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March 13 - March 19, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 549

Latimer, Local Officials Demand Resignations of Utilities' Leaders

Con Edison, NYSEG 'Missing in Action'

By Martin Wilbur

County Executive George Latimer demanded resignations of Con Edison and New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) leadership last Friday following the utilities' dreadful response to the two recent storms that plunged thousands into darkness.

Latimer was joined by dozens of angry elected officials in White Plains from across the county and several residents recounting stories of erroneous information from the utilities regarding estimated restoration time. Some residents also were informed by robocalls that their power had been restored when it had not.

Officials called for investigations by

the Public Service Commission (PSC) related to the preparation for the Mar. 2 Nor'easter and Mar. 7 snowstorm. Latimer accused the utilities of having been "missing in action," for failing to arrange for adequate mutual aid from out of state and for inept communication with the public and officials afterward.

"As you remember, changes were made on Long Island after Sandy. Changes can be made again," Latimer declared, referring to Gov. Andrew Cuomo's signing of legislation effectively ousting the Long Island Power Authority. "Do the right thing. Stand up for the decisions you should have made, make changes in senior management, put people in there who understand they're directly accountable to the people, not customers, people that they serve."

Other officials mentioned that after *continued on page 2*

First Design Draft of P'ville's Memorial Plaza Public Space Unveiled

By Anna Young

Pleasantville officials presented their initial designs and goals last week as they continue to work on redesigning a portion of the Memorial Plaza civic space.

The Mar. 5 meeting at Village Hall took input from residents and other village stakeholders who offered ideas during previous workshops for potential improvements to the roughly half-acre space on the west end of Memorial Plaza.

With the village having obtained a \$1.5 million state grant which would pay for the majority of the work, Mayor Peter Scherer said officials are fulfilling a goal of upgrading the streetscape along Memorial Plaza and Manville Road. The village would have to include about \$750,000 for the project, he said.



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Landscape architect Jamie Maslyn Larson made a presentation on the features of the proposed civic space on Memorial Plaza at Village Hall last week.

Pedestrian walkways would be enhanced on Manville Road from Grant Street to Tompkins Avenue, and the turn lane from

continued on page 4

Wearing of the Green



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

There were plenty of bagpipers providing great atmosphere in downtown Mount Kisco last Saturday afternoon for the annual Ancient Order of Hibernians' St. Patrick's Day parade. There were plenty of other participants in the event as well. For more photos, see page 22.

New Castle Debates How to Address Murphy on Gun Issue

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle officials pledged last week to work together on a variety of strategies to catch the attention of policymakers, including state Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown), to strengthen New York's gun regulations.

The Town Board vigorously debated how to convince Murphy and other lawmakers, particularly in the state Senate which has been opposed to tighter gun restrictions, that more robust laws are needed to protect the public.

During their discussion at the Mar. 6 work session, board members said they supported legislation backed in the Assembly that would establish measures such as Extreme Risk Protection Orders that would allow a judge to temporarily

confiscate firearms from people who are at risk to themselves or others; banning bump stocks, which increase a rifle's capacity; increasing the current three-day waiting period to 10 days; and prohibiting convicted domestic abusers from owning a gun.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein said the board will be working with Chappaqua School District officials and should reach out to other municipalities and legislators across the state to turn up the heat on senators who have refused to budge.

Greenstein also read a first draft of a strongly worded letter the board eventually plans to send to Murphy indicating its displeasure with his stance on firearms.

The discussion came a week after *continued on page 9*

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Latimer, Local Officials Demand Resignations of Utilities' Leaders

continued from page 1

every major weather event that results in power outages, the utilities promise to make changes but the same problems occur.

Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi urged the state to end Con Edison's and NYSEG's monopolistic hold on their territory. By last Friday morning, 1,900 customers in her town were still without power and 28 roads were closed, many because utility crews had not arrived to address downed wires.

"It needs to be broken up," Puglisi said. "They need to hear us. They haven't yet. In 27 years as town supervisor they have not heard us, but darn it, they're going to hear us this time."

The same day, Con Edison President, CEO and Chairman of the Board John McAvoy held his own press conference explaining the challenges his organization faced and where the problems occurred.

He said the utility was hurt by the severity of the first storm that featured wind gusts upwards of 70 miles per hour, toppling thousands of trees. The fact that nearly the entire Northeast was affected by both events delayed restoration because many of the utilities in the region that Con Edison relies on for mutual aid had to service their own territory.

"These storms with the tree damage we're seeing is much more extensive," he said. "Large limbs are down, many trees (were) completely uprooted and the result of that is we're not just repairing our systems in many cases, we're actually rebuilding it."

Despite the challenges, McAvoy said Con Edison was successful in restoring power to 90 percent of the roughly 100,000 customers who lost electricity in Westchester by last Tuesday night. Just under 10,000 Con Edison customers in Westchester were reported without power by the time the Mar. 7 snowstorm started.

There were an estimated 50,000 additional outages in the county caused by the snowstorm, he said.

McAvoy acknowledged that the utility suffered "significant problems in our technology systems" that dispensed erroneous information on its outage map and robocalls to individual customers, along with constantly changing estimated restoration times. He said Con Edison understands what went wrong and will make sure the glitches never occur again, although he did not go into detail about what caused the problems.

However, McAvoy sidestepped the issue of Westchester officials calling for him and his senior management team to resign.

"We are laser-focused on the restoration of our customers in as safe and as fast a manner as possible, and my role as CEO is to make sure I lead the organization in a way that accomplishes that," McAvoy said. "That is what I'm focusing all of my attention on."

Con Edison spokesman Alan Drury said the utility had about 2,300 crew members in the field working on restoration. It also recalled about 80 workers from Puerto Rico. Last fall, Con Edison was one of many utilities to send crews to help the hurricane-ravaged island.

Calls made to NYSEG were not returned.

Officials said citizens weren't just inconvenienced by the utilities' inaccurate information, but residents or their relatives with medical issues were put in potentially life-threatening situations because of the utilities' failures.

Anthony Carpentieri of Valhalla said his daughter suffers from Multiple Sclerosis and her medicine must be kept at a certain temperature. Carpentieri said if knew that he would have been without power for a week rather than being told it would return by 11 p.m. each night, he could have made other arrangements for his family.

"I think if people know what the story is they can make proper plans," he said.

"They can go to a hotel, they can go and stay with family. They can help their children, whatever the case may be. They really need to know the real story and I feel Con Ed wasn't doing that."

Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti (D-Pleasantville) said Con Edison has "forfeited its right to be a public utility" because of its poor performance following the storms. Action must be taken to replace them or break its grip on the area.

"If we can't convince the PSC, then I think we have to put in legislation, I think we have to follow Linda Puglisi's suggestion of breaking up Con Edison," Abinanti said. "I think we need to better regulate and set standards for performance and time and response."

Mount Pleasant Town Clerk Patricia Scova, who was out of power for a full week at her Hawthorne home, also had a suggestion. The utilities' CEOs should forego some of their benefits so residents who were without power can have their energy bills reduced on a prorated basis.

"What I would suggest is the CEO not take his stock option for this year, so they can prorate our bills for the time we're out," Scova said. "That would be a wonderful thing for him to do and it's great PR."

Neal Rentz contributed to this article.



Could You Have A Kidney Stone?

Learn about symptoms, treatment and prevention...

Ask the Doctor

Dr. Warren Bromberg, MD, FACS
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Co-Director, Institute for Robotic and Minimally Invasive Surgery
Northern Westchester Hospital

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Q: What are the symptoms of a kidney stone?

A: You might feel waves of severe pain in your back or side below the ribs. Pain might spread to your groin and lower abdomen. Nausea, vomiting and blood in the urine are possible. If you experience extreme pain, vomiting, or fever, go to an urgent care facility, or your hospital ER. Otherwise, have your symptoms evaluated by your primary care physician.

Q: What actually is a kidney stone?

A: A stone is rock-like material formed within the kidney. Most stones have a calcium component, and are caused by inadequate fluid intake, an overabundance of calories, and excessive salt intake. Stones with a uric acid component are caused by an excessive meat intake. When a stone passes out of the kidney and enters the ureter, the tube becomes blocked, urine backs up, the kidney swells and pain results.

Q: What are my treatment options?

A: A small stone may "pass" from your body naturally. If necessary, your physician can provide medication for pain and nausea and allow natural passage of the stone. Uric acid stones can sometimes be dissolved

with medication. A large stone blocking a kidney, or a stone associated with an infection, can be life-threatening and must be treated urgently. For stones that cannot pass on their own, a urologist may advise one of three outpatient procedures, depending on the size and location of the stone.

- (a) External shock waves to shatter the stone, turning it to smaller stones that can then pass on their own.
- (b) Inserting a small telescope to laser the stone into tiny fragments.
- (c) If the stone is very large, a telescope is passed directly into the kidney through ones back to fragment and remove the stone.

Q: Can I help prevent kidney stones from forming?

A: Yes, however, once a kidney stone is removed, if a person does not change his or her diet or fluid intake, there's a 70 percent chance another will form. Help prevent calcium stones by remaining well-hydrated. Avoid consuming large amounts of dark leafy vegetables, peanuts, Vitamin C tablets and chocolate. To avoid forming a uric acid-type stone, limit meat, including red meat, chicken or fish.

New Castle Resident Endures Harrowing 10-Day Ordeal at Home

By Martin Wilbur

Brenda Timm remembered that Superstorm Sandy was bad. The back-to-back Nor'easters that pummeled the area on Mar. 2 and Mar. 7 were worse.

Timm, who lives on Glendale Road in the far western edge of New Castle, said she and her family were trapped in their house from early afternoon on Mar. 2 until late on Mar. 6 behind a 10-foot wall of trees tangled in high-voltage electric wires. One wire that came down was on fire for at least five hours in her gravel driveway before it apparently burned itself out. First-responders had been unable to reach her family.

Although Timm has a generator, which she installed after Sandy, she said she didn't know what she would have done had the fire spread and moved toward the residence.

"The scariest part was definitely the fire," Timm said. "The other scary part was being trapped. I have a seven-month-old and a four-year-old. It's not like I could just run through the woods and evacuate. We'd have to get them out, and then there are our cars and our house. There's another house back there and they have their personal belongings and they have no way out either. So we couldn't get out."

Timm's harrowing experience was just one of hundreds of stories of hardship endured by residents across Westchester

during the past two weeks. Families with young children, relatives with medical conditions and the elderly were stuck for days without power. In some cases, particularly in the more rural areas, even if roads weren't blocked by trees, it was commonplace to find wires scattered on the ground, creating perilously dangerous situations.

"We were terrified the entire day and the fire kind of died down after dark and we were alright," Timm said of that first day.

Her power was restored about 5 p.m. on Sunday, 10 days after the brunt of the first storm hit. For Sandy, when she fled the area for a week, power was back on at her house after nine days. She was grateful that the generator kept her house warm and lit for the entire ordeal. Timm said she has a large tank and a small house, so she needed relatively little diesel fuel to keep the power on, but probably had a one or two days fuel supply remaining.

Con Edison officials estimated that about 100,000 Westchester residents lost power from the Mar. 2 storm. While 90 percent of the residents were back on line late on Mar. 6, the utility claimed, another 50,000 lost power during the snowstorm.

The utility was reporting isolated power outages on Monday afternoon, with a little more than 100 Con Edison customers in Westchester without power. Those include just eight customers out



Brenda Timm was trapped behind a wall of trees and a burning wire on Mar. 2 at her Glendale Road home in New Castle. Timm had power restored Sunday after 10 days.

in New Castle, according to information provided by the town. Another 17 were still without power late Sunday evening in North Castle.

Getting reliable information from Con Edison was fruitless and frustrating. Local, county and state officials blasted the utility last week for its failure to provide accurate information and work with municipalities to tackle the most pressing needs.

Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said the town worked well with the utility's liaisons, but even the liaisons often had incorrect information.

"The communication between the town and Con Edison has been bad," Fulgenzi

said.

Timm said her neighbors on Glendale Road who had electricity before losing power during the Mar. 7 snowstorm had their power restored during the early part of the weekend.

She said the misinformation and lack of answers from Con Edison was exasperating. If she knew that it could be 10 days before her family would have been prepared. Timm just hopes that the snail's pace for her restoration wasn't because she lived in a sparsely populated area.

"We're such a low-priority for the electric companies given our population," Timm said.

Neal Rentz contributed to this article.

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First Design Draft of P'ville's Memorial Plaza Public Space Unveiled

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Memorial Plaza onto Manville Road is expected to be removed to create a more attractive and communal area.

Landscape architect Jamie Maslyn Larson said the Village Board agreed to expand the proposed quarter-acre space to more than a half-acre after residents voiced enthusiasm for the project. She said the larger space promises to create an intimate, comfortable and accessible space that could host an array of events

and activities while also accommodating many suggestions made by residents.

Project planner Phil Myrick, a Pleasantville resident, said the concepts and goals for the project are unique to the community. He said the feedback he's received reflects how important a social and civic space is to the village.

"It's something we don't really have," Myrick said. "It's very exciting to a lot of people that we can make this central gathering space."

Larson presented a plan that is broken into four sections interwoven into each other and designated for different activities. The design includes a multi-use plaza, a casual porch and a bosque, a grid of trees landscaped into a specific design. The walkways within the space would comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

She said the lawn would be able to hold more than 300 people. Plans call for the war monuments at the north end of the plaza to be relocated onto the lawn to create a dignified space, she said.

"It allows people to have casual access to these memorials, actually see them every day and read the names and read the stories," Larson said. "So, it finally has a place of purpose in this space."

The porch is designed to be located adjacent to the Metro-North train tracks but would be a more intimate and remote area for gatherings or for people to read. Larson said she hopes to integrate hedges and plantings to make it lush and add to the natural shadiness of the area. The bosque would provide shade for bistro-style chairs and trees would be illuminated with special lighting.

A multiuse plaza in the center would be the project's centerpiece and be an "extremely playful" area, Larson said. Visitors could walk through it and it would accommodate the farmers

market, food trucks, a water feature or an ice rink. She said the plaza would also feature a granite mosaic design that represents the village.

"I'm pretty excited about the plaza, about a flexible space but it's a real opportunity to really mark this particular site with a significant beautiful design feature," Larson said. "We cannot make this plaza just cast-in-place concrete. It would feel really sad."

She said the next phase is to include public feedback on the design.

Engineer Jeffrey Contelmo said roadway improvements include widening the intersection from Memorial Plaza onto Manville Road to create a right turn lane at the traffic light. He added that pedestrian crossings will be enhanced with textured paving to create a shorter and safer crosswalk that is ADA accessible.

Scherer said the civic space development would result in the loss of about 25 parking spaces along Memorial Plaza.

"What we're talking about here is something that's been talked about for two generations of Pleasantvillians, and if 25 parking spaces is in the way of making it happen when the other ducks have been lined up in a row, we'll find a way to make that work," Scherer said. "Not going to miss this chance."

Prestigious Award



Five seniors at Byram Hills High School were recently named National Merit Scholarship finalists for 2018. The finalists are, from left to right, Stella Li, Jack Lorenzo, Jonathan Mui, Rachel Ackerman and John Duarte.

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Mt. Kisco Looks to Improve Internal Communications After Storms

By Neal Rentz

The Mount Kisco Village Board is exploring how to better inform the public during emergencies after the two recent storms knocked out power to thousands of residents and blocked streets throughout the area.

Trustee Jean Farber said the village provided updates during and after the Mar. 2 storm on its website and Facebook

page. But officials recognized that more needs to be done to keep residents abreast of an often constantly changing situation and about where to go for shelter when power outages strike or other emergency situations.

Following the first storm, the Mount Kisco Public Library served as a warming center and residents were able to use the Boys & Girls Club of Northern

Westchester.

One idea is to work with the local Red Cross chapter to prepare cots in the event of an emergency and publicize that information to the public.

"There doesn't appear to be a set disaster plan in place," Mayor Gina Picinich said.

Trustee Karen Schleimer, who lost power at her home on Mar. 2, said more frequent updates are needed to let residents know what the village is doing regarding repairs and when utility workers may arrive. Other municipalities provide more frequent updates than Mount Kisco, she said.

Picinich said the village updates information when it becomes available after the storm and shares that with the public. Following the Mar. 2 storm, more than 1,200 customers were without power, and it took into early last week for those residents to be restored.

However, more timely information was difficult to obtain. Farber said Con Edison did not return phone calls.

"That was another huge disappointment and frustration for a lot of people," she said.

Picinich said there have been multiple conversations with Con Edison, the county's Department of Emergency Services and state representatives. She and Village Manager Edward Brancati made repeated attempts to obtain

information from the utility, but little was forthcoming.

Lack of communication has left communities throughout Westchester exasperated regarding Con Edison's performance, Picinich said.

"The tone and tenor of the calls...was a very, very high level of frustration from community leaders across Westchester," she said.

Another proposed idea was for the village to have a plan to check on seniors who are alone and at risk, Schleimer said. The county has a program for seniors and people with certain medical conditions to register with the Department of Emergency Services so the county can check on them, Brancati said. The program has been in place for many years, he said.

Liz Dieter, Mount Kisco's recreation supervisor for seniors, said Con Edison also has a registration system for individuals needing oxygen or other life-sustaining equipment. People can register to make the utility aware when those households lose power, she noted.

"If your lights go out, Con Edison is aware of that immediately," Dieter said.

Picinich instructed Brancati to devise a method to make certain that residents who could benefit from the service understand that it exists and let them know how to access it.

County Golf Courses Set to Open This Week

The six Westchester County-owned golf courses are scheduled to open for the season on Wednesday, Mar. 14, weather and conditions permitting. The courses are Mohansic in Yorktown Heights; Maple Moor in White Plains; Saxon Woods in Scarsdale; Hudson Hills in Ossining; and Dunwoodie and Sprain Lake, both in Yonkers.

Reserve a tee time at golf.westchestergov.com or at GolfNow.com. Reservations may also be made by calling the individual courses. Walk up reservations will also be accepted at the courses.

Westchester County Park pass holders can make reservations seven days in advance starting at 9 a.m. Golfers without a park pass can make

reservations six days in advance prior to play.

Golfers are advised to check course status on the day of play.

Greens fees for 2018 for all courses, except Hudson Hills, will increase by \$2 on weekends and \$1 on weekdays. The new fees for Westchester Park pass holders are: weekends and holidays, \$38; weekdays, \$33; seniors and juniors (weekdays only) \$26. Greens fees without the park pass are \$48 on weekends and holiday and \$43 on weekdays. Twilight, super twilight and nine-hole discounts are available. Golf cart fees are separate and unchanged. The fee structure for Hudson Hills is available at hudsonhillsgolf.com.

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Board of Legislators Approves Immigrant Protection Act

By Anna Young

The Westchester County Board of Legislators approved the Immigrant Protection Act Monday night, a bill that would restrain Westchester from using its resources for immigration enforcement.

Lawmakers voted 11-3 along mainly party lines with the attending Democrats unanimously supporting the bill. They maintained that immigrants would be provided the protection to prevent them from living in fear of deportation. Legislator David Tubiolo (R-Yonkers), who voted against the bill last year, was the only Republican to support the legislation.

"This is a justice-for-all bill," said Legislator Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining). "A lot of the things that are provided in this piece of legislation are just a reaffirmation of the fact that the United States Constitution and particularly the Bill of Rights applies to every human soul on U.S. soil and we know that that is true and we want that affirmed and we want people to know that is true in Westchester County."

Following President Donald Trump's controversial executive order restricting travel by refugees and immigrants from seven predominantly Muslim countries, Borgia introduced the bill last February hoping to reduce fear in Westchester's immigrant community.

The board passed the original bill last August along party lines, but it was later vetoed by former county executive Rob

Astorino. Astorino contended that the legislation created a sanctuary county that violated federal immigration laws and put the county at risk of losing upwards of \$13 million in federal grants.

A month later members of the Democratic caucus pushed to override the veto, but that effort ultimately failed, falling one vote short.

"There was a grave misunderstanding about what this legislation did," Borgia said. "This law does not protect criminals; this law allows for criminal investigations because it's a public safety measure."

Lawmakers had been working with law enforcement, local organizations and advocates to draft a new law that would comply with federal guidelines and create clear procedures for police.

"This bill is a better bill. It provides the kinds of protections that we hope for and need in Westchester County for all of our citizens to feel comfortable and good about their lives and what they can do and how they can raise their children without fear," Vice Chair Alfreda Williams (D-White Plains) said. "I just want to say how very delighted and very grateful I am that this bill has finally passed."

While Majority Leader Catherine Parker (D-Rye) stressed the law is not a sanctuary bill, Minority Leader John Testa (R-Peekskill) said federal guidelines stipulate that legislation will classify Westchester as a sanctuary jurisdiction. He said if legislators



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Several hundred supporters of the Immigrant Protection Act were overjoyed after the Board of Legislators approved the measure Monday night in White Plains.

codified the executive order put in place by former county executive Andrew Spano and Astorino the bill would have received unanimous support.

He added that law enforcement isn't involved in immigration enforcement and lawsuits could eventually emerge against the county due to the restrictions placed on police.

The revised bill would confine the county from sharing information with federal immigration authorities based on race, gender, religion, or national origin and restrict law enforcement officials from asking individuals questions relating to their citizenship or immigration status.

"The Immigrant Protection Act is designed specifically to do only two things –

protect undocumented criminals sitting in the county jail and eliminate the distinction between legal and illegal immigration," Testa said. "Anything that inhibits local law enforcement from working closely with their federal law enforcement partners like the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies is a bad and reckless idea."

Despite opposition, several hundred supporters erupted in loud applause and cheers after lawmakers approved the legislation. Borgia immediately broke down in tears and rushed to Tubiolo to give him a hug and thank him.

County Executive George Latimer issued a statement applauding the board.

"They listened to law enforcement officials, advocates and residents and drafted a law that is about safety – and nothing else," Latimer said. "This legislation in no way goes against federal law, and in no way will allow criminals to be harbored. To say otherwise is simply not true. This legislation goes to the heart of protecting good honest citizens in their home."

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Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

Mar. 5: Police responded to a Park Drive residence at 2:47 p.m. on a report that an elderly woman was locked out of her home. A neighbor said the woman could wait with her at her home until a caretaker with a key arrived.

Mar. 6: Police responded to Moore Avenue at 2:32 p.m. on a report that wires on a utility pole were on fire. The Mount Kisco Fire Department responded and Con Edison was notified.

Mar. 7: Report of a tree leaning on power lines, causing it to spark at

4:38 p.m. The Mount Kisco Highway Department also responded and Con Edison was notified.

Mar. 7: Report of phone wires down on Valley View at 6:40 p.m. An officer marked the area with caution tape and notified Verizon.

Mar. 7: Police responded to Spring Street at 8:06 p.m. on a report that a tree had fallen on parked cars. It was determined that the incident occurred in a private driveway, not on the public roadway.

Mar. 7: Report of a disoriented man on Barker Street, possibly due to a medical

condition, at 11:36 p.m. The man was transported by ambulance to Northern Westchester Hospital.

Mar. 8: A caller notified police at 3:32 a.m. because of noise on Mountain Avenue. An officer observed a man plowing his driveway on an ATV. He agreed to postpone plowing until later in the day.

Mar. 8: Report of wires in the roadway on East Main Street at 7:45 a.m. The cable company wires were moved to the side of the road by an officer.

Mar. 8: A Carpenter Avenue resident contacted police at 5:52 p.m. to turn in a

set of keys he had found on South Moger Avenue near Rite Aid.

Mar. 8: A West Way resident reported at 8:26 p.m. that a man was in the woods behind her home with a flashlight and had shined it toward her living room window. Officers responded and were told by neighbors that several people had been in the area searching for a lost dog.

Mar. 9: Police responded to the 100 block of East Main Street on a report of a strong gas odor at 9:14 a.m. The Mount Kisco Fire Department also responded and Con Edison was notified.

Pleasantville Police Department

Mar. 2: A 50-year-old Mount Kisco man was arrested for DUI at 8:10 p.m. Officers found the driver passed out behind the wheel of his car at the intersection of Broadway and Bedford Road.

Mar. 8: A 22-year-old Pleasantville man was arrested at 8:47 p.m. on Broadway for unlawful possession of marijuana following a traffic stop.

Mar. 9: A domestic dispute led to an arrest on Vermilyea Street at 1:32 a.m. Police could not provide additional information due to an ongoing investigation.

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UJA-Federation of New York's Presents 2018 Find-A-Seder Guide

UJA-Federation of New York's Find-a-Seder resource for 2018 is a comprehensive list of Passover Seders open to the community on the first two nights of Passover – Friday, Mar. 30 and Saturday, Mar. 31. The Seders take place at local community centers and synagogues of all denominations throughout the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island and Westchester.

For more than 25 years UJA-Federation has worked to match Jewish families in New York with communal Seders. To view the list of close to 35 geographically arranged community Seders that are open to families who wish to observe the tradition-rich holiday, visit www.ujafedny.org/passover/find-a-seder.

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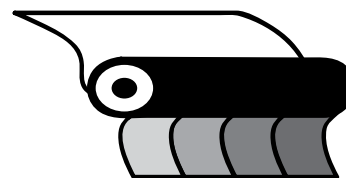
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Longtime P'ville Administrator Dwyer Ready for New Challenges

By Anna Young

One of Pleasantville's most valued and reliable servants will say her final goodbye to Village Hall this Friday.

After serving the public for nearly 32 years, Village Administrator Patricia Dwyer will deservingly spend her first day of retirement celebrating St. Patrick's Day, marching in a parade in Queens with the alumni association from St. Francis Preparatory High School.

But while Dwyer said serving the people of Pleasantville is one of the greatest pleasures she's had, she's ready to experience the next chapter of her life.

"I couldn't have picked a better profession," said Dwyer, who started her administrative career in Walden, N.Y. in Orange County at 23 years old.

"I think public service is something that

is a motivator for me," Dwyer said. "I need to wake up and do something good with my time and energy and I thought this career really enabled me to live that way."

Growing up in Queens, Dwyer, who worked seven seasons as a vendor at Yankee Stadium, cited her father for inspiring her to become involved in public service and to help others. He worked in law enforcement and that helped her to have forge a career in local government.

After working in Walden for five years, Dwyer transitioned to Pleasantville in 1992 because she wanted to be closer to the city. Though in 1998, she was hired by Mount Kisco where she served as village manager for six years, Pleasantville residents insisted she return.

"I really thought it was a better fit, too. So, I came back in 2003," Dwyer said. "I

knew that this would be the final path and I've been here since then."

As village administrator, Dwyer, 55, coordinated all day-to-day municipal operations in the village, including preparing and presenting annual operating budgets to the Village Board. She also advised the board on the organization, employment, hiring and discipline of employees and developed and established rules, regulations and procedures for the efficient operation of the village.

As Dwyer reminisced about her time in Pleasantville, she said she wants her legacy to reflect that every single day spent at Village Hall mattered. Furthermore, she wants to be remembered for helping to create an ethical workplace and providing reliable, fair and equitable service to the community that respected its culture and maintained its valued assets.

"It's a very dynamic workplace. It's local government that requires all kinds of flexibility and vision and effort that changes every day," Dwyer said. "Every day it's something, and for me, that's what makes a job so magnificent; it's just not simple. It's very complex and it's very involved and it engages so many people, and that's why I've liked doing what I've done for such a long time."

"In every community I think I've left something good behind," Dwyer added.

She is being followed in the post by former Croton-on-Hudson Fredrick (Eric) Morrissey village manager. During the past month, Dwyer has been working with Morrissey on the office transition.

While retirement will get Dwyer out from behind her desk and into the sunlight, she's ready to get to work on her next venture. She plans to launch her own



Pleasantville Village Administrator Patricia Dwyer will retire from her post on Friday. She served the village more than 20 years over two stints.

New Castle Debates How to Address Murphy on Gun Issue

continued from page 1

Councilman Jeremy Saland recommended the town reject \$200,000 Murphy helped procure for a basketball court to be built behind Town Hall. Saland said a message needs to be sent that Murphy's position on firearm legislation is out of step with his New Castle constituency.

"To me, this has to be one of the most central issues, whether it's the state, whether it's the federal government, and again, when we look at it, you can call it politics, but (Assemblyman) David Buchwald has co-sponsored this legislation," Saland said. "It is dying, figuratively and literally, in the state Senate. They are not listening because we are not giving them a message of dire straits that if they do not adhere to our warning as a constituent, but also as a local legislator in their district, there will be a consequence."

Greenstein and Councilwoman Lisa Katz said they opposed relinquishing the \$200,000 because it would likely fail to have the desired impact and remove funding for a project the town has looked forward to completing. Katz said the board should not stop accepting funds or working with a representative every time there's a disagreement.

"He may have helped us procure it, but I don't think it will sway him one iota, and if we say we don't want the money, frankly I don't think he'll care," Katz said. "So to me I would like to find another way to give that kick."

Councilwoman Hala Makowska said the board should try to arrange a face-to-face meeting with Murphy to let him know where the town stands rather than relying on letters.

But Greenstein, who characterized the tactic as lobbying, said the challenge is greater than trying to convince one senator to change his position. He said throngs of people from around

Westchester and the state – parents, students, school officials and other residents – must head to Albany and apply pressure, similar to what is happening in Florida.

"You do want face-to-face (meetings), but you don't have 200 people jam into one office," Greenstein said. "You divide it into groups and then you hit everybody, and if they allow the debate to take place on the Senate floor, then you all show up there and you have a press conference. That's how you make a statement."

During last week's discussion, resident Jane Silverman suggested to Greenstein that since he has the strongest working relationship with Murphy of anyone on the board, it would be more effective if he spoke to the senator. Unlike other political debates, there is too much at stake with the gun issue to treat it similarly to other matters, she said.

"At this point, we have to say to him you're not welcome here because you are actively putting forth positions that are beyond the pale for us," Silverman said.

Greenstein, who has endorsed Murphy in the past, cautioned that he didn't think it's the role of a Town Board to try and defeat an elected official. Murphy is up for re-election in November. Greenstein also mentioned he isn't shy about telling the senator he's wrong on this issue.

In the past few weeks, Murphy has supported legislation that classifies mass shootings as acts of terrorism, a bill that Saland said doesn't address the problem of keeping guns out of the hands of the wrong people.

The gun safety discussion in New Castle started about two weeks ago with the board exploring the possibility of local legislation regarding the storage and handling of firearms. However, similar legislation is already on the books at the county level and would likely preempt local efforts.

consulting practice, Sourced Municipal Solutions. It will provide services such as interim management, relationship management and focus studies to local governments. She will also serve as executive director for the New York State City Managers Association.

"Everything was right for me, right place, right time, right vocation, for sure," Dwyer said. "I just couldn't have been luckier and happier with the choices, and if someone has to commit 30 years of their life to something, I hope people can walk away with the same type of satisfaction I'm walking away with, I really do."

"It was just a wonderful opportunity and experience. My days here mattered to me. But I'm not done, this is one of several retirements I hopefully have to look forward to."

Arc Westchester Tech Conference for Cognitive Disabilities Set for Mar. 27

The Arc Westchester will hold its third annual Tech Supports for Cognition & Learning Conference, which will take place on Tues., March 27 at Mercy College's Dobbs Ferry campus.

The Tech Supports for Cognition & Learning Conference is a unique event focused on technology solutions for people with cognitive disabilities, including developmental disabilities, autism, Alzheimer's, dementia, traumatic brain injury and stroke survivors, that help with tasks for independence in everyday life. The conference is geared toward parents, rehabilitation professionals, special education teachers and individuals with cognitive disabilities.

This year's keynote speaker will be David Banes, director of David Banes Access and Inclusion Services and former CEO at Mada, Qatar Assistive Technology Center. He has worked extensively with both children and adults with a range of needs including those

with autism and dyslexia.

In addition to Banes' keynote address, the conference will include hands-on breakout sessions hosted by technology experts who will provide practical advice on the use of technology to support the daily living needs of people with cognitive disabilities. Presenters include experts in technology, education, clinical and rehabilitation supports and the direct services profession.

The day will conclude with an exciting announcement from The Arc Westchester and the Westchester Library System regarding the creation of the first web resource in the Hudson Valley listing information on how to contact experts that can help explore technology solutions.

The conference will run from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.arcwestchester.org/techconference2018>.

Obituaries

Matthew Spataro

Matthew A. Spataro of Pleasantville passed away on Mar. 8.

He was 65.

Spataro was born in Marineo, Sicily on Dec. 7, 1952, to his late parents, Salvatore and Maria Spataro (nee Plantemoli). He was the beloved husband of JoAnn Spataro (nee Liberatore); loving father of Dominique (Stephen) Berg and Salvatore (Ann) Spataro; cherished grandfather of Vincent and Dominic; adored brother of Nancy Spataro and Mariann Giliberto (Russ); the dear brother-in-law of Gerry, Richard, Anna, Dennis, Catherine, Annalina, Joseph and Marian and the late Robert; and the beloved uncle, godfather and great-uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Professionally, Spataro was the captain, supervisory investigator for the United States Health Service (FDA).

Visitation for family and friends was at Pleasant Manor Funeral Home, Inc. in Thornwood on Mar. 11. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Valhalla officiated by Fr. Philip T. Persico on Mar. 12.



Matthew Spataro

In lieu of flowers, the Spataro family asks that you please consider a donation to either charity in Matthew's memory: The Wounded Warrior Project or www.mayorofarthuravenue.org.

Isabel D'Onofrio

Isabel M. D'Onofrio passed away peacefully in her Armonk home on Mar. 5. She was 96 years old.

D'Onofrio was born on July 11, 1921, in Bogota, Colombia to Praxedis Mendoza and Lawrence Parada. She emigrated to Manhattan with her mother upon her father's death.

Prior to World War II, while working as an executive secretary in Manhattan, she met her husband, Charles, at a hockey game at Madison Square Garden. For both, it was love at first sight!

Beloved by all her family and caregivers, D'Onofrio is survived by daughter Isa,

son James M., granddaughter Ariana and sister-in-law Teresa. She will be greatly missed for her kindness and compassion to all and her ability to make us laugh even to the very end.

A devout Catholic, visitation was today (Tuesday), Mar. 13 at 9 a.m. at St. Patrick's Church in Armonk. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at the church at 11 a.m. followed by interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in New Rochelle.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to any organization helping children.

Lee Corcoran-Franco

Lee Corcoran-Franco from Thornwood entered into eternal life on Mar. 7.

She had a heart as big as the sky with great compassion, forgiveness and mercy to all who knew her.

Corcoran-Franco is survived by her loving and caring husband, Albert, whose heart is broken. She courageously battled diabetes for over 60 years, a model for her tenacity and perseverance. Unconditional and long-suffering love came easy for her as she cared deeply about another person's struggles and always acted lovingly and compassionately toward them. Lee always tried to help the less fortunate and needy. A preconceived notion about someone was always unacceptable to her as she always would say that you don't know what's going on in their life and that we are to just do the right

thing. She accepted without complaint the many physical crosses she carried throughout her life, always placing them in the hands of our Lord.

Corcoran-Franco is also survived by her sister-in-law, Helen Conover; nephew Chuck (Christina) Conover; nieces Debbie (Larry) Klig, Gail Conover and Theresa (Kevin) Klis. She was also a great-aunt to Justin, David, Amanda, Christopher, Meghan, Lauren and Andrew. She loved us all deeply and dearly and will be sorely missed by each and every one of us.

Visitation is at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Tuesday, Mar. 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held at Holy Innocents Church in Pleasantville on Wednesday, Mar. 14 at 10:30 a.m. Interment will follow at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley.

Jane Lehmkuhl

Jane Lehmkuhl of Hawthorne died on Mar. 3.

She was 71.

Lehmkuhl was born on Jan. 12, 1946, to the late Joseph and Jennie (nee McNichols) Bittner in the Bronx. She worked for Taro Pharmaceutical in Hawthorne.

Lehmkuhl is survived by her devoted husband, Charles W. Lehmkuhl, of Hawthorne; her loving daughter, Susan (Harley) Lehmkuhl-Church; one niece,

Jodi (Doug) Margolis; one nephew, Peter (Debbie) Reagan, all of Hawthorne; and her great-niece and great-nephews, Brianna, Joseph and Peter. She was predeceased by her beloved sister, Anne Reagan, in 2015.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Mar. 8, where funeral services were held on Mar. 9. Interment followed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

Pura Lovequist

Pura Lovequist, formerly of Hawthorne and most recently of Somers, died on Mar. 6.

She was 86.

Lovequist was born on Oct. 28, 1931, to the late Jose and Louisa Suarez in White Plains. She was a retired office manager at the Pleasantville Cottage School.

Lovequist was predeceased by her devoted husband, Joseph Lovequist, in 2017, and by her beloved son, Gary

M. Lovequist, in 2013. She is survived by her loving daughter, Lou Ann (Timothy) Adams, of Brewster and her three cherished grandchildren, Kevin, Michael and Emily Adams.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Mar. 9. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Rosary Church in Hawthorne on Mar. 10 followed by interment at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Greenburgh.

Camella Macellaro

Camella Macellaro of North White Plains died on Mar. 4 at her residence.

She was 98.

Macellaro was born on Feb. 18, 1920, to the late Sabatino and Nobbila (nee Parmiere) Maratto in Yonkers. She was a retired cafeteria worker with the Valhalla School District.

Macellaro was predeceased by her devoted husband, Anthony Macellaro, in 2009, and by her nine sisters and two brothers. She is survived by her loving

children, Ronald (Susan) Macellaro of Armonk and Rosemarie Iannibelli of West Harrison, her five cherished grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Mar. 7. A funeral Mass was held at St. Anthony of Padua Church in West Harrison on Mar. 8 followed by entombment at Ferncliff Mausoleum in Hartsdale.

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Chappaqua Boy's Curiosity Inspires HBO Holocaust Documentary

By Anna Young

Nearly 200 adults and children packed The Little Theater at Fox Lane Middle School Sunday afternoon to screen an HBO documentary about a Chappaqua boy who sparks an intimate conversation with his great-grandfather about his time in Auschwitz.

"The Number on Great-Grandpa's Arm," tells the story of how Elliott Saiontz at 10 years old awakens to the horrors that his 90-year-old great-grandfather, Jack Feldman, endured after he asks about the number tattooed on his arm. Feldman, who was the sole survivor in his family, received the number at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp.

The 19-minute documentary, which premiered on HBO on Jan. 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, scans happy memories of Feldman's childhood in Poland, the loss of his family during the Holocaust, surviving Auschwitz and finding a new life in America.

During a panel discussion after the screening, Saiontz, his mother Stacey, film animator Jeff Scher and creative director and animation producer Bonnie Seigler agreed about the importance of sharing the stories of Holocaust survivors with the next generation.

Saiontz, who is now 12 and a Robert E. Bell Middle School sixth-grader, said he was surprised hearing his great-grandfather's story because he couldn't believe something so evil could happen.

"Once I started learning more about it I knew that it was important to have other people know about it and to spread awareness so that it never happens again," he said. "If no one is aware of it then



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Moderator Amy Oringel, left, leads a discussion following a screening of the HBO documentary "The Number on Great-Grandpa's Arm" on Sunday at Fox Lane Middle School. Also taking part in the discussion is Elliott Saiontz, 12, of Chappaqua, whose inquisitiveness about his great-grandfather's experience inspired the film, his mother Stacey Saiontz, the film's creative director and animation producer Bonnie Seigler and animator Jeff Scher.

history will repeat itself. I think the stories are going to help change because right now we still have racism and other things that are unfair and there are other stories like these that will help people realize that it's not good and they need to stop it."

His mother, a Museum of Jewish Heritage board member, said her grandfather never spoke about his experiences with his own children but became comfortable reliving his story when she started asking questions at an early age. She traveled to Poland to learn more about his history and documented everything on film, eventually making a home movie for her family.

Upon meeting Sheila Nevins, the film's executive producer and former president

of HBO Documentary Films, at a gala, Stacey Saiontz shared Feldman's story. It generated interest at the cable network because it wanted to adapt the children's book "The Number on my Grandfather's Arm" into a documentary with a real survivor. But elements of the book fell by the wayside when filmmakers realized the emotional depth between Elliott and Feldman.

"With a documentary you set out with a plan, but ultimately, it's what you find and encounter that describes how it's going to wind up and the amazing chemistry between Elliott and Jack became the emotional core of the film," Scher said. "There's such a warm relationship, it sort of softens the blow and makes it more

intimate and endearing."

While Elliott narrates the story, the film weaves historical footage and hand-painted animation to capture the attention of a younger audience. Scher said the goal was to create a sense of unity and to soften the haunting footage for kids. Despite the animation, he said he wanted to create a linear experience but remain as authentic as possible using historical footage of the Holocaust.

"Kids, especially if they aren't Jewish, don't know about the Holocaust today," Seigler said. "So really getting it in classrooms and letting kids learn the bare minimum, and if they want to learn more, we've done our jobs."

Currently the film is streaming on HBO and can be viewed at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in lower Manhattan. HBO also partnered with Scholastic to make the film available to educators at all grade levels throughout the United States. Elliott Saiontz and his mother have also visited schools sharing their film and story.

"This generation is probably the last generation that will be able to have the opportunity to talk to or see survivors," Stacey Saiontz said. "So, it's so important for us to be able to document these stories so that the next generations will be able to understand what happened and still be able to hear firsthand accounts."

The event, organized by The Bedford Playhouse, was part of a continuing series of programs designed to introduce the public to various events and programs that will be presented in its state-of-the-art facility when they reopen later this year.

P'ville's Clinton Street Center a Key Lifeline for Village's Seniors

By Anna Young

The Clinton Street Senior Center is Pleasantville's hidden gem where visitors can enjoy a day by staying active and engaged.

For nearly 15 years the center has been providing interactive programs and services to Pleasantville's older population. Director of Senior Services Joni Ehrlich said her intention over the last six years has been to create an environment where visitors could learn, grow and hang out with friends.

"There's nothing that a senior needs or wants that's any different from any other person," Ehrlich said. "It's not about a senior program; everybody just wants to be loved, respected, needed, honored and part of the community. That doesn't change depending on your age. So, we just try to fill in that space that doesn't get filled in that easily."

While the center aims to serve the wants of residents 55 and up, Ehrlich said they accommodate younger guests who need modified exercise programs or services.

Among the programs offered are arts and crafts, exercise classes, discussion groups

and social programs, where participants can interact with each other and share experiences. Ehrlich added that almost any type of program can be formed upon request. Recently, a harmonica group was created after one resident learned that playing the instrument aided in breath control, she said.

"The biggest thing about pushing off any cognitive impairment is social connection, so maintaining that social connectiveness is good for your mental and emotional health, but your long-term cognitive health as well," Ehrlich said.

College classes, including art, creative writing, poetry and history are offered throughout the year in coordination with Westchester Community College. Occupational therapy students from Mercy College visit the center every year providing exercise classes, while Pace University students teach seniors how to use technology.

The center does intergenerational work with the Pleasantville School District and the Mount Pleasant Public Library provides

books for those who can't make the trek to Bedford Road.

Lunch is provided in-house daily for \$5 with a home delivery option for homebound seniors. Arrangements are made to take seniors on weekly trips to the grocery store, mall, movie theater, restaurant or any place of interest, including Westchester Broadway Theatre.

Aside from the array of programs, Ehrlich said services are designed to help seniors live independently. Support and information is also provided to anyone seeking questions about aging family members.

Despite the roughly 70 residents who visit the center daily, Ehrlich said there's a misconception it's an assisted living facility. Some village residents are unaware it exists.

"It gets really hard to maneuver as you get older and we're here to help keep you as part of the community and keep you living where you are as long as possible as independently as possible," Ehrlich said. "We're nice and we're fun and I hope when you walk in you feel warm and welcome."

The Clinton Street Senior Center is



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

The Clinton Street Senior Center's Director of Senior Services Joni Ehrlich, seated, with office assistant Mary Gerlanc and the center's bus driver Greg Dolce. The trio makes sure the center runs smoothly and helps to provide programs, activities and meals to Pleasantville's senior population.

located at 1-A Clinton St. in Pleasantville. It is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call, 914-769-2021 or visit www.pleasantville-nj.gov/clinton-street-senior-center.

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Letters to the Editor

Anti-Pipeline Activists Want to Deprive Consumers of Affordable Energy

"Shut it all down."

This demand, on a sign being waved in the vigil outside the governor's home last week, aptly sums up the message of these so-called environmentalists ("Protestors Rally Outside Cuomo's House, Demand Pipeline Risk Study," Feb. 27).

As governor, Cuomo has committed to one of the most ambitious environmental goals in the country: by 2030, renewables will represent 50 percent of New York's energy generation. But that's not enough for those leading the protest: they want 100 percent.

The activists have closed Indian Point, our single largest source of carbon-free

baseload electricity.

They're now rampaging against the next best replacement power, low-carbon natural gas, by blocking pipelines and threatening to render new plants unable to function.

Remember how January energy bills shot up due to a natural gas shortage? Without new pipelines, these shortages could become worse after Indian Point closes in 2021.

Realistically, renewables are many years from baseload capacity – especially given the not-in-my-backyard resistance to siting hundreds of square miles of solar panels and rotors.

Gov. Cuomo needs support for

building the next phase of New York's energy generation as we move to a renewable future. Nihilistic protests won't keep the lights on or the heat going, but they will leave us dependent on out-of-state energy to fuel our grid and risk blackouts and price spikes.

If the extremists succeed in "shutting it all down," they'll also succeed in depriving all of us of affordable, reliable energy.

Rob DiFrancesco
Mount Kisco

Rob DiFrancesco is executive director of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance.

State Must Do More to Upgrade its Energy Transmission Lines

Another winter storm, another patchwork of power outages around the state. At best they're a miserable inconvenience; at worst, they can cost lives. People whose homes, businesses and schools go dark and cold get angry, and some public officials respond by condemning the utilities for not restoring electricity instantaneously.

Such reactions are understandable but they also ignore salient facts.

First, the utilities are working with power lines and support structures that are, by and large, at least 40 years old. Essentially, our electricity is delivered the way it was a century ago – and the

trees that surround the lines haven't gotten any younger either.

Second, the utilities have applied the lessons of Superstorm Sandy, stockpiling poles and burying transformers wherever feasible. When a storm is on its way, they'll call in mutual aid utility crews, sometimes from hundreds of miles away, to boost their repair capabilities.

Third, once they're needed, our skilled and dedicated linemen work fast, around the clock, braving freezing precipitation, high winds and flying and falling debris. But because they're working on a rickety old grid, it's like

trying to put out a house fire using squirt guns – it can take a long time.

Public officials who care about preventing blackouts must do more. They need to push New York to do the planning, prioritizing, budgeting and investing required to upgrade and modernize our transmission lines and the structures that carry them. Our utility crews are working to their utmost capabilities, and they and all of us who rely on them deserve a better game plan.

Arthur Kremer
Chairman, New York Affordable Reliable Energy Alliance

Con Edison Should Reimburse Residents Who Lost Power

Currently, New York State law does not require Con Edison to reimburse residents who lost electricity for more than one day for their suffering, hotel bills, eating out or food spoilage issues. Residents of Greenburgh who were out of power for many days after the last Nor'easter have lost significant dollars on hotel rooms, food and have suffered

greatly.

I think that Con Ed should be required to reimburse residents who were out of power for days that they had no power.

In 2013, a judge in Chicago ordered the utility company to reimburse customers for their partial losses. New York State should do the same.

If Con Edison would be required to

reimburse residents who are out of power for significant periods of time, they would have a greater incentive to expedite restoration of power.

Paul Feiner
Greenburgh Town Supervisor

Kesten Has the Credentials to Be a Strong Senator in the 40th District

I attended Robert Kesten's town hall meeting in Yorktown at the VFH hall on Feb. 26. He is running for the 40th state Senate District seat this year. He focused on the relationship between property taxes and infrastructure. I was impressed with his approach, one of education about the factors influencing property taxes and how infrastructure changes and improvements could affect them as well as encourage business

growth. I appreciated his avoidance of soundbites, his willingness to listen and answer questions and his readiness to help in finding solutions at local, county and state levels to address the ramifications of new federal regulations and tax laws.

His lifelong experience with government and schools, which I heard about at a meet-and-greet last month, indicate a person willing to work over

the long haul to find ways to improve community in several areas.

I am looking forward to his next town hall meetings in New Castle and Brewster on gun safety and opiate addiction, respectively. I think he would be a good representative for the 40th Senate District.

Susan Johnson
Croton-on-Hudson

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New Book Has Everything You Need to Know About Italian Culture

By Martin Wilbur

There is no greater supporter of all things Italian than Carla Gambescia.

When the Chappaqua resident opened Via Vanti! at the Mount Kisco train station in 2008, her goal was to bring a piece of Italian culture to local residents, even if it was only for the time that it took them to eat lunch, digest a serving of gelato or attend one of the special functions that she would schedule.

Gambescia, a self-proclaimed "Italiophile" whose father gave her Italian lessons at home as a child, has also traveled to Italy multiple times a year, further enhancing her devotion to and knowledge of the country and culture.

The restaurant may have closed in 2016, but that hasn't stopped Gambescia from continuing to bring the love and joy of her heritage to others.

"I came from a like a super Italian family in south Philadelphia. So, Italy and Italian culture was part of my life," said Gambescia, a second-generation American. "My earliest memory for my sense of myself as a child was that I'm a little girl, and then I was Italian, which is very strange, and it's not like Italian was spoken in the household but we had a lot of pride in the land of our ancestors."

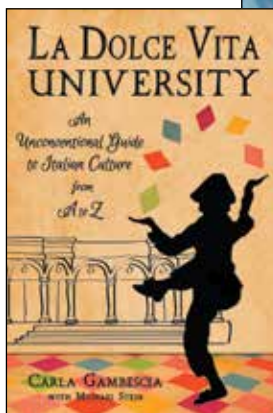
Gambescia has used her voluminous knowledge of the country and culture

to write her first book, "La Dolce Vita University: An Unconventional Guide to Italian Culture from A to Z." It was released today (Tuesday) by Travelers' Tales publishing.

It's a compilation of 165 short essays filled with tidbits and fun facts on a wide array of subjects related to Italy – food, fashion, art, language or the desire of visiting a great place to go on vacation. For example, Bolognese was a breed of dog before it was a sauce and the expression dog days of summer has nothing to do with dogs struggling in the heat but an expression that traces back to Roman times.

The book is written so the topics are organized by letter and divided into alphabetized chapters. You don't need to be Italian to appreciate the essays, Gambescia said.

"Everyone is interested in Italy. We all have an inner Italian," she said. "People in general love Italy. People who have Italian blood, they're very aware about their 'Italianness,' and there are a lot of Italian



Chappaqua resident Carla Gambescia has written a new book, "La Dolce Vita University: An Unconventional Guide to Italian Culture from A to Z," that brings little known facts and information about the country and culture to readers.

American affiliation groups throughout the country."

Part of the motivation for Gambescia to take on the task of writing the book was a series of columns about Italy and Italian culture that she wrote several years

ago for The Examiner. When Via Vanti! closed, she thought of ways to continue to bring her love of Italy to the public.

The format of the book makes it an easy read. Gambescia said you can pick it up for a short bit and read two or three essays at a time or hop around the chapters depending on your areas of interest.

Gambescia is scheduled to participate in book signings not only in Westchester this spring but in Connecticut, her native Philadelphia as well as in San Francisco, another city with a large, thriving Italian community.

She will be appearing at the Katonah Village Library on Mar. 24, the Warner Library in Tarrytown on May 31 and the Larchmont Library on June 10.

Next Tuesday, Mar. 20 at 7 p.m., Gambescia will be leading an Italian Trivia Night at Chappaqua Station, the restaurant at the hamlet's Metro-North station.

"I guarantee it will be fun and people will learn something," Gambescia said.

"La Dolce Vita University: An Unconventional Guide to Italian Culture from A to Z" is available locally at Scattered Books in Chappaqua, The Village Bookstore in Pleasantville and Little Joe's Books in Katonah. It can also be purchased online at www.Amazon.com.

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Think Fit for Kids Raises Over \$250G for Pediatric Brain Tumor Research

On Sunday, Mar. 4, the eighth annual Think Fit for Kids was held at Club Fit's Briarcliff Manor location and proved to be another success as more than \$250,000 was raised to help fund research for pediatric brain cancer.

Founded in 2011, Think Fit for Kids has now raised more than \$1.75 million for A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure, a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding effective treatment for brain cancer in children.

"The event has grown tremendously over the past eight years," said Kim Gilman, the chair for Think Fit for

Kids. "We've raised a lot awareness and a lot of money. We've funded a lot of research, really promising research, and the volunteers have increased, the donors have increased, the support has increased."

The event included a silent auction with all items donated by local merchants and outside donors, as well as a wide range of activities for parents and kids, including Zumba, face painting, basketball, a live DJ and a GaGa tournament courtesy of Camp Kiwi.

Much of the success of Think Fit

for Kids goes to Club Fit, which has donated the use of its Briarcliff Manor facility as well as staff time, since the event's inception. The event would not be the success that it has been without the club's support.

"Club Fit has been absolutely invaluable in ensuring the success of Think Fit for Kids," said Amy Weinstein, executive director of A Kids' Brain Tumor Cure. "Club Fit has been a strong partner in helping us raise more than one and a half million dollars for pediatric brain cancer research by hosting this event every year."

Donations may still be made to support Think Fit for Kids 2018 at www.thinkfitforkids.org.

Founded in 2007, a Kids' Brain Tumor Cure Foundation is a nonprofit organization, dedicated to finding more effective, less toxic and less punishing treatments for eradicating brain cancer in children.



Chefs Help Vets Fundraiser Series Begins Mar. 16

American Legion Post 1038 in Valhalla will host the first of its three Chefs Helping Vets fundraisers on Friday, Mar. 16 at 6 p.m. at the Doral Arrowwood Conference Center in Rye Brook. This series of three culinary courses led by industry professionals will provide a variety of demonstrations, tastings and hands-on fun. The series continue on Mar. 24 and concludes on May 12.

This week, Doral Arrowwood Executive Chef Michael Schmutzer demonstrates the art of making gnocchi Sip a glass of wine while learning his secrets and sampling his little pillows of perfection. On Friday, Mar. 23 at 6 p.m., Doral Arrowwood Pastry Chef Stacey Cohen helps participants create the perfect bouquet of cupcakes. Everyone will create frosting flowers – roses, chrysanthemums, daisies – and turn them into a gorgeous cupcake bouquet.

On Friday, May 12 at American Legion Post 1038 from 4 to 7 p.m., join Chef Toni D'Onofrio as she teaches the secrets and artistry behind making Neapolitan-style grilled pizza. Learn a few knife skills and tricks as participants create a smoky new twist on nachos – grilled nachos. Representatives from Broken Bow Brewery will also be on hand for a tasting and talk about choosing the best beer for your summer fare.

For more information and to register, visit www.alpost1038ny.org/chefs-helping-vets.html. Proceeds from these events will benefit the Valhalla American Legion post. The post sustained major flood damage and the money raised will help fund the needed repairs and renovation.

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John Carroll Retired Postal Worker/Centenarian Hawthorne

By Martin Wilbur

Wednesday will mark a milestone for John Carroll, just don't expect him to have any kind of raucous celebration. He'll head to Gordo's Restaurant, a short drive from his Hawthorne house, to enjoy a meal with friends and family.

What makes this Mar. 14 special for Carroll is that he turns 100 years old, about 94 of those having been spent in Westchester. As a young boy he lived for three years on a farm in Poughquag in Dutchess County and served for three years in the Air Force during World War II.

"It's kind of weird as you get older, time goes faster," Carroll said. "But I never thought I'd live to be 100."

Few people do. The most recent U.S. census reveals that there were only 53,364 centenarians living in the United States in 2010 out of about 309 million people.

Carroll said he doesn't know what has led to his longevity other than his parents having lived to their late 80s, a good age for anyone born before the turn of the

20th century. At his house, where he still lives independently with help from his sister-in-law Gloria Krebsler and an aide that visits him once a week, he has a room with some light exercise equipment to help him stay limber.

Otherwise, not too much seems to faze Carroll. But Krebsler warned that if you plan to strike up a conversation with him, be prepared to stay awhile. His memory is sharper than people many years younger, she said.

"People visit him and they have to hear him talk and tell tales of things," Krebsler said. "It's good memories. I forget stuff. I ask him and he remembers."

Carroll was born in Hastings-on-Hudson, and other than the three-year period when the family moved to the upstate farm that his father bought when Carroll was about eight years old, he lived in Yonkers. His memories of the Great Depression aren't happy ones.

"My father was working for Otis Elevator, and it was very bad," Carroll said of those years. "Everything was tight."



After high school, Carroll was a grocery worker for several different stores. But in January 1942, about a month after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Carroll went down to enlist. The only problem was that he couldn't pass the eye test, so he was sent home. That changed a short time later.

"In April I was in the service," Carroll said. "I got drafted. I was okay all of a sudden, glasses and all."

He was taken into the Fifth Air Force and sent to the South Pacific as part of the service squadron attached to fighter planes. Carroll served in five battles in New Guinea and the Philippines, made one stop in Okinawa and finished his service in Japan. He came home in late 1945 after the war ended. Carroll said he got used to life in the service and he didn't hold the fear of being a casualty far from home.

"After a while you kind of take things

for granted," he said. "I don't know, it really didn't bother me. Some guys were complaining all the time, but you figure you've got to sweat it out."

When Carroll returned home to Yonkers, he resumed working in the grocery business, but some years later when the company was about to relocate to New Jersey, he took the U.S. Postal Service test and got his first job at the post office in Rye. He would stay until his retirement in 1983.

In the early 1960s, Carroll met his future wife, Marie, at a vacation spot popular with singles in Sparrow Bush, N.Y. near Port Jervis. They were married until last year when Marie, 11 years younger than Carroll, passed away. The couple had no children.

Through the century that Carroll has lived through, there are some things that surprise him – the salaries of professional athletes, that there's a casino not far from where he lived in Yonkers, the price of real estate and the dependence of today's life on technology.

Carroll does have a large flat screen television – one woman he knows doesn't even have that, he said – which he enjoys watching baseball and football, among other programs. But don't expect him to connect with anyone via Facebook, Instagram or Snapchat.

"I don't have anything to do with the Internet," Carroll said.

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EXAMINER

Bon Jovi Turns Out for Special Evening of Music, Fundraising

By Aaron M. Notis

Jon Bon Jovi is a man of his word. When his close friend and former entertainment attorney, Jerry Edelstein, needed a kidney nine years ago, the Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation came to the rescue, securing a life-saving living donor match for Edelstein.

Thankful that his friend received this gift of life, the Grammy Award-winning artist who will be inducted next month in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, performed a concert Mar. 4 to a sold-out Tarrytown Music Hall to benefit the foundation.

"I am deeply grateful to the Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation...With the knowledge they gained during the fight for their father's life, Jennifer, Cynthia and Heather Flood created a life-saving organization to help others. That's the epitome of 'paying it forward,'" said Bon Jovi, who dedicated the concert to Edelstein.

Mesmerizing the crowd last week with acoustic versions of his classics, including "Livin' on a Prayer," "Lost Highway," "Maybe Someday" and "You Give Love a Bad Name," Bon Jovi put on an interactive show, answering questions from the audience and telling short stories in between songs. He told the audience that his musical inspiration included Queen, Aerosmith, Bruce Springsteen and Led Zeppelin.

Audience members also asked him about his family life. The crowd laughed when Bon Jovi answered that he is in charge of



MARGARET FOX PHOTO

Grammy Award winner and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee Jon Bon Jovi performed a Mar. 4 benefit at the Tarrytown Music Hall for the Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation. The organization, founded by three sisters, all Pleasantville natives, matches kidney donors with recipients.

doing the dishes when he is home.

The Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation was started 10 years ago by the three sisters, all of whom were raised in Pleasantville. In 2008, when their father, Daniel, went into kidney failure, his daughters posted an advertisement for a living donor on Craigslist.

A reporter at the news radio station WCBS 880 saw the advertisement and interviewed the family, helping them to reach thousands

of people. After interviewing multiple volunteers, they were able to find a living donor for their father in California.

The experience helped the sisters realize that they could help other families. They started The Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation and have now successfully connected 11 people in need of a kidney with living donors.

Today, kidney disease affects nearly 15 percent of the U.S. population, and the wait

for a donor kidney from a deceased donor could take between five and 10 years.

"The gold standard for treatment is a transplant," said Heather Flood. "The platinum treatment is a living donor transplant. Many die waiting every hour."

Opening for Bon Jovi was the New York City-based band Oak & Ash. Formed in 2014, Oak & Ash was the winner of Newsday's Battle of the Bands contest and Bon Jovi's 2017 "Opening Act Contest," which promoted up-and-coming musicians.

In addition to performing, Bon Jovi donated a signed guitar to the benefit's live auction, which raised \$8,500. A new BMW was also auctioned off and sold for \$46,000.

Roseanne Flood, mother of Cynthia, Heather and Jennifer and the Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation's treasurer, highlighted the importance of the event.

"We are trying to reach the goal of sustainability. It is incredibly beneficial to have the support of a talented musician like John Bon Jovi to help us to reach that goal," she said.

Cynthia Flood agreed. "We are so blessed and grateful to have Jon Bon Jovi involved in this awesome event," she said. "We hope to create more awareness for kidney disease, and more importantly, living donation."

For more information about the Flood Sisters Kidney Foundation, visit <https://floodsisterskidneyfnd.org>.

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P'ville Middle School Science Olympiad Team Returns to States

For the fifth consecutive year, the Pleasantville Middle School Science Olympiad team is headed to the state competition in Syracuse next month.

The Science Olympiad team, led by Pleasantville residents Martha and Charles Matteo and community volunteers, has consistently fielded a strong team since they started participating in 2012-13. The team's performance at the regional competition over the previous four years has seen the school place fourth and second and come in first twice.

On Mar. 3, the students competed against 33 other teams from Westchester and Rockland on Mar. 3 at Scarsdale Middle School and finished second.

The Science Olympiad challenges middle school students in grades 6-8, in all aspects of STEM beyond their grade levels. Dynamic Planet (tectonic plates) and Thermodynamics (heat transfer) are examples where coaches draw upon college-level texts for support.

Participation in Science Olympiad is a great way for middle school students to acquire deep knowledge in STEM topics. Students from the first Olympiad team will be graduating from Pleasantville High School this year and they are all considering STEM majors in college.

At the state competition, each school will present a team of 15 students. They will compete in 23 challenges across all STEM topics. Most students will acquire expertise during the year in at least three new subjects.

As advocates of STEM, the school is pleased to note an increase in local competition. This year, five teams will go to states, including Scarsdale (first); Ardsley, which introduced sixth- and seventh-graders for the first time (third); H.C. Crittenden Middle School in Byram Hills (fourth); and Seven Bridges Middle School in Chappaqua (fifth), which was recognized as Best New Team in 2017.

The Pleasantville Science Olympiad team depends mostly on – and welcomes – volunteer coaches from the community who are knowledgeable in STEM subjects. Chemistry and physics coaches are particularly sought after. Even though the Science Olympiad at Pleasantville Middle School is run as an afterschool program, it is free for participating students.

The state competition is in Syracuse on Apr. 13 and 14. The team hopes to defray costs for team travel and meals through contributions to Pleasantville

Friends of STEM, Inc. at www.pfstem.org.

For more information on the Pleasantville Science Olympiad, contact Dr. Martha Matteo at mmatteo@att.net. For more information on the Science Olympiad, visit <https://www.soinc.org/events/2018-division-b-events>.

Members of this year's Pleasantville Middle School's Science Olympiad team, which finished second among 33 schools in Westchester and Rockland at the regional competition on Mar. 3. The team now heads to the state competition in Syracuse in April.





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SMALL NEWS
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Armonk-based WestchesterEats Team Forms Partnership

By Martin Wilbur

What started out last year as a project for four Byram Hills High School students to order takeout food more efficiently has turned into a serious business venture.

The group of friends, Zaccary Tuzzo, Robert Waxman, Evan Miller and William Cohen, developed the app WestchesterEats and signed up about 20 food establishments to participate in the service. It allows customers to see a full menu and place their orders through their mobile device and food proprietors to reach customers they might not otherwise get and limit errors in taking orders.

The service also enables the public to make a reservation and learn more about a restaurant.

Now the friends, all currently in their junior year, are partnering with the online food ordering company ChowNow. By the end of the month they expect to have between 60 and 100 restaurants with takeout service registered.

Tuzzo said ChowNow representatives reached out to them late last summer after they had already started signing up food establishments and they wanted a piece of the potentially lucrative Westchester base.

The days of ordering a pizza or Chinese food by calling may soon be a thing of the past.

"Everything is really online with

restaurants," Tuzzo said. "They're missing out if they're not on these platforms because there's a huge market, a large number of people that don't call restaurants anymore. They're doing it off their phones."

Their idea was created in November 2016, when the four friends were together and wanted to order a pizza but couldn't find what the choices were on the menu.

Waxman said this may not be the last partnership with one of the major ordering companies. He said WestchesterEats could develop an alliance with GrubHub and other outfits.

"There's really no reason why we can't do this, why we can't take it to the next level," Waxman said.

The partnership is also more practical for them as high school students, Tuzzo explained. During the summer they were able to make a lot of headway in pitching restaurants but during the school year, most of the day they're in class. This allows them to go to school and know that there is a structure in place.

What has also been satisfying for the WestchesterEats team is that they have already made a presentation to students at H.C. Crittenden Middle School about how launching their own business has increased their ability to work with technology, including coding.

They're planning to speak to middle

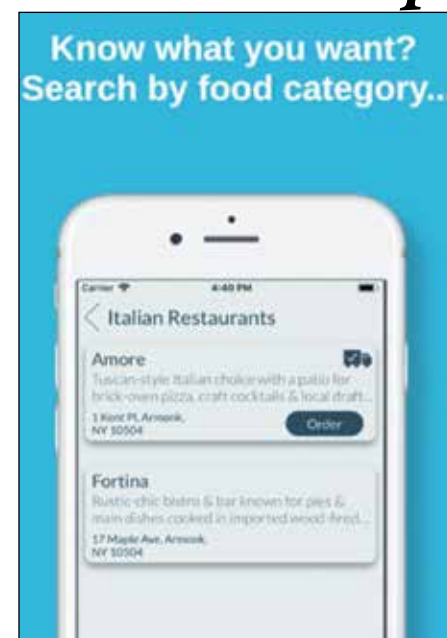


The four Byram Hills High School juniors who created WestchesterEats, an online ordering platform serving Westchester County. The students have now entered into a partnership with a competitor.

school students in other districts about the myriad opportunities that await their future by marrying business and technology.

Waxman said he has always been fascinated with technology and now he has learned how to integrate it into a real-life business plan.

"You hear stories about Amazon and Eli Musk, Bill Gates, all these incredible people and you see the connection between technology and business, and then you're



like way can't I be the same, why can't I be like them," he said.

Miller said while he thought about entrepreneurial pursuits previously he had little idea about how to set up a business plan or a limited liability company. Going through this process has opened up endless ideas and possibilities.

"I think it's really changed my whole high school experience," Miller said. "I've been really into this because you can impact the community through technology."

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Toilet Oddities, Manners and Etiquette

The bathroom. When you think about it, while it may not be the room you spend the most time in, it's probably the room you visit the most during the day.

My most memorable experience from my first day in my present digs at Trump Park in upper Westchester three years ago was my first visit to the bathroom. Mind you, this joint is outrageous, outfitted with the finest materials and fixtures you might imagine – granite, marble and brushed steel everywhere you look.

So, when it was time for me to visit the bathroom, and I started that slow descent, I realized I wasn't reaching my destination when I usually do. I kept bending lower and lower, convinced that I would be in a full Lotus position before I would finally come to rest. Why, I wondered, with all this luxury in a place originally built for the 55-plus crowd, would the builder, have installed such low-rise toilets?

As circumstance would have it, the next day, I had another bathroom



experience, this time with a real estate listing client. When I visited the home to make my presentation and sign a contract, I was greeted at the door by the husband, a big guy with a hearty laugh. His wife had not yet arrived home from some errands, but his two sons were with him, both I would guess in either their late teens or early twenties.

The first thing I do when I go for a listing is ask for a tour of the house, and this one had three full baths. Each time we entered one, the wife would walk in and, seeing that the toilet seat was

up, would

immediately walk over, lower the seat and shut the lid. The first time she did it, she lowered them gently. In the second bathroom, she did it with less patience, and by the time we arrived at the third bathroom, she slammed down the lid in frustration, almost in meltdown mode.

"Oh these guys, why won't they ever learn to lower the seat and shut the lid!" she said. I suspect this is her biggest

frustration at home every day.

It's important to pay attention to the toilet's seat being down and the lid closed, not only so women won't fall into the bowl but also for health reasons. According to scientists at Leeds University, when a toilet is flushed with the lid open, bacteria sprays into the air around the toilet, causing sickness.

But the best reason for closing the lid is that it prevents anything and everything from falling in. Haven't you had the experience of not hearing from friends for several days, only to hear that their cell phones have taken the plunge?

I was quite impressed when, years ago, I first saw a bathroom where the toilet bowl was separated from the rest of the room and you could do your more private business in, well, private.

And what about something as simple as replacing the toilet paper roll when it's depleted? I am always in such a rush, I'm guilty of just

grabbing a new roll and leaving it on top, rather than going to the trouble of inserting it on the cylinder. Shame.

For those who do go through the trouble of replacing it, there's the question of positioning the roll for

"over" or "under" dispensing. One friend tells me that it must be "over" so that the last sheet can be "folded" as in a hotel.

"You fold your last toilet paper sheet?" I asked, astounded.

"Yes," she responded, not skipping a beat. "You never know when guests are going to stop by."

Oh, my God, where did I go wrong in learning good bathroom etiquette?

One other item about toilets: Did you notice that some are round and, in the past couple of decades, others are oblong? Nobody mentions the obvious, but designers finally figured out that the male anatomy had to be accommodated.

Thanks, guys! That's the equivalent of going from jockeys to boxers.

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

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Elderly Care Staffing Solutions

By Colette Connolly

The complicated task of finding care for aging parents or other close relatives is a familiar problem for many families. But Karen Marousek and Grace Cagnetta, make that process easier by providing a new approach to geriatric assessment and care.

The pair, created Elderly Care Staffing Solutions 12 years ago, having spent years working as nurses, case managers and hospice providers.

Their Somers-based licensed home care agency provides services for clients in need of care for dementia, respite and companion care and geriatric case management assistance.

Clients may pay privately or have private insurance coverage for services. For Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, Elderly Care Staffing Solutions frequently contracts with agencies such as Visiting Nurse Service, among others.

"Most people who are looking for elderly care don't really know what they need," Marousek said.

Frequently, she and Cagnetta receive calls from children of elderly parents who suddenly realize their parents are

declining and need help. Because many family members often live far from their parents and may not see them regularly, the disconnect may be greater, Marousek and Cagnetta agreed.

For perspective clients, Elderly Care Staffing Solutions starts with a home visit to assess the surroundings, conduct a safety evaluation and complete a medical assessment of the patient, if necessary.

"We don't go in like gangbusters," said Cagnetta, referring to the agency's geriatric care management service.

She said the company prides itself on working with families, not individual patients.

"We try to choose a soft approach and get people to trust us so that this is a more palatable situation for the seniors involved," Cagnetta said.

Sometimes the result of the assessments is that the senior's home isn't the best environment. In other cases, a few hours of care each day at home is what's needed.

Most importantly, the agency provides guidance through the often difficult-to-navigate health care system, helping families determine how to pay for



Karen Marousek, left, and Grace Cagnetta, the operators of Elderly Care Staffing Solutions.

services, coordinate ongoing care at home or in a facility, provide clients with valuable local senior resources, in-home medication management and renewals and follow-up doctors' appointments. They are also equipped to guide hospital-to-home transitions and provide ongoing supervision and communication, especially useful for families who live far away from their relatives.

Marousek and Cagnetta said many families contact their service once they realize their aging parents are declining, often from dementia or Alzheimer's. Since seniors with dementia rely heavily on routine, consistency and familiarity, introducing a suitable caregiver early on in the process is crucial. Marousek said aides have to be carefully chosen because a dementia patient's demeanor can vary wildly, from docile to combative or abusive.

Others reach out to Elderly Care Staffing

Solutions for much-needed respite care or adult day care. Because many baby boomers continue to work well into their sixties and beyond, the physical and mental cost of caring for elderly parents is often exhausting.

Respite care can be provided several times a week or on a temporary basis while a caregiver is on vacation or must take care of various personal obligations.

For clients who choose to place a loved one in adult day care, Elderly Care Staffing Solutions provides aides who do everything necessary to prepare the senior's safe transport to and from the facility each day.

Companion care is also a popular service for many clients. Companions may assist with meal preparation, light housekeeping, escorting patients to doctors' appointments, running errands, shopping and more.

Cagnetta said that what makes their operation stand out is that it works with many families who live out of town, ensuring that elderly parents get the help that's required at home. The agency not only looks after the senior, but their home as well.

"Recently, one of our longstanding patients passed away, and we were able to keep her in her home for 11 years, with no hospitalizations during that time," Cagnetta said.

"We just want to provide good care," Marousek added.

To learn more about Elderly Care Staffing Solutions, call 914-265-4299 or visit <http://ecstaffingsolutions.com>.

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Mount Kisco Makes Way for St. Patrick's Day Parade

It may have been a week early but the party was on in full force in Mount Kisco last Saturday afternoon for the 28th annual Ancient Order of Hibernians' St. Patrick's Day Parade. Families came to line the route along East Main Street in their holiday green for the parade that included more than 60 organizations, featuring Irish step dancers, bagpipe bands, military bands and re-enactment groups, antique cars, fire trucks, marching bands and an array of community groups. It may have been a bit brisk, but that didn't stop the festivities.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS



Going Rogue in Your Food and Wine Gustatory Adventures



By Nick Antonaccio

In our increasingly fast-paced, sometimes frenetic lives, there are few calls to “dial back” to a more traditional way of life. Technology reigns supreme, overtly and covertly, threatening to dehumanize many of the little things in life we used to enjoy. Sometimes I wonder if “The Matrix” hasn’t begun to seep into our lives.

This is not to say that we should all become Luddites, shunning the benefits and efficiencies of technology; it has clearly enhanced our lives in many ways. But there are certain quality-of-life issues that are being threatened, issues that should not be attempted to “improve” by another iPhone or Android app. Do we really need over 6,000,000 ways to be entertained, informed or otherwise dumbed down by smartphones?

One of the traditional ways of life I embrace is the enjoyment of food and wine. The more I rely on my smartphone and social media to objectify my way of life, the more I lose my sensory appreciation of the finer elements of my meals. Everyday gustatory pleasures are becoming more standardized and

sanitized as we immerse ourselves in growing bytes and growing bites.

What has happened to the sensory pleasures of savoring our food instead of simply ingesting it, of consuming natural foods and wine instead of industrialized, manipulated foods, of watching the roses grow instead of watching our screen size grow?

I’m not alone in my angst. There is something called the Slow Food movement that espouses this concept. Its stated vision: “to prevent the disappearance of local food cultures and traditions, counteract the rise of fast life and combat people’s dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from and how our food choices affect the world around us.”

A subsidiary movement within Slow Food is Slow Wine, which strives for counterbalancing the industrialization of wine around the world and publishes a guide to sustainable wines.

Every year, 200 Slow Wine staffers roam Italy to seek out wines that are representative of the precepts of the Slow Food movement; wines nurtured by nature rather than exploited by man. The staff reviewers visit each winery, speak to the individuals responsible for producing the wines, gain an understanding of and compile the sustainable practices and evaluate the biodiversity of the winery.

Another important factor to consumers: the quality-price ratio of the wines included in the annual guide.

Two weeks ago, I was invited to the United States release of the Slow Wine Guide 2018, which focuses on wines from more than 400 wineries in Italy and, for the first time the United States. Over 100 producers poured their wines.

This is not another book about wine critiques. It is about wineries and the winemakers, describing the efforts of those committed to sustaining a life simpatico with nature. Reading the guide, I felt a connection to the history of each winery and winemaking family, adding a personal touch to appreciating their wines. The guide digs deep into the winery practices and enumerates six categories to provide readers with a deep understanding of vineyard practices, and in the process differentiating one “natural” wine producer from the next. One overriding factor: none of the wineries utilize chemical pesticides.

I embraced the book’s concept immediately. I even found a few surprises in my walk-around tasting exploits, grapes and locales of which I was not previously aware – a red sparkling wine

of the Emilia-Romagna region produced from Barbera and Croatina grapes and an Aglianico Vulture from my ancestral region of Basilicata.

Embracing the Slow Food and Slow Wine movements entices us to appreciate nature’s bounty, which is often sidestepped by the objectivity of big business and our seduction by all things technological. I invite you to join me as a member of the Hudson Valley chapter of the movement at www.slowfoodusa.org.

Slow Wine Guide 2018 will be available in hardcover this month. Ironically, it will also be available as an iPhone app. Is this “Slow App” the latest societal oxymoron, and one more step in the inexorable path to technological dominance?

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 or on Twitter @sharingwine.

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Happenings

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

Tuesday, Mar. 13

Current Affairs Book Club Discussion. "The Impossible State: North Korea, Past and Future" by Victor Cha will be discussed. The definitive account of North Korea, its veiled past and uncertain future, from the former director for Asian affairs at the National Security Council. Discussion led by R. Daniel Vock. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Mary Johnson at 914-273-3887 ext. 3 or at mjohnson@wlsmail.org.

Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold and the Fate of the American Revolution. Nathaniel Philbrick presents this program. Light refreshments provided. Part of the Scholars Lecture Series. John Jay Homestead ballroom, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. Registration at 6:30 p.m. Program at 7 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$25. Info: 914-232-8119, visit www.johnjayhomestead.org. or e-mail friends@johnjayhomestead.org.

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

Wednesday, Mar. 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. Info: 914-769-0548 or 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 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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

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

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

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

MPPL Techies Drop-In. MPPL Techies are local teen volunteers who will be available to assist patrons for drop in-tech help on Wednesdays. Bring your smartphone, tablet or laptop and a volunteer will help you download one of the many services available for Mount Pleasant Public Library cardholders. Be sure to bring in your fully charged device and your Apple App Store, Android Google Play or Kindle Amazon passwords. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Also Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

"Wasted! The Story of Food Waste." A screening of a new documentary by Anthony Bourdain, this film aims to change the way people buy, cook, recycle and eat food. Through the eyes of chef-heroes like Bourdain, Dan Barber, Mario Batali, Massimo Bottura and Danny Bowien, the documentary exposes the criminality of food waste and shows how everyone can make small changes – all of them delicious – to make the most of every kind of food. Presented in partnership with the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org. or www.wastedfilm.com.

Art Series: Margaret Bourke-White. Born at the start of the 20th century, this American photographer is incredible for her list of firsts, most notably as the first foreign photographer allowed behind the scenes in the Soviet Union to document the Soviet's five-year plan. As the country's first American female photojournalist, she broke gender barriers while offering the world an incomparable point of view on international events. 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 ilene@lutheranresurrection.org

continued on page 26

Boss of the Hot Sauce: How Tabasco Saved the Snowy Egret

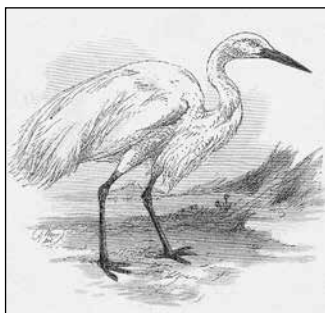
Edward Avery "Ned" McIlhenny was heir to Louisiana's Avery Island, its vast salt mines and burgeoning hot sauce business. But he did take some time from his globetrotting and deal making in the late 1800s to set aside part of his island as a bird sanctuary.

The late 19th century was a bad time to be an American bird, especially a plumed one. Feathered hats were all the rage, and thousands of egrets, herons and other attractive birds were killed in the name of fashion. It was a setting like this that McIlhenny returned to after the first of his Alaskan expeditions, his land seemingly empty of the beautiful birds which had inspired his love of nature.

Ned took matters into his own hands, and (with the aid of some employees) captured a remnant population of egrets, raising them in a large flight cage on his property. McIlhenny freed these lucky eight snowy egrets in the winter of 1892 and were allowed to migrate with other flocks to South

America.

Next year, the birds returned to the island in greater number.



McIlhenny, thrilled that his experiment had worked, set aside a total of 18 square acres as a wildlife habitat. He convinced wealthy cohorts like flower king Charles Willis Ward (co-founder of the American Carnation and American Peony Societies), the Rockefeller Foundation and

Margaret Olivia Slocum (Mrs. Russell) Sage to donate more lands, and in 1911 bequeathed these to the state of Louisiana. "Bird City" now is home to hundreds of thousands of migrating waterfowl each year, including snowy egrets, coots and white ibises.

McIlhenny's efforts were not perfect, for he also introduced a population of nutria, a South American rodent which eats every plant in sight, to Louisiana and they continue to be a problem across many states and a menace to wetlands. Also, among his Jungle Gardens he introduced

invasive species like bamboo, but also thousands of azaleas, irises and camellias. You can't knock a man for trying.

Mr. Ned, as he's quaintly known on the official Tabasco webpage, remained a devoted conservationist, banding close to 200,000 birds over two decades. He wrote a handful of books, including the fanciful "Autobiography of an Egret," a first-bird account, which traces the life of a snowy egret chick and its initial forays on the island and abroad.

Avery Island is open for tours of the famous Tabasco factory, the gardens and for special birding excursions. The garden has a centuries-old Buddha statue as its centerpiece. Mr. Ned himself was buried here after dying of a stroke in 1949. If you visit, make a pilgrimage to this gentleman who, in addition to making Tabasco a worldwide brand, thought enough about the natural world to preserve this little piece of heaven.

A disappointing subscript was the discovery that Mr. Ned was an angel with a dirty face. According to Jeffrey Rothfeder's "McIlhenny's Gold: How

a Louisiana Family Built the Tabasco Empire," around 1910 the birds' savior hatched a more nefarious scheme: pluck the feathers from a few select live birds and sell them at \$55 per bird – a \$10 markup on what the poachers had been getting! McIlhenny compared it to "giving the birds a haircut."

Thankfully, Mr. Ned was warned off by politicians that this business plan looked rather shady and insincere, and he put a stop to it after the first year.

So, there you have it folks, Mr. Ned McIlhenny, a perfectly imperfect human being who was influential in saving large bird populations, but like all of us, not without a few warts of his own.

To paraphrase Shakespeare, let the good deeds live on, and bury the rest in the ground with the body.

For The Birds

Ossining resident Brian Kluepfel is a *Lonely Planet* travel book author and the editor of *Saw Mill River Audubon's* quarterly newsletter. You can find more of his work at www.thewritingkoop.com. Some of this text originally appeared as a blog post at www.brianbirdwatching.wordpress.com.

B.F.

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3rd Sundays: Pruyn Sanctuary Walk, 3:00 pm

More field trips listed at our web site!

Upcoming Public Programs

Thu, Mar 22, 7:00 pm: How Birders and eBird Are Making a Difference. Anne Swaim. Chappaqua Library.

Sun, Apr 8, 5:00 pm: Welcome to Spring Dinner at Crabtree's Kittle House, Chappaqua. Reserve online.

Visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org for more events

Happenings

continued from page 24

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

Thursday, Mar. 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.

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

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

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

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.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

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

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.

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.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

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.

Wake Up Wall Street! A transformative experience for Wall Street professionals seeking to catalyze positive change in the world. A revolutionary and growth-oriented approach that introduces exploration of the inner realms to professionals striving for self-discovery and meaning. Led by Evan Wildstein and Matt Ludmer. The Aligned Center, 1 Bridge St., Suite 64, Irvington. 6 to 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-292-0930 or e-mail info@thealignedcenter.com.

"The Empowerment Project." A screening of this documentary detailing how five young female filmmakers set off on a journey, driving over 7,000 miles in 30 days, to interview strong career women in the hopes to create more positive role models for girls everywhere. The documentary spotlights eight positive and powerful women leaders in a broad variety of careers. In celebration of the all-female focus in front of and behind the camera, the filmmakers turn the cameras on themselves, capturing their transformational journey. Followed by a Q&A panel discussion. Part of the Ossining Documentary and Discussion Series. Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave., Ossining. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.ossiningdocumentaries.org.

Velasquez: Stroke of Genius. Art scholar Cliff Tisdell discusses the mysterious artist who produced fewer than 200 paintings yet inspired such varied artists as Picasso, Salvador Dali, Chuck Close and Francis Bacon. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Young Playwrights Festival. The annual festival featuring Briarcliff High School students performing their original one-acts. Directed by Jamie Mandel and Ian Driver. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7:30 p.m. \$10 door donation. Info: 914-271-2811 or visit www.hudsonstage.com.

Friday, Mar. 16

"Women Blazing Trails." Join women leaders in the community for breakfast to learn how they challenged the status quo and overcame bias, strengthened

their leadership talents and developed the confidence they needed to rise to new heights in today's business environment. Manhattanville College's Reid Castle, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase. 8 to 10 a.m. \$35. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit <https://community.mville.edu/events/WLI-WomenBlazingTrailsPanel>.

Stroller Tours. The Katonah Museum of Art opens its doors to babies and their new parents and caregivers for an enriching experience. Light refreshments served. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Free with admission. Meets the third Friday of each month through June. Info: 914-232-9555 or visit www.katonahmuseum.org.

"Ludwig van Beethoven: Madman? Genius? Both?" "Mad," "incomprehensible," "repulsive," "ludicrous," "rambling," "outrageous," "mystifying" were just a few of the words prominent critics, experienced listener, and even some accomplished musicians used in the early 1800s to describe Beethoven's works. His music was always intense, dramatic and deeply-expressive, but they often also inhabited mystical, ethereal and primal realms (especially in his late works) that baffled and sometimes offended his audiences. This session will travel to those regions we now revere as sublime and awe-inspiring to hear what Beethoven – deaf by his mid-30s – "heard" in his mind in some of the most enduring, searing and profoundly eloquent musical works ever composed. Part of the Great Composers Lecture Series. Hoff-Barthelsson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 11 a.m. \$25 Info and tickets: 914-723-1169, visit www.hbms.org or e-mail hb@hbms.org.

ZUMBA® With Amy. Fun cardio dance fitness workout, low-impact approach, easy learning environment. This feel-good workout is exercise in disguise. Free trial class available. Addie-Tude Dance Center, 42 Memorial Plaza, lower level, Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. \$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.

Senior Socials. Join fellow seniors for an afternoon of art viewing, refreshments and socializing. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 1 to 2 p.m. Free with admission. Meets the third Friday of each month through June. Info: 914-232-9555 or visit www.katonahmuseum.org.

Chefs Helping Vets Fundraiser Series. American Legion Post 1038 in Valhalla will host the first of three culinary sessions led by industry professionals. Tonight, Doral Arrowwood Executive Chef Michael Schmutzer demonstrates the art of making gnocchi. Sip a glass of wine while learning his secrets and sampling his little pillows of perfection. Proceeds will benefit Valhalla American Legion

Post 1038. Doral Arrowwood Conference Center, 975 Anderson Hill Rd., Rye Brook. 6 p.m. \$55 (includes a \$30 charitable tax deduction). All three sessions: \$150. The series continues Mar. 23. Info and registration: Visit www.alpost1038ny.org/chefs-helping-vets.html.

Friday Night Cinema: "The Devil Wears Prada." Presented in conjunction with the documentary on Anna Wintour last week, Meryl Streep and Anne Hathaway star in this film from the book of the same name. The story is loosely based on the experiences of working for Wintour as her assistant. What would you do for your dream job? The film asks this question and many more, all in perfect sartorial style. 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.

Irish Comedy Tour. The Irish Comedy Tour takes the party atmosphere of a Dublin pub and combines it with a boisterous, belly-laugh band of hooligans. The clover – make that clever – comedians, whose ancestors hail from the Emerald Isle, include Detroit native Derek Richards; Boston-born Mike McCarthy; Nova Scotia's Damon Leibert; and from Inchicore, a suburb of Dublin, Derrick Keane. Don't miss these hilarious Irish-American comedians as they tear apart as well as validate all of the Irish myths and stereotypes. Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. \$20, \$25 and \$35. 8 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-739-0039 or visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com.

Bagpipes Meet Rock 'n' Roll: The Red Hot Chili Pipers. Since this nine-piece ensemble consisting of pipers, guitarists, keyboards and drummers walked away with the top prize on the U.K. primetime talent show "When Will I be Famous," this group has been taking its signature "bagrock" sound to the masses with a unique fusion of rocked up bagpipes and clever covers of popular songs from all genres. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$28, \$38 and \$48. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Saturday, Mar. 17

Pleasantville Farmers Market. The largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, and the one voted "Best of Westchester" from 2014 to 2017. The market provides a delicious good time each Saturday. Pleasantville Middle School cafeteria, 40 Romer Ave., Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Mar. 31. The market will begin its outdoor season on Apr. 7 at Memorial Plaza. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Third Saturday Bird Seed Sale. The sale supports the local conservation work of the Saw Mill River Audubon. Prunyn Sanctuary,

continued on next page

Wellness Benefits of Bringing a Dog Into Your Life

Growing up in Pennsylvania, my family had a variety of animals involved in our lives. Farmlands surrounded our home, so frequently my brothers and I observed the daily routines of cows, horses, chickens and sheep.

We had a white rabbit named Snowball, along with Suki the black cat. There were dogs in our lives: JonJon the Dalmatian and Annie the terrier, who were part of my grandparents' household. I always imagined how it would be when I grew up and brought a dog into my own home.

In 2009, I was redefining my life after being in a long-term relationship that ended. I decided that was the time to explore having a dog with me as part of my plan. For some reason, I envisioned



By Joanne Witmyer

a female puppy; however, when I visited a local animal shelter, I was immediately drawn to one particular male, a brown pup with huge floppy ears and sweet brown eyes. I knew he was the one, and that I would name him Griffin, a legendary creature with the body, tail and back legs of a lion and the head, wings and front feet/talons of an eagle. The "Griffin" is considered to be especially majestic and powerful.

Once I brought Griffin home, I realized that beyond the natural companionship that he provided me, there were other unanticipated wellness benefits that arose.

1. More Exercise. I knew that having a dog in my life would increase the level of movement but didn't anticipate how

much. In any type of weather, at any time of day, Griffin was game for hiking and walking together. I needed to honor that in order to care for him, and it changed the way I approached the activities in my days. I also sought out new places to explore, which led to adventures in our local parks and nature preserves.

2. Reduces Stress. Playing with dogs keeps us mindful of staying in the moment and allows us to return to that joyful place we experience as children. Stroking Griffin helps me connect with him and relaxes us

both. Observing a dog and wondering about them keeps us centered and curious. All of these activities and ways of spending time with dogs can reduce stressful feelings.

3. Builds a Community. Dogs break down barriers between people without even knowing it. Neighbors who may not

typically be socially outgoing can find common ground talking with each other while out on a walk with their dogs. Communities of dog-friendly individuals gather at places like our local grooming shops, pet food suppliers or dog parks. They may even bring you new love, as Griffin did for me. I will forever be grateful for that.

Griffin continues to nourish my life in so many ways. If you have a dog in your life, I think you understand what I mean. Share with me the way you have experienced this yourself!

Nourish

Joanne Witmyer is the founder of Indigo Health and Wellness, based in Briarcliff Manor. She teaches group classes, offers wellness consulting to companies and helps individuals achieve their health goals – particularly during times of change and transition. You can reach Joanne at 914-208-1022 or Joanne@IndigoHW.com.

Happenings

continued from previous page

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.

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.

Understanding Islam. Dive into Islam's tenets and practices with Aida Mansoor of the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut. Focusing on American Muslims, her discussion will move beyond stereotypes to explore rich spiritual practices and the challenges Muslims face in the United States. Co-presented by the Katonah

Village Library and the Katonah Museum of Art. Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah. 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-232-9555 or visit www.katonahmuseum.org.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge Comedy Night. Enjoy great comedy with some of the metropolitan area's best comedic talent. Tonight, Geno Bisconte headlines the show. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit www.nomacomedy.com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

The Charlie Daniels Band. Grammy Award-winning country music star Charlie Daniels was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry in 2008 and the Musicians Hall of Fame and Museum in 2009. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame during a star-studded, profoundly emotional Medallion Ceremony on Oct. 16, 2016. Daniels won the Grammy Award for Best Country Vocal Performance in 1979 for "The Devil Went Down to Georgia." The following year, "Devil" became a major crossover success on rock radio stations after its inclusion on the soundtrack for the hit movie "Urban Cowboy." He keeps an active tour schedule and his music continues to receive airplay on country and classic rock stations.

Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. 8 p.m. \$55, \$65, \$85 and \$105. Info and tickets: 914-739-0039 or visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com.

"100 Years." Hudson Stage presents a staged reading of Rick Dresser's new darkly comic play directed by Mark Shanahan. Two couple from different parts of the country meet in a strange planned community in Florida. They share a backyard and eventually much more as they prepare for a secret cutting-edge procedure that will change their lives forever. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7:30 p.m. \$10 door donation. Rescheduled from Mar. 2. Info: 914-271-2811 or visit www.hudsonstage.com.

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.

Sunday, Mar. 18

"The Spirit of Spring" Opening Reception. This exhibit features a range of fine oil paintings, multimedia prints,

pastels and giclees, which together create a profusion of artistic floral renderings of scenes found both in the wild and in gardens. Come enjoy this beautiful spring show and take a walk at one of the most loved parks in Westchester County. The exhibit features a group of fine artists including Peggie Blizzard, Joseph Genova, Giannie Biaggi, Corrine Lapin-Cohen, Janet Lippman and Dianne Sposito. The exhibit is curated by Audrey Leeds. Rockefeller State Park Preserve Art Gallery, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. 1 to 3 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Apr. 29. The gallery is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Info: 914-631-1470.

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. Pruyon Sanctuary, 275 Saw Mill River Rd., Chappaqua. (Meet

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LEGAL NOTICES

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.**

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 FORMATION OF PETE'S MEATS, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (1/5/2018). Location: (Westchester). SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **(United States Corporation Agents INC 7014 13th Avenue suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228). Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

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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Howard Meyer Acting to Host Free Open House Mar. 28 in Pleasantville

On Wednesday, Mar. 28, Howard Meyer's Acting program (HMAActing) is hosting a free, no-obligation open house to introduce adults and youngsters to the variety of acting classes offered to all ages and levels.

Open house attendees will have the opportunity to meet one on one and take part in a Q&A with HMAActing faculty members. Adult beginner and intermediate instructor Rachel Jones and children and teens instructor Catherine Banks, both actors and directors with Axial Theatre, will offer sample classes that use exercises and methodologies inspired by legendary acting instructors Sanford Meisner and Konstantin Stanislavski.

Their techniques also incorporate acting concepts developed by Meyer and the faculty. (Meyer teaches the advanced and master classes.) HMAActing also offers performance and monologue workshops, private coaching and intensive one-day workshops in voice, movement and other disciplines.

HMAActing welcomes actors with credentials who have taken a hiatus from theater and wish to reinvigorate their craft and technique.

HMAActing spring classes begin Wednesday evening, Apr. 4 at 7 p.m. Beginner adult (age 18 and up) classes run for six weeks. The cost is \$245, with a 12-week option for \$395. Intermediate, advanced and master classes are offered by invitation for students previously enrolled in the program or, at the discretion of the instructor, for actors with substantial prior experience and training.

Teen classes (ages 13 to 17) run from 5 to 6:30 p.m. for 12 weeks, also beginning Apr. 4, for \$395; children's classes run for 12 weeks from 4 to 5 p.m. and cost \$385.

Aspiring actors 10 to 17 years old are invited to arrive at 5:30 p.m. to the open house; those 18 and older should arrive at 7 p.m.

The open house will be held in the Community Room of St. John's Episcopal Church located at 8 Sunnyside Ave. in Pleasantville. Refreshments will be served.

An affiliate of Axial Theatre, a professional company in Pleasantville, HMAActing was founded 20 years ago by Meyer, an award-winning playwright, actor and director who serves as artistic director of Axial Theatre.



Students of the Howard Meyer Acting program are able to demonstrate what they learn in class by performing on stage.

For more information on the open house and HMAActing, call 914-286-

7680, visit www.HMAActing.org or e-mail axialtheatre@gmail.com.

Happenings

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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.

Pleasantville Chamber Music Society Concert. The OMNI Ensemble is a chamber music group created to perform a uniquely flexible repertoire. From the renaissance to the contemporary avant-garde, the ensemble presents programs of enormous variety, all designed to provide its audience with musical diversity not ordinarily encountered in a single musical event. The ensemble features David Wechsler, flutes, Eric Cooper, cello, and John Cheek, piano. Pleasantville Presbyterian Church, 400 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.pvillechambermusic.org.

Westchester Chamber Music Society: Amerigo Trio. Praised for "finely woven blend of timbres and rapport," The Amerigo Trio, comprised of violinist Glenn Dicterow, violist Karen Dreyfus and cellist Inbal Segev, will perform Schubert's Trio in B-flat, Handel-Halvorsen's Passacaglia for Violin and Viola, Kodály's Duo for Violin and Cello and Beethoven's Trio in E-flat, Op. 3 No. 1. Following the performance, there will be a reception with refreshments and the opportunity to speak with the musicians. Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester, 2125 Westchester Ave., Rye. 4 p.m. Adults: \$40. Students: Free. Info and tickets: 914-967-7399 or visit www.westchesterchambermusicsociety.com.

[westchesterchambermusicsociety.com](http://www.westchesterchambermusicsociety.com).

Monday, Mar. 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 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.

The Alumni Exhibition. Features works of graduates of Westchester Community College's Visual Arts degree program. Westchester Community College's Fine Arts Gallery, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Apr. 21. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. Info: 914-606-6621 or visit www.sunywcc.edu/gallery.

Here We Are Together: Story Time for Children. From newborns to school-age children, with a parent or caregiver.

Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Monday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberal.org.

Bird, Bees and Beautiful Native Plants. Learn about environmentally sound landscaping and gardening by including New York native plants and excluding invasive plants. Help to support a diversity of wildlife and create a garden that is in visual harmony with its surroundings. Discover some beautiful and hardy native plants for your yard and garden. Discussion led by master gardener Donna Lassiter. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

Monthly Mondays: Experiential Philosophy Series With Jeff Carreira. Carreira discusses topics of philosophy and culture. These are not merely lectures, but mini-workshops in experiential philosophy. You will be introduced to new ideas, but you will also be guided to contemplate these ideas so that they shift the way you experience yourself and

the world. The Aligned Center, 1 Bridge St., Suite 64, Irvington. 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Also Apr. 16. RSVP required. Info and RSVP: 914-292-0930 or e-mail info@thealignedcenter.com.

Tuesday, Mar. 20

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

Senior Steps. Health screenings for seniors. Phelps Hospital, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 10 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3937 or e-mail ewoods3@northwell.edu.

Memoir Writing Workshop. A series of workshops that will help participants record the significant events of their lives in their own voice. Please write a one-page, single-spaced, memoir on any subject matter that you desire and bring to class. Monthly attendance is encouraged. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ART BOYKOFF, LLC filed with SSNY on 1/25/2018 located in Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. designated as agent of LLC. Process may be served against LLC to above agent located at **7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, New York 11228. Purpose: Recreational art instructor**

FORMATION OF BROOKMONT MANAGEMENT, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/9/18. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to **Penny Jackson, 45 Winchester Oval, New Rochelle, NY 10805. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NEW LOOK DEVELOPERS, LLC filed with SSNY on 1/17/18. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **20 Van Buren Pl., White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Buying and renovation of homes.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DENNIS J. CAMPAGNA, ARBITRATOR, LLC Art. of Org. filed with Sec. of State 01/16/18. Off. loc.in Westchester CO. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **Dennis J Campagna, 50 Main Street, Suite 1000, White Plains, NY 10606-1900 PURPOSE: Any lawful business.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE LAW & MEDIATION OFFICES OF LORI GREENE, PLLC. Arts of Org filed with SSNY 1/5/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Law & Mediation Offices of Lori Greene, PLLC, 75 S. Broadway, Suite 400, White

Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CA-DEAU FRAGRANCE, LLC filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/13/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the principal business address: **11 Patriots Farm Place, Armonk NY 10504. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MIDLAND AVE DELICATESSEN LLC filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/12/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the principal business address: **24 Cedar Place, Rye, NY 10580. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BOWIE BROWS, LLC. ART OF ORG. filed with SSNY on 02/07/2018. Office in Westchester County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **128 Court Street White Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HAUS OF FUREY LLC. ARTS. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/22/18. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at **36 Lee Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ALM SPEECH THERAPY, PLLC ART. OF ORG. filed with SSNY on February 13, 2018. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail process to: **2810 Springhurst St, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE WEST HOLLOW GROUP LLC. Art of organization filed with the SSNY on 1/29/18. Office location is PUTNAM County NY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **7 West Hollow Rd Brewster NY 10509. PURPOSE: any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SET IT IN STONES, LLC Art of organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/08/2017. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **71 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CG MEDICAL BILLING SERVICES, LLC Art of organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/22/2018. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **168 Douglas Ave., Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

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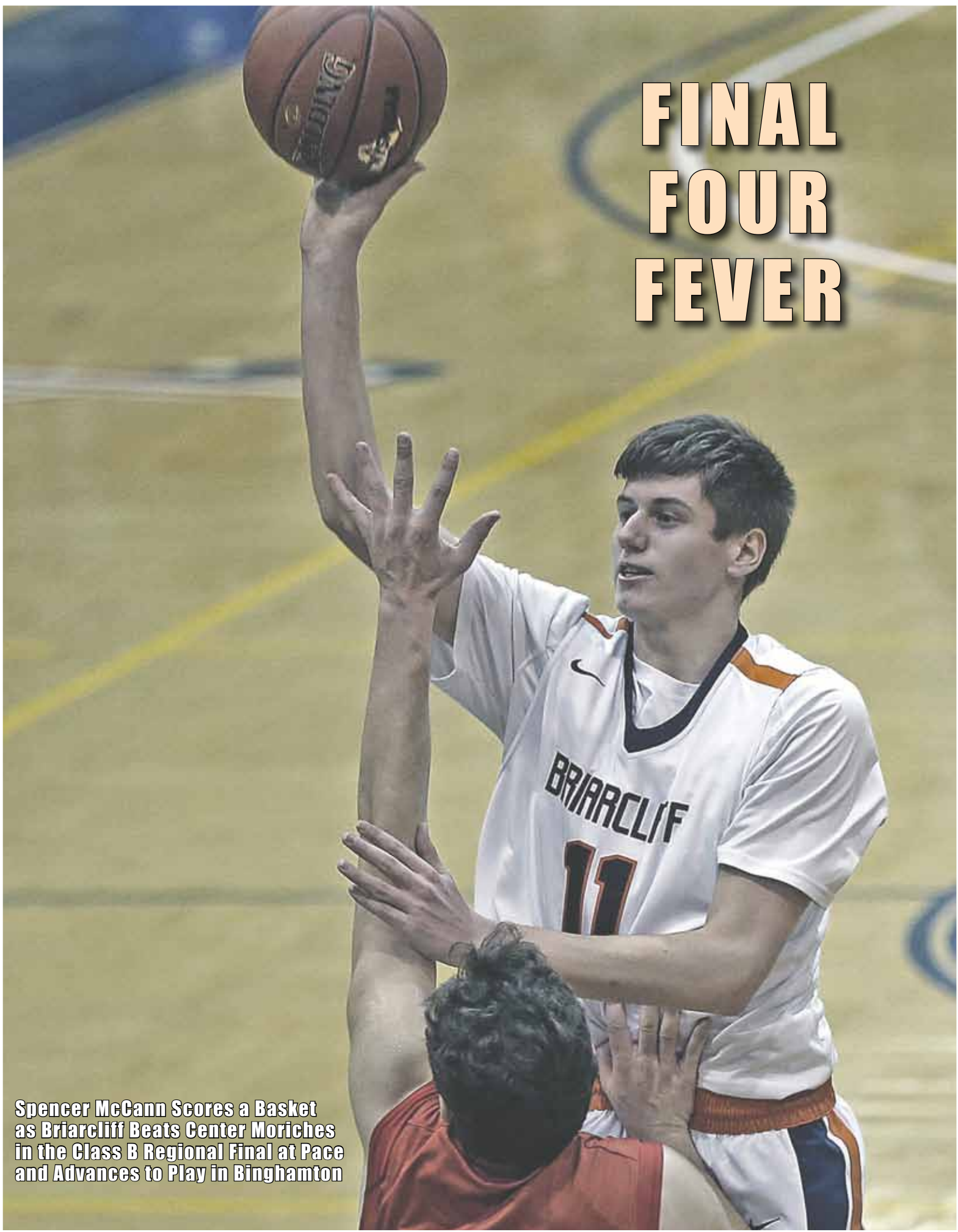
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ExaminerSports



FINAL FOUR FEVER

**Spencer McCann Scores a Basket
as Briarcliff Beats Center Moriches
in the Class B Regional Final at Pace
and Advances to Play in Binghamton**

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO

Briarcliff Conquers Region to Reach First Final Four

By Danny Lopriore

The Briarcliff boys' basketball team overcame full-court playoff pressure Saturday afternoon in a convincing 62-49 victory over Center Moriches in the New York State Class B regional final at Pace University's Goldstein Fitness Center.

The streaking Section 1 champion Bears (22-4) built an early 10-point lead, then ran through the Red Devils' pressing defense in the second half, defeating the Section 11 champion to reach the first state Final Four in school history.

Briarcliff will meet Section 2 champion Mekeel Christian Academy in a semifinal matchup at 6:45 p.m. Friday at the Floyd Maines Veterans Memorial Arena in Binghamton.

Senior guard Jack Ryan ignited the offense early, scoring 10 of his 17 points as Briarcliff built a 21-11 advantage after one quarter. The Bears led 31-23 at halftime and extended their lead to 43-31 with a strong defensive third quarter.

"We controlled the ball and took care of the ball early and that set the tone," Ryan said. "They are the kind of team that gets out and scores in transition. The fact that our guards handled the pressure and we could score inside and out was huge. We're not satisfied yet. We are going to enjoy this win, but we had a lot of goals this year and we haven't reached it yet."



Briarcliff guard Miles Jones uses a screen from teammate Spencer McCann as he drives to the basket in Saturday's Class B regional final.



The Bears' Spencer McCann fires up a short jump shot against Long Island champion Center Moriches in Saturday's regional final.

The always-balanced Bears got major contributions from several players, led by senior big men Jackson Gonseth, who had 18 points and eight rebounds, and Spencer McCann, who scored 11 points, grabbed six rebounds and made two acrobatic blocks at the defensive end.

Bears' coach Cody Moffett said he was most satisfied with the way his players have performed game-to-game and kept their focus despite playing against teams with different styles and strengths.

"I give the kids all the credit because they understand that our success is as a team with everyone contributing and playing our game," Moffett said. "Basketball is a great game when players share the ball and do all the basic things right, like box out and communicate on defense. It's not just a cliché, but defense wins championships. Now, it's just about moving on and doing the same things we know how to do."

Sophomore A.J. Panarese added 10 points and junior Miles Jones had six rebounds and six assists. Panarese, Jones



Briarcliff senior Jack Ryan drives past Dylan Bryant during the second half of Saturday's state regional final at Pace's Goldstein Fitness Center.

and Ryan broke the Devils' press time and time again and keyed the defense in the backcourt.

"We wanted to play our tempo, not try to go really fast or overplay," said Panarese, who made all four of his shot attempts. "We settled down and ran plays correctly. This means everything to our team. We didn't want to have the feeling we had last year when we lost to Pleasantville (in the Section 1 final)."

The Red Devils trailed by double digits for most of the game after closing the gap to 25-21 late in the second quarter. Gonseth and Panarese each hit a clutch 3-pointer to extend the Bears' lead to 31-23 at the half and the Devils never got any closer than the five points they were within early in the third.

"This is an amazing win," McCann said. "I like it here at Pace, but we could have been anywhere in the state today and



Briarcliff sophomore guard A.J. Panarese takes the ball to the basket as Emond Frazier of Center Moriches defends in the Class B regional final.



Taijon Tribble of Briarcliff shoots the ball from the top of the key in the Bears' 62-49 playoff win over Center Moriches.

won. It means so much to win this. We had a goal of the section first, but now we are in the Final Four with more to do."

McCann said the Bears were prepared to deal with the Red Devils' backcourt pressure and the defense focused on stopping the Devils' penetration to the basket. Briarcliff wound up winning the battle of the boards, outrebounding the Devils 31-23 in the game.

The Bears also managed to frustrate Center Moriches' leading scorer, Sean Braithwaite Jr., who, despite scoring 17 points, played just 20 minutes due to foul trouble. Briarcliff also held an edge in free throws, making 16 of 21 overall and 9 of 15 in the fourth quarter. The Red Devils managed to make just 9 of 19 from the foul line.

"I think our coaching and practices have made us a very consistent team," McCann said. "We wanted to control the inside and limit mistakes. We did all the right things that make a team champions."



Tucker Wexler holds the championship plaque as he and his Briarcliff teammates celebrate their win in the regional final on Saturday afternoon.

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Bears Avenge Their 2016 Playoff Loss to Marlboro

By Andy Jacobs

It took them two years to do it, but the Briarcliff Bears finally got some sweet revenge against Marlboro.

Junior guard Miles Jones scored a game-high 18 points, while Spencer McCann provided a dozen rebounds and nine blocked shots as the Bears held off a late challenge to defeat the Section 9 champion Iron Dukes 57-51 in last Tuesday evening's opening-round Class B regional game at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh and avenge their loss to them in the same gym back in 2016.

"We still have a few guys from that team, that were part of that," said Bears coach Cody Moffett, recalling the season-ending loss to Marlboro two seasons back that left his seniors in tears. "So they understood it. They saw how real that was, the passion and competitiveness that those guys had. They wanted to make sure that when the game was over, they left everything they had on the floor and hopefully wouldn't be in that position."

Unlike the last time the teams had met, Briarcliff was not forced to play from behind all night long. The Bears got early 3-point baskets from Jones, McCann and Jackson Gonseth to jump out to a 9-0 advantage. Marlboro didn't score its first bucket of the game until midway through the first quarter and found itself trailing 17-8 heading to the second.

"We talked about the fact that they start strong," said Moffett about the message to his players about the Iron Dukes. "So we wanted to make sure that we started strong as well. Obviously you want to start every game strong, but that was something we emphasized as far as we didn't want to come out with a relaxed attitude or nerves or anything like that. Let's just go out and play our brand and take it to 'em."

Jack Ryan, who finished with 14 points, made a pair of 3-pointers in the second quarter to help the Bears open up a lead as large as 12 points. Briarcliff took a 34-24 margin into the halftime break, but Gonseth picked up his third foul with



Briarcliff head coach Cody Moffett directs his team in the fourth quarter of the 57-51 playoff win over Marlboro at Mount Saint Mary College.



Spencer McCann shoots a jumper from the top of the key in Briarcliff's 57-51 playoff victory vs. the Marlboro Iron Dukes.

a minute left before intermission and would eventually foul out early in the fourth quarter.

An old-fashioned 3-point play by Ryan to start the second half gave the Bears their biggest lead of the game, 13 points, but when the Iron Dukes' Jaiden Allen closed the third quarter by drilling an off-balance 3-pointer from the right corner to beat the buzzer the Briarcliff lead had been sliced to 47-42.

Jones connected on a 3-pointer from the top of the key just 15 seconds into the fourth quarter, stretching the Bears' cushion back up to eight points. But Marlboro, the team that handed the Bears their only two losses of the 2015-16 season, then went on a 7-0 spurt to close within a point. Even worse for Briarcliff during the Iron Duke run, Gonseth was whistled for two offensive fouls a minute apart and had to watch the game's final 5:54 from the bench.

"Yeah, it happens, it happens," said Moffett about losing one of his key players in crunch time. "Things happen. But we're just focused on what the next play is. And these guys talk about the next play, the next play, the next play. And, fortunately, we were able to make the next play after that."

The Bears went scoreless for over four and a half minutes until Ryan provided two free throws with 3:04 remaining. Jones soon followed with a pullup jumper just inside the 3-point arc that built the lead back up to 54-49. A big block by McCann at the defensive end 10 seconds later persuaded the Iron Dukes to spend the rest of the contest firing away from beyond the 3-point line.

The Iron Dukes couldn't hit on any of



The Bears' Miles Jones tosses up a shot from the right baseline in the second half of last Tuesday's regional win over Marlboro.

those late-game 3-point tries and wound up getting shut out for nearly three and a half minutes until Allen made two free throws with 10.4 seconds to go and the outcome already decided. It was Jones' final two points of the night, from the free-throw line with 14.8 seconds left, that sealed the Bears' victory and sent them into the regional final four days later at Pace University.

"We just talked about composure," said Moffett about the team's tense huddle midway through the fourth quarter when the Iron Dukes were coming on strong and their large home crowd was in a frenzy. "Composure and running our stuff, getting back to doing what we



Jackson Gonseth of Briarcliff shoots over Marlboro's Billy Williamson in last week's Class B regional playoff game.



Briarcliff guard Jack Ryan shoots the ball on the move during last Tuesday's regional win over Section 9 champion Marlboro.

wanted to do. Any time you're at this point, deep in the season, you're gonna be playing good teams. So you can't expect to just come out there and those guys just give you the game or anything like that."



Briarcliff senior forward Tucker Wexler dribbles toward the basket in the Bears' win over Section 9 champion Marlboro.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Greeley's Ryan Renzulli tries to maintain control of the puck as he's met by a pair of Mahopac players in a game at Brewster Ice Arena early in the season.



Fox Lane eighth-grader James Nemeth fires a slap shot in the Foxes' game vs. Mt. Pleasant at the Westchester Skating Academy back in December.



Horace Greeley junior defenseman Liam Whitehouse moves the puck up the ice.



Byram Hills goaltender Grace Lunder is poised to make a save for the Bobcats at Brewster Ice Arena.



Zach Lampe, a senior captain, awaits a faceoff for the Greeley Quakers, who reached the Division 2 championship game this season.



Byram Hills' Michael Salandra sends the puck into an empty net to clinch the Bobcats' playoff win over Pearl River at the Brewster Ice Arena.



Mt. Pleasant Ice Cats junior forward Brian Sheehan sends a shot on goal vs. the John Jay Indians.



Fox Lane junior forward Jared Goldstein waits for the puck to drop during a faceoff at Brewster Ice Arena.



Freshman forward Matt Labriola of the Mt. Pleasant Ice Cats shoots the puck in an early-season game at Westchester Skating Academy.



Mt. Pleasant goalie Spencer Rockmore tries to thwart a scoring opportunity for John Jay's Jack Browne during an Ice Cats' road game.



Ethan Behar of Byram skates the puck up the right wing during the Bobcats' season-opening win over host Pawling.



Nicholas Salandra controls the puck near center ice in a Byram Hills road game against the Pawling Tigers.



Freshman Charlie Della Penna of Fox Lane takes the puck up the ice during a Fox home game at Brewster Ice Arena.



Mt. Pleasant's Vin Spaziente puts the John Jay defense under pressure as he quickly moves toward the net in a game played at Brewster Ice Arena.



Dillon Rusiecki of Horace Greeley fires a shot on goal in the Quakers' quarterfinal victory over Rye in the sectional playoffs.



Fox Lane's Eric Maiorano tries to skate past Greeley's Evan Scott along the boards in a game played at Brewster Ice Arena.

Westlake Football Star Commits to Sacred Heart University

By Danny Lopriore

Rob DiNota began drafting a National Letter of Intent to play Division I football in his dreams more than 10 years ago. Last Friday, that dream came true with the stroke of a pen.

DiNota, a Westlake High School senior, signed a commitment to attend Connecticut's Sacred Heart University in a ceremony in the school library with family, friends, coaches, administrators and teammates surrounding him.

"It has been my dream to play Division I football since I was a young kid," said DiNota, who is also a star lacrosse player. "The search for colleges took a while. I was thinking about whether to play lacrosse or maybe D2 football, but Sacred Heart made the choice easy for me."

DiNota, a quarterback and defensive back, compiled a superlative high school career while also starring for the Wildcats' lacrosse team. He had a school record 2,987 rushing yards and 26 touchdowns this past fall and scored 36 touchdowns over his three-year career. His teams were a combined 25-7 over three years. DiNota was named Section 1 Class B Back of the Year for the fall season, and was also



Westlake's Rob DiNota is flanked by his parents as he holds up a Sacred Heart shirt during Friday's signing ceremony.

named first team All-State for the second straight season.

Athletic Director Donna Pirro hosted the ceremony that included some tears and hugs among the comments from Wildcats head coach John Castellano, Principal Keith Schenker, DiNota's guidance counselor Tania Greco and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Guiney, among others.

After thanking his parents Pete and Maria, grandparents, siblings Peter and Angelina, high school coaches, youth coaches, administrators, trainers and counselors, DiNota signed his letter and posed for photos.

"Thank you to my mom, who has given me the structure, and my dad has taught me how to deal with adversity. They have made me who I am on and off the field," DiNota said. "To my grandparents and siblings, thank you for your constant love and support. And to Coach Cass, who goes to the end of the earth and back for his players, you've sparked in me a passion for the game that I am forever grateful for."

Castellano noted his protégé's outstanding statistics and winning record with the team and recalled a recent football game where the coach said he "never had a player who possessed the

will to win like DiNota."

"It's been an honor for me to coach you," Castellano said. "More than what he's done in the record books, it's what he's meant to this program as evidenced today of his teammates and members of the student body who have shown up. He's that type of individual with a passion and enthusiasm in every thing he does."

Pete DiNota said he was impressed with his son's decision and the way he approached his next challenge. Sister Angelina is currently a student at Sacred Heart and the fact that the Connecticut college is within an hour's drive made the choice more appealing to his family.

"I'm very proud of him because he had this dream and never gave up," the elder DiNota said. "He knew he wasn't going to be a big, overpowering player, so it took a lot of work and determination. I remember taking Rob to Sacred Heart when he was a freshman when his sister was looking at the college. He didn't seem interested until they asked if anyone had aspirations of being a Division I player and he raised his hand. We all thought he'd go on to play lacrosse, but he wanted football. I guess it was meant to be."

Maria DiNota credited her son's success as a student/athlete to a special trait.

"Rob is a very determined person," she said. "When he sets his mind to

something, he does the work. I know he will be a success."

DiNota, who scored the tying goal with just seconds to go in regulation in Westlake's dramatic regional lacrosse overtime win over Long Island champion Babylon last spring, is looking forward to completing his academic year and enjoying another successful lacrosse season this spring. But he is already setting his sights on the fall.

"I had two offers to go play lacrosse, but my true passion was always football," he said. "Sacred Heart is a great school academically and I think I can excel as a student and an athlete. I've learned here from Coach Cass and the other coaches to give 100 percent no matter what is happening on the field. I'm looking ahead to more of the same at Sacred Heart."

The talented athlete did not specify whether he had a preference to play quarterback, defensive back or another position going forward.

"I'm going to be gaining some weight and working the training program Sacred Heart sent me," he said. "I really want to thank the staff there for giving me this opportunity. I plan to be ready."



ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

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