

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls School Rebuked Following Latest Incident

By Neal Rentz

In the aftermath of the Jan. 22 incident in which a resident of the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls High School walked into a neighboring home and attempted to steal some items, Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi and state Sen. Terrence Murphy are demanding action from the state and Fulgenzi said there should be a consideration of changing the management agency of the school.

There have been a series of incidents involving some Hawthorne Cedar Knolls students over the past several years that have raised the concerns of both neighboring residents and elected officials.

Mount Pleasant Police Lt. Robert Miliambro said that at about 2:49 p.m. last Monday a home owner reported to police that a female Hawthorne Cedar Knolls resident "entered through an open garage door" in their Marietta Avenue home. The female youth, whom he would not name because of her potential youthful offender

status, asked the homeowner to use the telephone but he refused, Miliambro said.

Miliambro said the youth allegedly tried to steal two granola bars, some Goldfish crackers and a utility knife. The youth was charged with burglary in the second degree, a felony, he said.

At the Jan. 23 Town Board meeting, Fulgenzi sharply criticized the management of the facility, the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. "We have been given false information, empty promises and we will no longer accept the rhetoric," Fulgenzi said.

Fulgenzi said the Jewish Board has frozen the intake of new students at the school and the state Offices of Children and Family Services and Mental Health have representatives on the campus and were scheduled to be there throughout the week.

Fulgenzi said action needed to be taken at the campus. "I want a lockdown on the campus where no one leaves unless

in a vehicle with a specific approved destination," he said. "This is to protect those on campus and our residents."

"I do not want this to be a secure facility in the sense that it will be used as a place where more violent individuals will be placed," Fulgenzi said.

Fulgenzi said he has requested an independent investigation of the facility, saying he questioned its safety. He also said the town is discussing having an outside agency run Hawthorne Cedar Knolls and the Pleasantville Cottage School.

"The governor has been notified of the situation and the dangers our community has been dealing with for too long. We expect a response from him on the future of these facilities and putting the safety of our community first," Fulgenzi said.

Murphy also expressed his criticisms last week.

"Enough is enough. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results,"



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi at the Jan. 23 Town Board meeting.

Murphy stated in a press release. "CEO David Rivel has failed to adequately provide the proper safety of the Mount Pleasant community and for the children themselves."

"It is time for New York State to act

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P'ville Market Owner Sparks Hubbub Over Proposed Plastic Bag Ban

By Anna Young

A public hearing on Pleasantville's proposed legislation to ban single-use plastic bags suddenly became contentious Monday night when the Key Food Marketplace owner threatened to short-circuit a planned expansion if the law was approved.

Throughout the nearly three-hour hearing on Jan. 22, speakers in the standing-room-only crowd at Village Hall expressed their support for the initiative and encouraged the use of reusable bags explaining how it would better serve the environment.

But the mood turned when Key Food owner Richard Grobman criticized aspects of the proposed law. Grobman agreed the ordinance would provide a

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ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Key Food Marketplace owner Richard Grobman announced he might pull the plug on a planned expansion of his store if Pleasantville enacted a ban on single-use plastic bags.

Concern Over Route 22, Tax Base Aired at North Castle Comp Plan Hearing

By Martin Wilbur

North Castle residents addressed a potpourri of topics during the opening session of the public hearing on the town's Comprehensive Plan update last Wednesday at Town Hall.

For more than two hours, officials, residents, the town's planning consultant and members of the Steering Committee that helped shape the proposed changes into the current draft document discussed a wide range of issues from improving the Route 22 corridor in North White Plains to allowing a broader range of uses in the town's business campuses.

The proposed updated plan is not meant to be a large-scale overhaul of the current Comprehensive Plan that was last updated in 1996, but to address specific needs, said



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Planning Consultant Frank Fish speaks during the opening of North Castle's public hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Plan update.

Director of Planning Adam Kaufman.

The plan's six key goals are enhancing

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P'ville Market Owner Sparks Hubbub Over Proposed Plastic Bag Ban

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clean environment, but stressed the law would hurt his business on Pleasantville Road.

The new legislation, recommended by the volunteer organization PleasantvilleRecycles, would call for certain stores, such as groceries, food markets, pharmacies and convenience stores to charge customers a five-cent fee for each paper bag used to carry out merchandise. The carry-out bag cost will increase to 10 cents after one year.

Grobman said he is in favor of controlling the use of paper and plastic, but the village would have his support if the ordinance was a county-wide law that would "level the playing field." He suggested the village-centric law would entice customers to shop elsewhere if they have a choice to avoid restrictions or fees.

"They can go to other stores where they don't have to pay a nickel for paper, they can get plastic bags. That will hurt my business. I am telling you it will hurt my business," Grobman said.

"I have to compete with other stores. I know the business, if this were a positive for me why wouldn't I support it? I believe I know the supermarket business better than anyone in this room."

He added that PleasantvilleRecycles didn't try to meet with him before presenting their ideas to the board.

Grobman said Key Food is the most important business in the village and greater efforts should have been made to reach out to him.

Members of the organization said early in the hearing that they met with every business within the village while conducting their research.

Grobman added how he's in the process of remodeling his store and would "seriously consider" pulling back if the law passes.

"My intention again is to put millions of dollars into the store, and I don't mean this to be a threat, but it's a reality of business," he said. "It will hurt our business and it's difficult to make the decisions."

Trustee Joseph Stargiotti encouraged Grobman to rethink his comment, explaining how the village intends on redeveloping the space located next to his establishment with residential units.

He said Pleasantville is forward-thinking and wants a store that shares their values, before suggesting Grobman is missing an opportunity to benefit from the proposed law.

Grobman said if that was true the village wouldn't have to enact a law banning plastic bags, and bottled water wouldn't be one of his top sellers.

He then said he would support a law that placed a fee on both paper and plastic bags because it would provide customers

with a choice while allowing his business to profit.

Trustee Nicole Asquith remarked that residents won't have a problem with the proposed law, but instead voiced displeasure with the store's cleanliness, sanitation and produce department. Several residents also took aim at Grobman and his store during the hearing.

"People don't want the plastic," Trustee Colleen Griffin-Wagner said. "I think there's an environmental piece, there's an aesthetic piece that the community is talking about, and I don't know if you're hearing that, and while it's five cents, if your concern is that people are going to go elsewhere put something in your store that makes them not. It's not just going to be about bags."

Stargiotti said municipalities throughout the county are passing laws restricting the use of plastic bags. Mount Pleasant will eventually propose a similar law if the village passes the ordinance.

Former village trustee Mindy Berard agreed the ordinance would pose a threat to local businesses, stating that the law is "heavy-handed." She questioned trustees on the data they used to determine the positive effects the law would have on the village. She was then told to find another forum to express her concerns and questions.

"The important takeaway we're really looking at is informing our future, and what that means is we're here to provide a greater world and a life for our children and future generations," said Edwin Kuo, co-chair of PleasantvilleRecycles.

Steve Wolk, chairman of New Castle's Sustainability Advisory Board, said that DeCicco & Sons in Millwood saves 12,000 plastic bags a week. New Castle's law went into effect last year.

He said DeCicco moved in after New Castle adopted its plastic bag ban and the store embraced what shoppers wanted. He said the busy parking lot is the only challenge for customers.

John Grant, a member of the Croton Climate Initiative, said his organization is working on a similar law for the Village of Croton-on-Hudson.

Steven Kavee, Chairman of Mount Pleasant's Conservation Advisory Council, commended the village for pursuing the ban because it's a critical step forward for sustainable causes.

"When the Village of Pleasantville passes a law like this and neighboring municipalities pass these laws, it becomes a tipping point that everybody starts to understand," Kavee said. "These are possibilities and the entire county can turn and can become a county-wide system by which this ridiculous use of plastic bags is a thing of the past."



Life-Saving News For Women

What you need to know about cervical cancer screenings...

Ask the doctor

Navid Mootabar, MD

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

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Q: What causes cervical cancer?

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

Q: What are the symptoms of cervical cancer?

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

Q: How often should I have a Pap smear?

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

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

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

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

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Concern Over Route 22, Tax Base Aired at North Castle Comp Plan Hearing

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the vitality of North Castle's three business hamlets; maintaining and improving the office and industrial tax base; maintaining the high level of services in town; respecting and preserving the environment; enhancing property values; and keeping North Castle an attractive residential community.

"It's very much in keeping with the residential community you are and

maintaining, strengthening the existing hamlet centers," said Frank Fish of BFJ Planning, a consultant who is assisting the town in updating the plan. "Also, maintaining your offices and industrial spaces."

Attorney Mark Miller of the Armonk law firm Veneziano & Associates, who represents the owner of the former MBIA campus, asked the board to broaden the

possibilities for its underutilized business parks – his client's 38-acre property at 113 King St. and Business Park Drive, which also has some vacancies.

Miller said he supports the plan's suggestions to potentially include some residential, limited retail, entertainment and education organizations at the campuses but also suggested including a hotel and medical offices.

"We support these statements and recommendations but we think that the plan should include additional opportunity for our client's property," Miller said. "Based upon recent discussions, we would like the ability to introduce other uses to the site and make it a more energetic mixed-use environment."

Supervisor Michael Schiliro mentioned that the town should also explore additional uses in downtown storefronts, not just traditional retail. Uses related to fine arts or education are just a couple of possibilities, he said.

"As most retail space has been very difficult to rent, we need to think of other opportunities in that vein," Schiliro said.

A few speakers raised issues related to North White Plains, including traffic and density.

North White Plains resident Betty Sanchirico said the town's failure to crack down on illegal apartments is causing problems overnight, one source of concern among residents.

"I think if that was dealt with I think the parking would fall in place," Sanchirico said.

Furthermore, the town should address the lack of recreation facilities and other amenities in the hamlet, she said.

"I think North White Plains needs a little bit of attention with regard to recreation before adding to parks in Armonk," Sanchirico added.

Another North White Plains resident, Ed Lobermann, said he was against dense multifamily development such as three-story apartment structure because the hamlet is already overcrowded.

"That's so out of touch with what we in North White Plains want," Lobermann said. "It just befuddles me."

He also urged the Town Board to press County Executive George Latimer's administration to make the repairs and maintain Miller House/Washington's Headquarters on Virginia Road. There had been some discussion about the town assuming control of the historic site once the county completes repairs, which could expose the town to unexpected expenses. Lobermann also said the county should move the house to a better site.

Armonk resident Linda Fernberg said to many people in town preserving and keeping the Miller House at its current location, which served as George Washington's headquarters during the Battle of White Plains, is crucial. It is the only Revolutionary War site in the county at its original location.

On another topic, Fernberg urged officials to guard against oversized houses on smaller lots. Larger houses next to more modest-sized homes has been a problem that's gradually increasing problem on some streets in town, she said.

During his portion of the presentation, Fish mentioned that the state DOT is willing to entertain a study of Route 22, if the town advocated for that.

"It's not one of the prettiest picture of their state roads, and they know it," Fish said.

One possibility he mentioned, which was largely dismissed, was narrowing the road to one lane in each direction instead of having two lanes. The road is already overloaded during peak traffic hours.

Of the well over 100 recommended actions, Route 22 is near the top of that list, Fish said. Other high priority recommendations include addressing water issues in town, particularly in Water District No. 4, replacement of the School Street culvert to alleviate flooding and the dredging of Wampus Pond and brook.

The Town Board adjourned the public hearing until Feb. 14. Schiliro said the town will keep the hearing open as long as is needed, although officials don't want to drag out the process unnecessarily.

The draft Comprehensive Plan can be viewed online at www.northcastleny.com.

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls School Rebuked Following Latest Incident

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and make sure no one is put in harms away again due to their consistent mismanagement," Murphy stated. "The Jewish Board of Family and Children Services must be held accountable for the latest episode stemming from the campus of Hawthorne Cedar Knolls."

"Life for the families neighboring this facility should have never reached the stage where inadequate security, vandalism and violence have become the norm," Murphy stated. "Suspending the intake of new children and installing a fence did not quell the number of incidents at the facility. The new security measures have yielded the same old results."

Jewish Board responds

A spokesperson from the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services' public

relations agency, who declined to be identified, responded in an email on behalf of the Jewish Board on Friday.

"The safety of our residents and the community is our highest priority and we are in continuous contact with local law enforcement and elected officials as we seek solutions to keep both our community and our residents safe," the spokesperson said. "As a start, we have closed intake at the facility while we review admission criteria and safety protocols. We are in the process of hiring an independent security firm to audit our existing systems. We will launch a dedicated hotline for the community to reach us with any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with the community in the days and weeks to come," the email said.

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No. Castle Doesn't Plan to Consider Latest Fareri Affordable Unit Pitch

By Martin Wilbur

The North Castle Town Board appeared disinterested last week in entertaining a request from Armonk developer Michael Fareri to relocate affordable units from his condominium project at the old lumberyard on Bedford Road.

Fareri made another plea to the board at the Jan. 24 meeting, asking that he be allowed to move three of the six units to his 16-unit project at 470 Main St. while he keeps three units at the lumberyard site. The three affordable residences for 470 Main St. would be to satisfy a future developer's affordable housing requirements.

To make his latest proposal more attractive to town officials, Fareri said he would donate \$500,000 to the town's recreation fund in addition to the \$131,000 he is required to pay.

"Every job I've done in this town has been to the best of my ability," Fareri told the board while accompanied by a group of town residents who supported the change. "It's the best it can be. I can't put my arms around the lumberyard (project) the way that it is, even though it looks as beautiful as it is. The reason is it's not the best it can be. It's not the best it can be. There's potential future problems that can be avoided with your help and with your cooperation."

Fareri walked out of the meeting room

after he was done speaking, not waiting to hear whether the board would be receptive to his plan.

He has maintained that mixing affordable units with market-rate condominiums would cause problems because there would be a large discrepancy in common charges between the two types of units. When work would need to be done on the property, it would be unfair to the market-rate condo owners to shoulder a large share of the expense.

Following comments from Fareri and the residents, board members said there was nothing for them to consider because there was no application before them. The town approved a 36-unit structure at the old lumberyard site with 30 market-rate condos and the six affordable units under the same roof.

Fareri continues to hold a building permit, said Supervisor Michael Schiliro.

"This is a proposal in his mind," he said. "This is just a public comment period. We've gone through this on this property for probably over 10 years. I've been on the board a little over 10 years. We've been through different iterations and all the decisions have been made."

Town Attorney Roland Baroni said if Fareri wants a change in his plans he would have to submit a formal application for a zoning text change and go through the public hearing process – provided the

Town Board wants to entertain another change.

Fareri has pointed to other developers in town being allowed to relocate affordable units or units that were regulated under North Castle's Middle Income Unit program as an example.

Schiliro said there has only been one instance of a developer in the county being allowed to relocate affordable units offsite. For that to happen, there has to be a practical reason. The Middle Income Units had a different threshold.

Also, the zoning for the lumberyard property was written to require 20 percent of the units be affordable because Fareri received permission to have a project with greater density than what would be allowed on a little more than an acre, Baroni said. Under the ordinance approved by the town in 2014, projects of at least eight residences require only that 10 percent of the units be affordable.

However, it was Fareri who agreed to the 20 percent threshold at the time, town officials said. The town had recently passed the affordable housing ordinance and had reduced the requirement that was 35 percent under the Middle Income program.

Even if the board would consider Fareri's proposal there would be obstacles. After the building permit was issued, Westchester County counted the



Developer Michael Fareri

six affordable units at the lumberyard toward its 750 units needed to satisfy the affordable housing settlement requirement with the federal government, Baroni said.

"How now do we transfer them? How now do we change the zoning code in light of them being counted already by the county or something else?" Baroni said. "It's really an impossible situation."

Fareri also continues to appeal his Article 78 against the town where he accused the town of being arbitrary and capricious in rejecting his previous request. His litigation was thrown out by a state Supreme Court justice last year.



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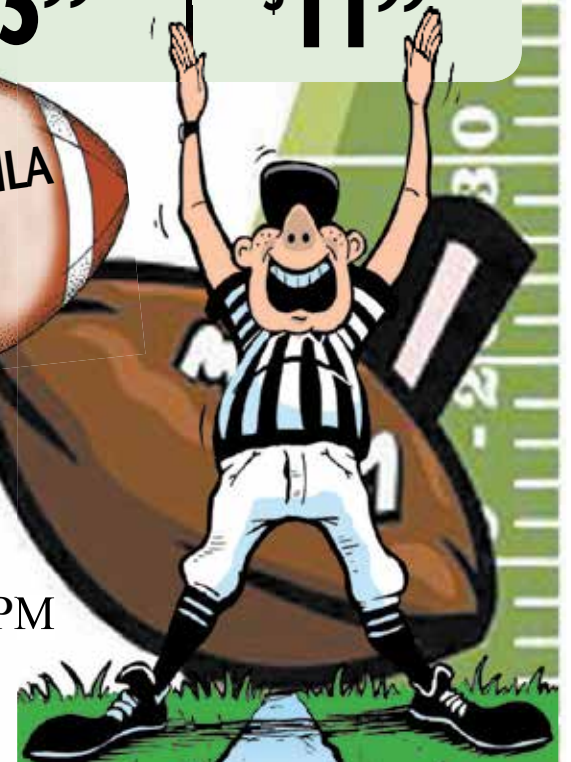
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An Open Letter to the Hawthorne Community

The recent incident involving a youth resident from the Hawthorne Campus who left the facility unaccompanied by staff has caused serious concern in our community. We recognize this, and have offered our sincere apologies to the affected individuals.

The safety of our residents and the community is our highest priority. We are reviewing this incident thoroughly with our program staff and are in continuous contact with local law enforcement and elected officials.

The incident revealed a gap in our Hawthorne Campus security protocols, which we have since corrected. As a result of this incident, we are closing intake to this facility. We will also be hiring an independent security firm to conduct an audit of our safety protocols.

Our senior management, including myself, is speaking with any local resident who would like to express concerns or has questions regarding what happened. I also plan to attend a community meeting on January 31st and to participate in other public forums.

In addition to these measures, we encourage concerned residents to reach out to our Manager of Westchester Community and Volunteer Relation, Karen Greenbarg, and our Director of Campus Security, Keith Forte. Karen and Keith are both available to answer questions about our programs and security protocols. Karen can be reached at KGreenbarg@jbfcs.org and Keith at KForte@jbfcs.org.

On behalf of the staff of The Jewish Board, thank you for your understanding at this time.

David Rivel
CEO
Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services
DRivel@jbfcs.org

Comprehensive Plan Update Discussed in Mount Kisco

By Neal Rentz

Mount Kisco residents are requested to participate in the process of updating the village's Comprehensive Plan for the first time since 2000.

Frank Fish, a consultant hired by the village, told the Board of Trustees on Jan. 22, he anticipated the Comprehensive Plan Committee would provide its recommendations this fall and the plan could be adopted by trustees at the end of the year.

Fish noted the Comprehensive Plan Committee recently conducted its

first meeting and the first two public workshops have been scheduled. The committee is seeking maximum public participation at the workshops.

The first workshop on the overall plan will be held Thursday, March 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Mount Kisco Public Library. The second workshop has been slated for Saturday, March 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The second meeting will be a charrette, which is an intensive planning session, on downtown design, Fish said. He also indicated one more public workshop

would be scheduled by the committee.

Some of the issues that will be addressed in the revised Comprehensive Plan are land use, zoning, population, and traffic, as well as a separate chapter on the downtown, Fish said. The Comprehensive Plan Committee is seeking to have the village board hold its public hearing late this year.

Committee members are seeking to protect the environment, while also looking to encourage economic development and increase the tax base, Fish said. "There needs to be a balance



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Frank Fish, a consultant employed by the Village of Mount Kisco to assist in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan, addressed the Board of Trustees on Jan. 22.

Mount Kisco Arts Council Expanding Programs for 2018

By Neal Rentz

Encouraged by the success of programs during its first year, the Mount Kisco Arts Council is set to expand offerings in 2018.

"I think we've been pretty successful over the last 18 months," Arts Council Chairman Lisa Abzun said last week.

At its Jan. 22 meeting, the Village Board of Trustees voted unanimously to allow the Council to schedule a summer concert series at Village Hall by the outdoor fountain. Arts Council Secretary Beth Vetare-Civitello said last week a concert held last year was so successful that residents have requested additional concerts. The Council will hold the

outdoor concerts once a month on a Thursday during June, July, August and September, she said.

The Board of Trustees also unanimously agreed to the Council's request to hold its second annual Arts Festival on Saturday, June 9 from 4 to 9 p.m. behind Village Hall. This year's event will be called the Music and Arts Festival, Vetare-Civitello said.

Mayor Gina Picinich also said the board will agree to the request from the Council to provide some funding in the coming fiscal year.

"This really is growing," Trustee Jean Farber, who works with the Council, said.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Mount Kisco Arts Council Chairman Lisa Abzun, left, and Secretary Beth Vetare-Civitello addressed the Village Board of Trustees on Jan. 22.

between the two."

Mayor Gina Picinich said she wanted public input at the workshops. "The plan for our future will not be effective unless you're here and you're engaged in this process," she said.

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Manhattan Man Sentenced to 18 Years to Life for Role in Burglary Ring

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino announced Thursday that a New York City man who had burglarized nearly a dozen homes throughout the county, including two in New Castle, was sentenced to 18 years to life.

Angelo Carzoglio, 52, was sentenced by County Court Judge Larry Schwartz for his role in a ring that stole jewelry and money during a four-month burglary spree in 2014.

Carzoglio was convicted by Schwartz

on 11 counts of second-degree burglary and four other counts, including two additional felonies, on Nov. 13 after a month-long non-jury trial.

The evidence presented at trial showed that Carzoglio was part of a ring responsible for 11 home burglaries throughout Westchester County from June 19, 2014, until he was arrested by Harrison police on Oct. 21, 2014. Burglaries that he participated in were on June 19 in Tarrytown; June 24 and Aug. 7 in New Castle; July 1 and 23 in Bedford; July 21 and Sept. 25 in Irvington; Aug. 14

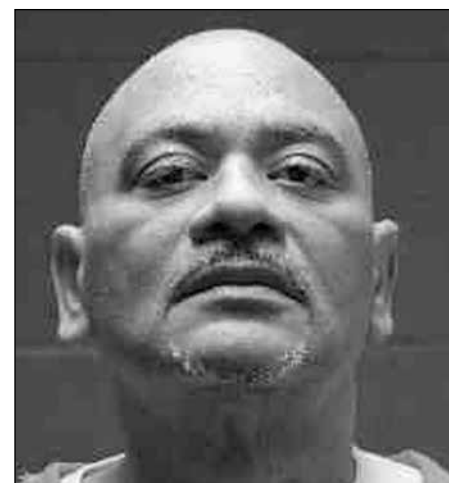
in Rye Brook; Aug. 20 in Harrison and the Town of Mamaroneck; and a Sept. 22 burglary in Harrison.

Authorities said Carzoglio relied on various tools and devices to commit the crimes, including a Garmin Nuvi 65 GPS device, which allowed him to easily navigate through unfamiliar suburban neighborhoods while assessing homes to burglarize. The GPS also helped him quickly flee the scenes and onto the nearest highway after committing each burglary.

While the GPS device was helping Carzoglio, it tracked and recorded his movements leaving a trail of digital footprints. It also proved he was at each of the burglaries.

On Oct. 21, 2014, Carzoglio was arrested when he drove his Mercedes Benz into the Town of Harrison after committing another burglary in Fairfield, Conn. Inside the trunk of his car, police discovered a safe and pillowcase containing jewelry worth thousands of dollars that he and one of his co-conspirators had stolen from the master bedroom of the Connecticut home. Also recovered were various tools, including a pry bar and bolt cutters, and Carzoglio's handheld police radio scanners.

A search of his lower Manhattan apartment turned up a gold cigarette lighter, one of many items stolen in the Aug. 14, 2014, Rye Brook burglary.



Angelo Carzoglio, who was sentenced last week for participating in 11 Westchester burglaries in 2014.

Although most of the other stolen property was never found, a small number of identified items were located and recovered from the homes and offices of Carzoglio's partners and co-conspirators, including the jeweler who bought and sold stolen jewelry out of an office in the midtown Manhattan Diamond District.

Scarpino said outstanding police work from all of the local police departments where the burglaries occurred, in cooperation with the district attorney's office and the Westchester County Intelligence Center, resulted in bringing Carzoglio and his accomplices to justice.

Bedford Central School District Budget Bounces Back

By Erin Maher

Two years after being given the designation of "Moderate" for fiscal stress by the state comptroller's office, Bedford Central School District (BCSD) as of this week has no designation following the 2016-2017 school year.

"From last year to this year, Bedford Central School District has gone from being the third most fiscally stressed school district in the state of New York with a designation of 'Moderate' and a score of 45 - 64.9, to having no designation, with a score of zero to 24.9," announced BCSD Board of Education President Brian Sheerin at Wednesday night's BOE meeting.

Two years ago, BCSD was in the midst of mounting financial problems. The district had an \$8.8 million budget deficit and the state had given it a score of 60%.

To combat its continuing financial troubles, the district was forced to reduce staff by 52 positions and take out

an additional \$3.9 million in addition to the \$2.6 million taken out of the reserves in order to cover faculty health insurance and special education costs.

"This was the result of the collective work of Chris [Dr. Chris Manno, BCSD Superintendent] and his team and the Board of Education," said Sheerin.

Hired in July of 2016, Dr. Chris Manno has steered much of the fiscal change in the district. His efforts included the reduction of one special education coordinator, four full-time aides and clerical staff. He also was able to increase the number of librarians from 1.5 to 2.5, who were split across the district's five primary schools.

"We're pleased that we're going to be entering our second budget cycle of continued service growth and enhancements," said Dr. Manno.

The Superintendent's Budget for the 2018-2019 school year will be unveiled at the Feb. 28 BOE meeting at 7 p.m. at Fox Lane Middle School.

Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

Jan. 24: A car dealership on Kisco Avenue reported a possible fraud attempt to Westchester County Police at 4:55 p.m. An employee told officers that a man seeking to finance and purchase a car provided a Connecticut driver's license but then left the dealership suddenly when he learned a credit check was being conducted. An investigation is continuing.

Jan. 25: Westchester County Police responded to the Brookside Village complex after a resident reported at 11:38 a.m. seeing several men walking on Park Drive and communicating with

walkie-talkies. Officers determined the men were Con Ed employees who were searching for a reported odor of gas in the general area.

Jan. 25: An officer temporarily closed a section of sidewalk on West Main Street at 9:53 a.m. after observing a low-hanging power line that posed a danger to passersby. Con Edison responded to make the needed repair.

Jan. 26: Officials at the Mount Kisco post office requested at 10:09 a.m. that a narcotics detection canine examine a package that potentially contained illegal narcotics. Police, including a canine, responded but the dog did not indicate the presence of any narcotic material.

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Obituaries

Brian Halloran

Brian Halloran of Pleasantville died on Jan. 23. He was 19.

He leaves behind his parents Jolina (Bruno) and Brian Halloran, his brothers

Brendan and Jack and dog Bella.

Halloran was a freshman on scholarship at the University of South Carolina - Darla Moore School of Business, making the dean's list in his first semester.

A member of the National Honor Society at Pleasantville High School, Brian

was always open to helping teachers and other kids.

In addition to his immediate family, he leaves a large and loving family. On the Bruno side, he's survived by his grandparents, Rebecca and John Bruno' Aunt Sheryl and Uncle Rolf; cousin Jessica Ritter; Uncle John; and cousins Ryan and Cole Bruno. On the Halloran side, he's survived by Uncle Kevin and Aunts Christine, Ellen, Rose and Sally; his cousins Deirdre and Kelsey Halloran; the Larkin Family of great-uncle and great-

aunt Pete and Dottie; cousins Chris, Joanne (Amorese) and Donna (O'Brien); great-uncle and great-aunt Wayne and Fran Halloran; and cousins Robert, Michael, Keith, Justin and Ava.

Visitation was at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville on Jan. 28. Funeral services were held on Jan. 29 at Holy Innocents Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Break the Hold - BTH Fund.

GoFundMe Fundraiser in Memory of Brian Halloran

A GoFundMe fundraiser has been started following the suicide of a Pleasantville teen.

Brian Halloran, a 19-year-old freshman at the University of South Carolina, apparently took his own life last Tuesday while at college. Despite the tragedy, the Halloran family created a Break the Hold Fund to help bring awareness to mental illness.

"This page is to provide that financial support and to honor Brian, beloved by the Pleasantville community as kind, loyal, and a giant hugger whose smile and great sense of humor could light up a room," the GoFundMe page read. "As the community helps them to recover their costs on this page, the Hollaran's know that Brian would want them to help bring mental illness into the sunlight of awareness, prevention, management and, hopefully, cures."

With a \$25,000 goal, the fundraiser that



Brian Halloran

was created on Jan. 26, has already raised over \$19,000.

"Brian was always open to helping teachers and other kids," the fundraiser said. "He enjoyed music, animals and joking with the 'Usual Suspects' and 'Skid Row.' Friends reminisce about Brian's big heart, respectful ways, sparking eyes, big hugs and silly pranks."

To help launch the fund, the Halloran family requested contributions in lieu of flowers with checks payable to: PHS Youth to Youth Club (on memo line write "c/o BTH Fund").

The checks can be mailed to PHS Youth to Youth Club located at 60 Romer Ave in Pleasantville.

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/brian-halloran-and-bth.

Bice Carosi

Bice Carosi, a loving wife, devoted mother and proud grandmother, peacefully passed away on Jan. 23.

She was 87.

Carosi, the daughter of the late Paola Teresa and Secondo Carosi, was born on Apr. 27, 1930, in Tussio, Abruzzo, Italy. She immigrated to the United States in 1947 at the age of 17 when she married the love of her life, Jack Carosi. She was a loving caretaker to her family and many friends around her.

Carosi leaves behind her children, Arthur Carosi (Dayle), Patricia Vitelli (Frank) and Laura Carosi; grandchildren Nicholas Pinto, Paula Vitelli and Michael Carosi; and nephews, nieces, cousins and

many friends. She was predeceased by her husband of nearly 70 years, Jack Carosi, a World War II veteran, and son Dominick Carosi, a Vietnam veteran.

She was a longstanding and active member of Immaculate Conception Church, participating in choir and the Holy Name Society. She was also a member of the Kensico Italian American Society.

Visitation was on Jan. 25 at Hawthorne Funeral Home. The funeral Mass was held at Immaculate Conception Church in the Bronx on Jan. 26, followed by burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, St. Jude's or the charity of your choice.

Cosimo Accumanno

Cosimo Accumanno, formerly of the Bronx, New Windsor, N.Y. and Port Charlotte, Fla., died on Jan. 24.

He was 89.

Accumanno was born on Oct. 28, 1928, to the late Peter and Joseppina (nee Ennazzo) Accumanno in Corleone, Italy. He was a master craftsman and retired bricklayer and a member of Local 5 Bricklayers Union in Poughkeepsie. He was dedicated to his family.

Accumanno was predeceased by his devoted wife, Jenny Accumanno, two sisters and three brothers. He is survived by his loving sons, Peter (Vicki) Accumanno,

of Somers, John (Anna) Accumanno of Norwalk, Conn. and formerly of Valhalla, Joseph (Kathy) Accumanno of Bedminster, N.J. and Mario (Loretta) Accumanno of Dover, Del.; his 11 cherished grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Jan. 25. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Rosary Church in Hawthorne on Jan. 26, followed by entombment at Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx.

In lieu of flowers, donations to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, Md. 21741 would be appreciated.

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West Patent Elementary School Family Fun Night

By Anna Young

Parents and students packed the Mary Lou Meese Theater at Fox Lane High School Friday night for the West Patent Elementary School Family Fun Night.

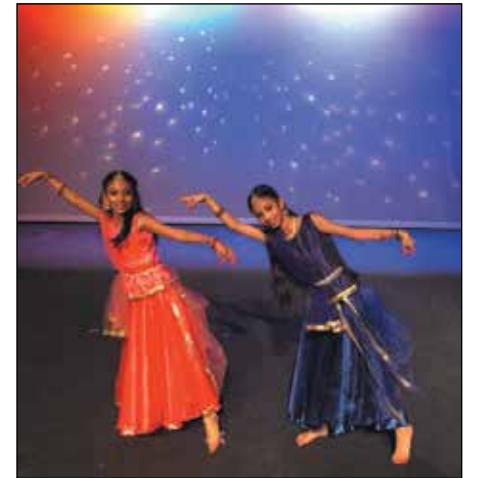
The annual talent show, sponsored by the West Patent Elementary School Association (WPESA), gives students in grades K-5 the opportunity to perform on stage and show off their talents while friends and family cheered them on. Concessions from the event raised money for extra programs for the school's fifth-grade class.

The night began with a surprise performance of "Funga Alafia" by the

West Patent Dance Team, a group of about a dozen of the school's teachers. From there, performances to an array of songs by the Bee Gees to recent pop hits to tunes from animated films like "Moana," and "Coco," lit up the stage.

During the two-hour production, over 85 children took turns showing off their singing chops, comedic skills, gymnastic training and dance moves, while others performed with a hula-hoop and demonstrated their Tae Kwon Do talents.

"It's so good to see these kids get on that stage and perform," said Jason Green, master of ceremonies for the event along with co-host Amy Rubinstein. "It's not



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Amoolya Menon and Meghana Uday, two students who called themselves Team Tarana who danced to "Bollywood" performed during last Friday's West Patent Elementary School's Family Fun Night.

easy getting up there with no fear and performing in front of over 100 people."

Cara Provost, a parent and second-grade teacher at West Patent who performed with the dance team, commended the young performers for working hard and performing spectacularly throughout the night.

"It's a great tradition for the school," Provost said. "It's a really special night and it's a lot of fun."

Keeping with tradition, all fifth-graders were invited on stage at the end of the night to dance one last time as West Patent Elementary School students.

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Letter to the Editor

When Is a Public Hearing Not a Public Hearing?

Dear Village of Pleasantville Residents:

Open Meetings Laws empower Local Governments with several tools that provide an opportunity for the public to address their concerns to their local elected officials. One of those tools is a Public Hearing, which NYS requires prior to the adoption of local laws and ordinances. A public hearing is an official proceeding during which the public is accorded the right to be heard, to observe and to participate in its own governance and most importantly confirm the local government's accountability and confidence in the decisional process. This was not the case when the Village of Pleasantville held a public hearing on a proposed local law to prohibit the sale of single use plastic bags and mandate designated local businesses charge a fee at point of sale.

As a former Village Trustee who served three terms on the Village of Pleasantville's Board, and with over 23 years of volunteer service on various committees in the Village, including one that brought the farmers market to the village, I could not have been more disheartened at how the Village Board conducted this public hearing last Monday night. I assumed that Village Board members did their sworn duty by becoming versed in the proposed

law, studied the impacts on our local businesses (not those in San Francisco as cited by one Trustee), and gained clarity on how this local law would be enforced and adjudicated.

Clearly, this was not the case during Monday night's Public Hearing. Most of the questions I asked were met with responses such as, "This is not the place to ask questions" or "You can't keep asking questions." If a public hearing on a proposed local law is not the forum to ask questions, when is it the right time? Additionally why wasn't this edict applied fairly to all those that asked questions?

Elected officials, who call for a public hearing on a proposed local law, are expected to arrive prepared to answer the public's questions and have vetted the proposed local law. This would include visiting affected businesses and inquiring: "How will this impact your business?" or "What will this law cost your business in dollars or customers?" As a resident of the village, shouldn't we expect board members to have a firm understanding of their actions and repercussions of their decisions?

In my opinion, this is not the first time this particular Village Board displayed a lack of accountability and failed to implement the proper process. When Sunrise assisted living presented

their formal application to the Village Board, the Village Board opined and then held a Work Session. The Village Board asked for public comment after stating their positions. Not surprisingly, the public's comments seemed to fall on deaf ears.

It seems to me that the tail is wagging the dog and this is dangerous to our continued economic resiliency and prosperity. Our village didn't always have a vibrant downtown; it developed over time with careful planning, careful consideration, vocal and diverse input and a lot of sweat equity from many dedicated and concerned village residents.

The village risks its growth and prosperity if the Board continues to act unilaterally, effectively ignoring public input if it is not aligned with their agenda. If the Pleasantville Trustees fail to consider the impacts of their actions and fail to fairly implement the correct process and procedures, such as those required by Open Meeting Laws, it will erode public confidence and all but guarantees less than optimal decision-making.

Mindy Berard, Former Village Trustee

Climate Action Summit Scheduled for Feb. 3

By Neal Rentz

David Gelber, creator and executive producer of "The Years of Living Dangerously," the Emmy award winning series on Climate Change, and David Yarnold, president and CEO of the National Audubon Society, are the keynote speakers at this year's annual Bedford 2020 Climate Action Summit.

The eighth annual program is scheduled for Feb. 3, from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fox Lane High School, 632 S. Bedford Rd., in Bedford. The doors will open at 8 a.m. and the snow date

is Feb. 4.

According to Bedford 2020, 500 attendees are expected to attend including climate activists, elected officials from 314 municipalities; experts and innovators; and concerned citizens from Westchester, the Hudson Valley and Long Island who want to fight Climate Change.

The program is being hosted by Bedford 2020 with co-hosts the New York League of Conservation Voters and the Bedford Central School District.

According to Bedford 2020 each session will focus on a project to reduce greenhouse emissions. Some of the session topics are: How do we get to 100 percent renewable energy? Electric vehicles, reducing food waste to cool our planet, the carbon tax and communicating about Climate Change.

Bedford 2020 is a non-profit group, which says it has "a mission to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and preserve natural resources not only in Bedford, but throughout Westchester County and beyond."

Bedford 2020 Executive Director Midge Iorio said last week the purpose of the Summit is, "to hear what the issues are" and which tools are needed to fight Climate Change.

Iorio said the ultimate goal is to have "100 percent renewable energy" in the region.

Iorio said the program will conclude with two, invitation only sessions, with one for elected officials and the other for environmental leaders to discuss action steps post Summit.

The sponsors for the event are Con Edison, Curtis Instruments, Healthy Home Energy and Consulting, NYSERDA, Betsy Davis - JM Kaplan Foundation, Rowan Energy Integration, Wizard Studios, and Ladle of Love.

Attendees can choose to attend up to four sessions and the Expo. A sustainably sourced lunch is included in the ticket price of \$30. To register for the Summit or receive more information about this year's event, visit <http://bedford2020.org/climatesummit2018> or call Bedford 2020 at 914-620-2411.

Correction

In last week's article on the appointment of Fredrick Morrissey as Pleasantville's new village administrator, the headline incorrectly identified him as a former Pace faculty member. As director of Government and Community Relations, he was an administrator.

Last week's article on the Hawthorne apartment building plan on Saw Mill River incorrectly identified the neighboring car dealership. It should have stated it is an Audi dealership. The Examiner regrets the errors.

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Business of the Week

Will Power, Thornwood

By Colette Connolly

If you've been postponing that subscription to the gym, you're not alone. Of the many New Year's resolutions that people make around this time of year, such as promising themselves to exercise more, to go on a diet or to simply live a healthier lifestyle, many fail to materialize.

That's where David Schwartz of Will Power can help. The Pleasantville native who recently opened a personalized, one-on-one training facility in Thornwood doesn't promise exotic techniques or "miracle fixes" to get his clients into shape. What he does promise is to work with clients to develop a personalized training approach based on each client's individual needs and goals.

The 1,500-square-foot training facility is especially suited to individuals who are looking to make a change in their lives and reach their goals without being judged by external factors, explained Schwartz.

"My main focus is to make my clients stronger, feel better about themselves and just get them to where they want to be," he said.

Schwartz, who is not only a certified personal trainer but also a nutrition consultant, corrective exercise specialist and is on his way to getting a Ph.D. in physical

therapy, recognizes that the fitness industry has changed in recent years.

Many gyms, he said, are geared toward providing their clients with a quick fix and often unrealistic expectations. He takes a different approach.

At Will Power, Schwartz focuses on offering his clients strength training and overall fitness strategies, what he describes as an "old-school healthy fitness approach." His oldest client is 73 and his youngest is a 15-year-old high school athlete, and he actively works with both women and men. The greatest commonality is his clients want "to make a lifestyle change."

Prior to starting Will Power, Schwartz worked as a personal trainer at a local gym for the past decade. He admits to always having a love of bodybuilding and exercise in general, and currently competes in powerlifting and bodybuilding competitions around the tristate area.

Schwartz said Will Power is not like your typical gym with all of its distractions. Instead, it offers a quiet, personalized, free-of-distraction environment where clients can get his full attention.

"There is no typical — that's the beauty of the place," said Schwartz, meaning that not "every session is the same for everyone," he



COLETTE CONNOLLY PHOTO

David Schwartz of Will Power training one of his regular clients.

added. Schwartz listens to what his clients are looking to accomplish, customizes their sessions for them and then uses his experience and knowledge to specialize.

A typical one-hour session includes a warm-up on the treadmill or prowler sled, which Schwartz said is an excellent, all-around piece of equipment that can be used to develop strength, improve conditioning, increase muscle hypertrophy and enhance fat loss.

His gym houses other pieces of high-grade equipment, including a glute ham developer, a reverse hyper extension machine, squat racks, a deadlift platform, dumbbells and other equipment ideal for working the entire body.

Every routine is geared specifically to a person's strength and capability, he added. While cardio is an important part of any workout, Schwartz said the resistance that

is experienced with weight lifting is far superior.

Schwartz also promotes healthy eating and a good night's sleep as part of an overall healthy lifestyle.

You'll find two other personal trainers at Will Power. They include Alex Falcon and Carly Sobecki, who also hold personal training certifications. Sobecki is also an RN.

Prospective clients can avail of a one-hour free consultation from Schwartz, including a fitness assessment.

Schwartz does not offer membership packages. However, rates are based on the number of sessions that clients avail of per week, beginning at \$90 for a one-hour, once-a-week session, \$85 for one-hour sessions if training twice a week, \$80 for one-hour sessions if training three times per week, in addition to half-hour sessions at different prices. The majority of his clients go to his gym at least twice or three times a week, he said.

Thrilled to finally have his own training facility, Schwartz said, "I knew that opening a business while pursuing my degree in physical therapy would be a challenge. However, I don't regret it in the least and truly enjoy every bit of the process."

Will Power is located at 637 Commerce Street. It is open Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. To find out more, visit <https://www.will-power.net/> or call Schwartz at 914-495-3441 to schedule a complimentary training session.

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Sarah Browne
Singer-songwriter, Pleasantville

By Anna Young

For aspiring singer-songwriter Sarah Browne, dream became reality when she released her debut album last year.

When the 24-year-old Pleasantville High School alum released her first album, "To You," in December featuring 12-tracks showcasing her vocal range, musicality and poetic lyrics, she said she found the most positive outlet to impact others and pursue a career that truly makes her happy.

At an early age the folk singer always felt drawn to music and eventually taught herself how to play the guitar and piano listening to her favorite songs on YouTube. When she was 16, she began jotting lyrics down, but her love of songwriting didn't blossom until her sophomore year at Ithaca College.

While Browne enjoyed singing, her lack of formal training stopped her from pursuing a musical education. Despite majoring in Spanish, she began hearing melodies in her head and felt compelled to see them through. After she wrote her first song, "My Sisters Keeper," Browne said she knew she needed to continue writing.

"It was the most fulfilling thing I had ever

done to finish writing a song and it was a rush and I wanted to keep doing it," Browne said. "I felt songwriting was my thing and it really made sense to me and helped me make sense of my emotions."

"It's hard to finish a song, but that song specifically was a very emotional song that really dealt with a lot of emotions I wasn't sure how to verbalize."

When friends and family praised her work, Browne built the confidence to perform during open mic nights while studying abroad in Spain. She said the language barrier eased her nerves and helped her feel more relaxed performing in front of a crowd.

After graduating in 2015, she moved back to Pleasantville and began playing shows either solo or with her band at venues throughout New York City and Westchester, including The Delancey, Leftfield on Ludlow, 12 Grapes, the Pleasantville Farmers Market, the Ossining Village Fair and many others.

Last April, she enlisted the help of producer Joe DiGiorgi at Headline Studios in Mamaroneck and began recording her album.



PHOTO BY ZAC WOLF

"It was really fun," Browne said.

With her album officially released, Browne recently left her job as youth coordinator at Saint Ann's Catholic Church in Ossining to devote herself to her music. While she will continue to babysit and substitute at the Pleasantville School District part-time, she said she wanted a flexible schedule that would allow her the opportunity to gain more exposure.

"Now is the most committed I've ever felt and I just want to take the next year and really go for it," she said. "So, this year I think is going to be a big year and I'm going to see how it goes."

Browne also wants to use her platform to spread awareness about Friedreich's Ataxia, a rare genetic disease her cousin Matthew Rupel died from last summer. She credits her cousin for being supportive and encouraging her to pursue her passion.

Through music, she said she hopes to one day find a cure.

Over the next year, Browne has gigs scheduled throughout the county and is excited to distribute her album, gain more exposure and share her music. She also hopes that her music will inspire others to pursue their own passions and dreams.

"Losing my cousin really reinforced that life is short and you just don't know how much time you get," she said. "I know a lot of people are in this business, but if you're drawn towards something you're meant to be drawn to it and that's your purpose so why would you ignore that? So, I'm trying to go for it now."

Browne will be featured on 107.1 The Peak on Wednesday during the 9:37 local segment. For a list of upcoming show dates or to sample her album, visit www.sarahbrownemusic.com/home.

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Introducing Pleasantville Tennis Club's New Director

By Anna Young

Braid Maisey is thrilled to share his knowledge and passion for tennis as he starts his new position as Pleasantville Tennis Club's new director of tennis.

The 29-year-old New Zealand native, who joined the club in January, is excited for the opportunity to create his own brand, promote the facility and enhance the club's playing and coaching atmosphere.

"My motivation is to really improve the club, grow it, make sure all the members are happy and try to make the club as exclusive as possible where people are vying to be members and kids are just itching to get into the camps, and create a buzz at the place to make it an enjoyable place to work," Maisey said.

Maisey started playing tennis at an early age in his hometown Mount Manganui, New Zealand, where he excelled at the sport. His father, who is internationally ranked, was his first teacher. With a desire to travel and improve his talent, Maisey came to America in 2007 where coached summer camp in Vermont for four years. He was later recruited to play tennis at Earlham College in Indiana.

Maisey played varsity tennis and broke numerous school records



Braid Maisey

including all-time singles record going 71-4 overall. He was nationally ranked in his senior year.

When Maisey graduated college, he was deterred from pursuing a career in tennis after experiencing complications with his visa. He moved to Long Island and worked in the medical device

industry where he ultimately stopped playing the game due to his demanding schedule and the high-price to practice.

"My passion was tennis and over those two and half years I just didn't play because it was too expensive to play," Maisey said. "My whole life everything was tennis. It was like a void."

After getting married in 2015, Maisey left his job to pursue his passion. For the last three years he was the head pro at Chappaqua Swim and Tennis and is currently a tennis pro at Club Fit in Briarcliff.

"Once I was married and went back into tennis it was like the passion I had for that was so much bigger it almost didn't feel like a job," he said.

With the Pleasantville Tennis Club offering a wide range of programs for both juniors and adults, Maisey says he's focused on preparing the courses, meeting all the players, designing the brochures for the junior camp, setting up clinics, hosting pro-am events, improving all the junior programs and increasing membership. He also intends on hosting charity events over the summer where all the proceeds would benefit a Pleasantville cause.

While Maisey is settling into his new role, he's executing his all-in attitude into every aspect of his job. He said his drive

to succeed is ongoing and wants to prove that through his coaching and programs.

"I want to provide a service that is teaching the kids how to play tennis the right way that's also creating an environment where they're enjoying it and they want to be there and do nothing but play tennis," he said. "If I can teach someone tennis to a point where they can at least experience the same enjoyment and passion that I experienced I think that would be a pretty neat thing."

Pleasantville Tennis Club is located on 57 Willow Street in Pleasantville. For more information, call 914-837-0185 or visit www.pleasantvilletennisclub.com.

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Northern Westchester Hospital Aids Patients with Music Therapy

By Neal Rentz

Traditional therapies are complimented by music therapy at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco.

Among those making the program work at the hospital are Katonah resident Toni Russo, a holistic nurse in the hospital's integrative medicine department, Manhattan resident and music therapist Ariel Weissberger, and volunteer Dan Silk, a junior at Scarsdale High School. They discussed the program last week.

Weissberger, who has been a certified musical therapist for many years, said he was contacted by the hospital and asked to bring back music therapy to the facility. "It's our fourth year working together," Russo noted.

"Music therapy is the use of music for clinical purposes," Weissberger said. Music is used in a variety of ways in the hospital's program. "Sometimes, depending on the situation, we listen to music together. Sometimes we play music for (patients)," Weissberger said. "Sometimes they play music with us. Sometimes they sing with us."

Russo said the integrative medicine department employs two holistic nurses who work with many modalities of energy healing. Energy healing includes such treatments as reflexology or

acupuncture.

Weissberger and Russo work together in music therapy programs to help patients relax, reduce their pain and help them to be more in touch with how they are feeling emotionally and spiritually, Russo said.

Weissberger said music therapy programs can be tailored to either groups or individual treatments. One of the programs is in the transitional care unit. "These are patients who have been in the hospital for a while, for weeks or months, and they are transitioning from hospital to home," he said. "The purpose of that program is to provide them with music-based coping resources so they can cope with their anxiety and their stress." Russo said many of the patients in the transitional care unit have had replacement surgery, such as hip or knee replacements. "So it's a change of lifestyle for them," she said. "So there's a lot of anxiety. There's pain that they're dealing with and we help them to deal with that."

Russo explained why music therapy is helpful in dealing with physical pain. "Physical pain is very tied into your mental status and how you view your pain," she said. "It's sort of like a vicious cycle. You're in pain. It causes anxiety, which causes physical symptoms of tension and muscle tightness, which increases the pain, which increases the



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Music therapy has been provided at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco for the past four years. Shown above from the left: Katonah resident Toni Russo, a holistic nurse in the hospital's integrative medicine department; Manhattan resident and music therapist Ariel Weissberger, and volunteer Dan Silk, a junior at Scarsdale High School.

anxiety." Music therapy helps improve the outcome of the medication or other modes of treatment, she said.

Weissberger said music therapy assists other patients, such as those in the behavioral health unit, the hospital's psychiatric unit, to help them cope with their hospitalization. "With music it's a different way of exploring

their emotional and mental status," he said. "It's a more non-verbal process compared to the other groups that we have."

Music can bring back to patients emotions, memories, skills or their interests related to music, Weissberger said, adding through music patients can learn to relate to others in a different way or can let them express their emotions in a healthy way.

"Music definitely calms them down a lot," said hospital volunteer Dan Silk, a junior at Scarsdale High School. "I've noticed patients who I go to who just like hearing live music. It helps them just fall asleep."

Silk, who has been playing the guitar for the past eight years, said, he chose to volunteer because, "I wanted to bring my guitar skills and really make the most out of them and help people out. Silk said he researched programs online and found out about music therapy at the hospital. "It just really struck a chord with me, I was really interested," he said. "I enjoy it a lot. I feel I'm really making a difference."

Northern Westchester Hospital is seeking volunteers. For more information call Ellen, Muentener, director of volunteer services and 55 plus community connection, at 914-666-1925 or visit nwchc.net.

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Planning for Housing When Retired

A while back I was asked to speak about real estate at a meeting of the Retired Municipal Employees Association, and as I planned my remarks, I thought about the reality that I'm at an age when some people think about retiring and living differently than they do now. As for me, I intend never to retire from the enjoyable work I do unless I absolutely must because of the physical considerations of aging.

A realtor must be able to get around and I sometimes wonder whether my "trick" knee will someday get the best of me. However, for now, I'm good. Nevertheless, my living preferences have changed significantly in the past few years, just as if I were retiring.

When I was still in my 20s, my wife and I moved to a historic home that was to be our residence for many years to come, and I was eager and ready to restore and maintain it. I was known as the "young guy" on the block who always answered the door with a hammer or paint brush in hand. Eventually, however, I reached the stage of life when I would rather be doing something other than hammering and painting. I now live in a one-floor residence where all maintenance is



By Bill Primavera

provided, so I can retire here if I choose.

The housing issues facing retired and elderly people can be quite simple, such as finding living space on one level with no steps, and at the same time, they can be quite complex, such as the emotional toll that may come with leaving a home in which their children grew up.

While many older people are still in the homes in which they raised their children, married them off, and then retired as empty-nesters, these homes may have become too big to rattle around in or maintain, and the tax bill that paid primarily for the education of their children no longer has the same payback.

But they may still want to remain in those homes, no matter how impractical. Interestingly, surveys by AARP find that about 80 percent of older persons say that they want to stay in their own homes and not move, and this phenomenon has been called the preference to "age in place." It's understandable. After a long period of living in one place, our homes become an extension of who we are and how we express ourselves. Long time residence is also a connection to the community where people know their neighbors and

merchants as well as their houses of worship, libraries and community service.

But in today's sellers' market, retiring homeowners can do very well in selling their home at a price they could never have imagined when they first purchased it as young adults. The proceeds can allow a comfortable retirement, especially for those planning a move south where housing is much cheaper, as are living expenses.

Others who have paid off their mortgages and have equity can take reverse mortgages to stay put and live more comfortably through their golden years.

Those who decide to downsize still must think carefully about the percentage of income they should be paying for housing and still manage to afford other necessities of later life besides food and clothing, such as transportation and medical care. Affordability depends on their individual situations and whether they live with a spouse, alone or with relatives. Today, about 54 percent of older persons live with their spouses, 31 percent live alone, 13 percent live with relatives other than their spouse, and two percent live with non-relatives.

If the decision is to move later in life, people seem to know what they want. A recent survey done by the National Association of Realtors in concert with MetLife found that retired and older

citizens want easy, comfortable homes, with single-story floor plans or homes that offer a first-floor master bedroom. They also like home maintenance and repair as part of their next home purchase, preferable with no necessary outside duties and low maintenance inside, washers and dryers, storage space, easy-to-open windows and easy to use climate controls.

There are other quality of life considerations, such as proximity to hospitals and doctors, shopping, transportation and recreation.

Interestingly, my daughter recently informed me that she and my son-in-law have discussed the eventuality of my wife and I living with them when the time comes. I was greatly touched, even though I'm sure we would rather remain independent as long as we can and to seek at-home care should we need it. And while the sentiment expressed by my daughter is lovely, I do wish she had waited another 10 or 15 years before discussing the matter with me!

While Bill Primavera has enjoyed careers as a journalist and publicist, he is now a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate, specializing in upper Westchester and Putnam Counties. To engage the services of The Home Guru Team to market your home for sale, call (914) 522-2076.

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SEAMLESS GUTTERS LEADERS REPAIRS

Happenings

Tuesday, Jan. 30

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 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887.

Paintings of the Dutch Golden Age: A Virtual Tour. Get to know the part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art devoted to the pictures of Frans Hals, Jan Vermeer and Rembrandt von Rijn. Along the way, learn about the Dutch Republic in its 17th century heyday, including its tulip mania and the Flying Dutchman. Presented by Michael Norris. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Wednesday, Jan. 31

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

Baby Time. A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday (except Feb. 19). Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Ambassadors for Successful Aging.

Are you aware of the benefits available to you as a Westchester County senior? Information can be provided to you on housing, home care, transportation options, counseling options, memory care, nutrition, vision and dental services along with SNAP, HEAP, EPIC and STAR and other programs that can save you money and help you plan for the future. Feel free to discuss a Westchester County "ambassador." No appointment necessary. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Also Mondays at the North White Plains branch, 10 Clove Rd., North White Plains (except Feb. 19). Info: 914-273-3887 or 914-948-6359.

New Mommy and Daddy Meet-Up. Whether it's your first child or your fifth, this is a great way to get out of the house, meet new friends and enjoy time with your baby. World Cup Nursery School, 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 10:25 to 11:10 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-238-9267 ext. 20.

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 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except Feb. 19). Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Senior Benefits Information Center. Counselors offer older adults one-on-

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

Preschool Storytime. This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except Feb. 19). Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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.mountkisco.library.org.

Meditation Series: Midday Mind Break. Benefits of meditation include increasing focus and memory; increased health; reduced stress, anxiety and pain; and increased productivity and happiness. Led by Alka Kaminer. North Castle

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

Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except Feb. 21). Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.com.

Chair Yoga With Alka Kaminer. Experience greater flexibility, cardiovascular endurance and improved balance, strengthening and toning of muscles, better digestion, stress reduction, mental clarity, improved breathing, relaxation and an overall sense of well-being. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except Feb. 21). Info: 914-273-3887.

Acting Workshop. Come and explore your dramatic side. The workshop will consist of exercises geared toward building acting skills as well as working on and rehearsing scenes. The class, which meets on Wednesdays, will culminate with a performance for an invited audience on May 2. No experience needed. Must be at least 55 years old. Clinton Street Center, 1A, Clinton St., Pleasantville. 1 to 3 p.m. \$85 for 12 sessions and a performance. Info and registration: 914-769-2021.

Affordable Care Act Navigator. A trained navigator provided by the county Department of Health will be available to

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Happenings

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help people with choosing and signing up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act and the state health marketplace. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Also Thursdays from 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointment required. Info and appointment for Wednesday sessions: 914-336-6026. Info and appointment for Thursday and Saturday sessions: 914-813-5192.

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 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-864-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberal.org.

Art Series: Herman Maxy. This Romanian-born painter is yet another artist whose life was impossibly altered by his experiences fighting in World War I. A member of the November Group of painters, Maxy practices a variety of styles, including modernism, realism and constructivism. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

Author Talk. "This Could Hurt" by Jillian Medoff will be discussed. Five HR

colleagues face professional and personal challenges in this razor-sharp novel's illumination of the pivotal role of work in our lives. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Rescheduled from Jan. 17. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

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 or visit www.meetup.com/Mount-Kisco-12-step-Separation-Divorce-Support-Meetup.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Pleasantville Garden Club. Guest speaker Joyce Tomaselli, community horticulture resource educator at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Dutchess County, will discuss the topic "Growing Orchids." Pleasantville Presbyterian

Church Social Hall, 400 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Membership meeting at 9:15 a.m. Program at 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillegardenclub.org.

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

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Preschool Storytime. This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive,

Valhalla. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Poets and Writers Series. Ramya Ramana is an author, activist and former New York City Youth Poet Laureate. In 2014, she won the New York Knicks Poetry Slam. She has performed at the Apollo Theater, New York City Hall, Hammerstein Ballroom and at the inauguration of New York City Mayor Bill DeBlasio. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Davis Auditorium, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-606-6716.

Mahjongg Club. Intermediate players welcome. Participants must bring their own set. Henry V. Kensing Memorial Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberal.org.

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

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B.F.

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Happenings

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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.

Go Red for Woman: Celebrating Women. Come celebrate women's health and wellness at this event. The evening begins with a reception with hors d'oeuvres followed by three 30-minute presentations focusing on different aspects of women's health and well-being. Topics include getting better sleep, heart health and understanding the numbers of health. The James House at Phelps Hospital, 755 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. Reception at 5:30 p.m. Program at 6 p.m. Free. Registration required. Registration: 914-366-3837. Info: Visit www.gored-celebratewomen.eventbrite.com.

English for Speakers of Other Languages Classes. Provided in partnership with Southern Westchester BOCES. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 5:30 to 8:45 p.m. Free. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Mar. 29. Space limited; registration required. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

"Spettacolo." Once upon a time, villagers in a tiny hill town in Tuscany came up with a remarkable way to confront their issues: they turned their lives into a play. Monticchiello's annual tradition has attracted worldwide attention for decades, but the town's 50th anniversary performance might be its last. The story weaves episodes from Teatro Povero di Monticchiello's past with its modern-day process as the villagers turn a series of devastating blows into a new play about the end of their world. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

"Avenue Q." The Music and Dance & Theatre departments at Manhattanville College present this musical production that is part flesh, part felt and packed with heart. A laugh-out-loud musical that tells the timeless story of a recent college graduate named Princeton who moves into a shabby New York apartment on Avenue Q. There, he meets Kate (the girl next door), Rod (the Republican), Trekkie (the Internet sexpert), Lucy the Slut (need we say more?) and other colorful types who help Princeton finally discover his purpose in life. The show contains adult themes; may be inappropriate for children 12 years and under. Manhattanville College's Little Theatre, Brownson Hall, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$10. Seniors and students (with ID): \$5. Also. Feb. 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 4 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-

323-7175 or e-mail mvillethboxoffice@gmail.com.

Friday, Feb. 2

ZUMBA® With Amy. Fun cardio dance fitness workout, low-impact approach, easy learning environment. This feel-good workout is exercise in disguise. Free trial class available. Addie-Tude Dance Center, 42 Memorial Plaza, lower level, Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. \$12 drop-in fee. Every Friday. Also Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. Walk-ins welcome. Info: Call or text the instructor at 914-643-6162 or visit www.amyolin.zumba.com.

Friday Night Cinema: "The People vs. Fritz Bauer." This 2015 biopic drama follows German Attorney General Fritz Bauer as he fights desperately to right the wrongs of post-war Germany. Set in 1957, Bauer faces numerous blockades at every turn, including antisemitism and homophobia, as he tries to bring one of the most important figures from Hitler's Reich to justice. In German, Hebrew, Yiddish and English with English subtitles. 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.

Country Line Dance. Dancing followed by a complete dinner. All proceeds to go to the scholarship fund at Fox Lane High School and New York Boys' State. Moses Taylor American Legion Post 136, 1 Legion Way, Mount Kisco. 7 to 11 p.m. \$15 per person. First Friday of every month. Info: 914-241-0136.

Rock the Winter Blues Film Series: "Long Train Runnin'." A fascinating documentary about the seemingly improbable story of two trios of music fans – one from the Northeast, the other from California – who, in the middle of the Freedom Summer of 1964, drove to Mississippi in search of early blues musicians who had been out of the public spotlight for decades. Narrated by Oscar-winner Common, featuring music from, among others, Gary Clark Jr. and Lucinda Williams, and directed by Sam Pollard, watch as the naïve blues enthusiasts, oblivious to each other's presence and the civil rights-related protests and violence, follow the thinnest of leads in search of early blues legends Son House and Skip James. The second part of a two-part film series featuring music-themed documentaries. Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main St., Irvington. 7:30 p.m. \$10. Info and tickets: Visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

globalFEST ON THE Road Presents the New Golden Age of Latin Music. It is no surprise that the Mexican-American communities of California are hotbeds of musical creativity, merging styles that reflect the changing borders and shared cultural identities. Indie-mambo band Orksesta Mendoza updates the Latin

big band tradition, merging cumbia, merengue and ranchera with electronica, strings and unexpected bursts of western pop. Las Cafeteras recreate traditional Afro-Caribbean Son Jarocho music in a wildly vibrant style with traditional instruments like the jarana, requinto, guijajada (donkey jawbone) and tarima (a wooden platform). The mix Afro-Mexican beats, rhythms and rhymes deliver inspiring lyrics that document stories of a community seeking love and justice in the concrete jungle of East L.A. Purchase College's PepsoCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$32.50, \$42.50 and \$55. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.artscenter.org.

"Every Brilliant Thing." Arc Stages presents this one-woman play for their professional company, Next Stage. A story about one woman's search for everything that's brilliant about the world. Everything that's worth living for: ice cream, Kung Fu movies, burning things and laughing so hard you shoot milk out of your nose. A play about the lengths we will go to for those we love. Starring Joan Hess and directed by Ann-Ngaire Martin. Arc Stages, 147 Wheeler Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. Adults: \$36. Seniors and students: \$28. Also Feb. 3, 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-747-6206 or visit www.arcstages.org.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Bedford 2020 Climate Action Summit. Bringing together policymakers, elected officials, climate activists and funders to drive solutions forward that focuses on 100 percent renewable energy for the region. Attendees will represent more than 50 environmental entities and elected officials from throughout the Hudson Valley, Westchester and Long Island. Keynote speakers are David Gelber, creator and executive producer of "Years of Living Dangerously," the award-winning series on climate change and climate action, and David Yarnold, president and CEO of the National Audubon Society. Fox Lane High School, Route 172, Bedford. Doors open at 8 a.m. Program begins at 8:30 a.m. Free. Snow date: Feb. 4. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit www.bedford2020.org.

Pleasantville Farmers Market. The largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, and the one voted "Best of Westchester" from 2014 to 2017. With over 40 vendors participating in the indoor market, the delicious good time continues. Pleasantville Middle School cafeteria, 40 Romer Ave., Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Mar. 31. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Chappaqua Farmers Market. Locally-raised and produced food to the community creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers

in the region. First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, 210 Orchard Ridge Rd., Chappaqua. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. First Saturday of each month through April. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

Children's Art Workshop. The Mamaroneck Artists Guild is hosting a new monthly series of children's art workshops. This month, the workshop will focus on Valentine's cards and letters. Recommended for children 5 to 12 years old; younger children are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont. 9:30 a.m. \$15 donation. The first Saturday of each month through July 2018. Info: 914-834-1117 or visit www.mamaroneckartistsguild.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. Every Saturday. Info: 914-273-3887.

Winter Wonderland With Marcia the Musical Moose. This interactive show is a combination of musical sing-a-long with guitar, simple silly magic and a puppet show. For children two to five years old and their families. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Registration requested. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.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.

Open Art Studio. All supplies are provided to create your own artwork. For children four years old and up; with parent or caregiver. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. First Saturday of every month. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.org.

Origami. Join Westchester Origami Workers, a regional group of Origami, USA to share models and techniques. Open to all adults. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 3 p.m. Free. First Saturday of every month. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.org.

Matchbox Valentines. Think out of the box with this fun workshop using simple collage techniques. Children can make beautiful matchbox valentine to give as a gift. Participants are welcome to bring photographs or any personal material

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CZOU & CO., LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/18/2017. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail copy to 9 Highview Dr, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ADVANCED PROFITS, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of state of NY on 5/11/17. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to PO BOX 112, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF @CE-SARCAPJR, LLC. ARTS. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/15/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAN ON FIRE PRODUCTIONS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 20th, 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: **Joel Fendelman, 8 Fox Hill Road Pound Ridge, NY 10576. Purpose: Film Production.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRANK MARKETING GROUP LLC. ARTS. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to **109 Robins Road, New**

Rochelle, NY 10801: Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE TUMMI GROUP, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/11/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **The Tummi Group, LLC, 7 Triumph Court, Flemers, NJ 07836. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KRK-NY, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAYA-B, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GOFF U, LLC Art. of Org. filed with Sec. of State 01/04/2018. Off. loc.in Westchester CO. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to **90 Mile Square Road, Yonkers, NY 10701 PURPOSE: Any lawful business.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF APPLE HILL CONSULTING LLC ART. OF ORG. Filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/15/17. Office of Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Dwight McLeod, 60 La-belle Road, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CHET-TLE LABS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 17th, 2017. Office in Westchester Country. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **91 Grove St, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the year 2018 Tentative Assessment Roll will be filed on February 1, 2018 with the Village Clerk, 80 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, New York, where it may be seen and examined by any person at all times during business hours (8:30am-4:00pm). The Board of Trustees and the Assessor will meet for the purpose of completing such assessment roll and of hearing and de-

termining grievances in relations thereto by any person(s) conceiving himself aggrieved thereby on Tuesday February 20, 2018 between the hours of 6:00pm to 9:00pm, at the Clinton Street Senior Center, 1A Clinton Street, Pleasantville, New York. The last filing date is February 20, 2018.- **Village of Pleasantville, Pleasantville, New York 10570, Judith Weintraub Village Clerk**

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Happenings

continued from page 23

to include in their matchbox valentine. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Free. For anyone eight years old and up. Info: 914-738-2525 or visit www.pelhamartcenter.org.

“Victoria and Abdul.” Facilitated by film historian and Chappaqua librarian Philip Harwood. Part of the New Films Now series. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Birds of Chicago in Concert. Common Ground Concerts presents this acclaimed roots duo that is known for its “near perfect Americana.” JT Nero and Allison Russell has recently finished recording their sprawling rock ‘n’ roll circus of an album “Love in Wartime,” to be released next year. Having recently relocated to Nashville, they decided to throw themselves their own welcome-to-town party by recording an acoustic EP at Steve Dawson’s Henhouse Studio. Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main St., Irvington. 8 p.m. \$20, \$25 and \$30. Info and tickets: Visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

“Lost Empire.” Ars Antiqua will present this program featuring late 18th century French music for the viola da gamba, played on four antique instruments. The sparkling and effervescent music of Hesse, Telemann, Corrette and Guillemain will be followed by a buffet reception of French pastries and coffee. Church of St. Mary the Virgin, 191 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Concert at 8 p.m. \$35. Info: Visit www.ars-antiqua.org.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Blood Drive. The Greenburgh Hebrew Center of Dobbs Ferry is hosting its annual community blood drive in partnership with the Red Cross. All eligible donors 16 years old and up are welcome. Donors under the age of 18 must have parental consent. Refreshments will be provided to all donors after they complete their donation. Greenburgh Hebrew Center, 515 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments encouraged; walk-ins welcome. Appointments: E-mail blooddrive@g-h-c.org or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor keyword GHC. Info: 866-236-3276 or 914-693-4260.

Hoff-Barthelson Music School Master Class Series. Internationally renowned pianist and lecturer Michael Boriskin will perform and coach the school’s piano students. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-1169 or visit. www.hbms.org. or e-mail hb@hbms.org.

Argentine Tango Dances. Great music and dancing on a 3,500-square-foot dance floor. Enjoy a pleasant time with friends. Refreshments served. Broadway

26 Dance, 26 Broadway, Hawthorne. 3 to 6 p.m. \$12. Also the third Saturday of each month from 8 p.m. to midnight. \$16. Info: 914-725-3023 or 914-484-5101 or e-mail sampelayo@optonline.net.

Monday, Feb. 5

Master Networker Meeting. Join this high-energy interactive membership network of learning-based, service-oriented entrepreneurs and business leaders. Come be a guest any Wednesday to learn more about this world-class business training and referral program. 719 Bedford Rd., Bedford Hills (next to ShopRite). 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday. RSVP suggested. Info and RSVP: Contact Tina Campbell at 914-441-1383 or e-mail tinacampbell@masternetworks.net. or just drop in.

Here We Are Together: Story Time for Children. From newborns to school-age children, with a parent or caregiver. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Monday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberal.org.

Belly Dancing. Learn this captivating Middle Eastern dance and enrich your cultural knowledge. Whether you want to dance professionally or just have fun and get in shape, this is the place to start. Josie’s International School of Dance, 42 Memorial Plaza, Level B, Pleasantville. 7 p.m. \$20. Every Monday. Info: 914-332-8670 or visit www.josiedance.com.

Square Dancing Fun Nights. The Friendly Squares Dance Club will hold two announces sessions on consecutive Mondays. Square dancing is fun and great exercise for the body and the mind. It is an enjoyable activity for all ages and also an opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. Open to singles, couples and families. Casual attire; no experience necessary. Katonah Methodist Church Parish Hall, 44 Edgemont Rd., Katonah. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Tee Cotter at 914-433-2919.

Telephone Support Group for Women With Metastatic Breast Cancer. This Support Connection group offers the opportunity to share information and experiences with women across the country who are living with breast cancer. Share information and experiences. Confidentially discuss concerns and gain support from others who understand from the comfort of home. Open to women nationwide living with recurrent, advanced stage or metastatic breast cancer. 8 p.m. Free. Typically, the first Monday of each month. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Contact Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

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, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-741-0276 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Music & Movement. Shake, shimmy and dance. For children two to five years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberal.org.

Senior Afternoon Cinema: “Dough.” Starring Jonathan Pryce and Jerome Holder, this film is the story of an old Jewish baker who struggles to keep his business afloat until his young Muslim apprentice drops cannabis in the dough and sends sales sky high. Part of the Jacob Burns Film Center’s series showing a film one Tuesday afternoon a month. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 p.m. Members: \$8. Senior non-members: \$10. Non-members: \$13. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Friends of John Jay Homestead 2018 Scholars Lecture Series. Hugh B. Price presents his lecture entitled “This African American Life.” Price traces his descent from soldiers at Valley Forge, enslaved people, songwriters and inventors and his own dramatic story, from boyhood in segregated Washington, D.C. to positions as an editorial writer for The New York Times, head of production at WNET/Thirteen, vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation and president and CEO of the National Urban League. Followed by a book signing. John Jay Homestead State Historic Site, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. Registration and refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Lecture at 7 p.m. \$25. Members: \$20. Info: 914-232-8119, e-mail friends@johnjayhomestead.org; or visit www.johnjayhomestead.org.

Nature Book Club. Discuss fascinating books about nature. This month, the featured book is “The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt’s New World” by Andrea Wulf. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org.

Author Talk. “The Woman in the Window” by A.J. Finn will be discussed. Finn, a debut author, will discuss his highly anticipated psychological thriller that is described as a “twisting, twisted odyssey inside one woman’s mind.” Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

AARP Tax Aide. AARP Tax-Aide IRS-certified volunteers are available to assist taxpayers, especially those with low to moderate incomes and 50 years old and up. No appointment necessary. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Wednesdays through Apr. 11. Info: 914-769-0548 or visit www.aarp.org/findtaxhelp or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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

Mind Games. A fun way for seniors to help stimulate their minds and improve cognitive functioning (memory, visual recall, problem solving, focus and speed and spatial reasoning) by playing group games. Phelps Hospital’s boardroom, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Free. (Park behind the hospital and enter through the auditorium entrance. Then take the elevator to the C-Level and turn left when you exit.) Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3937.

Paint With Me. All painting supplies are provided along with step-by-step instructions from a professional artist and experienced teacher. You will be walked through the process, brushstroke by brushstroke. No experience needed, just a sense of humor and a willingness to try. Must be 55 or up or attend with someone of that age. Clinton Street Center, 1A Clinton St., Pleasantville. 3 to 5 p.m. \$25. Info and registration: 914-769-2021.

Sherlock Holmes Film Series: “Young Sherlock Holmes.” When assorted people start having inexplicable delusions leading to their deaths, a teenage Sherlock Holmes decides to investigate. The second part of this monthly series. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Breast, Ovarian and Gynecological Cancer Support Group. Northern Westchester Hospital at Chappaqua Crossing, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Meets the first Wednesday of every month. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Enjoying Football, Junk Food and Wine. A Super Sunday.



By Nick Antonaccio

We're in the middle of that time of football wasteland. No home team to root for in the post-season and no built-in reason to quaff our favorite wine or beer as we veg-out in our

favorite reclining chair.

Super Bowl LII is as much anticipated for its off-the-field festivities as it is for its on-the-field combat. The season has come down to a single game and the glory and esteem it will bestow on one team.

A few statistics as a reference point for the game:

On the field: The New England Patriots are appearing in their tenth Super Bowl (first place all-time), with five wins. The Philadelphia Eagles have been in the Super Bowl three times. It's their first appearance since 2004; they are seeking their first Super Bowl win. Overall, two proven teams vying for national glory.

Now to the off-the-field coverage: Super Bowl Sunday brings together friends and family to indulge in the biggest junk food day of the year. Once a year we indulge guilt-free in those waist-widening, artery-clogging foods we attempt to avoid fastidiously all year. And what better way

to wash down those calories and fat than with your favorite beverage. Although beer comes to mind as the beverage of choice for junk food, wine will stand up to the challenge for a number of these ubiquitous items.

On this traditional National Junk Food Day, the National Restaurant Association predicts that 48 million Americans will order takeout food. What will we be eating? 69% will be noshing on salsa, chips and dips and 63% will be inhaling chicken wings. In fact, according to the National Chicken Council, 1.25 billion chicken wings will be devoured. They calculate that is enough to put 572 wings on every seat in all 32 NFL stadiums.

When it comes to the American palate, we are gluttons for fat, salt and sugar, the Holy Trinity of obesity and early onset heart disease. And the staple of many American diets. So let's splurge this one time a year and indulge in those foods we crave all year but from which our intellect and heart try to dissuade us. Super Bowl Sunday is the perfect challenge: pairing potentially artery-clogging, blood-pressure-raising junk food with antioxidant, resveratrol-rich wine.

Here are my choices for pairing popular Super Bowl Sunday junk foods with wine. 1. Buffalo wings. The high acidity and

'indulging guilt-free'

seemingly perpetual bubbles of any sparkling wine cuts through the indulgent fat and spiciness of the wings. Suitable alternatives include Riesling and Grüner Veltliner.

2. Pigs in a Blanket. A soft, bright red wine works, as well as a medium-bodied white or perhaps a rosé, but don't go hog-wild (a tongue and cheek reference, literally, of earlier versions of miniature frankfurters) and consume too many. I suggest a fruity Tempranillo or velvety Merlot, but you can also borrow that bottle of Grüner Veltliner your wings-fanatic friend is hogging.
3. Spinach and artichoke dip, or its close cousin, the seven-layer taco dip. The fat, salt and sugar components are easily sublimated by a crisp, minerally, acidic Spanish Albarino or Verdejo.
4. The scores of fried, baked or otherwise-processed potato products. Again, it's the fat and salt combo that sets our salivary glands craving for a wine to cut through the grease and yeast. My go-to recommendation is Sauvignon Blanc for its acidity and minerality. Be it the lemon grass aromas of the New Zealand

offerings, the grapefruit, tropical flavors of the New World offerings, or the lime, green grass French offerings, there's a perfect match for these finger-licking snacks. For fans of chips and salsa or hummus, certain Sauvignon Blancs also pair very well. French fries? Sparkling wine every time, to cut through the fattiness and salt, setting up our palate for the next morsel.

I've run out of space for other pairings such as chili with Cabernet Sauvignon, popcorn with Chardonnay, Jalapeno Poppers with Riesling and brownies with Port.

Just as Super Bowl Sunday draws many once-a-year viewers to football, so too can junk food draw once-a-year indulgers to satiate their cravings.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident.

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

You Heard It Through the Grapevine

Calendar Quirk Provides an Unusual Lunar Experience This Month

It's been an interesting start to the year for the moon. Our nearest neighbor was full New Year's night, and coming up Wednesday, Jan. 31, we'll finish the first month of the year with another full moon. Maybe you've heard about this "Super Blue Blood Moon."

A supermoon, if you like that term, is a full moon that happens near perigee, the spot in its orbit when it's closest to Earth. It's about 17,000 miles – about 7 percent – closer than average. This is the third, and last, of three consecutive perigee full moons.

This time around, there will also be a total lunar eclipse. In a lunar eclipse, the moon falls into Earth's shadow. An eclipsed moon turns a gorgeous, ruddy and, if you like, bloody red. They're safe to look at. Unfortunately, here in Westchester, this eclipse won't really get going until just as the moon is setting, so we won't see much. Still, it's interesting to know it's happening.

That takes care of the "Super" and

"Blood," but what about "Blue?" The Old Farmer's Almanac has kept much of the folklore around the moon's nicknames alive. These names are usually associated with the full moon that happens each month, and I usually mention them in each column. Names like the Wolf Moon (January) and the Buck Moon (July). The delicious Worm (March) and Sturgeon Moons (August) generally come from the connections eastern Native American peoples, often the Algonquins, had to the moon and its comings and goings.

In the early 1900s, the Almanac began calling the third of four full moons in a season "blue." A possible origin is the old English word "belewe," meaning betrayed. The idea being that the extra full moon was a betrayal of the regular cycle.

The use that most of us are familiar with, as the second of two full moons in a calendar month, comes from a mistake that was published in Sky and Telescope

in the 1940s, and the name stuck. Either way, the moon won't actually turn blue. Though, because of the eclipse, it'll be a red blue moon. Life is puzzling.

But, there's more. Because of our calendar's quirk that has February, the shortest month, follow January, which is tied for the longest, the Jan. 31 full moon puts us in an interesting spot.

A lunation, or a full lunar month from one phase to when that phase returns, takes about 29 days. So, every month, whatever phase the moon was in at the start happens again at the end. There's a "blue" phase, be it a waxing crescent, a first quarter or a waning gibbous every month.

February is only 28 days, shorter than the lunar cycle, so no phases have time to repeat. If January's repeated phase happens to be a full moon – a blue moon – then February is likely to have no full



By Scott Levine

moon. We'll go from a blue moon to what I've been calling a null moon. After tomorrow, the next full moon is at the beginning of March. Can you guess what happens at the end?

By themselves, perigee, eclipsed and blue moons aren't rare, but the three together hasn't happened in about 150 years. I hope this clears up some of

what's going on, and you'll step out and take a look. Clear skies!

Scott Levine has loved astronomy since he was young and now watches and writes about the skies near his Croton-on-Hudson home. You can read Scott's Sky Watch astronomy website, with its "Space, taken easy" approach to naked-eye astronomy, at scottastronomy.wordpress.com. You can also find him at astroscott@yahoo.com or on Twitter @scottlevine13.

ExaminerSports

Greeley Comes From Behind to Beat the Foxes Again

By Andy Jacobs

Greg Karr stood at the free-throw line waiting to shoot the front end of a pivotal 1-and-1 with 26 seconds remaining Friday evening and the Horace Greeley Quakers trying to protect their precarious two-point lead over host Fox Lane.

Suddenly the noise from the overflowing Fox student section became deafening as dozens and dozens of exuberant teenage fans began stomping on the bleachers and shouting at the top of their lungs.

Undeterred, Karr calmly sank two straight foul shots, helping to clinch Greeley's 46-41 come-from-behind victory. For the red-hot Quakers, the win was their 10th in succession and bore a striking resemblance to many of the others that preceded it.

"We found ourselves in familiar territory again," said Greeley coach Felix Nicodemo after watching his team trail for the entire second half until two free throws by Jeremy Block with just 95 seconds remaining gave the Quakers the lead for good. "We missed a lot of open shots, but our defense kept us in this game."

Block finished up with a game-high 21 points, while Brandon Gecaj added 17 for the Quakers, now 13-3 this season. Fox Lane, currently 7-6 after bouncing back to beat Arlington on Saturday, was led by Preston McKenney's 18 points and Xander Alvarado's 12.

It was Block who scored six consecutive points down the stretch in the midst of an 8-0 Quaker burst that turned a 39-35 deficit into a four-point Greeley lead. With just over three minutes left, he took a pass from Chris Melis and scored inside to tie the game at 39 apiece. He made both ends of a 1-and-1 with 1:35 on the clock to break the deadlock, then after a key Fox Lane turnover drove the lane for another basket that opened up a 43-39 Quaker edge with 1:13 to go.

"The craziest atmosphere I've ever been a part of," said Block following the



For the second time this season, Jeremy Block and the Quakers got the last laugh against Fox Lane.

Quakers' latest fourth-quarter escape. "Coach had faith in us the whole way. We stepped up in the big time. It was a great game to be a part of. I think it shows a lot about our team's composure in the way we stick together the whole game."

With McKenney scoring six points in the opening quarter, the Quakers found themselves trailing 9-5 after the first eight minutes. A layup by Gecaj gave Greeley a brief lead, 18-17, with 2:42 remaining in the second period, but Fox Lane closed the half on a 7-0 run, getting a layup from McKenney, a short baseline jumper by Josh Olsen and then a 3-pointer from Alvarado.

The Foxes' six-point halftime lead grew to 31-22 after two free throws by Alvarado midway through the third quarter. Greeley, though, ended the period on a 9-1 spurt that started with a Gecaj bucket from the baseline and concluded with a put-back by Block. The Quakers went to the final period trailing by just a point, but it would take them nearly the entire quarter to finally grab the lead.

"We were struggling to get over that

hump," said Nicodemo. "We'd come close, miss some put-backs, some turnovers. And I knew once we could, from a mental standpoint, that it was gonna totally change the game a little bit. We finally did it with about a minute thirty left. From a momentum standpoint, it changed the game."

A pair of free throws by Alvarado with 5:07 on the clock gave Fox Lane a 39-35 lead. Unfortunately for the Foxes, they only scored one more basket the rest of the evening, a layup by J R Trumpbour with a minute to go. After getting outscored by Greeley 12-1 in the final minutes of their first meeting in early January, the Foxes were this time victimized by an 11-2 Quaker closing burst.

"We battled back," said Block. "Coach believed in us and we believed in ourselves. It just shows a lot about our team."

After Karr silenced the Fox faithful with his two free throws that gave Greeley a 45-41 advantage with 26 seconds remaining, Fox Lane misfired on three successive 3-point tries. Any chance for a miraculous finish disappeared with four seconds left as Olsen was unable to make the first of two foul shots. With one second to go, and Karr back on the line, the Quaker fans began serenading the exiting Fox Lane supporters.

"Oh my God," said Block about hearing his team's fans get the last word, "it's the greatest feeling in the world, honestly. Greatest feeling."

For Fox Lane head coach Mike Tomassi, the last minutes of the contest were eerily similar to what he witnessed 17 days earlier.

"Yeah, the first half, we were fine," he said. "We were executing the game plan. Second half, I think we got a little tight. Some shots didn't fall our way. They made some plays. That's high school basketball. Every day you've just got to get better, that's it. The season's not a sprint. It's definitely a marathon. We still have eight games left and we've got to get better every day. The season's definitely not over, definitely not over."



Greeley sophomore Chris Melis shoots the ball over Fox Lane's Preston McKenney before fouling out with two minutes to go in Friday's game.

Meanwhile, the Quakers' Nicodemo was able to walk out of the gymnasium of his team's biggest rival basking in the first double-digit winning streak of his young coaching career.

"I don't think high school basketball can get better than this," he said. "Friday night, crosstown rivals in a packed gym. It's what high school basketball is all about. You can't beat it."



Greeley guard Ryan Sullivan takes the ball to the basket vs. host Fox Lane.



Fox Lane point guard Xander Alvarado is pressured in the backcourt by Greeley's Noah Shar during Friday night's game.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Fox Lane center Preston McKenney is sandwiched between Greeley's Brandon Gecaj (left) and Jeremy Block in the second half of Friday night's game, won by the Quakers.



Will Crerend of Fox Lane dribbles toward midcourt as Horace Greeley's Jeremy Block defends in Friday night's 46-41 Quaker victory.



Greeley sophomore guard Jessica Harris dribbles the ball near midcourt vs. the host Foxes.



Fox Lane's Maria Violante draws the attention of all five Greeley players as she moves across the lane. She finished with 24 points and 15 rebounds in the Foxes' victory.

focus on
GIRLS' HOOP
Greeley vs.
Fox Lane



Greeley's Helen Matthews pulls down a first-half rebound.



The Quakers' Kat Genda tries to dribble past Fox Lane's Melanie Matts.



Bella Amus of Fox Lane grabs a rebound in traffic during the 53-28 win over Horace Greeley.



Lucy Crerend of Fox Lane flips up a shot in Friday's 53-28 win. She finished with 14 points.



The Quakers' Madelyn Negroni is closely guarded by Fox Lane's Lucy Crerend in the first half of Friday's game.



Greeley coach Sarah Schum watches her team battle in the third quarter against Fox Lane.



The Foxes' Natalie Pence dribbles up the floor during Friday's win over visiting Greeley.



The Foxes' Holly Ades shoots the ball in the first half of Friday afternoon's win over Greeley.



Fox Lane coach Kris Matts directs his team to a home win over the Greeley Quakers.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

Bobcats Use a Little Overtime to Defeat Ardsley

By Andy Jacobs

It certainly wasn't easy, and it took overtime to do it, but the Byram Hills boys' basketball team found a way to defeat Ardsley in last Thursday evening's league game.

Skylar Sinon and Ben Leff each scored 24 points as the Bobcats edged the visiting Panthers 61-59 in a nail-biter of a contest that featured three lead changes in the final 60 seconds of regulation. A fast-break layup by Jack Lorenzo a minute and a half into overtime gave the Bobcats a one-point lead and they never trailed again.

"I think any time when it's harder to win, it makes you stronger," said Bobcats head coach Ted Repa afterwards. "So it's part of the process. Ardsley's a good team. They were hungry, they were coming off a tough loss and, you know, league games are always tough."

Hosting a team they had already beaten by 17 points at the Westchester County Center just three weeks earlier, the Bobcats this time needed big baskets from Leff and Sinon in the last minute of the fourth quarter to overcome a late three-point deficit and force overtime. Leff wound up making five of six free-throw attempts in the extra session when Byram was outscoring the Panthers 11-9 and improving its record to 10-3 this season.

"We're still trying to figure our way with all these injuries," said Repa, whose team is currently playing without second leading scorer Willy Samsen after having to compete minus Leff in its first seven games. "We have some young kids in pivotal spots and they have to get better."

The Bobcats got early buckets from Sam Goldman and Michael Parrotta and never trailed in the opening quarter. But a 3-pointer by the Panthers' Sean Casey with a minute to go sent the teams into the second period tied at 12 apiece. Ardsley then took its first lead of the night, 16-15, on a baseline jumper from Henry Bretts.



Byram Hills' Michael Parrotta shoots the ball in the first half of the Bobcats' home win over Ardsley.

Byram Hills was trailing 20-17 late in the second quarter before closing the half on an 8-0 spurt. Back-to-back 3-pointers by Sinon and Leff gave the Bobcats a three-point edge, then Sinon added a 17-foot jumper from the right baseline just before the buzzer. When play resumed after the halftime break, Ardsley scored the first five points, tying the game on another Casey 3-point shot.

Neither team was able to build a lead larger than four points the rest of the way. Ardsley took a 34-33 lead to the fourth quarter but Byram soon used a 6-0 burst to grab a 39-35 advantage. The quick run included a turnaround pop from Leff in the lane, a 15-foot pullup jumper by Sinon and then both ends of a 1-and-1 free-throw opportunity by Leff.

But Ardsley eventually regained the lead at 44-43 when Zeke Blauner, who scored a team-high 19 points, connected on a three from the right corner as the shot clock was about to expire with 2:22 remaining. The Panthers' margin grew to 47-44 after Julian McGarvey powered his way to the basket for an old-fashioned 3-point play with 1:42 to go.

A layup by Leff on a dish from the penetrating Sinon gave Byram Hills a 48-47 lead with exactly a minute to go. Blauner's leaner off glass 20 seconds later put Ardsley back in front before Sinon followed his own miss with a short jumper from right of the lane to give the Bobcats a 50-49 edge with 22.6 seconds on the clock. McGarvey tied the game by hitting the front end of a 1-and-1 with 12.8 seconds left. That set the stage for the Bobcats, after a timeout, to set up a game-winning shot.

They had seven seconds to work with, but Sinon was surrounded near the top of the key as he started for the basket. The ball was knocked loose and time expired,



Jack Lorenzo of Byram Hills sends up a shot in the lane during the second half of the Bobcats' 61-59 overtime win vs. Ardsley.



Byram Hills guard Skylar Sinon rises for a shot over Ardsley's Vince Manzi during last Thursday's Bobcat overtime win.

sending the teams to overtime tied at 50 apiece.

"They did a good job," said Repa of the last-stand defensive effort by the Panthers. "They double teamed Skylar. We've got to have other guys making basketball plays. When opponents take away what we diagram, you have to become a basketball player. And we have some guys still standing and watching."

A layup by Vince Manzi 30 seconds into the four-minute overtime gave Ardsley its final lead of the game. But a minute later, the Bobcats' Lorenzo drove the length of the court for his tough layup that put the Bobcats back in front to stay. Two free throws by Blauner with 41.9 seconds left cut the Byram lead to 57-56.

Leff made four consecutive foul shots in the waning seconds to give the Bobcats a 61-57 margin with 10 seconds on the clock before McGarvey drove for a too little, too late layup just before the final buzzer. The free throws by Leff were huge, but it was a play by him at the defensive end midway through the overtime, collecting a charging call against the athletic Blauner on a drive through the lane, that drew the most praise from his coach.

"I think the most important play of the game was when Ben Leff took the charge on him," said Repa. "I think that was pivotal. You know, once you take that charge, when somebody drives they're thinking, 'Uh oh, am I gonna get a foul?' Doesn't feel good when somebody takes a charge on you. So that was the most important thing, I thought."

The Bobcats capped their week 24 hours later by nipping Kingston 73-69, once again at home, behind 31 points from



Ben Leff's free-throw shooting in overtime helped lift Byram Hills past Ardsley.

Leff and 27 more from Sinon. But Repa can hardly wait for the return of Samsen to provide the third offensive weapon his team desperately needs to avoid future dramatic finishes.

"Last year, we blitzed through every game and then we ended up losing (in the sectional semifinal)," he said. "So maybe this is a better path for us."



The Bobcats' Dylan Friedman shoots the ball from the left corner in the first half of Thursday's home game.

FOX FESTIVAL



The large and festive Fox Lane student cheering section watches the school's dance team perform during halftime of Friday night's boys' basketball game against archrival Horace Greeley.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

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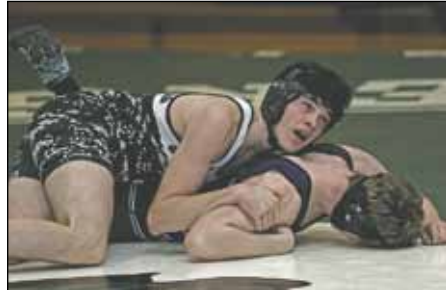
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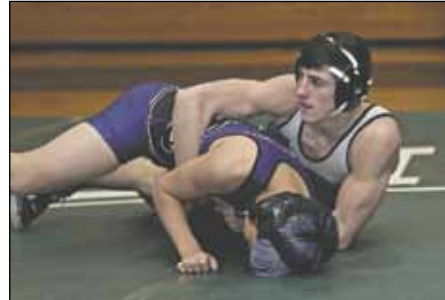
Pleasantville Wrestling



Julio Barco plans his escape as he wrestles at 113 pounds in last Thursday's home match vs. Edgemont.



Pleasantville's Andrew Stufano has the upper hand in his match at 170 pounds last Thursday afternoon.



Pleasantville's Victor Perleshi is on his way to victory at 138 pounds in last Thursday's home matchup vs. Edgemont.



Pleasantville's Jaden Kammer, wrestling at 182 pounds, checks the time situation on the scoreboard in last week's home match vs. Edgemont.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

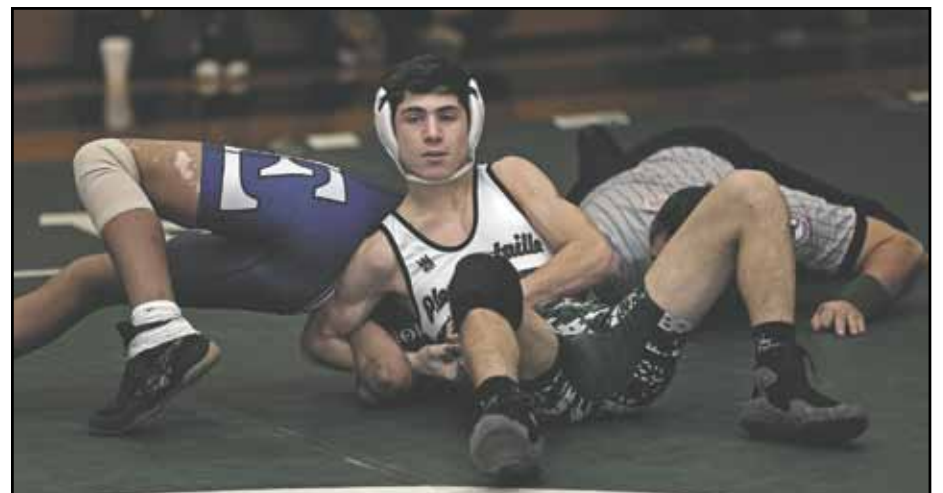


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The Panthers' Michael Balducci is in complete control as he wrestles at 120 pounds vs. visiting Edgemont.



Greeley's Tyler Kay gets tripped up as he battles for a loose puck along the boards vs. the Brookfield/Bethel/Danbury Ice Cats at Brewster Ice Arena.



Dillon Rusiecki continues to celebrate after being knocked over by his jubilant Greeley teammates when his goal tied Saturday night's game with just over three minutes remaining.



Ryan Renzulli looks to center the puck from the right wing during Saturday night's win, the Quakers' third in a row.



The Quakers' Alex Milne gets ready to send a shot on goal from the right point vs. the visiting Ice Cats from Connecticut.



Dillon Rusiecki goes airborne as he sends a shot on net in the first period of Saturday's game at Brewster Ice Arena. He scored one goal and assisted on two others.



Ryan Renzulli sends the puck past BBD goalie Stephen Fanning early in the third period to cut the Greeley deficit to 4-3. The Quakers added two more goals for a come-from-behind win.



Sophomore goalie Matt Maitland stopped 13 shots by Brookfield/Bethel/Danbury to earn his first varsity victory. His sparking glove save in the final seconds preserved the Quakers' 5-4 lead.



Dylan Mutkoski chases after the puck in Saturday night's come-from-behind 5-4 win over the Brookfield/Bethel/Danbury Ice Cats at Brewster Ice Arena. He had two goals and three assists.



Greeley's Garrett Katchis mixes it up with BBD's Patryk Fancher in front of the crease during the third period of Saturday's game.



Sophomore forward Jake Potter gets set to pass the puck in the win over the BBD Ice Cats.



Quaker co-captain Zach Lampe awaits a faceoff during Saturday's game vs. the BBD Ice Cats.



Liam Whitehouse moves the puck up the ice in the third period vs. BBD at Brewster Ice Arena

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