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February 21 - February 27, 2017

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 494

## Fire Destroys Building at Mount Kisco Yeshiva Complex

By Martin Wilbur

Demolition of the charred remnants of a Mount Kisco yeshiva building began on Monday less than three days after a raging inferno raced through the structure.

The three-alarm fire was reported at about 6:30 p.m. last Friday as firefighters from multiple agencies throughout the area responded to the scene at the Nitra Yeshiva complex on Nitra Road.

The building had been occupied when the fire was detected but everyone who had been inside was able to get out in time, said Mount Kisco Fire Chief Al Bueti. One firefighter sustained minor injuries.

At about midnight, the blaze was declared under control, but firefighters were called back six times over the weekend and through Monday afternoon to extinguish pockets of fire that repeatedly rekindled, Bueti said. With

the start of demolition on Monday, those hotspots were finally reached, he said.

"The reason why it was going on for so long, you had the original fire from Friday night and then the building collapsed, the floors caved in, and once that happened you had fire burning underneath the rubble that we could not access," Bueti said.

Volunteers from as many as 20 local fire departments and EMS agencies responded to the scene or helped to cover for those departments that were fighting the blaze.

Compounding the problem was the building's lack of a water source to fight a fire so water had to be trucked to the site, about a half-mile up a fairly steep road.

The blaze is being investigated by the Westchester County Cause and Origin Team, but is not deemed suspicious, Bueti said. He said with the building's

*continued on page 6*



Flames shoot out of second-story windows at a building at the Nitra Yeshiva last Friday night. Everyone safely escaped the building but one firefighter sustained minor injuries.

## Pleasantville to See Contested Village Board Election March 21

By Anna Young

For the first time in five years Pleasantville voters will have a choice in next month's village board election.

Trustee Steven Lord will be joined on the ballot by former board member Jerry Lynch and first-time candidate Nicole Asquith in the Mar. 21 election for two open board seats. A fourth candidate, Lenny Balducci, Jr., also submitted his petition to the village clerk's office by last Tuesday's deadline but announced over the weekend he is withdrawing his name from consideration.

It is not known whether Balducci will be included on the ballot.

Lord, 48, who will be running for his second term, said he is excited to continue his work as the Master Plan enters the

implementation phase. He said there's a lot more to do during the next three years.

"We potentially will have an assisted living facility and that's something I know my way around," said Lord, a longtime business consultant at The Strategist Group. "Stability in a second term would allow the continuation of a lot of stuff that will have an impact on the village."

Lynch, 59, a 26-year Pleasantville resident and longtime accountant, has remained active locally and on the county level since leaving the board at the end of his second term in 2002. He served on the village's Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for several years and is now chairman of the Westchester County Planning Board.

Lynch also volunteers for the American

*continued on page 4*

## North Castle Weighs Making Receiver of Taxes Appointed Post

By Martin Wilbur

North Castle officials are exploring a move to convert the town's elected receiver of taxes position into an appointed post in hopes of saving money, achieving labor efficiencies and expanding the pool of job candidates.

The town board is revisiting the issue and weighing whether to schedule a required referendum this spring in order to make a change.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the town has three options: converting the receiver of taxes to an appointed position, abolishing the position or maintaining the status quo. A referendum is required to make it an appointed post or to abolish and would have to be scheduled by May or early June, he said.

The receiver of taxes seat is up for election this year and potential candidates would need to collect signatures and submit petitions to the board of elections during the summer.

While the issue has been raised before, it has taken on a new sense of urgency. Longtime Receiver of Taxes Patty Colombo, had indicated to the board that she would probably retire at the end of this term, but has since mentioned that she would like to stay on for another two years. However, she does not want to serve another four-year term and would probably not run for re-election.

"We've been fortunate to have had all the people we've had, including Patty, but going forward a municipality is better served when you're hiring for the

*continued on page 4*

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#### Q: At what age should I begin getting mammograms?

**A:** Once a woman turns 40, the American Cancer Society and most recognized medical authorities recommend she start getting yearly mammograms. But mammograms aren't uniformly sensitive in all women. Between 40 and 50 percent of women have dense breasts – fibrous tissue as opposed to mostly fatty tissue – and that density can obscure potential problems.

Many women aren't aware that breast density is an issue. New York State requires doctors to notify women, in a letter, when their mammogram reveals this is the case. Do not become alarmed if you get this letter. It simply means that you should have a conversation with your doctor about your overall breast cancer risk.

#### Q: Why is it important to know if I have dense breasts?

**A:** Dense breasts can make mammograms less sensitive, and they may also contribute to cancer risk. You'll need to speak with your doctor about your individual lifetime risk and thoroughly evaluate your risk factors. To determine your risk, your doctor will ask you about your family history of breast and ovarian cancer, your age when you had your first period, whether you have children, when you had your first child, and any history of chest irradiation, among

other potential risk factors. The good news is that for many women with dense breasts, their risk won't be elevated enough to warrant any changes in screening.

#### Q: What if I'm high risk?

**A:** Women who are at high risk (greater than a 20-25% lifetime risk) and who have dense breast tissue should have annual screening breast magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in addition to a mammogram. MRIs are very sensitive and can pick up some cancer missed on a mammogram.

#### Q: Shouldn't all women, regardless of their breast density, get a Breast MRI?

**A:** There are many false positives with Breast MRI, which is why it is only recommended for women who are at high risk as they will derive the most benefit. Regardless of your breast density, make sure you get your yearly mammogram and discuss your risk factors for breast cancer with your physician.

### Did you know?

Having dense breast tissue may increase your risk of getting breast cancer.

# Bedford School Community Urges State Funding Changes

By Martin Wilbur

Passionate calls to make changes to New York's education financing formulas were delivered last week to three local state legislators by Bedford School District community members who fear that inequitable funding will imperil the district.

State senators George Latimer (D-Rye) and Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) and Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) listened to speakers for close to three hours during a Feb. 16 state budget forum at Bedford Town Hall. Many of those in the crowd demanded the lawmakers fight for changes because of factors that contributed toward making Bedford the third most fiscally stressed school district in New York in 2015-16, according to the state comptroller's office.

"People are angry. They're angry at Albany, they're angry at these policies that are squeezing our school district, that are draining our resources, adding to our costs and will continue to add to our costs," said resident and parent Keith Ferguson.

The speakers, which included Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christopher Manno, said that Bedford has the seventh highest percentage of English Language Learners among the 46 school districts in Westchester and Putnam counties. However, it is ranked 40th among those

districts in state aid received.

Bedford also is ranked 11th in free and reduced lunch participation in the two counties.

However, a state calculation using district wealth has Bedford as one of the wealthier districts despite the significant pockets of poverty, thereby limiting its state aid.

"The manner in which state aid is apportioned to school districts will continue to pose serious challenges for the Bedford Central School District, first because it does not recognize the significant needs of our population and the costs connected with the programming and the seriousness of our needs," Manno said.

Another hurdle is the regional cost index that groups Westchester with districts in the mid and upper Hudson Valley where there is a lower cost of living, hurting all districts throughout the county, Latimer said. Meanwhile, Nassau County, which is similar to Westchester, is grouped with New York City, giving it more state resources.

Other speakers bristled at the tax cap, which doesn't permit flexibility. Last year, the board of education voted to exceed the cap for the May vote, but it received only 59 percent, just shy of the 60 percent threshold needed to override.

As a result, the district was forced to cut



Bedford Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christopher Manno

52 positions for the June revote, including scrapping most of its elementary school librarians and increasing class sizes to exceed board of education guidelines, Manno said. It has one librarian splitting time among the districts five primary schools.

With budget deliberations about to commence for the 2017-18 spending plan, community members fear that more cuts could be in the offing unless funding increases.

Mount Kisco Elementary School music

teacher Carolyn Rowan said the music and arts program is hanging on and if more cuts are needed it would decimate what's left.

"For some kids that's the only reason why they come to school," Rowan said. "That's the other part of life. It's not what we are teaching for the future."

Others said with costs spiraling if there is no relief from the formulas, the tax cap or unfunded mandates, Bedford schools will be damaged.

"The lack of adequate funding hurts everyone in our district," said Julie Williams, the parent of two children in the district. "There's no one that wins from this. The problem is only getting worse. Based on the trajectory we're on, it's unsustainable."

The legislators said there are various legislative proposals, among them forcing the state to pay for various state mandates. While they pledged to continue fighting, Latimer, Murphy and Buchwald urged the public to send e-mails to the governor's office, SED and legislative leaders.

"I'm fairly new up there but the squeaky wheel does get heard, and so if we can get a tremendous amount of letters directed into SED and let them know this is a massive issue and we have them coming over the top on this, it gets listened to," Murphy said.

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# North Castle Weighs Making Receiver of Taxes Appointed Post

continued from page 1

administrative function versus leaving it to an election because you're able to interview and choose candidates," said Schiliro, who added he is opposed to abolishment.

Town Administrator Joan Goldberg said the office is busiest in January, April and September to coincide with the collection of school and town taxes. The job as currently structured includes other tasks such as the apportioning of tax bills and sending out correspondences to banks and mortgage companies to collect property taxes paid through escrow

accounts, she said.

Also, every July the receiver of taxes is responsible for filing a list of properties with the county whose owners have been delinquent on their taxes for at least two years, which could trigger in rem proceedings, said Town Attorney Roland Baroni.

If a change is made, the town could examine whether to restructure the tax and finance related positions as well as the division of tasks among the comptroller and assessor because there is interaction between those offices, Goldberg mentioned.

"Part of the efficiency of doing something like that, combining the tax office with another department, is that for the other months, outside of collection, the other nine months of the year there are labor hours that we're not capturing because the staff of the tax office is stuck in the tax office," Goldberg said. "There's an opportunity for another office to gain labor hours if we cross-train employees."

Space limitations at North Castle Town Hall, however, could limit options for restructuring.

But Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto said the matter is worth exploring.

"I think another reason why we're having this discussion is that there are cost savings, which are significant," DiGiacinto said.

Baroni said the town board would have to hold a public hearing and pass a resolution in order to schedule a referendum. The special election would have to be held at least 20 days but not more than 60 days following the board's approval, he said.

Last week's board discussion on the issue drew comments from one resident, Ed Loberman of North White Plains. Loberman said he was concerned about the cost of a special election and that no current employee loses their job or a portion of their pay through any restructuring.

Schiliro estimated that the election would cost the town about \$10,000.

*Erin Maher contributed to this article.*

# Pleasantville to See Contested Village Board Election March 21

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Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), Dad's Club of Pleasantville and the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO).

If elected, Lynch said his background as an accountant will be a valuable asset to the village, particularly with respect to taxes and budgeting. He also hopes to improve communication between the village and its residents.

Both Lord and Asquith agreed that a lot more can be done to improve transparency and communication.

Asquith, 46, a two-year Pleasantville resident and stay-at-home mom, hopes to play a vital role as the village moves

forward with the Master Plan. She said she would like to work toward creating a more vibrant downtown while preserving Pleasantville's character. She also plans to encourage more residents to participate in village meetings. Many village residents aren't aware that the board meets on a regular basis, she said.

"In my previous line of work as an academic, I learned to approach challenges with an open mind, to research, analyze and collaborate with others to come up with creative solutions," Asquith said. "That's what I hope to do if I'm elected to the board

of trustees."

While Asquith has no prior background in public service, she is the co-founder and Environmental Committee chair for Indivisible Pleasantville, a local grassroots group that formed following the presidential election. She is also a member of the Pleasantville Garden Club and volunteers at the Rockefeller State Park Preserve and Bedford Road School, serving on the Nutrition Committee and as the first-grade representative for the school garden.



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# Chappaqua Trustees Approve Firm for Sex Abuse Policy Review

By Anna Young

The Chappaqua Board of Education approved a recommendation made last week by an advisory committee to retain a nationally recognized firm to review the district's policies and procedures regarding sexual abuse.

By a 4-0 vote, trustees hired Interactive, Inc. of Ashland Va., a company that specializes in practice-improving documentation in a variety of areas for educational organizations.

Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs, of the First Congregational Church of Chappaqua who spoke on behalf of the 17-member committee at the Feb. 15 meeting, said hiring Interactive, Inc. will provide accountability for the school community to make the necessary training and culture changes a permanent part of the district. That should ensure students are not violated in the future.

Lead investigators Dr. Charol Shakeshaft and Dr. Dale Mann, will conduct surveys and focus groups and review the board, administration, teachers and staff. They will also explore policies, procedures and practices within the district and make recommendations on how to make the schools safer.

Jacobs added that one area the committee felt the Interactive needed to address was community culture.

"The (students) didn't feel they could come to anyone about what was happening



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Rev. Dr. Martha Jacobs, left, addressed Chappaqua school officials last Wednesday regarding trustees' approval of a committee's recommendation to retain a Virginia-based firm to review the district's policies and procedures relating to sexual abuse.

at Greeley," Jacobs said. "There is something in the culture of our community that we need to look at so we can ensure that our youths do feel safe going to any adult with their concerns, questions and fears."

The district was besieged with harsh criticism last summer and fall for their handling of the case of Christopher Schraufnagel, the former Horace Greeley High School drama teacher. Schraufnagel was brought up on charges for sexually and emotionally abusing students and eventually pleaded guilty.

The committee, comprised of a wide cross-section of the community, was formed to

create a Request for Proposal and search for experts who could evaluate shortcomings in district policy and procedures and decide how best to address future needs.

Shakeshaft, an educational researcher who specializes in sexual abuse of students by school staff, will also be involved in reviewing the structure of how youths are involved in community organizations and groups. His goal is to get a better understanding of how the community functions and uncover if any red flags were missed, Jacob said.

"Working with Interactive Inc. will provide us with an opportunity to be even

better at raising our youth to be the best that they can be and to be safe," she said.

Jacobs asked the board to consider periodically reviewing how the district is implementing Interactive's recommendations to guarantee transparency.

Trustee Victoria Tipp commended the committee's work. She said the independent investigation will provide a permanent framework to make sure the conditions that allowed the Schraufnagel scandal to take place will be corrected.

"I have a lot of confidence in this process and it will go a long way to putting us on a good path," Tipp said.

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# Community Task Force on Indian Point Meets for First Time

By Rick Pezzullo

Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi did not mince words at the initial meeting of a community task force established to deal with myriad issues regarding the pending closure of the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan.

"We've had challenges over the last 26 years. This is probably the biggest one that we will work on," said Puglisi, who has been supervisor since 1991 and a town board member since 1987. "It definitely affects the whole area, the whole county. There's a lot of energy in the community, in the governments, working together. We have a lot of homework to do over the next several months."

The task force, created by Puglisi, is comprised of a cross-section of leaders in government, business, education and other fields. Gathered at Cortlandt Town Hall last Thursday, the group expressed a desire to tackle short-term

and long-term strategies with Indian Point slated to shut down in April 2021, leaving municipalities, the Hendrick Hudson School District and other entities scrambling to find alternative funding sources.

In early January, Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Entergy and Riverkeeper stunned local officials when they announced Indian Point would stop operating since it was no longer profitable enough for Entergy.

The announcement sent immediate financial shockwaves through the area, since Entergy provides 33 percent of the Hendrick Hudson School District's annual revenue, 46 percent of the Village of Buchanan's revenue 2 percent of Cortlandt's revenue and 1 percent of the county's revenue.

"This is a unique situation," said Cortlandt Town Assessor Tom Waitkins. "We've been given a heads-up to start to work on the acceptance of what has happened. Over the course of time we'll figure things out. Entergy just doesn't

get to get up and leave. They still have to pay taxes."

A community unity petition has been launched by local officials and stakeholders requesting state and federal officials assist the region with such issues as tax stabilization, lost jobs, environmental issues, impact to local businesses and reuse of the 240-acre site where Indian Point is located. The petition can be found on the Town of Cortlandt's website at [www.townofcortlandt.com](http://www.townofcortlandt.com).

Officials from Cuomo's office and the Public Service Commission traveled to Cortlandt last Friday to meet for about three hours with Puglisi, Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker, Hendrick Hudson Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter and others to hear community concerns about Indian Point's scheduled exit.

"The efforts of our community have gotten the attention of the governor and his staff," Hochreiter said. "The

advocacy efforts are working. We are continuing to hold people's feet to the fire."

State Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) said the Senate and the Assembly will hold a joint Feb. 28 in Albany to ask questions and find answers to the state's future energy plan.

"Indian Point is a major power and job producer in the Hudson Valley. It is our responsibility to fully understand how the generated power, and jobs associated with it, will be replaced," Murphy said.

Another hearing, led by Murphy, is planned for Mar. 2 in Peekskill.

## Fire Destroys Building at Mount Kisco Yeshiva Complex

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ongoing demolition there is a possibility that the cause of the fire may never be known.

Bueti described the building as being made of standard materials, including bricks, wood and masonry with steel supports.

The Examiner called Nitra Yeshiva's headquarters in Brooklyn on Monday morning, but an unidentified man refused to answer questions and said no one would comment on the incident. According to its website, the yeshiva, which formed in Europe in the early 20th century, bought the former Brewster estate in Mount Kisco in 1948.

Classrooms were contained in the destroyed building and was one of an undetermined number of structures on the grounds.

## P'ville High School Seniors Vote to Keep Prom at Trump National

By Anna Young

Seniors at Pleasantville High School voted last week to keep their prom at Trump National Golf Course despite segments of the graduating class having raised discomfort with the choice.

The students voted my more than a 2-to-1 margin (97-44) to hold the annual celebratory event at the Briarcliff Manor venue.

"Students and senior class families were encouraged to engage in a meaningful dialogue before (the) vote," Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-

Alter said.

Last week, Muslim-American students and some female students opposed holding the June 8 prom at Trump National after President Donald Trump's executive order last month sought to restrict travel from seven predominately Muslim countries.

After school officials met with the senior class, student government representatives and parent advisers to review their options, students voted whether to move the prom to a politically neutral location.

Prior to the vote, a fact sheet was distributed among the senior class outlining all costs, including the loss of the \$4,000 nonrefundable deposit that was paid last February.

Voting took place over two days. Students carefully cast their vote in a polling location set up by the district that included a separate entrance and exit and privacy ballot locations.

"I am incredibly proud of our students," Fox-Alter said. "They allowed for the difference of opinion in a respectful manner. They were terrific."

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# Revisions for New Castle Comprehensive Plan After Joint Meeting

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle officials will continue to refine the final draft of the town's new Comprehensive Plan based on comments made by town board and planning board members at a Feb. 15 joint work session.

Participants from the two boards during the two-hour discussion raised questions and concerns about how specific the plan should be in communicating its goals but giving the town the leeway to react to an evolving marketplace.

Next Tuesday the town board has scheduled the first of two reviews of the draft Comprehensive Plan's Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) for consecutive weeks. A public hearing is expected to be scheduled for Mar. 28 and Apr. 25 followed by a possible May adoption of the plan, according to Supervisor Robert Greenstein.

Planning Board Chairman Robert Kirkwood said he believes the town's zoning is the most important piece of the puzzle. While officials have discussed changes to promote more vitality in the town's hamlet centers, including housing units as part of mixed-use development in downtown Chappaqua, the public outreach meetings also revealed that residents want to keep New Castle's residential zones largely the same, he said.

Changes to zoning might be warranted under the right circumstances but should



JOHN EHRLICH PHOTO

The town board and planning board brainstormed last week on how best to tighten New Castle's draft Comprehensive Plan. A public hearing could be scheduled for next month with adoption possible in the spring.

have to clear a high threshold, Kirkwood contended.

"I think that the burden of a change being requested by an applicant really needs to be a very, very difficult burden and needs to be supported by a genuine objective and demonstration of public need before we make that kind of a change, and I think that's the critical element," Kirkwood said.

Greenstein said the consensus has rightfully been to keep the town's residential neighborhoods bucolic, particularly on the east and west ends, but the plan can't put officials in such a bind that they don't have latitude should a developer propose a beneficial

application.

"I think you want to tighten it up and be very clear what you want and where you want it, but at the same time if you have a developer who comes and has a project and sits down with the neighbors and comes up with a project that they're happy with and it works for the community, then you want that flexibility in there that it can get done," Greenstein explained.

Planning Board member Thomas Curley said the town board is always empowered to make zoning changes to accommodate situations officials could not foresee, although that shouldn't be common following adoption.

He suggested reorganizing the draft document's goals so they are laid out in a more practical sequence and to find a way for the plan to read less as a planning document.

Sabrina Charney Hull responded that the Comprehensive Plan needs to be constructed within a framework that uses terms in line with the American Planning Association and to entities where the town could apply for grant money.

Curley mentioned that if the town clearly outlined what it hopes to achieve there will be developers who will approach town officials eager for the chance to put their signature on the community.

"I'm saying the market is going to catch up and put guys in your hands that will

do it the way you want to do it," Curley said. "This is Chappaqua. I can't imagine anybody not wanting to get in here."

Members of both boards praised the efforts of the planning department and the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee for devising a draft document that accurately identified and reflects a consensus of public sentiment.

The town's planning staff will continue to make revisions to the plan once comments are received from the planning board by the end of this week. It is expected those comments will be incorporated in time for the upcoming reviews of the plan's EAF.

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\*Data is from HGMLS by office for Single Family Homes, Condos and Co-ops in Pleasantville School District for the year 2016.

Women's Group

Session 1 Starts Saturday March 4, 2017  
9:00 am – 10:15 am

Session 2 Starts Saturday March 11, 2017  
9:00 am – 10:15 am

Session 3 Starts Wednesday March 22, 2017  
7:00 pm – 8:15 pm



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## Obituaries

### Walter Jacob

Walter Luder Jacob, 91, a lifelong sportsman, U.S. Marine, husband, father and friend, died Feb. 4 at his home of 30 years in Tequesta, Fla.

Jacob leaves his wife of 14 years, Dianne (Fox) Jacob; his daughter, Barbara Lee Jacob; his stepson, James Bates; grandchildren Sunny Marie Williams and Damon Bates; and his faithful dog Beau. Walt's first wife, Helen Jane (Traller) Jacob, passed in 2000.

Born in New York City and raised in Mount Kisco, Jacob was the only child of Wilhelm and Frieda Jacob, who emigrated from Germany in the early 1920s. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1943 and served for four years. He returned to his last duty station in Keflavik a year later as a civilian search and rescue specialist where he met and married his first wife, Helen, who was a civilian nurse flying the "Connie." They returned to the states in 1949 and bought a home in North Salem in 1951, where they lived for 35 years.

After serving with the U.S. Department of Defense, Jacob earned his pilot's license, but Helen was insistent that if he wanted a family he needed to be "home." In 1955, Jacob bought into and became the vice president of C.J. Daum Sporting Goods in Mount Kisco, and in 1973, he bought the company.

The sporting goods retail community served him well. A superior marksman, fisherman and outdoor enthusiast, Jacob promoted the company for hunting and fishing and expanded it to support skiing, tennis and school sports. His enthusiasm for the outdoors was infectious and the business prospered. Jacob became a conservation warden for Westchester County and studied to become a national ski patrolman, earning the coveted NSP #3309.

In the late 1970s, Jacob became a North Salem councilman and served the community until he and Helen moved to Florida in 1986. He was active in the Tequesta Country Club Community and was the driving force behind updating the boat launch on River Drive and building two community parks.

After Helen's passing, he met and married Dianne L. Fox of Palm Beach Gardens in 2002. Dianne is a real estate professional. They enjoyed entertaining family and friends, travel and dog Beau.

Services will be held on Feb. 23 at Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home in Jupiter, Fla. Flowers or donations to the Alzheimer's Association in Jacob's name is equally appreciated.

### Mark Shankland

Mark Hamilton Shankland was born in London, England on Jan. 20, 1957, and died suddenly at his home in Pleasantville on Feb. 13.

For 27 years, he was the beloved and devoted husband of his wife, Ronnie. His greatest pride was his son, James. He loved spending time with his family, whether he was hosting parties with his wife, traveling to the Caribbean, skiing, going to car shows or watching his son play soccer.

Shankland was the loving son of Jane Hume and stepfather Richard Hume. He was a caring brother to his sisters, Lucinda Seddon, Deirdre Hume and Amber Shankland, and to his brothers, Guy and Andrew Shankland. He was a warm-hearted uncle, cousin, son-in-law and brother-in-law, a friend to many and most recently a grand uncle. He will be sorely missed by all of those who loved him.

Shankland graduated from Marlborough College in Wiltshire, England. He had a successful 40-year career in the reinsurance industry, most recently as senior vice president at Guy Carpenter & Company.

While he always loved his home in beautiful England, he also loved his adopted country, the United States, and its people.



Mark Shankland

In lieu of flowers, contributions to Shankland's special charity, Save the Children, would be appreciated. Visitation was on Feb. 15 at Beecher Flocks Funeral Home, Inc. in Pleasantville, where funeral services were held on Feb. 16. Burial followed at Amawalk Hill Cemetery in Yorktown Heights.

### Marion Kendall

Marion G. Kendall of Pleasantville died Feb. 16.

She was 99.

Kendall was born in Garrison, N.Y. on Dec. 5, 1917, the daughter of Frederick E. and Florence (Tompkins) Hunt. She was a 1936 graduate of Pleasantville High School. Kendall worked as an executive secretary for a law firm in Miami for 36 years, retiring in 1983.

She was a longtime member of Hawthorne Reformed Church, where she taught Sunday school for many years.

She was married to William Kendall, who predeceased her in 1988.

Kendall is survived by her brother-in-

law, Ralph Nicoletti, Sr.; her niece, Gail A. (Greg) Wind; nephew Ralph (Alice) Nicoletti, Jr.; and many nieces and nephews, great- and great-great nieces and nephews.

Visitation was Feb. 19 at Beecher Flocks Funeral Home, Inc. in Pleasantville. The funeral service was on Feb. 20 at Hawthorne Reformed Church followed burial at Kensico Cemetery in Valhalla.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Hawthorne Reformed Church, 65 Broadway, Hawthorne, N.Y. 10532 or the Pleasantville Ambulance Corps, P.O. Box 201, Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570 would be appreciated.

### Lee Hart

Revered Scouter Lee Hart of Thornwood passed away on Feb. 15.

He was 91.

Visitation and the funeral was held on Feb. 19 at Beecher Funeral Home in Pleasantville. Interment followed at Kensico Cemetery in Valhalla.

Obituaries continued on page 10

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Based on information from The National Association of Realtor's Economics' Outlook Report 11/17/2016 and the Hudson Gateway Multiple Listing Service: Pleasantville School District; in 2016; by office; sale of single family homes, condos and co-ops.



# Police Blotter

## Mount Kisco Police Department

**Feb. 12:** A 30-year-old Columbus Avenue man was arrested at 4:40 p.m. and charged with third-degree assault, a misdemeanor, following a dispute with another man at Rite-Aid on South Moger Avenue. He is accused of punching the man several times during an argument in the store. The suspect was released on his own recognizance pending a Feb. 23 appearance in Mount Kisco Justice Court.

**Feb. 13:** A Carpenter Avenue resident reported at 2:28 a.m. that she had been awakened by someone using a snow blower on the street. An officer responded and directed a laborer clearing snow to stop using the machine.

**Feb. 14:** Report of a man having entered two businesses at 8:43 a.m. near Main Street and North Moger Avenue and harassed employees. After speaking with the merchants, an officer advised the man that they want him to stay out

of their businesses and warned him he would risk being charged with criminal trespassing if he returns.

**Feb. 14:** At 2:46 p.m., report of a metal object in the road on Hillside Avenue that was interfering with traffic. An officer removed the object from street.

**Feb. 16:** Police and the Mount Kisco Parking Authority assisted a woman with an infant who had locked herself out of her car on Kisco Avenue near Preston Way at 3:45 p.m.

**Feb. 17:** Police responded to CVS on North Bedford Road at 1:44 a.m. on a report that a customer was causing a disturbance. The man was gone upon the officer's arrival.

**Feb. 17:** County police and the Mount Kisco Fire Department responded to Stop & Shop on North Bedford Road at 3:12 a.m. on a report of a small fire in a compressor room. The fire was extinguished and a store employee was treated at the scene for a minor injury.

## North Castle Police Department

**Feb. 10:** A 10-year-old child reported at 5:16 p.m. that an unknown party is at the door of her family's Whippoorwill Road residence and she is concerned for her safety. The responding officer spoke with the babysitter at the location. The party at the door was the pizza deliveryman, who checked out okay.

**Feb. 11:** Report of a loud party on Shippen Road at 11:19 p.m. The caller stated there are a large number of vehicles parked in the roadway possibly causing a traffic hazard. The responding officers reported that a party is dispersing upon their arrival. A summons was issued to the resident.

**Feb. 13:** A complainant arrived at police headquarters at 1:22 p.m. to report that a fraudulent charge had been made on her credit card.

**Feb. 13:** A complainant reported at 4:51 p.m. that he is following what he believes to be his vehicle on southbound Route 22 that was stolen about a week ago. The complainant followed the vehicle to the Home Depot parking lot in Valhalla. Mount Pleasant, Greenburgh and Westchester County police were also notified. The complainant confirmed with police that the car closely resembled his vehicle but was not his. All contacted

agencies were advised.

**Feb. 14:** Report of a 17-year-old at Jennie Clarkson Building E on Old Orchard Road possibly under the influence of a narcotic at 11:04 a.m. The responding officers reported the subject is being transported to Westchester Medical Center.

**Feb. 15:** Report of a woman sleeping in her vehicle while parked on Main Street in front of the post office at 11:35 a.m. A passerby opened the door to check on the subject who did not respond but was breathing. The responding officer reported that the woman checks okay and was taking a nap.

## Pleasantville Police Department

**Feb. 13:** A 22-year-old Thornwood man was arrested at 1:56 p.m. on Wheeler Avenue and charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.

**Feb. 15:** A 21-year-old Ossining man was arrested at 4:12 p.m. following a traffic stop on Tompkins Avenue and charged with driving with a suspended license.

**Feb. 16:** After hospice products were delivered to 35 Madison Ave., residents reported at 4:17 p.m. the delivery was stolen. The matter is under investigation.

# Obituary

## Anna Schaller

After a blessed, vibrant and long life, Anna M. Lehnert Schaller of Armonk and East Marion, N.Y. passed away on Feb. 18. She was 98.

Schaller was born at home in Astoria, Queens Aug. 3, 1918, to a German immigrant father and American-born German mother. She lived in New York all her life. She married Harold Schaller in 1940 and focused her energy in raising three daughters while taking extension courses in sewing, tailoring, needlepoint, crochet, embroidery, tole painting, flower arranging and many other crafts. She enjoyed traveling and was active in local gardening clubs and historical societies.

After 64 years of marriage, Schaller's beloved husband passed away in 2004, followed by her daughter, Elaine Marie Tuthill, in 2011.

She is survived by daughters Marilyn Mangels and Karen Hampton and their husbands John Mangels and Monty Hampton; son-in law Halsey Tuthill; eight grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

We will never forget her strength and eagerness to participate in family events. She will be greatly missed and loved by so many.

Viewing will take place at Horton-Mathie Funeral Home, 735 First St. in Greenport, N.Y. on Feb. 24 from 5 to 8 p.m. A funeral service will be held at St. Peters Lutheran Church in Greenport on Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. followed by burial at the First Presbyterian Church Cemetery with a reception after. For further information, visit [www.horton-mathie.com](http://www.horton-mathie.com).

## THERE'S A WORD FOR IT

### A vocabulary-building quiz

By Edward Goralski

**In Auden Days.** Words from the poems of W. H. Auden, who was born 110 years ago on Feb. 21, 1907, are the basis of the quiz this week. Auden is generally considered the greatest English poet of the 20th century. His travels provided rich material for his verse. Perhaps these words will provide some rich additions to your vocabulary.

- |                            |                            |                           |                         |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. <b>unabashed</b> (adj.) | A) unsatisfactory          | B) obvious                | C) imprudent            |
| 2. <b>regale</b> (v.)      | A) to get back again       | B) pay attention          | C) entertain            |
| 3. <b>agog</b> (adj.)      | A) full of anticipation    | B) relating to great pain | C) contrived            |
| 4. <b>vaunt</b> (v.)       | A) to accomplish something | B) speak boastfully       | C) foretell events      |
| 5. <b>fosse</b> (n.)       | A) a moat                  | B) an odd thought         | C) an entanglement      |
| 6. <b>sapid</b> (adj.)     | A) having feelings         | B) having great wisdom    | C) having flavor        |
| 7. <b>agora</b> (n.)       | A) a gathering place       | B) harmony of opinion     | C) a type of wild grass |
| 8. <b>meinie</b> (n.)      | A) a projectile            | B) a mixture              | C) a household          |

**ANSWERS:**  
 1. B. Not concealed or disguised; obvious  
 2. C. To provide with great enjoyment; entertain  
 3. A. Full of keen anticipation or excitement; eager  
 4. B. To speak boastfully; brag  
 5. A. A moat or defensive ditch in a fortification;  
 6. C. Perceptible to the sense of taste; having flavor  
 7. A. A gathering place, especially an ancient Greek marketplace  
 8. C. Feudal retainers or attendants, collectively; a retinue or household (somewhat archaic)



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# Pace Students, Murphy Team Up on Elephant Performance Ban Bill

By Anna Young

Ringling Brothers Circus will have its last performance this spring after more than a century of entertainment. A group of Pace University students are working to make sure it will soon be the last time that elephants will be used to perform in New York State.

Students at Pace's Dyson College of Arts & Environmental Policy Clinic are pressing to make sure that legislation they proposed banning elephants from performing in New York will pass both houses of the state legislature and signed into law.

Under the supervision of faculty members John Cronin and Michelle Land, the students have been working since 2014 to create the Elephant Protection Act, a measure that would ban the use of elephants in entertainment acts throughout the state.

With state Sen. Terrence Murphy (D-Yorktown) sponsoring the legislation, students presented their bill to the Senate last June. It received unanimous support, sailing through the Senate 62-0.

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Scarsdale) will provide additional support in the Assembly as students will spend their spring semester in Albany lobbying lawmakers. They hope to secure passage in both houses of the legislature by June.

"Elephants are hunted and killed for the benefit of humans. We really need to go forward to protect those animals," Paulin said. "We have institutions like the circus who have made animal cruelty part of everyday life."

Senior David Paulstitch, who spoke on behalf of the students at a Feb. 17 press conference at Pace, said a tamed elephant is a tortured animal. It is trained with cruel techniques that involve the use of electric shocks, whips, metal bars, chains and bull hooks, which is a spiked tool, to control and punish, he said.

"My generation is not interested in watching elephants performing unnatural tricks for the sake of human entertainment, nor do we want our future children to think this is the value society places on elephants," Paulstitch said.

Murphy said elephants are massive animals that don't belong in captivity. What is being done to them is disturbing and inhumane, he said.

The legislation calls for a \$10,000 penalty per violation. There would be exemptions for zoos, aquariums, wildlife sanctuaries and nonprofit environmental education programs.

Pace faculty involved in the initiative were heartened at the efforts being made by the students.

"Our students don't just research issues and write policies, they create creative outreach and educational materials that support their policy work," said Land, director of the Environmental Policy Clinic. "The Elephant Protection Act is a

perfect example of the intelligent work our students do."

Land added that the Clinic wants to see New York State be the first in the nation to ban the use of elephants in entertainment acts.

If the bill is passed and signed into law by the governor, the elephant ban would become law in 2019.

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, third from left, and state Sen. Terrence Murphy, center, met last Friday with students from Pace's Arts & Environmental Policy Clinic to move forward with proposed legislation to prohibit elephants from performing anywhere in the state.







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2009 Subaru Legacy	50,803	F197A-17	4S3BL616397222963	\$11,995
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## Editorial

### State Funding Formulas, Mandates Will Damage More Schools

Bedford Central School District community members let out a torrent of frustration last week against Albany that should be a cautionary tale to those who care about schools and students almost anywhere in the state.

The setting was a forum at Bedford Town Hall last Thursday afternoon scheduled by state senators George Latimer and Terrence Murphy and Assemblyman David Buchwald. They were there to listen to the public on any issue related to the 2017-18 state budget.

Throughout the three-hour session one issue dominated: the future of Bedford Central. Without relief from Albany on the badly outdated funding formulas, it's only a matter of time before there will be more districts throughout Westchester and the lower Hudson Valley that will be hit just as hard.

While the district's past budget management left much to be desired and contributed to the current difficulties, a unique set of circumstances has sent Bedford on a fiscal freefall. First, an influx of English Language Learners into the district, something totally out of school officials' control, has triggered the expense of more services that need to be provided to students. On top of that, many of these families qualify for

free or reduced lunch programs.

Second is the formula that computes a district's aggregate wealth. Like many places in the United States in 2017, the disparity between the wealthy and the poor is as stark as it has ever been. That formula reveals that portions of Bedford Central has enormous wealth. As a result, the calculation placed Bedford 40th out of 46 Westchester-Putnam districts for state aid received in 2015-16.

Next is the tax cap, which may be a great idea in theory but has been hurting schools and students throughout New York more than helping taxpayers since shortly after being signed into law in 2011. It doesn't matter how wealthy a district might be and how much it would like to spend on enrichment programs or hiring another teacher to lower class size, it's perilous to go over the cap.

Think it's easy to override the cap with the arbitrary 60 percent approval? Only districts that are in dire straits resort to that option. It's a near impossible level to reach as highlighted by last May's Bedford vote. Officials were able to convince 59 percent of voters who turned out that the override was beneficial, but that wasn't good enough. As a result, 52 positions were slashed and class sizes in many grades

now exceed recommended board of education guidelines.

Without its ability to levy the requisite taxes – and the tax cap has consistently been below 2 percent – mandated costs of health insurance and state pension obligations continue to siphon money away from the classrooms.

Finally, there is the politically charged Regional Cost Index, which somehow places Westchester in the same category (Hudson Valley) as districts in Ulster and Columbia counties. Meanwhile, Long Island is grouped with New York City and consistently receives far more school aid for comparable communities. Only in Albany can such an outrageous injustice be tolerated.

Albany has been derelict for too long on these issues. Gov. Andrew Cuomo's half-hearted attempt at mandate relief shortly after taking office never turned out to be a serious effort.

It is time for those who care about public education, whether you have any connection to Bedford or not, to band together, and at the very least, lobby to make a tax cap override a simple majority and to revise the Regional Cost Index to realistic levels.

If not, Bedford's problem today will be everyone's problem in Westchester tomorrow.

### State DMV to Increase Penalty for RR Crossing Violations

The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) last week announced that it has increased points assigned to motorists who violate the rules of the road at the nearly 2,700 railroad crossings around the state.

For many years, motorists who disobeyed traffic laws at railroad crossings risked, other than their lives and those around them, a fine and a modest 3-point penalty on their license, the same as speeding 1 to 10 miles per hour above the speed limit. Nearly two years after the deadly Metro-North crash in Valhalla, the DMV has increased the points for railroad crossing infractions to 5 points, to better reflect the serious risk.

"If you are knowingly reckless at railroad crossings, you are putting yourself, those around you and those in the train at risk for a catastrophe,"

said Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains). "The New York State DMV deserves great credit for increasing the punishment for railroad crossing infractions to better reflect the danger that law-breaking drivers can create."

The February 2015 Valhalla train crash killed six people after an SUV pulled onto the tracks at the Commerce Street Metro-North Railroad grade crossing. Shortly after the accident, Buchwald introduced a bill that would have increased the points for railroad crossing violations, with the primary goal being to inform drivers that running through a railroad crossing or getting too close to the tracks is more dangerous than the typical traffic infraction.

In August 2015, Buchwald sent a letter to DMV Executive Deputy Commissioner Theresa Egan urging

the agency to increase the point penalty. The department declined the request three months later. Buchwald reached out to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), which operates Metro-North, to gather support for an increased penalty for violations at railroad crossings and to convince the DMV to take action.

Last year, he was also the lead Assembly sponsor of legislation, written and signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, that implements more joint inspections of signals at railroad crossings, aligns state requirements with federal regulations on railroad bridge inspections and increases penalties on railroad companies that do not comply with the regulations and on drivers that commit repeated railroad crossing violations.

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## know your Neighbor

### Maud Bailey Community Volunteer, Chappaqua

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee has had sort of a revolving-door membership in the nearly five years since it was formed.

However, as the town approaches the end of the long process with the anticipated approval of the new document in the coming months, there's been one committee member who's been a welcome fixture.

Chappaqua resident Maud Bailey has been the only resident to be part of the five-member group from its inception. The Georgetown University Law Center graduate, who hoped to practice real estate or land use law but ended up a litigator, has been well-suited to help the town wade through the immensely complicated issues involved in rebuilding a town's Comprehensive Plan.

But this latest volunteer assignment was a little more than Bailey bargained for.

"It was a one-year commitment and that was five years ago," she said while laughing.

Bailey was first contacted by former town administrator Penny Paderewski in

2011 to see if she would help New Castle revise its 1989 Master Plan. She drew interest after having spent years involved with the League of Women Voters of New Castle, including serving two separate stints as its president.

Bailey was a frequent observer at town planning board meetings with the League. With land use a routinely important topic in New Castle, she helped the organization review the 1989 plan in the late 1990s. She also assisted in working on the town's Chappaqua Hamlet Plan in the early 2000s. At the time, concern arose over the Vollmer Report, which was met with resistance by a significant segment of the community, Bailey said.

"I guess I just loved planning, but as a volunteer," said Bailey, the mother of two sons who moved to New Castle 25 years ago with her husband. "I did not end up practicing legally in that area, but I did think it's such a fascinating way to get involved in your community where you can be positively impacted."

Bailey, 54, who currently works as an administrative assistant for St. Matthew's



Church in Bedford, became interested in planning while working as a law clerk for the Washington law firm Arnold & Porter during her final year at Georgetown. She worked mainly on real estate matters and would attend planning-related meetings in the district.

The Trumbull, Conn. had hoped to pursue that specialty when she started her law career, but the real estate industry had a downturn in the early 1990s and there wasn't the opportunity to work in that area. Instead Bailey worked in litigation as an associate at the New York office of O'Melveny & Myers.

She and her husband moved from New York City in 1992 and found a home in Chappaqua. The constant among families who move to town is the commitment to education and community, she said.

"We're very lucky to have come here," Bailey said. "It's a very special place. We've loved it, my kids loved it."

Bailey took a hiatus from planning-related volunteering, although she continued her community involvement with the League of Women Voters. Her two terms as president were in 2002-03 and 2006-07, but when the town came calling, looking for volunteers to help with the Comprehensive Plan update, Bailey couldn't refuse.

One key aspect for the process was to involve the community in public outreach so the new plan would represent as wide a cross section of the town as possible, she said. It was also necessary to engage professionals to help execute the plan.

Furthermore, unlike the encyclopedic 1989 Master Plan that few residents would probably ever have the courage to sit down and read, the committee and town officials sought to have a user-friendly document that can be used by planning professionals but can also be interpreted by regular residents, she said.

Bailey is looking forward to seeing the approval of the Comprehensive Plan update. With her sons in college and graduate, she and her husband are ready to move onto the next stage of their lives and a likely move to Rhode Island in the not-too-distant future.

"I'm seeing this process through," she said. "I feel it's important. I'm just tenacious. Once I say yes, it's hard for me to not be involved. I so hope it gets passed for the community's sake and they're doing a good job. They're doing a good job thinking about it and what it means to implement it."

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We fully recognize that this planned shutdown is a significant event for the local economy and for our surrounding communities. Importantly, we will be here for the next four-plus years, producing electricity, providing jobs and wages, paying taxes and making local purchases. In addition, following shutdown Entergy will provide \$15 million in funding as part of our continued commitment to community stakeholders and environmental stewardship. We believe this approach supports an orderly shutdown, and provides time

and resources for the state and local communities to transition to new energy and economic opportunities.

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## The Scale May Be the Home's Most Used Gadget

Considering that one in three women and one out of five men in this country are on a diet, might the bathroom scale be the most utilized gadget in the home?

I can't speak for anyone else, but I know that for many years, I've had an almost unnatural relationship with my scale.

Every morning I surrender myself to it just before jumping into the shower. If this simple act stopped there, it might be considered perfectly normal behavior, but a secret ritual has developed over the years. I tap the glass surface of the attractively designed gadget, step on it lightly and wait with baited breath as digital figures start their little dance until the final number pops up in an excessively large digital display, the only reading I am able to achieve without my glasses.

More often than not, I don't accept the preliminary hard evidence of my imprudence. Surely the scale needs to "warm up" before it gives me an accurate weight. I step off and on the scale again, but this time I lower my weight slowly as I lean on a shelf nearby. The result of



By Bill Primavera

this little trick may actually be higher than the first reading.

Convinced that the floor tiles where the scale rests must be uneven, I step off again and nudge it along the floor a few inches to another spot and try again. If I get a more favorable weight, I will stop there. If not, there may be a couple of more nudges along the floor, before I am forced to call out to my wife, "Honey, do you think the scale is off this morning? Maybe it's the change in the weather?"

I will resist elaborating on the fact that for a while I had two scales in the bathroom, each a different brand; I'd weigh myself on both, then accept the average weight between them.

With our distant ancestors, not fettered by body image issues spawned by the media, it was the need for measurement in commerce that created the first scale. Evidence of the earliest scales in Roman times shows that they were actually balancing systems, using two plates attached to an overhead beam fixed on a central pole, much like the smaller version held by Lady Justice. The weight

of any object for trade, like gold, was measured by placing it on one plate and weight-setting stones on the other, until equilibrium was reached.

In the late 1700s, British balance maker Richard Salter invented the spring scale, which measures the pressure exerted on a spring to deduce the weight of an object. Spring scales are still fairly common today, but are not as accurate as the new and sleek scales that came with the digital age.

The first automatic vending machine was a large spring scale that was imported from Germany in the late 1880s. People would go to a local store or arcade where they availed themselves of a coin-operated weighing scale, requiring a penny to see one's weight.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Peerless Scale operated a scale on almost every corner and weighing in was considered an affordable novelty, even during the Depression. To feed interest in this pastime, fortunes were added to the ticket that was dispensed, then the names and pictures of movie stars who paid to have themselves promoted through this service.

By the 1940s, improvements in mechanical scale technology made smaller, inexpensive spring scales

available for the home, and they stayed pretty much the same until recently when they advanced to digital models operated by batteries.

Today, bathroom scales come in many models and range from the inexpensive and simple to the more elaborate, supported by technology, where we can also learn our Body Mass Index.

Through the years, I've met a few people who have told me they never get on a scale and don't own one. Their only weight monitoring system might be to cut back on dessert when they feel their pants getting a little snug. This system is so foreign, so unfathomable to me that I can only marvel at it.

Judging from the number of bathrooms I've visited as a realtor, I would say that these lucky people are in the minority and that the bathroom scale is one home gadget that is here to stay.

*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**

## The Seafood Grill Armonk

**By Martin Wilbur**

Michael Mazzella credits his 20 years in the restaurant and catering business, his personal culinary tastes, and most of all, his wife for inspiring him to take the chance to follow his dream.

On Feb. 11, Mazzella opened The Seafood Grill in Armonk in the space that was once occupied by Opus 465 on Main Street. The restaurant, however, isn't typical seafood fare but is Japanese influenced. Mazzella fell in love with the culture from his days trading Japanese yen on Wall Street before having that passion rekindled when meeting his wife, Taeko, who he married last year.

"I always had a dream to do this," said Mazzella. "I was going to do Latin seafood, then after I met my wife, the Japanese ingredients are just such amazing ingredients."

Under the direction of Executive Chef Tom McAliney, Mazzella has coined the term "dock to dish" for his restaurant. Every day he has three vendors head down to the Fulton Fish Market to bring

back the freshest fish from that morning's catch.

The Seafood Grill's standout dishes are the 10-ounce, bone-in miso-glazed halibut, 125-degree Scottish salmon with cauliflower fried rice and wild hake with spinach and ginger and oil.

Diners can find colossal crab cakes, a plate of four five-ounce shrimp, uni deviled eggs and Alaskan king crab legs. Patrons are greeted by an impressive raw fish bar when they walk in the door with fresh oysters, littleneck clams and other favorites.

As a nod to his original idea, there are a couple of Latin seafood dishes on the menu as well as several beef and chicken selections.

For someone whose love for seafood was ignited when waiting tables at a City Island restaurant after leaving Wall Street in 1996, it's the fish dishes that stand out.

"I just fell in love with the seafood. Seafood is my passion and I just wanted to do something totally different and unique," said Mazzella, who for the past



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Michael Mazzella, the owner of The Seafood Grill, with his wife Taeko.

go out and spend \$50 a head, \$60 a head, \$80 a head and you just get a fish that's baked or broiled, you'll go home, and after a while (you'll say) I can do that at home. This concept is so unique."

The completely refurbished interior at The Seafood Grill is an inviting place for lunch or dinner. There are about 40 seats in the bustling downstairs, which also features a bar with eight craft beers on tap and a variety of wines. Upstairs there is a quieter ambiance, but Mazzella can also cater for parties with up to 80 guests while keeping the downstairs open.

Come springtime, there will be outdoor seating with 65 to 70 seats and two fire pits that will help extend the season on chillier evenings.

"It's such a cute little place," Mazzella said. "It's got such great potential."

In the weeks ahead, he'll be adding live entertainment on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, various specials during the week, a \$19 lunch menu and a Sunday brunch.

The Seafood Grill is located at 465 Main St. in Armonk and has free parking. It is open every day except Tuesday. Lunch is served starting at 11:30 a.m. The restaurant is open until 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and to 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

For more information, call 914-730-1122 or visit The Seafood Grill on Facebook. Its website is [www.seafoodgrillarmonk.com](http://www.seafoodgrillarmonk.com).

two years was the general manager at The Kittle House in Chappaqua and had also opened the short-lived Bistro 146 in Pleasantville.

Mazzella is hoping to balance giving his customers a different experience but is adamant about keeping the prices as affordable as possible. He wants to have local seafood lovers to return again and again.

"I want to be different," he said. "If you

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# Happenings

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## Tuesday, Feb. 21

**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.mountkiscoliberalry.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberalry.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. Also Feb. 28. Info: 914-273-3887.

**"Disturbing the Peace."** Follows a group of former enemy combatants – Israeli soldiers from the most elite units and Palestinian fighters, many of whom served years in prison – who come together to challenge the status quo. The film traces their transformative journeys from soldiers committed to armed battle to nonviolent peace activists and founders of Combatants for Peace. Followed by a Q&A with Jacob Burns Film Center founder Stephen Apkon and several guests. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:35 p.m. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Chappaqua Library Board of Trustees Meeting.** Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave, Chappaqua. 7:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779.

## Wednesday, Feb. 22

**Zumba Fitness.** Achieve long-term benefits while having a blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life. For all fitness levels. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. Every Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

**Pound Fitness Program.** A 45-minute full-body 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.

**New Mommy Meet-up.** Whether you

just gave birth to your first or fourth child, join us and enjoy time to meet and chat with other new moms in the Romper Indoor Playground. This is not a structured class, but rather an opportunity to hang out with your new baby. We also invite guest speakers to come and share their expertise about various topics that interest parents of new babies. World Cup Schools, 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 10:15 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday through June 21. Info: 914-238-9267.

**Adult Coloring Club.** It's a relaxing, analog stress-reducer that can give you a sense of accomplishment. Coloring also provides a creative outlet to people who may not be trained artists. The library provides colored pencils and intricate mandala patterns, just bring your creativity. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**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](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.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](http://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.

**The Winter Wonderland Music and Comedy Show.** Turtle Dance Music present this musical experience designed to engage children through song, movement, stories, pictures and interactive music technology. This sensory-friendly program is appropriate for all ages, but is specifically geared to children 2 to 10 years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 a.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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](http://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.mountkiscoliberalry.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberalry.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.mountkiscoliberalry.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberalry.org).

**Art Series: Thomas Gainsborough.** One of England's most versatile portrait and landscape painters, Gainsborough's idyllic landscapes, seascapes and countryside were much in demand. He knew he wanted to paint when he was 13, and succeeded in transitioning from his apprenticeship to a famous painter to becoming quite a collectible landscape painter in his own right. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Separation/Divorce Support Group.** A new group for men and women separated, in the process of separating or post-divorce. Establishes a safe place where attendees can deal with the pain and loneliness brought about by the ending of a significant relationship. This nondenominational group will use the 12 Steps to focus on its members and the choices made to cope and adjust. Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 15 S. Bedford Rd., Mount Kisco. \$10. Every Wednesday. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Contact Ilene Amiel at 914-980-0898 or e-mail [12stepdivorcegroup@gmail.com](mailto:12stepdivorcegroup@gmail.com) or visit [www.meetup.com/Mount-Kisco-12-step-Separation-Divorce-Support-Meetup](http://www.meetup.com/Mount-Kisco-12-step-Separation-Divorce-Support-Meetup).

**Oscar Talk 2017.** Join Janet Maslin

and the uncannily knowledgeable "Oscarologist" and noted film writer Mark Harris – also a Jacob Burns Film Center board member – for what's always a lively, opinionated discussion. Harris traces the epic story of the five films nominated for the 1967 Academy Awards in his landmark book "Pictures at a Revolution: Five Movies and the Birth of the New Hollywood." Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$12. Non-members: \$17. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Thursday, Feb. 23

**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 Thursda. 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](http://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](http://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.mountkiscoliberalry.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberalry.org). Thursday, February 23, at 2:00 pm, show for children ages 3 through 5. The Nature of Things presents

**Animals From Around the World.** Children will meet animals with fur and feathers, scales and shells. Everyone will have the chance to pet the animals safely while learning who they are, where they live and how they survive in the wild. For children three to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Free. Space is limited. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

# Vine & Co. to Host Inaugural Whiskey Fest This Saturday

By Anna Young

Whiskey connoisseurs will be in paradise if they can make it over to Vine & Co. on Saturday.

That's when the Bedford Hills wine and spirits shop will host its first-ever Whiskey Fest featuring more than 40 types of the alcoholic beverage.

Patrons will have the chance to sample, experience and learn about distinct expressions of whiskey.

With whiskey sales increasing steadily each year, Vine & Co. operations manager JJ Berlingo said it was the right time to host a free, fun and informative event that celebrates the diversity of whiskey.

"There's so many different expressions of brown spirits and we're excited to give people the opportunity to sample things they never would have before," Berlingo said. "People sometimes don't drink certain spirits thinking they can't afford it, and this is their opportunity to sample it and find something that's good for their palate."

Nine vendors will be on hand for the event, including Martin Scott Wines, Domain Select Wine Estates, Blueprint Spirits, Taconic Distillery, Opici Wines, StillTheOne Spirits and Empire Spirits. There will be explanations of the different styles and expressions of the select craft

American, Scotch, Irish and Japanese whiskeys.

Representatives from Haus Aplenzen will also be in attendance demonstrating how to craft the perfect mixed drink pairing whiskey with vermouth amaro.

Pour, the Mount Kisco wine bar and eatery, will cater the event, preparing a menu of small plates to go with the array of whiskeys that will be displayed and tasted.

The Whiskey Fest will be held on Feb.

25 from 3 to 6 p.m. at Vine and Co., located at 741 Bedford Rd. in Bedford Hills. For more information call 914-666-7272, visit [www.vineandcompany.com](http://www.vineandcompany.com) or e-mail to [info@vineandcompany.com](mailto:info@vineandcompany.com)

## P'ville's St. John's Episcopal Added to National Historic Register

By Martin Wilbur

St. John's Episcopal Church in Pleasantville has been officially added to the National Register of Historic Places, U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand recently announced.

The official designation expands opportunities for federal historic tax credits and other resources to support future preservation and development initiatives.

"St. John's Episcopal Church has deep-rooted connections to Pleasantville spanning over a century," Gillibrand said in a Feb. 10 statement. "The Church opened its doors to all individuals for religious and spiritual service, and still serves the community by offering guidance and counsel to individuals in need. I pushed for this designation because St. John's Episcopal Church remains an iconic

symbol of Pleasantville's history; and this designation will aid in preserving this landmark for generations to come."

Gillibrand wrote a letter last year to Jonathan Jarvis, director of the National Parks Service, urging for its inclusion on the register. The current church, located at 8 Sunnyside Ave. at the corner of Bedford Road, opened in 1914 to serve the needs of the parish. It has a gothic revival design and original stained glass windows that retains its architectural significance.

Additionally, the 1785 home of St. John's Rector is the oldest home in Pleasantville. In 1928, notable architect Oscar Watet, who designed several buildings that appear on the National Register, designed the Church's parish hall. The same year a nephew of the King of Sweden held his nuptials at the church, the first time European royalty



St. John's Episcopal Church in Pleasantville is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

was married in the United States.

The church offers various community programs and services including a 12-step program, homeless outreach efforts, community gardens and theater group meetings.

St. John's Episcopal was established in 1853 and originally used the site on Bedford Road where Pleasantville Community Synagogue operates today.

# Happenings

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**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](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Bereavement Support Group.** For adults dealing with the loss of a loved one. Led by Bereavement Coordinator Bess Steiger. Phelps Hospital, Room 225, 755 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 2:30 to 4 p.m. Suggested donation: \$10 per session. Pre-registration required. Infor and pre-registration: 914-366-3957 or e-mail [bsteiger@pmhc.us](mailto:bsteiger@pmhc.us).

**"Landfill Harmonic."** This is the message of the Recycled Orchestra, the most unlikely musical group you can imagine, which performs on instruments made of tin cans, scrap metal, old tubes and other bits of junk that were tossed in the trash. Based in a notorious slum outside the Paraguayan capital - home to one of the largest landfills in South America - follow a visionary music teacher, a resourceful craftsman and an intrepid group of children who build

something unimaginably beautiful out of other people's trash. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 3 p.m. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. Children (13 and under): \$7.50. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Exploring Habitats and How Animals Survive in Winter.** This hands-on animal program is about animals that possibly live in our backyards and others who live far away. Children will learn about what these amazing animals must do in order to survive in the wild during the winter. For children six to nine years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3:15 p.m. Free. Space is limited. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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](http://www.mountkisco.org).

**Read to Rover.** Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. For children five years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.org).

**Great Books Forum Series.** Charles Dickens' "Bleak House" will be discussed. A wide-ranging and spirited discussion focusing on context and interpretation. Led by Professor Jo Lackey. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Room 131, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: E-mail Professor James Werner at [james.werner@sunywcc.edu](mailto:james.werner@sunywcc.edu).

**Hemingway's Paris.** Elizabeth Kemble will give this illustrated talk sharing the places that Hemingway frequented in Paris, such as La Closerie des Lilas, the café where he wrote his masterpiece, "The Sun Also Rises," in a coffee fueled six-week sprint. Also featuring the famous people he associated with such as Gertrude Stein and F. Scott Fitzgerald and the painters that influenced his prose style. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Home Sellers Seminar.** Homeowners can come and ask the experts their questions. Featuring Pleasantville Building Inspector Robert Hughes on certificate of occupancies and codes; Donna Edlund, licensed associate real estate broker, discussing how to get your home ready for sale and pricing your home; and Robbin Sweeney, real estate and elder law attorney, talking about closings. Sponsored by

Edlund and Hans Weber, licensed associate real estate brokers with Coldwell Banker. Emmanuel Lutheran Church (lower level), 197 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Donna Edlund at 914-403-4237.

**"Deconstructing The Beatles' Sgt. Pepper."** Scott Freiman's extraordinary film presentation that he developed at the Jacob Burns Film Center when everyone is re-affirming their joyous connection to this music. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

### Friday, Feb. 24

**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.

**Friday Night Cinema: "The Cave of**

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# EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF TAX-SOLUTION4EXPATS.COM, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/14/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Seung Yup Kang, 27 Overlook street, Mount Vernon, New York 10552. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HARD-CORE REALTY LLC FILED WITH SSNY ON 12/6/16.** 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: **829 Franklin Avenue, Thornwood NY 10594. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WOLVERINE SECURITY LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/26/2016. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **373 Downing Dr., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: Security Business.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LEARNING ANALYTICS GROUP, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/07/2011. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **2435 Pinetree Pl Yorktown Hts, NY 10598 Purpose: any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF STONE HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC.** Filed with SSNY on January 3, 2017. Office in Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC. upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Lisa Stone 2245 Mark Rd., Yorktown Heights NY, 10598. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF THE FORMATION OF: HALITE GROUP, LLC.** ART OF ORG. filed with SSNY on 12/30/16. Office lo-

cation: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process: **156 Great Oak Lane, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: any lawful acts. Provides management consulting services.**

**NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF BEVERAGE MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC**, a foreign limited liability company ("LLC") Cert. of Authority filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/14/16. 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: **David B. Petshaft, P.C. 222 Bloomingdale Rd, Ste 116, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: RAY BLUE MUSIC, LLC.** Articles of organization filed with NY Sec. of State (SSNY) on 11/29/16. Office in Westchester County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **107 Armstrong Avenue, Peekskill, NY 10566, which is also the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**LEGAL NOTICE G ELITE SPORTS AND FITNESS, LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/22/16, with an existence date of 01/01/2017. Office: Putnam County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, **39 Hilltop Dr., Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRUIT & PEPPER, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/30/2017. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **109 Robins Rd., New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING SERVICE WESTCHESTER, PLLC.** Arts of org filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/26/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **110 Washington Ave., Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: To provide Mental Health Counseling.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).** NAME: **DGOLDCONSULTING, LLC** Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY)

continued on next page



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# North Castle Adopts New Hotel Occupancy Tax

By Erin Maher

The North Castle Town Board unanimously adopted the new hotel occupancy tax last week that is expected to add a fresh revenue stream to the town's coffers.

Legislation enabling the town to levy the tax was signed into law on Dec. 31 by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, hours before the deadline. The state legislature approved the measure for North Castle and 13 other municipalities throughout the lower Hudson Valley. It will permit those communities to tax hotel guests up to 3 percent of the bill.

Without the legislation, the tax is only permitted in cities in New York State and needed special legislation before it could be levied in towns and villages

While North Castle currently only has one hotel, La Quinta Inn on Business Park Drive in Armonk, the board decided to leverage the definition of hotel and expand its taxing power. In addition to

La Quinta Inn, town officials said they will also be taxing major corporations in North Castle that rent out conference space, such as the IBM Learning Center in Armonk.

Town Supervisor Michael Schiliro said he anticipates the town to gain an additional \$80,000 to \$120,000 a year for the lodging tax and an additional \$10,000 to \$20,000 annually from conference space rental.

It is expected town officials will use the extra money for capital improvement projects, particularly road paving, he said.

The tax will go into effect 10 days after adoption, and be effective immediately when filed.

Other Westchester communities that were also given permission by the state to levy the tax are Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford, Greenburgh, Hastings-on-Hudson, Irvington, Mamaroneck, Port Chester, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown and Tuckahoe.

## Showing Character



MELISSA JACOBOWITZ PHOTOS

West Patent Elementary School's annual Valentine's Day carnation sale fundraiser was held last week, which is part of the school's character education program. The event includes purchasing carnations and sending well wishes to Northern Westchester Hospital patients. This year West Patent families purchased more than 150 carnations for patients, which were delivered on Feb. 14 by Brownie Troop 1443, which also has girls from Mount Kisco Elementary School.



## SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

# EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds . . . . . 022117

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on 01/04/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **The LLC, 24 Larissa Lane; Thornwood, New York 10594, principal business location of the LLC. Purpose: any lawful business activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NO-ZELGOV, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on Jan. 06, 2017. 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: **Yves Jerome 60 Morrow**

**Ave. 5KS Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF YOU-CREATE, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 2/13/17. 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: **25 Caruso Pl., Armonk, NY 10504. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

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## Frost Valley Camp to Serve Children With Hearing Loss

Frost Valley YMCA in upstate Claryville is pleased to announce a partnership with Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech.

This exciting development will allow Frost Valley, a renowned summer camp in the Catskills of New York, to better serve campers with hearing loss and will ensure that every child will have the equipment and support necessary to enjoy a traditional camp experience alongside their peers with typical hearing.

For 150 years, Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech has taught children who are deaf or hard of hearing to listen and talk. Children served by Clarke use hearing technology (including cochlear implants or hearing aids) to maximize their access to sound. With individualized support from Clarke's hearing professionals, many are ready to attend their neighborhood mainstream schools by kindergarten.

Frost Valley's prestigious legacy as a premier outdoor camping center since 1885 makes this partnership a very exciting prospect for families seeking a mainstream camping experience for their child who is deaf or hard of hearing. And



with over 30 years' experience running summer camps for students with hearing loss, Clarke is well-positioned to help establish a supportive setting at Frost Valley and train the people who will be working with the children, providing continued support to staff and ensuring that the children are having a great camp experience.

"One of the best parts of Frost Valley YMCA's summer camps is campers getting to enjoy being a kid," said Dan Weir, director of camping services. "We value creating a camp community that is inclusive of all. Our new partnership with Clarke will help us serve children with hearing loss who communicate using listening and spoken language."

"Frost Valley's values of diversity,  
*continued on next page*

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# How Best to Prepare Your Child - and Yourself - for Camp

For parents, the most heart-racing, adrenalin-pumping moments happen when you let go and watch your child try something on his or her own.

The moment the training wheels come off, the first trip down the driveway on the skateboard, the time our children ride the school bus are more than just memories, these are critical moments that define growth and change.

For many families, the first time they send their child to camp is one of the biggest let-go, hold-your-breath-and-watch-them-soar moments in childhood.

## Frost Valley Camp to Serve Children With Hearing Loss

*continued from previous page*

inclusiveness and respect are what we strive for when mainstreaming a student with hearing loss," said Claire Troiano, director of mainstream services at Clarke. "So our expertise with hearing loss, coupled with Frost Valley's values, offers kids with hearing loss the opportunity to have a blast at one of the top summer camp programs in the country."

The partnership will take place for Session 3 of summer camp (July 30 to Aug. 11), during which a teacher of the deaf from Clarke will be present on site for the entirety of the session.

In today's world of high-tech kids and families who have a constant connection to each other, it's essential to take the time to emotionally prepare for camp. It is, of course, important to prepare the first-time camper, but families need to make sure that Mom, Dad, younger siblings at home - virtually everyone - is ready to adjust to camp life.

- **Parents.** It is important to focus on the positive aspects of camp. Remember that separation is natural, necessary and inevitable. What better place to have that first experience than in a caring and nurturing environment designed specifically for children? Parents can also focus on the amazing benefits of camp - an experiential education like no other teaching valuable 21st century survival skills like leadership, teamwork, problem-solving and interpersonal communication. "The greatest gifts that parents can give their child are independence and resiliency," said Peg Smith, former chief executive officer of the American Camp Association (ACA). "Parents should remember that by choosing camp they are giving both."

- **Siblings.** Bob Ditter, a family therapist and one of the nation's leading experts on camp, cautions it is likely that the

child left at home will experience separation anxiety and truly miss his or her sibling. To help them prepare, be sure to talk about the upcoming separation. Before the eldest child leaves for camp, take a picture of your children together that the sibling can keep in their room or carry around. Remind your children about the communication they can have with each other through letters and postcards.

- **Other family members.** Be sure that everyone is aware of the upcoming experience. Let family members know how to contact a camper if they are interested through letters and care packages. Make sure they are aware of any communication policies the camp may have, i.e. no phone calls or restrictions on what can be sent in a care package.

In addition, an increasing number of camps are using websites to display photos or video. According to ACA's 2011 Emerging Issues Survey, 75 percent of responding camps indicate that they post photos or videos to a website for families to view, and 45 percent indicate that they

post information, photos and videos to social media outlets like Facebook. Families should be sure to ask camp directors about these options.

Camp is an equal opportunity life-changer. By sending a child to camp, families are truly giving a gift that lasts a lifetime. By taking steps to mentally prepare for camp, families not only keep from getting "kid sick" for their camper, but they can stay positive about the camp experience, which goes a long way toward helping first-time campers adjust to life at camp.

And just like taking off the training wheels, the moment families see their camper radiating confidence and joy they will feel that burst of pride and gratitude that they allowed their child this experience.

For more information about preparing for the summer camp experience, or to find a camp, parents can visit [www.ACACamps.org](http://www.ACACamps.org). This online resource for families includes expert advice, information on health and safety and ACA's searchable database of over 2,400 ACA-Accredited® camps.

*This article was reprinted by permission of the American Camp Association.*



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# Happenings

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**Forgotten Dreams.** Werner Herzog's gorgeously shot documentary looks at the oldest human paintings in the world, located in the Chauvet Cave in the south of France. With interviews from internationally renowned scientists and historians, Herzog gives us an unprecedented look into a 32,000-year-old space that is off limits to the general public. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**"Light and the Life."** Internationally acclaimed photographer Joe McNally, whose career has spanned more than 30 years and assignments in over 60 countries, will talk about his life as a professional photographer. He will discuss his fascinating range of work that is inspirational and is certain to generate many technical questions. McNally has been an ongoing contributor to the National Geographic, shooting numerous cover stories and highly complex, technical features, a contract photographer for Sports Illustrated and the last staff photographer in the history of LIFE. Adults only (18 and older). Presented by the Westchester Photographic Society. Westchester Community College's Technology Building Auditorium, Room 107 (across from Parking Lot 11), 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 8 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.wpsphoto.org](http://www.wpsphoto.org).

## Saturday, Feb. 25

**Pleasantville Farmers Market.** The Pleasantville Farmers Market is the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester and the one voted "Best of Westchester" in 2014 to 2016 by the readers of Westchester Magazine. With over 40 vendors participating in the indoor market, the delicious good time continues. Pleasantville Middle School, 40 Romer Ave., Pleasantville. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday through Mar. 25. Info: Visit [www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org](http://www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org).

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

**Meditation Workshop.** Michael Cardillo will help you reach peace and a clear vision in meeting your life's goals. An AA member, he will share his knowledge and meditation techniques. Open to all. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m.

to noon. Free. Every Saturday. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Winter Wolves.** Winter offers families a unique opportunity to visit the wolves during their favorite time of year. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why this season is such a magical time for packs in North America. Guests will visit ambassador Wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Hot beverages will be served. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Also Feb. 26. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://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](http://www.addie-tude.com).

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

**Saddle Up Saturdays With Jonathan Demme: "The Ox-Bow Incident."** This series returns to try and recapture the heady thrill of settling into the theater for the delicious ritual of getting immersed in a full-tilt Saturday Western matinee. Demme will appear at select screenings. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. Noon. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. Most Saturdays through March 25. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Snowshoeing Around the Preserve.** Bring your snowshoes and join the invigorating hike around the preserve. Cranberry Lake Preserve, Old Orchard Street, North White Plains. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

**"Bubble Trouble."** Jeff Boyer takes bubbles to the max in this one-man bubble extravaganza. It's the craziest, most creative bubble show around. He juggles bubbles, sculpts and builds with bubbles, makes fog-filled bubbles and more. Mixing comedy, music and a unique level of audience participation, he engages and delights audiences of all ages. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 2 p.m. \$18 to \$22. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit [www.wppac.com](http://www.wppac.com).

**Winter Wolves for Kids.** Children will

learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves; they're out searching for prey as their growing pups experience their first winter season. Guests will visit ambassador Wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Hot beverages will be served. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 2 p.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Winter Howl for Adults Only.** Enjoy visiting the wolves during their favorite hour – dusk. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolves in North America while enjoying a spread of wine and cheese. Guests will take a short sunset hike to howl with ambassador Wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican wolves, too. For adults 21 years old and up. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 5 p.m. \$20. Also Mar. 4 at 5:30 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://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. Info: Visit [www.emanuelelc.org](http://www.emanuelelc.org).

**Saturday Night Jazz at Chappaqua Station: Bill O'Connell with the Latin All Stars Quartet.** With a hat tipped to New York's musical renaissance, Chappaqua Station welcomes local and international musicians to the historic train station. Think intimate lounge setting, warm bourbon glow, farm fresh cuisine and an inclusive spirit of Westchester's vibrant culture. Chappaqua Station, 1 Station Plaza, Chappaqua. First seating 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for \$10 per person. Second seating 9 to 10:30 p.m. for \$5 per person. First come, first served at bar with no cover charge. Tickets available through Eventbrite. Info: 914-861-8001 or visit [www.chappaquastation.com](http://www.chappaquastation.com).

**Blue Oyster Cult in Concert.** This band rose from the 1970s ashes to become one of the nation's all-time greatest hard rock bands and continues to tour hard and loud, kicking out jams at every opportunity. From humble beginnings right across Long Island Sound, Blue Oyster Cult produced hits including "Burnin' For You", "Godzilla" and the ghostly guitar and cowbell of "(Don't Fear) The Reaper". Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. 8 p.m. \$30, \$40.03 and \$57.19. Info and tickets: 914-739-0039 or visit [www.paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://www.paramounthudsonvalley.com).

**"Orpheus in Hamburg: Telemann's Private World."** The next Ars Antiqua

concert features mezzo soprano and early-music specialist Jacqueline Horner-Kwiaterek in a program of Telemann's most imaginative and effervescent music. She will be joined by baroque violinist Jorg-Michael Schwarz, oboist Geoffrey Burgess, Mark Kramer playing the viola da gamba, harpsichordist Michael Sponseller and Nina Stern who will be performing on the Chalumeau and recorder. A buffet reception of German apple strudel and chocolate confections after the concert. Church of St. Mary the Virgin, 191 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Concert at 8 p.m. \$35 (tickets available at door). Info: Contact Mark Kramer at 914-238-8015, visit [www.ars-antiqua.org](http://www.ars-antiqua.org). or e-mail [mark@susanlawrence.com](mailto:mark@susanlawrence.com).

## Sunday, Feb. 26

**Project FeederWatch.** Whether you're a beginning birder or a budding ornithologist, we've got you covered in this new program for nature and bird lovers. Join a naturalist for morning bird watching, gather data for Project FeederWatch and brush up on local bird identification. For children seven years old and up. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Sunday and Monday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**Historic Mansion "Gossip Tour."** Learn about the family who lived at this grand house through newspaper clippings of their day. Merestead Estate, 455 Byram Lake Rd., Mount Kisco. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Reservations required. Info and reservations: 914-447-7497.

**Pleasantville Chamber Music Society's Concert.** Featuring three acclaimed performers, including Jesse Mills, violin, and Rieko Aizawa, piano, appeared in Pleasantville with the Howszowski Trio in 2014 in a memorable concert. The third performer, Todd Palmer, clarinet, has been nominated for three Grammy Awards and has appeared with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and elsewhere. Presbyterian Church, 400 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.pvillechambermusic.org](http://www.pvillechambermusic.org).

**An Evening With Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby.** Country and bluegrass legend Ricky Skaggs and renowned pianist and songwriter Bruce Hornsby, fellow friends and Grammy Award winners, collaborate with Skaggs' razor-sharp band Kentucky Thunder on brand new tunes and traditional bluegrass classics. Without any restrictions, their music is as fascinating and masterful as the two stars that created it. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 7 p.m. \$48, \$68, \$88 and \$98. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

# Making Difficult Choices is a Lot Easier These Days



By Nick Antonaccio

The wine industry has evolved, and its production of quality wines at lower price points has significantly improved, more in the past decade than perhaps in the previous century.

The introduction of new technology and new techniques has raised the overall quality, quantity and diversity of wines available to consumers. The profile of many of today's wines is dramatically different from the mass-produced, mass-marketed wines of yesteryear. There been a sea change in winemakers' approaches to making wine, utilizing recent developments to enhance the quality of their wines.

The phenomenon of high quality wines at value prices once again came home to me for a recent event. Over the 20-plus years I have been conducting wine tastings, I have honed my skill at selecting crowd pleasers, yet for each event I labor considerably over matching wines with guests.

One of the events I support is a networking gathering near Grand Central Terminal organized by Chapin Hill Advisors ([www.chapinhill.com](http://www.chapinhill.com)).

Kathy Boyle, the energetic founder and president, for years has been bringing together professionals from numerous industries to meet and greet.

Several few weeks ago, I assisted her at one such event. My role was to select, purchase and present 15 wines to the 100 professional guests that had signed up, as well as offer my comments on each wine. The challenge for me was to select wines that would satisfy the divergent tastes and preferences of a large group.

On the (very) snowy day of the event, midway on my train ride, I received a frantic call from Kathy.

"I'm here at the wine shop to pick up the eight cases of wine. The store is closed because of the snow!" she frantically exclaimed. "What should we do?"

I thought for a second and anxiously responded: "We'll resort to Plan B."

"Plan B?" Kathy shot back, with tinges of relief and anxiety in her voice. "And what is Plan B?"

Here was my moment of truth. All of my planning and selection was on the line.

"I'll call you right back," was all I could muster, trying to sound comforting and in control.

Plan B? There was no Plan B. There was never a need for a Plan B. Pick up the wines and bring them to the event; a simple task that requires no Plan B.

Except it did.

Trying to stay calm and clear-headed, I called Kathy right back. "Trust me. I'll find alternative wines near the venue and will get them to the event in plenty of time." "Whew," she exclaimed, confident from the reassuring tone of my voice.

Now what do I do? In two hours, 100 guests would be arriving to sample wines that were locked in a storeroom in Westchester.

When situations arise that require acute problem-solving skills and innovative solutions, what is the increasingly logical course of action? Google it.

So I did. "Wine shops in Grand Central area," I frantically typed. I found three shops. I chose the closest.

Racing to the store, I ran up and down the aisles seeking out familiar regions and producers. The selection was sparse and the producers unfamiliar. The wine shop staff was of no help; their manager had stepped out.

Furtively checking my watch (90 minutes to showtime), I drew upon my accumulated years of wine knowledge. I scanned the shelves for regions with excellent reputations that embraced modern technology and techniques. I

then checked the back labels for the name of the importer/distributor, confident that selections from reputable companies would be of high quality and value.

About 15 minutes later, my 15 selections were complete, and I was ready to transport the eight cases of wine, none of which I had tasted before.

Mission accomplished. Plan B implemented and successfully executed. And all with five minutes to spare before guests were scheduled to arrive.

And the wines? A big hit, every one of them eliciting favorable comments.

More anecdotal proof that the wine industry has evolved, and significantly improved, more in the past decade than perhaps in the previous century. Now we just need to work on Mother Nature's whims.

*Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident.*

*For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick, a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers, also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.*

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# No Denyin' Ryan



ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

**Greeley Sophomore Ryan Renzulli Scores a Goal Late in the First Period vs. Somers/North Salem as the Quakers Win 7-4 at Brewster Ice Arena to Close Out the Regular Season Last Tuesday**



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