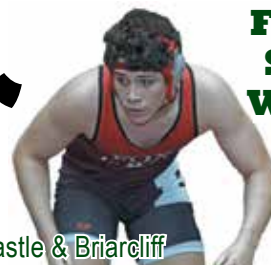


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February 13 - February 19, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 545

## Scherer to Run Again in P'ville Election; Griffin-Wagner to Bow Out

### Newcomer to Jump into Race

By Anna Young

Pleasantville Mayor Peter Scherer will be running for re-election in next month's village elections, but one of two incumbent trustees made it known late last weekend she will step aside.

As the petition filing period enters the final day on Tuesday (today), Trustee Colleen Griffin-Wagner told The Examiner that she will not be running again for another term in the Mar. 20 election. The two-term board member did not elaborate on the reasons for her decision.

Meanwhile, Joseph Stargiotti last week failed to respond to inquiries on whether they would run again. However, Dan Turner, who has led the Village Party, said on Sunday that Stargiotti plans to seek re-election.

First-time candidate David Vinjamuri

announced his decision to vie for one of the two available seats this year and will appear on the ballot.

Scherer, first elected in 2009, will be seeking his fourth term as mayor, citing a desire to see several projects reach completion as a key factor in his decision.

"I'm definitely running again," Scherer said. "There are some remarkable things in the midst right now."

Scherer said future development will support Pleasantville's core values while also modernizing the village in a sensible way. Currently, development on Washington Avenue at the site of the old Try & Buy toy store that is underway and the proposed redesign of the civic space at Memorial Plaza are among the key projects in discussion that promise to reinvigorate the village.

He added that if the downtown civic space is completed it will be transformed into one of the nicest public spaces in Westchester.



Pleasantville Mayor Peter Scherer will be running for a fourth term in next month's village elections while Colleen Griffin-Wagner has indicated she will not pursue re-election to the Village Board.



Entering the weekend, there was no conversation about a possible challenger for Scherer who has run unopposed each

of the last two elections.

Vinjamuri, 53, a six-year village resident and adjunct professor of

*continued on page 2*

## Kensico Preserve Housing Development Approved for Thornwood

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Pleasant Planning Board approved the 73-house Kensico Preserve project, ending an extensive and contentious review.

Baker Residential will construct the homes on a portion of the 165-acre property on Columbus Avenue in Thornwood that had been owned by the Legion of Christ.

The Planning Board approved the final subdivision plan, the subdivision application and steep slopes and wetlands permits for the cluster housing development on Feb. 1. It passed by a 6-1 margin with board member Jane Abbate casting the dissenting vote.

About 80 acres will be set aside as open space. Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said last

week he would like to have some housing geared toward seniors constructed on the property. He added 18 acres of the property will be donated to the town for recreational purposes.

Mount Pleasant Conservation Advisory Council Chairman Steven Kavee said he wanted to sit down with the developer's representatives to plant native trees as part of the landscaping plan. At a time when environmental regulations are being weakened at the federal level, it is time for municipalities to do more to protect the environment, Kavee said.

Baker Residential will sell 49 acres to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to be preserved from development as part

*continued on page 2*

## New Castle to Restore Granite Curbing in Chappaqua Streetscape Project

By Martin Wilbur

The New Castle Town Board plans to restore more than 1,600 linear feet of granite curbing to the downtown streetscape project, one of the items town officials removed last spring after costs far exceeded estimates.

Town Administrator Jill Shapiro informed the board last week that it should move ahead to include the curbing where sidewalks were taken out of the plan, including on South Greeley Avenue in the vicinity of Town Hall and on North Greeley Avenue up to Bischoff Street. There's no guarantee that sidewalks in those locations will be built.

Shapiro said that while the town was optimistic to once again include some of the items it removed last year to trim

costs, the granite curbing requires the longest lead time of all the items, forcing the town to make a decision now.

It would also allow the town to pave the road in front of Town Hall and keep alive the hope that areas of downtown without sidewalks can have them installed at some point in the future.

"That allows us to pave our roads, the granite curbing is in place, worst-case scenario we're not in a position to put all the sidewalks back," Shapiro said. "That's fine. We backfill with topsoil and seed it with grass or mulch. That's fine. We can still walk on it but we have the opportunity to do the sidewalks in phases."

Last May, more than \$1.1 million of work was deleted from the streetscape project, including reducing the total

*continued on page 4*

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# Scherer to Run Again in P'ville Election; Griffin-Wagner to Bow Out

continued from page 1

marketing at New York University, said his expertise in branding and enterprise will assist the Village Board in its work to implement the ideas within the Master Plan.

Vinjamuri said he wants to be more proactive with the business community and take a more hands-on approach in seeking certain types of businesses that could help the village thrive.

"For me, Pleasantville is just as much

of a brand as Jeep, and the brand here is about being a friendly and neighborly village and that's what we're trying to maintain, and so what we do is try to get all the details right that make it feel that way," Vinjamuri said. "The board has done good work but my particular skillset will help the village move forward. I like to be involved in things that I care about."

He agreed that the creation of a civic space would be a positive step forward for the village. He also said he would like to see more sidewalks created throughout Pleasantville, especially for those who

live near the village's outskirts.

Vinjamuri is the author of "Accidental Branding: How Ordinary People Build Extraordinary Brands." He is also the president of ThirdWay Brand Trainers, a leading brand marketing training company and a contributor to Forbes magazine. He also served as president of his co-op board for three years while living in Washington Heights.

This year, the Westchester County Board of Elections will be responsible for conducting Pleasantville's election, taking over the operation from the village.

## Kensico Preserve Housing Development Approved for Thornwood

continued from page 1

of the agency's Long-Term Watershed Protection Program. Another nine acres would include the project's secondary entrance road, right-of-way and parkland.

A sidewalk will be constructed on Westlake Drive, the east side of the property, said David Steinmetz, an attorney representing the developer. Steinmetz said the sidewalk will be constructed after the developer listened to concerns from residents about the safety of students from Westlake High School who use the area to walk and train for cross country.

Throughout the review process,

residents said the housing development would increase traffic and pollution in the area and attract families with school-age children, thereby raising local property taxes. Plans originally called for a 116-house development at the site. The reduction in houses was contingent on the developer selling the 49 acres to New York City.

According to the Final Environmental Impact Statement, the project would generate an additional 54 schoolchildren, down from 91 under the 116-house plan. The revised plan reduced the number of four-bedroom houses from 89 to 46. There will also be 27 three-bedroom houses.

## Pleasantville Board of Ed Incumbents Announce Re-election Runs

Both incumbents on the Pleasantville Board of Education last week announced their intent to seek re-election this spring.

Trustees Larry Boes and Emily Persons, whose terms expire on June 30, plan on running again in the May 15 election. Both trustees announced on Feb. 6 their intent to pursue a second term.

"It's my intention to run again," Boes said during last Tuesday's board meeting.

Persons added that the board has accomplished a great deal the past few years but still has more to do.

"We encourage others to run as well," Board President Angela Vella said. "A contested election is good for the community."

Candidates seeking to run for the three-year term must obtain a petition at the district office at Pleasantville High School. The deadline for candidates to submit the petition is Monday, Apr. 16. Residents who are not registered to vote have until May 10 to be eligible to vote in the election.

—Anna Young

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#### Q: What can I expect from genetic counseling and testing?

**A:** Genetic counseling — which may lead to optional genetic testing — helps you understand your cancer risk so you can take steps to catch cancer early enough to make a difference, consider prophylactic medications or surgery to reduce your risk of developing cancer, and use the information to help you and your providers make the very best decisions about cancer treatment. While genetic testing consists simply of a sample of your blood or saliva, the consequences of various results should be considered with the guidance and support of a genetic counselor.

#### Q: What if I test positive for a hereditary risk of cancer?

**A:** Though unwelcome, the information can be lifesaving. If you have hereditary cancer syndrome, I review at what age you should start cancer surveillance, what your screening options are, and any steps that may reduce cancer risk. Following a cancer diagnosis, when patient and providers are faced with various treatment options, information about your hereditary risk can be a major factor in helping physicians recommend treatment for the best results.

#### Q: Who can benefit most from genetic counseling?

**A:** Consider counseling if you have a personal or family history of the following: onset of cancer before age 50; multiple new cancers in the same person; a personal history of ovarian cancer; the same or related cancer in close relatives or family generations; Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry, and a personal or family history of breast, ovarian or pancreatic cancer.

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# County Files Suit Against Opioid Makers to Recoup Cost of Addictions

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County officials announced last week they were joining counties throughout the state in suing the manufacturers and distributors of opioids for failing to disclose the addictive nature of the drugs to the public.

County Executive George Latimer said the county filed a suit in state Supreme Court in White Plains last Tuesday in hopes of recovering damages for the costs of law enforcement, emergency care, first-responder overtime, Narcan training and prevention and treatment programs.

In New York State, 60 of 62 counties have retained legal counsel, and about three-quarters of those counties have similarly filed a suit, said Paul Napoli of Napoli Shkolnik, the firm that is representing Westchester in the litigation.

Opioids, most of them gained through legal prescriptions, were directly linked to 124 deaths in Westchester in 2016, Latimer said. He said the manufacturers and distributors have downplayed the risks of using drugs such as OxyContin, Percocet and Fentanyl and have aggressively marketed them to doctors and the public.

"This is the right move for us to make," Latimer said. "We believe it's right and we believe, along with all the other jurisdictions that are taking similar actions, there is a legitimate claim that must be satisfied by the court."



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

County Executive George Latimer announces last week that Westchester County is joining counties throughout the state in suing the manufacturers and distributors of prescription painkillers.

Napoli and County Attorney John Nonna said the suit currently does not list an amount for damages. County agencies are still calculating actual expenses linked to opioid abuse and will be included in the suit at a future time, Nonna said.

The multiple suits are being coordinated in Suffolk County, said Napoli.

The arguments from Westchester and the other jurisdictions is that the companies marketed and encouraged doctors to prescribe the opioids for ailments that they were not originally intended for, he said.

In one small town in West Virginia with a population of 4,000, for example, there were about 21 million pills that were distributed to the community, a warning sign that highlights the growing epidemic, Napoli said.

"They tried to market not just to people with cancer pain, people who were at end-of-life care, but started to market to dentists and oral surgeons when a child had their wisdom teeth removed, started to market to people who had chronic pain," Napoli said. "They went beyond the bounds for what these drugs were really meant for."

Westchester Commissioner of Health Dr. Sherlita Amler said there are legitimate uses for these medications but sternly advised the public that the lowest effective dose for the least amount of time should be used.

Amler said that prescription painkillers have now surpassed heroin as the most common cause in opioid deaths.

She also warned that an increasing problem is people buying painkillers on the street, not just using leftover prescriptions.

By doing that the user can't be sure what may be contained in the pills.

"Some people may think prescription painkillers are safer," Amler said, "but when you buy the painkillers on the street you do not know what you're buying."

Latimer, who compared the opioid litigation to the tobacco settlement from about 20 years ago, said a growing number of county residents know of someone or a family who has endured the loss of loved one from opioid addiction, including the son of one of his neighbors in Rye.

Stephanie Marquesano, who lost her son Harris to opioids in 2013 when he was 19 and is the founder and president of The Harris Project to help families who have relatives with addictions, said for many opioid victims there is a link between mental health issues and self-medication using opioids.

The lawsuit can help the public and policymakers where treatment programs are falling short, she said.

"This is an opportunity to start again and find out where treatment is going wrong," Marquesano said. "Opioids may be the start but for many people there are things going on underneath."

On Sunday, Purdue Pharma, the manufacturer of OxyContin, announced that it will stop promoting the drug to doctors to write prescriptions and will slash its sales staff by more than 50 percent.

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## New Castle to Restore Granite Curbing in Chappaqua Streetscape Project

continued from page 1

amount of granite curbing from 7,763 linear feet to 6,125 linear feet. The curbing would return nearly \$90,000 into the cost of the project.

During the public outreach process leading up to revising the new Comprehensive Plan, residents supported having more sidewalks in town wherever possible.

"Anywhere we can put in sidewalks, I think we should," said Supervisor Robert Greenstein.

The town is holding about \$1.1 million in contingency funds for the project and another \$1 million in unclassified purposes, which it has not yet dipped into, Shapiro noted. She said the nearly \$90,000 expense would come out of the town's fund balance for now, since there are unexpected expenses that could still surface.

"I'm hesitant to touch this because we're not far enough along with our excavation," Shapiro said of the contingency funds. "We haven't finished our drainage, so I'm hesitant to go any further."

She also told the board that the state Department of Transportation will send a compliance officer to walk with New Castle representatives downtown to make sure any sidewalks and curbing that is installed is consistent with ADA standards.

In December before the holidays, Con Edison completed its gas main work downtown, but in the past three weeks lower King Street has been closed from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. for overnight work to begin the installation of the new sanitary sewer system.

## Burns Film Center Receives \$30G Grant for Series, Programs

The Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville will receive an Art Works grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support programs that bring attention to local and international issues.

The \$30,000 grant will support the Power of Film: Community Engagement and Dialogue initiative, a group of curated film series that brings cultural awareness to global issues by integrating special guests and audience engagement.

The NEA has provided funding to the nonprofit film center for 11 years.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu, who approved more than \$25 million in grants this year, believes that all people should have access to the joy, opportunities and connections the arts bring.

"It is energizing to see the impact that the arts are making throughout the United States," Chu said. "These NEA-supported projects and institutions, such as this one for the Jacob Burns Film Center, are good examples of how the arts build stronger and more vibrant communities, improve well-being, prepare children to succeed and increase the quality of our lives."

The Power of Film series sheds a light on marginalized communities and unknown issues through five specific film series; REMIX: The Modern Black Experience in Film, Media, and Art; Community Matters;

Local Issues, Discussion, Action; Global Watch: Crisis and Social Action; Contemporary Arab Cinema; and Greenhouse: New Documentary Voices from North Africa and the Middle East.

"Since opening in 2001, (our) mission has been to educate, entertain and inspire change among people of all ages through the power of film," Jacob Burns Executive Director Edie Demas said. "This meaningful support allows us to continue to serve our 10,000 members and more than 200,000 visitors each year and create new, innovative programs for our fellows and students."


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## Killian Snags GOP Nomination in Senate Race; to Face Mayer in April

By Martin Wilbur

The race is now set for the 37th state Senate special election after Westchester Republicans nominated former Rye councilwoman Julie Killian at last Wednesday night's mini convention.

Killian, who lost her first bid for the seat in 2016 when defeated by current County Executive George Latimer, outfinished former Yonkers Inspector General Daniel Schorr and Bedford attorney Sarmad Khojasteh.

She will meet Democratic Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer when the special election is held on Tuesday, Apr. 24. The seat has been vacant since Dec. 31. Gov. Andrew Cuomo was not expected to call for the election for this district and other state legislature seats until spring, until after the 2018-19 state budget has been completed.

Killian, who served six years on the Rye City Council, threw her hat into the race earlier this week, nearly three months after Khojasteh and about a month after Schorr. Both of the other candidates vowed to support Killian in a state that the Republicans have targeted

for several election cycles.

During her campaign in 2016, Killian said she wanted to have more equitable funding for the district's school systems, week out corruption, fight for term limits and ease the numerous state mandates that are driving up property taxes for state residents.

Schorr said he had joined the race to fight the corruption and escalating taxes for New York's residents.

"I felt strongly there was never a more important time to use my unique experience as a prosecutor, fraud investigator, and taxpayer watchdog to represent Westchester's families," he said. "While we came up short in the nominating convention, I am proud of the issues we advanced and will continue to be an active voice for reform. I congratulated Julie Killian on securing the nomination and look forward to helping her become our next state senator."

The winner of the special election will have to run again in November to win a full two-year term.

## New Castle's Saland Rules Out State Senate Run Against Murphy

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle Councilman Jeremy Saland who last month flirted with the idea of running this fall against state Sen. Terrence Murphy announced last weekend that he has decided against going through with the bid.

In a social media post on Sunday, Saland, a Democrat, said obligations to his family and law practice prevent him from taking up the challenge for the 40th state Senate District.

"Knowing first hand the toll public service has on one's life and family, especially where one must remain away from a spouse and young children for extended time, I have decided not to run for the NY State Senate," Saland posted. "As overwhelming grateful I am for the support I received from friends as well as people I have never met before across all political affiliations, my family, along with managing my busy law practice, comes first."

Last month Saland said that while he was deeply committed to serving the public and listed several issues where he differed from Murphy, a Yorktown Republican, he said as that when he learned as a six-year-old that his father, Stephen Saland, was first elected to the state legislature in 1980. The elder Saland would go on to serve 32 years in the Assembly and Senate.

For now, Saland, 43, who was elected to



Jeremy Saland

his first term on the New Castle Town Board in 2015, said he looks forward continuing to serve his home community. He did not mention whether he would consider pursuing the seat again.

"As difficult as this decision may be, I look forward to continuing my work as a councilman in New Castle and my ongoing commitment to public service," said Saland, a criminal defense attorney who manages his own small law firm.

With Saland out of the race, South Salem resident Robert Kesten remains the lone announced Democrat who so far plans to challenge Murphy in November.

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# Fareri Tees Off on No. Castle Town Board After Latest Relocation Snub

By Martin Wilbur

Armonk developer Michael Fareri last week accused the North Castle Town Board of acting hypocritically for failing to entertain relocation of six affordable units when it appeared to previously support a similar request to another of his properties.

Fareri, who has been in a protracted battle to move the affordable residences from his approved 36-unit project at the old lumberyard on Bedford Road to 470 Main St. where he has also obtained approvals for a 16-unit project, charged that the town has rebuffed his attempts since he publicly criticized officials early last year for the unsightly storage of road millings at the Highway Department grounds near downtown Armonk.

He said he contacted the office of Supervisor Michael Schiliro after the Jan. 24 board meeting that he wanted to submit an application formally requesting the relocation of the affordable units, but was notified that the town had already rejected his pitch.

During the public comments portion of that meeting, Fareri appealed to the board to once again consider moving the units and also brought a group of residents who favor the move to speak on his behalf, but was told by Schiliro there was no application for the town to consider.

"What they say publicly and what they do are very different," Fareri said last

week. "I think they say what they felt makes them look good to the public at that meeting."

Fareri has maintained that the disparity in the ability to pay for improvements and common charges among the 30 market-rate condominium owners and the six affordable unit owners would cause problems at the building at the lumberyard. At 470 Main St., there would be far less common areas that would need to be maintained making it more feasible.

In defending his position to move the units, Fareri pointed to the minutes of the July 13, 2016, meeting that show Schiliro stating that he supported the relocation of the affordable apartments to 37-41 Maple Ave.

However, there would be little difference to the town whether off-site affordable units would be on Maple Avenue or Main Street, he said.

"At the time I sent a letter to the public complaining about the stockpiling of millings across the street from the building I own in town and in my opinion was environmentally unsound," Fareri contended. "They got angry with me and at the time they decided they were going to punish me by not allowing me to relocate the six units."

However, town officials have argued when two public hearings were scheduled to address the special use permit needed to move the units, Fareri didn't attend.

Fareri said he had to abandon that attempt because two tenants at his Maple Avenue property had changes of plans.

When contacted, Schiliro released a statement saying that the Town Board has declined to consider it because Section 335-24.1(5)c of Town Code requires that "AFFH units shall be integrated into the design of the development."

Had the hearing been held regarding the relocation to Maple Avenue, the same section of code would have surfaced "and this proposal would have failed as well," the statement read.

Criticisms from residents or developers regarding unrelated policy decisions have no bearing on how the board rules on an application, Schiliro said.

"None of that has anything to do with what he proposed to the town," Schiliro said.

During public sessions, the Town Board has also cited language in its affordable housing ordinance, passed in May 2014, that places "a strong preference" for the affordable units to be integrated with market-rate units. Only if the board determines the on-site location of the affordable apartments is not practical would it consider moving the units.

But Fareri countered that the county Planning Department had no objections to affordable unit relocation. Furthermore, several other projects in town have been



Developer Michael Fareri accused the North Castle Town Board last week of being hypocrites after being thwarted in his attempt to relocate six affordable units from the project at the old lumberyard to Main Street.

allowed to relocate affordable or middle-income units.

He said moving the affordable units, along with his latest pitch to pay the town an additional \$500,000, works better for everyone.

"The benefits are it's a better job at the lumberyard, you got a better job at 470 (Main St.) and you have an additional \$250,000 a year in tax revenue as well as a \$500,000 gift to be used as you see fit," Fareri said.

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OPENS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018 AT 9:00 A.M. EST

AND CLOSES FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M. EST

CVR New York, Local Administrator for New York State Homes and Community Renewal, hereby announces the opening of the Project-Based Voucher (PBV) Program Waiting List for Levister Towers located in Mt. Vernon, NY. Applications will be accepted online only from Monday, February 26, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. through Friday, March 2, 2018 at 5:00 P.M.

At the end of the application period, 30 days will be provided for applicants with disabilities who missed the deadline to request a reasonable accommodation. CVR will then use a randomized computer lottery process for all applications received to select 1,600 applicants for placement on the Project-Based Voucher Waiting List for Levister Towers.

For assistance, call 914-995-3011 or email [info@cvrnewyork.com](mailto:info@cvrnewyork.com), 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., during the application period.

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Applicants must have annual household incomes that do not exceed the following limits established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

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## Police Blotter

### County Police/Mount Kisco

**Feb. 6:** An employee of a group home reported at 8:05 a.m. that someone smashed his car window while it was parked overnight on West Street and stole an iPhone, tools and other items. The stolen property has an estimated value of \$1,400. The bottom half of a golf club was found at the scene. It appears the golf club was used to smash the vehicle's front passenger-side window.

**Feb. 6:** A caller from a North Bedford Road business reported at 9:42 a.m. that several attempts have been made to cash fraudulent payroll checks in the company's name. The case was turned over to detectives for continued investigation.

**Feb. 6:** A 44-year-old Bronx woman was arrested at 5:55 p.m. and charged with fourth-degree grand larceny and falsifying business records after an investigation into the theft of more than \$1,000 from an East Main Street business where she was employed. The suspect was released pending a future court appearance in Mount Kisco Justice Court.

**Feb. 7:** Police responded to a Grove Street residence at 1:44 p.m. on a report of a dispute between two roommates. One of the men said he had an ongoing problem with his roommate who plays music too loudly. The dispute was verbal in nature and no additional police action was needed.

**Feb. 8:** Police responded to a medical practice on Lexington Avenue at 12:55 p.m. to assist a man who was having chest pains and experiencing an irregular heartbeat. The man was transported by ambulance to Northern Westchester Hospital.

**Feb. 9:** A West Street resident reported at 1:21 a.m. that she has been receiving threatening phone calls and texts from an ex-boyfriend. The matter was turned over to detectives for additional investigation.

**Feb. 9:** Police responded to Diplomat Towers at 9:36 a.m. on a report that a woman was in pain and unable to stand up. She was taken by the Mount Kisco Volunteer Ambulance Corps to Northern Westchester Hospital.

### North Castle Police Department

**Feb. 2:** Report of a commercial burglary on North Broadway at 6 a.m. The business owner stated that he was burglarized sometime overnight. Electricity to the building has been shut off and the front door was broken in. The complainant was told to wait outside for the officers' arrival.

**Feb. 2:** A complainant arrived at headquarters at 1:48 p.m. to report that he was involved in a road rage incident within the town and received a typed letter in the mail regarding the incident from an unknown sender. A witness deposition and a copy of the letter was secured.

**Feb. 5:** A town resident arrived at headquarters at 3:32 p.m. to report that her husband who now lives in Philadelphia used her bank account in attempt to make purchases without her permission. The woman stated that she did give her husband permission at one time to use her account for a one-time charge but he exceeded those charges. She made a report as a matter of record.

**Feb. 6:** Report of suspicious persons in an Emmalon Avenue residence at 2:30 p.m. The caller stated that unknown parties are walking through her residence. After further questioning, it was revealed that a realtor was showing the property.

**Feb. 8:** A Nichols Road resident reported at 9:34 p.m. that unknown parties were throwing things at her house. She also stated that these parties have stolen "No Trespassing" signs which she had put up. The responding officers reported checking the surrounding area with negative results.

### Pleasantville Police Department

**Feb. 9:** A 23-year-old Ossining resident was arrested at 9:41 a.m. on Church St. for driving with a suspended license following a traffic stop. The driver was given a ticket and released.

**Feb. 9:** A 40-year-old Sleepy Hollow man was arrested at 2:53 p.m. on Pleasantville Road for driving with a suspended license following a traffic stop.

## Obituary

### Margaret Murphy

Margaret Ann Murphy (nee Hallinan) died peacefully in Cape Coral, Fla. on Feb. 6 surrounded by her loving six children and her two brothers, Kevin and Thomas Hallinan.

She was 80.

Murphy was born in the Bronx on Apr. 20, 1937. She was the daughter of the late Michael J. and Nora Hallinan, immigrants from County Mayo, Ireland. She was a graduate of St. Jean Baptiste Catholic School in New York City. She started her career with the New York Telephone. She was married to the late Richard W. Murphy II in 1959. They went on to have six children.

Murphy was a thriving real estate broker and owner of Murphy and McKenna Real Estate in Pleasantville. She retired to Charlestown, R.I. and Cape Coral, Fla. to follow the sun.

Besides being a loving mother, grandmother and aunt, Murphy always enjoyed conversations with her many friends. She was quick-witted, a great storyteller and accepting of all. She helped so many with her wonderful wisdom and advice. For these and many reasons, she was loved by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. A cup of tea, a good book and sand beneath her toes and Margaret was happy. She was the first one you would call with a problem. She "solved" the problems of the world on the beach with a Pepsi in hand and a captive audience.

Murphy is survived by Richard Murphy III (Nora) of Clifton Park, N.Y., Mary Crowe (Vincent) of Pleasantville; Noreen Murphy of New York City; Maggie Verdon (Joseph) of Haworth, N.J., Deirdre D'Attoma (Nicola) of



Margaret Murphy

Pleasantville; and Julie McAuley (Barry) of Harrington Park, N.J. She was "Mimi" to her 14 cherished grandchildren, Molly Crowe, Katherine Murphy, Jack Crowe, Richard Murphy IV, Mary Kate Crowe, Mary Murphy, Liam Verdon, Ella Verdon, Brennan McAuley, Conor Verdon, Owen McAuley, Michaela D'Attoma and Delia D'Attoma. She has many loving nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

A wake will be held at Beecher Flocks Funeral Home, located at 418 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville, on Friday, Feb. 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Holy Innocents Roman Catholic Church, located at 431 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville, on Saturday Feb. 17 at 11:30 a.m. She will be laid to rest with her husband at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

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# West Patent Principal to Retire at Close of School Year

By Erin Maher

Vera Berezowsky, principal of West Patent Elementary School in Bedford Hills, has announced her retirement after 13 years of service in the Bedford School District.

Berezowsky sent out an e-mail to parents of West Patent students on Jan. 29, sharing the news on her retirement. She will be leaving the district at the end of the current school year on June 30.

"I have been fortunate and honored to work alongside an amazing group of professionals who I also consider my extended family," Berezowsky said of her three years leading West Patent. "With the support and cooperation of the parents, we made things work for the children. We worked together well and, hopefully, produced some sweet melodies that will resonate with students of West Patent for years."

Board of Education President Brian Sheerin said the district has begun the process of searching for Berezowsky's successor but referred questions about the timeframe for hiring the next principal to central administration.

Sheerin thanked Berezowsky for her service to the students and the community.

"For almost three years, like many people, I have come to value Mrs.

Berezowsky as an excellent principal," Sheerin said. "It is apparent to all, that West Patent Elementary School is a very well-run school. Each and every day, Mrs. Berezowsky and her staff bring the best in education to our students."

The Examiner reached out to district administrators and is still waiting for an anticipated hiring timeline.

## No Adoption Fees This Weekend at Adopt-A-Dog in Armonk

Cathy Kangas, founder and CEO of PRAI Beauty, announced last week that her company's Free the Shelters campaign to help homeless animals will pay all adoption fees for those who adopt pets at Adopt-A-Dog in Armonk throughout the upcoming holiday weekend.

From Friday, Feb. 16 through Monday, Feb. 19, Adopt-A-Dog will participate in the campaign, which was launched by Kangas last May. Since that time, the company has sponsored adoption fees at 32 municipal and private shelters resulting in new homes for nearly 2,200 animals.

Kangas, an animal activist and board member of The Humane Society of the United States said an initial event in

Florida spawned the idea to broaden the campaign.

"A light bulb went on and I wondered if something so simple as removing adoption fees could give homes to the millions of animals in our shelters," Kangas said. "If this is the barrier to adoption, we are breaking it down and going across the country from shelter to shelter until they're all empty."

About 2.4 million healthy, adoptable cats and dogs – about one every 13 seconds – are put down in shelters across the United States each year. Research has shown that removing adoption fees increases the number and speed of pet adoptions and reduces euthanasia. Furthermore, there are no significant

differences in outcome between pets adopted with or without a fee.

Adopt-A-Dog Executive Director Kristen Alouisa said Kangas has been a longtime supporter of the shelter. Kangas and the team at PRAI Beauty, which is located in New Canaan, Conn., have previously adopted dogs from the shelter.

"We are delighted to participate in Free the Shelters as we have many wonderful animals that desperately need a home," Alouisa said.

Adopt-A-Dog has been coming to the rescue since 1981 with the mission to save, socialize and secure loving homes for unwanted or abandoned dogs. It accomplishes this goal by providing the

highest standard of care for dogs in need with a particular focus on ensuring that all aspects of their overall health and well-being are addressed.

"We pride ourselves in being first at PRAI Beauty and this campaign is no exception," Kangas said. "We have started a movement. Shelter pets can be pedigree or mutts, young or old... they're all perfect and they need to find good homes. With this campaign, we will make it easier for every dog, cat and pocket pet to find its forever home."

To learn more about the adoptable dogs, visit [www.adoptadog.org](http://www.adoptadog.org) or e-mail [info@adoptadog.org](mailto:info@adoptadog.org). Adopt-A-Dog is located at 23 Cox Ave. and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# Board of Legislators Approves Gun Show Ban at County Center

By Anna Young

The Westchester County Board of Legislators approved a law last week banning gun shows from being held on county-owned property.

Following intense debate last year between county officials, lawmakers voted 12-5 last Monday along strict party lines. The Democrats, who unanimously supported the measure, maintained that county property shouldn't be used to promote or encourage the sale of guns.

"We believe most people are responsible gun owners, but it's not about that, it's about what we as a county promote," Legislator Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining) said. "You are allowed to buy guns in Westchester County, there are many ways to do so, but I believe it's not appropriate that the county endorse and sponsor gun shows in our facility. So, I'm very happy that the work of many of my colleagues, former and current, is coming to fruition."

Last month, County Executive George Latimer, who signed the legislation into law on Monday, issued an executive order banning gun shows from being held on county-owned property urging lawmakers to make his order an official law. He recognized that some may disagree with the decision but strongly believed that many residents support the ban.

"By voting this act in tonight we



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The Board of Legislators approved a law that bans gun shows from county-owned properties, including the County Center, above, in White Plains.

emphatically endorse that act and convert it into law and hopefully this will stem the tide of gun usage in the United States and especially in Westchester County," Vice Chair Alfreda Williams (D-Greenburgh) said.

The Board of Legislators passed a similar gun show ban last year by a 9-8 margin – also along party lines – after former county executive Rob Astorino scheduled the Northeast Gun Show at the County Center. But days before

the scheduled show, Astorino vetoed legislation without any time for an override vote, stating he was protecting First and Second Amendment rights.

Republic Minority Leader John Testa (R-Peekskill) said that the Democrats are wrong for "taking a discriminatory approach" against law abiding gun owners, sportsmen and businesses from holding a show at the County Center.

"A better approach would have been to require operators to follow the strict

guidelines for gun shows that have been established by (state) Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, the same guidelines which are observed for the gun shows that Gov. Cuomo allows in New York State-owned buildings," Testa said. "Pushing gun show operators out of the County Center means that they will now hold their shows in private venues across the county where we will have much less control over how they are operated."

From 1999 to 2010, the county discontinued gun shows on county property. Astorino lifted the ban after taking office and one was held at the County Center in 2012. However, after the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy in Newtown, Conn., a 2013 show was canceled, and there was a handshake agreement among county officials that the venue would no longer host the shows.

A push was also made by members of the Democratic Caucus in October to override Astorino's veto following the mass shooting in Las Vegas that killed 59 people and injured more than 500. The action was denied.

Legislator Nancy Barr (D-Rye Brook) said residents within her district want to limit the number of guns in the county. Referencing the Sandy Hook massacre, she stressed that the board should do what it can to prevent future tragedies.



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## Guest Column

### The New York Health Act Faces a Multitude of Challenges in Albany

By Madeline Zevon

In the last legislative session, the New York Health Act (NYHA), a single-payer bill that would bring universal, comprehensive, cost-effective healthcare to every New Yorker, passed the state Assembly 94-46 and had 31 co-sponsors in the state Senate – just one vote shy of a majority.

New York Health has had far too little public conversation. Our current multi-payer healthcare system is financially unsustainable, and leaves millions of New Yorkers uninsured and underinsured. New York Health would cover every New Yorker with comprehensive benefits, and a recent economic study by Gerald Friedman of the University of Massachusetts concluded that the NYHA would save us \$45 billion per year over what we pay now. How is that possible?

We waste almost 30 percent of our healthcare dollars on activities and people who do not promote health. About 20 percent of every dollar spent for private health insurance pays for marketing, profit and administration. Because it is a single-payer system, traditional Medicare's overhead is about 2 percent. Our multi-payer system also causes hospitals and doctors to

spend significant sums on insurance paperwork.

Additionally, New York Health, when passed, will negotiate substantial price discounts on drugs and medical devices: our Veterans Administration saves about 40 percent – as do many peer countries who purchase from the same companies.

We pay almost twice as much as peer countries for healthcare and get worse health outcomes: we're the only developed country with a rising maternal death rate and we're 35th in life expectancy.

Today, our current regressive system costs the same whether you're a CEO or a secretary. NY Health would be funded by a progressive payroll tax based on ability to pay. Employees will no longer be "job-locked" because their insurance stays with them if they change jobs. Because there would be no premiums, no deductibles, no co-pays or out-of-network charges – no charges for teeth cleaning or getting dentures, for eye exams or hearing aids, no charges for prescriptions or medical devices – no New Yorker would have to worry about IRS medical deductions or medical bankruptcy, as 5 percent of us do each year.

What does universal, comprehensive, cost-effective healthcare mean for New York? It means all of us, rich and poor alike, would be covered for all medical-ly necessary services – more comprehensive than commercial health plans, and better than Medicare. Better individual coverage, better public health outcomes and our total cost goes down.

The League of Women Voters of New York has long supported universal access to essential healthcare. We ask voters of every political persuasion to recognize that our democracy requires elected representatives to listen to voters, and that paying for healthcare has become unsustainable for individuals as well as for local and state budgets.

We believe healthcare is a human right, that taxpayers deserve the fiscal economy of New York Health and that lawmakers should listen to voters.

Join us in grassroots advocacy. Talk to your neighbors. Call your representatives. New York needs campaign finance reform and the New York Health Act. To learn more, visit [www.nyhcampaign.org](http://www.nyhcampaign.org).

*Madeline Zevon is the healthcare chair for the League of Women Voters of Westchester and New York State.*

## Letter to the Editor

### There Are More Pressing Problems Facing Pleasantville Than Plastic Bags

Vape Shops! Think of the children! Plastic Bags!

I hope we all take a moment and appreciate what a luxury obsessing about such ultimately inconsequential topics truly is, a perfect and glaring example of white privilege. The less fortunate among us don't have the luxury of worrying about these things while we struggle to make ends meet.

I remember thinking to myself during the Pleasantville vape drama as parents frantically forwarded e-mail petitions about protecting our community from this apparent scourge, that it would be nice if we showed even a scintilla of that public energy and concern for a real danger. How

about what your children can find in your medicine cabinets right now? It seemed a small, vocal minority wasted our collective energy on kids exhaling clouds of vegetable oil on devices they can buy at any gas station in America while we didn't discuss the teen overdoses in our community with nearly the same vim and vigor.

If the children are the prime motive why not discuss the vacant office building on Washington Avenue for the past decade where our local kids go to drink, smoke and engage in all types of bad behavior. We have a literal clubhouse for teen social problems in the middle of our town but we were transfixed by the vape shop. Okay.

Now a similar vocal minority seems to

be obsessed with plastic bags, apparently because adults need to be told by force of law how to bag their groceries for the greater good. Is this really that high on our collective priority list? If passions are to be engaged is it in plastic bags where we should channel our limited community attention and discussion? Perhaps we deprioritize telling each other how to live and focus more on the real and unimagined dangers to our health, children and community that are right under our nose.

**Joe Yasinski**  
Pleasantville

### Heart Healthy Tips to Follow

To commemorate American Heart Month, the Westchester County Department of Health encourages residents to team up with their valentines to reduce their risk of heart disease, the leading cause of death nationwide.

- Move more: Engage in 30 minutes of physical activity most days. Walk indoors or out, take the stairs, move along with free exercise videos available online or take an exercise

class or join a gym together.

- Eat healthier: Reduce your cholesterol, blood pressure and weight. Satisfy your hunger with a variety of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, low-fat dairy and poultry, fish and unsalted nuts.
- Know your numbers: Be aware of your blood pressure reading, cholesterol count and lipid profile. Have these checked at an annual physical.
- Avoid tobacco products: Smoking

causes one in three deaths from cardiovascular disease. It also causes cancer, heart disease, stroke, lung diseases, diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

- Limit alcohol: Excessive drinking can raise blood pressure levels and the risk for heart disease and can also increase levels of triglycerides, which can harden your arteries.

# Mt. Kisco Ponders Penalties for Conservation Law Violators

By Neal Rentz

Mount Kisco has a law to protect its conservation areas. Now the Village Board is seeking to give it some teeth. The board is considering potential penalties for violators, including a series

## Mount Kisco Receives Clean Energy Designation

Mount Kisco was recently designated as a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to recognize its leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy locally.

“Ten years ago, we began exploring ways to become more energy efficient and reduce costs,” said Mayor Gina Picinich. “For example, geothermal wells heat and cool our library. Presently, we are moving forward with development of a solar field on village property that will allow us to feed clean energy back into the grid. Mount Kisco will continue to lead the way in clean energy to benefit our community members and the environment.”

The village received the designation for completing several high-impact clean energy actions identified by NYSERDA as part of the initiative. Those actions included converting all of the village’s 647 overhead street lights and 250 decorative street lights to LED; purchasing two electric vehicles and installing two electric vehicle charging stations; adopting the New York State Unified Solar Permit on Nov. 2, 2015; and participating in Energize New York.

Mount Kisco also established property assessed clean energy financing throughout the community when it adopted a new Chapter 61 to its code on Nov. 24, 2014.

Municipalities and counties that are designated as Clean Energy Communities are eligible to apply for funding of up to \$250,000 with no local cost share and the option of receiving up to 25 percent paid in advance to support additional clean energy projects. At least two of four actions must have been completed after Aug. 1, 2016.

NYSERDA is accepting applications for funding on a rolling basis through Sept. 30, 2019, or until funds are exhausted, whichever comes first. Funds are being provided through the Clean Energy Fund and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

For more information on Clean Energy Communities, visit [www.nyserda.ny.gov/cc](http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/cc). For more information on Mount Kisco, contact Village Manager Ed Brancati at [ebrancati@mountkisco.ny.gov](mailto:ebrancati@mountkisco.ny.gov).

of fines and/or jail terms. Officials are also exploring the possibility of placing signs, in both English and Spanish, to specify whatever penalties may be imposed.

Mayor Gina Picinich said when the conservation protection law was approved it did not include specific penalties in Section 54-14 of the Village Code.

“No person shall cut, break, remove, destroy or in any way injure any fence, post, ailing, chain, sign, signpost, tree guard, lamp, lamppost, bridge structure or any other property in any conservation area, except by direction of the village manager or his/her designated agent,” the section of code states in part.

The code also prohibits hunting and disturbance of wildlife, starting fires, littering, camping, picnicking, disorderly conduct, tying animals to trees, posting advertising and driving vehicles in conservation areas.

Trustee Jean Farber said it was important that appropriate penalties are imposed for violators to protect the trails where the Mount Kisco Historical Society

conducts walks. Farber said historical society members have often been forced to clean the trails of litter and other debris.

The Village Board did not come to a consensus on potential penalties for violators at its Feb. 5 meeting. The board was scheduled to continue to discuss the issue this week at Monday evening’s work session.

A public hearing on potential penalties has been scheduled for the board’s Feb. 26 meeting.



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# SUMMER Camp 2018

## Keeping Camp Costs on a Family-Friendly Budget

Camp is a life-changing experience – one that's possible for every child and every budget. Even though the experience is priceless, paying for it doesn't have to be.

"I'm a great believer that you don't have to go to the most expensive camp to have a great camp experience," said Phil Lilienthal, former camp director of Camp Winnebago in Maine and Global Camps Africa CEO. If you're dealing with an experienced and caring staff of camp counselors, "you can have a

program in a parking lot and it can be great," he said.

Parents looking for budget-friendly camps should keep the following in mind:

- The American Camp Association (ACA) generates a projected \$216 million annually for camp scholarships. Don't be afraid to call the camp director and ask if financial assistance is available.
- Contact your area's local office of the American Camp Association.

Visit [www.ACAcamps.org/about/contactus](http://www.ACAcamps.org/about/contactus) to find your local office contact.

- Check with your church or synagogue.
- Get in touch with social services groups in your community.
- Visit individual camp websites. Most clearly outline whether or not they offer financial assistance for their campers.

Assistance is also available from the government. Families should explore whether the camp participates in income-eligible subsidy programs, for instance through Title XX.

### For day camps:

- A Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account allows parents to be reimbursed on a pre-tax basis for child care or adult dependent care expenses for qualified dependents that are necessary to allow parents to work, look for work or to attend school full-time. Visit the FSA Feds

website for more information.

- In certain circumstances, day care expenses, including transportation by a care provider, may be considered dependent care services and paid with pre-tax dollars. Visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website for more information.
- Child and

**Dependent Care Tax Credit:** The IRS allows an income tax credit of up to \$6,000 of dependent care expenses if you have two or more dependents (up to \$3,000 for one dependent). The amount of the credit is based on your adjusted gross income and applies only to your federal taxes. This applies to qualifying day camp expenses. Visit the FSA Feds website for more information.

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## SUMMER CAMP 2018

### Being Away From Home Builds Self-esteem, Independence

One of the many joys of parenthood is helping children navigate new waters. And, while often these situations are met with hesitation, slight anxiety – or in the case of some first-time campers, homesickness – it is these moments that develop the 21st century skills needed in adulthood. New situations, such as going away to camp, serve as teachers in life's classroom by developing leadership, self-esteem, teamwork, independence and problem-solving.

It's important, even critical, for parents to help children overcome any feelings of hesitation in order to help them grow. Take camp, for example. From a child's perspective, camp is fun. Parents know that camp provides immeasurable growth opportunities, and is a vital part of childhood. As the day approaches, even the most excited campers sometimes get nervous about being away from home. "Homesickness is completely normal," said Michael Thompson, consultant, author and psychologist. "If a child loves his or her parents and has a good home, why wouldn't he or she feel some longing for mom, for dad, for the dog or for home cooking?"

It is up to parents, then, to help ease the transition to camp, and help their children

grow from the experience. The American Camp Association® (ACA) suggests the following advice to help alleviate anxiety and get a jumpstart on life's lessons.

- Encourage independence throughout the year. Practice separations, such as sleepovers at a friend's house, can simulate the camp environment.
- Involve children in the process of preparing for camp. The more they own the decision, the more comfortable they will feel being at camp.
- Make sure to understand the camp's philosophy on how issues, such as homesickness, are addressed. Talk candidly with the camp director to understand his or her perspective on the adjustment to camp life.
- Discuss what to expect at camp before leaving for camp. Consider role-playing anticipated situations, such as using a flashlight to find the bathroom.
- Reach an agreement ahead of time on calling each other, but make sure to honor the camp's policy on phone calls.
- Send a note or care package ahead of time to arrive the first day of camp. Acknowledge missing the child in a positive way. For example, saying "I



am going to miss you, but I know that you will have a good time at camp," lets the camper know that families are thinking about them, but confident in their ability to adapt to camp.

- Pack a personal item or two from home, such as a stuffed animal.
- Avoid bribing behaviors. Families

send the wrong message when they link a successful stay at camp to a material object. Families should focus on the real rewards such as newfound confidence and independence.

- Don't plan an exit strategy. If a "rescue call" comes from the child, offer calm reassurance and put the timeframe into perspective.

While most incidents of homesickness pass quickly, parents know their child best. If parents have concerns (for example, the child is not eating or sleeping or appears overly anxious), they should immediately talk to the camp director. Camp staff are trained to identify and ease homesickness, and are a valuable resource for parents as well as campers.

For more information on preparing your child for an independent, fun-filled summer, visit [www.ACAcamps.org](http://www.ACAcamps.org) or follow the ACA on Facebook and Twitter for helpful hints and camp information.

Contact the public relations department at 765-349-3317 or [pr@ACAcamps.org](mailto:pr@ACAcamps.org) to talk to an ACA staff member or for more information about preparing for camp.

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## How Much of the Home of the Future Do We Want?

When I was in college, I appeared in the musical production of "Where's Charley?" a farce by Frank Loesser and George Abbott set at the turn of the last century. One of the cute numbers sung by Amy, the ingénue, predicted such inventions as wireless telegraphy, horseless carriages that fly and stereopticons that move.

What a simple time and what simple dreams for a better future, I thought. At that time, in the 1960s, all I dreamt about was to someday have a color television so that I could sit comfortably at home, watching movies in living color. I never dreamed of the kind of technology that would allow me to see what the rest of the world was doing, nor could I imagine that surveillance technology might allow the rest of the world to see what I was doing at home.

There have always been inventions for better living, but now in the 21st century, is it time to say, enough already?

I had a traumatic experience recently when my relatively new laptop, which I use in the assumed privacy of my home, went down. Only when I contacted Apple support did I learn that this device that



By Bill Primavera

greatly facilitates my working from home had been badly "compromised," not by just one evil force but two from different parts of the country that had taken over the function of my computer to conduct unknown activities. Whatever they were, I'm sure it was not for the common good or for me.

After two days of phone discussion with a few smart guys in India, my functionality was restored and hopefully secured with an expensive protection system. But what's next in this age of technology, especially with the surveillance systems designed to monitor and protect our homes? Will it all come back to haunt us time and again?

That's the thing about trying to predict which technologies and innovations will become part of our home life and which should be avoided for its downside. For every scientist who claimed that we would have quick and convenient frozen dinners available (six years before Swanson first sold them in 1953), there was another who claimed that by 1978 our milk would come from kerosene instead of cows. Yikes!

The 1933 Chicago World's Fair featured

a Home of Tomorrow with a floor-to-ceiling curtain wall system which would regulate the internal temperature at any time of the year. Because all families in the future were assumed to own their own planes, the home also featured an air hangar to go with the garage.

The 1964 World's Fair in New York made more modest, and more accurate, predictions. A couple in an "all-electric home" marveled at their electric cooking range, their self-cleaning oven, the many colors available for all their appliances, VHS tapes and mood lighting for their stereo system. And where are the grandparents, you may ask? They are at their own senior citizen retirement community, which really didn't exist at that time.

But then, I remember well the introduction of Jefferson Village, the first massive retirement community that had just been introduced to upper Westchester when I first moved to Yorktown in the early 1970s.

While scientists, engineers and futurists have tried in many ways to imagine more convenient and more efficient innovations for our homes, more often than not they are off-target. In 1950, Popular Mechanics imagined that housewives in 2000 would have homes made entirely of plastic and waterproof fiber. To clean everything, the

homemaker would blast the rooms with a hose. While we all want to simplify our housework, we haven't yet gone that far in the name of convenience.

But at times the soothsayers were correct. They predicted microwave ovens in 1937, the remote-controlled home in 1939 and flat screen TVs in 1954.

We all quickly adopted the microwave and, in the past few years, the flat screen and the remote-controlled home, connected via the Internet to our cell phones. But now there is the question of whether this digital information can be used to invade our privacy. The discussion will continue regarding how far government can go in surveilling its citizens in the fight against crime and terrorism.

The most anticipated development for the home that would seem relatively harmless is the video telephone. It took a while, but it is finally here, albeit through the medium of a computer, tablet or smartphone.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. ([www.PrimaveraPR.com](http://www.PrimaveraPR.com)). His real estate site is [www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com](http://www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com), and his blog is [www.TheHomeGuru.com](http://www.TheHomeGuru.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

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## Elinor Marzelli Community Volunteer, Valhalla

By Martin Wilbur

It isn't a stretch to say that Elinor Marzelli is busier today than she's ever been.

While Marzelli has been active in the community since being a Cub Scout den mother when her children were young, the nearly lifelong Valhalla resident has relatively few dull moments in her life.

Marzelli has been a board member and the recording secretary for the Mount Pleasant Seniors and Mount Pleasant Italian American Club, is treasurer of the Gilbert Rauh American Legion Auxiliary in Thornwood, delivers blankets, booties, sweaters and other items for babies to be delivered to hospitals and is a member of the Thornwood Seniors.

She is so busy that her 29-year-old granddaughter, one of seven grandchildren, told her that she has a far more active life than someone two generations younger.

"There's a lot to do," Marzelli said. "We have a wonderful community center. There's always something going on. There's a monthly newsletter with trips in it for each of the seniors, mahjongg and cards twice a week. It's a very active group. When your

husband passes away you have to, you have to get out and make friends that you didn't have before and involve yourself. Otherwise, you just sit home and do nothing."

Others have taken notice of Marzelli's contributions to the community. Last year, she was nominated by the presidents of the Mount Pleasant Seniors and the Mount Pleasant Italian American Club for the Westchester County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. On Dec. 1, she was one of about 70 Westchester seniors to receive the special honor during a luncheon and ceremony at the Marriott in Tarrytown.

But that wasn't Marzelli's only honor in 2017. A month earlier, the Mount Pleasant Seniors recognized her efforts by being one of two members to receive the organization's Distinguished Service Award.

Marzelli also served as a religious education teacher and recording secretary at Holy Name of Jesus Church and as a member of the Ladies Auxiliary at the Valhalla Fire Department.

Marzelli was born in White Plains and her parents moved to Valhalla by the time she was five years old. The daughter of a

butcher and a dress factory worker, she said her parents were too busy to volunteer.

"My parents didn't get involved in community service," Marzelli said. "I just wanted to help and that's how I got started."

Marzelli spent her working years as an insurance broker. She started at a White Plains company as a high school senior because she had enough credits to graduate.

She met her husband, George, at a YMCA dance and married in October 1949. An auto mechanic, he eventually opened his own gas station and repair shop.

The couple, having started a family that was to have three children, built the house on Adela Place in 1954 where Marzelli still lives.

During their marriage, the couple traveled extensively, including taking multiple trips to Italy to visit family. As each of their grandchildren became young teenagers, Marzelli and her husband encouraged them to choose one destination where they would accompany them. There were trips to Seattle and Vancouver, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Mount Rushmore and the Grand Canyon.

The only time two grandchildren were taken on one trip was when Marzelli's two granddaughters were unable to decide so they went to Hawaii.



"It helped us to travel, too, and it was wonderful to spend time with each one with no other interruptions," she said.

George passed away in September 2000, a month before the couple's 51st anniversary. It came in the midst of a roughly 10-year stretch where Marzelli also endured the deaths of her oldest son, George, who died of leukemia in 1998 and her daughter, Kathy, of ovarian

cancer in 2007. Her third child, Alan, lives in Ossining with his wife.

Marzelli said her son's and daughter's children were still young, which gave her the biggest reason to keep going.

"I really felt I had to put on a good face for them," she said. "What I did on my own time that was me, but I really had to keep a stiff upper lip for them to help them survive."

All seven of her grandchildren are now grown and doing well, although five of them live outside the metropolitan area.

Despite the trials and tribulations, Marzelli looks back at mostly great memories. She wants to make sure she stays active and stays involved with all of her friends at the senior groups and the Mount Pleasant Italian American Club.

"I've had a very full life, a wonderful family," Marzelli said.

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*Business of the Week*

## Medical Aesthetics & Laser of Westchester, Chappaqua

By Colette Connolly

Are you dreaming of a European facial, a hot towel massage or the revolutionary LED light therapy facials that celebrities have been availing of lately?

If so, you'll find all of that and more at Medical Aesthetics & Laser of Westchester.

Operated by Rita Marsico since 2015, the Chappaqua-based spa provides a respite from the hustle and bustle of daily modern life.

Marsico, who graduated from the Atelier Esthetique Institute of Esthetics, offers laser treatments for hair reduction and removal, pigmentation, spider veins, face telangiectasia (tiny blood vessels that cause thread-like red lines or patterns on the skin), cherry angioma, acne, wrinkles and nail fungus.

She is also equipped to provide a variety of spa treatments such as custom facials and specialty facial treatments, including LED facials, exfoliating bronzing facials, the O2 lift facial and others. Patrons can avail themselves of designer peels to treat acne, pigmentation, wrinkles, balancing

and sensitive skin; dermaplaning, a skin care treatment that removes dead skin cells and vellus hair; the cleansing, trimming and tweezing of eyebrows; and teeth whitening.

A registered nurse is onsite during specific aesthetic treatments, which is required by state law.

"I love to help people and I love when they feel better about themselves," Marsico said.

Before treatments, Marsico begins with a skin analysis to determine its elasticity, hydration levels and sensitivity. She uses the highest-grade products, which includes the Image Skincare MD line, a prescription-strength clinical skincare system to improve its appearance. The custom image facial is among Marsico's most popular treatments.

The luxurious 60-minute European custom facial includes a skin analysis, cleansing and exfoliation with steam, a hand and arm massage using hot towels, the application of a mask, a neck décolleté and a back massage. Marsico finishes with the application of a serum, eye cream and

a sunscreen cream.

With the advent of medical lasers, it is now possible to address conditions previously considered untreatable, Marsico said. The newer technology is also much safer, she added.

Before laser treatments, Marsico determines skin type based on what she described as the "Fitzpatrick scale." The numerical classification was developed by Thomas B. Fitzpatrick, an American dermatologist at Harvard University. The scale, which ranges from 1 to 6, identifies a person's response to ultraviolet light.

Depending on whether someone is a type 1 (skin that burns easily) or a type 6 (skin that never burns), she is able to adjust the setting of the laser to ensure the correct treatment.

Marsico, who has acquired multiple certifications in laser and aesthetics since graduating from the New York City-based Institute, said she enjoys working with clients who have severe acne, and has had much success treating the troublesome condition. Too much cleansing can often have a devastating effect on skin that is prone to acne.



Rita Marsico, owner and operator of Medical Aesthetics & Laser.

"Having a healthy diet and drinking lots of water is key," she said.

Marsico's typical acne treatments include a facial extraction to help unclog the pores, followed by a peel, a dermaplaning treatment and LED light. Marsico is able to use an acne reduction setting on the laser to help decrease oil production in the skin.

A number of specials are currently available for new clients at Medical Aesthetics & Laser of Westchester, including custom facials and laser hair removal. Patrons who pay for four of those

treatments at one time, receive the fifth free.

Medical Aesthetics & Laser of Westchester is open Monday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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## Tuesday, Feb. 13

**Earring Making With Joan Lloyd.** Learn to make earrings while helping a good cause. For every pair you make, make another pair that will be donated to a battered women's shelter. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041.

**Italian Language and Culture.** Mara De Matteo, born and raised in Italy and passionate about her native language, combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in her classes. She creates interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present, through real-life anecdotes, literature, personal memoirs, films and even photography. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. Beginners at 6:30 p.m. Advanced class at 7 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887.

## Wednesday, Feb. 14

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

or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

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

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

**Ambassadors for Successful Aging.** Are you aware of the benefits available to you as a Westchester County senior? Information can be provided to you on housing, home care, transportation options, counseling options, memory care, nutrition, vision and dental services along with SNAP, HEAP, EPIC and

STAR and other programs that can save you money and help you plan for the future. Feel free to discuss a Westchester County "ambassador." No appointment necessary. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Also Mondays at the North White Plains branch, 10 Clove Rd., North White Plains (except Feb. 19). Info: 914-273-3887 or 914-948-6359.

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

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

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

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

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

**Support Group for Alzheimer's Caregivers.** Temple Shaaray Tefila and Westchester Jewish Community Services have scheduled this forum to provide a place for caregivers to discuss their feelings, share their experiences and support one another. A specialist from

the Alzheimer's Association will lead the group and provide educational materials and information. All welcome. Temple Shaaray Tefila's Youth Lounge, 89 Baldwin Rd., Bedford. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Registration required. Info and registration: Contact the Alzheimer's Association at 800-272-3900 or visit [www.alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://www.alz.org/hudsonvalley).

**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 and Thursday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkiscolibrary.org](http://www.mountkiscolibrary.org).

**Meditation Series: Midday Mind Break.** Benefits of meditation include increasing focus and memory; increased health; reduced stress, anxiety and pain; and increased productivity and happiness. Led by Alka Kaminer. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except Feb. 21). Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.com](http://www.northcastlelibrary.com).

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

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

**Knitting at the Library.** Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels. For ages 10 and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-864-8041 or [www.mountkiscolibrary.org](http://www.mountkiscolibrary.org).

**Lego Club.** We provide the Legos, you bring your imagination. A fun-building club for students in grades 2-6. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 6 p.m. Free. Meets the second Wednesday of each month. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-8041.

**Opening Reception for "Stephen"**  
*continued on page 24*



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# Saving Eagles, From Ossining to the Orinoco

By Brian Kluepfel

Last weekend was a huge annual event for local birders: Teatown's Eaglefest. Kudos to all the organizations who donated their time and energy to this celebration of our national symbol's return.

I volunteered at Saw Mill River Audubon's tent at George's Island Park, where there were lots of eagles on view, both in the trees and on the mighty Hudson itself. At one juncture, in fact, there were 10 to 12 bald eagles on an ice floe, closer to the western shore.

Seeing these massive birds never ceases to amaze me. Much thanks to my colleagues at the spotting scopes, including Larry and Rik from the Saw Mill River Audubon and Ponie and Terrie from Teatown Lake Reservation. All of them have much better spotting skills than me, and were able to identify a few other species floating around, like cormorants and the cute black-and-white Bufflehead ducks, busily diving for their lunch. Also on view were a pair of common mergansers, who in their sleek beauty really are not common at all.

Of course, while the DDT, which used to threaten our eagles, is no longer used, there are new threats, like global warming that threatens to change the birds' nesting and fishing habitat. Birds, just like humans,

are mostly creatures of habit, and large fluctuations in temperature and plant and other animal life can wreak havoc not only on eagles but on many avian species – not to mention folks living in lower Manhattan, Asbury Park, Miami and San Francisco. We must remain vigilant to extreme changes in our global environment, for everyone's sake.

While I was happy to see and share our local eagles with some enthusiastic nature lovers, I also received some great news from a friend in Venezuela about another kind of eagle. Ben, my colleague in tourism, helped to save a baby harpy eagle from a group of hunters. In fact, the bird is in his care until it can be turned over to a harpy eagle protection organization and will eventually be reintroduced to the wild.

The harpy eagle is bigger than the bald eagle, with massive four-inch claws able

to snatch monkeys from its treetop range in the jungles of Central and South America. They weigh up to 20 pounds, and as with the bald eagle, the females are

often much larger than the males. These birds are so big, in fact, that a misguided reason people give for killing them is that they're scared of these massive raptors. Kind of frightening and somewhat amusing is the bird's massive double crest, which it raises on the back of its head when



The bald eagle can be seen this time of year along the Hudson River, but you have to travel to Central and South America to view the harpy eagle, above.

alarmed.

Like the bald eagle, the harpy is a top-of-the-food-chain predator and an important link in the chain of life across its range, which is being shrunk by deforestation and human predation. As with our eagle, it's important for people to understand the harpy's importance and why it needs protection. I'm proud my friend Ben (Osprey Tours, Caracas) and his fellow Venezuelans are giving their time to this

educational effort. As has been pointed out, a bird can only be killed once, but it can be seen by hundreds of tourists.

In a month where even the Super Bowl champions were Eagles, we salute this majestic species, in North, South and Central America and all around the world. *Que Vivan Las Aguilas!*

Brian Kluepfel is a Saw Mill River Audubon board member and a contributing author to Lonely Planet and Fodor's travel guides throughout the Americas. He blogs at [www.brianbirdwatching.wordpress.com](http://www.brianbirdwatching.wordpress.com) and his work can be found at [www.thewritingkoop.com](http://www.thewritingkoop.com).

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**More field trips listed at our web site!**

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**Thu, Feb 22, 7:00 pm:** What's New at Rockefeller State  
Park Preserve? Susan Antenen. Croton Free Library.

**Thu, Mar 22, 7:00 pm:** How Birders and eBird Are Making  
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**Visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org) for more events**



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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAN ON FIRE PRODUCTIONS, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 20th, 2017. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Joel Fendelman, 8 Fox Hill Road Pound Ridge, NY 10576. Purpose: Film Production.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FRANK MARKETING GROUP LLC. ARTS.** Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to **109 Robins Road, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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

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

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAYA-B, LLC.** Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on

02/05/2016. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **88 Pietro DR, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

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

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

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

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OHR NEW YORK LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/21/17. Ofc. loc.: Westchester Cnty. SSNY design. agt. upon whom process may be served & shall mail copy of process against LLC to: **United Corporate Services, Inc 10 Bank St #560, White Plains, NY 10606. Purpose: any lawful act**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A&J PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC** Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 12/19/17. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **2 Gedney Esplanade, White Plains NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SIMPLY SPEAKING LEP, LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 1/10/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **611D Larchmont Acres East, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

*continued on next page*



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# County Narcotics Dog Takes Last Ride Before Retirement

By Anna Young

Narcotics detection canine Salvatore retired his collar last month after serving the Westchester County Police Department for more than a decade.

On Jan. 12, Salvatore (Sal) was given a proper send-off, taking his last ride with his handler, Officer David Sanchez. Since 2007, the loyal 11-year-old black Labrador retriever has worked with the county police, DEA, FBI, Homeland Security and New York State Police sniffing out hundreds of pounds of drugs.

"He's done a lot of good work over the last 10 years," Sanchez said. "I didn't do much, it was all his nose. He's a great dog."

Prior to joining the force, Sal, who came from Guiding Eyes for the Blind, spent 10 weeks training within county facilities where he was imprinted with a particular scent. When he detected the narcotics scent, he sat down at the location and was rewarded with food.

Sanchez said he built an instant bond with his partner when they first met. Before the dynamic duo was officially put into service, Sanchez was instructed to take his four-legged companion out to assist in car searches. Together they found 14 pounds of marijuana during



Westchester County Police Officer David Sanchez with his canine partner Salvatore, with whom he had been paired with since 2007. After sniffing out narcotics in hundreds of searches, Salvatore was retired last month.

their first search.

"He was certified but not in service and at first I was paranoid, but we opened the trunk and there's a red duffel bag and there's 14 pounds of weed inside," Sanchez said. "The first day your dog goes out and you find 14 pounds of weed, to me, I hoped that was a sign of a

great career."

As one of the county's police canine's that can each specialize in narcotics, arson, explosives or cybercrime, Sal aided in more than 700 searches seizing over \$600,000 in cash, 32 kilograms of cocaine, six gallons of PCP, one and a half kilograms of heroin, half a kilogram of meth and 500-plus pounds of marijuana.

"He's had a great career," Sanchez said. "Our dogs have created a good reputation in the county."

Despite the praiseworthy work, the trusty partners experienced some setbacks. In 2014, both suffered injuries after a drunk driver rear-ended their patrol car on the Saw Mill River Parkway in Dobbs Ferry. Sanchez said the accident knocked the wind out of him and Sal, putting them out of work for several months while Sanchez underwent two surgeries.

Sal also suffered serious injuries during a traffic stop when he mistook a bridge for a guardrail on a parkway jumping over it to in an attempt to relieve himself prior to a search. Injuries resulting from the fall put Sal out of service for a few months.

"We've been through a lot," Sanchez

said. "He always came out and went back to work. He loved to work. Anyone that met him, they know the minute he saw that food bag his goal was to eat."

After noticing signs of advanced age in his devoted partner last year, Sanchez said it was increasingly apparent that it was time for Sal to retire. Sanchez, who said that most police dogs retire at eight or nine years old, wanted his partner to enjoy retirement while he was still healthy.

As Sal begins the next chapter of his life, Sanchez said Sal enjoys eating whenever he wants, playing and sleeping in his daughter's bed. Despite his age, Sal misses his old life, he said. He sits by the door for about an hour after he leaves for work eventually retreating back to his cage when he doesn't return.

As Sanchez welcomed his new partner, Mario, a yellow Labrador retriever, last month, he quipped that Mario has big paws to fill.

"I can't believe how fast it went. I remember picking him up at Guiding Eyes when he was a puppy," Sanchez said. "I feel so lucky to look back at photos and see what we've done. He's definitely done what he was hired to do for the county."

## EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

continued from previous page

**NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CRYPTO CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC.** Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 2/2/18. Office location: Westchester County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/5/18. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Kensington Rd, Ardsley, NY 10502. DE address of LLC: 919 North Market Street, Suite 950, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

**NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CRYPTO CAPITAL PARTNERS LP.** Authority filed with NY Secy of State

(SSNY) on 2/2/18. Office location: Westchester County. LP formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/5/18. SSNY is designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Kensington Rd, Ardsley, NY 10502. DE address of LP: 919 North Market Street, Suite 950, Wilmington, DE 19801. List of names and addresses of all general partners available from SSNY. Cert. of Limited Partnership filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF AUTHORITY OF DIVERSITY MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS LLC,** a foreign limited liability company (LLC), Application of Authority led with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY)

on 7/1/2008. LLC organized in NJ on 10/12/2006. NY 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: 256 Columbia Turnpike, North Tower, Suite 108A, Florham Park, NJ 07932. Office address in jurisdiction of organization: 256 Columbia Turnpike, North Tower, Suite 108A, Florham Park, NJ 07932. Copy of Articles of Organization on file with Secretary of State of NJ, 225 West State Street - 2nd Floor Trenton, NJ 08625-0307 Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

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# Happenings

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**Antonakos: Proscenium” and “Bending Light: Neon Art 1965 to Now.”** ‘Proscenium,’ curated by Helaine Posner features a monumental, site-specific work, originally created in 2000 for the Neuberger Museum’s vast Theater Gallery. Named for a type of Greek stage, it wraps and brilliantly illuminates the gallery’s perimeter walls, animating the darkened space with vibrant color, glowing light and calligraphic line. “Bending Light: Neon Art 1965 to Now” presents the work of 12 artists who explore the use of this versatile medium as well as their close collaboration with skilled glass-benders. The exhibit will focus on the oft-blurred lines between commercial and fine art and consider the complicated interplay among light, chemistry, and artistic vision. Neuberger Museum of Art, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. RSVP required. Exhibit continues through June 24. Gallery hours Wednesday from 12 to 8 p.m. and Thursday through Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. \$5. Seniors (62 and up) and students: \$3. Info: 914-251-6200 or [www.neuberger.org](http://www.neuberger.org). RSVP: E-mail [nma.rsvp@purchase.edu](mailto:nma.rsvp@purchase.edu).

**Art Series: Amodio Modigliani.** Born in 1884, with talent burning as fast and furious as a comet, Modigliani’s life was like that of a rock star – tempestuous, scandalous and bodacious. Dead at 36, Modigliani left behind a style of elongated form in his portraits that galvanized the art world. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

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

**“Roman Holiday.”** Hollywood icon Audrey Hepburn stars as the globe-trotting Princess Anne, a young royal in the midst of a highly publicized tour of Europe’s capital cities. When she and her entourage arrive in Rome, she begins to rebel against her restricted, regimented schedule. One night, after falling asleep on a bench because of prescription medication, she is found by Joe Bradley (Gregory Peck), an American newspaper reporter stationed in Rome. Once Joe realizes who he’s met, he lets his editor know he may have an exclusive story

on his hands. But love gets in the way of Joe’s hot scoop. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Bedford Chamber Concert.** The spring session of the Bedford Chamber Concert Series, held in Fellowship Hall at St. Matthew’s Church, begins on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018. Featuring performances of Schubert’s Fantasia in F minor and the Piano Sonata in A by the husband-wife duo Misha and Cipa Dichter. In addition, the duo will play Aaron Copland’s “El Salon Mexico,” as transcribed by Leonard Bernstein. Refreshments at intermission. St. Matthew’s Church Fellowship Hall, 382 Cantitoe St. (Route 22), Bedford. 8 p.m. \$40. Info and tickets: 914-522-5150 or visit [www.bedfordchamberconcerts.org](http://www.bedfordchamberconcerts.org).

## Thursday, Feb. 15

**Third Thursdays Bird Walk.** Join naturalist Tait Johansson at this local migration hotspot for the second in a new series of bird walks. A great way to hone your birding skills and mark the passing of the seasons and birds. Maple Avenue, Katonah. 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: Contact Susan at 914-302-9713 or e-mail [info@bedfordaudubon.org](mailto:info@bedfordaudubon.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 (except Feb. 19). Info: 914-273-3887.

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

**Preschool Storytime.** This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Storytime.** For children 18 months to five years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.org).

**Mahjongg Club.** Intermediate players

welcome. Participants must bring their own set. Henry V. Kensing Memorial Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.org).

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

**DIY Chinese New Year Lantern Craft.** Celebrate Chinese New Year – the Year of the Dog – and create a simple Chinese lantern. For children four to 12 years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

**A Reading and Conversation With Elif Batuman.** Batuman is the author of two highly acclaimed books: “The Possessed: Adventures with Russian Books and the People Who Read Them,” a work of non-fiction that was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, and “The Idiot,” a best-selling and critically praised novel. Batuman holds a doctorate in comparative literature from Stanford and has been a staff writer at The New Yorker since 2010. This program launches the spring semester’s Durst Distinguished Lecture Series. Humanities Theatre at Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 915-251-6550 or visit [www.purchase.edu/calendar](http://www.purchase.edu/calendar).

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

**DIY Turn Your T-shirts to Rugs.** Repurpose and recycle old t-shirts into rugs. Materials provided but feel free to bring your own. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0137.

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

**Poetry Reading.** Pleasantville’s Jim Zimmerman will be doing a reading of his poetry. Followed by a Q&A, book signing and refreshments. The Pocantico Center of The Rockefeller Brothers Fund, 200 Lake Rd., Tarrytown. 6 p.m. Free. Info: 914-524-

6500 or visit [www.rbf.org/pocantico](http://www.rbf.org/pocantico).

**“Soundtrack for Revolution.”** A screening of this documentary which tells the story of the music of the Civil Rights movement through archival footage, interviews with participants and versions of classic songs by today’s most beloved recording artists. Followed by a panel discussion. Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave., Ossining. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.OssiningDocumentaries.org](http://www.OssiningDocumentaries.org).

**“Face Places.”** Legendary filmmaker Agnès Varda (“Cleo from 5 to 7”) and acclaimed French photographer and muralist JR team up to co-direct this enchanting documentary. In spite of their age difference (Varda is a spirited 89, JR is 33) the two artists are kindred spirits and their unlikely friendship frames their journey through the French countryside. Keeping in line with JR’s open-air photography galleries, the two meet local townspeople, listen to their stories and photograph them, ultimately creating enormous portraits to prominently display on houses, barns, storefronts and trains and revealing the humanity in their subjects and immortalizing their stories. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Great Composers Lecture Series.** The first of this two-part series is titled Leonard Bernstein at 100: “Beyond West Side Story.” “West Side Story changed the face and sound of the American musical and brought its composer lasting, worldwide fame. But Bernstein wrote extravagant, eloquent and provocative works in every medium, before and after his Broadway earthquake. Just in time for the worldwide celebrations of the Bernstein Centennial in 2018, this session will explore the many musical facets of this wildly-gifted, ever-searching giant. Presented by Copland House Artistic Director Michael Boriskin. Hoff-Barthelson Music School’s Behrens Bergman Auditorium, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 7:30 p.m. \$25. \$40 for this program and the Mar. 16 lecture. Hoff-Barthelson students: Free. Space limited; reservations encouraged. Info and reservations: 914-723-1169, [www.hbms.org](http://www.hbms.org) or e-mail [hb@hbms.org](mailto:hb@hbms.org).

**Abstract Mixed Media.** Students will take a journey through the world of mixed media art in this workshop. Participants will explore acrylic painting and collage to create abstract pieces with a variety of different materials, such as paint, paper, colored acetate, string and found objects. Adults only. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 7:45 to 9:45 p.m. Members: \$45. Non-members: \$50. (Plus a \$20 materials fee). Info and registration: 914-738-2525 or visit [www.pelhamartcenter.org](http://www.pelhamartcenter.org).

**Support Connection Webinar: Genetic Testing and Counseling for Breast and**

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# Pleasantville Garden Club Honors Trio of Community Members

The Pleasantville Garden Club recently recognized three community members with its annual Green Thumb Award. The organization honors those who have extended themselves to promote gardening, establish beautiful gardens or extend their knowledge for the education of others, all leading to improvement of the environment, which benefits the local population.

## Steve Mott

Steve Mott is parks superintendent for the Mount Pleasant Parks & Recreation Department. Originally from Rochester, N.Y., he earned his degree in forest recreation. He has experience in sustainment of the environment, issues on water supply, soils and planning and design land use.

Mott was recognized by the Pleasantville Garden Club for his untiring efforts to beautify the parks and roadsides of Mount Pleasant, and for his generous support of the Pleasantville Garden Club's projects. As superintendent for 37 years, Mott has moved his department through a transformation from maintenance of ball fields to town-wide parks development and improvements, which sustain the green environment and offer beauty in plantings.

He is known for his professional, generous and compassionate interaction with the public. Mott and his staff have supported the goals of the Pleasantville Garden Club to beautify town areas with seasonal flower



Colleen Ryan, left, president of the Pleasantville Garden Club, and the club's Beautification Chair Senta Stich present longtime Mount Pleasant Parks & Recreation Department Superintendent Steve Mott with its Green Thumb Award at its Feb. 1 meeting.

gardens. Subsequent to the club's voting to adopt the Double Red Knockout Rose as its signature flower, Mott was supportive and a hands-on partner in creating rose gardens in town.

The Pleasantville Garden Club is grateful to Mott for his valuable partnership and to him and his staff for their assistance, which has enabled the club to accomplish its goals



Mary Hagenbuch, left, from the Pleasantville Garden Club's Beautification Committee, and the club's Beautification Chair Senta Stich, right, present Martha Chuchuca of the Valhalla Garden Center with the Green Thumb Award.

and to better serve others.

## Martha Chuchuca

Chuchuca is honored for her generous sharing of her vast horticultural knowledge and for her professional, kind service to gardeners with whom she interacts on a daily basis. When one asks Chuchuca what sustains her during very busy times with multifaceted responsibilities and with people tugging at her for attention, she says, "I love it."

Chuchuca gained her knowledge and love of gardening in her native Ecuador. As a child, she preferred to work and play in the garden. Her love of gardening came from her father who grew varied vegetables in the family garden. Chuchuca said she planted seeds at intervals so that she would always have mature plants growing and new plants started.

Martha has been employed by the Valhalla Garden Center for 15 years. She has expanded her knowledge of every facet of the garden center business. Today, she assists with garden designs, orders all types of plants, advises customers and creates seasonal holiday decorations. Her knowledge is invaluable to those who seek her advice.

Chuchuca successfully balances a very busy life between crunch seasons at the garden center and her family.

## Tommy Stratis

Stratis is the hardworking owner of Casa Rina Restaurant in Thornwood for the past 17 years. He jumped into the restaurant business early in his life, starting as a dishwasher and working his way through every facet of the business. His restaurant offers venues for intimate dining and large group functions.

Stratis was honored with the Green Thumb Award for the lovely seasonal garden in front of his business on Commerce Street. This garden brightens the area where the building is located. He ensures that the area around the restaurant is beautified each season with colorful flowers and plants and is a welcoming site for guests and those who pass by.

His efforts to create gardens to enhance his neighborhood and environment are appreciated by the citizens of Mount Pleasant.

## Advertorial

# HIGH FLYERS, DARE DEVILS, AND ELEPHANTS HEADLINE PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

With the demise of Ringling Brothers, The Royal Hanneford Circus is the only traditional 3 Ring Circus performing in the area. And, they are pulling out all the stops to bring area Circus fans a terrific new Show.

One of the more popular acts each year is the Hanneford performing Elephants and they will be featured for the final time in White Plains. The New York State Legislature has banned performing elephants effective 2019. So, this year will be a nostalgic one for the fans of elephants in the Circus.

Circus Staff will be taking and selling photos with elephants prior to each performance and at each intermission.

When young, energetic Ringmaster Saturn Garcia opens the Show, it's the prelude to two hours of fun and excitement.

The Flying Poemas fly through the air high above the County Center Floor. Ferocious tigers take the Center Ring. The Wheel of Destiny



goes Spinning and Spinning. Will it spin out of control? and then the Chicago Boyz, as seen on America's Got Talent, will bounce right into your list of Circus favorites.

And, that's just a taste of the fun and frolic in this year's Royal Hanneford Circus! There is lots more- two hours of family fun!

**The Royal Hanneford Circus performs at The Westchester County Center over President's Day Weekend February 17 - 18 - 19. There are 3 Shows daily at 10AM, 2PM and 6PM. Reserved seats are \$27 and Premium seats are just \$35.**

Tickets can be purchased at the Westchester County Center Box Office, Ticketmaster and ticketmaster.com. Information at Countycenter.biz.



# Happenings

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**Ovarian Cancer.** Genetic testing is one of the tools available to those who've been diagnosed with breast and ovarian cancer. This program will cover the many factors involved in genetic testing and counseling for breast and ovarian cancer. Led by Dr. Wendy Chung, a medical and molecular geneticist and professor of pediatrics and medicine at Columbia University. 8 to 9 p.m. Free. Pre-registration required. Info and registration: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

## Friday, Feb. 16

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

**Friday Night Cinema: "I Can Quit Whenever I Want."** This Italian comedy follows the drastic measures a science researcher takes when he loses his job due to university cuts. A uniquely Italian take on "Breaking Bad," this film asks how incredibly smart people can get caught up in some not so smart choices as he pulls his colleagues into his new "job." In Italian with English subtitles. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**Lucy's Laugh Lounge Comedy Night.** Enjoy great comedy with some of the metropolitan area's best comedic talent. This week, Neko White headlines the show. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit [www.nomacomedy.com](http://www.nomacomedy.com). Type in promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online to receive discount.

**Axial Theatre's Twisted Valentine's Festival.** Axial Theatre of Pleasantville showcases six original one-act plays that offer an offbeat take on February's celebration of love and lovers. The plays, delving into love and lust from sublime to steamy, are: a probe into the true meaning of love is blind. St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$27.50 Seniors and students: \$22.50. Also Feb. 17 at 3 and 8 p.m. and Feb. 18 at 4 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-286-7680 or visit [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3205973](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3205973).

**Marc Cohn in Concert.** This Grammy Award-winning artist is long considered one of this generation's most compelling singer/songwriters, combining the precision of a brilliant tunesmith with the passion of great soul man. Cohn followed his platinum-selling debut with two more releases in the

1990s. Bonnie Raitt, James Taylor, David Crosby, Graham Nash and Patty Griffin all made guest appearances on Cohn's early records, as his reputation as an artist and performer continued to grow. Cohn returned to the music scene in 2007 after a decade-long sabbatical from recording with "Join the Parade," which was inspired by the horrific events following Hurricane Katrina and his own near fatal shooting just weeks before. Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. 8 p.m. \$35, \$45 and \$55. Info and tickets: 914-739-0039 or visit [www.paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://www.paramounthudsonvalley.com).

**Tape Face.** A finalist on "America's Got Talent," Tape Face became a viral sensation with one of the most viewed videos in history. He's a mime with noise, stand-up with no talking, drama with no acting and has to be seen to be believed. Delightful, wry, multi-layered and hilarious, he transcends the barriers of language and culture. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$28, \$35 and \$40. \$125 for the Meet-and-Greet package. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

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

**Westchester Photographic Society.** Celebrated landscape photographer Joe Lefevre will speak on the topic "20 Field Trips for Improving Your Landscape and Nature Photography." All welcome. For adults 18 and up. Westchester Community College's Technical Building, Room 107, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. (Across from parking lot 11) 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-827-5353 or visit [www.wpsphoto.org](http://www.wpsphoto.org).

## Saturday, Feb. 17

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

**Third Saturday Bird Seed Sale.** The sale supports the local conservation work of the Saw Mill River Audubon. Prunyn Sanctuary, 275 Millwood Rd., Chappaqua. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Third Saturday of each month.

Info (including bird seed descriptions and prices): Visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/seedsale](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/seedsale).

**Family & Systemic Constellations Workshop: Living Fulfilling Relationships.** A revolutionary approach to addressing personal and systemic issues – whether in relationship to others, at work, with the self or with the world at large. It provides a unique level of perspective that supports healing, wholeness and change. Led by Eve-Marie Elkin. The Aligned Center, 1 Bridge St., Suite 64, Irvington. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$40. Info: 914-292-0930, visit [www.theAlignedCenter.com](http://www.theAlignedCenter.com) or e-mail [info@thealignedcenter.com](mailto:info@thealignedcenter.com).

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

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

**Second Act Workshop on Retirement Expectations.** An interactive workshop stressing self-assessment and life planning. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 3:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041.

**Velvet Caravan.** This Savannah-based group is one of the most eclectic ensembles in the music business. Combining gypsy, honky-tonk, swing and Latin, this band plays upbeat tunes from all over the world with thunderous virtuosity and a relentless sense of humor. The unorthodox, high-energy, acoustic-based quintet of guitar, violin, stand-up bass, percussion and keyboards (including accordion) will make you want to get up and dance. With dinner, drinks (available at the bar) and a dance floor. Purchase College's Black Box Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$87.50 (includes dinner). Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit [www.artscenter.org](http://www.artscenter.org).

**Argentine Tango Dances.** Great music and dancing on a 3,500-square-foot dance floor. Enjoy a pleasant time with friends. Refreshments served. Broadway 26 Dance, 26 Broadway, Hawthorne. 8 p.m. to midnight. \$16. Also the first Sunday of each month from 3 to 6 p.m. \$12. Info: 914-725-3023 or 914-484-5101 or e-mail [sampelayo@optonline.net](mailto:sampelayo@optonline.net).

## Sunday, Feb. 18

**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. Third Sunday of every month. Info: 914-241-0136 or contact Commander John A. Graziano at 914-248-7134.

**Third Sunday Walk.** A family friendly walk for adults and children five years old and up. Rain or shine. Prunyn Sanctuary, 275 Saw Mill River Rd., Chappaqua. (Meet at Woodmill Road trails entrance). 3 p.m. Free. Rain or shine. Meets the third Sunday of every month. Info: 914-666-6503 or visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org).

**An Afternoon of Jazz.** A faculty-artist concert featuring the quintet of Jay Azzolina, jazz guitar; Matt Garrison, saxophone; Mike McGuirk, bass; Andrew Swift, percussion; and Charles Blenzig, piano. The will perform originals and jazz standards. Each musician has performed with some of the greats in jazz, bringing their unique style of improvisation to the stage. From swing to Afro Cuban and funk, this group consistently takes the listener on a varied and satisfying musical adventure. Manhattanville College's Reid Hall, West Room, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase. 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-323-5260.

**Steve Hackett: Genesis Revisited, Solo Gems and GTR 2018 Tour de Force.** Hackett was lead guitarist with Genesis as part of their classic lineup that produced acclaimed albums such as "Selling England By the Pound." With Hackett's extraordinary versatility performing and composing, he involves influences from many genres and is equally adept in his classical albums that include rendition of pieces from Bach to Satie. Supported by some of the best musicians, Hackett's unique guitar work remains the fulcrum on which this challenging and exhilarating show is balanced. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 7 p.m. \$48, \$58 and \$78. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

## Monday, Feb. 19

**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](mailto:tinacampbell@masternetworks.net) or just drop in.

**Morning Bird Walk.** Go birding with the Saw Mill River Audubon. Beginners welcome. Rain or shine. Rockefeller State Park Preserve. (Use Sleepy Hollow Road entrance.) 8:30 a.m. Free. Meets the third Monday of each month. Info: Visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org).

# A Crossroads in the Composition and Shape of the Wine Bottle



By Nick Antonaccio

The winds of change are blowing – again. This time it's the impact of wine on the environment. Not the wine that is in the bottle, but the bottle that the wine is in. Concerns are surfacing over the impact of producing, shipping and recycling glass bottles.

This has the potential to change our buying and drinking habits in a profound manner. Slowly, but inexorably, the wine industry is moving to alternative containers for wines. More and more, we are seeing Tetra Paks and wine-in-a-box on wine shop shelves.

Now comes another innovation in wine vessels. Garçon Wines of Great Britain has introduced a high quality slimmed-down version of a plastic wine bottle. Two innovations in one package: shape and composition.

I must admit I've been having difficulty deciding if I can support this new product. I'm conflicted by my uneasiness with a plastic, not glass, vessel for storing wine,

and my exuberance for the new shape.

The plastic is high-grade polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a thermoplastic polymer resin, while the shape is that of a slim flask. Allow me to elaborate.

Plastic bottles proliferate the food aisles – and the landscape. The PET bottles are stronger, clearer and more readily recyclable than many plastic bottles.

The shape of the PET bottle is a marketing marvel. The bottle is as wide as a traditional Bordeaux or Burgundy glass bottle, yet it is not cylindrically shaped. Rather, it is more like a rectangle, no deeper than the screwcap atop its neck. And it is taller than a traditional wine bottle, maintaining the same 750 ml capacity of the traditional glass bottle. Think of a glass bottle being figuratively

run over by a multi-ton asphalt roller and flattened to a mere two inches. Does that evoke a mental image? That is the Garçon bottle.

Allow me to air my conflicting opinions of the Garçon bottle.

## Pros

- Glass bottles weigh 19 ounces, while PET bottles average two ounces. Factor that difference on the tens of billions of wine bottles sold and potentially

recycled each year. The cost savings on production, shipping and home delivery charges is significant. The carbon footprint is smaller than glass bottles.

- The flask-like shape of the Garçon bottle has a smaller footprint than a traditional glass wine bottle. This makes for more efficient costs in shipping and storing; significantly more bottles in less space.
- The Garçon bottle is designed to fit in your mailbox, making it much easier to transport and deliver directly to homes (except in our area; an adult, 21 or older, must sign for wine deliveries).
- The Garçon bottle is more conducive for outdoor usage. It is made for today's outdoor lifestyle. Now you can have plastic wine bottles matched to your plastic wine glasses and plastic dinnerware. And you can carry it alongside your plastic bottle of water or sports drink.

## Cons

It's made from plastic. Over the long run plastic is not environmentally friendly.

It's made from plastic. Lurking BPAs are still a potential health threat.

Plastic may affect the aromas and

flavors of the wine contents. Studies have shown that this is not a factor, so long as the wine is consumed within 12 months of being bottled. That's a short window for many wines.

Plastic is more porous than glass. Oxygen is more likely to penetrate the walls and oxidize the wine contents. There is minimal risk if the wine is consumed within the 12-month window mentioned above.

5. It's made from plastic. The Garçon bottle is not a natural product. It is coming

into a market that is highly sensitive to sustainable practices.

So, where do I come down on this self-created debate? I like the novel shape of the Garçon bottle. I'm able to adjust my traditional perspective for this aspect. But in the end, it's made from plastic.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 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](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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