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November 20 - November 26, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 585

New Castle Demands Rt. 117 Left Turn Lane for Whole Foods Opening

By Martin Wilbur

A Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the new Whole Foods could be in jeopardy unless Chappaqua Crossing developer Summit/Greenfield provides a left turn lane from Route 117 onto Roaring Brook Road by the supermarket's scheduled Dec. 12 opening.

Town Board and Planning Board members met with Summit/Greenfield representatives last Friday and issued an ultimatum that the lane be opened to accommodate an expected surge in traffic around the former Reader's Digest site or the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy could be withheld. They feared the new supermarket along with increased holiday traffic will overwhelm the intersection, particularly during peak hours.

"You have to have a turn lane, you have to be able to move the traffic," said town Supervisor Robert Greenstein. "It would be a disaster if you don't have a turn lane."

The left turn lane is one of many

conditions that Summit/Greenfield is required to satisfy for the Chappaqua Crossing project.

Officials were unconvinced by the explanation from John Collins, a traffic engineer for Summit/Greenfield, who said the planned right turn lane from southbound Route 117 onto Roaring Brook Road will help traffic flow at the intersection. It is expected to be functioning in time for the Whole Foods opening.

Collins contended that the right turn lane would allow for the timing of the signals to be adjusted at the intersection, including a longer green light for northbound traffic on Route 117, while southbound traffic remains stopped. Under that scenario, motorists will have an easier time making the left turn, allowing for more vehicles to proceed through the intersection, he said.

Collins said the intersection, which has a current rating F, would improve to a B



Members of the New Castle Town Board and Planning Board along with town staff press Chappaqua Crossing developer Summit/Greenfield to open a left turn lane from Route 117 by the scheduled Dec. 12 opening of Whole Foods.

or C by opening the right turn lane and adjusting the signal.

Members of both boards reminded

Summit/Greenfield that the reason for requiring the left turn lane was the severe continued on page 2

Officials: Art Center Moved into Mt. Kisco Space Without Approvals

By Neal Rentz

Mount Kisco Planning Board Chairman Doug Hertz scolded Katonah Art Center representatives and the building's landlord last week for moving into its new Radio Circle space without approvals.

The applicant first appeared before the board July 24 seeking a special use permit and site plan and change of use approvals, but moved into the space at 40 Radio Circle about two months ago without a certificate of occupancy and a completed safety plan and fire inspection, Hertz said.

He said the move "knowingly violates every possible part of the building code."

"The applicant has been served violations," Hertz said. "They're going whatever administrative procedures to clear that. There was

discussion on whether we should be entertaining this application at all given the fact that you're currently in violation and it's discretionary of this board of whether we even want to hear an application that is in flagrant violation of their site plan."

Landlord Tasos Mansitaris was issued five summonses on Oct. 3, all related to occupying the space without site plan approval and failure to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy, said Village Manager Ed Brancati.

Mansitaris said all the work was done and the art center did nothing wrong when it occupied the roughly 4,700-square-foot space. The center has a building permit and the plumbing, framing and fire inspections have been completed, he said. continued on page 2

Gardens Plan Mariani Latest Proposes Using Deed Restricted Area

By Martin Wilbur

Mariani Gardens last week returned to the North Castle Town Board with another revised residential plan containing more multi-bedroom units but the town would need to allow the applicant to build in a conservation easement.

The latest proposal, a 50-unit luxury rental plan for the four-acre parcel at 45 Bedford Rd. in Armonk, calls for five four-bedroom units, six three-bedroom townhouses and 12 one-bedroom flats, said project architect Rob Aiello. The single-story flats are mostly in the deed restricted area on the east side of the property.

There would also be a 27-unit building that includes 19 one-bedroom apartments and eight two-bedroom residences toward



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Engineer Rob Aiello discusses Mariani Gardens' newest residential plan for the four-acre property in Armonk.

the rear of the parcel closest to Route 22, Aiello said. Some of the apartments in the structure, identified as the C Building, continued on page 4

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New Castle Demands Rt. 117 Left Turn Lane for Whole Foods Opening

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congestion at Roaring Brook Road and Route 117.

"We know that that intersection is going to be bad, whether there's a spike or not, no matter what, which is why the condition of a left turn lane was put in to try and mitigate that somewhat," said Councilwoman Lisa Katz.

Greenstein said that prior to last Friday's meeting he expected the right and left turn lanes to be ready by Dec. 12. He called the traffic issue "the number one, the number two and number three concerns" surrounding Chappaqua Crossing.

Planning Board Chairman Robert Kirkwood said it's a near certainty there will be a traffic surge once crowds start descending on Whole Foods.

"It's the holidays, it's the opening of a new Whole Foods store, there will be great excitement, which is fantastic, but can we deal with that antiquated condition and not say it's going to be better because of this?" Kirkwood said.

But Summit/Greenfield has a few imposing hurdles to clear to complete the

turn lane. In order to install the lane, there has to be a retaining wall with a drainage structure, said Summit/Greenfield Chief Executive Officer Felix Charney. Also, the asphalt plants, needed to provide the material to pave the road, close on Dec. 21, he said.

Planning Board member Tom Curley pressed Summit/Greenfield to provide the town staff and consultants with a plan on how they will create the lane as quickly as possible. He also said the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy doesn't only depend on the turn lane but on the

progress of a host of other conditions.

Charney and attorney Mark Weingarten responded that conditions within the Chappaqua Crossing campus will be satisfied. But Curley expressed skepticism.

"It's time to step up," Curley said. "If you want this from us you have to finally step up and get these things done. We've tried to do it your way for like four years. Now it's time to get it done."

Officials: Art Center Moved into Mt. Kisco Space Without Approvals

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"They didn't have a place to go," Mansitaris said.

Planning Board Vice Chairman John Bainlardi said the applicant needed to provide the dates of the inspections and who performed them.

But Village Attorney Whitney Singleton said no fire or safety inspection has been done by Building Inspector Peter Miley. Mansitaris countered that Miley did all the inspections except for the fire inspection, which was completed by a representative from the fire department.

Several messages left last week for Miley were not returned.

Brancati said Mansitaris was informed

by the Building Department at the Aug. 14 Planning Board meeting that they could not open without the approvals. The village discovered Katonah Art Center was operating illegally during an Oct. 3 inspection of another building on Radio Circle, he said.

Loren Anderson, Katonah Art Center's owner and director, said she believed that everything was in place to allow her to move in and begin operation.

"Our landlord has been in meetings with all the appropriate boards for months," Anderson said. "It is his responsibility to obtain approvals and they have worked diligently at it, making changes as needed."

Parking is also an issue for the site, according to village officials. The building is currently 53 spaces shy of the required 159 spots that are needed as a result of all combined uses in the building. The property would need a parking variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals Hertz said.

Planning Board member Michael Bonforte said he wanted to visit the property to assess the parking situation.

Additionally, Hertz said the applicant must provide a site-specific landscaping plan. Patrick Croke, the center's architect, said he was recently told by Town Planner Jan Johannessen that the center did not need to hire a consultant for a landscape

plan.

Planning Board member Ralph Vigliotti said the front of the building needed landscaping in addition to the existing grass. Since the building is 12 percent above the maximum building coverage for the site, a variance from the ZBA will also be required, Vigliotti said.

Although the board members were angered by the unlawful operation, Hertz said they wanted to make the application work.

The matter is scheduled to be discussed again at the Nov. 27 Planning Board meeting.



P'ville's Manville Road Streetscape Project Eyed for 2020 Start

By Anna Young

Construction on the Manville Road streetscape project in Pleasantville is expected to begin in 2020, village officials were informed last week.

Rich Williams of Insite Engineering Surveying & Landscape Architecture told the Village Board last Monday that the project will likely receive design approval from the state Department of Transportation (DOT) within the next two months. Williams said it would still need comply with the state Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

With DOT's design providing for a 2020 construction start date, Williams said work is expected to last about 10 months. He said when the project is in the final design stage, village officials will have to decide if they will bid the Manville Road work and the Memorial Plaza civic space project together.

"As we get down to the road to the final design process, we can talk about if we want to bid them at the same time to take advantage of incentive pricing," Williams said. "Sometimes you get a better price when you bid two projects together."

He added that if the village wants to stagger the projects, the right-turn lane on Memorial Plaza onto Manville Road needs to be eliminated and a traffic light on Memorial Plaza with a right turn lane onto Manville would need to be installed before work can begin.

Village Administrator Eric Morrissey said the village is currently leaning toward breaking up the projects into two construction seasons. He said a portion of the Manville Road project must be completed before construction can begin on the civic space.

"Staggering these projects over two

P'ville Farmers Market to Re-open Indoors Dec. 1

The Pleasantville Farmers Market will be closed this Saturday, Nov. 24, but will reopen next week on Dec. 1 inside Pleasantville Middle School each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. through March. There will be more than 40 vendors participating in the indoor market, including special seasonal vendors in December. Pleasantville Middle School is located at 40 Romer Ave. in Pleasantville. For more information, visit www. pleasasntvillefarmersmarket.org.

construction seasons would ultimately impact our budget," Morrissey said. "Also, taking them on all at the same time, then having to stop and restart will impact the budget. So, we have to really wrap our minds around the best-case scenario."

Along with removing the turn lane on Memorial Plaza, all curbs and ramps on Manville Road will be made ADA compliant; a median will be created along Manville Road between Grant Street and Vanderbilt Avenue; a pull-off area will be added in front of the Jacob Burns Film Center; and lane width will be widened to 15 feet.

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"This will create formalized lanes which will calm traffic and create a more pedestrian-centric village," Williams said.

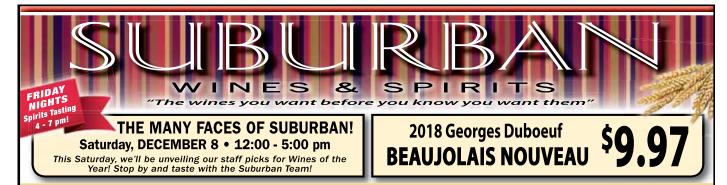
With two traffic lights in quick succession facing southbound drivers on Manville Road at Washington Avenue and a short distance later opposite Wheeler Avenue, board members also suggested removing the second light while citing safety concerns.

"It's an issue, no doubt," Mayor Peter Scherer said. "The state put those lights up and I don't know what their thinking was. This issue has come up at various points."

Morrissey said the village must focus on parking with Memorial Plaza slated to lose roughly 45 spots to the civic space project. Despite acquiring 18 spaces on Hobby Street, he said the village is discussing shared parking with the developer of the proposed 70 Memorial Plaza mixed-use project. The developer has plans to build a three-level parking structure with 137 spaces.

Plans are also being considered to revise the Memorial Plaza parking with angled spots to create additional space.

That's another piece we're working on," Scherer said.



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Latest Mariani Gardens Plan Proposes Using Deed Restricted Area

continued from page 1

would feature terraces, he said.

Last week's iteration replaces a 49-unit version of the plan that was submitted early last month. However, town officials gave that plan a cold reception even though it avoided the conservation easement mainly because it would likely attract fewer families with 34 one-bedroom units and only one three-bedroom residence.

An original 43-unit plan presented earlier this year was similar to the proposal unveiled last week but the C Building was slightly taller with a smaller footprint and did not include terraces.

"There was a strong component to the critique last time we were here about sort of who would be here and you wanted more families, not millennials, not the one-bedroom, even though they're bigger," said attorney Anthony Veneziano, who is representing Mariani Gardens.

"Then there's the optics where we convert some one-(bedrooms) to twos depending on what your feedback is to the overall plan," he continued. "But that's what you're seeing, changing the social fabric of what's in there because you didn't want a one-bedroom

apartment building downtown."

Town officials indicated during discussion last month that they would be receptive to allowing the applicant to build in the deed restricted area. Veneziano said there have been discussions on behalf of his client with the town about what would be fair compensation in a municipal benefits agreement.

It had been discovered in June that a portion of the site closest to Maple Avenue was subject to a conservation easement dating back to 1979 when the town deeded land to a previous property owner. The easement currently prohibits the development of buildings on what amounts to about one-third of the site.

"I'm not totally averse to some sort of modification on the deed restriction but it's hard for me to visualize here how much of an impact it will have," said Councilman Jose Berra.

Although board members signaled the latest plan is more to their liking, Berra said there are concerns regarding density and congestion near downtown.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the developer also has to resolve where to place the five affordable units on the site. Currently, those are proposed for the C Building but the town's affordable housing ordinance requires that the 10 percent of the units that would be

affordable should be similar to the market-rate residences.

Director of Planning Adam Kaufman also pointed out that the four-bedroom units, identified as the A Building that would front Bedford Road, are turned in a way where they don't appear to integrate well with the street. The property is across the street from the Bedford Road Historic District.

"I think we want to not turn our backs to that, and try to make the A units the transition so they face the road," Kaufman said

Officials complimented the applicant on the redesign of the C Building. Although its footprint is 3,000 square feet larger, the terraces help give it a more unique design.

"It's a special hamlet and that's a special vertical building," Veneziano said. "That's a nice-looking building for what it is. You don't see that all the time and these terraces are really going to sell."

The Town Board would have to approve a rezone from the current Nursery Business district to a multifamily designation for the project to advance.

The board confirmed its lead agency status last week. It also agreed to refer the latest proposal to the town Planning Board and the county Planning Department for feedback as long as it communicates that it does not fully embrace the proposal.

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Fantastic Finds in Chappaqua to Hold Holiday Boutique on Dec. 6

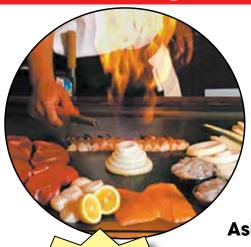
Fantastic Finds, an upscale resale shop at 400 King St. in Chappaqua (in the Talbot's shopping center), will hold its annual Holiday Boutique on Thursday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The boutique will feature free refreshments, pop-up sales and more. Merchandise includes many beautiful items such as a large selection of glassware, artwork, housewares, china, small appliances, home decor, bric-a-brac and small or accent furniture. Shoppers will also find gorgeous clothing, jewelry and accessories for men and women.

All proceeds at the shop benefit Support Connection, Inc., a nonprofit organization which provides free, year-round breast and ovarian cancer support services. The store is staffed with volunteers who handle sales, inventory and accept donations. Regular store hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call Fantastic Finds at 914-238-9200 or Support Connection at 914-962-6402, visit supportconnection.org/fantastic.finds or e-mail fantastic.finds@supportconnection.org.

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Mt. Kisco Custodian Loses Asylum Bid; Deportation is Expected

By Martin Wilbur

The longtime custodian of a Mount Kisco synagogue lost his bid for asylum last week after an immigration judge denied his request to remain in the United States.

Armando Rojas, 50, the custodian at Bet Torah for the past 20 years, was found last Thursday not to have a credible case fearing for his safety if he returned to his native Mexico. It was the second time he lost an asylum claim this year, having been denied his previous request in June.

Following the court date in Batavia, N.Y., Rojas was taken back to the Albany

County Jail until he is expected to be deported at a later date.

Over the past six weeks there had been outpouring of support from the community for the father of two. Several hundred community members as well as congregants of Bet Torah held a rally last month outside the synagogue to protest his deportation.

Earlier this month, the Democratic



Armando Rojas

caucus at the Board of Legislators sent a letter to the two upstate immigration judges vouching for his "extraordinary worth ethic."

It also mentioned that his safety would be endangered if he returned to Mexico. Upon arriving in his sister's home village, he was identified as a target

and was repeatedly threatened with physical harm. Two other relatives had

been murdered before his deportation, the lawmakers' letter said.

Rojas had emigrated from Atlixco Puebla, Mexico in 1986 when he was 18 years old. He made his way to New York and found work as a custodian and had served as head of the custodial staff until his deportation earlier this year.

He was originally asked to leave the United States in 1993, but became a fugitive when he stayed in the country.

According to immigration law, a person has a year to seek asylum in the United States from the time of their

Police Probe Newspaper Defaced With Hate Symbols

By Rick Pezzullo

Peekskill police are investigating the defacement of a copy of last week's Northern Westchester Examiner with swastikas and the letters KKK.

The hate symbols were discovered Nov 14 at about 8 a.m. at a Chase bank branch at 1025 Brown St. in Peekskill.

The lead story in the Nov. 13-19 edition of the paper was about the election of Yorktown High School graduate Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to Congress.

A reader who discovered the defaced copy of the paper filed a report with Peekskill police last Wednesday and Chief Donald Halmy said Friday police were still actively investigating the incident and had not yet identified anyone responsible for the act.

"After speaking with the assigned officer, I'm confident Peekskill police are taking the matter seriously," said Examiner Media Publisher Adam Stone. "All of the anti-Semitic and racist incidents arising across the country are deeply disturbing, and it's incredibly troubling to see the volume of incidents increase the last two years. It's vitally important to shine a bright spotlight on all of these incidents and resist any temptation to accept them

as the new norm."

"The Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center commends the action of the citizen who, upon discovering the hate symbols on the newspaper, immediately brought it to the attention of the Peekskill Police Department to investigate," said Millie Jasper, executive director of the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center. "We encourage the officers to investigate this matter thoroughly, sending a clear message to the community that the Peekskill law enforcement agency does not tolerate behavior showing prejudice and bigotry."





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Chappaqua Crossing Whole Foods to Open Doors on Dec. 12

By Martin Wilbur

Whole Foods Market announced Tuesday that it will open the new 40,000 square-foot store at Chappaqua Crossing on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 9 a m

Opening day celebrations will include complementary coffee and pastries outside starting at 8 a.m. until the store opens an hour later, a free shopping bag giveaway to the first 200 customers, product demonstrations and sampling throughout the store.

"We are excited to be part of the greater Chappaqua and Northern Westchester community," said Store Team Leader Alex Saa. "We aim to preserve the character of this renowned location while offering the highest quality food that the people from New Castle and beyond have been waiting for."

The store will offer a selection of locally sourced options, grab-and-go prepared foods and natural and organic grocery items. Each item sold in the store meets Whole Foods Market's quality standards and is free of artificial flavors, colors, sweeteners, preservatives and hydrogenated fats.

The store will also feature Pizza



Parlor, a 37-seat, fast-casual dining and beverage space offering pizza from a wood-burning oven as well as a menu of antipasti and hearth-roasted main and side dishes. A curated selection of beer from local breweries and wines by the glass will be served. Pizza Parlor will be open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Whole Foods had announced earlier this year a grand opening for Nov. 8 but various delays pushed down its debut at the former Reader's Digest site that is being transformed into a mixed-use campus.

This is the third Whole Foods in Westchester with other locations in Yonkers, Port Chester and White Plains.

Other special features at the Chappaqua store will include:

- A fresh produce department with seasonal fruits and vegetables, including selections from regional growers.
- A full-service butcher department featuring truffle-primed, dry-aged beef and holiday roasts, as well as a seafood department with heat-andserve seafood ramekins and holiday salads and caviar.
- An expansive bakery offering a full line of scratch breads and rolls and baked goods including layer cakes, brownies, muffins, coffee cakes, Bundt cakes and cornbread, including vegan, gluten free and other special diet offerings.
- Prepared food bars with seasonal vegan and organic options, salad bar,

- soup wells, self-serve pizza, Kikka sushi and a freshly made-to-order fajita venue.
- A full-service Allegro Coffee Bar with nitro cold-brewed coffee and tea and seasonal smoothies.
- A specialty beauty and body care department featuring local lines Bogavia Skincare and LUX Natural.
- An expansive selection of local beers.

Whole Foods Chappaqua is expected to have 230 full-time and part-time employees and be open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Also scheduled to open that week at Chappaqua Crossing is Chase Bank, said Felix Charney, the Chief Executive Officer for the Summit/Greenfield, which is developing the project. There will be at least 15 separate entities as part of the 120,000 square feet of retail, he said. Openings for the various businesses are expected to be staggered throughout the first half of 2019.

The campus's other major opening, the 40,000-square-foot Life Time Fitness, now anticipates a January opening, company representatives recently said.

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Opposition Surfaces to New Castle's Leaf Blower Legislation

By Martin Wilbur

Opponents of New Castle's proposed legislation to ban gas-powered leaf blowers came out in force last Tuesday pushing back against a measure they argued would be costly and create a hardship to maintain large parcels.

During the resumption of the public hearing at Town Hall, operators of landscape companies led the opposition along with a number of town residents arguing that it would be unfeasible to expect owners of multi-acre properties to use the weaker electric or batteryoperated machines.

While some speakers did not object to some sort of regulation, others questioned the veracity of the data put forth by the town's Sustainable Advisory Board (SAB) to help justify the legislation.

Peter DeLuca, the owner of Organic Landscapes in Bedford, said that the equipment he and many of his colleagues use adhere to the latest Environmental Protection Agency standards.

"Electric blowers should be a consumer choice, not a mandate," said Peter DeLuca, owner of Organic Landscapes of Bedford. "As a consumer, owner, employer, taxpayer, I should be able to choose the best equipment that's right for me and my clients."

Last month, the SAB proposed a

measure calling for all leaf blowers used in town to be electric or battery operated by May 2021. The law, which is proposed to go into effect next spring, would have a two-year phase-in as part of a public education effort and prohibit the use of all types of leaf blowers each year from May 15 to Sept. 30.

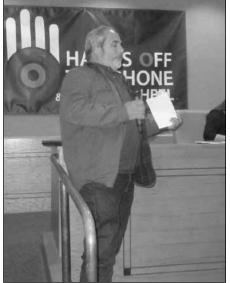
SAB member Rand Manasse, who made presentations at the hearing's first session on Oct. 23 and again last week, said the electric leaf blowers cause damaging noise pollution, particularly for the machines' operators, increase the carbon footprint and kick up particle pollutants that can cause respiratory problems. He denied that

But Larry Wilson, a past president of the New York State Turf and Landscapers Association, said the proposed law is too drastic. He proposed town officials consider allowing one backpack blower per property in the summer months.

While 18 Westchester municipalities have approved some sort of restriction on the books, none have totally banned gas-powered blowers.

"I think you're coming at the problem with a jackhammer," Wilson said. "There could be a balance, there could be some middle ground here."

David Lowery, president of North Castle Landscaping & Tree Service, said he uses some electric blowers but it would



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Peter DeLuca, the owner of a Bedford landscaping company, is one of many speakers who opposes legislation proposed in New Castle to ban gaspowered leaf blowers.

be unrealistic to expect landscapers to use them them on the larger properties. For example, he would likely have to increase the number of workers or drastically increase the amount of time working on a property without the gaspowered blowers.

Town resident Bob McNamara said he would not object to banning gaspowered blowers during the May 15 to Sept. 30 time period but once the leaves start falling, there would be no way he could get his property cleaned without one.

"I cannot see getting my lawn down and I don't have a big property here," he said. "I don't see doing it if I couldn't use my gas blower."

Another resident, David Klein, was one of the speakers who questioned some of the information in the presentations. While the SAB cited a decibel level of 90, Klein said that at 15 meters that noise drops off to 78 decibels.

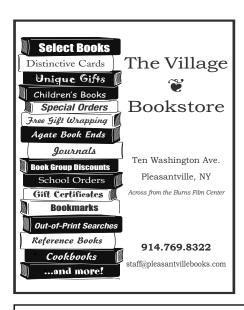
Other speakers were also skeptical of the claim that using a gas-powered blower creates as many emissions as driving a F-150 pickup truck from New York to Alaska.

Town Board members said a complete ban may be warranted but that some regulation is a near certainty.

Councilman Jeremy Saland said various levels of government have taken steps to protect the public, whether it relates to smoking bans or prohibiting texting while driving. Helping reduce the carbon footprint and noise pollution must also be considered.

"There surely needs to be a balance and that's why we're listening to figure out what that balance is," Saland said. "But to do nothing and ignore issues also isn't the answer."

continued on page 14





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North Castle Weighs Formal Study to Assess Armonk Parking

By Martin Wilbur

North Castle officials are considering whether to retain a transportation planner to help evaluate Armonk's parking needs in the hamlet's downtown.

Director of Planning Adam Kaufman recently recommended the Town Board obtain a proposal from Nelson/Nygaard, a San Francisco-based consulting firm with offices in New York, Boston and Washington, to assess whether potential plans to enhance parking should be pursued.

Plans could include cleaning up the parking area behind the stores on the west side of Main Street to maximize space, possible acquisition of the Verizon property and the development of parking at the end of Kent Place, Kaufman said. The area behind the stores and a purchase of the Verizon property could yield more than 100 spaces while Kent Place would create about 40 more spaces, he said.

"I think the first step in implementing that plan is getting a very good understanding of what our problems are, what type of deficiencies do we have, where are the deficiencies, how much offstreet parking do we need, how much offstreet parking do we need in the future and try to get a handle on that," Kaufman said.

The Town Board invited two Nelson/

Nygaard representatives, Principal in Charge Tom Brown and Project Manager Jim Watson, to speak during its Nov. 14 work session.

Brown said the firm has worked with communities throughout the United States, including many in the metropolitan area, to assess their parking challenges. They had been retained by several nearby municipalities such as Darien, Conn., Peekskill and the Hudson River communities of Hastings-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown, he said.

"(Parking is) really at the center of so many things that developers, universities, city planners, cities are trying to do and if you get it wrong nothing can ruin a good plan as quickly or as thoroughly as getting the parking wrong," Brown said.

Last week the two consultants toured downtown Armonk with Kaufman. Brown said they would look most closely at the hamlet's peak hours, which is generally weekday during the lunch hour as well as an emerging late afternoon to early evening period on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, to get a handle on the downtown's parking challenges.

Watson said their work would entail examination of the current parking, both public and private, the zoning codes for downtown properties and speaking with stakeholders to fully comprehend how the hamlet is functioning. The town needs to be able to adapt to change as it occurs and that could also mean working with developers and private concerns to see if there is a chance of parking needs being met through those means.

The Examiner

"There's more additional development on the books that may not be insignificant but it may change the dynamics a little bit of the downtown as well as bring in some new residents to downtown," Watson said.

He said the firm typically does not jump straight to recommend building a parking garage, although for some communities that is ultimately what they need.

It would take up to two months to collect data and write a report with recommendations, Brown said. However, a key consideration is when the right time is to collect the data. Data collection should be done during a representative period of time, which excludes summer and January, Brown said. There is typically at least six months out of the year when that work can be done, he said.

The board also asked to the consultants to include Old Route 22 in their proposal. North Castle completed a streetscape on the road last year.

The consultants are expected to submit a formal proposal to the town and a decision whether to retain their services will be made in the upcoming weeks.



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County Residents Can Register for Bee-Line Bus Service Updates

Many regular customers of Westchester's Bee-Line bus service were left out in the cold during last week's snowstorm because they did not have accurate and up-to-date information on local bus schedules.

Residents can sign up for the Quick News List and get bus reports sent directly to your e-mail inbox. You can request to be put on the e-mail list by sending a request to beeline@westchestergov.com.





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P'ville Leaders Call for Plan to Address Recreational Marijuana

By Anna Young

Members from Pleasantville STRONG are urging village officials to discuss potential regulations and legislation regarding marijuana use as New York State inches closer to legalizing recreational marijuana.

During an annual joint meeting of the Village Board and Board of Education last Tuesday, Pleasantville STRONG leaders John Mueller and Nicole Malgarinos shared their concern for local youngsters if recreational marijuana use is legalized. They pressed both boards to huddle with experts to learn how to regulate the substance at the local level.

"The only thing I would ask the trustees specifically is not to wait until the county decides what restrictions they're going to put on the legalization of marijuana," Mueller said. "What we need you guys to do is to do your jobs and be creative about the best way we can legislate this to make sure that our kids are safe and make sure it's not readily accessible until they're old enough and well-equipped enough to make their own decisions."

Mueller added that the focus of marijuana legalization needs to be on adolescent wellness and protecting children. This should not be readily accessible to a nine-year-old, he said.

Medicinal marijuana is legal in New York for patients who are certified by



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

School and village leaders discussed possible strategies with Pleasantville STRONG about how to protect youngsters should the state legalize recreational marijuana use.

medical practitioners as having serious diseases and conditions, including cancer, AIDS, severe chronic pain and other ailments. Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who signed the Compassionate Care Act in 2014 to legalize medicinal marijuana use, has said previously that the benefits of legalizing recreational marijuana outweigh the risks.

Recently, Cuomo concluded a series of listening sessions that offered advice on different legislative and regulatory approaches to legalization with a goal to draft a bill that lawmakers can consider next year.

Malgarinos said the coalition is ready to provide experts to both boards to help frame local legislation regarding licensing and retail regulations. She said the coalition has been analyzing data from Colorado and Oregon, which have seen an uptick in marijuana use since both states legalized the substance.

"Retail marijuana is coming, it's here. It feels like an inevitability," she said. "It is such a complex issue that we are not even sure what the problems are going to be until they arise."

Malgarinos added that the coalition is working toward preventative measures

to promote information sharing and sustainable prevention programs. She pressed both boards to sit down and start having conversations about the future.

"We are prepared, along with student assistance services, to provide those experts to the school board and village board whenever they're ready to have those conversations," Malgarinos said. "We know that prevention works so it's important to think about prevention, mental health and wellness initiatives."

Board of Education President Angela Vella said the board is researching methods to pass resolutions against legalizing marijuana. Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter said they are using research-based conversations to make decisions.

"It is certainly an era of inevitability, so we need to not only state the case but hope for the best and plan for the worst," Mayor Peter Scherer said.

School Trustee Louis Conte expressed concern with the possibility of the legalization of marijuana at the height of the opioid epidemic while Trustee Shane McGaffey urged the boards to work together to craft a resolution.

"Adulthood is adulthood," Fox-Alter said. "But a child only gets one opportunity to be a child and the most we can do is protect them. We have to protect them."

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Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

Nov. 13: Police responded to Diplomat Drive at 11:29 p.m. on a report of a possible domestic dispute in an apartment. Officers determined that a brother and sister had been in a dispute that was verbal in nature.

Nov. 14: Report of a hit-and-run accident on Lexington Avenue at 2:25 p.m. A vehicle owner reported that a silver Toyota sedan sideswiped his car while he was parked but did not stop.

Nov. 14: Police responded to a North Moger Avenue residence at 4:14 p.m. on a report of a loud argument between two men. The parties, who are neighbors, were arguing over noise that one of them allegedly causes when geting up for work at 3 a.m. each day.

Nov. 15: Police responded to a building on South Bedford Road on a report of

a noxious odor at 9:14 a.m. Building management evacuated the premises as a precaution. An oily rag with a strong chemical odor was found in a garbage pail and was the apparent cause of the odor.

Nov. 15: Police responded to Main Street at 5:40 p.m. on a report that a Bee-Line bus was stuck in the snow and blocking traffic. The driver was able to get the bus moving again and continued along his route.

Nov. 15: Two employees of a South Moger Avenue store reported at 8:37 p.m. after that two people were in engaged in a loud argument that might turn into a physical fight. The responding officers separated the two parties and sent them on their way.

Nov. 16: A West Street resident reported at 10:05 a.m. that \$35 in cash, a power drill and two bottles of prescription medicine were missing from her home office. There

was no sign of forced entry into the premises. An investigation is continuing.

Nov. 16: A resident whose car got stuck in the snow and was towed the previous evening on Maple Avenue contacted police at 11:16 a.m. because she didn't know how to get the vehicle back. An officer assisted her in determining where the car had been taken.

North Castle Police Department

Nov. 9: A caller reported at 10:07 a.m. that staff found a bag containing what he believes to be medical substances that caused several staff members to feel nauseous and lightheaded at 99 Business Park Drive. The responding officers notified 60 Control. Witness depositions were secured.

Nov. 9: A complainant arrived at headquarters at 12:09 p.m. to report he lost one of his license plates.

Nov. 10: Report of loud music continuing to be heard from a restaurant at 465 Main St. at 1:41 p.m. The responding officer reported speaking with the manager for a second time this

evening and issued a summons.

Nov. 11: Report of a suspicious vehicle on Windmill Road at 2:10 p.m. The caller stated that an SUV parked in the area of the dam that appears to be hiding in a bush. The responding officer reported that the vehicle belongs to workers that were repairing the stone wall and those parties were conducting repair work until Nov. 14.

Nov. 13: A caller reported at 11:07 a.m. that a 52-year-old male IBM employee has passed out at work. The party was alert and conscious and the call was transferred to 60 Control. The man was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital with ALS on board.

Nov. 13: A complainant reported observing a U-Haul van strike her fence while turning around on School Street at 5:49 p.m. The caller stated that the van was last seen traveling west on School Street and then south on Route 128. The responding officer canvassed the area for the vehicle with negative results, but followed up with the complainant and obtained pictures and a deposition.

Obituary

Bruce Kaplow

A much-loved husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle, Bruce Neil Kaplow passed away at his home in Chappaqua on Nov. 12. He had suffered from Parkinson's Disease for several years and fought until the end with strength.

He was 75.

Kaplow was born in the Bronx to Howard and Shirley Kaplow but moved to Flushing and then to New Rochelle where he completed high school. He joined the Naval Reserves in the 1970s and then worked at his family's insurance business, Kaplow & Ziplow Real Estate and Insurance, where he then formed and grew an equine specific insurance brokerage, one of the first at the time.

He had an absolute passion for the American Quarter Horse and became a leading owner and breeder of world champion horses. Kaplow accumulated three Super Horse Championships, the most prestigious award in the industry, two reserve Super Horse Championships,

over 30 world championships and over 50 American Quarter Horse Congress Championships.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Susan Conley Kaplow, of Chappaqua; a daughter, Robyn Carter (John), of Tennessee; son Evan (Meg); four grandsons, Jak, Luke, Brady and Easton of Chappaqua; his sister, Roni Kaplow Puckhaber (Bill), of Granite Springs; loving nephew, Russel Puckhaber (Natasha) and niece Kari Puckhaber (Randy Wojotowicz); five grandnieces and grandnephews; his brother, Wesley Kaplow (Amy); and nephews Seth and Ryan.

Visitation was held on Nov. 14 at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville. A memorial service was held at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville immediately followed by internment at Mount Eden Cemetery in Valhalla.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps, 233 N. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua, N.Y. 10514.

Arrest Made in Last Month's New Castle Home Invasion

New Castle police arrested a 43-yearold Bronx woman last Wednesday in connection with last month's home invasion where she entered an occupied residence, displayed a gun and began forcibly stealing property.

Mirabai Sheridan of 500 W. 235 St. was charged with one count of first-degree robbery, a Class B felony after she was apprehended on a residential street in Harrison, said New Castle Police Lt. James Carroll. She was arraigned shortly after her arrest in New Castle Justice Court and was remanded to Westchester County Jail in Valhalla without bail.

Police said the investigation is continuing and additional charges could be filed.

Sheridan is accused of entering a Long Pond Hill Road home in the early afternoon on Oct. 24 while an adult and child were inside police said after the incident. The two residents were not hurt.

Carroll said Sheridan stole an undisclosed amount of jewelry but was unable to disclose additional details.

The investigation was conducted by New Castle police with the assistance of the Westchester County district attorney's office, the Westchester County Department of Public Safety and the Harrison Police Department.

The suspect is scheduled to return to Town Court on Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.

-Martin Wilbur





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Board of Legislators Struggle With County Parking Lot Sale Issues

By Anna Young

Westchester County Executive George Latimer's proposal to sell the County Center parking lot for \$22 million in his 2019 budget sparked skepticism among lawmakers during Board of Legislators meeting Monday morning.

Following Latimer's \$1.94 billion budget presentation earlier this month, Board of Legislators Chairman Ben Boykin (D-White Plains) called a special meeting to examine the vast details involved with selling the three parking lots that run adjacent to the Bronx River Parkway. Latimer's plan would sell the lots to the Westchester County Local Development Corporation (LDC) to help close a \$71 million deficit in the

State Program to Repair Mount Kisco's Preston Way Bridge

State Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) announced last Wednesday that nearly \$7 million has been awarded to help repair and modernize bridges in Mount Kisco and White Plains.

Westchester County was awarded nearly \$5 million for major repairs to its Main Street bridge over the Bronx River Parkway in White Plains. In Mount Kisco, \$1,913,000 in Bridge NY funds will pay for repairs to the Preston Way span over the Metro-North tracks.

"The state funding awarded to municipal governments accelerates efforts to renew and modernize important infrastructure and that's good news for both motorists and local property taxpayers," Buchwald said. "These funds take the place of local property tax dollars that would have otherwise been needed to keep these important crossings safe and operational."

The Main Street bridge on Route 119 is considered "functionally obsolete" and has a New York State condition rating of 4.15 on a scale of 1 to 7. The Preston Way bridge, located near the busy North Bedford Road corridor by the shopping center that houses Target and Stop & Shop, has a condition rating of 3.83. A deficient bridge is considered one with a condition rating of less than 5.0.

Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich said the village is grateful to receive the grant, which will ensure that one of the critical structures within the municipality will be improved and revitalized.

The Bridge-NY Program was developed to help local communities maintain transportation infrastructure while the construction work and transportation upgrades support economic growth in the community.

county budget

Legislators said the LDC would borrow \$22 million to purchase the lots, based on parking revenue totaling \$2.5 million annually.

"If we sell this parking lot for \$22 million, from what I understand it's currently getting \$2.5 million a year in revenue so after nine years that's the equivalent of what we would get so then we're out and we receive no income at all," Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) said. "It's the same thing as the airport."

County Attorney John Nonna explained to legislators on Monday that the parking lots are considered parkland by the state. Under state law, he said the county has the authority to deem the lots no longer necessary for park purposes, but the board would first need a recommendation from the county Parks, Recreation and Conservation Board. to act.

Nonna added that for the board to sell or lease the parking lot, it would require approval from two-thirds of the Board of Legislators – 11 members –to determine that the parking lot doesn't serve a county purpose.

If the board agrees, the City of White Plains, where the lots are located, could

trigger its Right of First Refusal. The Right of First Refusal is a contractual right that would give White Plains the opportunity to purchase the property for \$1 if it's used only for parking and municipal recreation purposes.

As per Latimer's Good Neighbor Policy, Nonna noted the county would be in communication with White Plains Mayor Tom Roach to make a formal presentation to the City Council regarding the potential sale.

"If you can't use the park if there's no parking then the parking is being used for park purposes," Legislator Nancy Barr (D-Harrison) said. "It's seems like there's still an argument, even if it's a small percentage of the time, it's being used for the County Center for people to park."

Legislators questioned if the property would still be used as a parking lot if it is sold to another entity, but the county can ensure the use won't change in the contractual agreement.

"It's going to stay a parking lot that will still be available whether or not that's in our portfolio," Majority Leader Catherine Parker (D-Rye) said. "We can put it in the conveyance so that there's no question that it remains a parking lot."

Stephen Jones, counsel to the LDC, said that no application has been submitted by the county.

Minority Leader John Testa (R-Peekskill) expressed concern over maintenance of the lots if they are sold. He said a stipulation must be made that the owner should maintain the lots properly, and if it's leased, he questioned what the cost burden would be for the county to continue to preserve the land.

"There's too many what-ifs," Cunzio said. "I feel like I'm being asked to buy a house without looking at it."

Legislator Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining) said the board needs to determine if they have enough confidence to make a decision that will yield the money that is necessary to close the budget deficit. She agreed that more questions need to be asked but noted that the LDC would be a "solid partner" during the transaction.

However, with the sale of the lots unlikely before a budget vote next month, Testa suggested his colleagues find an alternative revenue plan.

"The board is going to be very involved in this process moving forward into next year," Boykin said. "This is not the end all, this is the beginning."

Chappaqua Board of Ed Appoints New Seven Bridges Principal

By Anna Young

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

Dr. Joe Mazza was officially hired during the board's Nov. 14 meeting following a roughly three-month search and interview process. He will begin in the district on Dec. 10.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christine Ackerman said Mazza brings almost two decades of experience working with children of all ages. She added that Mazza is committed to creating a learning environment that matches the skills and needs of all students.

"We are excited to have Joe join our leadership team and the Seven Bridges community," Ackerman said. "He has a proven track record of continuous improvement, innovation and transparent communication while honoring and respecting the school culture."

Mazza will fill the vacancy created by Andrew Corsilla, who was appointed Horace Greeley High School principal after the departure of Robert Rhodes in June. Linda Langiulli has served as Seven Bridges' interim principal.

Mazza is currently serving as the leadership innovation manager at the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education. His experience includes having been a third-grade teacher, bilingual assistant principal and middle school vice principal in Illinois and a tenured elementary principal in suburban Philadelphia.

He is also a published education author and has written on topics such as family engagement, empathy, innovation and empowerment. He has appeared as a guest columnist for various educational publications and has been featured in 15 books and provided professional development to teachers and educational leaders in 33 states, Canada and Australia.

He also instituted the first ParentCamp, which is now used by the U.S. Department of Education as a model for engaging schools, families and communities throughout the year.

Mazza earned his bachelor's degree in education and Spanish



Dr. Joe Mazza, who has spent most of his education career in Pennsylvania and Illinois, will be the new principal at Seven Bridges Middle School in Chappagua starting Dec. 10.

from Penn State, a master's degree in educational leadership from National Louis University and his doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Pennsylvania.

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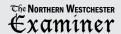
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Member of



Editorial

Compromise Should Be Apparent on New Castle Leaf Blower Legislation

Props to the New Castle Town Board and the members of the town's Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) for proposing a cutting-edge measure that would eventually do away with all gaspowered leaf blowers.

Anyone who has ever hoped to grab an extra half-hour of sleep but rudely awakened between April and October when the windows are open and the landscapers are out in full force is aware how unnecessary the gas leaf blowers are – most of the time.

Over the past four weeks, the town has held two sessions of a public hearing regarding the law that would ban the gas-powered blowers by May 2021 and prohibit the use of any leaf blower between May 15 and Sept. 30 starting next year.

During the first session, all but one of about a half-dozen residents strongly favored the ban. Predictably, the landscaping community turned out last Tuesday to defend their turf along with a number of residents who would understandably find it a hardship if they couldn't use the more powerful blowers on their property.

The draft of the law is well-intentioned and it is good that a two-year phase-in has been proposed.

But a compromise should be easily at hand on this one. In fact, last week's very productive give-and-take provided the answer.

In the spring and summer, there should be no reason to have to blast the small volume of leaves or other debris with the high-powered equipment. Maybe if a hurricane sweeps through these parts in August or September there would be an exception, but otherwise, whatever falls from the trees in spring and summer can and should be picked manually or blown by a quieter electric or battery-powered machine.

In October and November, it's a far different story. You don't realize how many leaves can fall even from a handful of trees on a small property until the season arrives. If you have at least an acre, as a strong majority of New Castle residents do, it's unrealistic at this point to maintain the land without a gas-power blower, at least until more effective electric blowers are developed.

As a result, gas-powered blowers should be allowed to be used for those two months only.

Will that be problematic for landscapers who would then be forced to have two sets of equipment? Maybe, but at least one landscaper last week said he and other companies use both.

Like most compromises, no solution is perfect, but if logic prevails there's no reason why this or something similar wouldn't work.

Guest Column

Looking Back at The White, Gold and Platinum Album

This year has been a very popular year for the Baby Boomers' social calendar to celebrate a number of jubilee anniversaries.

This Thursday, Nov. 22 marks the 50th anniversary of The Beatles' The White Album, which sold more than 9.5 million copies in the United States alone in 1968. According to the Recording Industry Association of America, The White Album is The Beatles' biggest seller at 19-times platinum, truly a classic in terms of popular music.

The album was the follow-up to "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," another revolutionary release from the year before.

Regardless of one's musical tastes, the music of The Beatles is still with us today, along with us classic Baby Boomers.

The recorded music of The Beatles was simultaneously transitory and transmuting. To a degree, the band wasn't aware of the fact that while they were in the early transitory phase of their careers, they were transmuting the music of the world.

The genesis and genres that influenced The Beatles go back to the Skiffle band days of John Lennon, maturing into rock 'n' roll, blues, folk, country, reggae, avant-garde, hard rock and music hall (Inglis 2009).

"The White Album" was a fusion of these diverse musical traditions, though each song was an island dedicated to one of these genres. In essence, it was the fusion of the myriad musical traditions achieved through the compilation of individual songs.

It was also during this period that

The Beatles reached the zenith of their prolific songwriting skills while they were influenced by Transcendental Meditation in Rishikesh, India by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi.

During The Beatles' three-month sojourn in India, they wrote 40 new compositions, greatly improving their songwriting abilities

with less reliance on studio tricks during recording. Another benefit of the spiritual retreat was that George Harrison developed an appreciation for the traditional/spiritual music of India and learned to play the sitar. He incorporated the instrument and Indian musical style into many of his songs.

Harrison was never officially recognized or credited for being the ambassador who brought Indian music to the western world, having chosen Ravi Shankar, the master sitar player, as his prodigy. To say the least, Harrison and The Beatles were ahead of the curve on bringing diversity into western music.

Aside from The White Album's commercial and musical success, The Beatles were not spared by their critics. In 1971, Robert Christgau of The Village Voice described the album's songs as a "pastiche of musical exercises." Nonetheless, he still ranked it the 10h best album of 1968 in his ballot for Jazz & Pop magazine's annual critics poll.

The New Left also condemned The



By Richard Cirulli

Beatles for failing to offer a political agenda, instead using their musical eclecticism and pastiche as a means of avoiding important issues in a time of turbulence, violence and political and social upheaval. Jon Landau, writing for the Liberation News Service, criticized The Fab Four for being "afraid of confronting reality" and

"the urgencies of the day."

The author is confident most Baby Boomers have some rather fond memories of this album's release. The myriad of dreams and fantasies it spawned within our hearts are still with us today. The critics were shortsighted and blinded by their youthful angst. They failed to see The Beatles did in fact start a revolution – one of peace and love. A concept so bold and revolutionary, it was never before achieved in recorded history.

Now as Baby Boomers, we can ask ourselves whether the lessons we learned from the songs of The White Album have stayed with us after 50 years. In a new time of turbulence, are will still tempered by peace and love or have we chosen not to evolve?

For the latter, you can count me out.

Dr. Richard Cirulli is a retired professor of business, consultant, writer, playwright, author, innocent bystander, author of "The Songs of Roland" and critic-at-large. He looks forward to your comments at profcirulli@optonline.net.

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Downtown Chappaqua Work Ready to Shut Down for Winter

By Martin Wilbur

Chappaqua residents and merchants weary of the unceasing downtown work associated with the infrastructure and streetscape project over the past year-and-a-half will get a respite starting later this week.

Town officials will be shutting down most of the project on Wednesday for the holiday season with only minimal work on tap for the winter, said John Kazawic, of Boswell Engineering, who is overseeing the project.

Kazawic said will be finishing the drainage work on North Greeley Avenue from King Street to Maple Avenue in the runup to the Thanksgiving weekend. There is also excavation work being done on King Street from South Greeley Avenue to just past the Horace Greeley House for the installation of the wider sidewalks but that will also be ending by Wednesday.

The only work that will be done after Thanksgiving is installation of the sidewalk on the east side of South Greeley Avenue from Woodburn Avenue to the library. Weather permitting, that should take about an additional week after the four-day holiday weekend, Kazawic estimated.

"That's really where we're at," Kazawic said. "At that point, we're going to button up everything and we're going to wait.

There's really nothing to do once the cold bits"

As the calendar moves toward winter and the cold weather begins to settle in, it's no longer conducive to pouring concrete to complete the remainder of the downtown sidewalks and curbing, Kazawic said.

The work that hasn't been done will resume in the spring, he said. The only substantive task that may be seen over the next few months would be related to the installation of the traffic light at King Street and South Greeley Avenue, Kazawic said.

Town officials decided to vacate the portion of downtown near the businesses so merchants wouldn't have to endure a

second consecutive holiday season with the distractions and inconveniences of crews working outside their stores, said town Supervisor Robert Greenstein.

Once work resumes in the spring, the end of the project will be in sight, he said.

"Residents want to get it done already. The merchants want to get it done already, too," Greenstein said. "But there is the holiday season so they certainly understand that they don't want construction during the busiest time of the year."

While it was originally forecast that the bulk of the project would be completed by the end of this year, Greenstein said it had always been anticipated that the job would extend into 2019. He said the board hoped to have the sidewalks completed by now but that will be finished in the spring.

Then there were the delays dealing with the various utilities, particularly regarding the underground infrastructure.

"I didn't realize we were going to have so many underground conflicts with the utility companies, Greenstein said. "Anytime we have to deal with the utility companies is a potential problem. We had a lot of issues that required a lot of cooperation with the underground conflicts. Then the weather is certainly an issue. I don't want to make excuses but this is the reality of the situation."

Kazawic said sometime over the summer, the downtown should look like new.

"By this summer we're just cleaning up, planting and everybody's happy," he said.

Opposition Surfaces to New Castle's Leaf Blower Legislation

continued from page 7

Councilwoman Ivy Pool said New Castle prides itself on its environmental initiatives and how it has led the way on a number of issues.

"I think you're right, we are talking a jackhammer to this issue," Pool said. "At least for me personally, the effect of climate change are ones that warrant taking a jackhammer to this issue."

Blending sustainability with feasibility should be the goal, said Councilwoman Hala Makowska. With 70 percent of properties in town at least one acre and 40 percent at least two acres, a complete ban on leaf blowers could be a burden for homeowners.

"I'd really like to have a conversation about what we find, what are the best sustainable practices that can be realized with or without legislation," Makowska said.

The Town Board will discuss the proposed legislation at its Tuesday night work session and reconvene the public hearing at its Dec. 4 meeting.

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Armonk Ready to Welcome Frosty the Snowman This Sunday

By Martin Wilbur

If it's Thanksgiving weekend and the traditional start of the holiday season, that means something very special is about to happen in Armonk. It's time for another Frosty Day.

One of the hamlet's most fun-filled days of the year returns this Sunday afternoon with non-stop activities and attractions. It will also include the parade, featuring antique cars, fire engines and members of dozens of local organizations, which ends at Wampus Brook Park for the tree lighting ceremony.

The parade starts at 4 p.m. on Old Route 22 and makes its way up Main Street to Maple Avenue before heading to the park. The tree lighting is set for about 5 p.m.

The day is topped off with a visit from everyone's favorite snowman, Frosty, who has been making his way home for the event every year for the past decade. If Frosty Day doesn't put a smile on

SMALL NEWS
IS BIG NEWS



Usher in the holiday season this Sunday with a visit to see the famous snowman during Armonk's annual Frosty Day.

your face, no matter what age you are, then it's possible nothing will.

"You kind of relive your childhood through the wonder and the magic of a day like this," said Robby Morris, president of the Friends of Frosty, Inc., which organizes the event every year.

Armonk claimed Frosty the Snowman

as its own about 10 years ago when it was learned that Steve Nelson, the lyricist for the popular Christmas song, lived in Armonk for roughly the last 30 years of his life before he passed away in 1981.

Morris said that every year organizers look to introduce new activities to keep the event fresh. From 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., there are about 50 different things to do, from rides in a horse-drawn wagon and the small trains taking passengers on a loop around the downtown to four different musical groups that will entertain visitors in and around Armonk Square.

New this year is the addition of a stilt band – musicians who perform while walking around on stilts, Morris said. They will be performing from 3:30 to 4 p.m., the only down time after the activities end and the start of the parade, he said.

During those three hours there are a wide assortment of activities, many for children. Morris said there shouldn't be a dull moment for anyone.

"With the number of activities that we have, now you can't possibly do all the activities," he said.

Visitors can also check out the shops, which will be open on Sunday,

for specials, free treats and special activities. If anyone needs to sit down or warm up, go to the North Castle Public Library, which will be showing a continuous loop of the animated Christmas television classic "Frosty the Snowman."

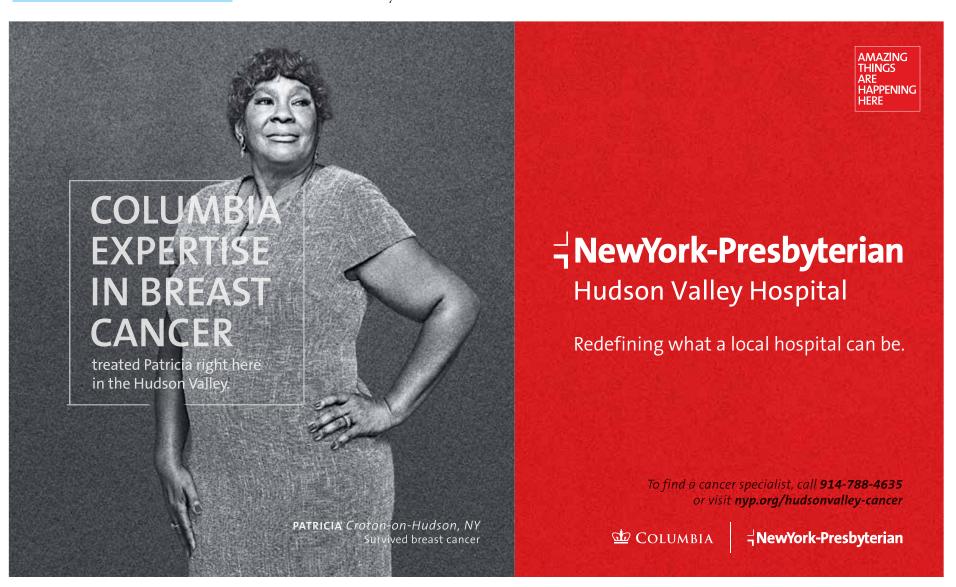
A change this year, Morris said, is Frosty will be around all day, giving families a better opportunity to snap pictures with him. He will again be bringing up the end of the parade, but because he's the star of the day, in the past Frosty would often be swarmed by children and the crowds.

"The guy who we have for Frosty was a professional mascot for the Islanders and the guy's unbelievable," Morris said. "In most of these costumes you have such limited vision but this guy goes around like he's got x-ray vision."

Frosty will also remain at the gazebo at Wampus Brook Park up to an hour after the tree lighting to take pictures.

Judy Willsey, owner of Framings and one of the Friends of Frosty organizers, said Frosty Day has turned into a fun time for everyone, including the merchants who are closed most Sundays.

"It's a great day and I honestly think it helps us get in the spirit, too," she said.



Local History Groups Raise Funds to Restore Reuben Wright's Mills

The White Plains Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the North Castle Historical Society and the Town of North Castle Landmarks Preservation Committee are collaborating to restore the monument to Reuben Wright's Mills, located on Route 22 in North Castle.

The monument commemorates the site, which served as headquarters for George Washington from July 20-25, 1778. Wright's Mills was located in Old

Kensico Village, now inundated by the waters of Kensico Lake.

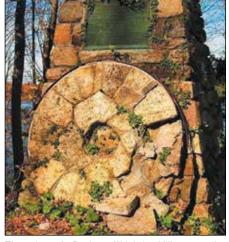
It has been reported that captured British spy Major John Andre was taken to Wright's Mills before being transported farther north to Thomas Wright's (later called Sands Mills), according to the organizations restoring the monument.

The two millstones on the monument were taken from the Deutermann Mill, known earlier as the Horton Grist Mill on present day Lake Street in White Plains, where Washington stored supplies during the Revolutionary War.

The monument and millstones were placed by the White Plains Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on Oct. 28, 1932, the 156th

anniversary of the Battle of White Plains.

The monument has been in a state of disrepair for many years. In recent months, the face of the monument has crumbled significantly. Due to the fact that



The site of Reuben Wright's Mills was the headquarters of George Washington from July 20-25, 1778.

the monument is located on the reservoir and in New York City Department of Environmental Protection land, accessing the site for maintenance is challenging.

The cost of restoring and repairing the monument will be more than \$10,000. Additional funds will be needed for the cost of relocating the monument to a more accessible site.

A go-fund-me page has been created to raise funds for the restoration. For more information and to donate, visit www.gofundme.com/RestoreWrightsMillMonument.

Stayin' Alive Gives Out \$45G in Grants to Local First Responders

Michele Berliner, left, and Christy Saltstein, co-founders of the nonprofit charity Stayin' Alive, greet representatives of the Armonk Independent Fire Company at last week's North Castle Town Board.

The department is one of 11 fire departments and ambulance corps receiving grants from the organization to buy equipment that is not included in its budget. This year Stayin' Alive is giving nearly \$45,000 in grants to local departments.

Since 2013, the organization has combined funds raised through its annual 5K Fun Run, grants and individual donations to raise the money.



Berliner and Saltstein, both Armonk residents, started the charity as a way to give back to local emergency responders who helped save their husbands' lives during Superstorm Sandy in October 2012.

Other departments that have been

or will be awarded grants this year are the Bedford Fire Department; Bedford Hills Fire Department; Chappaqua Fire Department; Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps; Katonah-Bedford Hills Volunteer Ambulance Corps; Independent Fire Company of Mount Kisco;

Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department; Lewisboro Volunteer Ambulance Corps; North White Plains Fire Department; and the Thornwood Fire District.

Next year's Stayin' Alive 5K Fun run will take place on Saturday, May 18 at 8 a.m. at Windmill Farm in Armonk.

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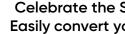
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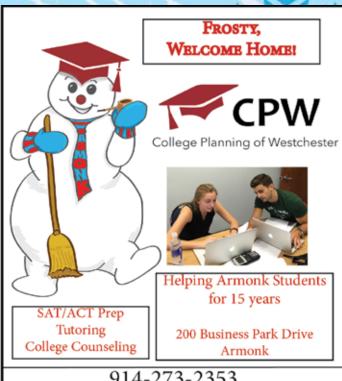
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Diamond Unveils ShopRite, Grand Prix Rec Facilities Proposal

By Neal Rentz

Representatives for Diamond Properties discussed a conceptual site plan with the Mount Kisco Planning Board last week to bring ShopRite and additional recreational facilities to its sprawling site at 333 N. Bedford Rd.

ShopRite would occupy 86,000 square feet in the northeast corner of the property called The Park. The new recreational uses proposed for Grand Prix New York currently include five curling lanes, a Ninja Course and a laser tag arena, said project architect Michael Gallin. A Ninja Course is an obstacle course that challenges and improves the strength, endurance and balance of its participants.

In July, the Village Board approved a zoning text amendment to pave the way for ShopRite and the recreational uses to come to the site.

The conceptual plan calls for the supermarket's truck loading docks to be located mostly inside the building, Gallin said. A mezzanine would be built over the docks for offices and spaces for employees to take breaks, he said.

Engineer Steve Spina said pedestrian access to the building from the parking lot would be improved and driveways would be realigned to improve traffic flow within the property.

Safe Haven Self Storage, located in the southern portion of the property, would also be expanded as part of the proposal.

Gallin said by cutting into an existing hill and adding a retaining wall, 66 parking spaces would be added to The Park, bringing the parking capacity to 866 vehicles at the 37.5-acre site.

If approved by the state Department of Transportation (DOT), the entrances and exits would be realigned to improve traffic flow on North Bedford Road, Gallin said. The project would include the alignment of Park Avenue with Ice House Road at the southern portion of the site, and there would be a right-turn-only lane out of the site, he said. Pedestrian crosswalks would also be added.

At the northern entrance, the proposal would allow left and right turns out of the property and there would be alignment with the existing traffic light,

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS Gallin said. Currently no left turns are allowed into or out of the northern end.

Gallin said sidewalks would be constructed at the north and south access points to encourage pedestrians to walk to and from the site.

Spina said Diamond Properties will submit a formal application to the village along with submissions to the DOT and New York City Department of Environmental Protection. The application is expected to be filed before the end of the year. The Planning Board will be asked to be lead agency.

Some Planning Board members expressed support for the conceptual

proposal.

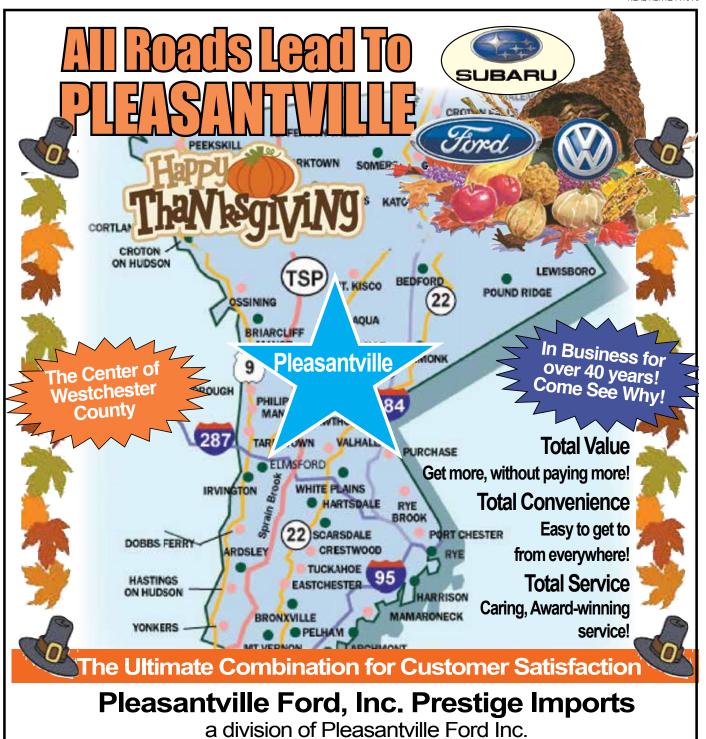
"I'll commend you for the vision here," Chairman Doug Hertz said. "I think these are extraordinarily positive changes regarding the circulation and ingress and egress to the site."

The road realignments at the property's north and south ends would likely improve North Bedford Road traffic, he said.

Last week architect Michael Gallin discussed the proposal to move the Bedford Hills ShopRite to the Diamond Properties site at 333 N. Bedford Rd. in Mount Kisco and to add recreational facilities to the property.



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Empty Bowls Making Sure Residents' Plates Are Full

By Martin Wilbur

Tens of thousands of Westchester residents need help putting enough food on the table and an organization with local roots continues to make sure it fulfills its mission to help people throughout the county.

On Sunday, the fourth annual Empty Bowls Westchester was held at Crabtree Kittle House in Chappaqua. Money raised from the event will be donated to six food pantries in the hopes of putting an end to hunger.

The event, which featured 18 bowls signed by celebrities that were auctioned off along with various gifts, was launched by Chappaqua Cares, an organization started by Chappaqua residents Jessica Reinmann and Dawn Greenberg. Earlier this year, the organization, which raises awareness about volunteer opportunities and connects residents with Westchester nonprofits, moved into a space in North White Plains and changed its name to (914) Cares.

Despite the change, Reinmann said the focus remains the same but the target is broader. This year for the first time, Bread of Life Hope for the Hungry Food Pantry in Rye was added to the list of beneficiaries, or partners, helped by Empty Bowls.

"Our hope is that we don't have to stop giving to anyone who's gotten before but each year we make more and more money, so it's really just that we can now support (organizations) outside of northern Westchester," Reinmann said.

The five other pantries that will be helped from the event's proceeds are the Interfaith Emergency Food Pantry of Pleasantville; the Community Center of Northern Westchester in Katonah; Hillside Food Outreach in Armonk; the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester; and the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry.

During its first three years, Empty Bowls has raised more than \$300,000. With an increasing reach, Reinmann said she hopes the funds raised from the event will continue to grow.

Celebrity bowls auctioned off on Sunday night included signatures from Bill Clinton and author James Patterson, Hillary Clinton, Mariano Rivera and Richie Sambora from Bon Jovi, among others.

Each guest received their own small hand painted bowl as they left, a reminder of the persisting hunger in the county and around the world. It is estimated that 20 percent of Westchester are hungry or are in risk of going hungry.

For the pantries that depend on donations from the community to provide service, being included as an Empty Bowls partner is critical step.

Natasha Weinstein, director of development for Hillside Food Outreach, said making sure they are stocked to give



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

President Bill Clinton and Commissioner of Major League Baseball Rob Manfred signed two of the 18 celebrity bowls auctioned off at (914) Cares' Empty Bowls fundraiser Sunday evening. The event has raised more than \$100,000 a year for area food pantries.

out the right kind of food is as crucial as it is expensive. Hillside helps about 2,000 people a month throughout Westchester, Putnam and Fairfield County, Weinstein said.

"We want to make sure they have balanced meals," she said. "So through Empty Bowls and the support from (914) Cares we're able to buy the food that we need for our clients and everything that we need and they can also help us get volunteers."

Hillside uses about 300 volunteers to deliver food to clients in the three counties

and another 50 to 100 to help prepare the packages and stock its shelves.

The Community Center of Northern Westchester must receive at least \$100,000 a year to continually meet its demand, said Executive Director Clare Murray. While about one-third of its food is donated, the remainder must be bought from other entities, she said.

Murray said the organization was one of the original partners that has received contributions from the event.

"We're just delighted to be here each year, delighted to be mingling with our colleagues and delighted for the support of (914) Cares in running the event each year," Murray said.

Kelly Housman, president of the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry board, said the pantry has a wide reach. In addition to filling a desperate need in Mount Kisco and Bedford Hills, there are 19 communities where their clients come from for a weekly package. They also deliver to about 20 to 25 homebound seniors and adults.

"It's critically important because it's not just the financial support, it's the fact that they provide outreach for us," Housman said of (914) Cares.

For more information on the organization, visit www.914cares.org.





Those Darned Roof Ice Dams Are a Damn Nuisance

When I moved from the city to a suburban house, I really enjoyed our first winter of heavy snow. I remember that when I built a snowman for my four-year old daughter, it stayed clean, fresh and white rather than becoming speckled with black soot like the one the year before in Brooklyn.

I also remember looking up at the roofline on the northern side of my house and admiring the icicles hanging from the fascia and gutters thinking that they added interest to the wintry scene, much like a perfect Currier and Ives print.

Little did I know, naïve as I was as a homeowner at the time, that icicles were a byproduct of an ice dam, a winter roof phenomenon that can cause leakage into the house, damaging insulation, ceilings and walls. And that's exactly what happened to me, in a year full of surprises as the new owner of an old house.

I've since learned that ice dams form in a complex interaction resulting from heat loss from a house, snow cover and outside temperature. What happens is that snow on the upper part of the roof, where the temperature might be above





By Bill Primavera

32 degrees, melts and flows down to the lower part of the roof where the temperature might be below 32 degrees. There it freezes to form the ice dam.

The dam continues to grow while the water trapped behind it finds cracks and openings in the exterior roof covering, dripping into the attic space. From there, it flows into the exterior walls and ceiling. It can be a mess.

The solution is complicated because many factors can contribute to the possibility of ice dams, including exhaust systems that come from the

kitchen and bathrooms, recessed lights, skylights, complicated roof designs and heating ducts in the attic.

Once an ice dam forms there is little that can be done for an immediate remedy. Trying to break the ice dam physically can do more damage than the dam itself.

That first year, one well-meaning neighbor suggested that next time it snowed, I should physically remove the snow from the north side of my roof with a roof rake and push broom. Sure thing, I thought, all I have to do is climb on the roof when it's snowing. Suicidal I am not.

Another possibility is to create channels through the ice dam where water can run through them to the ground. But that, too, can be a dangerous proposition.

On many houses you see electric cables along the roof ridge, and while some roofers say they may be dangerous if the wires wear thin, several homeowners told me that they work fine. At less than \$1 for a linear foot, it makes a cheap and quick fix. But that doesn't fix the long-term problem.

If you have an ice dam, the best action is to call in a contractor to see if your ceiling is air-tight so that no warm, moist air can flow from the house into the attic space. After that, it can help to increase the ceiling and roof insulation to cut down on heat loss by conduction. That's what I did and it worked.

If you live in a relatively new house, you're probably the beneficiary of state codes for proper ceiling and roof insulation levels that all but eliminate the possibility of an ice dam. Or, if you live in a house with a high-pitched roof, the problem is less likely to occur.

But if you are a homeowner with a lower-pitched roof and you see that ominous buildup of ice and icicles, call



in a contractor to assess and address the

In the meantime, if you experience leakage from an ice dam into your house this winter, wait until the ceiling and walls have totally dried out before you attempt any repair work. More importantly, interior repair should be done in concert with correcting the heat loss problem that created the ice dam in the first place or the damage will occur again.

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 914-522-2076.





NWH Committee Helps Veterans Transition to Civilian Workforce

By Cliff Brunelli and John Paine

Service members often return home from military duty to become business and community leaders, inspiring others with their work ethic and patriotism. But the transition isn't always easy.

That's why the Veterans Committee at Northern Westchester Hospital is committed to doing whatever it can to take care of our veterans and show our deep appreciation for the sacrifices they make on behalf of us all. We're proud to show our respect and gratitude for the service of America's military members and veterans as well as their families.

Two years ago, Dr. Michael Rosenberg, vice president of physician surgical services and associate medical director at Northern Westchester Hospital and a retired U.S. Army plastic surgeon, gathered patriotic employees, both veterans and non-veterans, to hold a Veterans Day celebration at the hospital.

After a successful event, we saw the overwhelming support that our hospital and community provided and decided to form a committee to further our goal of helping veterans in the community. We like the idea that the committee can include anyone at any time so long



as they want to help veterans in need. It is comprised of veterans and non-veterans, clinicians and non-clinicians.

The committee looks for opportunities in the community to help veterans. Whether it be painting the Mount Kisco American Legion post, raising money and awareness for disabled veterans through our annual

World TEAM Sports Liberty Ride or sending boxes of toiletries and supplies to family and friends of our co-workers serving overseas, the group seeks to help in any way it can.

Barracks to Business

Barracks to Business is a Northwell Health veterans employment initiative that helps veterans take their valuable military skills and transfer them to the civilian workforce. Veterans possess strong leadership qualities, teamwork capabilities and are focused on goals and missions. These are skills and ideals that we value within our organization.

ProVetus Veterans Mentoring Program

The ProVetus Veterans Mentoring Program is a program that provides peer mentorship for veterans in need. Cliff Brunelli is the first ProVetus mentor at Northern Westchester Hospital. To find out more about becoming a member, visit www.provetus.org.

We honor, thank and commemorate all those who have served. We are afforded great freedoms in this country and it is because of a very small group of selfless individuals that we maintain that freedom. It should not go unnoticed or unforgotten.

How can veterans access our services? Please call the Veterans Committee hotline at 914-242-VETS (8387).

Cliff Brunelli, a former sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, and John Paine, administrative director of physician practices, are members of the Veterans Committee at Northern Westchester Hospital.

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Happenin8s

Tuesday, Nov. 20

DIY Thanksgiving Candy Corn Turkey Pretzels. Make one or two yummy turkeys with pretzels, candy corn and chocolate frosting in time for Thanksgiving. For children four to 12 years old. For those young than five, a caregiver must be present. 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.

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.mountkiscolibrary.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 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

"Beyond Glory." Stephen Lang, awardwinning playwright, stage and screen star, gives a stunning tour-de-force performance bringing the stories of eight recipients of the Medal of Honor to the stage. Each of these men went above and beyond the call of duty to a place where bravery and humility meet. "Beyond Glory" presents the stories of veterans from World War II, Korea and Vietnam, rendering firsthand accounts of valor which resulted in the nation's highest military award. A fundraiser for Hope for the Warriors, which provides comprehensive support programs for service members, veterans and military families. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Show at 8 p.m. \$95 per person (plus tax). Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit www.broadwaytheatre.com.

Chappaqua Library Board of Trustees Meeting. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779.

Wednesday, Nov. 21

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 (except Nov. 23). Info: 914-769-0548 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Preschool Storytime. This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except Nov. 23). 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.mountkiscolibrary.org.

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. (except Nov. 22) 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.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Art Series: Richard Haas. This contemporary artist's early work was tremendously inspired by German Expressionist printmakers and Abstract Expressionist painters. In addition to examining his aesthetic and notable

pieces, examine some of the printmakers and painters whose work influenced him. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill 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.

Laugh Lounge: Rosborough. One of the top headlining comics in the country with her hard hitting, high-energy style of comedy, Rosborough got her start in New York City appearing with the improv troupe Future Schlock and in the Off-Broadway production of "Gay Dracula," a campy romp where she bared it all. Her first stint on television was with Jon Stewart on Comedy Central's "Short Attention Span Theatre." Also featuring live tapings for Frankie Becerra, James Crowley, Peter Clark-Deutsch, Jonathan Barness and Josh Kincade. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit www. lucyslaughs.com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

Friday, Nov. 23

Exploring Lyndhurst. Bring the family and friends and explore the historic mansion at your own pace. The perfect opportunity to take family photographs outside for the holiday season. See why Lyndhurst was voted one of the "Ten Best Historic Holiday Tours" by USA Today. The thematic rooms include a Victorian Christmas staged with traditional candles and fruits. See antique toys from the Gould family collection, a room dedicated to gorgeous glass Christopher Radko ornaments and the Gilded Age dining room set for a lavish Christmas supper. From classic traditions to modern trends, Lyndhurst rings in the season with style and glamour. Tour guides will be stationed throughout the house to answer questions about the home's history, art and architecture. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway, Tarrytown. 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Advance tickets online: Adults--\$18. Seniors--\$17. Children (6 to 16): \$16. Children (under 6): Free. All tickets \$2

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.com.

extra on day of sale. Also Nov. 24 and 25. Info and tickets: Visit www.lyndhurst.org.

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.

Pack Chat for Kids. This is the best introduction to wolves for families with young children. Kids will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves as they are out searching for prey preparing for winter. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 25 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-763-2373 or visit www.nywolf.org.

Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they prepare for winter. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem 2 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also Nov. 24 at 11 a.m. and Nov. 25 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.

Christmas Tree Sale. The North White Plains Fire Company No. 1 will again be selling Christmas trees this year as a fundraising event. Proceeds to benefit the fire company. All ages are welcome. North White Plains firehouse, 621 N. Broadway, North White Plains. 4 to 8 p.m. Parking free. Trees are priced according to size and type. Fridays from 4 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Dec. 23 (or until sold out). Info: 914-949-3575 or e-mail ncsfd1@ optonline.net.

Westchester's Winter Wonderland. A one-of-a-kind holiday event featuring the Santa Experience, unlimited skating, a circus, great rides, food trucks, gift vendors and more on weekends and select dates through December. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. 5 to 10 p.m. \$20. Continues Thursdays through continued on page 28

County Police to Step Up DWI Enforcement for Holiday Season

The Department of Public Safety and other police agencies in Westchester are participating in a joint STOP-DWI enforcement campaign that began this month and will continue through New Year's Day.

The enforcement will include roving patrols and sobriety checkpoints conducted by county police on parkways and in various local communities. In addition, county police will also team up with municipal police departments and the state police on joint enforcement efforts in targeted locations.

"In Westchester, we have seen firsthand the devastating consequences that occur when people drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol," said County Executive George Latimer. "Innocent lives have been lost and people have suffered permanent, lifechanging injuries. Every DWI arrest is a potential tragedy averted."

As Thanksgiving approaches, the county will be increasing its enforcement of DWI laws along the Bronx River, Cross County, Saw Mill

and Hutchinson River parkways. Stepped-up enforcement is also planned in Cortlandt, Mount Kisco and other local communities.

Department of Public Commissioner Thomas A. Gleason said. said anyone planning to consume alcohol should always have a designated driver, take a taxi or make other arrangements to avoid getting behind the wheel.

Earlier this month, Gov. Andrew Cuomo declared November as STOP-DWI month across the state. County police in recent weeks have conducted joint enforcement with the Port Chester Police Department, Mount Vernon Police Department and New York State Police resulting in multiple arrests. Similar efforts will continue throughout this month and into 2019.

The County's Office of Drug Abuse Prevention and STOP-DWI assists in coordinating joint law enforcement initiatives such as the current enforcement campaign. Since the STOP-DWI program was established across the state in 1981, fatalities from alcohol-related crashes on New York's roadways have decreased 74 percent.

The Office of Drug Abuse Prevention and STOP-DWI also conducts numerous programs for schools and community groups to educate the public about the dangers of impaired driving, the increased certainty of arrest and the serious penalties faced by drivers convicted of DWI. It also holds many educational programs at high schools around the county to educate new drivers about the dangers and consequences of impaired driving.

Turkey Time



The Pleasantville Hiawatha Masonic Lodge #434 made its annual donation and turkey delivery last weekend to the Interfaith Emergency Food Pantry of Pleasantville for Thanksgiving. Pictured, left to right, are Barry Taboh, John Mueller, John Digilio, Bruce McLane, Rich Turco, Tony Burton and Dominic Durante.

Phelps Celebrates Renovated Private Inpatient Unit With Ceremony

Phelps Hospital recently hosted a Blessing of Hands interfaith service, a ritual that recognizes the holiness of patient care by blessing the hands that perform it.

Led by Rev. Carole Johanssen, the hospital's chaplain coordinator, a team of clergy members from different faiths enacted the Blessing of Hands. The ceremony marked a major update of hospital facilities by Northwell Health, Phelps' parent company.

The Oct. 30 event took place on 3 North, a new surgical unit of the hospital that provides private patient rooms that have the aesthetics of a hotel. Many of these rooms have views of the Hudson River. Additionally, they feature equipment that minimizes the amount of noise and "beeps" that can be disruptive to a patient's rest.

The hospital recently expanded its offerings in the area of surgical weight loss and the facilities are designed specially to provide comfortable care for patients who require bariatric surgery.

"Today we recognize everyone on the Phelps team who provides direct care to patients, from nurses and doctors to hospitality and environmental staff, aides and technicians," said Phelps President and CEO Daniel Blum. "We are grateful to everyone who cares for patients and we honor their commitment."

Following Blum's remarks, multidenominational prayers were



From left, Phelps Hospital President and CEO Daniel Blum, Northwell Health System CEO Michael Dowling and Northwell Health's Vice President James Schulman were on hand for the Blessing of the Hands ceremony at Phelps to commemorate the opening of a newly-renovated inpatient unit.

offered by Johanssen, Rev. Tenku Ruff, a board-certified chaplain and president of the Soto Zen Buddhist Association in Chappaqua, and Rabbi David Holtz of Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown.

"This tradition that we are experiencing today reminds us of our common humanity," said Michael Dowling, CEO of Northwell Health System. "We bring people together from different denominations, different cultures, different parts of the world and different professional areas to do good things together. It provides a sense of unity that is unique, and that illustrates the community spirit of Phelps Hospital."

Board of Legislators Approves New Protections for Co-op Buyers

On Monday night, the Westchester County Board of Legislators passed a bipartisan measure that will create new rules for the sale of co-op apartments in the county

The new rules are designed to make the process faster for buyers and sellers, and to help combat discrimination.

Under the new legislation, the boards of cooperatives – which approve the sale of individual units – will have 15 days to tell buyers whether or not their applications for purchase are complete. Once an application is deemed complete, boards will have 60 days to accept or reject the application. If an application is rejected, the co-op board must send a notice of the rejection to the county's Human Rights Commission, which has the power to investigate instances of discrimination under the Westchester's Fair Housing Law.

The measure, which follows months of discussions at committee meetings with buyers, sellers, realtors and representatives of co-op boards, passed by 13-4 vote.

"Although requiring co-ops to give buyers written reasons when they've been denied would have been great, the measure we passed is an important first step in making the co-op sales process more timely and transparent," said Legislator Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining). "We expect the process to be faster and smoother going forward, and we expect the Human Rights Commission to be diligent in looking at the rejection data to make sure all Westchester residents are treated equally when it comes to co-op housing."

Chairman Ben Boykin (D–White Plains) said the legislation was developed over a long period of time with a lot of community input.

'I'm proud to say that working together, listening to the concerns of everyone involved – co-op boards, co-op owners, co-op buyers, and realtors – we've crafted a measure that improves the process and fights discrimination."

The measure now goes to County Executive George Latimer to sign into law.

Happenings

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Sundays through Dec. 23 and daily from Dec. 26 to 31. Thursdays, Sundays and Dec. 26, 27 and 31 from 5 to 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays from 5 to 10 p.m. Info: Visit. www.Wwinterwonderland.com.

Full Moon Wolf Walk. Celebrate the November full moon with the Wolf Conservation Center's 40+ moon-loving wolves! While enjoying nature's chatter by the center's outdoor fire pit, guests will enjoy seasonal treats and the symphony of howls from the wolves. Guests will learn about the history of wolves in the United States, their importance in a healthy ecosystem and the efforts to save these magnificent creatures for future generations. Guests will also take a short moonlit walk to visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Zephyr and Nikai! Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 5:30 p.m. \$20. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.

Friday Night Film Clips. A lecture and film clips on the Hollywood songbook by Jerome Kern. Discussion led by Philip Harwood. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www. chappaqualibrary.org.

Saturday, Nov. 24

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. The indoor market will be held the first Saturday of each month from December through April at the First Congregational Church of Chappaqua. Info: Visit www. chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

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

"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." Come celebrate the 20th anniversary of the book with a viewing of the movie. Everyone who attends will be "sorted" into a house (are you a Gryffindor like Harry?) and receive a wand. All welcome. For anyone six years old and up. Light refreshments will be served. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:30 a.m. Free. Registration is required to receive a wand. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

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.addietude.com. Call or visit website because classes are subject to change.

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.

Terrapin & Soulshine: Celebrating the Grateful Dead and the Allman Brothers. A jam-filled evening celebrating two of the most iconic rock acts in music history. Terrapin is the ultimate Grateful Dead experience, bringing a raw and emotional interpretation to one of the best-known and beloved catalogs of music anywhere. Having performed more than 160 shows all around the tristate area, Terrapin plays the songs that Deadheads have loved and listened to for decades, including some of the most complex songs in the Dead's repertoire. Soulshine is an incredible group of seasons New York musicians united with the sole purpose of bringing audiences an authentic Allman Brothers Band experience. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 7:30 p.m. \$25, \$30 and \$35. Info and tickets: Visit www. tarrytownmusichall.org.

Sunday, Nov. 25

Ballroom Dancing and Dinner. Dancing followed by a complete dinner. All proceeds to go to the scholarship fund at Fox Lane High School and New York Boys' State. Moses Taylor American Legion Post 136, 1 Legion Way, Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$18 per person. Fourth Sunday of every month. Info: 914-241-0136 or contact Commander John A. Graziano at 914-248-7134.

Hanukkah Festival of Laser Lights. It all starts with a single beam of laser light. Just one dot. Move it fast enough, and it becomes a marvelous show to delight all ages. You've never seen a ;aser show like this. With fog, the Hanukkah story becomes a duel of light beams, replete with fantastic laser beam and lighting effects. The show culminates with a giant menorah lighting you'll never forget – each flame glowing with a different color,

creating shadows in the fog over the entire audience. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 4 p.m. \$20 and \$25. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www.wppac.com.

Monday, Nov. 26

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

Foreign Policy Discussion Group: U.S. Nuclear Strategy, Continuity or Change. Guest speaker Rebecca Hersman (via Skype) is director of the Project on Nuclear Issues and senior adviser for the International Security Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. She formerly worked for the Department of Defense, where she served as deputy assistant secretary for countering weapons of mass destruction and was a key leader on issues ranging from the nuclear security summit to the elimination of Syria's chemical weapons. Facilitated by Mal Nechis. Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 10 a.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www. chappaqualibrary.org.

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

DIY Slap Bracelet. Come make this bracelet that's no ordinary bracelet. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. For children six to 10 years old. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

"Water Warriors." A screening of this film of how natives and activists in New Brunswick, Canada prevent an energy company from destroying the environment in search of natural gas. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

"The Panama Papers." A film that traces the story of the massive data leak that exposed the largest global corruption scandal in history. Journalists around the globe worked at great personal risk to reveal the corrupt power brokers, the uber rich, elected officials, dictators, cartel bosses, athletes and celebrities using the Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca to hide their money. The reports detailed tax evasion, fraud, cronvism, bribery, election meddling and even murder. But breaking the story was only the beginning, with many of the accused using every tactic imaginable to silence those who exposed them. Followed by a Q&A with filmmaker Alex Winter and Senior Programmer Andrew Jupin. Part of the Global Watch 2018: Crisis & Social Action Series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$12. Nonmembers: \$17. Info and tickets: Visit www. burnsfilmcenter.org.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge Open Comedy Mic. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd.,
Pleasantville. Sign up at 7 p.m. Show at 7:30 p.m. Free. Also Dec. 3, 10, 17 and 19. Info and tickets: Visit www.nomacomedy.com.

Tuesday, Nov. 27

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

Pom-Pom Pumpkin Patch. It's fall and still pumpkin season so create your own pumpkin patch using orange pompoms, googly eyes and other materials. All materials will be provided. For children four to 10 years old. (Children younger than five must have a caregiver.) 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.

Wednesday, Nov. 28

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 (except Dec. 26). Info: 914-231-3260.

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 Whippoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.com.

continued on next page

A Sojourn to Her Majesty's Island is a Trip Like No Other

By Richard Levy

In 1905 my father was born in London. His father and his grandparents came from Minsk, but when the Cassocks ravaged his shtetl, just like in "Fiddler on the Roof," his parents fled on a harrowing journey to London before quickly emigrating to the Lower East Side.

Why do I love London besides the role it played in my family's history? I just love the Brits' outgoing, jovial, positive energy.

I suggest on your first day in London take a double-decker hop-on hop-off bus tour to get an overview of this magnificent

city. If museums and history are your cup of tea, my favorites are the British Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum and the Natural History Museum. My favorite is the Victoria and Albert, considered by some to be the world's preeminent art and design museum, but it's more than a museum. It captures everything that has impacted culture and civilization for centuries, with its eclectic, unique collection of thousands

of items ranging from historical artifacts to high fashion and cutting-edge design throughout the ages.

At sunset take a ride on the giant London Eye Ferris wheel. Head to the Tower Bridge, the largest of its kind in the world and one of the city's defining landmarks, visit the magnificent Westminster Abby, the largest church in the world, or the infamous Tower of London, where in medieval times torture was among the royalty's favorite

pastimes. While in the tower, drop by and feast your eyes on the incredibly lavish Queens jewels.

Find a day to make no plans. Sleep late,

call room service and order a huge traditional English breakfast of eggs, bangers (sausages), mushrooms, baked beans, fried bread and coffee. Then spend the day wandering about this city's colorful neighborhoods. My favorite is Covent Garden with its art shops, fabulous markets and high-end boutiques.

Stop for lunch at a restaurant along the Thames and takin in the historic views during lunch. At 4 p.m., enjoy my favorite English tradition, the high tea. There is a wide variety of teas served on fine English bone china and a three-tier tray with an assortment of delectable tea sandwiches that include smoked salmon and a dollop of clotted cream.

Splurge for your first high tea and go to the classic Dorchester Hotel, frequented by world

leaders, celebs and the upper crust. (It's worth every shilling.) Then catch a show at the West End, which is quite affordable. Watch the impressive Changing of the Guards ceremony at Buckingham Palace, which takes place every day at 11:30 a.m. Make sure to arrive at 9:30 a.m. for a good spot.

I often like to stay in a boutique hotel close to the hustle and bustle of any city and London is no exception.

No trip to London is complete without a "pub crawl," so hit some of the colorful, historic ones. My favorites:



By Richard Levy

Ye Olde Mitre, Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese and Lamb & Flag in Covent Gardens. By that time, you might even pick up a slight British accent. It won't last very long, but it's sure to impress your kids.

But before you go, you might want to practice your "English" by watching episodes of "Downton Abbey" and Colin Firth's "The King's Speech." And despite everyone speaking English, sometimes you

won't understand what they're saying and wish they had subtitles.

For the best fares, check out Google Flights before you go.

Cheerio, here's to a lovely journey to Her Majesty's island.

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.

Happenings

The Travel

Maven

continued from previous page

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

Presentation on End-of-Life Choices. Laurie Leonard, executive director of End-of-Life Choices, New York, will explain how to navigate today's healthcare system to improve end-of-life care and expand options to ensure that loved ones' values and wishes are respected. New Castle Town Hall Assembly Room, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www. chappaqualibrary.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, 350 Bedford Rd, Pleasantville. 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. Free. Also Dec. 12. Registration requested. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.

mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Art Series: Katonah Museum of Art. This autumn and winter the Katonah Museum of Art will host an exhibit on extreme jewelry of the 21st century, examining a range of purposes, materials and styles. As a contrast, we will also look at the jewelry collections from the antiquities collections at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where style, form and function always hold court. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Great Books Group. "The Boy Without a Flag" by Abraham Rodriguez Jr. will be discussed. Led by Martha Alcott and Sally Scudo. New Castle Town Hall Conference Room A, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www. chappaqualibrary.org.

Pleasantville Sing-Along and Tree Lighting Ceremony. Holiday classics will be performed by the Pleasantville Middle School Chorus. Complementary hot chocolate will be served. Co-sponsored by Pace University and the Pleasantville Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Village Recreation and Parks Department. Tree Island, Manville Road and Great Oak Lane, Pleasantville. 7 p.m.

Free. Info: Visit www.pleasantville.com.

"The House That Jack Built." A director's cut of this boundary-pushing film, transgressive cinematic visionary Lars von Trier presents one of his most daring, masterfully provocative works. In five audacious episodes, failed architect and arch-sociopath Jack (Matt Dillon) recounts the elaborately orchestrated murders each, as he views them, a towering work of art - that define his "career" as a serial killer. Mixing his trademark pitch black humor, transcendent surrealism and renegade musings on everything from history to architecture to cinema, von Trier fashions a radical, blazingly personal inquiry into violence, art and the twin acts of creation and destruction. With Uma Thurman, Siobhan Fallon Hogan, Riley Keough and Bruno Ganz. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Thursday, Nov. 29

Baby Time. A fun interactive lapsit 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 Whippoorwill 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.

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE - AXEL YANES, Plaintiff v. MARY CIVITELLA, Defendant, under index number 61040/2018 in Supreme Court, Westchester County. This is a personal injury action in which plaintiff is seeking to be compensated for injuries sustained at the premises known as 421 Elm Street, Port Chester, NY, including but not limited to pain and suffering and other damages sustained on July 27, 2015 as a result of the defendants' negligence. Plaintiff is seeking compensation in an amount in excess of the jurisdictional limits of the Trial Court. Defendants are in default and must appear and/or Answer the Summons and Complaint under Index Number 61040/2018. If defendants fail to interpose an Answer, a default judgment will be entered against the property.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF STAR-DUST ADVISORS, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with SSNY on 08/02/2018. Office location is New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 70 Pine Street, Apt. 3204, New York, NY 10005. Purpose: Distribution of educational products and services to all NYS schools.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE ART CLOSET LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with SSNY on 09/26/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 50 Old Roaring Brook Rd., Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CURATED FOR YOU BY KATRI. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/25/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 6 Barron Cir., Chappaqua, NY 10514. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 306 PRESCOTT STREET, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/26/2018.

Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 7 **Arbor St, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WEBER ROSSELLI & CANNON LLP filed with SSNY on 8/8/2018. Office in Westchester, SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 7 Skyline Drive – Suite 350, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY OF SURETY TITLE AGENCY COASTAL REGION, L.L.C. filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/6/18. Formed in NJ on 10/12/99. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to 853 Mill Creek Rd., Manahawkin, NJ 08050. The office address required to be maintained in NJ is 11 Eves Dr., Ste. 150, Marlton, NJ 08053. Cert. of formation filed with State Treas., 33 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08608. Purpose: Any lawful 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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The Long History of an Arid Yet Plentiful Spanish Region



By Nick Antonaccio

This week's column, part four of my reprised multi-focus virtual tour of Spain's primary wine-producing regions, focuses on the second of Spain's six wine

regions - Meseta

Central. More than any other wine region in Spain, this is an area of contrasts between the old Spain and the new Spain.

In many respects the people, and especially the winemakers, cling to centuries-old traditions of agricultural mediocrity. But there is a slowly emerging awareness of this region as a force in the EU and therefore in the world economy. From wines to cheeses to tourism, the Meseta Central is an up-and-coming area emblematic of Spain's growing reputation as a modern, forward-thinking country.

But before I get carried away and have you believe the Meseta Central is the next Napa Valley or the next Maipo Valley in Chile, let me set the record straight – it's not (yet). Let's explore the geography and climate to understand this vast region.

Ever since the Spaniards drove the Moors back to Africa through this area in the 15th century and Don Quixote was battling windmills with Sancho

'very acceptable wines – at very acceptable prices'

Panza in Castilla-La Mancha, the Meseta Central region has been a rather drab area. Geographically it is a large plateau (meseta in Spanish) that covers nearly 40 percent of the entire land mass of Spain. Its barren, flat landscape occasionally gives way to looming mountains.

Standing on any hilltop, one's vision is of miles and miles of vineyards planted along the mesa plain. However, as with many mesas, the climate is not overly conducive to agriculture: the summer temperatures typically exceed 100 degrees while the winters average 10 degrees. Rain is sparse as it is surrounded by mountains and long-term droughts have been commonplace throughout its history.

Historically, the wines produced have been consumed locally and have not been embraced in the United States. For good reason. The dominant grape is Airén, a white grape of little note that accounts for 80 percent of wine production. The red grapes are Garnacha and a variety of Tempranillo called Cencibel. These are grown in the two dominant classifications regions: Castilla-La Mancha and Valdepenas.

As I've reported in previous columns,

the Spaniards are an enterprising people. They have taken a step back, evaluated the potential of this vast area, and are beginning to produce (and export) very acceptable wines – at very acceptable prices. How? They are increasing the plantings of Garnacha and Cencibel by ripping out Airén vines (a good thing) and have discovered that new plantings

of Syrah and Merlot are surprisingly adaptable in this region. Coupled with the low cost of labor in the area, local winery owners have adapted and are now exporting their New Spain wines across the Atlantic.

Here are several wineries to consider, all available locally.

From the Valdepenas region: Bodegas Real, Don Aurelio and Bodegas Navarro Lopez. These are typically Cencibel-focused. As new winemaking techniques are introduced, these wines are gaining critical acclaim for their well-rounded berry flavors and for their balance of fruit and tannins. Many sell for under \$15.

From the Castilla-La Mancha region:

Finca Antigua, Vinasoro, Campos Reales, Volver, Protocolo and Bodegas Atalaya Laya. These are predominantly Cencibel (Tempranillo) or red blends that are full of blackberry and blueberry aromas and flavors, with a lingering touch of spice and soft tannins. Many are \$12 or less.

Although the Meseta Central wines are slowly building their reputation in the United States, be assured that they are currently being appreciated in Spain. Madrid, the largest city and the epicenter of the Old and the New Spain,

is embracing these "new" wines, enjoying them as quaffing wines and in combination with local tapas. Usted debe aprender la forma Espanol – learn from the Spanish!

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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Keeping Your Health on Track During the Indulgent Holiday Season

The holiday season can be an indulgent one, full of cookies, candies, heavy meals and eggnog. While no one wants to rein in the fun during the merriest time of year, there are simple ways to keep your health on track during this indulgent holiday season.

- Stick to Routines. To the best of your ability during this hectic time of year, attempt to stick to routines that promote wellness. Set a bedtime and honor it. Hit the gym. Meditate. Do whatever it is that keeps you grounded and feeling your best.
- Drink Up. Many people associate dehydration with the warmer months. But in winter weather it can be especially easy to forget to stay well-hydrated, especially when you're indulging in alcoholic beverages at all those holiday parties. Remember, water doesn't need to be the only source of hydration you think about this season. Soups and purees made from hearty winter vegetables, as well as citrus fruits do the trick, too, and their nutritional properties can help keep you healthy in winter.
- Keep Things Organically Sweet. Staying on track doesn't mean you can't enjoy the sweetness of the season. Instantly boost the



MIKHAIL MALYUGIN/STOCK.ADOBE.COM PHOTO

flavor of your favorite meals with organic honey. One great option is Organic Honey in The Raw. USDA Organic Certified and Non-GMO Project Verified, it's made from pure nectar collected from exotic wildflowers found in the remote Caatinga region of northeast Brazil. The hand-harvested, sustainable

honey is raw (never heated above 117 degrees) and unfiltered, so it retains the benefits of bee pollen. And just one tablespoon of organic raw honey provides the right amount of sweetness and flavor for any dish or drink, including year-round staples like oatmeal, yogurt, tea, and more. You can also consider giving a

- honey makeover to all your favorite holiday recipes, including glazes and sauces for meat and poultry, cocktail recipes, and of course baked treats.
- Make Substitutions. Other healthful substitutions you can make this holiday season include topping pies with Greek yogurt instead of cream, using apple sauce in place of oil and nut flour instead of white flour in baking, and serving vegetable mash as an alternative to mashed potatoes.
 - Be Mindful. The holiday party circuit can be dangerous when it comes to making nutritious choices. When you enter a party with a buffet set-up, it can be tempting to reach for the richest foods first. Before indulging in the canapes and Swedish meatballs, try filling up a plate with crudité first. While you're doing so, get a good look at all the options available. This way, you'll be more likely to savor choice items you'll truly enjoy.

A joyful holiday season doesn't mean you must pack on pounds or feel under the weather. By keeping your health on track throughout this indulgent time of year, you can start 2019 with your best food forward.

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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
Dorry'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
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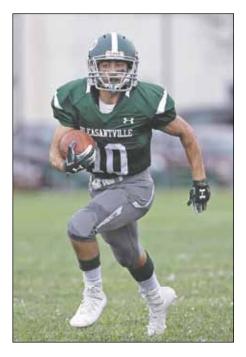
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www.TheExaminerNews.com November 20 - November 26, 2018



Pleasantville senior Danny Melillo carries the football during a Panther home game.

FOOTBALL 2018 A Look Back



Fox Lane quarterback Matthew Bodine looks downfield before passing the ball in the home game against Hen Hud.



Westlake star running back Andrew DeBiase breaks tackles as he carries the ball in the playoff win over Albertus Magnus.



Cole Picca of Byram Hills tries to elude Sleepy Hollow's Cameron O'Loughlin during the Bobcats' lopsided road win back in September.



Horace Greeley senior Jacob Rose carries the football in the Quakers' home game vs. Walter Panas under the lights.



Greeley junior quarterback Seth Brail throws a pass vs. the visiting Panas Panthers.



The Pleasantville defensive unit brings down Luke Mantini of Ardsley at Parkway Field in the opening week of the 2018 season.



Fox Lane's Josh Olsen tries to run past Charles Russell of Brewster after making a catch in the Foxes' home win.



Sammy Mussuto of Valhalla drops back to pass in the Vikings' home loss to the Woodlands Falcons.



Fox Lane's Michael Washington carries the football during the Foxes' game at Byram Hills.



Nick Martinez of Westlake returns a kick in the Wildcats' home game against Ardsley in mid-September.

FOOTBALL 2018 A Look Back



Briarcliff/Hamilton quarterback Nick Reish scrambles out of the pocket during the Bears' road game against the Croton-Harmon Tigers.



Byram Hills standout back Matt Weiler finds room to run in the Bobcats' home win over Fox Lane.



Briarcliff/Hamilton's Jackson Mauro is tackled by Croton's Jonathan Giardina after making a reception in a midseason game at Spencer Field.



Freshman quarterback Michael Dawson fires a pass in Valhalla's home game against Woodlands.



Pleasantville quarterback Jack Howe scrambles for big yardage in the Panthers' road game vs. Westlake.



Valhalla's Mahari Davis Jr. carries the football in the first half of a game vs. Dobbs Ferry.



tackle in the Quakers' home game against Walter Panas.



Westlake quarterback Tom Carpenter rolls out to his right looking for an open receiver during a Wildcat home game.



Mike Meringolo of Greeley carries the ball for a



Jared Wilens of Pleasantville runs with the ball in the first half of the Panthers' regular-season win at Putnam Valley.



Senior running back Dan Huegel of Briarcliff-Hamilton picks up some yardage on the



With a big Homecoming crowd looking on, Fox Lane senior Andrew Brown carries the football in the Homecoming victory over the Brewster Bears.

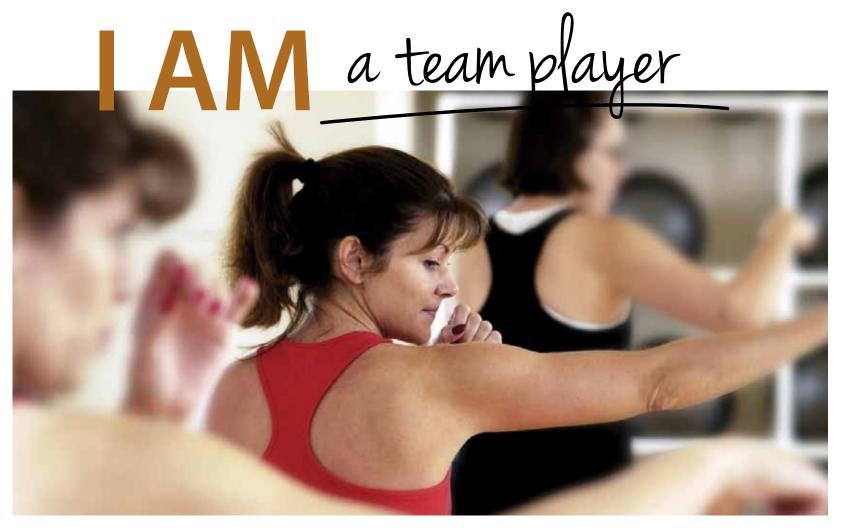


Jack Tillinger of Byram Hills returns a kickoff during a Bobcat home game. $\,$



Byram Hills senior quarterback Jack Kenny throws a pass in a rout of Sleepy Hollow early in the season.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



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