictive covenant for the already approved 30 market-rate condominiums with six affordable units at the former lumberyard property on Bedford Road.

Without the covenant, Fareri is unable to obtain the building permit that would give him the ability to build the project and for the county to receive credit for the six affordable units by the Dec. 31 deadline to comply with the housing settlement calling for 750 new affordable units. It would also prevent him from selling the 36 units to the

county, another option he and his attorney have said is under consideration.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said Monday that the town has refused Fareri's request for the covenant because he has told the town board he has no intention of building the approved project.

"There's a covenant because the county needs to be certain that he's going to build these units," Schiliro said.

At an Oct. 13 work session, where Fareri pitched his latest proposal to move the six affordable units from the lumberyard to a property he owns on Main Street and land bank an additional 10 units, he and his attorney Alan Singer stated that he won't build the approved project because market-rate and affordable condos in the same building are undesirable. It would

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Board Walks Out, Cops Called in at Tense Chappaqua School Meeting

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other parents, said the board strategically planned to stall the meeting.

During the hour-long recess, residents in attendance grew angrier, even more so when New Castle police officers arrived, stating the board felt physically threatened by Wedge. This is the second time Wedge has had police called on him. Officers visited his home on Oct. 4 after anonymous complaints were made about his alleged threatening behavior at a Sept. 27 district coffee at Westorchard Elementary School. However, parents who were at that meeting came to Wedge's defense.

"This is a ploy," Wedge said to one of the responding officers. "They're using you as a way to try to intimidate us and not hold this meeting."

Officers spent 45 minutes shuttling between the school's commons area where

the meeting was held and a room where the board recessed, negotiating terms on how to prevent the meeting from getting out of hand.

During that process, one parent stood at the podium asking for everyone's attention. She had prepared a statement for the meeting and wanted to be heard, stating that it was more important for the community to listen than the board. During her statement, an officer returned informing the public that the board would only continue the meeting with police supervision.

Wedge was told that if he didn't cooperate he would be asked to leave and refusal to comply would result in his arrest. He told police he refused to be intimidated for voicing his opinion even if it meant being arrested.

"The irony is Schraufnagel won't go to



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

There was an empty table where the Chappaqua Board of Education went into recess for about an hour after walking out of the Oct. 18 meeting.

jail, but Will might," Nohavicka said.

Six officers remained present as the board returned.

When the meeting resumed and public comment started, parents lined up one after another sharing their disgust with

how the board has continued to handle the matter.

"Kids' lives have been destroyed," one parent said. "This board needs to apologize to the community for their lack of sensitivity."

"Nobody is listening to the community's concerns," Buxbaum said. "The board needs to communicate better."

Susan Flannigan and Jane Sheperdson said the community hasn't healed and that it is important to restore harmony, communication, community engagement and mutual respect.

Speakers raised the subject of leaked e-mails this summer that detailed disparaging comments made by trustees to each other about certain community members. The e-mails showed a lack of empathy toward the community, they said.

"I'm sorry if feelings were hurt, but we were victims of a hack," Gardner said. "What we said was said in private."

"This started as a story of sexual abuse and turned into a story of covering up sexual abuse. Why do you feel remaining in your position helps the school?" parent Sanford Bernardo asked of McKay.

McKay did not respond.

"McKay's lack of response is the silence that screams the problems of the board's failure to communicate," Wedge said. "It shows a lack of responsibility."

New Controversy Sparked in Fareri, No. Castle Affordable Housing Fight

continued from page 1

devalue the market-rate units and there could be sharp disagreements between the two sets of owners over upkeep and maintenance costs, they said.

He is set to appear again before the town board tomorrow (Wednesday) night in hopes of moving forward the plan for the 16 affordable units on Main Street. Fareri was also scheduled before the planning

board on Monday night for his application for a 48-unit affordable housing project at the lumberyard site.

In a correspondence late last week, Fareri said he is considering writing a letter to Federal District Judge Denise Cote, the judge overseeing legal issues surrounding the settlement, to inform her of the town's delay in signing the covenant.

"And of course, they are preventing me

from commencing construction this fall and from any other option I may have," Fareri stated.

While the county has satisfied the financing requirements for the settlement with 771 units funded, it is currently short of the 750 building permits. According to the county planning department, 634 building permits have been issued through Oct. 17.

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Mt. Pleasant Seeking Funds for Ambitious Downtown Revitalization

By Neal Rentz

The Town of Mount Pleasant will move forward on a multimillion dollar downtown revitalization plan once it obtains the necessary funding.

Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said the town is targeting another \$3 million in state grants to fund the projects to revamp the stretch of Elwood Avenue from Hawthorne to Thornwood. In August, the town received a \$500,000 state grant.

Fulgenzi said downtown revitalization has been needed for years.

"It's in dire need of an uplift," he said. "We really believe that if we enhance the downtown to make it more attractive to people driving through that would enhance business."

The supervisor said he does not want to use town taxpayer dollars to pay for the work that is along state routes. Mount Pleasant has applied for additional grants this year and will continue to do so in the future, he said.

Mount Pleasant needs a total of about \$3.5 million to pay for roadwork, sidewalks and curbing, plantings, lighting projects and to create additional parking. The projects will be done along the two-mile corridor on Elwood Avenue in Hawthorne from Cross Street to the Four Corners in Thornwood, the intersection of Commerce Street, Franklin Avenue, Marble Avenue and Columbus Avenue.

Once the funding is accumulated, the projects will be done in stages, starting with Cross Street, then proceeding north, Fulgenzi said. The second phase would end at the Four Corners. The town would hire outside contractors, but town employees could assist in some of the projects, he said. Each phase would take about one year to complete.

The town board is exploring zoning changes that would allow apartments above downtown businesses, which could generate additional revenues for merchants and property owners, Fulgenzi said. The extra money could be used by owners to make improvements to their properties, he said.

Fulgenzi said he hoped there would be specialty stores and evening destinations in a revitalized downtown, including coffee shops and more restaurants with seasonal outdoor seating. Town officials hope the revitalization will encourage more pedestrian traffic and entice some commuters to walk to the Hawthorne Metro-North station.

"We want to create a place where people want to go," Fulgenzi said.

Additional housing is needed in the area due to recently approved commercial projects and more that are being proposed, he said.

The town board will form a committee within the next two months to develop



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi is targeting another \$3 million in state grants to fund the downtown revitalization project.

ideas for the downtown's future, Fulgenzi said.

A key piece of the makeover is to demolish the building that formerly housed Bel Paese, an Italian restaurant on Elwood Avenue across the street from the train station. The town recently completed the foreclosure process and now owns the land.

Fulgenzi said he is in the process of obtaining estimates for asbestos removal and the demolition. The town board will have to approve the expenditure. He hopes that the building is taken down next month.

"The future of the site has not been determined yet as the parcels on either side

are still owned by the previous investor," Fulgenzi said. "But it will be a focal point for our downtown revitalization plans. Our number one priority will be to have the eyesore removed and the property cleaned up as soon as possible."

The land will remain vacant after the demolition until the downtown revitalization process begins.

Last month, the Board of Legislators approved a bond act for \$325,000 to redesign a section of Commerce Street that included the intersection with Elwood Road, the site of numerous traffic accidents and a pedestrian fatality in 2013.

County Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) said while the project is separate from the town's downtown revitalization it is part of the same area that needs to be improved for motorists and pedestrians.

"Road work may seem like a pretty unexciting function of local governments but when it results in a safer road it could mean saving a life, and that is very exciting," Cunzio said.

In addition to redesigning the intersection, the money will also include the design phase for the rehabilitation of 1.23 miles of Commerce Street. Design is expected to last about six months, with construction likely to take about nine months.



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Mt. Pleasant School District's \$39.6M Bond Easily Approved

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to the vote that there was more support for the infrastructure bond. Voters had defeated larger proposals in November 2014 and March 2015 by wide margins.

Guiney said voter turnout was heavy, with more residents having voted than for either of the two previous bond proposals. She said she was surprised that the bond was approved by such a large margin.

"I thought it was going to be closer," she said. "I guess I was a little worried because of what had happened in the past."

Guiney credited the entire school community for the support, including the PTAs, the Westlake Athletic Club, the

education foundation, the teachers union and residents.

The district will be submitting designs and drawings to the state Education Department shortly, a process that will take about a year to approve. Once the approvals are provided, the work will begin, Guiney said. The goal is to have work completed by 2020.

Most of the renovation will be done during the summer and other times when school is not in session.

Board of Education President Christopher Pinchiaroli said he was grateful to the entire community for supporting the bond.

"It's a wonderful day for the community

of Mount Pleasant. We don't take our responsibilities lightly," Pinchiaroli said. "We will watch this money like a hawk and we will spend only what needs to be spent."

He pointed to increased turnout among elementary school parents and officials being able to convince residents that this bond was a necessity.

A wide array of infrastructure projects will be addressed at Westlake High School and Westlake Middle School with the money, including roof and boiler replacements, new HVAC systems and controls, renovating restrooms and replacing ceilings lighting and flooring, along with a host of other projects.

That campus will also see repaving of the

basketball courts; installing a sidewalk on Westlake Drive; replacing concrete walks; replacing tennis courts; repaving asphalt drives and parking lots; replacing catch basins; and providing a new entry drive and parking lot.

Similar infrastructure and HVAC work is also slated for Columbus and Hawthorne elementary schools.

Director of Business Administration Andrew Lennon said there will be three separate 15-year bonds spaced over a period of about 18 years.

"Each time we issue a new debt offering it will be for a specific portion of the project," Lennon explained. "We can't borrow it all at once because we need to do it in time with the work being done."

The bond will begin to be paid off in the 2017-18 budget, he said.

District residents with homes of market values of \$500,000 will pay a maximum of \$319 to \$367 additional a year from 2020 to 2025, depending on whether they are enrolled in one of two STAR programs. During those years, residents eligible for the senior STAR property tax program would pay up to \$319 more a year while those in the regular STAR program would pay a maximum of \$345 annually. Those not enrolled for either would pay up to an additional \$367 annually.

Payments would decrease by nearly half starting in 2026.

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Welcome Aboard

The Pleasantville Board of Education welcomed seven new hires at its Oct. 25 meeting at Pleasantville High School. Pictured, front left to back right, are Kyle Garrigan, Amanda Delle Bovi, Jacqueline Russo, Emily Weiss, Kelli Garbowski, Lauren Peterson and Julie Slattery.



ANDREW VITELLI PHOTO



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Pleasantville Schools Review Progress of Five-Year Plan

By Andrew Vitelli

The Pleasantville Board of Education reviewed the district's progress entering the third year of its five-year strategic plan, with principals from the three schools emphasizing integration of technology into their students' activities.

Administrators at the Oct. 18 board meeting focused on the district's implementation of seven strategies adopted at the beginning of the 2014-15 school year.

"[The strategic guideline] frames our plans for this year and it permeates all levels of the school district," Pleasantville Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter noted. "The overarching theme through all of these strategies is the word technology, and in order to accomplish a lot of what we needed to do in Year Three required the work that took place over the summer and certainly through the fall of this year."

Three of the seven strategies sought to design "dynamic, differentiated learning environments infused with technology" in the arts, sciences and humanities.

"Every classroom at Bedford Road School now has an interactive whiteboard," Bedford Road Principal Peggy Galotti explained, as she described the infusion of technology into her school. "It just opens a new world for

student learning and enhancement."

In the middle school, interactive whiteboards are being used for music instruction, said Pleasantville Middle School Principal Vivian Ossowski. High school students now have access to a 3D printer.

"It creates some excellent interdisciplinary opportunities between the arts and the sciences," Pleasantville High School Principal Joseph Palumbo said.

The high school introduced new courses on computer principles as well as robotics and engineering.

The district's focus on technology, Fox-Alter stressed, highlighted the importance of students' knowing everything from coding and programming to installing an iPhone app, regardless of their eventual profession.

"All of those things are important," Fox-Alter said. "They will permeate all aspects of employment in the 21st century. So we're at a moment now where we can build those skills at the Bedford Road School, and into the middle school curriculum at every grade level, and then it flows nicely into the high school."

Strategy 4 promises to "explore, design and realize optimal uses of time, space and place."

"I love this strategy," Galotti said. "I



ANDREW VITELLI PHOTO

Pleasantville Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter addresses the board of education, staff and the public last week on the progress of the district's strategic five-year plan.

feel that this one forces you to rethink every year."

This has meant restructuring the master schedule at the elementary school and middle school, along with physical redesigns to the schools, which includes security enhancements. In the middle school, lunch time has been divided into four different periods while long, square tables have been replaced by smaller round tables.

"It's much less institutional and much more social," Ossowski said.

Strategy 5 calls for the district to "sustain and expand our climate of holistic wellness," with improvements

ranging from a salad bar at the elementary school to intramural activities at the high school. Strategy 6 stresses communication to "inform and empower," which means seeking feedback from parents and reaching out to the district through social media, e-mail blasts and a YouTube channel, among other sources.

The final strategy calls for strengthening existing community partnerships and the development of new ones. Existing partnerships include the Jacob Burns Film Center, the Pleasantville Rotary Club and Maria Fareri Children's Hospital.

The strategic plan was developed during the 2013-14 school year, and is called "Pleasantville Schools 2026," named for the year in which children who entered kindergarten three years ago will be graduating high school.

"We gathered a group of many committed individuals - parent representatives, board representatives, administrators, representatives from our teaching staff - and we all gathered together for a long retreat over a weekend in January where we came up with our seven strategies," Fox-Alter said.

For more information on the strategic plan, visit the district's website at www.pleasantvilleschools.com.

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New Castle to Look at T-Intersection at South Greeley Triangle

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle officials last week instructed the consultant assisting the town on the Chappaqua streetscape project to explore whether a T-intersection would be feasible on South Greeley Avenue at the current traffic triangle.

The request to have WSP Sells look at another option for the location came after questions were raised by the planning board about whether the proposed traffic flow around a new teardrop-shaped island to replace the current triangle would be functional and safe for pedestrians.

Planning Board Chairman Robert Kirkwood, who appeared with other members at a joint meeting with the town board last Tuesday, said the smaller teardrop compared to the traffic triangle creates a longer crossing for pedestrians, calling safety into question. It also significantly reduces the amount of available greenspace, he said.

"The teardrop that we've got here is so compromised in terms of usability, its access. These are extraordinarily long crosswalks," Kirkwood said. "I think they're extraordinarily dangerous at this point because they're uncontrolled. This is an uncontrolled intersection. I think this makes the town greenspace as unusable as it ever will be."

Kirkwood acknowledged that the teardrop island was more attractive but with a T-intersection there would be

room on the sides for more greenspace. The standard T-intersection would also require a traffic signal.

During the town's Comprehensive Plan discussions, residents and officials had listed walkability as a key priority. A similar sentiment had also been voiced by the Streetscape Committee.

Planning board member Sheila Crespi said elongating the distance of the crosswalk could pose additional danger to those people walking the downtown.

"You have to be a very intrepid pedestrian to put your foot out there and think the traffic is going to stop for you," she said. "There have been times I've waited for a car to acknowledge there's a pedestrian there."

There has been a proposed change in traffic flow around the teardrop. Instead of one lane going in each direction on both sides of the triangle, two lanes would head onto the Quaker Street bridge on the north side of the teardrop leaving downtown while two lanes would bring traffic onto South Greeley Avenue on its southern side.

Although town board members sought to go out to bid for work associated with the streetscape project this winter and break ground downtown next spring, they agreed to wait a few weeks to let WSP Sells engineer Jared Anderson model a T-intersection. Anderson said it would take up to three weeks to return with a

proposal.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein said while the board is anxious to move forward with the project, it would be prudent to weigh a T-intersection. He said the town has explored all other possibilities at the site – keeping the configuration the same, the teardrop and a roundabout – and should examine this option as well.

"We have not talked about the T, and as much as I want to move this forward, I think we need to explore the T," Greenstein said.

Anderson said town accident data from July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2014, showed a higher vehicular accident rate than normal. There were 18 accidents at the current triangle in that three-year span,

including 10 on the north leg of the approach to the bridge.

To help pedestrians under the teardrop plan, he said there would be "refuge islands" roughly midway in the crosswalk, he said.

Councilman Adam Brodsky, the board's liaison to the Streetscape Committee, agreed the town should look at the option, but was also concerned that if implemented would cause a major change to the character of downtown Chappaqua.

"Putting a traffic light in the downtown at the main intersection, that a very big thing," Brodsky said.

The town is also pursuing a traffic signal at the intersection of King Street and South Greeley Avenue.

All-Day Community Blood Drive Nov. 1 in Pleasantville

The Pleasantville High School ECHO Club and the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps have teamed up to sponsor an all-day blood drive next Tuesday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Pleasantville High School, located at 60 Romer Ave. Whole blood and red cell units will be collected. Donors from all

towns are welcome.

For information or to sign up, call 914-747-2408 or send an e-mail to angela.usobiaga@verizon.net. To schedule a time online, visit <http://nybloodcenter.org/donate-blood>. Although advance registration is preferred, walk-ins are always accepted.

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Internal Medicine: 1987

Residency

Lenox Hill Hospital,
Internal Medicine: 1989

Fellowship

Lenox Hill Hospital,
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Board Certifications

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Bristol Seniors Tackle the Issues in Mock Presidential Debate

By Anna Young

Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump had nothing on the residents of The Bristol Assisted Living last week.

While this year's two major party presidential candidates tussled in their third and final debate on Oct. 19 in Las Vegas, a day earlier the assisted living facility in Armonk hosted a mock presidential debate that included residents from its communities in White Plains and Armonk.

Following the popularity of The Bristol's weekly political review hosted by Andrew Namachard, the Armonk facility's recreations assistant, Recreations Director Stephanie Hart, concluded that it was important to give the residents a platform to debate the issues and discuss this year's historic election.

A pair of two-person teams were chosen to represent each party's side. Julian Juster and resident counsel president Faith Radler represented Clinton while Norman De Young and Ann Manzi represented Trump. The participants prepared for three weeks.

Faraz Kayani, executive director of The Bristol in White Plains, was the debate's moderator because of his academic background in U.S. foreign policy and international human rights and law. He asked each side questions on taxes, social security, term limits, banks, healthcare, gun control and immigration.

"Anytime there's anything political related going on at The Bristol, I get excited,"

Kayani said.

What started off as a modest discussion of issues between the two teams, with about 40 residents in the audience, soon became an animated debate.

The Trump team argued that the federal government must have better control over the border to prevent illegal immigration, while Team Clinton contended the government should make it easier for immigrants to become United States citizens.

The one topic both sides agreed on was healthcare.

"I think everybody should be in the



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Left to right, Faraz Kayani, executive director of The Bristol in White Plains, residents of The Bristol's Armonk community Faith Radler, Ann Manzi and Norman DeYoung and Dean Brown, director of business development at The Bristol Assisted Living, at last week's mock presidential debate.

healthcare system and should take care of the American people, not just the elderly," DeYoung said.

"Healthcare should be affordable to all people in our society," Juster responded.

Radler added that the Affordable Care Act, aka Obamacare, needs restructuring.

Namachard served a couple of roles during the program – to help residents speak up and better understand the issues for discussion while also playing devil's advocate.

"Politics is one of my favorite things to talk about," Namachard said. "Many residents have trouble staying up and watching the debates, so I inform them of what was discussed instead of what's reported in the news and challenge their views in our discussion-based groups."

Hart and Namachard were thrilled with the residents' enthusiasm. They hope to host one more debate before Election Day on Nov. 8.

While many people might be fretting over the outcome of this presidential election, one 96-year-old resident and Army veteran said he's seen and learned a lot over the years and has already cast his vote.

"All of this is interesting, but whatever happens, happens," he said.

Infrastructure Upgrades Key Piece of 2017 New Castle Tentative Budget

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle's nearly \$38.6 million 2017 tentative budget emphasizes improvement of town infrastructure as the municipality looks to embark on the start of its downtown streetscape while remaining under the tax cap.

Next year's tentative budget proposes a 1.81 percent tax rate increase that will maintain an aggressive road repaving plan. For the average homeowner, the tax increase would be \$28.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein said the 2017 spending plan balances the funding of essential services with fiscal responsibility.

"It anticipates and provides for contingencies and an eye to the bottom line and holding tax increases to modest levels without exceeding the tax cap," Greenstein said. "It provides the services our residents expect and continues our

efforts to restore our infrastructure to conditions our residents deserve."

A highlight of the 2017 budget will be adding an additional \$100,000 for road paving, increasing that line to more than \$822,000 to continue the multiyear repaving schedule. During the past two years, the town has dedicated about \$1.75 million to bring its roads up to an acceptable level after cutbacks in funding were made during and immediately after the recession, Greenstein said.

Another \$25,000 has been set aside for hamlet beautification, such as plantings, and the hire of a hamlet caretaker, he said.

The budget also maintains current staffing levels to deliver services.

Most of the money for the \$10 million streetscape plan, which is tentatively scheduled to begin next year, is likely to come from bonding and the town's

fund balances.

Comptroller Robert Deary said this is the sixth consecutive year that New Castle will comply with the tax cap since the state legislature approved its introduction in 2011. The cap allows for a .68 percent increase in the tax levy, plus the town had a positive growth rate of 1.0026 and about

\$191,000 available in carryover, he said.

As a result, the town can increase the tax levy by as much as \$393,548 and adhere to the cap. Total spending is proposed to rise \$362,443 in the tentative plan, Deary said.

The town board will hold a public hearing on the budget at its Nov. 22 meeting.

Obituary

Rudolph Petruccelli

Rudolph (Rudy) C. Petruccelli of Valhalla passed away on Oct. 23 at his residence.

He was 86.

Petruccelli was born on Jan. 8, 1930, to the late Frank and Antonetta (nee Di Nardo) in Eastchester. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy in 1947. He worked for the Westchester County's engineering department, and in 1986, started Petruccelli Engineering in Valhalla. He was an active member of The Professional Engineering Society, the Scarsdale Elks Club and the Thornwood Lions Club.

Petruccelli is survived by his loving wife, Fran (nee Mendella) Petruccelli;

his two caring sons, Steven Petruccelli of Mohegan Lake and Michael (Stacia) Petruccelli of Rutland, Vt.; his daughter, Teresa (Anthony) Badagliacca, of Thornwood; and his three cherished grandchildren, Carina and Alexandra Badagliacca and Katie Broderick. He was predeceased by two brothers and one sister.

Visitation is at Hawthorne Funeral Home today (Tuesday) from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Valhalla on Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. followed by interment at Kensico Cemetery.




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League of Women Voters Holding Candidate Forums in New Castle This Week

Two candidate forums will be hosted this week in Chappaqua by the New Castle League of Women Voters.

On Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m., the League will hold a forum at New Castle Town Hall featuring Democratic challenger Alison Boak and Republican incumbent state Sen. Terrence Murphy, the candidates in the 40th state Senate District race. New Castle Town Hall is located at 200 S. Greeley Ave. in Chappaqua.

The following evening the candidates for Westchester County district attorney, Republican Bruce Bendish and Democrat Anthony Scarpino, will face off in a debate at the Chappaqua Public Library, also at 7 p.m. Coffee and light refreshments will be offered by the League. The library is located at 195 S. Greeley Ave.

Both debates will be recorded and available for viewing on nccmc.com. For additional information, please contact the New Castle League at lvnnewcastle@gmail.com or Sheila Miller Bernson at 914-238-4786.

For up to date information on the candidates and your polling places, visit www.Vote411.org.

Suspect Indicted in Chappaqua Deli Shooting of Doctor

By Martin Wilbur

The suspect apprehended in the revenge shooting of a doctor outside a Chappaqua deli in August was indicted last Tuesday on three felony counts, including attempted murder in the second degree.

Hengjun Chao, 59, of Tuckhoe pleaded not guilty to all three charges in the Aug. 29 shooting of Dr. Dennis Charney in front of Lange's Little Store and Delicatessen on King Street. Chao was also arraigned on first-degree criminal use of a firearm and first-degree assault charges.

Chao parked his vehicle across the street in the Walgreen's parking lot on King Street and waited to cross the street until Charney exited the store at about 7 a.m., according to the Westchester County district attorney's office.

When the victim left the deli, Chao

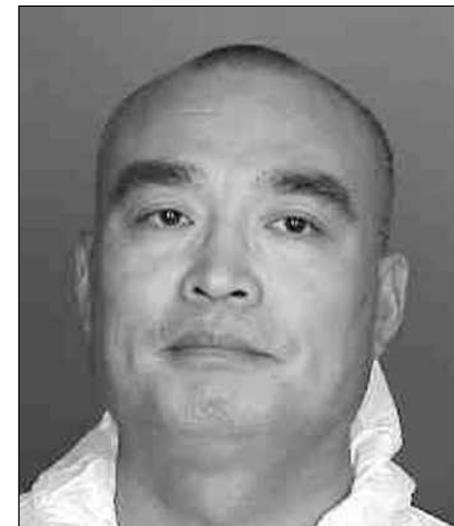
allegedly retrieved a loaded shotgun from the trunk of his car. He walked toward the victim, aimed and fired one shot, hitting Charney in the shoulder and chest area, authorities said.

The defendant was subsequently arrested by New Castle Police officers. After being taken into custody, he told police that he shot the victim.

Chao was hospitalized for five days following the attack.

Chao, a research assistant professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, was fired in May 2009 by a committee that included Charney. Charney has been dean of the school and was Chao's supervisor.

Bail was set at \$1 million. Chao, who faces up to 25 years in jail, is due to return to court on Nov. 1.



Hengjun Chao was indicted on three felony charges last week, including attempted murder, for his alleged role in the August shooting incident outside Lange's Little Store and Delicatessen in Chappaqua.

'Come Write In' to the Mt. Pleasant Library in November

The Mount Pleasant Public Library is a "Come Write In" location in November as part of NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month).

NaNoWriMo is a national program for adults who commit to writing at least 50,000 words through the

month of November. No editing or proofreading, just words to the page. Drop in any time during the library's operating hours.

Writers 17 years old and under can sign up for the NaNoWriMo Young Writers Program.

Registration for these programs can be completed by calling 914-769-0548 or by visiting www.mountpleasantlibrary.org. You will receive a welcome packet with details about NaNoWriMo and writing programs at the library.

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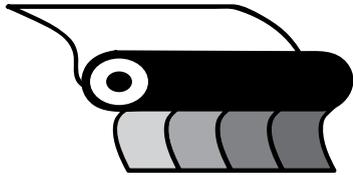


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Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

Oct. 17: A Grove Street resident reported at 10:14 a.m. that a fence on his property was damaged after apparently being struck by a vehicle sometime between 7:30 and 9:45 a.m.

Oct. 18: A 30-year-old Wappingers Falls man was arrested at 11:21 a.m. and charged with petty larceny, a misdemeanor, after he allegedly stole an electronic toothbrush from CVS on North Bedford Road. A county police officer was on patrol when he observed a man hurry out of the store holding something under his sweatshirt. The man got into a pickup truck, then threw the item on the floor when the officer approached to speak with him. He was taken into custody after he was unable to produce a receipt for the item and CVS staff confirmed he had not purchased it.

Oct. 18: Police responded to Northern Westchester Hospital at 8:24 p.m. on a report that a patient's ex-boyfriend had come to her room against her wishes. The man left when the woman told him she was calling security.

Oct. 19: A 23-year-old Scarsdale man was arrested at 1:48 p.m. and charged with two counts of fourth-degree criminal mischief, a misdemeanor, after police responded to a reported

domestic dispute at a Carpenter Avenue residence. Officers charged the subject in connection to damage that occurred to the apartment during the dispute.

Oct. 19: Report that residents of a Grove Street residence had detected a gas odor at 6:57 p.m. The house was evacuated and Con Edison was notified.

Oct. 20: Report of a possible fire on the 100 block of Main Street at 5:25 p.m. It was determined that people were barbecuing on their porch, which caused a smoke condition observed by others in the neighborhood.

Oct. 21: Police responded to Carpenter Avenue at 12:52 p.m. after a resident reported hearing a smoke detector, possibly from a neighboring building. A search of the area turned up a smoke detector had been discarded in a wooded area.

North Castle Police Department

Oct. 14: At 9:52 p.m., report of a busboy at Gavi Restaurant on Old Route 22 sustaining a deep cut, but he is alert and conscious. The party was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital.

Oct. 15: A caller reported a deceased deer in the middle of Byram Ridge Road North at 7:47 a.m. The responding

officer moved the animal to the shoulder of the road. The highway department was notified for removal.

Oct. 15: Report of a grand larceny on Business Park Drive at 6:18 p.m. The caller stated that her daughter's car was broken into sometime today.

Oct. 16: An anonymous female reported an ongoing noise complaint involving youths on Washington Place East at 1:16 a.m. The complainant stated that the youths are cursing and talking loudly. The matter was adjusted following the arrival of the responding officer.

Oct. 16: A subject was arrested on Route 128 at 1:58 a.m. and charged with DWI and criminal possession of a controlled substance following a traffic stop.

Oct. 17: A complainant arrived at headquarters at 10:37 a.m. to report that her purse is missing and was apparently stolen from her vehicle while parked on Old Post Road.

Oct. 19: Multiple callers reported an injured cyclist down on the Rye Lake Bridge on Route 22 at 4:04 p.m. The injured party was transported to

Westchester Medical Center.

Pleasantville Police Department

Oct. 14: A Pleasantville man reported at 9:16 a.m. that his cellphone was missing and he believed it to be stolen. An investigation is ongoing.

Oct. 14: At 4:43 p.m., a Pleasantville woman reported that an unknown person had entered her car and taken her mother's wallet and its contents while the car was parked on Manville Road. An investigation is ongoing.

Oct. 16: A 37-year-old Laconia, N.H. resident was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana. At 7:34 a.m., police responded to reports of a vehicle stopped on the roadway with an apparently unconscious driver behind the wheel. Upon arriving, officers reported an odor of marijuana in the car and found marijuana inside the gas cap.

Oct. 18: A 20-year-old Pleasantville resident was arrested at 1:42 p.m. and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana following an initiative stop.

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Tina's 5K This Saturday in Memory of 'Kind-Spirited' P'ville Teen

By Andrew Vitelli

For the sixth year, runners and walkers will take to the streets of Pleasantville for Tina's 5K Run/Walk this Saturday.

The event, which raises money for The Tina Shaina Gambino Memorial Foundation, was first conceived by Michael Bloom, now a Pleasantville High School senior, in 2011.

"It really has been embraced by Pleasantville and its neighboring communities," said Janice Gambino, Tina's mother. "It's something that is run and organized by people from within the community and gives back to people in the community. It can touch just about everyone."

Tina Gambino, who died in November 2004 at 17 years old, was Bloom's first babysitter. As his community service project for his Bar Mitzvah, Bloom decided he wanted to find a way to honor Gambino's memory. His family and the Gambinos have remained close.

"Tina had always been just unbelievably kind-spirited," recalled Bloom, who was just five years old when Gambino died. "I can always just recall her presence and how emotionally attached I was to her."

The foundation runs several programs, including a nearly \$7,000 college scholarship for Pleasantville students who work to the best of their abilities, are involved in community service and have a



positive, outgoing attitude.

"I think that's a lot of what people remember," Janice Gambino said. "Whether you were the adult and she would say hello to you, open a door or pick something up, or whether you were a freshman when she was a senior and she would say hello to you and make you feel welcome. She was pretty special in that regard."

Along with the 5K, the foundation teams with Pleasantville High School for the Drive Smart program, which teaches safety to new drivers and parents. The program also promotes organ donation. Tina was an organ donor, which helped to save four people after she died.

In addition, the foundation brings food to Maria Fareri Children's Hospital



Tina's 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for this Saturday morning in Pleasantville.

during Thanksgiving for families at the hospital, as Tina had been at Maria Fareri during Thanksgiving in 2004.

"We knew first-hand about not wanting to leave your child's side," Janice Gambino said. "The generosity of the community was such that we had more than enough [food] to share with so many who were there, so the following year we opted to do the same."

The 5K begins at Pleasantville High School at 9 a.m. on Saturday; registration is from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. at the school. Several Pleasantville businesses are contributing food and drinks for the run. About 50 people volunteer to help

organize the event.

Bloom, who will graduate from Pleasantville next June, said although he may be unable to be as involved in the future, he and Janice Gambino said Tina's 5K will continue for years to come.

"Every year it's just amazing, at 8 or 9 in the morning, to walk up the stairs of the high school and see how many people really do care about what we're doing," Bloom said. "To see it come to fruition the way it does never ceases to shock me and keep me in awe each year."

The entry fee is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students 18 and under. For more information, visit www.tinagambino.org.

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Preventing Injuries Focus of P'ville Youth Athlete Symposium

By Neal Rentz

Injury reports are closely watched by fans of pro sports, but ailments are also a major concern for young athletes, parents and coaches.

Reducing the risk of youth and high school sports injuries was addressed by a panel of coaches, athletic trainers and medical professionals from Northern Westchester Hospital at a special symposium last Thursday at Athletes Warehouse in Pleasantville attended by more than 100 people.

The keynote speaker was University of Alabama head softball coach Patrick Murphy, who in 19 seasons at Alabama has led his squads to the Women's College World Series 11 times, winning the national title in 2012.

Murphy said he strongly opposes student-athletes specializing in a single sport.

"I think one of the things that's kind of ruining sports nowadays is too many kids specializing way too early at a young age at one sport," Murphy said. "When they get to me in college they're overused. They have injuries. They're not as good as they once were."

Murphy said he encourages young athletes to participate in different sports for as long as they can. Doing that gives their bodies a break from the wear and tear of a particular sport while they're still able to stay in shape by participating in others.

In softball, for example, he has seen

injuries likely occur from overuse, particularly pitchers. Murphy called it "almost an epidemic."

He said some youngsters and their families are concerned that playing a variety of sports could cost them a chance at a scholarship or making a college team.

"If you're a good athlete a college will find you," Murphy said.

He said too often a youngster's self-image is based primarily on their on-field performance, and hoped his talk would help parents understand that their children are people first and an athlete second.

Nicholas Serio, general manager of Athletes Warehouse, a strength training facility that specializes in preparing young athletes physically and psychologically, said the event was consistent with what he preaches to clients. His staff often receives questions from customers more appropriate for medical professionals, which was the impetus for the event.

The mission is to redefine how young athletes should train.

"One of the main reasons we see all these injuries is a lot of these athletes are not adequately strong enough to handle the load that a lot of the sports demand," Serio said.

Other topics covered at the event were concussions and physical therapy. Northern Westchester Hospital's Pediatric Department Chief Dr. Pete Richel said he and his colleagues are treating more



GRETCHEN MULLIN/NORTHERN WESTCHESTER HOSPITAL PHOTO

Athletes Warehouse in Pleasantville hosted a special symposium on Oct. 20. The keynote speaker was Patrick Murphy, far right, head softball coach at the University of Alabama. Doctors from Northern Westchester Hospital and personnel from Athletes Warehouse attended the event, along with parents and their children.

concussions in youth sports than ever before. He said the goal is for kids to play sports, but to do it as safely as possible, making last week's event critical for parents, their children and coaches.

"It's a tremendous community outreach," Richel said of the symposium, which he hopes can be repeated. "This is a great benefit to our surrounding communities to further educate particularly parents and children and student athletes, hopefully scholar athletes, in terms of the ways of adequate training."

Stuart Tainsky, a Greeley Youth Lacrosse program coach in Chappaqua, said

he attended because he wanted to learn how young athletes can effectively balance their daily schedules and deal with the pressures.

His son, a sixth-grader who plays lacrosse, has Crohn's disease but sports and training have helped him build strength and stamina as well as increase his confidence, Tainsky said. One of Murphy's former players, Lake Peekskill resident Cassie Reilly-Boccia, is director of research and development at Athletes Warehouse. She played first base and right field at Alabama from 2009 to 2012.

One of the goals at Athletes Warehouse, which opened in 2014, was to host an event to educate the community on improving the youth athlete's health, Reilly-Boccia said.

"There's just so much information out there but it's hard to sift through a lot of that," she said.

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Editorial

Making Public Wait a Poor Choice By Chappaqua School Officials

Anybody who attended the Oct. 18 Chappaqua Board of Education meeting or watched the proceedings play out from home couldn't be faulted if it spawned suspicion and even disgust.

The district, in the throes of a full-blown controversy following the airing of a slew of unseemly details connected to the Christopher Schraufnagel abuse case, chose to let a room full of community members sit through two hours of presentations, knowing full well why they were there and what they wanted to discuss.

The residents, many of whom are parents of students in the district, wanted to continue to take the board and the administration to task on issues surrounding the Schraufnagel matter, what went wrong and how it can be avoided in the future. That's reasonable, particularly with the matter still playing out in the courts and fresh in many residents' and parents' minds.

Instead, the crowd endured discussions for an hour and a half on a previously scheduled presentation about the district's STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) program and another 30 minutes about a turf field. Officials can't be faulted for wanting to schedule the STEAM discussion first because students were involved, but common sense was in short supply last week when it reached the two-hour mark and no comments were being taken.

Could you blame anyone in attendance for believing that school officials' strategy last week was to try and outlast those who wanted to talk? The result was predictable – an impatient audience started moving to the microphone anyway.

Discussion on district programs and its facilities are vitally important, and even though the district is struggling with one issue, it still must tend to many others for its 3,900 students.

However, trustees and administrators are in danger of losing whatever public support remains if they think that avoidance of this tough issue or scurrying into recess is the answer. Set aside a reasonable and finite period of time within the first hour – 30 to 45 minutes? An hour? – for public questions and comments and move on with the agenda when that time is over.

Another thing: Quit calling the police to respond to board meetings unless there's a clear danger. Loud voices doesn't qualify. If there's a safety concern, then for the foreseeable future work with the Town of New Castle to have a single officer on the premises for each meeting.

Passionate community members who want change aren't going to stop attending. Repeat episodes like last week will only risk further fracturing a community that needs to be ensured its school officials are listening.

Guest Column

New Regulations No Ally of Long-term Chronic Pain Sufferers

By Pat Esposito

If you are one of the 100 million Americans who suffer from long-term chronic pain, your primary care physician has probably told you that he or she won't continue to prescribe pain medication. If you haven't received the news yet, you will when you ask to have your prescription renewed.

After years of supervised and effective treatment why is your doctor refusing to continue treatment? The answer can be found in recent federal and state initiatives to curb abuse of prescription pain medication.

In March, the National Centers for Disease Control (CDC) published "Guidelines on the Use of Opioids to Treat Long Term Chronic Pain." Couched simply as "recommendations," the guidelines had a regulatory impact that changed the treatment parameters for long-term chronic pain sufferers.

Formerly, prescription pain medications and other controlled substances could be prescribed for non-cancer pain that lasted longer than three months. Now, prescription pain medications are reserved primarily to manage pain from cancer or for patients in a palliative care setting.

The American Medical Association and the American Cancer Society criticized the CDC for guidelines based on insufficient data written by academicians. Even Tom Frieden, director of the CDC, acknowledged in an Associated Press article that the research used to develop the guidelines was limited.

State agencies quickly followed release

of the guidelines with programs that monitored the use of all controlled substances. Data bases of the drugs, the prescribing doctors and dispensing pharmacies were created. Limits were placed on how much medication could be prescribed. Federal legislation was passed requiring states to share all monitored drug use. In New York State, e-scripts replaced the prescription pad and some drugs, like Tramadol (a synthetic opioid), were reclassified as controlled substances so they could fall under the CDC guidelines.

The CDC guidelines and state programs received little media attention. Thus, physicians and their patients were blindsided. Physicians, now guided by fear of government intrusion and scrutiny, were reluctant to prescribe any type of pain medication or controlled substance. The new regulations effectively triangulated long-term chronic pain patients with their doctors and the government.

When the CDC guidelines were released, patients in chronic pain were told by their primary physician to see a pain management specialist. The specialist, who is generally an anesthesiologist, often has little understanding of the illness or injury creating the pain. Getting an appointment typically takes weeks. Meanwhile, patients may be without medication and in pain.

When patients finally see the specialist, instead of receiving medication, they are frequently offered physical therapy, acupuncture or alternative treatments. However, alternative therapies are ordinarily not covered by insurance.

When alternative treatments are covered, insurance only pays for a limited dollar amount. When the medical record shows that alternatives were tried and did not work, counseling is suggested. A conversation on addiction and drug rehabilitation may follow. The subtext: Chronic pain sufferers are junkies.

If you have long-term chronic pain it is going to be increasingly difficult to get the medication you need. It seems like new regulations and programs are issued almost weekly. In August, Surgeon General Dr. Vivck Murthy wrote to every doctor in the United States urging them to prescribe alternative methods for pain management before medication. To further his point, he sent doctors the CDC guidelines printed on a "pocket card."

The federal and state programs outlined above are well-intended and are first steps in dealing with the all-important issues; but they victimize those who face a lifetime of pain, which unless controlled with medication, is debilitating and renders a person unable to work, sleep or to have a full productive life.

Hopefully, in the coming days, a balance will be found that enables the treatment of pain for those who genuinely suffer without escalating the abuse of prescription pain medication.

Peekskill resident Pat Esposito is a retired business executive and cancer survivor and struggles with lifelong chronic pain from the long-term effects of cancer treatment.

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Patrick Cooke, Retired Banker/Artist, Pleasantville

By Martin Wilbur

Patrick Cooke loved to draw as a child, often sitting down to sketch from one of his comic books.

Later, as a teenager growing up in the Bronx and as an art lover, he would take out his supplies to work while listening to classical music when no one else was home.

For decades, though, life had other plans as Cooke was unable to spend much time on his art. After high school, Cooke began working as a bank teller. He joined the Navy reserves, then was drafted into the U.S. Army on his 20th birthday, serving 18 months during the Korean War. After returning home, Cooke later married and had three daughters.

Between commuting to various bank executive positions in the city from his Rockland County home and earning his accounting degree at Pace University in Manhattan, there was never time for Cooke to pursue his passion.

That changed about 20 years ago. With his children grown and his first marriage having ended in divorce, Cooke indulged himself in an art class at Rockland

Community College. He's been sketching and painting ever since.

"It's like finding a long lost treasure or something," Cooke said, now 84, of rediscovering his love of art.

An array of Cooke's works from the past two decades will comprise his first art show, which opens on Nov. 5 at the Mount Pleasant Public Library. The exhibit, "The Later Years Now," will feature a variety of his drawings using acrylics, charcoal or pencil as well as oil paintings.

He credits his wife, Josie, for reaching out to the library to see if his work would be considered for one of the month-long exhibits in the downstairs gallery. Cooke said he never would have had the courage to make that leap.

"Can I handle somebody saying that looks like a piece of crap?" Cooke said.

He said he keeps his work simple, a combination of using his imagination and memory along with a dose of reality. He strives to satisfy his own tastes first, and if others like what he's done, it's a bonus.

Over the years, Cooke would occasionally dabble on his art, but not much more. He



recalled that while attending Pace on the G.I. Bill, he would sometimes go across the building to look in on the art classes.

"Obviously, I would think about it, but there was a lot of stuff going on with the family that had to be addressed," Cooke said. "And then with the career, with the banking it wasn't easy. I was half in the door and half out the door sometimes."

His 60-year career took Cooke from a teller to various executive positions at an assortment of New York banks. He typically worked as a comptroller, then a treasurer and director. He still consults on a periodic basis, helping to guide bank management to make profitable decisions.

"It's been good to me," Cooke said of his

career. "I can't say anything against it. There were good days."

For Cooke, who had lived for many years in Spring Valley and Orangeburg, before moving to Pleasantville in 2008 when he remarried, a life drawing class at Rockland Community College was his avenue to resume his art. Not only did it allow him to draw on a consistent basis, but he picked up various techniques that he felt has improved his work.

Cooke was by far the oldest student in the class, which really didn't bother him because he was doing something he loved.

"It was amazing and it just opened up everything for me," he said.

Although he owns a residence in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Cooke doesn't see himself moving from Pleasantville anytime soon. His children and five grandchildren live in the metropolitan area and he enjoys the arts in Westchester, including going to the Jacob Burns Film Center. He and his wife also volunteer at Hillside Food Outreach.

A couple of days before the exhibit opens, he and Josie will hang more than 40 of his pieces in the library's gallery. Fittingly, Cooke referenced Andy Warhol on what the opportunity means to him.

"Finally, my 15 minutes is here before I pass on," he said.

Cooke's exhibit will run from Nov. 5 to Dec. 1. An artist's reception will be held on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 2 to 4 p.m. The Mount Pleasant Public Library is located at 350 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville.

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MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS



Sunday was the Town of New Castle's annual Ragamuffin parade and Halloween carnival, an afternoon of fun and games and a chance for the children -- and even some adults -- to preview their costumes. The downtown parade, which stepped off after the carnival, left the parking area behind town hall, moved onto Washington Avenue and up South Greeley Avenue on a beautiful fall afternoon. Hundreds of local families were joined by The Blue Crew Marching Band, the Dixie Dandies Marching Band and the Chappaqua Fire Department and Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps.



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Does Your Home Have a Name for Itself?

Does your home have its own name? If not, maybe it's worth considering.

More than once, I've heard that attaching a name to a home might actually enhance its value.

I first became aware of homes having names when I was first starting out in the publicity business and did some work in Hollywood. One of my clients was a very senior, world-famous wine expert named Robert Lawrence Balzer, whose house was originally owned by Rudolf Valentino. Named Falcon Lair, the house had quite a history, considering all the famous guests who had visited it. I became fascinated by the prospects of that added dimension a name could bring to a house.

But when you think about it, we've always attached certain attributes to houses by their names.

In movies, how could Scarlett O'Hara's character be defined without her unwavering devotion to Tara? On television, we remember that the Cartwright family was closely identified with Ponderosa and J.R. Ewing got shot at Southfork.

While some homes set the stage with visions of great power and influence – Versailles, Buckingham Palace, the White



By Bill Primavera

House – even humble abodes can be named to tell their characters.

Here in Westchester, Bill Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous and its 12-step program, appropriately named his Westchester residence Stepping Stones, and actress Helen Hayes called her Nyack home Pretty Penny to convey its price. For many years, I have lived in The Ebenezer White House, named for a Revolutionary War physician and early state senator.

Sometimes homes share a double bill. For instance, I was involved in the sale of a property in Yorktown known as

the Adams-Bernstein House, now poised for renovation by the buyer. I know the history of those two owners from different centuries, each quite different. The first was a simple farmer from the early 1800s and the second, a sophisticated New York City physician, who bought it in the 1930s.

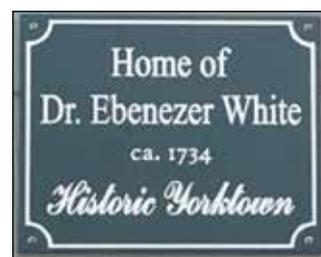
A home can also play into the ancestral bearings of our life's drama. My wife sometimes likes to remind me that she comes from Lithuanian royalty on her mother's side. When she and her mother visited their native land after the fall of the Iron Curtain, it was very important to them to visit the castle bearing their family name – Masalkis.

At the time, perhaps because of the lack of incentive caused by the former Communist regime, schedules meant very little. Upon arrival, my wife found that the custodian arbitrarily was closing the castle early. Not one to be so easily dispatched, my wife protested in perfect Lithuanian, "But I am a Masalkis!" That shamed the caretaker into honoring the posted hours while they toured the castle.

And my side of the family, while far from royal, has an interesting ancestral home as well. My dear Aunt Helen, who lived to 99, told me that during World War II the Nazis occupied the Primavera Villa in Chieti, Italy because it was the nicest residence in town. When I learned that, I felt that my character development was kicked up a notch.

Some claim that naming a house gives extra value to it, and there are online sites that offer suggestions for naming. These suggestions might include the style or former use of the structure, such as Orchard Cottage, Old School House or The Barn.

The name might reflect the location



BILL PRIMAVERA PHOTO

The Ebenezer White House, named for its original owner, now owned by The Home Guru and on the market in Yorktown Heights.

of the house, such as Hillcrest, Sunnyside, The Breakers or Woodside. A foreign phrase can have that "Ooh, la la" touch, such as Le Petite Maison or El Paradiso. Or it could be as simple as referring to trees or flowers on the property (The Elms, The Pines or Rose Cottage).

Today, whether our homes are manorial or ever so humble, they occupy center stage in

our life stories, confirmed by Dorothy Gale's testimonial, after her excursion over the rainbow and back, that "there's no place like home," whether or not it bears a name.

Interestingly, I now live in a building of new condos that wasn't drawing the interest its developer anticipated. But when it made a deal with a certain presidential candidate to lend his brand name to the enterprise, it did much better.

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 to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

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Business of the Week

Kimberly House Pleasantville

By Colette Connolly

South African native Hendrien Dewhurst has taken a cause that is near and dear to her heart and brought it closer to home.

Kimberly House, a unique new store in Pleasantville, carries a wide variety of merchandise, including bedding and baby clothing, luxurious creams and lotions, essential oils, perfumes and a line of home décor products, many produced through the growing fair trade movement.

The shop at 45 Washington Ave., which had been the home of Try & Buy toy store for more than 40 years, opened in July. It has been transformed into a bright and open space, with an emphasis on colorful products from Africa.

"I wanted to open a locally-based store with a focus on our various products to test out the market and to see if there would be enough interest," said Dewhurst, who oversees 21 stores worldwide, including 18 in South Africa and three in the United States. Another store is located at Rockefeller Plaza in Manhattan.

There are a variety of handmade bags,

baskets, traditional African clothing and a range of beaded jewelry, examples of the craftsmanship highlighted through Dewhurst's involvement in the fair trade industry. Some of the store's products come from Rain, a South-African fair trade-accredited company that Dewhurst co-owns with her husband and another partner.

She said all of her products adhere to EU cosmetics standards, which are stricter than those in the U.S, according to the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics.

Creams, body butters, lotions and soaps are made from four main ingredients native to South Africa and are available in individual sizes and as part of gift sets on display throughout the store, explained Dewhurst, a South Salem resident.

The wild harvested organic African oils of Kalahari Melon, Baobab, Mafura, Marula and Mongongo Nut form the heart of Rain's product range.

Dewhurst said that for centuries indigenous tribes sought various plants for their medicinal value, often relying on what they provide to heal and protect in a



COLETTE CONNOLLY PHOTO
Hendrien Dewhurst, owner of the recently opened Kimberly House in Pleasantville.

Dewhurst's devotion to fair trade practices is evident. She mentions by first name the factory employees responsible for bringing the products to consumers around the world. There's Bidon, a blind employee who makes olive oil soap eggs; André who is responsible for the candles; and Sam, the maker of the boxes that hold many of Rain's products.

Throughout the 1,000-square-foot store, the Gordonsbury line is prominently displayed. The company started out on a farm in Zimbabwe and has gained worldwide recognition for its exquisite hand-embroidered bed and table linen and accessories. The company also produces adorable baby bedding, baby clothes and nursery decor. Table runners, place mats, napkins, tissue box covers and tea towels are part of the Gordonsbury collection at Kimberly House.

The store carries a line of products from Ashanti, another South African company that makes bean bags, baskets and ceramics, and Mungo, which produces table and kitchen linens, bed linen and cushions, throws and blankets, all hand woven using quality natural fibers.

Dewhurst, who visits South Africa frequently, said she is happy to bring her brands to the area.

"To me the store feels like I'm walking through my own home," she said.

To see all of the products available at Kimberly House or to buy them online, visit www.kimberlyhouse.com.

harsh climate.

Workers in Rain's factory based in Swellendam, South Africa, carefully press the fruits and seeds that have been gathered from wild-growing trees, creating the oils that go into many of the products that Dewhurst sells at Kimberly House.

In addition to other foot, hair and skincare products available at Kimberly House under the Rain brand, Dewhurst sells a variety of products suitable for the home. There are fragranced room oils that help eliminate odors and other oils that can be used for home cleaning.

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Tuesday, Oct. 25

Drop-in Tech Help. Drop in for help with any of your technology devices. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrry.org.

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, Oct. 26

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.

"Changing Faces of the Forest." A unique lecture and creative workshop to help educate and involve attendees in the identification and care of trees while demonstrating fun, creative uses of native elements found in the forests to design attractive seasonal floral wreaths.

Participants create their own wreaths to take home and proudly display on their front doors. Westmoreland Sanctuary, 260 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to noon. Info and registration: Visit www.WestmorelandSanctuary.org.

Pound Fitness Program. A 45-minute full-body jam session that combines cardio, Pilates, plyometrics and isometric movements and poses with the excitement and euphoria of drumming. Using lightly weighted drumsticks called Ripstix, you'll rock your entire body into beautiful shape while torching calories, isolating core muscles and strengthening coordination and balance. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10:15 a.m. \$20. Every Wednesday. Also Saturdays at 11:15 a.m. RSVP required. Info and registration: Contact Peggy at 914-960-4097.

Adult Coloring Club. A relaxing, analog stress-reducer that can offer a sense of accomplishment. Coloring also provides a creative outlet to people who may not be trained artists. Colored pencils and intricate mandala patterns provided, just bring your creativity. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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.

Storytime. For children 18 months to five years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday and Thursday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrry.org.

Meditation Series: Mid-day Mind Break. Benefits of meditation include increase focus and memory; increased health; reduced stress, anxiety and pain; and increased productivity and happiness. Led by Alka Kaminer. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.com.

Posters, Politics and Power in Communist Cuba: Screening and Discussion of "Wrinkles of the City." Artist-made documentary "Wrinkles of the City" follows JR and José Parlá as they collaborate in Cuba for the Havana Biennale. Elizabeth Guffey, Purchase College professor of art and design history and author of the book "Poster: Paper in the Post-Digital Age," will discuss how JR and Parlá's project builds off the poster tradition in Communist Cuba. Neuberger Museum of Art, 735 Anderson Hill, Rd., Purchase. 12:30 to 2 p.m. \$10. Purchase College students, staff and faculty museum Art Circle Level members: Free. Info: 914-251-6100 or visit www.neuberger.org.

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.mountkiscolibrry.org.

continued on page 24

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The Parallels in the Life Cycle of Your Child and a Glass of Wine



By Nick Antonaccio

Very few things in life aren't in a constant state of change. Our lives are in perpetual motion as we traverse through numerous life passages, at times in control of our destiny and at

other times seemingly at the mercy of the whim of greater forces.

I was ruminating on this recently as I was savoring a 15-year-old glass of fine California Cabernet Sauvignon. I've often stated that wine is one of the few products in nature that changes its physical character and composition in a manner that is somewhat aligned with human development.

As a living, breathing organism, a fine wine's life cycle can span a long period, as it evolves from a basic fruit juice to a

complex, nuanced embodiment of the influence of its maker. This evolution in a bottle, if you will, takes place with varying results. Just as human development is impacted by an individual's history and environment, so, too, is it with wine.

*You Heard It
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Grapevine*

Certain wines reach their peak early in their life cycle, never to improve, while others have an intrinsic potential that evolves and blossoms over time. In many ways this is similar to the developmental stages of a child, who is born into the world with the imprint of his or her genealogy; is nurtured in unique familial surroundings; and ultimately matures as a unique representation of his or her upbringing.

There are certain aspects of winemaking that affect each stage of its life cycle.

One winemaker will nurture a wine, intending it to mature at an early age, with minimal intervention, releasing it into the market to be evaluated on its own merits.

Another winemaker will painstakingly coddle and cuddle a wine in its youth, intending for the bottled wine to continuously evolve, not achieving its true expression for decades, as it interfaces with, and is influenced by, its environment. So, too, with human development.

What are the physical attributes of a bottled wine that allow for such diversity in the end product? What is the physiological process a wine

undergoes in a bottle that determines its level of maturity and superiority? In some respects, they parallel human development.

There are four basic components of wine, each present in varying degrees and exerting varying influences: tannins, acidity, taste and alcohol. The combination of each of these determines the final style and life cycle of wine.

1) Tannins provide longevity. Somewhat harsh and unrefined at first, over time they soften and add a strong backbone and character to wine. Certain winemakers avoid tannins in order to produce a fresh wine that may be enjoyed in its youth. Others seek out high levels of tannins, which while initially harsh tasting, will soften over time and add complexity, sophistication and longevity. So, too, with human development.

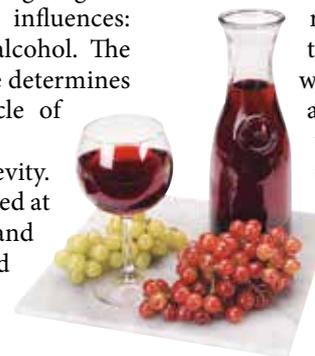
2) The level of acidity and 3) the taste (fruit) in a wine will determine its balance. Too little acidity and the wine may be lush but without any distinction. Too much and the end product may be acerbic and off-putting. As a wine matures, its acidity softens and its taste declines, so that the end result may be either a bland wine or a well-balanced, nuanced product with deep-

rooted complexity. Each winemaker seeks the ideal balance. At times this is immediately evident; other times it may be years before such balance is achieved. So, too, with human development.

4) The level of alcohol remains constant throughout the life of a wine. Early on, it may create a harsh and unbalanced wine. As a wine matures, the alcohol will tend to mellow its overall character, making it more approachable and pleasant. So, too, with human development.

Just as we observe our fellow humans as they age and mature, developing our own perception of their personality and character, so, too, with wine. But don't over think either. Appreciate and enjoy them for what they are: products of their environments, for better or worse.

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.



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WALK-SPAN, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/13/2016. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **221 Hunter Ave., Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PEARL OF ANTILLES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/25/2016. 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 **630 East Lincoln Ave., Apt. 2H, Mount Vernon, NY, 10552. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CRAFT HOSPITALITY GROUP, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/30/2016. 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 **630 East Lincoln Ave., Apt. 2H, Mount Vernon, NY, 10552. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Ben Gelin Design, LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/01/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: **18 Orchard Street, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: any lawful act or activity**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLI PLUS LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/10/2016. Office in West-

chester County SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Beverly Walker, 16 N Broadway 3f White Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ROAD G CONSULTING, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 08/01/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. **SSNY shall mail process to: 8 Park Hill Lane, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FOUR STALEYS HOLDING LLC. ARTS OF ORG Filed with Sec'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/20/2016. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **65 Longdale Avenue, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WANDERER NEWS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 9/30/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent upon whom process may be served against LLC to: **7014 13th Avenue, Ste. 202, in Brooklyn, NY, 11228. Principal business address: 255 Huguenot St., Apt. 202, in New Rochelle, NY, 10801. Purpose: any lawful act.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MO-BIGRAM LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on August 17, 2016. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **29 Faith Lane, Ardsley, New York 10502. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

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Don't Mask the Pain, Treat it! #ChoosePT

October is National Physical Therapy Month, and this year the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) has focused its vision and created the #ChoosePT campaign.

The campaign is in response to the epidemic of opioid drug addiction and abuse. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in 2014, a record number of people died from drug overdoses, and more than 60 percent of deaths involved opioids, including heroin.

Opioid-induced deaths have more than quadrupled since 1999, as have the number of prescription opioids sold in the United States. These drugs include oxycodone, hydrocodone and methadone, often prescribed for pain relief. The APTA takes this increasingly troubling problem seriously and has been taking this month to educate the public on why physical therapy is a safe, non-opioid management of pain.

Pain presents itself in the body when the equilibrium is disrupted, when something is wrong and needs to be addressed. Management of pain with prescription drugs often masks the problem and creates a dependency on the drug, never addressing the underlying cause.



By Dr. Christopher Genn

Opioids can have an addictive effect, causing dependency on the drug and its effects. Long-term opioid use actually changes cell interaction in the brain, causing the cells to become accustomed to the drug's presence. The problem arises when the patient attempts to cease taking the drug and experiences significant withdrawal symptoms, including increased pain, chills, sweating, body aches and drug cravings. This further fuels the patient's drug dependency, often making the original pain problem worse.

However, when the source of pain is musculoskeletal or neuromuscular, physical therapists are well-trained in diagnosing and treating patients to return them to a functional life, void of pain. Don't just mask the pain, treat it!

Physical therapists evaluate and treat many people every day who complain of all types of pain. We use special tests, movement analysis, observation and manual therapy skills to evaluate and determine possible sources. Once determined, there are a wide variety of treatments and interventions available to the therapist to address both anatomical and movement dysfunctions.

Exercise is often avoided by people

in pain. However, after proper patient evaluation, exercise is very often included as an important aspect in treatment and healing. Time and time again, exercise has been shown to be a vital part of a healthy lifestyle, aiding both tissue healing and body function. Physical therapists are highly educated in exercise prescription, especially in people with movement dysfunctions and in pain. Not only is movement altered by pain, but movement has the power to alter pain. Through individualized and specifically directed exercises, physical therapists aim to re-educate the brain-body connection and improve overall movement quality and patient function. Fundamental movement competency is the goal.

Along with exercise, physical therapists use various manual therapy skills to treat pain. A few examples include the Graston Technique®, soft tissue mobilization, myofascial release, joint mobilization and manipulation, dry needling and stretching. These techniques can help achieve improved joint mobility, joint position and integrity during movement, muscle flexibility, consistency throughout soft tissue and fascia and postural alignment to assist in pain management.

One of my favorite aspects of physical therapy is patient education. Knowledge is powerful. Patients often tell me the worst part of their situation is not knowing why

they're experiencing pain or not knowing how to manage it. The moment the source of pain is identified and understood, it empowers the patient. The educated patient has ownership of the pain and the treatment. It changes everything.

It gets even better. Educating the patient on the reasoning behind each intervention further helps in the psychological aspect of pain management and healing. This understanding allows the patient to continue treatment and pain management outside of the therapy room and helps avoid future injury.

Physical therapy does not present risks and dangers like opioid or excessive prescription drug use. Physical therapists are well-equipped to evaluate, diagnose and treat pain of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular origins. Therefore, physical therapy is an excellent alternative to prescription drugs in the management of pain.

Don't just mask the pain, treat it! #ChoosePT.

Dr. Christopher Genn is a physical therapist at ProClinix Sports Physical Therapy & Chiropractic, practicing in its Pleasantville location (within Athletes Warehouse). He can be reached at 914-202-0700. For more information, visit www.ProClinix.com.

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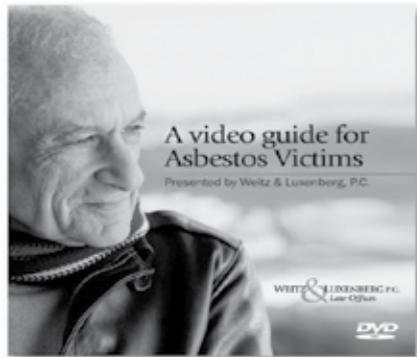
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Happenings

continued from page 20

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 olin.amyj@gmail.com.

The Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze. See more than 7,000 individually hand-carved, illuminated jack o' lanterns in this elaborate walk-through experience. Meander through an historic 18th-century riverside landscape and discover a breathtaking display. Van Cortlandt Manor, 525 S. Riverside Ave., Croton-on-Hudson. First entry at 7 p.m. Adults (Saturdays): \$25; Adults (all other days): \$20. Children (3-17): \$16. Children (under 3) and Historic Hudson Valley members: Free. Daily through Oct. 31 and continues Nov. 3-6 and Nov. 10-13. Info and tickets: 914-366-6900 or visit www.hudsonvalley.org.

Art Series: "Gentile Bellini." The older brother of Giovanni, Gentile was actually considered to be more talented than his sibling. Born in Venice in 1429, Gentile had the talent to carry off the appointment of Official Portrait Painter to the Doges of Venice, as well as travel to Constantinople to paint for the Ottoman Sultan. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

"Oasis: Supersonic." From the Academy Award-winning producers of "Amy" and "Senna" comes this essential and entertaining look at the meteoric rise of the seminal '90s rock band Oasis. The film immerses us in the raucous rock stars' fast-paced world of electrifying music, wild debauchery and epic fraternal feuding, weaving never-before-seen concert footage with candid interviews and an astonishing firsthand account of the backstage sibling rivalry that threatened to destroy the band. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

"The Role of Nutrition in Breast and Ovarian Cancer Care." Open to women nationwide living with breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers. This program will address what to eat at various phases of treatment to enhance health; managing side effects; nutrition after treatment; common nutritional deficiencies; facts and myths, including topics such as: sugar, alkaline diets, juicing and cleansing, vegan, paleo, gluten free diets; and supplements and vitamins. A question-and-answer period will follow. Those unable to access a webinar can participate via toll-free telephone. 8 to 9 p.m. Free. Pre-registration required. Info

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

Thursday, Oct. 27

Speech-Language Screenings for Preschool Children. Are you concerned about your child's speech and language development? If so, call for a speech-language screening with Kim M. Ventimiglia, a pediatric speech-language pathologist. Phelps Hospital's Donald R. Reed Speech & Hearing Center, Suite 303, 777 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. Free. 10 a.m. to noon. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3010.

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.

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 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 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: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.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.

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

A Reading and Conversation With Alexander Chee and Garth Greenwell.

Chee is the author of two novels, "Edinburgh" (2001), which won the Lambda Editor's Choice Prize and the Asian American Writers Workshop Literature Award, and the recently published "The Queen of the Night." Greenwell, a graduate of Purchase College, wrote his first novel, "What Belongs to You," was published this year by Farrar, Straus & Giroux and was longlisted for the 2016 National Book Award in Fiction. Purchase College Library, (735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-251-6550 or visit <http://news.purchase.edu/oct-27-alexander-chee-and-garth-greenwell-readings-and-conversations>.

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.mountkisco.org.

Battle of the Ballot: The Psychology of the 2016 Election. A public lecture on the 2016 presidential election that will focus on the ways that Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton have attempted to communicate sincerity, understanding and competence to the voters, while trying to undermine each other's messages. Presented by Dr. Daniel McCarthy, associate professor of political science, and Dr. Stephen O'Rourke, associate professor of psychology at the College of New Rochelle. The College of New Rochelle's Sweeny Student Center, 29 Castle Place, New Rochelle. 6:30 p.m. Free. 914-654-5250 or e-mail alum@cnr.edu.

Friday, Oct. 28

"The Road to the White House." An exclusive election preview featuring political leaders, pollsters and reporters covering the presidential election and statewide races. Speakers include State Republican Chairman Ed Cox; state Democratic Party Vice Chair Christine Quinn; state Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan; state Senator and Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins; Lane Filler, of the Newsday Editorial Board; Susan DelPercio, Republican strategist and MSNBC political commentator; and Ashley Koning, interim director, Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling, Eagleton Institute of Polling. Lunch keynote speaker is Politico senior reporter Azi Payabarrah. Includes continental breakfast. Reckson Metro Center, 360 Hamilton, Ave., White Plains. 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Business Council of Westchester members: \$25. Non-members: \$30. Info and tickets: Contact John Ravitz 914-948-2110 or visit www.thebcw.org.

Zumba. Low-impact Zumba with Amy. A great dance fitness workout for those who like to sweat, sizzle and tone while moving to the beat of exhilarating rhythms with a low impact/high intensity approach. A perfect class for those who need to protect vulnerable body parts such as knees, shoulders and back. Try a free trial class. Addie-tude Dance Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. Drop-in rate: \$12. Every Friday. Also Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. Info: Call or text the instructor at 914-643-6162.

The Clinton Street Singers. The group will present scenes and highlights from Meredith Willson's "The Music Man." Clinton Street Center, 1A Clinton St., Pleasantville. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-2021.

Trunk or Treat Halloween Party. Dress up the kids in their Halloween costumes for this party featuring decorated cars with candy for trick-or-treaters, moon bounces to play in and face painting. All welcome. First Baptist Church of White Plains, 456 North St., White Plains. 4 to 7 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Joshaly Estrada at 914-949-5207 or fbcpw@optonline.net or visit www.firstbaptistwhiteplains.org.

St. John's Pumpkin Patch. Pumpkins of all sizes for sale. St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 6 to 9 p.m. Also Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 30 from 12 to 6 p.m. Info: 914-769-0053.

Friday Night Cinema: "Rocky Horror Picture Show." This classic musical/comedy/horror film has been a midnight showing staple ever since Tim Curry stepped out in fishnets and heels as Dr. Frankenfurter. Requested by our Friday Night Film Series patrons, the film, also starring Susan Sarandon, Meatloaf and Barry Bostwick, begs you to dress up as your favorite character, call out your favorite lines, sing along and bring props. Adult content. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

WCC Friday Night Film Series: "Ilo Ilo." Set in Singapore in 1997, the film chronicles the relationship between the Lim family and their newly arrived maid, who is in search of a better life. Her presence worsens the family's already strained relationship. A unique bond is formed between the son and maid while the Asian Financial Crisis is felt in the region. The fourth in a series of six contemporary films. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Davis Auditorium, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. Refreshments at 7:20 p.m. Screening at 7:45 p.m. \$11. Seniors: \$10. Info and tickets: 914-723-3186.

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The Restaurant Examiner

Guide to Choicest Entrées During Hudson Valley Restaurant Week

By Jerry Eimbinder

During the upcoming Hudson Valley Restaurant Week (Nov. 1-13), many participating restaurants offer a limited number of entrées. The most common menu choices are typically chicken breast, grilled salmon and various pastas. In addition, customers are offered entrées based on what's available at reasonable prices from suppliers in the marketplace.

But for the more adventurous eater, many enticing opportunities exist to try chefs' specialties and premium dishes.

Augie's Prime Cut in Mohegan Lake offers a choice of four entrees – two of which are chicken breast and salmon. But the other two are the 12-ounce, slow-roasted (for 18 hours) prime rib and a six-ounce filet mignon, without surcharges.

The following guide to superior dinner entrées has been compiled to alert readers to alternate and possibly more captivating possibilities. (Surcharges apply for premium entrées in some cases.)

Gauche Grill Argentine Steakhouse in White Plains offers nine entrées, but three carry a \$15 surcharge and a fourth has a \$10 supplementary charge. A three-course lunch costs \$20.95 while a three-course dinner runs \$29.95. These prices do not include tax and gratuity, and in most cases, beverages. Some restaurants may automatically add a 20 percent tip for larger groups, usually eight or more people.

Some restaurants, including Lusardi's in Larchmont, Massa' Coastal in Mamaroneck, Primavera in Croton Falls and The Olde Stone Mill in Tuckahoe, provide complementary coffee and tea service. Saponi in White Plains offers coffee, tea, espresso and cappuccino without additional cost.

More than 200 restaurants in Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster counties are participating in Hudson Valley Restaurant Week. Below are some of the best dinner entrées available at restaurants in Westchester, Rockland and Putnam.

Westchester

Briarcliff Manor

Chatterbox 54: Veal Sorentino

Bronxville

Scalini Osteria: Meatloaf Toscano

Croton Falls

Primavera: Filet mignon

Dobbs Ferry

Half Moon: New York strip steak (\$5 surcharge)

Eastchester

Toscana Ristorante: Quail and risotto

Harrison/West Harrison

273 Kitchen: Lamb tenderloin

Aquario: Brook trout

Delfino's: Filet mignon (\$9 surcharge)

Emilio Ristorante: Pork chop

Trevi Ristorante: Skirt steak

Irvington

Mima Vinoteca: Short ribs (\$8 surcharge)

Red Hat on the River: Hanger steak frites

River City Grille: Roast pork tenderloin

Jefferson Valley

Frankie & Augie'Z: Pork chops

Campagnola

Larchmont/Mamaroneck

Il Castello: Veal marsala

La Riserva: Spaghetti caprese

Le Provençal: Bouillabaisse

Lenny's: Prime strip steak (\$10 surcharge)

Lusardi's: Veal scaloppine

Massa' Coastal: Pork chop

Mohegan Lake

Augie's Prime Cut: Prime rib

Mount Kisco

251 Lex: Lamb tenderloin

Cafe of Love: Rack of lamb

Lexington Square Café: Short ribs

Winston: Hanger steak

New Rochelle

Carlo's: Risotto/lamb chops

Port Chester

Sonora: Sirloin steak

Rye

Frankie & Johnnie's Steakhouse: Strip steak

La Panetiere: Leg of lamb

Scarsdale

Chat America Grill: Hanger steak

Tarrytown

Cellar 49: Seafood stew

Ruth's Chris: New York strip steak (\$12.95 surcharge)

RiverMarket: Margherita pizza



JERRY EIMBINDER PHOTO

Red Hat on the River in Irvington is one establishment that includes premium dishes on its Hudson Valley Restaurant Week menu. The special promotion is scheduled for Nov. 1-13.

Sunset Cove: Red snapper

Thornwood

Risotto: Osso buco over risotto

Tuckahoe

The Olde Stone Mill: Linguine/clams

Mamma Assunta: Tripa alla Romana

White Plains

Benjamin Steakhouse: Filet mignon (\$7 surcharge)

City Limits: Seafood spaghetti

Gauche Grill: Seafood paella (\$15 surcharge)

Mix, Crown Plaza: Short ribs of beef

Morton's: Larger filet mignon (\$10 surcharge)

Sam's of Gedney Way: Petit filet of beef

Saponi: Filet of lemon sole

The Melting Pot: Add lobster tail (\$9.95 extra)

Yonkers

Dolphin: Argentinean skirt steak

La Lanterna: Half-rack of lamb

X2O Xaviars: Short ribs of beef

Yorktown Heights

Thyme: Short ribs of beef

Putnam

Cold Spring

Hudson House River Inn: Duck

Mahopac

Char: Filet mignon (\$6 surcharge)

Ramiro's 954: Shredded skirt steak

Rockland

Congers

Restaurant X/Bully Boy: Short ribs

Nyack

8 N. Broadway: Steak frites (\$10 surcharge)

BV's Grill: Filet mignon

Broadway Bistro: Long Island duck

Prohibition River: Short rib

Sour Kraut: Leg of lamb

Pearl River

AquaTerra: Veal osso buco

Piermont

Pier 701: Short ribs of beef

Sparkill

Sparkill Steakhouse: Filet mignon

Tappan

76 House: Sliced steak

Giulio's: Skirt steak

Visit www.valleytable.com/hvrw for specific information about menu availability and hours of operation. Hudson Valley Restaurant Week is produced by The Valley Table in Newburgh.

Learn How to Prepare a Chocolate Soufflé at La Panetière

By Jerry Eimbinder

A lesson on how to prepare a chocolate soufflé will be covered in a demonstration scheduled for Jacques Loupiac's La Panetière in Rye this Friday, Oct. 28 at 11:30 a.m. The lesson is the latest event in an ongoing lunchtime cooking series that focuses on French cooking techniques.

A three-course prix fixe luncheon, which includes a glass of house-made, orange-scented wine and chocolate soufflé for dessert, will follow the demonstration. The cost is \$40 per person, not including beverages, tax and gratuities. For customers not participating in the demonstration, the regular luncheon menu will be available.

Chocolate soufflé appears on the newly introduced fall lunch and dinner menus along with two other soufflés – pistachio and Grand Marnier. The soufflés take 15 minutes to prepare and are priced à la carte at \$13 during lunch and \$16 at dinnertime.

La Panetière will also host a prix fixe, wine tasting dinner this Thursday. Winemaker Guillaume Virsolvy of France's centuries-old Chateau Paul Mas is the guest speaker.



JERRY EIMBINDER PHOTO

La Panetière in Rye

"Chateau Paul Mas makes wines with authenticity and refinement," Loupiac said. "The end result is a family of magnificently charming wines that burst with personality and express unique terroir."

Paul Mas wines are made from grapes cultivated on vineyards at Domaines de Nicole and Chateau du Conas, estates in the Languedoc region in the south of France.

Here is the wine tasting dinner menu planned for Thursday evening. The all-inclusive cost is \$110 per person.

First course: Assorted canapés accompanied by N.V. Domaine Paul Mas,

Côte Mas Crémant de Limoux rosé.

Second course: Pacific prawns with mango, Shiitake mushrooms and hearts of palm coupled with Chateau Paul Mas, Belluguet Blanc (2013).

Third course: Saddle of venison, Poivrade sauce, chestnuts, salsify gratin and rosemary-scented Granny Smith purée with Chateau du Crès Ricards, Oenothera Terras du Larzac (2013).

Fourth course: Camembert with pistachios, sun-dried tomatoes and truffles paired with Chateau Paul Mas, Clos des Mûres (2011).

Fifth course: Shredded phyllo Napoleon dressed with strawberry and lime crème brûlée with Chateau Paul Mas, Clos des Mûres (2011) or Pinot Gris Vendanges Tardives François Trimbach (2000).

Dessert: Petit Fours.

La Panetière is open for lunch Tuesday through Friday and Sunday; dinner is served seven days a week. It is housed in a charming, cottage-style building at 530 Milton Rd. in Rye. For reservations, call 914-967-8140. For more information, visit www.lapanetiere.com.

Happenings

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"You Will Remember Me." Hudson Stage Company's newest production. Edouard's world is slowly changing. The highly respected professor, political figure and ladies' man can recite famous historical dates but can't remember what he ate for breakfast. When a suppressed memory springs to life in the form of a cell phone-obsessed young girl he confuses for a lost family member, he gets a chance to reinvent the past and heal old wounds. A touching and refreshingly funny story about family, memory and connection. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 8 p.m. \$40 (plus service fee). Seniors (65 and up) and students: \$35 (plus service fee). Also Oct. 29 at 3 and 8 p.m. Info and tickets: Visit www.hudsonstage.com.

Saturday, Oct. 29

Pleasantville Farmers Market. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, and the one voted "Best of Westchester" in 2014, 2015 and 2016 by the readers of Westchester Magazine. With 56 vendors and seven nearby parking lots, the market is a delicious good time. This week, Living Edge will return, through November, with beautifully crafted cutting boards from regional woods and the annual Ragamuffin Parade will arrive at Memorial Plaza at 11:30 a.m. where rides, games and a market full of treats are available. Rain or shine. The market is a dog-free environment. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday. 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. Chappaqua train station. Chappaqua. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

Halloween Spooktacular. Crafts, a Halloween seek and find, plus other fun activities, including a costume contest and parade. Following the parade, guests can try their hand at making apple cider and there will be a showing of "The Nightmare Before Christmas." Rain or shine. John Jay Homestead Historic Site, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. 10 a.m. Free. Info: Visit www.johnjayhomestead.org/events.

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 Whippoorwill Rd. East. Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Creative Coloring for Adults. 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.mountkisco.org.

Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the high desert of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as their pups prepare for their first winter season. Includes a visit to ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14 Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

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

The Real Wicked Witches of Halloween Hills. Can a young witch apprentice, a skeleton boy and a cat named Pumpkin uncover who is trying to overthrow The Real Wicked Witches of Halloween Hills? A funny and lively one-hour family musical filled with lovable witches and Halloween goblins. Come dressed in your Halloween costumes and meet the performers after the show. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. 11 a.m. and 1 and 3 p.m. \$17 (plus tax). Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit www.broadwaytheatre.com.

Breezemont Day Camp Fall Open House. The camp will be hosting its annual open house with a Halloween themed extravaganza, a haunted house, hay rides, pumpkin and face painting and much more. First-time families are welcomed to attend Snacks will be provided. This is a great way to see the beautiful 18-acre campgrounds. Breezemont Day Camp, 62 Cox Ave., Armonk. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-367-1936, visit www.BreezemontDayCamp.com or e-mail Matt@Breezemont.com.

World Cup Fall Open House. World Cup Nursery School & Kindergarten and World Cup Gymnastics will be hosting this event with the them all about Halloween, so be sure to wear your costume or at least a scary face. The nursery school's teachers will have games, food projects, arts and crafts and a guess-what's-in-the-mystery-box room. There will be a balloon twister, tattoo artist, refreshments and each child will get a trick or treat bag to take home.

Team members in the gymnastics building will be holding an exhibition followed by open gymnastics for all guests. World Cup Nursery School & Kindergarten and World Cup Gymnastics, 160-170 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4967 or visit www.worldcupgymnastics.com.

Pack Chat for Kids. Children will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role of wolves in the natural world. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the center's critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 2 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.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.

Halloween Howl. Join ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr. Our ambassador wolves don't do tricks but sharing a sunset howl is always a treat. Holiday appropriate goodies will be offered. Guests will also visit critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves, too. Costumes are strongly encouraged. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 5:30 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children (under 12): \$13. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: www.nywolf.org.

Paquito D'Rivera. Pull up a chair and enjoy the sounds of this 14-time Grammy Award-winning clarinetist and composer. D'Rivera traces his extraordinary odyssey from his Cuban roots in Havana, where his feet were planted in the classical and Afro-Latin jazz worlds, to international celebrity, including multiple performances at the White House. Followed by a post-concert, meet-the-artist reception while enjoying the art of the brew master sampling the creations of some of New York State's most innovative hop and barley artisans. Part of the 2016 Arts & Craft Beer Fest presented by ArtsWestchester and Taste of New York and curated by Half Time Beverage. Merestead, 455 Byram Lake Rd., Mount Kisco. \$50. Friends of Copland House: \$40. Students: \$10. Info and tickets: 914-788-4659, visit www.coplandhouse.org or e-mail office@coplandhouse.org.

Sunday, Oct. 30

Yoga for Beginners. A perfect way to refresh your body and mind. Move, stretch, breathe and renew. All bodies and minds are welcome in this class. Expect Natural, 774 Bedford Rd., Bedford Hills. 8:30 to 10 a.m. \$15 per class. Every Sunday. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Contact Marta at 914-242-4685.

Halloween Pumpkin Play With Wolves. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the high desert of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as their pups prepare for their first winter season. Watch ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr go pumpkin hunting and visit the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves, too. Costumes are strongly encouraged. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Testaments of Love in Our Faith Traditions. An inspirational multi-faith service celebrating love in many religious traditions featuring joyful music, inspiring remarks and heartfelt prayers from more than two dozen organizations and institutions representing all of the major faiths in the region. Includes Mormon, Christian and Jewish choirs singing together, the New York Episcopalian, Lutheran and Catholic leaders of Ecumenism praying together on Reformation Sunday and a Sufi Arabic Culture professor and a Sunni leader of the Upper Westchester Muslim Society will be praying together. Followed by a community potluck dinner. Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester, 2125 Westchester Ave. East, Rye. 3 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-948-5585 ext. 22 or visit www.ajc.org/westfair/love.

Howlin' Halloween. An exciting and spooky Halloween experience for the whole family. Take a walk through the woods and find more than 100 carved and lit pumpkins lining the trails. Also find scarecrows and a few surprises along the way. Costumes are encouraged. Walks will be self-guided. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 4:30 to 7:30 pm. Early registration (before Oct. 30): Members--\$5. Non-members--\$10. Day of registration: Members--\$8. Non-members--\$15. Info and registration: Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Monday, Oct. 31

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