

Bedford Rekindles School of Choice Option for Mount Kisco Students

By Erin Maher

The Bedford Board of Education will again consider alternatives for Mount Kisco Elementary School students whose parents decided to opt them out of the Dual Language Bilingual Education (DLBE) program to attend another school in the district.

District officials are weighing whether to allow the single-language classroom students, in what are also referred to as traditional class settings, to attend one of Bedford's four other elementary schools.

Another alternative is to offer the single-language curriculum at the school if there are enough Mount Kisco Elementary students whose parents decide to opt their children out of the DLBE program.

After the board announced on Sept. 26 that they would be investigating the newly-implemented integration policies to provide traditional classroom students

at Mount Kisco Elementary a more equitable experience, the discussion continued last Wednesday evening with the board searching for a permanent solution to the challenges facing the DLBE program.

Although district officials last school year decided to try integrating the traditional students with the DLBE students, some parents said the strategies included just 30 minutes twice a week with the dual language students.

Since 2015, Mount Kisco Elementary, which has a large number of students from Spanish-speaking families, has offered parents of children in grades 1-4 who attend the school the choice of a single-language curriculum or enrolling in the DLBE program after their child finishes kindergarten.

Last Wednesday, school officials

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No. Castle Officials Leery of Mariani Gardens' Revised Housing Plan

By Martin Wilbur

Representatives for the owner of Armonk's Mariani Gardens submitted an updated residential plan for the site that sharply increases the number of smaller units but North Castle officials were hesitant to embrace the change last week.

In June, Mark Mariani, owner of the nursery and the four-acre parcel at 45 Bedford Rd., pitched a 43-unit luxury rental plan with 16 one-bedroom apartments along with six two-bedroom units, 16 three-bedroom units and five four-bedroom residences.

On Oct. 3, the applicant submitted a revised 49-unit proposal to the town that calls for 34 one-bedroom apartments, 10 units with two bedrooms and five



The owner of Mariani Gardens has made a significant change to the residential proposal for the property at 45 Bedford Rd. in Armonk.

townhouses, a three-bedroom unit and four others containing four bedrooms.

Project planner Rob Aiello said the rotation of the large "C Building,"

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Helping Others Stay Healthy



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

County Executive George Latimer signs into law Westchester's recently approved Earned Sick Leave bill outside The Village Bookstore in Pleasantville last Friday. Under the new measure, employees accrue a minimum of one hour of earned sick time for every 30 hours worked or roughly 200 hours for a full-time employee to earn one day. Officials estimated that about 36 percent of Westchester's workforce fails to accrue sick leave, particularly those who work in retail and food service or as home health care aides.

New Castle Releases Tentative 2019 Budget, Complies With Cap

By Martin Wilbur

The Town of New Castle last week released its \$41.9 million tentative budget for 2019 that easily complies with the state's tax cap but calls for a tax rate increase of 2.25 percent.

Under the proposed plan, the tax levy increase for next year stands at 2.32 percent, or nearly \$485,000, more than \$557,000 under the town's 2019 ceiling, said Comptroller Robert Deary. It is the eighth consecutive year that New Castle has complied with the cap since it was instituted by the the state.

The average taxpayer, would currently see a \$62 town tax increase for next year, according to Town Administrator Jill Shapiro's budget message.

"It anticipates and provides for

contingencies with an eye to the bottom line and holding tax increases to responsible levels without exceeding the tax cap," Shapiro wrote in her budget message. "It provides the services our residents expect and continues our efforts to dramatically restore our infrastructure to conditions our residents deserve."

The town's tax rate is based on the budget's tentative \$22.4 million general fund and Highway Department budget of \$5.36 million. It does not include the various special districts.

A carryover of about \$486,000 – the amount of money New Castle was under the cap last year – and a robust growth factor of 1.0065 gives New Castle plenty of leeway under the cap, Deary said. If the town would raise taxes by the allowable

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Bedford Rekindles School of Choice Option for Mount Kisco Students

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once again raised the possibility of an option referred to as “school of choice” that Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christopher Manno had presented last year. That alternative would have had Mount Kisco’s traditional class students transferred to West Patent Elementary School. However, the option was strongly opposed by West Patent parents.

Ultimately, the board decided on new program integration procedures at Mount Kisco to provide traditional class students an equitable school experience.

“This is not about choosing another school,” said board President Colette Dow. “It’s about choosing a program.”

Officials said if there are enough children for two 16-student traditional classes per grade, then they would remain at Mount Kisco Elementary. If there aren’t enough students opting out of the DLBE program, then traditional class students would be able to attend other elementary schools in the district.

It wasn’t mentioned which school or schools could be attended by Mount Kisco students who have opted out of the DLBE program.

Board members noted that in order to have a plan in place for 2019-20, they would need to have parents decide soon whether their children will be part of the program. A preliminary Dec. 31 deadline

was mentioned.

While no concrete decisions or options were made or presented, Dow pleaded that it was imperative this be done in a timely fashion.

“Implementation to be fair, must be made as quickly as possible,” she said.

The discussion concluded with the board requesting a priority implementation timeline from the administration if the district pursues school of choice.

Mount Kisco Elementary School parent Chris Graham, an outspoken critic of the current traditional classroom model, said he was happy the board is taking steps in hopes of rectifying the matter.

“I appreciate the board looking into

the school of choice option again,” said Graham said. “My three kids would contribute to any of the schools in the district, and ought to have that opportunity.”

In April 2016, the district reviewed the program amid complaints from parents of children in the single-language setting about being segregated from their peers and failing to receive an equal elementary school experience.

The board ultimately decided last year there would be enhanced efforts to provide additional experiences for them at Mount Kisco Elementary School.

More discussion on the issue is anticipated at the Oct. 24 meeting.

New Castle Releases Tentative 2019 Budget, Complies With Cap

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\$1,042,000, the tax rate increase would stand at close to 5 percent, he said.

“We typically have one of the highest growth factors,” Deary said. “Last year was also very high, which I think was part of the reason why we had so much carryover.”

Despite being well under the cap, total spending will jump by close to \$2.7 million. Deary said the majority of that spending increase is as a result of more than \$3.8 million in debt service the

town will pay next year, a rise of nearly \$1.6 million over 2018. Much of that is a result of the \$18 million the town borrowed this year; about \$14.1 million of borrowing is for the downtown Chappaqua infrastructure and streetscape plan and related expenses. Debt service on the \$18 million amounts to \$1,785,000 next year.

Two new positions have been included in the 2019 tentative budget – one laborer each for the Water Department and the Parks Department, Deary said.

The Parks Department laborer’s top task will be grass cutting from spring to fall on town property. That employee would be used for snow removal once it is necessary, he said.

Each of the two new laborer positions pay \$47,182 with another \$33,000 combined in benefits.

Deary said the town is initially setting aside \$700,000 for road paving and has typically added money as the year progresses, reaching upwards of \$1 million in that area.

For the next two years, the town has contracts in effect for its two unions, the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) and the Police Benevolent Association (PBA). The CSEA contract runs through 2020 while the police contract expires at the end of 2022.

A public hearing on the 2019 budget is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 27. Budget adoption will be done by Dec. 18, the last regularly scheduled Town Board meeting of the year.

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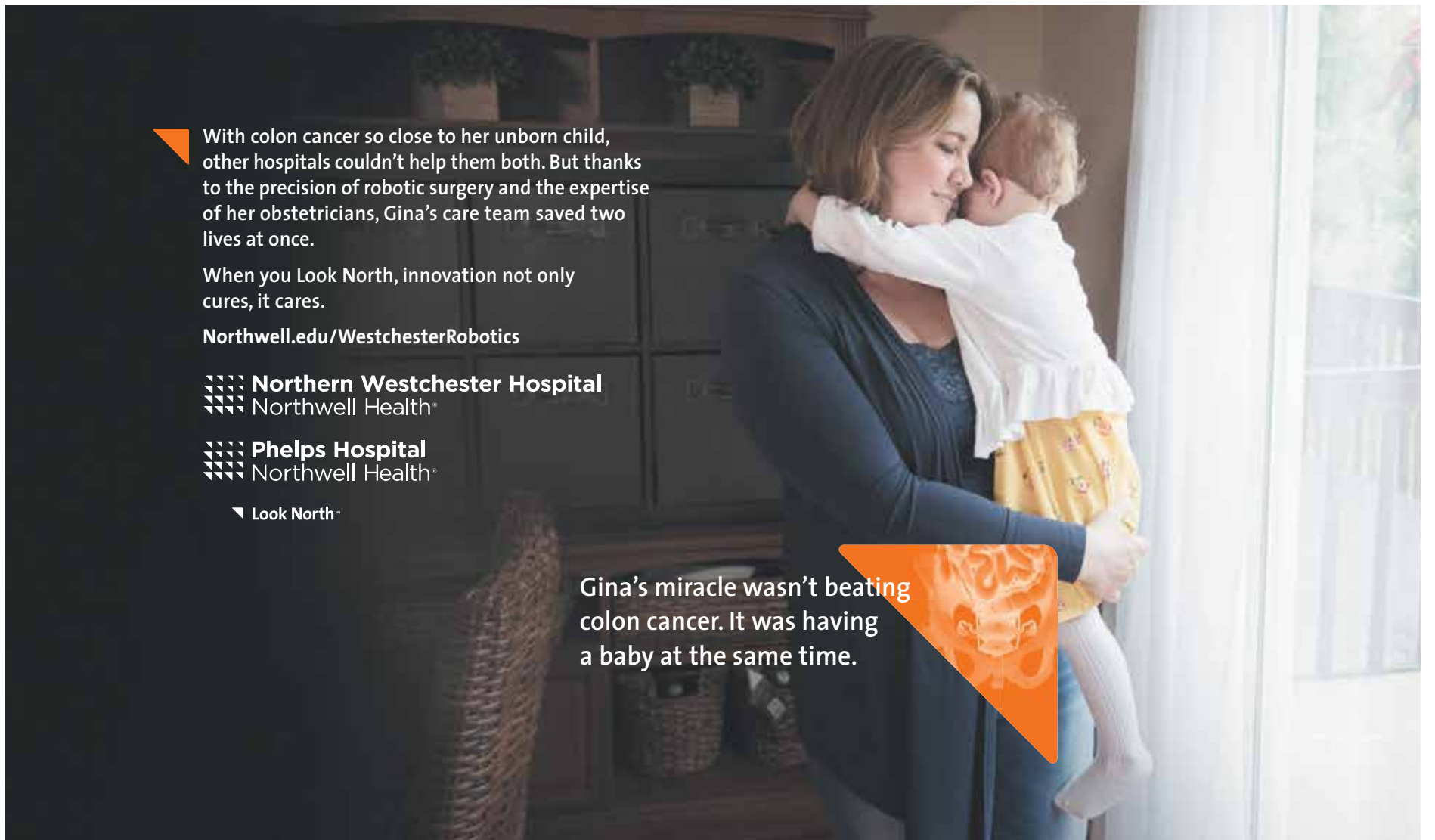
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Bipartisan Group Creates Movement to Reclaim Political Center

By Anna Young

As the division in political ideologies continues to deepen in the United States, an organization dedicated to finding common ground is seeking to place a bipartisan option on the presidential ballot in 2020.

Members from the No Labels movement outlined their goals for governing from the center through bipartisanship in the House of Representatives and the presidency during a forum last Thursday at the Katonah Village Library. No Labels chief strategist Ryan Clancy cited Congress as a major problem, but suggested much bigger problems stem from President Donald Trump.

Clancy noted how in the last two years Democratic and Republican leaders have moved farther away from bipartisanship to either show their loyalty or hatred for Trump. That's not what the country needs right now, Clancy said.

"As we sit here today and look out at the next two years, it's very depressing to think about what looks like is coming down the pike," Clancy said. "Because what looks like is coming down the pike is two years of President Trump destroying and denigrating his opposition."

He said No Labels is currently exploring

integrating a bipartisan presidential ticket as a path to national unity. Clancy added that the group is researching and polling the idea in New Hampshire but would likely need a candidate from a Democratic primary running as an independent, third party or spoiler campaign to agree to the movement.

Along with the presidency, Clancy said No Labels recently launched The Speaker Project campaign over the summer, a movement which called for using the election of a new speaker in January as leverage to make rule changes that force Congress to be responsive to more bipartisan legislation.

A month later, members of the Problem Solvers Caucus released their own agenda. The caucus is a 48-member group sponsored by No Labels that is evenly split between Republican and Democrat officials who promote bipartisan initiatives. Their Break the Gridlock package aims to reform the rules in the House that will ensure bipartisan legislation receives a fighting chance.

Provisions include electing a speaker that is a representative of all members of the House; increasing accountability and transparency; establishing a fast-track procedure with several specific

parliamentary changes that would enable bipartisan legislation and amendments to receive priority consideration on the House floor; and encouraging and rewarding consensus driven governing.

The proposal would also eliminate the motion to vacate, which allows a single lawmaker to force a vote on ousting the sitting speaker. The proposal would instead require one-third of the House to sign a public petition to force such a vote. The proposal also prohibits members from adding amendments to legislation under a "closed rule" system.

The caucus is encouraging House members who agree to the package's provisions to sign a pledge that states they will support a speaker who also supports the movement. Clancy said those who sign the pledge will receive a "No Labels seal of approval" that notifies voters of their intentions moving forward.

In a divided Congress, which Clancy believes the Nov. 6 election will produce, he is confident that the small group of members can create big changes if they stick together.

"This is not as crazy as it sounds," Clancy said. "There is a precedent for it."

For more information, visit www.nolabels.org.



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Ryan Clancy, chief strategist for No Labels, outlines a plan last week in Katonah to support officials and office seekers who govern from the political center and look to promote bipartisanship.

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No. Castle Officials Leery of Mariani Gardens' Revised Housing Plan

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which would contain 20 of the one-bedroom units and the 10 two-bedroom residences toward the back of the parcel closest to Route 22, and a slight reorientation of the smaller structures would increase the percentage of open space at the site to nearly 45 percent.

It would also require no construction within a deed restricted area. The restriction was discovered this summer. The site would also remain in character with the Bedford Road Historic District.

Furthermore, the number of bedrooms is reduced under the revised

plan from 96 to 73, which lowers the requirements for water and sewer service. There would also be about 5 percent less building coverage and a 20 percent reduction in floor-area ratio.

"By modifying this, we have a large greenspace along Maple Avenue where we have the deed restricted area and by modifying the locations of the buildings we're also able to accommodate additional greenspace between each of the proposed buildings," Aiello said.

A few weeks after the original plan was unveiled, a nearly 40-year-old deed restriction surfaced. It had been agreed to by a previous owner of the property and it prohibits the construction of buildings on a swath of land closest to Maple Avenue. It appears the agreement was to protect the sightlines for nearby Wampus Brook Park and serve as a buffer, said Town Attorney Roland Baroni.

North Castle Town Board members, who would decide whether to rezone the property from Nursery Business to a residential multifamily zone, quickly voiced their skepticism of the latest iteration. Councilman Stephen D'Angelo said if he had seen the newest plan first, he wouldn't have been nearly as receptive, suggesting it may not be as high quality as what was originally

proposed.

"They were talking about five-digit (monthly rents) at these properties and now we're looking at one-bedroom apartments," said D'Angelo. "It's a big change."

Councilman Barry Reiter added that the difference in the makeup of the units would also change who lives at the site.

The applicant's attorney, Anthony Veneziano, said Mariani has grown to prefer the revised plan.

"I still think it's going to be a high-quality project, the rents are going to be substantial," Veneziano said. "A lot of that is going to be there but it is noticeably different."

Aiello mentioned, for example, that some of the one-bedroom units would be as large as 1,400 square feet.

However, Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto said that residents had warmed to the original plan. She asked Veneziano whether the applicant shied away from it because of the deed restriction. Officials have a responsibility to make the right decision regarding this property, DiGiacinto said.

"I think that this is probably the most important gateway into our town," she said.

Veneziano responded that initially they sought a way around the restriction but when the project's professionals started working on the revised plan, Mariani took a liking to it.

"So there was a sense that it might be a difficult process (with the deed restriction) and then when they started to run in this direction – the lead principal makes decisions pretty fast – and within hours to days the project had morphed into more of the newer plan," Veneziano explained.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said looking at the revised proposal feels as though the applicant is "shoehorning" the units into the remaining space available.

Although it is less in keeping with the recently revised Comprehensive Plan and density remains an issue, Schiliro asked the representatives to keep refining the proposal.

"You've got five different opinions here," he said. "I'm not sure we're ever going to get a project that the whole board is enamored with but there is probably a project that a majority of this board would probably be very happy with and willing to move forward on."

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Pleasantville Grapples With How to Tackle Coyote Issue

By Anna Young

A spiraling number of coyote sightings in Pleasantville forced village officials last week to devise suitable course of action to deal with coyote encounters in the community.

The Pleasantville Village Board discussed several scenarios to help the public, including when it's appropriate for the village to pay for the cost to trap an animal. Officials also suggested hosting educational forums with experts to provide additional insight.

"The challenge we confront is how to go forward with a policy that identifies when we would support trapping," Mayor Peter Scherer said. "There's the unclear line between an animal that feels like it's gotten too close to people and an animal that is actually a threat."

With an uptick in reported coyote sightings in the village over the last two months, officials invited Kevin Clarke, a wildlife biologist for the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), to speak with residents on Oct. 2.

During the forum, he said spotting coyotes is a trend that residents should become accustomed to with an increase of wildlife filtering into the Hudson Valley. He advised dog owners never to leave their pets unattended in a yard and for them to be walked on a short leash. He also recommended residents carry an air horn or whistle or carry a stick when they take their

dogs out on walks. If a coyote approaches, they should make themselves appear to be aggressive to get the attention off their pets and scare the coyote away.

He also stressed that residents should keep their cats indoors and recommended residents erect a six-foot fence to keep coyotes out of the yard. The DEC will only issue a permit to a homeowner or municipality to remove a coyote if it exhibits threatening behavior, Clarke said.

While officials grappled with who would pay the cost of trapping a coyote, Trustee Joseph Stargiotti said the village has the responsibility if the DEC confirms the animal is a threat.

"We have a fair number of people asking for our help because they're afraid of coyotes," Stargiotti said. "As a village we owe it to our neighborhoods to help them with situations like this."

Police Chief Erik Grutzner said he is currently working with a resident who was issued a permit by the DEC to trap an aggressive coyote. He said the animal trapper has hung cameras in the neighborhood and set up traps that will be checked every day.

Village Administrator Eric Morrissey said the expert suggested leaving the traps and cameras in place for three weeks. It will cost \$835 a week to trap the coyote, Morrissey said.

"I'm happy to support us spending the money to help a neighborhood," Stargiotti

said.

Trustee Nicole Asquith stressed the need for additional outreach. She suggested a panel of experts provide residents, officials and the police department with the information they need to coexist with coyotes. With more education, she said the board can create a prevention-based policy, which she asserted is the best approach to resolve the issue.

"I think education is such an important piece of this because if people don't learn how to fend them off and give them a clear signal to stay away, we'll continue to have

problems," Asquith said. "We have to plan for the future because we're all adjusting to this."

While Scherer and Trustee Steve Lord agreed that research and education is an important component, Stargiotti said most residents just want the coyote removed from their property.

"There are people who are not going to want to go to those things and learn," he said.

Scherer said the board would research and analyze neighboring coyote policies and consider a plan at the next meeting.

Key Grant for NWH



Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) and Northern Westchester Hospital President and CEO Joel Seligman recently donned scrubs for a tour of the hospital's surgical suites, which were modernized using a \$250,000 state grant the assemblyman obtained. Seligman, left, and Buchwald, right, are pictured with members of the hospital's surgical services team.

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Ex-P'ville Administrator Dwyer to Serve in Interim Role in No. Castle

By Martin Wilbur

Former Pleasantville Village Administrator Patricia Dwyer will serve as North Castle's interim administrator and help the town with its search for a permanent replacement.

On Wednesday night, the Town Board voted unanimously to retain Dwyer and her consultant firm, Sourced Municipal Solutions, LLC, to help the town with various tasks until a new administrator is hired. Under the terms of the agreement, Dwyer will be paid \$85 an

hour.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said Dwyer was available as early as last Thursday to assist the town and to get acclimated to North Castle in the next few weeks, although she will not have a regular presence as interim until Nov. 5.

"It's sort of hours as needed, so she won't be here 40 hours (a week)," Schiliro said. "She's concluding a project in Pelham right now where she did the same thing. She's just finishing up that program and they're about to have a

new hire as a permanent position, so she'll put in some time as needed over the next couple of weeks."

Dwyer retired from Pleasantville last March, capping a 31-year career as an administrator in Walden, Orange County, and two separate stints in Pleasantville that sandwiched a six-year stay in Mount Kisco.



Patricia Dwyer

The need for an interim materialized after the Town Board opted against extending former administrator Joan Goldberg's contract, which expired at the end of last month. The town has been operating without an administrator since Sept. 4 when Goldberg was escorted out of Town Hall.

There was no estimate given about how quickly officials would like to find and hire the permanent administrator.

Last month, the board hired former comptroller and director of finance Dawn Donovan to help the town during its budget preparation process, something that Goldberg assisted with during her six years as administrator. Donovan is assisting North Castle despite continuing to serve as comptroller in Eastchester.

Chappaqua Names New Seven Bridges Assistant Principal

By Anna Young

The Chappaqua Board of Education appointed a Putnam Valley educator last week to serve as the new assistant principal of Seven Bridges Middle School.

Nicole Mangiere was appointed during the board's Oct. 11 meeting following a month-long interview process that attracted more than 100 applicants for the position. She will begin in Chappaqua on Nov. 26.

Mangiere will fill the vacancy created by Gregory Stiefel, who left Chappaqua to become principal of Tuckahoe Middle School. Longtime educator Lisa Kor has been serving as interim assistant principal.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christine Ackerman said Mangiere's colleagues

described her as a passionate educator and an engaged instructional leader who dedicates herself to supporting students and staff in their daily learning.

"Nicole possesses an extensive knowledge of curriculum, assessment, and instruction and values the importance of collaboration and teamwork," Ackerman said. "Given her public school, charter school and Teach for America experiences, she will be a fantastic addition to our school leadership team."

Mangiere is currently serving as assistant principal at Putnam Valley Middle School. She began her career in 2008 where she taught third- and fourth-graders at the Theodore Schoenfeld School in the Bronx. Two years later, she joined the KIPP

Academy in New York City, where she was a learning specialist and later served as the academy's director of leadership development and grade-level chair.

She also spent two summers with Teach for America as a curriculum specialist and as a school director at the Bronx Lighthouse Charter School.

Mangiere received her degree in communications with a minor in education from Cornell University. She holds two master's degrees from Bank Street College, one in childhood general and special education and the other in leadership for educational change. She currently is pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership at Manhattanville College.

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No. Castle Airs Concerns Over MBIA Property at Scoping Session

By Martin Wilbur

The North Castle Town Board closed the public comments on the scoping session last Wednesday for the proposed office park redevelopment project at 113 King St. but will allow written comments on the proposal until Oct. 26.

A partnership called Airport Campus has proposed building 173 units of housing and a 125-room hotel on the site of the MBIA campus. The project consists of a 151-unit multifamily building consisting of 112 two-bedroom and 39 one-bedroom rental apartments

along with 22 fee simple townhouse comprise the residential portion of the project.

Last week, town officials listed the height of the structure housing the multifamily rentals, the effect on emergency services and traffic, the impact on the town in conjunction with other proposed projects in Armonk and the impact on the school population as key concerns.

With the possibility of the seven-story building reaching as high as 85 feet, that structure would be far taller than anything in the area, said Councilman Jose Berra.

“Right now, you don’t see any tall buildings,” Berra said. “One of my

concerns is whether there’s any impact in that direction because I think it’s nice not to see anything standing out there.”

The applicant’s attorney, Mark Miller, said while the zoning would permit an 85-foot building, the seven stories above grade would likely be about 75 feet.

Traffic impacts on both Armonk and North White Plains must also be studied, Berra noted.

Councilman Stephen D’Angelo urged the partnership to study whether a similarly sized hotel, proposed for a portion of property that had once been part of IBM’s complex, can successfully co-exist.

“My concern is all of a sudden we have two hotels, they’re both half-empty

and neither one can support itself,” D’Angelo said.

There was just one speaker from the public that stepped forward to comment last week. North White Plains resident Ed Lobermann questioned whether the additional housing is needed in town.

“I just want to please have you think about the long-term aspect,” Lobermann said. “Is that what we really want in that area, these additional developments that are a short-term solution to the economy and our tax rates and so forth? But I don’t think it’s worth the long-term effects that I can see happening.”

The comments from the scoping session will be used to develop the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.



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Mt. Kisco Approves New Mountain Avenue Cell Tower Lease

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Kisco Village Board recently approved a lease that would allow a 114-foot cell tower on 2,500 square feet of municipally-owned land on Mountain Avenue.

Mayor Gina Picinich said the MTA will take space on the new cell tower that will be built by New Singular Wireless to replace the current 85-foot structure to improve communication in the same

location. The MTA initially sought a 180-foot monopole near the Tesla car dealership on Kisco Avenue but officials opposed it because it would be seen throughout the village.

Village Manager Edward Brancati said the current lease was signed in 2005 with Crown Castle International Corp. which is also located on Mountain Avenue. That lease will expire in 2020.

The new lease would begin upon

expiration of the current arrangement, said Village Attorney Whitney Singleton. The new tower will also provide service for Verizon and possibly Sprint, he said.

Trustee Karen Schleimer cast the dissenting vote against the tower. She had hoped to first to have a survey of the land where it would be built.

An additional application will need to be submitted to the village to allow the tower to be constructed, Singleton said.

WHERE IN THE WORLD?

By Edward Goralski

Travel Trivia. The quiz this week is based on questions from Travel Trivia, a daily trivia game you can play right in your email inbox. “Every day you’ll learn interesting facts about unique destinations through short and interactive trivia questions.” Enjoy your travels!

1. In which country is the city of Casablanca located?

A) Tunisia B) Libya C) Morocco

2. What city adopted the Goodyear Blimp as their official city bird?

A) Las Vegas, Nev. B) Redondo Beach, Calif. C) Phoenix, Ariz.

3. What river flows through Albuquerque, N.M.?

A) Rio Grande B) San Juan River C) Colorado River

4. Which airline has the largest fleet?

A) American Airlines B) United Airlines C) Lufthansa

5. What is the windiest city in the world?

A) Chicago, USA B) Wellington, NZ C) Cape Town, SA

6. What sits atop Germany’s highest peak, Zugspitze?

A) a museum B) a beer garden C) a playground

7. What is the deepest river in the world?

A) Amazon River B) Missouri River C) Congo River

8. What two countries does the Haskell Opera House straddle?

A) Sweden and Norway B) Ukraine and Belarus C) USA and Canada

ANSWERS:

1. C. Casablanca is the largest city in Morocco and the nation’s chief port

2. B. The city named the Goodyear Blimp its official city bird in 1983

3. A. The 20th longest river in the world flows 1,900 miles

4. A. American has nearly 1,500 planes in service

5. B. The capital of New Zealand once experienced winds of 154 MPH

6. B. A cable car can take you the 2,962 meters above sea level in time for happy hour

7. C. Over 720 feet in places, the Congo could submerge the Washington Monument with 150 feet to spare

8. C. The building was purposefully built with half in Stanstead, Quebec and the other half in Derby, Vermont

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Residents Brainstorm on Future of Mt. Pleasant's Hamlets at Workshop

By Neal Rentz

Mount Pleasant residents provided ideas to improve the Hawthorne, Thornwood and Valhalla business hamlets last week during a second Comprehensive Plan update public visioning workshop.

The roughly 50 residents who attended the Oct. 9 meeting at the town's Community Center in Valhalla divided themselves into groups to brainstorm and give the town's consultants ideas to incorporate into the revised plan. During the exercise, each group listed one of the hamlet's strengths, its current challenges and where improvements may be made.

Tiffany Zezula, deputy director of the Pace University Land Use Law Center which is assisting town officials with the update process, said the ideas provided by residents would be compiled by the town's consultants. The information will be placed on the town's website and distributed to residents via e-mails.

Strengths in Thornwood included the Four Corners, the area near the old train station that has a firehouse and post office and the Thornwood Town Center while some of the significant challenges are flooding, traffic and unkempt properties.

Residents listed constructing more sidewalks, creating public commons spaces, new transportation options, bike pathways and the development of more senior housing as potential opportunities.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Mount Pleasant Director of Planning Pat Cleary addressed residents during the Oct. 9 public visioning workshop at the town's Community Center in Valhalla.

In Valhalla, the Kensico Dam Plaza and various historic areas were recognized as strengths. Residents cited the lack of access to playing fields and a need for a new bridge over the Branch Brook as weaknesses. Opportunities for Valhalla include creating a commons space for the public and finding ways to maintain its small-town feel.

Hawthorne's strengths included playing

fields that are child friendly, Berger Hardware, which regularly gives back to the community, and the annual Mount Pleasant Day. Weaknesses include areas of Route 141 that are run down and inadequate parking for non-commuters.

Opportunities for the hamlet that were mentioned last week are creating additional parking, building sidewalks, the potential for mixed-used development near the Metro-North station, plantings to help beautify the area and implementation of a streetscape program.

Director of Planning Pat Cleary said the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and the town's consultants have created a series of potential goals for the town in the revised plan that fall under four key categories.

Stability, value and character of residential areas, providing housing types to allow residents to remain in Mount Pleasant as they age, revitalizing the hamlets with mixed-use development, adequate parking and improving connections between the hamlets are the main goals in the Built Environment category.

In the area of economic development, Cleary said goals include enhancement of the town's economy by focusing on successful business districts; diversifying the permitted uses in the hamlets'

commercial business districts; the future of the town's existing office parks; revising zoning and land use regulations so the town may host significant medical and biotech facilities; and maintaining a stable tax base.

Cleary said preservation, protection and management of natural resources is a key goal under environmental concerns along with design development to minimize energy and water consumption and wastewater production. For all new projects, green building and sustainable design principals should be used, he said.

Utilizing watersheds as fundamental underlying planning areas and assuring that floodplains are not impaired by development so they may continue to provide benefits are also critical.

Under the category titled social environment, Cleary said proposed goals include public health planning, striving for equality of town services, recognizing vulnerable populations' needs, particularly in disaster planning, and reinforcing the town's cultural identity with museums, libraries and music and art.

The previous public visioning workshop was conducted in May. Town officials are hopeful to have the draft of an update Comprehensive Plan completed by spring.

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Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

Oct. 10: Report of an unresponsive man in his seventies at his Amuso Drive residence at 10:43 a.m. The man was subsequently pronounced dead by paramedics of apparent natural causes.

Oct. 11: Police responded to a residence on Barker Street at 9:44 a.m. after a home health aide reported that her client was not answering the door. The client, who had overslept and did not hear her aide knocking at the door, was awakened by officers.

Oct. 11: Detectives arrested a 25-year-old South Salem man at 3:41 p.m. and charged him with menacing another person with a handgun during a road rage incident last month. On Sept. 20, a motorist reported that a man pointed a gun at her on North Bedford Road. The suspect was taken into custody at his home by detectives from the General Investigations Unit and charged with second-degree menacing, a misdemeanor.

Oct. 11: A motorist reported at 4:11 p.m. that his car was damaged by a hit-and-run driver while parked near 92 S. Moger Ave.

Oct. 11: A man flagged down an officer on South Moger Avenue at 9:33 p.m. to report that his teenage daughter, who suffers from anxiety and depression,

had become upset and left home without permission and he was trying to locate her. A sergeant found the girl at Lexington Avenue and Smith Street and transported her to Northern Westchester Hospital. The teen's parents were notified to proceed to the hospital.

Oct. 12: Police assisted an elderly woman at 12:51 p.m. on Boltis Street who reported she was feeling weak and ill. She was taken by ambulance to Northern Westchester Hospital.

North Castle Police Department

Oct. 5: Report of a possible problem with the railroad crossing gate at Virginia Road at 11:51 p.m. The caller stated that at about 11:15 p.m. she waited at the railroad crossing for about 10 minutes but no train came through and the gate did not return to an upright position.

Oct. 6: A subject arrived at headquarters at 6:40 p.m. to drop off a .22-caliber starter pistol she found in her home. She no longer wanted the firearm in her residence.

Oct. 7: Report of a vehicle driving south in the northbound lane of Route 22 at 10:46 p.m. The vehicle turned left and then drove south on Route 120. The caller was unable to provide a vehicle description. The responding officer stated that the vehicle was apparently

gone on arrival.

Oct. 9: An Annadale Street resident reported at 12:12 p.m. that there was a coyote in front of her house. The responding officers stated that the animal ran into the wooded area and is away from residences. Police monitored the area for the remainder of the tour.

Oct. 9: The Fire Department pager reported at 9:38 p.m. that a small fire had occurred at a Leisure Farm Drive residence but it was extinguished by the

homeowner. The fire department was dispatched for further investigation. The responding officer reported that the fire department confirmed the scene was safe.

Oct. 10: Report of criminal mischief on North Broadway at 9:49 a.m. A call was received at the desk reporting a broken window in the past at the business. The responding officers secured photos and written depositions.

Obituary

Joseph Donato

Joseph Donato of Thornwood died on Oct. 11.

He was 70.

Donato was born on Sept. 8, 1948, to the late Luigi and Maria (nee Torchia) Donato in Marcellinara, Italy. He was a self-employed landscaper in Westchester and later worked for Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne. He was an avid gardener.

Donato is survived by his devoted wife, Caterina (nee Renda) Donato,

of Thornwood; by his loving children, Michael Donato of Thornwood and Maria (Brian) Grasso of Mohegan Lake; and his two brothers, Frank (Judy) Donato of Pleasantville and Saverio (Talia) Donato of Milano, Italy.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Oct. 14. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Innocents Church in Pleasantville on Oct. 15 followed by interment at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Greenburgh.

County Jail Inmate Pleads Guilty to Assaulting Corrections Officers

An inmate at the Westchester County Jail pleaded guilty last Thursday in connection with two assaults on corrections officers nearly a year ago.

John Wooten pleaded guilty to two counts of second-degree assault, a Class D felony. Wooten was being held at the jail on a felony criminal mischief charge committed at 25 Operations Drive in Mount Pleasant on Dec. 19, 2017, at the time of the assaults.

The two separate attacks on the corrections officers occurred in late December and in January.

Joseph K. Spano, commissioner for

the Westchester County Department of Corrections, said the handling of these two assaults demonstrates the ongoing collaboration among Westchester's law enforcement community.

"Today's plea sends a strong message – assaulting any member of our correctional staff is unacceptable and will be dealt with swiftly," Spano said. "It will also carry serious consequences, including a lengthy prison sentence."

Wooten, who faces up to seven years in state prison on each charge, is scheduled to be sentenced on Nov. 14.

—Martin Wilbur

B.F.

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Pleasantville Crossword Puzzle Contest Set for Friday

The 21st annual Westchester Crossword Puzzle Contest to benefit the Pleasantville Fund for Learning will be held this Friday, Oct. 19 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the Westchester Table Tennis Center in Pleasantville.

The event will feature unpublished Monday through Thursday puzzles from The New York Times, selected and edited by Pleasantville resident and New York Times crossword editor Will Shortz, who will oversee the contest.

Prizes will be awarded to the top solvers overall as well as the best junior (25 and under), senior (60+), rookie,

Pleasantville resident and doubles pair. Prizes will also be awarded to one randomly selected correct solver of each puzzle.

The cost is \$40 for a solo solver or \$50 for a doubles pair, which includes a wine-and-cheese reception immediately following the contest. All money raised goes to the Pleasantville Fund for Learning.

The Westchester Table Tennis Center is located at 175 Tompkins Ave. in Pleasantville. Sign-up can be done at the door.

Veteran, Trumpeter Tell Story of Recovering From War Trauma

By Martin Wilbur

When Staff Sgt. Jaymes Polling returned from combat in Afghanistan for the last time in December 2013, he wasn't overly concerned about his transition back to civilian life.

But that changed one night while at his father's house in Cleveland.

"I was walking around my dad's house and a helicopter flew over," recalled Polling who served for years, including three tours with the 82nd Airborne Division. "I had a physical reaction to that. I kind of found myself in this full-blown adrenaline rush but I was just standing on the street and it was around midnight. I was obviously worried about it afterward. How can I get control of this? Is this going to be my new norm? Where do I go from here?"

That's not an unusual occurrence for veterans but talking about it is. For many, seeking and finding help is an even bigger hurdle.

About two years ago, Polling was introduced to Cleveland area jazz trumpeter Dominick Farinacci, who was putting together an album at the time. The producer suggested that Farinacci include the piece "Soldier's Things" by Tom Waits on the album. Since he had no connection to the military, Farinacci wanted to speak to veterans to better understand their plight and draw inspiration from their stories before he recorded.

That is where he met Polling and they found a connection. It gave Polling the impetus to start writing about his experiences from enlistment at 17 years old to deployment to his struggle with the life-altering memories of war when returning to civilian life at 26. Farinacci then began writing music to go with his stories.

Since September 2017, they have collaborated on a show called "Modern Warrior Live," where Polling serves as narrator of his stories.

He is accompanied by Farinacci's score that is a blend of the blues, R&B, jazz and gospel. Farinacci's trumpet is enhanced by a full rhythm section, percussion and several vocalists. The show also consists of multimedia images.

On Wednesday, Oct. 24, the pair bring their powerful production to the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center in partnership with the Mental Health Association (MHA) of Westchester.

Farinacci said they wanted to convey the critically important message of veterans' struggles to a wide cross-section of the public and destigmatize the personal and emotional problems. Since last year, they have given more than 30 performances to audiences across the United States and that schedule will get busier.

"Our goal with this project is to reach such a wide span of different people within communities, diverse communities, so



Staff Sgt. Jaymes Polling, foreground, accompanied by Dominick Farinacci, with trumpet, tells audiences his story of returning to civilian life and recovering from trauma at war during a performance of their riveting production of "Modern Warrior Live." The show can be seen on Oct. 24 at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center.

it's great to perform this at theaters and ballrooms and conferences and school and all different kinds of settings," Farinacci said.

Polling said after his return he enrolled in Cuyahoga Community College to study finance with his sights set on a business career but needed to address his fears. Veterans may have a special bond with his story but anyone who has faced trauma or mental illness or knows someone who has will easily relate.

"During the whole collaboration process, we were thinking how can we group this


in the whole human experience and basic human emotions to somebody who's never been (at war)," Polling said. "One might not understand this situation or might not be able to relate to a soldier specifically, but they know how loss feels, what fear is."

MHA Westchester CEO Charlotte Ostman said she saw "Modern Warrior Live" while attending the National Behavioral Health Conference in Washington last spring and was so moved that she wanted them to perform in Westchester. About 31 percent of veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, she said.

"Not only is it a beautiful performance and a wonderfully entertaining group, it's very moving, it's something whether you have ties to the military or not, you can appreciate and it certainly aligns with our mission of providing trauma-infused care and serving people trying to recover from trauma," she said.


There's a pre-performance reception, which includes food and drink, at 6 p.m. The show is at 7:30 p.m. A talkback and Q&A will follow the performance. Tickets are \$150 each. Discounted tickets of \$50 are available to veterans and there are free donor tickets for struggling veterans.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.mhawestchester.org or contact Connie Moustakas at 914-265-7511 or e-mail development@mhawestchester.org.



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Coalition Submits Letter to IRS to Fight SALT Deduction Cap

By Anna Young

A growing coalition of municipalities and school districts partnered to challenge proposed regulations created by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that would prevent residents from deducting state and local taxes (SALT) on their federal tax returns.

The Coalition for the Charitable Contribution Deduction, comprised of close to three dozen Westchester municipalities and school districts, submitted a letter to the IRS before the deadline for comments requesting the proposed regulations be withdrawn. The regulations would deny a full charitable deduction for donations to the charitable funds.

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Scarsdale), who spearheads the coalition, said it was necessary to protest the IRS' actions with the potential threat to taxpayers struggling to remain in their communities.

"Charitable reserve funds serving a public mission and encouraged by tax credits have proven to be a critical tool for taxpayers and local governments alike," Paulin said. "These proposed regulations break IRS precedent and undermine the effectiveness of the new charitable fund established."

The coalition is comprised of Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk counties and 34 Westchester school districts and municipalities, including New Castle, Bedford, Ossining, North Salem, Lewisboro and White Plains. Local school districts include, the Pleasantville School District, White Plains, Ossining, Briarcliff Manor and Bryam Hills.

The Brewster Central School District in Putnam County has also joined the coalition.

The submitted letter takes aim at the legal reasoning and abandonment of past IRS precedent that underpins the proposed regulations. The group hopes to persuade the Treasury Department and the IRS to withdraw the regulations and preserve full deductibility for voluntary contributions.

"This letter reminds the IRS that they do not have the authority from Congress to upend longstanding principles of tax law and, in the process, harm so many New Yorkers and the local governments and school districts that serve them," Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) said.

If the proposed regulations become final, the coalition, which is currently working with the law firm of Baker McKenzie, is threatening to file a federal lawsuit.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said the proposed regulations will significantly harm county residents. Roughly 38 percent of taxpayers would be negatively affected by the SALT proposal and could see an estimated 25 percent increase on their federal taxes.

"While the federal government claims only 5 percent of the nation will be impacted by the new limits on charitable deductions,

we know here in Westchester that is not the case," Latimer said. "These regulations will hurt our working families, our property values and our way of life."

The new federal tax code signed into law last year by President Donald Trump puts a \$10,000 cap on SALT deductions. State lawmakers passed legislation in March that was designed to help residents who were disadvantaged by the new federal tax law. This allowed municipalities and school districts to set up charitable reserve gift funds to which taxpayers would contribute to government or school districts instead of paying their property taxes.

In return, they would receive tax deductible credits equal to 95 percent of

their donations.

But the IRS issued proposed regulations in August that would severely restrict homeowners from taking advantage of the deduction. Under the proposed regulations, a taxpayer who makes payments or transfers property to an entity eligible to receive tax deductible contributions must reduce their charitable deduction by the amount of any state or local tax credit the taxpayer receives or expects to receive.

Pleasantville Superintendent Mary Fox-Alter said the proposed regulations are illogical, place an undue burden on the states' ability to provide public education and public services and greatly diminish the federal government's fiscal responsibility.

She said officials have a fiduciary responsibility to families and taxpayers to explore a voluntary contribution system.

While White Plains Mayor Thomas Roach and Bedford Supervisor Chris Burdick are hopeful the coalition's concerns will prompt the IRS to withdraw the proposed regulations, North Salem Supervisor Warren Lucas stressed that the law needs to allow full deductions for all individual taxpayers.

"This is double taxation at its worst," Lucas said. "Taxing people on money they already paid in taxes with no income thresholds protecting those who are vulnerable is bad government."

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Letters to the Editor

Mt. Kisco Needs Schleimer, Farber to Continue Serving on Village Board

I'm writing to urge my fellow Mount Kisco residents to vote for Karen Schleimer and Jean Farber and re-elect them both to our Village Board of Trustees. With all the rapid changes taking place in our town, we need their experience, skill and dedication more than ever to help build a better town for all of us.

Trustee Schleimer has served as the advocate for the peoples' interests on our Village Board for years, using her formidable legal skills to examine every important document, check every

expense and ask the hard questions about official action (and inaction). Not only has she been our watchdog on the Village Board, she has also been an effective advocate for seniors, minorities, women and environmental conservation.

Deputy Mayor Jean Farber has served as the voice of reason during the recent tumultuous period in our town, working hard to forge fair compromises between opposing interests and effectively supporting sensible solutions. She has also been a leader in the village's cultural

renaissance, as a cofounder of the Mount Kisco Arts Council and as a tireless supporter of our library, volunteer fire department, historical society and other key community organizations.

Karen and Jean have served our town with distinction for years and I urge you to give them the opportunity to do even greater things for Mount Kisco.

John Rhodes
Mount Kisco

4MK Has Provided Mount Kisco With New Much-Needed Lift

4MK was founded to find candidates who are literally For Mount Kisco, transcend any semblance of national politics, and more generally, bring some new ideas and energy to reinvigorate Mount Kisco. Voters should continue the progress in the past year and vote for Gina DiLeo – 4MK on Nov. 6.

My wife and I moved to Mount Kisco almost 15 years ago, attracted to its diverse and vibrant community. But the 2008 recession took a toll. Store vacancies became rampant. Home prices stagnated. Overcrowded housing was not addressed.

The town had become somewhat stale.

Sometimes all you need is leadership change to find new perspectives and concepts. There's a renewed sense of "can-do" spirit that is permeating through the community. Efforts are well underway to improve and beautify the streetscapes. Plans were accelerated to replace water mains to piggyback on Con Ed's efforts to save paving costs. "The Big Little Village" rebranding campaign was launched. Business outreach has been strong, with new businesses finally starting to fill the downtown vacancies. Mount Kisco is truly

open for business. A strong downtown economy benefits every taxpayer.

4MK is working hard to give Mount Kisco the best chances to adapt and prosper. Gina DiLeo will listen to all constituents and concerns as Mount Kisco plans for the future. Her opponents' pitch is primarily "Vote the Democratic line." That's exactly what 4MK is against. Vote for the best candidates. That's why I'm voting for Gina DiLeo and Jean Farber.

Keith Ferguson
Mount Kisco

Farber's Dedication, Sound Judgment a Critical Asset for Village

Jean Farber, Mount Kisco deputy mayor and trustee, should be re-elected on Nov. 6. The public sees her as a dedicated and enthusiastic leader, who supports many civic activities in town. She is a founder and key supporter of the Mount Kisco Arts Council and a keen supporter of the volunteer fire department, the Conservation Advisory Council and the historical society, among other organizations. She supports the activities and needs of our senior residents. She gives open and public support to so many functions, including new businesses and individual residents' concerns and initiatives.

What the public does not usually see behind the scenes is a thoughtful, intelligent trustee at work on complex issues and difficult decisions. Ms. Farber asks the questions that need to be asked when we address the manager's proposed budgets, when we consider troubling real estate issues, when tricky personnel considerations arise and when we take the advice of lawyers on the most controversial issues in town.

In the trustees' work sessions, she is a dedicated colleague, carefully analyzing every detail and working with board members and managers to arrive at the best solutions for the many actions that

require attention. She is highly engaged and decision-oriented in every discussion, and above all, she exercises wise and sound judgment on every subject. That is a rare quality.

She is exactly the trustee that Mount Kisco residents should keep on our board.

The ballot papers are tricky. Readers should know that they can choose any two out of three candidates for trustee. Anybody voting for Gina DiLeo can also vote for Ms. Farber, even though they are on the same vertical line on the ballot.

Peer F. Grunthal
Mount Kisco Village Trustee

DiLeo Exhibits Leadership in Abundance and Would Serve Mt. Kisco Well

Election Day is fast approaching and voters residing within the Village of Mount Kisco will be soon be faced with choices regarding who should fill Mount Kisco's village trustee positions. I write to introduce voters to my friend and candidate running on the 4MK party line, Gina DiLeo. Gina, a lifelong resident of our village, has my full support because she has what it takes to be a trusted and dedicated village trustee who will work tirelessly to serve and support our community.

No one can doubt Gina's dedication to public service in her personal and professional life. She has been an active

member of the Mount Kisco Volunteer Fire Department for over 25 years. During her tenure with the department, she served in numerous leadership capacities. While Gina currently serves as a commissioner and the department's secretary, she previously sat on the Board of Directors, served as a vice president and was a member of the 9/11 Memorial Committee, which was instrumental in planning, funding and erecting the 9/11 memorial adjacent to the library. She has also volunteered to serve as a Girl Scout troop leader and volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association and Burn Care Everywhere

Foundation.

The Village of Mount Kisco needs trustees who are involved, knowledgeable, transparent and willing to make tough decisions. Gina's ability to tackle issues and her proven track record of leadership exemplifies what our village should expect from its trustees. As a Mount Kisco resident for more than 40 years, I support Gina DiLeo for trustee and hope you will too.

Katharine Valvano
Mount Kisco

Letters to the Editor

DiLeo, Farber Provide a Positive Step Forward for Mount Kisco

The candidates for Mount Kisco village trustees shared their views at a candidates' forum on Oct. 3. The personalities and views of the candidates were very evident as they answered questions.

In addition to years of service as a volunteer firefighter, Gina DiLeo brings fresh perspective and extensive leadership experience. Jean Farber's positive impact on the community is evident in the work she has done as a contributing member of the Mount Kisco Arts Council. Both spoke with great enthusiasm about the positive path forward for our community.

In sharp contrast, Karen Schleimer was "saddened by the direction in

which our community was heading."

I, too, am saddened, but by Trustee Schleimer's caution that Mount Kisco is headed to a place that she nor her family find attractive. In the last 10 months, the village has experienced a revived energy that is visible and encouraging. Notable highlights include low housing inventories; significant reductions in vacancy rates within the business district; implementation of an Adopt-An-Area program beautifying the downtown; establishing a parking task force to optimize visitors' experience; creating a marketing committee to brand our village; and undertaking a Comprehensive Plan process that engaged the community to create a

strategic plan for the future.

These efforts are reflected positively by residents and business owners and in renewed interest in Mount Kisco as a place to invest. If these accomplishments leave Trustee Schleimer to a disheartened place, then what has her six years in office produced that would help?

Trustee Schleimer positions herself as our "watchdog," saying that she questions the bills and drafts contracts better than our village attorney. Yet, at the forum, she did not share one example in which her watchdog status has benefited the community, saved the taxpayers money or increased investment.

A watchdog is a reactive role. I view the role of trustee as a proactive position where a leader brings forward ideas that positively impact the quality of life in our community. I want a trustee that engages different constituencies to define a path to get to yes rather than passively sitting back and always saying no.

The residents agreed that last year's change in leadership was a vote for a path forward based on a clear vision. Let's keep the momentum moving in a forward direction. I will be casting my votes for Gina DiLeo and Jean Farber.

Eileen Polese
Mount Kisco

Schleimer's Tough Questions, Attention to Detail a Big Plus for Village

As a 29-year Westchester County resident (North Castle), lifelong New Yorker and a 50-year political activist, I follow with great interest the goings on about my town and my extended community of the immediate neighboring locales. I have campaigned for national and state-wide candidates, and also for those at the very local districts, both in my town and Mount Kisco.

It is with unwavering confusion and disappointment that I have not seen anything in your publication regarding Trustee Karen B. Schleimer's candidacy

– nor an endorsement for her, for the Village of Mount Kisco Town Board. I read the online version daily and the printed version on publication day.

Ms. Schleimer is a woman who, even before her first election in 2012, had fought tirelessly for the village – she is a protector of not only the town, but also most especially, its citizens. Ms. Schleimer is a "keeper" of the integrity of the business that runs the village. As an experienced attorney, she reviews all of the town's expenses going over the bills with a degree of intensity that we could use at the federal government.

She reads every contract and proposal that is submitted and has been known to refuse to vote on issues unless and until she has covered the ground thoroughly, becoming fully aware of what the issues are.

Ms. Schleimer asks the tough questions – again, not only of those presenting propositions but also of those who sit on the board with her, and additionally, of those coming in with occasionally controversial complaints or suggestions. She is a strong challenger, taking nothing at face value, which is the most important asset a person representing the people

can have in the current political climate.

I can't imagine a better, or more accomplished, skilled and educated candidate for re-election.

I ask for your endorsement of her and I hope to see your message in these pages soon. The election, as you know, is only about three weeks away. The voters deserve your attention, and this election warrants your support in favor of a candidate whose heart and soul are in the job.

Ellen Fuhrer Salomon
North Castle

Murphy's Apathy on Women's Reproductive Rights is Appalling

It is no longer a question of whether or not one voted for Trump. That election is long over. The question is whether or not one is satisfied right now, today, with the agenda that is being inflicted on us from Washington. With the recent confirmation of Judge Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, the war on women is alive and well, and our Republican state Sen. Terrence Murphy is leading the charge locally in Senate District 40.

With enough daily mailers to wallpaper the garage, Murphy likes to brag about how much he's done for women. When it comes to reproductive freedom, Murphy remains deliberately ignorant, impotent, propped up by his staff and uninterested.

Reproductive freedom is a right, and Terrence Murphy, awash in apathy, is nothing short of complicit in the attempt to strip women of those rights. He has refused

to support the Reproductive Health Act, a bill that would protect reproductive rights in New York. He has refused to support the Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act, a bill that would remove barriers to emergency contraception. Anti-choice AND anti-contraception. This is not a person who cares about the lives of women; this is a person who cares to control the lives of women.

Peter Harckham is the pro-choice Democrat candidate running against Murphy. He has been endorsed by the Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion and Planned Parenthood and has deemed reproductive rights a priority.

On Nov. 6, vote Terrence Murphy out, and Peter Harckham in.

Elise-Ann Konstantin
Cortlandt Manor

Harckham Campaigning on Important Issues While Murphy Slings Mud

State Sen. Terrence Murphy's Trump-like lies and baseless smears have begun.

While his opponent, Democrat Pete Harckham, is campaigning on important issues like access to affordable healthcare, infrastructure improvements, codifying women's reproductive rights into New York State law, holding the line on taxes, protecting the environment, passing the Child Victim's Act and keeping citizens safe from gun violence, Murphy has resorted to mudslinging to distract from his own miserable record.

When you have few accomplishments other than helping to hold up important legislation – legislation that would improve the lives of your constituents and every New Yorker – it's easy to resort to attacking your opponent, even

if you have to lob slanderous lies to do so.

Pete Harckham is an honorable candidate with a long history of legislative achievement and integrity. The Hudson Valley needs an experienced state senator to pass important legislation rather than oppose it, who puts the citizens of his district first rather than himself and who can be trusted to tell the truth.

On Nov. 6, let's elect Pete Harckham to the state Senate and send our current senator, who spews lies and slurs, packing.

Nancy Fink Huehnergath
Chappaqua

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| Thursday, December 6, 2018 | 5:30 pm |

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| | |
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| Monday, November 26, 2018 | 5:30 pm |

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| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Wednesday, October 17, 2018 | 10:30 am |
| Monday, October 22, 2018 | 1:30 pm |
| Wednesday, November 14, 2018 | 5:30 pm |
| Monday, November 19, 2018 | 1:30 pm |

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(Community Room, next to Mall Management Office)

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| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Wednesday, October 17, 2018 | 2 pm |
| Monday, October 22, 2018 | 6 pm |
| Thursday, November 1, 2018 | 2 pm |
| Monday, November 5, 2018 | 6 pm |
| Tuesday, November 6, 2018 | 2 pm |

For accommodations of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call 1-833-368-4619 (TTY: 1-800-662-1220).
The annual election period for MVP Health Care Medicare Advantage health plans is October 15–December 7, 2018. MVP Health Plan, Inc. is an HMO-POS/PPO/MSA organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in MVP Health Plan depends on contract renewal.

A Comfortable Mattress is Critical to Happy, Healthy Living

As a thankfully busy realtor, I operate best with a good night's sleep. Sometimes that can be elusive.

Some years ago, there was a television commercial for Sealy, the world's largest mattress manufacturer that made me smile each time it ran. Its slogan was "No Matter What You Do in Bed, Sealy Supports It."

It reminded me of the first story I heard about mattresses – "Princess and the Pea." Even as a naïve child, I thought, "Yeah, right, she could feel that pea under 20 mattresses!"

But during my lifelong experimentation with mattresses, some delightfully comfortable and others deplorably torturous, I fashion myself somewhat an expert on them. Today, I might run a close second to the princess about being finicky.

And why not?

Our relationships with our mattresses vie with any kind of personal liaisons we might ever have, considering that if you survive the average life expectancy, you will spend 36,000 nights with your body snuggled up to your most supportive companion.

When it came time for me to buy my first mattress, however, I found that, as a



By Bill Primavera

college student, I was far from sensitive about comfort. To create a modern sofa and a bed, I bought a six-foot-long piece of foam rubber and laid it over a hollow door, supported by four cinder blocks. To keep my handyman special from looking completely primitive, I attached a pleated skirt to hide the cinder blocks. As a bed, it was indeed torturous.

For my first apartment in New York City, I bought an inexpensive mattress from Macy's and, as I recall, it was the superstore's own brand. Although inexpensive, it was dreamily comfortable. When

my future wife came to my apartment for the first time, I showed her my antique sleigh bed, bragging that I probably had the most comfortable mattress ever.

"Why don't you give it a try?" I asked. She refused. Things were different back then.

There is evidence that people have been seeking softer sleeping surfaces for more than 10,000 years. Since the Egyptian Pharaohs had beds of ebony and gold, it is assumed that they devised something soft to place in them, but common people simply slept on palm bows heaped in a corner.

By Roman times, mattresses were stuffed with reeds, hay, wool or feathers.

During the Renaissance, they were made of pea shucks or straw and covered with sumptuous velvets, brocades and silks. Their filling, however, became a banquet for bugs.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, the term "sleep tight" was coined when mattresses were placed on a web of ropes that needed regular tightening to prevent sagging. The second part of that saying, "don't let the bedbugs bite," expressed a condition that was common then and seems to have recently resurfaced with a vengeance. By the late 19th century, cotton mattresses that were less attractive to vermin dominated.

In 1900, James Marshall invented and patented the "pocket coil." A coil was placed inside a pocket made of cotton and individually suspended, with materials placed on top that provided comfort. By the 1930s, innerspring mattresses with upholstered foundations gained the prominent position they still enjoy.

Futons were introduced in the 1940s, foam rubber mattresses appeared in the 1950s, followed by waterbeds in the '60s and airbeds in the '80s. But most of us still rely on innerspring mattresses.

In selecting a mattress, you might consider the suggestion of the International Sleep Products Association that you spend at least 15 minutes lying on it. Then again, you might not. The last time I bought a mattress, I tried six different models and

can't imagine that I would have spent an hour-and-half dozing off at Sleepy's.

The primary choices in selecting a mattress are the degrees of firmness and the size. Much of the firmness debate is solved by the new options for adjustability, even for each side of the bed.

Then there is the question of how big the mattress should be. Widths range from 39 inches for a twin to 76 inches for a king. Lengths range from 75 to 84 inches.

While the square footage of homes and the size of bedrooms are shrinking, anyone sharing a bed may think twice about diminishing the size of the bed proportionately. If you share a simple double bed with a partner, you have as much personal sleeping space as a baby in a crib.

Then there's this story from when my wife took her 88-year-old mother to buy a new mattress. The salesman noted that it came with a 20-year guarantee.

"At my age, I only need a five-year guarantee," my mother-in-law replied. "Can I get a better price for that?"

Bill Primavera, while a publicist and journalist, is also a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call Bill at 914-522-2076.

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Tobi Asian Bistro Thornwood

By Colette Connolly

There's a new Asian bistro in the Thornwood Town Center and its owners, Sammie and George Li, are excited to share the restaurant's unique cuisine with the community.

Tobi Asian Bistro, a 130-seat restaurant which officially opened its doors Oct. 1 and celebrated an Oct. 7 grand opening, is similar in many ways to the high-quality fare the couple has been serving at Tengda Asian Bistro in Katonah for the past decade.

The restaurant, which takes its name from the Japanese word "tobi," meaning to fly, specializes in sushi and hibachi cuisine.

The kitchen is led by head chef Felix Kam, who has 25 years' experience, including five years at the well-known Edo Japanese Steak House in Port Chester. George Li, a trained sushi chef, will lend a hand if needed, but spends most of his time overseeing the business.

Customers are guaranteed the full hibachi experience when they visit

Tobi Asian Bistro, said Sammie Li, who manages the front-of-the-house operations. Only the best meat and seafood is served, including chicken tenderloin, fresh scallops and black Angus steak.

"We believe delicious food is all about fresh ingredients and fantastic cooking skills," said Sammie Li. "And at Tobi Asian Bistro, we have them all."

The new hibachi dinner menu includes tobi clear soup, salad with homemade ginger dressing, a flaming shrimp appetizer, vegetables, noodles and white or fried rice.

Diners can choose from a number of solo meat and seafood dishes or a combination of both from the hibachi menu. Popular combinations include chicken tenderloin and shrimp; filet mignon and shrimp; shrimp and scallop; the Seafood Triple, which consists of lobster, shrimp and scallop; and the Tobi Triple, which includes Angus steak, chicken and shrimp.

There is also a children's hibachi

menu for kids 10 and under. Side orders of fried rice or noodles, shrimp, scallop, steak or chicken are also available.

Included in the menu are some of the sushi dishes that have been popular at the Katonah restaurant, such as appetizers blackened salmon carpaccio and the Tobi Tartar (spicy crunchy tuna or salmon, guacamole and balsamic vinegar).

Other tasty appetizers from Tobi's Sushi Bar are the Yellowtail Jalapeno (cilantro, yuzu dressing and chili sauce); the tuna dumpling (spicy blue crab with mango and tobiko wrapped with fresh tuna); and the sushi taco (tuna, salmon or yellowtail, onion, jalapeno, tomato and mustard soy sauce).

Various platters are also available at the sushi bar. Those include the spicy roll platter, the veggie roll platter, the Imperial Sashimi, Omakase, which is the chef's daily inspiration, in addition to other delicious options.

Tobi's special main course dishes include the crispy duck, pan seared tuna, grilled shichimi filet mignon, XO Chilean



George and Sammie Li, owners of Tobi Asian Bistro in Thornwood, which opened earlier this month.

sea bass and Thai Red Snapper, among others.

Regular appetizers available in addition to hand rolls, the chef's special rolls and Poke bowls.

There's a well-stocked bar at Tobi Asian Bistro. It includes a variety of French, Italian and Spanish wines along with spirits and beer.

"We really care about the details and believe in serving our customers the way we like to be treated ourselves," Sammie Li said.

A catering service and takeout is available at Tobi Asian Bistro. There is no delivery service at this time.

The restaurant is located in the Thornwood Town Center at 1008 Broadway in Thornwood. The restaurant is open Monday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Friday and Saturday until 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday there is no service from 3 to 5 p.m. On Sunday, the hours are 3 to 10 p.m. Reservations can be made by calling 914-495-3365. For more information, visit www.tobiasianbistro.com.

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Songwriter DioGuardi Provides Young Talent Chance to Shine

By Martin Wilbur

Kara DioGuardi's time as an "American Idol" judge in 2009 and 2010 may have been relatively brief but it gave her the impetus to do something special to help young people.

The Grammy-nominated songwriter and Westchester native has used her experience from the show and in the music industry to launch a vocal competition featuring young talent in New England where she now lives and in the tristate area through the nonprofit organization Inspired Nation that DioGuardi co-founded.

In both locations, Inspired Nation's vocal competition not only showcases promising young talent and provide them with important direction but the events raise money for local charities that help youngsters in need.

Paramount Hudson Valley in Peekskill will be the venue for the second annual Tri-State Rocks on Sunday, Oct. 28, where 12- to 21-year-olds will be competing for small cash prizes and a Berklee College of Music summer sessions scholarships, where DioGuardi also teaches.

"It gave me the idea to put together a nonprofit to celebrate youth," said DioGuardi of her time on "American Idol." "While I loved being on the show I wish I had more contact with the contestants. I wish I had been able to give them more feedback and help them with their artistic



Former "American Idol" judge Kara DioGuardi, center, surrounded by finalists from the inaugural Tri-State Rocks vocal competition for 12- to 21-year-olds last year at a concert at the Elizabeth Sexton Pediatric Center. The second Tri-State Rocks will take place on Oct. 28 at the Paramount Hudson Valley in Peekskill.

vision."

She is able to use her knowledge and her success in the music industry to provide that feedback and help shape tomorrow's performers.

Inspired Nation also provides a platform to youths to express themselves and chase their dreams, DioGuardi said.

"I just realized that there were so many fine artists out there that they use music to convey their thoughts about the world and that there is a certain power that you have," she said. "I think they're underserved in the sense that they don't really have platforms

to tell their stories and they have a lot of great things to say, and especially since they're going to be inheriting the world, let's listen to them."

There is still time for contestants from the tristate area to enter and be considered for the show, DioGuardi said. The deadline for submissions is this Monday, Oct. 22. Anyone interested must submit a videotape of a performance

of either an original song or a cover. The video must be no longer than 90 seconds and should be an individual performance with no backing from musicians.

Finalists will be selected on Tuesday, Oct. 23 and notified by e-mail for inclusion in the Oct. 28 show at the Paramount. DioGuardi will be one of the judges along with Atlantic Record President Pete Ganbarg and Leslie Stifelman, the music director of the show "Chicago."

"Vocal ability is probably the number one thing, but (also) presence, performance

and personality," DioGuardi said of what judges are looking for.

Of equal importance are the four organizations that will split the proceeds from the event. Maria Fareri Children's Hospital in Valhalla, Sunrise Day Camp in Pearl River, Art Start in New York City, which brings creative workshops to children in homeless shelters, and Kids Helping Kids, an outfit that encourages middle school and high school students to create community service projects, will be the beneficiaries.

Last year's event raised about \$55,000 for the participating charities.

DioGuardi said she's looking forward to the show because it brings the community together to appreciate young talent while helping great causes.

"You know what it is, it's a family-friendly show," she said. "So it's a really great thing for anyone in the area."

Tickets to Tri-State Rocks are \$20 and \$30. VIP tickets go for \$100. DioGuardi said there are donor tickets available for those who would have difficulty buying tickets. Show time is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. The Paramount is located at 1008 Brown St. in Peekskill.

For more information on the show, including tickets, and how to submit entries for consideration, visit www.inspirednation.org.

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Armonk Shelter, Local Business Partner to Find Dog a Home

A two-year-old dog who spent almost 500 days since she was born at Adopt-A-Dog in Armonk will soon have a home.

Pet care services provider Canine Company has offered a special adoption package valued at more than \$3,000 to find a permanent home for Thumbelina, a 42-poiund bull terrier mix. The company also launched a campaign to share the dog's story via social media.

"Thumbelina will make an awesome pet for some family," said Kelly Dugan, adoption coordinator for Adopt-A-Dog. "She has the looks, the personality and the smarts. She loves climbing in a lap for a snuggle with her human friend as much as she loves playing with other dogs."

In addition to covering Thumbelina's adoption fees, Canine Company will provide her adopters with a fully installed Invisible Fence® Brand system, at-home obedience training, two visits from its mobile grooming van and a go-home goody basket filled with toys and treats.

For more details on the adoption package, visit Canine Company's Facebook page.

"Thumbelina is such a great catch, we can't believe she's been waiting so long to be adopted," said Renee Coughlin

of Canine Company. "While Adopt-A-Dog has taken wonderful care of her, she needs a forever home. We hope this adoption package will encourage the perfect family to come and meet her."

For more information, photos and a video, visit www.caninecompany.com/product/1270/after-almost-500-days-in-a-shelter-this-precious-pup-needs-a-home.aspx.

Adopt-A-Dog was established in 1981 to save, socialize and secure loving homes for unwanted or abandoned dogs. Today, it has a staff of 15 and houses between 35 and 40 dogs at its Armonk shelter. It is licensed by the New York

State Department of Agriculture as a not-for-profit Animal Adoption and Rescue Organization.

Canine Company has been helping families keep their dogs and cats healthy, safe and happy for 35 years. Based in Wilton, Conn., the company serves pet parents across New England, New York and New Jersey with the Invisible Fence® brand systems, Manners dog obedience training and mobile grooming and pet sitting in select markets.

Two-year-old Thumbelina has spent almost her whole life in a shelter. Now, Adopt-a-Dog has partnered with Canine Company of Wilton, Conn. to find her a home.



P'ville Farmers Market Apple Pie Contest Postponed to This Saturday

Because of inclement weather last Saturday morning, the Phelps Annual Apple Pie Contest at the Pleasantville Farmers Market was postponed until this weekend, Oct. 20.

The market looks forward to welcoming contestants with their apple pie or apple dessert. If you have not yet registered, there is still time at www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.com. Only amateur home bakers are permitted to enter. Junior chefs 18 years and under are welcome.

The three categories that will be judged are the all-from-scratch two-crust apple pie, the all-from-scratch one-crust apple dessert and the all-from-scratch apple pie by a junior chef.

Bring your pie or dessert and the \$5 entry fee to the Pleasantville Farmers Market on Memorial Plaza by 9:45 a.m.

Entry fees support the market's scholarship fund, annually awarded to a graduating Pleasantville High School student on the basis of community service in environmental stewardship, education and leadership. You could win bragging rights for a year and an abundant gift basket.

For more information on the contest, e-mail bessie@pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.



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Not responsible for typographical errors

Samhain: When Two Worlds Merge on Oct. 31

By Brian McGowan

A recent article in a religious publication described Hallowe'en as an event deeply rooted in Christian tradition.

Grafting might be a better term, implying that any Christian tradition associated with the occasion is an applique on something much older, much as a tree bearing fruit may be grafted onto the trunk of an older tree, one whose fruit was very different and equally vibrant.

True, the term in use today – Hallowe'en – signifies the Eve of All Hallows, and the first of November is rightfully celebrated as All Saints Day, also referred to as All Hallows Day. But let's look more deeply at the roots of the tree, which still may delve deep into the nourishing earth below.

On the Celtic calendar, Oct. 31 is the feast of Samhain (SOW-in, with the "ow" pronounced as in "how"). Well, the feast really spans both the last day of October and the first day of November, since the Celtic day of 24 hours begins and ends at sunset rather than at midnight. Samhain marks the end of the harvest season and the beginning of the Celtic winter, as well

as the passing of another year.

We move from the "light" half of the year to the "dark." It is one of the four major Celtic seasonal festivals, the others being Imbolc (Feb. 1), Beltaine (May 1) and Lughnasa (Aug. 1), which was recently addressed in this column as the major of these festivals. Major or not, Samhain, or Hallowe'en, continues to have the most magnetic hold on the popular imagination and has morphed into an almost universally celebrated event throughout the Western world.

At Samhain, the boundaries between our world of the living and the other world, that of the dead, are lifted and free passage is afforded to the spirits inhabiting the far side, whether good or not. It is a time for honoring ancestors, inviting them to the hearth and enlisting

their aid in warding off malevolent spirits who might be their unwitting companions, aiming

to wreak havoc among the living for the duration of the feast.

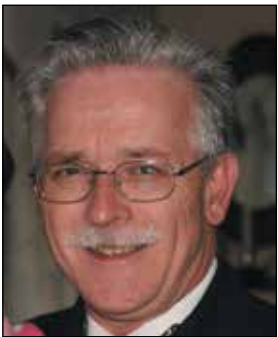
One way of doing this would be to don evil-looking garb, bizarre costumes and ghoulish masks to fool evil spirits that someone was already at work spreading mayhem and dismay. Food was prepared, both for the living and

the dead. Portions left uneaten would be shared with the less fortunate. A scary night, certainly, but one with great purpose and a stronger chance of calling protection upon oneself and one's family than most others offered.

Enter Christianity and a convenient transformation occurs. November 1 becomes the Feast of All Saints (or All Hallows), and the day after becomes the Feast of All Souls. Why Oct. 31 wasn't similarly commandeered is a mystery but may speak to the depth of its presence in peoples' psyche – strong magic not to be toyed with.

On these days we honor the dead, just as the ancient Celts did. And on the eve of these Christian feasts, the custom of wearing costumes to ward off evil spirits endured, carried to America and other parts of the world with the Irish diaspora, where it has nicely blended with other customs appropriate for a harvest festival and is a solid favorite of young and old alike.

Lastly, if you are looking for some good Irish Christmas cheer (it's never too early to start planning), at least two



By Brian McGowan

opportunities are on the horizon. On Dec. 11, at Schoen Hall in New York City, Lunasa takes center stage. They've got other stops as well on a Northeast tour, but that's where I'll be seeing them. On Dec. 22, at Tarrytown Music Hall, Cherish the Ladies graces the stage once again, warming our hearts and feet with music that the band's

founding member Joanie Madden promises won't be Celtic Women.

Looking for some cold weather staples to soften your journey into winter? Stay tuned, as Irish Eclectic will soon roll out "the real deal" in Irish baking: brown bread.

Pleasantville resident Brian McGowan was born and raised in the Bronx and is a second, third and fifth-generation Irish-American/Canadian, as his immigrant ancestors followed several paths to the New World. Reach him at brian.m.mcgowan1952@gmail.com, or on Twitter (@Bmcgowan52M). To see more of his writing on "things Irish," follow his blog, "Rethinking Irish," at www.rethinkingirish.com.

Irish Eclectic



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|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| White Plains Coach Diner | 50 Westchester Ave., White Plains, 10601 | 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4 | 9:00 am |
| Columbus Diner | 754 Columbus Ave., Mount Vernon, 10550 | 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4 | 2:00 pm |
| Dorri's Diner | 468 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, 10605 | 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/28, 12/5, | 9:30 am |
| Seven Brothers | 900 Saw Mill River Rd., Yonkers, 10701 | 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/29, 12/6 | 9:00 am |
| Raceway Diner | 833 Yonkers Ave., Yonkers, 10704 | 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, | 9:30 am |
| City Limits | 200 Central Ave., White Plains, 10604 | 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/4 | 4:00 pm |



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Legal Notice

**SUPREME COURT OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK –
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER
INDEX # 50721/2018
FILED: 08/23/2018
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS
AND NOTICE**

Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgaged premises are situated. **WELLS FARGO BANK, NA AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF PARK PLACE SECURITIES, INC., ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-WCW1**, Plaintiff, against **GERMAN BOHORQUEZ**, if he be living and if he be dead, the respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant(s) who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or inheritance, any right, title or interest in or to the real property described in the Complaint, **ARGENT MORTGAGE COMPANY, LLC, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, and "JOHN DOE" and "JANE DOE"**, the last two names being fictitious, said parties intended being tenants or occupants, if any, having or claiming an interest in, or lien upon the premises described in the complaint, Defendant(s). **TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEYS FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP**

THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the plaintiff's attorney(s) within 20 days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action, may appear within (60) days of service thereof; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. **NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT: THE OBJECT** of the above captioned action is to foreclose on a mortgage in the sum of \$384,000.00 dated March 31, 2005, executed by defendant(s) **GERMAN BOHORQUEZ to ARGENT MORTGAGE COMPANY LLC** recorded on May 11, 2005 in Control No. 451190556. **ARGENT MORTGAGE COMPANY LLC** assigned all of its rights, title and interest in the Mortgage by way of an assignment executed July 2, 2013 to **WELLS FARGO BANK, NA AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF PARK PLACE SECURITIES, INC., ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-WCW1**. The assignment was duly recorded on July 25, 2013, in Control No. 531913817. On July 1, 2008, for valuable consideration **GERMAN BOHORQUEZ** duly executed, acknowledged and delivered a loan modification agreement dated that date, whereby said defendants bound himself/herself in the new principal amount of \$367,675.28 with interest thereon in (the "LOAN MODIFICATION"), covering premises known as 9 South Kensico, MT Pleasant, NY 10595 AKA 9 South Kensico, Valhalla, NY 10595 (Section 117.19, Block 1 and Lot 86). The relief sought within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt described above. To the above named Defendants: The foregoing Summons

is served upon you by publication pursuant to an amended order of the Hon. David F. Everett, A.J.S.C., and filed along with the supporting papers in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester on 08/20/2018. This is an action to foreclose on a mortgage. ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Mount Pleasant, County of Westchester and State of New York, Section 117.19, Block 1 and Lot 86, said premises known as 9 South Kensico, MT Pleasant, NY 10595 AKA 9 South Kensico, Valhalla, NY 10595. **YOU ARE HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.** By reason of the aforesaid, there is due and owing to plaintiff the sum of \$342,772.75, with interest thereon at 5.90000% per annum from June 1, 2012. **UNLESS YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THE DEBT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER YOUR RECEIPT HEREOF THAT THE DEBT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, IS DISPUTED, THE DEBTOR JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU AND A COPY OF SUCH VERIFICATION OR JUDGMENT WILL BE MAILED TO YOU BY THE HEREIN DEBT COLLECTOR. IF APPLICABLE, UPON YOUR WRITTEN REQUEST, WITHIN SAID THIRTY (30) DAY PERIOD, THE HEREIN DEBT COLLECTOR WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE FROM THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT, YOU ARE NOT PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR THE UNDERLYING INDEBTEDNESS OWED TO PLAINTIFF/CREDITOR AND THIS NOTICE/DISCLOSURE IS FOR COMPLIANCE AND INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE** New York State requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. **SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT** You are in danger of losing your home. If you fail to respond to this Summons and Complaint in this foreclosure action, you may lose your home. Please read the Summons and Complaint carefully. You should immediately contact an attorney or your local legal aid of-

fice to obtain advice on how to protect yourself. **SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE** The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid, there are government agencies, and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by New York State Department of Financial Services' at 1-800-269-0990 or visit the Department's website at <http://www.dfs.ny.gov> **FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS** Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services. Section 1303 **NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME** If you do not respond to this Summons and Complaint by serving the copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you may lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the Summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. **YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING AN ANSWER WITH THE COURT.** Aldridge Pite, LLP. Attorneys for the Plaintiff, 40 Marcus Drive, Suite 200 Melville, NY 11747 Our File 25241

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AUCTIONS

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FELINE VETERINARY MEDICAL CENTER, PLLC, Arts of Org filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 8/2/18. Office: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated for service of process & shall mail process to **10 Brady Lane, Somers, NY 10589. Purpose: Veterinary Medicine.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EVOLUTION LOCKSMITH, LLC a domes-

tic Limited Liability Company (LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY on August 08, 2018. The office of this LLC is located in Westchester County. Secretary of state is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC to **90 Stratford Ave., White Plains, NY 10605. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity.**

MARK WHALING being a natural person of at least eighteen years of age and acting as the organizer of the limited liability company formed under Section 203 of the Limited Liability Company Law of the State of New York certifies that the name of the limited liability company is Whaleshark, LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the State on August 31, 2018. The purpose of the limited liability company is to engage in any lawful act or activity within the purposes for which limited liability company companies may be organized pursuant to Limited Liability Company Law. The office of the limited liability company is to be located in Westchester County. The address of the limited liability company is **10 Ormond Place, Rye, NY 10580. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SHAKER WAY LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 9/12/18. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **SHAKER WAY LLC 4 New King Street, Suite 140, White Plains, NY 10604. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SUMMIT GENERAL CONSTRUCTION LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 9/11/2018. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **7 Arbor St, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SUPRANOWITZ CONSULTING LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 9/13/18. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **190 Lake Shore Drive Pleasantville NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF METACR, LLC., Consulting Co. filed with SSNY on 9/17/2018. Office location: Westches-

ter County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **MetaCR, LLC, 591 Warburton Ave., Ste. 373, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF QUINN AIR LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 7/27/18. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **529 Rockland Ave., Mamaroneck, NY 10543. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HENRY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 2018-CV-1751-AM REMONNE JOSEPH Plaintiff v. JOSEPH PIERRELUIS Defendant NOTICE TO: JOSEPH PIERRELUIS BY ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated September 12, 2018 you are hereby notified that on, June 18, 2018 REMONNE JOSEPH filed suit against you for divorce. You are required to file with the clerk of the Superior Court, and to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney, EMMETT J. ARNOLD, 30 Woodruff Street, McDonough, Georgia 30253 an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the above-referenced order. Witness the Honorable Arch W. McGarity, Chief Judge of the Henry County Superior Court, McDonough, Georgia. This 12th day of September, 2018. Barbara A. Harrison, Clerk Henry County Superior Court.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CTP CONSULTING LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/25/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to **7 Mid Place, Chappaqua, NY 10514. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BB GRANT EDUCATORS, LLC, Filed with SSNY on September 18 2018. Office: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent and shall mail process to **BB GRANT Educators, LLC 465 S. Lexington Ave., White Plains, NY 10606 Purposes: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 255 EAST 45 STREET LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 9/28/18. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **255 EAST 45 STREET LLC 4 New King Street, Suite 140, White Plains, NY**

continued on next page

Board of Legislators Approves Funding for Miller House Restoration

By Martin Wilbur

The Board of Legislators unanimously approved \$700,000 in spending Monday evening to restore Miller House/ Washington's Headquarters on Virginia Road, believed to be George Washington's location during the October 1776 Battle of White Plains.

The money will help rebuild the 280-year-old house's roof, fortify its walls, chimneys and foundations, improve drainage at the site and update systems in the building, among other work.

The board also approved use of another \$250,000 from a New York State grant

secured by Assemblyman David Buchwald, which will be used to erect a separate, small classroom/visitors center on the property.

The new funding, in addition to a previously approved \$1.3 million by the county, will finally move the project forward after well over a decade of inertia. Design work is about 80 percent completed and is expected to be finished in the next few months. Mold abatement and other work has already begun on the site.

"As an educator, I believe that we must continue to maintain the Miller House – not just for current residents but for future generations," said County Legislator

Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant), whose district includes the site. "I want to thank everyone involved who made this happen; working together, we have saved a piece of history."

The house was acquired by the county in the early 20th century and it was opened as a park and museum in 1918. But the house has been closed to the public for years as it fell into disrepair. Funding initially was approved to begin restoration back in 2010, but the project was stalled for nearly a decade until now.

In a statement released shortly after the vote, County Executive George Latimer



Legislators unanimously approved \$700,000 Monday evening to restore Miller House/ Washington's Headquarters in North White Plains.

said he was happy to hear that the Miller House will be restored "to its rightful glory."

This long-languished project will now enter into the next phase of the remediation work, which includes mold removal, restoration and construction of the visitors' center announced in April," Latimer said. "I look forward to the completion of this project so it can once again serve as an educational and historical hub for Westchester residents."

The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, New York State Register of Historic Places and the Westchester County Inventory of Historic Places. The site is also a Town of North Castle landmark.

County Board Approves New CSEA Contract

The Westchester County Board of Legislators voted unanimously Monday night to approve a new contract with Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA).

The county's largest union represents about 3,000 workers, roughly two-thirds of the county's workforce. The members had been working without a contract for seven years.

CSEA members ratified the deal on Oct. 5.

The contract is expected to cost the county a little more than \$37 million

in retroactive pay increases this year, although reimbursements from federal and state sources are expected to reduce that cost by \$9.3 million.

"Make no mistake about it, this contract is a good deal for both the dedicated workers who make up our county's workforce and the hardworking taxpayers of Westchester County," said county Executive George Latimer, who complimented the CSEA for negotiating in good faith.

The new contract has no retroactive pay for 2012 and 2013, annual retroactive

1 percent increases for 2014 through 2017, a 2 percent increase for 2018 and 2019 and a 2.25 percent raise for 2020 and 2021.

Starting in January, employees hired before 2019 will contribute between 5 and 10 percent to their health care premiums depending on salary scale. Employees hired starting in 2019 will contribute 10 to 20 percent. Previously, members did not contribute to their health care costs.

—Martin Wilbur



EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds



continued from previous page

10604. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF VAST VIDEOGRAPHY, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 8/10/18. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Vast Videography, LLC, 24207 Town Green Dr., Elmsford, NY 10523. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY RESOURCE LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 08/03/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process

against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Alternative Energy Resource LLC 36 Primrose Ave, Mount Vernon NY 10552. Purpose: Alternative Energy Consulting.**

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Happenings

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

Tuesday, Oct. 16

Henna Art. Learn how Henna has been used for thousands of years and applied to the skin. This program uses a natural dye. Henna paste made from plants will be applied to the skin to make a decorative design. Discover how Henna is made and its history. Those who do not wish to have a design on their hand will still learn and work on creating some original designs. Presented by Margie Nugent, an internationally certified natural Henna artist. For youngsters 11 to 15 years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

English Conversations. For speakers of other languages seeking to improve their English. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

Italian Language and Culture. Mara De Matteo, born and raised in Italy and passionate about her native language, combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in her classes. She creates interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Elder Law and Estate Planning & Special Needs Planning. Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq., a leading elder law attorney, and his colleague, Joanna C. Feldman, will answer questions and speak about assisting clients with estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid and long-term care planning and related areas of interest. Wainwright House, 260 Stuyvesant Ave., Rye. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/elder-law-estate-planning-special-needs-planning-a-family-conversation-tickets-50622987719.

Chappaqua Library Board of Trustees Meeting. Chappaqua Town Hall, Conference Room C, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779.

Wednesday, Oct. 17

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. 9 a.m. Every Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

Baby Time. A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience

gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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.

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

Easy and Fun Remedies for the Aging Voice. Learn and practice daily vocal warm-ups, exercises, singing routines and healthy strategies to help keep your voice fit and long lasting. Led by Gaida Hinnawi, senior speech pathologist and voice rehabilitation specialist. Phelps Hospital, Room 545, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3010.

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

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

Bilingual Storytime. Sing songs and read picture books in English and Spanish. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalry.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

Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Also Oct. 24 and 31. 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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Also Oct. 24 and 31. Info: 914-273-3887.

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

Chess Workshop for Young Adults. Come learn chess with the help of guided instruction and supervised play. Included will be the study of strategy and tactics to make you an even better player. For children in grades 5 and up. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Free. Also Oct. 31 and Nov. 14 at the main branch in Pleasantville. Registration requested. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Look Good...Feel Better. A two-hour workshop that teaches beauty techniques to women undergoing cancer treatment. Includes a 12-step skincare and makeup lesson, nail care techniques, and professional advice on how to deal with hair loss using wigs, scarves, hats, hairpieces and other accessories. Participants receive a free kit of cosmetics to take home. Phelps Hospital's Radiation Medicine Conference Room, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 4:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 800-227-2345.

Rock Layers and Fossils. Discover how sedimentary rocks are deposited in layers. Experiment with different objects and simulated rock layers to see how objects make different impressions, look closely at shale pieces for evidence from the past and attempt to make a good impression. Presented by Nancy Caswell,

4-H community educator from Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Westchester County. Part of this project is supported by information from the Museum of the Earth. For children nine to 12 years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

Ethical Wills. Chappaqua resident Amy Paul will discuss the centuries-old tradition and value of drafting a written document in which your life lessons, family history and love are conveyed as a guide and source of comfort to your loved ones. Templates to help attendees write their own documents will be provided. Paul is a former corporate attorney who has worked in the nonprofit world. As a trained mediator, she has been awarded a Geriatric Scholar Certificate. New Castle Town Hall Assembly Room, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Art Series: Andrea del Verrocchio. Born in 1435, del Verrocchio was not only a master artist, skilled as a painter, sculptor and goldsmith, his studio was one of the most important in Italy. In addition to training artists, he created some of Europe's most important sculptures. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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.

Parenting With Joy and Sanity. Are mornings and bedtimes a struggle with your pre-school child? Are you in constant negotiations with your child? Do you worry and stress when your little one isn't happy? Join Sue Groner, The Parenting Mentor, for help to make child rearing less stressful and more fun. Learn how to utilize her CLEARR™ method (Communication, Love, Empathy, Awareness, Rules and Respect) while raising confident, resilient children. Bring your questions and issues for an interactive and productive conversation. World Cup Nursery School & Kindergarten, 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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Lake Worth, Palm Beach's 'Stepsister,' a Quick Winter Getaway

Yes, Palm Beach's upper crust folks look down their noses at their Lake Worth neighbors. They consider it the other side of the tracks.

As soon you board your flight to West Palm Beach, the Palm Beach crowd are easy to spot; they're the ones in first class. Men wearing blazers and ascots, women adorned in runway fashions, skin pulled tight and bejeweled.

Lake Worth is one of the best kept secrets in Florida for a sunny, fun-filled, long weekend this winter. But if you go, you must stay at the very charming Mango Inn. It's a beautiful, classic Florida

private home built in 1915. With a tropical feel, its intimacy is like escaping to a secluded Caribbean Island, the perfect place to turn off your engines and smell the roses – or should I say the hibiscus.

Full gourmet breakfasts are included, including mango stuffed French toast. The landscaped pool area is its "piece de resistance," a heated pool that is hypnotic with

cascading water fountains. The rooms are beautifully decorated and comfortable.

The spectacular Lake Worth Beach is a 10- to 15-minute scenic walk over Lake Worth Bridge. By car it's a five-minute drive – or call a taxi for only \$5.

Lake Worth's beach is as lovely as any you've been to. Very clean, powdery soft white sand, roaring surf and never crowded. Rent a romantic cabana lounge for two by the hour or the day. You'll love Benny's on the Beach restaurant, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner on the huge Lake Worth Pier. The huge waves breaking beneath you as you dine are breathtaking. Their seafood tastes like it just jumped out of the ocean.

In Lake Worth you can have a fabulous time without renting a car. Take a taxi from the airport to The Mango Inn for \$25. A short walk away, you'll find innovative restaurants, chic cafes, fashionable boutiques, art galleries and antique shops. My favorite restaurant was Suri Tapas Bar on Lake Avenue with an

incredible creative selection of tapas. My favorites are Crispy Duck Confit Cigar, which is braised duck with caramelized onions rolled up to look like a fat Cuban cigar, and Scallops Ay Dios Mio, seared scallops over chorizo hash, and prosciutto wrapped baked figs.

If you rent a car, check out The Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach. Make reservations for their romantic massage for two. (It's costly but you deserve it.) For golfers, there's Lake Worth Municipal Golf Club. Culture vultures can visit the Flagler Museum. In Palm Beach, be sure to stroll down Worth Avenue, its world-famous shopping street. It's to Florida what Rodeo Drive is to Beverly Hills.

So even if you were not considering a winter getaway this year, you can consider getting away for a deliciously long weekend in Lake Worth. There are few places as affordable or as relaxing – and it's still relatively undiscovered and tourist-free. But since The Mango Inn has



By Richard Levy

only 10 rooms and two private cottages, you must make your reservations now. It can be reached at 561-533-6900. (Leave a message if they don't pick up.)

While strolling down Palm Beach's fashionable Worth Avenue, you might bump into one of the well-heeled Palm Beach folks

you passed in first class when you boarded your West Palm Beach flight in New York, so be sure to graciously nod hello to them and say, in your most pretentious voice, "Excuse me, but what time does the polo match start this weekend?"

Hastings-on-Hudson resident Richard Levy is a former advertising "Mad Man" creative director and now prolific travel writer. He's also an inventor of innovative new products and is writing and illustrating a new children's book. You can contact him at RichardLevyTravelWriter@gmail.com.

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Happenings

continued from page 26

Free. RSVP suggested. Info and RSVP: 914-238-9267 ext. 20 or e-mail kim.bremer@worldcupschools.com.

Community Cocktail Party to Help Reunite Immigrant Families. The New Castle Diversity & Inclusion Committee and the Chappaqua-Millwood Chamber of Commerce are partnering to host this fun fundraising event. All proceeds will be donated to Immigrant Families Together, an organization that works to reunite mothers with their children. Includes international cocktails, wine from Italy and France, sangria, pizza appetizers and finger food. All invited. Aesop's Fable, 13 King St., Chappaqua. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$40. Info and registration: 914-325-3623 or e-mail chapmillcoc@gmail.com.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Mark Normand. Mark Normand is a fun-loving, New York comedian. His credits include a one-hour Comedy Central special "Don't Be Yourself," a Comedy Central half-hour special and The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs.com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

Thursday, Oct. 18

Third Thursdays Bird Walk. Join naturalist Tait Johansson at this local migration hotspot for the second in a new series of bird walks. A great way to hone your birding skills and mark the passing of the seasons and birds. Maple Avenue, Katonah. 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: Contact Susan at 914-302-9713 or e-mail info@bedfordadubon.org.

Baby Time. A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.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.

Life Line Theater Music Program. An outlet for unlocking the potential of children and adults with special needs through integrated arts and life skills programs. Drop in anytime and join founder Billy Ayres as he uses singing,

dancing, creating plays, artwork and gardening to help participants realize their strengths and potential contributions to their communities. Ayres has created a technique called improvisational integrated music/drama. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Also Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: Visit www.lifelinetheaterinc.org/index.html.

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.

Creative Writing Workshop. The stories of our lives bubble up from inside us and they can take many forms. But where do we begin? This generative writing workshop will give you tools to work with memoir, poetry and/or fiction and explore a variety of techniques that will make your work vivid and compelling. For beginners and experienced writers. Led by Catherine Wald. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Also Oct. 25. Registration requested. Info and registration: 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 Thursday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

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

Bridge for Beginners/Intermediate Players. With Joel Goren. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Thursdays through Nov. 15. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Read to Rover. Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. For children five years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

Student Loan Repayments Workshop. A representative from the New York State Financial Services office will present this workshop on RE-Payment plans; forbearance; deferment; loan consolidation; rehabilitation; loan forgiveness; how to bring your loan out of default; and how to stop wage garnishment. A Q&A will follow and informational

brochures will be provided. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

Tastes of Northern Westchester. The Mount Kisco Rotary Club's benefit will feature food selections from about 10 local restaurants. The event will raise funds for the Mount Kisco Arts Council. Mount Kisco Holiday Inn, 1 Holiday Inn Drive, Mount Kisco. 6 to 8 p.m. \$125. Two tickets: \$200. Info and registration: Visit www.mountkiscorotary.org.

Solving the Retirement Income Puzzle. An educational workshop for people approaching or entering retirement of the recently retired. Led by Social Security, retirement income and tax specialist Paul Petrone. Larchmont Public Library, 121 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont. 7 to 8 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-834-2281 ext. 3.

"Around the World With Waldo." Temple Shaaray Tefila is launching a new travel club to encourage a sense of community, celebrate cultures across the globe and to learn about new destinations. This first meeting features Waldo Carmenate of Delta Vacations as he shares his myriad experiences and travel recommendations. Designed to be an inspiring and fun-filled event. Traditional British pastries and teas as well as wines from the Bordeaux region of France will be served. Temple Shaaray Tefila, 89 Baldwin Rd., Bedford Corners. 7:30 p.m. Free. Reservations required. Info and reservations: E-mail alysaschaier@gmail.com.

Howie Mandel. Mandel has remained a constant force in show business for more than 30 years. He's executive producer or numerous shows and currently serves as a judge on NBC's "America's Got Talent." Mandel's versatile career has encompassed virtually all aspects of the entertainment spectrum, including television, film and stage and wrote his funny, frank no-holds-barred memoir "Here's the Deal: Don't Touch Me," which revealed his ongoing struggle with OCD and ADHD and how it has shaped his life and career. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$58, \$68 and \$78. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Friday, Oct. 19

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. \$14 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.

"The Silent Picture." An immersive

theater experience through a screening of the original black and white silent film starring Tony Award winner Bill Irwin and directed by Alex Harvey. Accompanied by live musicians and a special effects "Foley artist." Historic Hudson Valley commissioned the film, which is based on the Washington Irving short story "The Adventure of the Mysterious Picture." Shot on location in Croton-on-Hudson. Recommended for children 10 years old and up. Philipsburg Manor, 381 N. Broadway (Route 9), Sleepy Hollow. 6:15, 7:15, 8:15 and 9:15 p.m. \$18. Historic Hudson Valley members receive a \$5 per ticket discount. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 21 and daily from Oct. 25 to 31. Info and tickets: 914-366-6900 or visit www.hudsonvalley.org.

Dinner Discussions: National Refugee Shabbat. A series of Friday evenings featuring a Shabbat Service, dinner and a topic of importance and interest. Tonight, speaker Dan Janison, a Newsday columnist covering the White House, will discuss the national political scene with an emphasis on immigration policy and refugee-related issues. Scarsdale Synagogue Temples Tremont and Emanu-El, 2 Ogden Rd., Scarsdale. Service at 6:15 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m. Discussion at 7:45 p.m. \$25. RSVP required. Info: Visit www.sstte.org/upcoming-events.html or contact Dan Alpert by e-mailing brotherhood@sstte.org. RSVP: E-mail programs@sstte.org.

Lecture and Film Clips. "New York on Film" will be screened. Discussion led by librarian Philip Harwood. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Friday Night Film Series: "Buon Giorno, Papa." Life is one big party filled with wild nights and lots of women for a 40-year-old bachelor who's set in his ways. How much will he change when he discovers a daughter from an old one-night stand? This romantic comedy, starring Italian notables Raoul Bova and Marco Giallini, ponders life, love and the importance of friends and family. In Italian with English subtitles. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Broads and Babes. The ultimate Ladies Night! Broads and Babes is the hottest interactive comedy show. Starring Chrissie Mayr, Samantha Bednarz and their favorite comedians. Interactive games, improvisation, standup comedy and a carnival atmosphere build up to become the greatest girls' night ever. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs.com.

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Evolution or Revolution? When the World of Beverages Converges



By Nick Antonaccio

Over the past few weeks we've explored the science of winemaking. In one column I delved into the evolving creation of four new grape varieties in a French laboratory.

Last week I presented the natural science – the evolution of a bottle of wine from the vineyard through fermentation and aging in barrels.

I'm beginning to notice the manipulation of natural science and laboratory natural science more and more, including crossover products in wineries and breweries.

There is a natural relationship between the production of wine and that of beer. Both products are dependent in their aroma and flavor on the agricultural profile of the grapes and barley/hops grown for specific traits and characteristics. Both products are crafted in a winery/brewery utilizing various strains of yeast; these will affect the fermentation intensity and duration of the finished product. Both products can be manipulated by the use of the numerous options available for storing and aging the end product, be it

stainless steel or wood barrels.

I'm noticing more breweries adopting and adapting winemaking techniques and recently I've noticed wineries combining the raw ingredients of the two core components. Much of this is the creativity of young entrepreneurs appealing to a changing demographic desire for new products.

Today's young adult alcohol consumers are enamored with products that veer from the tried and true of previous generations and are willing to spend their disposable income accordingly. Producers are carefully treading into new territories to satiate this burgeoning predilection.

The crossover of brewing into the arena of wine techniques and production has been on the fringes of the craft beer world for several years. A number of brewers are aging select beers in neutral oak barrels (not possessing any distinct aromas or tannins). Exposure to a wood vessel rather than one of stainless steel allows oxygen and the fleeting aromas of oak staves to impart a unique profile to a craft beer. And they have been very popular, although quite limited in production.

However, several craft brewmasters have advanced this crossover. I read of a beer stored and aged in wood wine barrels fresh from this year's winemaking. The barrels were still moist with grape

juice absorbed by the wood staves, thereby imparting a unique style during beer fermentation. A stout ale with hints of Sauvignon Blanc? Perhaps. Check with your local craft beer reseller.

Another crossover beer product is one in which fermenting barley (or other grain) is mixed in vats with fermenting grape juice, again blurring the lines between the two products. Sold as a beer, this hybrid product is still seeking a core market. A stout ale with clear and perhaps competing characteristics of Sauvignon Blanc? I'm not sure in which type of retail shop it would be sold.

The crossover of winemaking into the previously exclusive domain of beer making is quite recent. Taking a page from craft brewers' production trends, several wineries are mixing grapes and grain. Hops used in beer production are fermented and then added to fermenting grapes at the winery, resulting in a wine with unique floral aromas and a bit of hoppy bitterness. A Sauvignon Blanc with hints of stout ale? Sounds refreshing.

And crossover hybrids don't seem isolated to beer and wine. How enticing is the latest offering from Hangar 1: rosé

wine-flavored vodka? I'll never know.

Now that my head is swirling from the hybridization and competing aromas and flavors of this emerging beer-wine, wine-beer sub market, I feel compelled to embark on a round of market research

to ferret out the crafted, refined products from the lesser, market-hyped offerings. Wish me luck.

Note: I will be hosting a fundraising wine and food pairing event, featuring little-known Italian wines, to benefit

A-Home, a provider of

local affordable housing. It is Friday, Nov. 9 at the Holy Innocents Church social hall in Pleasantville at 7 p.m. For tickets (\$75), contact Barbara Coleman at 914-741-0740 or at bcoleman@a-homehousing.org.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted 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.

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Happenings

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com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

Westchester Crossword Puzzle Contest. The 21st annual contest to benefit the Pleasantville Fund for Learning. The event will feature unpublished Monday through Thursday puzzles from The New York Times, selected and edited by Pleasantville resident and New York Times crossword editor Will Shortz. Contestants may solve individually or in pairs. Sign up at the door. Westchester Table Tennis Center, 175 Tompkins Ave., Pleasantville. 7:30 to 10 p.m. Solo solver: \$40. Doubles pair: \$50.

"Constellations." Hudson Stage presents a production of Nick Payne's award-nominated hit that is a charming, devastating and profound exploration of the universal truth of finding and losing love. A play that balances on the question of "what if" is, at its core, a poignant picture of "what is." Directed by Mark Shanahan. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 8 p.m. \$40. Seniors and students: \$35. Also Oct. 20, 26 and 27 and Nov. 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 21 and 28 and Nov. 3 at 3 p.m.

Westchester Photographic Society Presents: Going Beyond the P Setting in Your Camera. Walter Kimmel's inimitable lectures on the technical aspects of photography. Be prepared to laugh and learn. For anyone 18 years old and up. Westchester Community College's Technology Building, Room 107 (Parking Lot 11), 75 Grasslands Rd. Valhalla. 8 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.wpsphoto.org.

"Fun Home." A story centers around graphic novelist Alison. When her father dies unexpectedly, she dives into her past to tell the story of the volatile, brilliant, one-of-a-kind man whose temperament and secrets defined her family and her life. Leading the cast are three Broadway veterans, Robert Cuccioli, Lauren Cohn and Rita Harvey. Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel. Directed by Amy Griffin with musical direction by Stephen Ferri and choreography by Lexie Fennell Frare. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 8 p.m. Starting at \$35. Also Oct. 20, 26 and 27 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 21 and 28 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www.wppac.com.

Saturday, Oct. 20

Pleasantville Farmers Market. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" from 2014 to 2018. With 56 vendors and seven nearby parking lots, it's a delicious good time. This week, learn to design a game with Institute of Play from 9:30 to 11 a.m., the music series will feature acoustic rock group Skyfactor from 10 a.m. to noon and Lead Sponsor Phelps Hospital Northwell Health will visit from 8:30 a.m.

to 12:30 p.m. There will also be Phelps' Giant Pumpkin Carving Demo from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and the rescheduled Phelps Annual Apple Pie Contest; bring your entries by 9:45 a.m. For more information and to register for the contest, e-mail info@pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org. Rain or shine. The market is a dog-free environment. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 17. 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. Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

Third Saturday Bird Seed Sale. The sale supports the local conservation work of the Saw Mill River Audubon. Pruyn Sanctuary, 275 Millwood Rd., Chappaqua. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Third Saturday of each month. Info (including bird seed descriptions and prices): Visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/seedsale.

The Year of the Bird Celebration. This year has been declared the "Year of the Bird" by the National Audubon Society, National Geographic and many others, including Westchester County. Bronx River Sound Shore Audubon is joining this effort to spread awareness and make the connection between the well-being of birds and the natural world. This program is filled with hands-on activities that are fun and educational for the whole family including a mini bird walk, a feeding of our birds of prey and a discussion about the importance of the Endangered Species Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which have saved countless species from extinction. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 a.m. to noon. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: E-mail Sandy at brssaudubon@gmail.com.

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.

11th Annual Halloween Train Show and Fall Festival. The principal attraction of the event will be the miniature-railroad layout featuring Lionel Trains in Lasdon Park's Main House, and similar scale trains traveling past haunted houses, spooky scenes and whimsical dioramas. Step inside the haunted house and explore the rooms where you will find ghosts, witches

and a special room with a dragon in his lair. Stroll through rainforest exhibit and meet and greet a "live" dinosaur in the Dinosaur Garden or go to the new children's maze. Also, food, music, face painting, storybook readings and selected vendors. All proceeds to benefit the Friends of Lasdon. Lasdon Park, 2610 Amawalk Rd. (Route 35), Somers. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults: \$10. Children: \$5. Every Saturday and Sunday in October. Info: 914-864-7268 or visit www.westchestergov.com/parks or www.lasdonpark.org.

Adult Salsa Class. Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. \$12. Every Saturday. Info: 917-215-1720 or visit www.addie-tude.com. Call or visit website because classes are subject to change.

Ghost Hunter. Have you ever wanted to meet a real Ghost Hunter? Do you want to hear actual recordings of ghosts captured at haunted houses in and around the Connecticut and New York area? Barry Pirro of ConnecticutGhostHunter.com and a paranormal investigator, has been a consultant for several paranormal TV shows including "Ghost Adventures." For anyone 12 years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-864-0130 or www.mountkisco.org.

Tell Me a Story of Pound Ridge: 50 Objects 50 Stories. The Pound Ridge Historical Society has created an exhibition and accompanying book to provide the public with an eclectic look at the town. Highlights of area history, each story in some way gives a glimpse of our distant and not-so-distant past in the hope of awakening an interest in town history in newcomers and our young folk. The 50 objects displayed will have their story told in the accompanying book available for purchase or loan. On display, antique tools, dolls and artifacts will sit alongside trains and a diorama of a Revolutionary War battle. Pound Ridge Historical Society, 255 Westchester Ave., Pound Ridge. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Saturdays and Sundays through November. Info: 914-764-4333 or visit www.poundridgehistorical.org.

Opening Reception for "Reflections and Crossroads." Betsy Murphy is proud to be an artist. She enjoys creating her work in her home studio in Eastchester and takes great pleasure in sharing her knowledge of fusing glass and the process of making art. This solo exhibit promotes her fused glass art and her understanding of how much art affects her life. Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont. 3 to 6 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Nov. 3. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 12 to 5 p.m. Info: 914-834-1117 or visit www.mamaroneckartistsguild.org.

Taconic Opera Concert. Taconic Opera celebrates the opening of its 21st season

by bringing together two of the most popular one-act operas ever composed for two performances this weekend: Puccini's "Gianna Schicchi" and Mascagni's "Cavalleria Rusticana." Yorktown Stage, 1974 Commerce St., Yorktown Heights. 3:30 p.m. \$32 to \$67. Seniors receive a \$7 discount on all tickets. Family of four: \$85. Students: \$15. Also Oct. 21 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 855-88-OPERA (855-886-7372) or visit www.taconicopera.org.

First Congregational Church of Chappaqua's Oktoberfest. This second annual event will feature Esposito's Bratwurst, Captain Lawrence beer, wines from the church's oenophile's cellar, pretzels, cider, live music, a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. The event benefits the mission and outreach work of the church. First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, 210 Orchard Ridge Rd., Chappaqua. 5 to 9 p.m. Adults: \$25. Children: \$15. Info: 914-238-4411 or visit www.fcc-chappaqua.org.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Fred Rubino. Rubino returns to Westchester with Gary Keshner and Chrissie Mayr. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$30. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs.com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

"The Laramie Project." The Clocktower Players present this play in honor of the life and legacy of Matthew Shepard, who was murdered in Laramie, Wyo. because he was gay. A percentage of the profits of this production will be donated to The Matthew Shepard Foundation: Erasing Hate through understanding, compassion and acceptance. Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main St., Irvington. 7:30 p.m. \$35. Students and seniors: \$23. Tickets purchase at the door are \$3 more. Also Oct. 21 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-591-6602 or visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

Ballroom Social. Great music and dancing on a 3,500-square-foot dance floor. Enjoy a pleasant time with friends. Includes food and snacks, plus raffle tickets. Broadway 26 Dance, 26 Broadway, Hawthorne. 7:30 to 11 p.m. \$18. Third Saturday of each month. Info: 914-579-2228 or visit www.broadway26dance.com.

Lea DeLaria. Known for her frank, outspoken politics and big personality, DeLaria is not one to shy away from comedy that will bite hard and elicit gales of laughter. Her new show features hits from her latest album "House of David: delaria+bowie=jazz," and shows off not just DeLaria's comic genius but her spectacular vocal range. Purchase College's PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$30 to \$65. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.purchasecollege.edu.

continued on next page

Be Vigilant and Always Make a Revocable Trust Flexible

Change is inevitable and it comes in many shapes and sizes. Death, disability and divorce are three of the most common changes in life that can wreak havoc on an estate plan. If your estate plan is not flexible, there could be unintended consequences.

With the increasing popularity of revocable trusts, whether drafted by attorneys or available for purchase online, too many trusts on the market are poorly drafted and fail to provide mechanisms for dealing with changed circumstances.

For example, there is a possibility that we may fall ill and require care at home or in a nursing home. To avoid exhausting all your assets, it might be prudent to apply for Medicaid. To create Medicaid eligibility, the assets in your revocable trust may need to be transferred to another individual,



By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq.

such as a spouse, or to a trust.

Other may not fall ill but lose their capacity. I have reviewed many trusts where upon the creator's incapacity the assets of the revocable trust can no longer be distributed from the trust. In essence, the assets are frozen and no Medicaid planning can be implemented. To avoid this situation, your revocable trust should include language allowing the successor trustee, upon your incapacity, to transfer the trust assets to your

children, a spouse or to a trust. By allowing for these transfers, Medicaid eligibility can be achieved.

Another situation that cannot be reasonably foreseen at the time of drafting is the ability or willingness of a successor trustee to act. When drafting, it is wise to appoint multiple successor trustees.

What if the trustees you have selected years earlier, however, have no desire to serve as trustee? Your revocable trust must have proper language allowing for the resignation and appointment of successor trustees.

Often, little time is spent on crafting this type of language. Most trusts simply name the successor trustees with nothing more. If a trustee does not want to serve and there is no mechanism to appoint a successor trustee, court involvement is inevitable.

It's curious that most estate plans do not contemplate the possibility of a beneficiary becoming disabled. I am often consulted by families of beneficiaries who stand to inherit assets from an estate while these beneficiaries are also receiving Medicaid benefits. A Medicaid recipient will likely become ineligible if he or she receives an inheritance. A simple solution is to include a supplemental needs trust in your estate plan. The assets within the supplemental needs trust are protected for Medicaid eligibility purposes.

Commonly referred to as a trigger

supplemental needs trust, its provisions would go into effect if a beneficiary is disabled at the time they are to inherit from an estate. Since we have no idea whether a beneficiary will become disabled, I include trigger supplemental needs trusts in all my estate planning documents, including revocable trusts.

Finally, with the divorce rate so high, it may be prudent for your revocable trust to state that upon your death the trust's assets are to be distributed to lifetime trusts for the benefit of your children. If the assets are distributed to your children outright and your children divorce after your death, it is possible that the inherited assets could be considered marital assets subject to equitable distribution. This could be avoided by using a trust.

Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with Maker, Fragale & Di Costanzo, LLP in Rye and Yorktown Heights. He is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law and special needs planning. Di Costanzo can be reached at 914-925-1010 or at smd@mfd-law.com. Also visit www.plantodayfortomorrow.com.

Happenings

continued from previous page

artscenter.org.

Camille Thurman With the Darrell Green Trio. Following her memorable performance at Caramoor's 2017 Jazz Festival, Thurman, an acclaimed saxophonist, has been amazing audiences throughout the world with her impeccable sound, remarkable vocal virtuosity and captivating artistry. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 8 p.m. \$25, \$40, \$55 and \$70. Info and tickets: 914-232-1251 or visit www.caramoor.org.

Cirquetacular: Spooktacular. Spooks, specters and scaredy-cats contort and cavort through a high-flying circus of scare. Vampires soar, skeletons stagger and acrobatic cats romp through a humorously haunted bazaar of the bizarre. Indulge your inner eerie via this family-friendly, bone-chilling delight. Come in costume or bring something Halloween worthy and participate in the costume parade. Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Theatre, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 8 p.m. \$24. Students: \$22. Children (under 13): \$18. Info and tickets: 914-606-6262 or visit www.sunywcc.edu/smartarts. Tickets will be on sale at the box office 30 minutes before the performance.

Los Lobos & Funky Feat. An evening of rock 'n' roll featuring two of the most celebrated bands of our time. Since 1974, East L.A.'s Los Lobos have been exploring the artistic and commercial

possibilities of American biculturalism, moving between their Chicano roots and the love of American rock 'n' roll. Los Lobos' eclectic sound defined them as a vital example of America's cultural melting pot. Also, three original members of Little Feat are joined by longtime Feat drummer Gabe Ford for a raucous evening of Little Feat's hits. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$48, \$58 and \$68. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Sunday, Oct. 21

American Cancer Society's Westchester Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. The 25th year of Making Strides Against Breast Cancer in Westchester, the fourth largest Making Strides event in the United States with over 21,000 walkers raising \$1.2 million. Manhattanville College, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase. Registration at 8 a.m. Walk at 9:30 a.m. Info and registration: Visit www.makingstrideswalk.org/westchester.

When Sylvia Met Olga. Sylvia Sukop is a writer, educator and longtime member of Congregation Beth Chayim Chadashim in Los Angeles, founded as the world's first LGBTQ synagogue. Czech-born Olga Gabanyiova Grilli survived the Holocaust thanks to a Kindertransport. What brought these two strangers together and led to their lifelong friendship was a Torah from Grilli's hometown, now in the care of the congregation. A story of an unexpected friendship and the Holocaust Torah

with which it began. Program includes brunch, a talk and slide presentation. All welcome. Greenburgh Hebrew Center, 515 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry. 10 a.m. Suggested contribution: \$18. RSVP required. RSVP: Contact Robin at 914-6934260 or e-mail sisterhood@g-h-c.org. Info: Visit www.g-h-c.org/paidup.

Youth Volunteer Fair. About 25 organizations will be on hand looking for volunteers from fifth grade and up. Teens can learn about the many volunteer groups and internship opportunities. In partnership with New Castle United for Youth, the Town of New Castle, the Chappaqua Central School District and the Chappaqua Interfaith Council. Lunch will be provided. First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, 210 Orchard Ridge Rd., Chappaqua. 12 to 2 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.newcastleunitedforyouth.org.

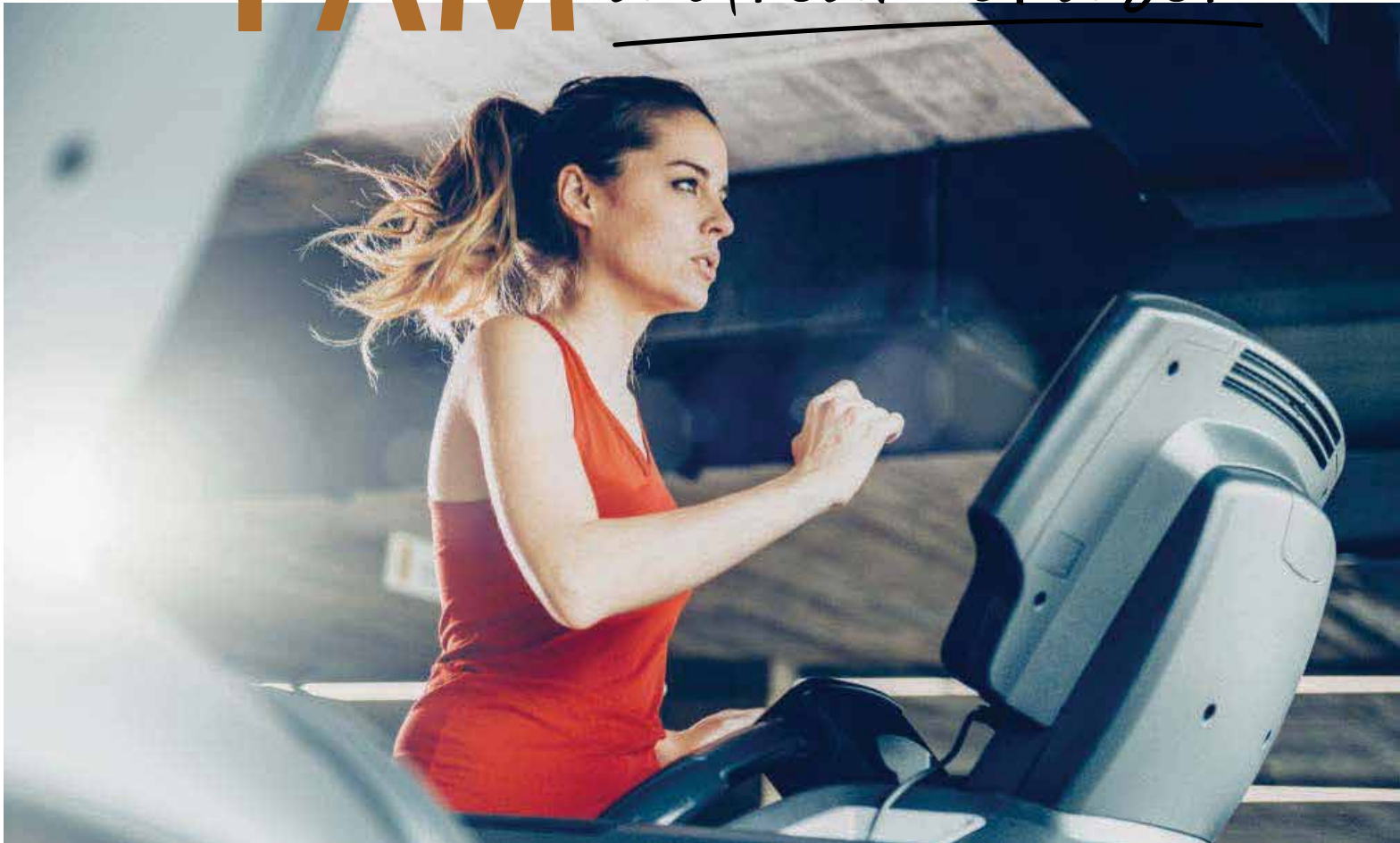
Author Talk and Book Lanuch. Author, ecologist and birder Kathryn Schneider will discuss her new book, "Birding the Hudson Valley." Three years in the making, it offers birders key information about where, when and how to explore key birding hotspots from Troy to New York City. Book sales and signing will follow the program with light refreshments. Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-6503 or visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org.

Westchester Philharmonic All-Orchestral Gala Opener. The

Philharmonic opens its season series with the pure, sublime beauty of Ravel's "Pavane," originally composed for piano and dedicated to Princesse de Polignac. "Drumroll," one of Haydn's final three symphonies, shows the composer at the very peak of his already formidable powers; a mysterious timpani roll gives it its name. The triumph of Brahms' First Symphony is belied by the years that he took to compose it, so enthralled was he in the shadow of Beethoven – a shadow he quickly erased with this towering work. Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 3 p.m. \$36 to \$98. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.artscenter.org.

Enduring Ideals: The Sounds of Freedom. A concert celebrating the 75th anniversary of Norman Rockwell's Four Freedoms suite and inspired by those iconic paintings prompted by President Franklin Roosevelt's soaring 1940 speech championing America's foundational aspirations of liberty, dignity, human decency and respect. Featuring a wide range of composers that hints at the multigenerational richness and diversity of America's musical voices, beloved baritone James Martin returns to salute enduring human rights and ideals and reflect on the dire consequences of losing them. Copland House at Merestead, 455 Byram Lake Rd., Mount Kisco. 3 p.m. \$25. Friends of Copland House: \$20. Students (with ID): \$10. Info and tickets: Visit www.coplandhouse.org.

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