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June 19 - June 25, 2018

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 563

## Mt. Kisco Committee Backs Development of Parking Lots

By Neal Rentz

Mount Kisco's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee last week recommended mixed-use developments for the village-owned North and South Moger parking lots in downtown.

Frank Fish, principal of BFJ Planning, the prime consultants for the village's Comprehensive Plan update, said at the June 13 meeting attended by about 50 people that the steering committee has proposed that the Village Board create an overlay district to entice builders to develop the two village-owned parking lots. The South Moger lot is near the train station while the North Moger lot is located on the other side of Main Street.

Mayor Gina Picinich said the committee's recommendation is a starting point to have deeper discussions on reshaping and enlivening downtown.

"The big-picture concepts are to

provide an opportunity for housing in the downtown, address the need for rental housing, maintain or increase parking and create community spaces," Picinich said.

The committee's goal for the South Moger lot is to create mixed-use development consisting of apartments and businesses, traffic access to the train station via Maple Avenue and a civic space where concerts and other activities could be held.

Its suggestion on North Moger Avenue is to build a parking structure and provide access to the train station by constructing a pedestrian walkway over the tracks and linking it with the north end of the platform. Access to the train station from Barker Street is also proposed.

Requests for proposals for companies to develop the parking lots could be sent out

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## Residential Development Pitched for Armonk's Mariani Gardens

By Martin Wilbur

The owner of an Armonk nursery is proposing to transform his property into a 43-unit residential development, the latest plan for the site where multiple commercial uses have been requested to augment the business.

Mark Mariani, owner of Mariani Gardens at 45 Bedford Rd., would discontinue operation of the nursery at the four-acre property and build high-end housing units ranging from one to four bedrooms each. The project would comply with the 10 percent affordable housing component as required by town law and include five affordable residences.

Mariani's attorney, Anthony Veneziano, said while the nursery has been profitable, his client's other ventures, including his



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Architect Jon Halper discusses aspects of a proposed 43-unit residential development for the Mariani Gardens site in Armonk.

homebuilding and landscaping businesses, have helped subsidize the operation since it opened a little more than 10 years ago.

"What we're coming in here with is something that we feel has a lot of benefits

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## Welcome Aboard



The Byram Hills Board of Education granted tenure to five educators at its June 5 meeting. Pictured, from left in the back row, are Robert Castagna, director of health education, physical education and athletics; Jessica Shaw, English language arts teacher at Byram Hills High School; and Jill Boynton, the district's director of special services. In front, are Mary Brady, special education teacher at Wampus Elementary School, and Deepak Marwah, the district's director of fine arts.

## Downtown Chappaqua Project to Last Until Next Spring

By Martin Wilbur

Completion of the downtown Chappaqua infrastructure and streetscape project will be delayed until sometime next spring because of a lag in installing the new sewer lines and the timing of the construction seasons.

John Kazawic, of Boswell Engineering, the project manager overseeing the work, said last week the anticipated 20-month project included two winters, when certain types of work cannot be performed. He also said that a change order and delays in laying the sewer line, where there were complications involving a Con Edison gas line, contributed to the revised schedule.

Originally, the target date for project completion was late this year in time



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Inconveniences for merchants and residents in downtown Chappaqua won't be completely resolved until next spring, the new completion date for the infrastructure and streetscape project.

for the holiday season, although certain minor items weren't likely to be done until spring 2019.

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# Mt. Kisco Committee Backs Development of Parking Lots

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by the village this fall, Fish said. Although no specific numbers were provided, Fish said there wouldn't be a loss of parking spaces if the North and South Moger lots were developed.

Other proposals from the committee include additional residential development downtown; amending some downtown zoning to make it easier for businesses to grow; preserving the character of existing low-density residential neighborhoods; encouraging the development of new housing for young professionals, empty-nesters and those who work locally;

improving transportation downtown; flood mitigation; expanding recreational programs; improving the village's parks; relieving traffic congestion; and an upgrade of the drinking water infrastructure.

A committee survey attracted responses from 337 residents. Notable responses included 72 percent in favor of new retail businesses; 60 percent asking for compact and higher-density housing developments; 92 percent calling on the village to make road improvements to reduce traffic congestion; 68 percent seeking safer bike and pedestrian

routes to the Metro-North station; 74 percent wanting sidewalks improved and extended; and 83 percent calling for creation of a farmers market.

Resident Patricia Lee said she was concerned about pedestrian safety at the intersection of North Moger Avenue and Main Street. Under the committee's recommendation, pedestrians would need to push a button at the crosswalk to change the walk signal for them to proceed across the street.

Fish said a pedestrian would have 26 seconds to cross once the light changes, sufficient time for the overwhelming

majority of people.

Resident Harry McCarthy said additional downtown development could bring more traffic. Many of the streets downtown are also under state and county jurisdiction, entities that may not make road improvements quickly, he said.

While the village could complete many of the improvements for municipal roads in two to three years, Fish acknowledged improvements to state and county roads could take longer.

Picinich said public participation has been important to bring new ideas to consider.

"The process of engaging residents, property owners and business owners through our five public meetings and survey was to get the community's ideas on what they envision for the future of our village," Picinich said. "What is most important for the board is that we steer this plan in the direction that meets the needs and expectations of the community."

A draft of the updated Comprehensive Plan is expected to be completed over the summer. The Village Board will then schedule and conduct a public in September, Fish noted. Trustees could approve the revised document in December or January, he said.

## Downtown Chappaqua Project to Last Until Next Spring

*continued from page 1*

Despite the new completion date, Kazawic pledged that downtown merchants and residents will not be inconvenienced for a second consecutive holiday shopping season.

"They're looking at shutting down most of the operation from Thanksgiving until after the first of the year so that it will be stabilized, everything will have as much sidewalk and curbing anywhere it isn't paved so it will be somewhat clean," Kazawic said.

Under the revised schedule from ELQ

Industries, the contractor performing the downtown work, storm drainage is expected to be completed by September; installation of the new traffic signal at South Greeley Avenue and King Street is anticipated for October; curbing and most sidewalk work is slated to be done in November with the remainder completed in April; underground electrical work will be done in January; the installation of new street lighting is set for March; and site restoration is expected by next June.

Permanent repaving will be done next spring once the entire project has been

finished, Kazawic said.

Last week board members requested the updated schedule because it had been publicized that by the end of this summer nearly all of the infrastructure would be done. Councilman Jeremy Saland said he wanted to bring attention to the new schedule because many residents might be expecting a vastly improved downtown once summer ends.

Councilwoman Ivy Pool said it was also anticipated that the traffic signal at South Greeley Avenue and King Street would

*continued on page 4*



## Spinal Cord Stimulation Pain Relief When All Else Fails...

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### **Q: How can spinal cord stimulation help relieve chronic pain?**

**A:** Pain pathways travel in specific locations within the spinal cord. Based on knowledge that the spinal cord can, under certain conditions, turn off the pain signals, medical research has developed ways of influencing the transmission of pain impulses passing through it.

Highly sophisticated computerized batteries have been developed that deliver individualized electrical impulses to the spinal cord. Today's stimulator implant, which is similar to a pacemaker, can eliminate or significantly reduce chronic pain unresponsive to other approaches.

### **Q: Am I a good candidate for spinal cord stimulation?**

**A:** Do you have structural problems, such as a herniated disc? Or, perhaps you've undergone several spine surgeries. Most patients referred for spinal cord stimulation are managed by a chronic pain specialist. They've probably tried a host of medicines, including narcotics, but over time, their pain has become increasingly resistant to medications. Many have undergone physical therapy treatments, weight reduction programs and a variety of

alternative medicine treatments such as acupuncture. Understandably, these people are desperate. They come to me to see if this will work for them.

### **Q: If I've been approved for the treatment, what's next?**

**A:** Guided by x-ray, an electrode is placed in your spinal canal. You'll be brought into a state of light sedation in order to provide feedback as to placement. Once the electrode is in the area of pain, the patient is sent home to monitor its effect. If pain is reduced by 50 percent or more, you're considered a candidate for permanent placement of a simulator.

### **Q: What are the outcomes of this procedure?**

**A:** The permanent procedure takes about an hour and usually involves an overnight hospital stay. Post-surgery, the stimulator is individually programmed, and over the course of several visits with me, it is increasingly fine-tuned to provide the greatest pain reduction. Patients have different responses, with most people enjoying pain relief. For some, the implant eliminates virtually all pain. In others, pain is reduced by 50 percent. For a minority, the procedure is a failure. The battery life in today's implants remains effective for about ten years.



# Mt. Kisco Officials Focus on Strategies to Revitalize Downtown

By Neal Rentz

Mount Kisco is expanding efforts to invigorate downtown to let the public know the village is open for business.

Last Thursday, officials and business owners convened at the Mount Kisco Public Library for the village's first New Business Open House created by the municipality's Economic Development Council.

The event, which drew about 100 people, was "to start a new conversation" about the village's desire to seek new businesses, said Mayor Gina Picinich.

"Our purpose was to share a new view and perspective with the potential new business owners and the commercial real estate community," Picinich said. "This will be an ongoing conversation as we all partner together to strengthen the economy in our village."

Sarah Gevinski, owner of Club Pilates, which opened on East Main Street last August, said it was noticeable to her how the village has employed a business-friendly process. She said the Building Department was "super helpful in getting me started."

Though Gevinski plans to open four more Club Pilates in other locations, she said she will continue to make Mount Kisco her base.

Building Inspector Peter Miley said the village has streamlined the approval



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO  
Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich addressed about 100 attendees during last Thursday's New Business Open House at the public library.

process for new businesses. He regularly holds meetings with potential new business owners to review the information they'll need to provide the Planning Board before their first appearance.

New businesses that do not require board approval now need one to three weeks to obtain clearance from the Building

Department, Miley said. Previously it took four to six weeks, he said.

The village has short-term and long-term plans to encourage commercial development, Picinich said. Its Beautification Committee and Department of Public Works have collaborated to improve the look of downtown, she said.

A committee consisting of mostly volunteers who work in the marketing industry recently devised a new logo and slogan for the village.

Officials are also considering additional free parking in its municipal lots. However, a potential problem looms if train commuters and shoppers vie for the same spaces.

"It's not an easy situation," Picinich said.

The village has made several infrastructure investments such as converting its street lights to LED lighting, stepping up road paving and replacing aging water mains. Renovation and expansion of the volunteer fire departments' firehouses and the Department of Public Works building will also be done, said Village Manager Edward Brancati.

Brancati said easy access to a Metro-North station and Bee-Line buses makes the village attractive.

Trustee Peter Grunthal said a major component of the focus on downtown is the Comprehensive Plan update. The board is seeking to complete and approve an

updated document, which is an important tool for future planning, by December or January, he said.

A major change downtown zoning change being explored is allowing mixed-use development in the village-owned North and South Moger parking lots, Grunthal said. If approved, the mixed-use developments would attract new residents who want to work in New York City but live outside the city within walking distance of a train station.

Making Mount Kisco friendlier for pedestrians and bikers is also a priority, Grunthal said.

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# New Security Measures Unveiled for Chappaqua School Buildings

By Anna Young

The Chappaqua School District announced last week plans for a series of additional security measures that will go into effect in September.

With safety a concern for districts nationwide, Chappaqua school officials have taken an extensive look at their policies to address areas that could be improved. Following the Feb. 14 school shooting in Parkland, Fla. that killed 17 people, district officials set a goal of keeping students safe without significantly changing the culture.

Last week, the Board of Education agreed to create vestibules in Chappaqua's five elementary and middle school buildings. Construction, which will begin next summer, will cost about \$1.26 million, Assistant Superintendent of Business John Chow said.

A secured vestibule will be added at Douglas Grafflin Elementary School along with an outside canopy and security office with a window. Roaring Brook and Westorchard elementary schools and Seven Bridges Middle School would each have a security office. Robert E. Bell

Middle School's entrance would be made handicapped accessible with a second set of doors installed inside its vestibule.

"Based on everything we've heard that is definitely best practices to have these improvements," Board President Victoria Tipp said last week. "It doesn't make sense for people to have full access to the schools before they're fully vetted. It's kind of a no-brainer to me, especially if it's maintaining a nurturing environment."

Plans at Horace Greeley High School include color-coded identification cards for students; electronic card reader doors; an internal emergency number; safety go carts and booklets for each classroom; a gate for the back of the school; and increased safety training and preparedness with students and faculty. The district also intends on reviewing policies regarding community use of facilities during school hours and communication during emergency situations.

Two additional security guards will be placed at Greeley with one stationed at the school entrance on Roaring Brook Road and another roaming the campus. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christine Ackerman said a request was made of Summit Security in Hartsdale to provide part-time supervisory support to the high school's security staff.

While Tipp agreed with the proposed changes, she suggested the identification

cards would be a cultural change that could pose a long-term issue. Trustee Jane Shepardson added that the changes address many areas where community members expressed concern.

Ackerman recommended long-term plans involve implementing safety resource officers (SROs) at the high school, safety go carts and door buzzers district-wide and electronic card readers in the elementary and middle schools. The district will also review expanding its high school open campus policy, Ackerman said.

Long-term goals will be presented to the board in January.

Trustee Jeffrey Mester stressed that new rules and policies must be enforced district-wide for change to happen. Ackerman agreed, explaining that if the proposed changes are implemented and are unsuccessful, the district will be forced to discuss changing the high school's infrastructure.

"I'm thinking this might be the way forward," Ackerman said. "This structure will allow us to begin to enforce a lot of different issues that we see here on our campus, particularly having someone vetted who's going in and out. If we do all this and we still have issues, then we really need to talk about whether we have to structurally change the front entrance."

## Downtown Chappaqua Project to Last Until Next Spring

*continued from page 2*

be installed and functioning by the time schools reopen in September, but it will likely be at least a month later before that occurs.

"This is the first time that we're getting the sense that instead of the project being significantly complete before the holidays this year, where we have a couple of last legs that we have to complete or we have a couple of last items that we've got to complete before the end of the year, the fact of the matter is we now have a schedule in front of us that is going to allow us to clean up the town in time for the holidays,

but that we're seeing the schedule pushed down about five months," Pool said.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein said it was important to the town to avoid another holiday season filled with inconveniences for merchants and residents. He said everyone is anxious to see the work finished, but once the roads are smooth and the construction plates are gone, it will be a relief for everyone.

"I think as much as people are excited to see a finished product, I personally think once we start seeing some of the benefits of the streetscape people won't be upset," Greenstein said.

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# No. Castle, Ralph's Ices at Odds Over Erosion Issue at Site

By Martin Wilbur

The owner of a popular North White Plains ices and ice cream establishment has drawn the ire of North Castle officials for failing to resolve several site improvements on his property since opening the business.

Scott Rosenberg, owner of Ralph's Famous Italian Ices & Ice Cream at 850 N. Broadway, must still provide rock slope protection, landscape the rear of the property and to screen refuse enclosures and to finish directional signings and pavement markings in the parking lot, according to a June 7 memo from the town's consulting engineer Joseph Cermele.

Also listed in the correspondence was to repair the gates at both refuse enclosures and to paint the parking lot bollards, although Rosenberg said he has completed the latter.

Last week the North Castle Town Board agreed to reduce the \$141,645.50 bond by 75 percent and grant an extension to complete the outstanding items. Rosenberg had appealed to town officials that work to protect the rock slope on the property would be temporary but cost him about \$76,000.

Complicating the matter is that last week Rosenberg said he was scheduled to close on an adjacent parcel late last week to double the number of parking spaces and is still hoping to acquire a neighboring town-owned parcel. He said that he is ready to



The owner of Ralph's Ices on North Broadway in North White Plains must find a way to prevent erosion and a rock wall from deteriorating in the rear of the property.

appear before the Planning Board and wants an opportunity for that process to proceed to provide a permanent solution for the rock slope.

"If we don't get any kind of positive feedback from the Planning Board then I would go back and do the work right away, if that makes sense to everybody," said Rosenberg, who opened the business at the location last year. "To do it to take it down doesn't make sense to me."

He said that there is currently no erosion or rock falling from the slope onto the site.

However, Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto disputed that claim and said she was hesitant to leave the property in its current condition because it presents a

potential safety risk for visitors.

"Our town engineer is not recommending that we allow that to remain the way it is and I feel strongly it's a liability," DiGiacinto said. "As it gets warmer, you know as well as I do, your business just becomes swarming with people."

Councilman Stephen D'Angelo said he also recently visited the property and noticed rock debris having fallen, presumably from erosion.

Nethermont Avenue resident Nora Kanze Manuele said she and several of her neighbors are fearful that if there soon isn't something done to protect the rock their properties and a walking path near their

homes will be compromised.

"We have great concern about the integrity of the rock back there, the possibility of erosion damage," Manuele said. "I would hope that the board would consider turning that pathway into a greenway and keeping it as pristine as it is right now."

The board approved Rosenberg's request for an extension and allowed his bond to be reduced to \$35,400. However, officials instructed him to have his engineer submit a plan for the town engineer's review before July 6, so the matter can be discussed again at the July 11 Town Board meeting.

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# Residential Development Pitched for Armonk's Mariani Gardens

*continued from page 1*

– disposable income, walkable distances, limits traffic but it's different from what you had envisioned at least from a couple of months ago, at least when you adopted the Master Plan," Veneziano said.

The current nursery includes a café. Over the past five years, Mariani has requested other varied uses including a plan to host and cater events and most recently to use a portion of the interior as a SoulCycle spinning facility.

Earlier this year, the town adopted its updated Comprehensive Plan, which recommended potential additional commercial uses and limited residential development for the property.

For the project to advance, Mariani would need a zoning change from the Town Board to shift from the Nursery Business zone to a multifamily residential designation, said North Castle Director of Planning Adam Kaufman.

Veneziano said the residential market in North Castle and surrounding communities is very desirable, particularly for more luxurious units. This project would be in that category, he said, catering to empty-nesters and successful millennials.

"This is being targeted as sort of a successful group," Veneziano said. "It's a significant market, but when you look at the Ritz and everything, it's a wonderful place to live if you like to live like this as opposed

to being on the 19th floor in White Plains. These buildings will be gorgeous."

Under the conceptual plan, there will be 16 one-bedroom units averaging about 900 square feet each; six two-bedroom units with an average size of 1,450 square feet; 16 three-bedroom units will be about 3,000 square feet each; and there will be five four-bedroom units at about 3,900 square feet.

Currently, the plan calls for the units to be rentals although that is not certain, Veneziano said. Projected monthly rents would range from \$3,500 to \$5,000 for the smaller units and about \$7,500 and \$10,000 a month for the three- and four-bedroom units, respectively.

The largest townhouse-style units would

be situated closest to Bedford Road while the three-bedroom units would be built around the center of the property with an area of open space. The largest structure, housing the one- and two-bedroom units, would be built closest to Route 22.

There would be 132 parking spaces on the property, more than the required 109, said project planner Rob Aiello. Of those, 38 spaces would be in garages, another 38 would be in front of the garages, 23 spaces are slated to be under structures while the rest will be surface parking, Aiello said.

The project would generate up to an extra 30 cars per hour during the morning and afternoon peak hours and during the Saturday peak hour, he said.

The largest structure would be about 40 feet to the midpoint of the roof, Aiello said. The tallest building that stands now is about 30 feet to the roof while the cupola stands at 39 feet, 9 inches, he added.

"It's located in the heart of the downtown, it's walkable, it's near the commercial center and services and amenities providing year-round activity," Aiello said, "and the Comp Plan discusses potential residential development on this property."

Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto said she is concerned because while the plan is impressive, the town expended much time and effort on examining the future of the Mariani property as part of the Comprehensive Plan update. Discussions did not include an all-residential proposal, she said.

"We really looked very carefully at this piece of property, realizing that there was a need to give more uses and different uses and we just never discussed total residential because it just never came from anyone on the committee," DiGiacinto said.

"I just want to explain that we put a lot of thought into this property and never envisioned a plan such as this," she added.

Veneziano said in the past several years the hamlet has been evolving.

"The hamlet's grown up with a \$25 to \$30 million investment by Armonk Square with (The Bristol) across the street, with some of the things that you've presented in this hamlet," Veneziano said. "So these properties have much higher and better uses right in the hamlet."

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said key issues will have to be studied for this project, including the height of the structures and visual impact, traffic, downtown parking and sewer and water. Town officials will have to weigh whether they might want to go in a bit of a different direction than the updated Comprehensive Plan called for.

"It doesn't mean we're not going to consider it but these are the realities," he said. "We spent a lot of time on that Comprehensive Plan. Basically, I think it's a very interesting proposal for the property. I think it does address some of the things that we're trying to do on that particular site."

Veneziano said he will soon to submit a formal application to the town.



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# Latimer, Cunzio Tackle Airport With Mt. Pleasant Residents at Forum

By Martin Wilbur

Mount Pleasant residents brought ongoing grievances to County Executive George Latimer and Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) about how their lives are in turmoil with increased noise from flights landing at Westchester County Airport.

During Latimer's latest Saturday morning Coffee and Conversation forum where he visits each Board of Legislators district with the local lawmaker, he and Cunzio received an earful last weekend from residents urging them to do everything they can to reduce aircraft traffic and noise, which is ruining the quality of life for residents in the flight path.

"I've been here 15 years, it's not been like that (until) the past two years, maybe five years, but really two years, and I think it's because we're catering so much to those private planes now," said Pleasantville resident Rosemarie Petty.

Latimer explained that the county is in the midst of a series of public hearings to help gauge public opinion and gain insight about the county's governance and operations of the airport. A Master Plan with an addendum will be submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) by the July 6 deadline to avoid having to return about \$1.4 million in federal money. Any decision by the

county regarding the facility's future will not be made until at least the fall, he said.

The county must adhere to the deadline in hopes that the FAA will be more responsive when officials reach out to the agency for help.

"There's not enough time to even have a decent review or a decent environmental review but I don't want to lose \$1.4 million either," Latimer said. "If we go to the FAA, that's who we go to to get concessions on flight paths and altitudes and all the things that people are upset about."

Roland Reisley, a Mount Pleasant resident who lives in the Usonia section of town, told Latimer and Cunzio that the welfare and quality of life of their constituents must be their primary concern. He cautioned them to not be swayed by anyone lobbying for looser restrictions.

"You have emphasized that there's no intention to expand the airport, but I think the number one issue that you and the legislators and the committees face is that any action that we take will facilitate more traffic, more aircraft and there's lots of things that can be done without expanding the airport that could cause for more planes to come in and make more noise," Reisley said.

One resident stated that discussions she had with a pilot pointed to the reliance



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

County Executive George Latimer speaks with a resident following the latest in his ongoing series of forums with residents in each legislative district throughout Westchester.

on GPS. Previously, a flight path could deviate a half-mile in either direction but today it follows the same lane repeatedly.

"I don't feel like this is how we should have to live," Pleasantville resident Julie Lombardo added.

While the airport issue was the predominant theme of the one-hour and 45-minute forum, it was not the only key issue raised.

In response to mental health

emergencies and opioid and drug dependency, Cunzio said the county is exploring launching a facility similar to the Dutchess County Stabilization Center in Poughkeepsie. That facility, opened to combat the opioid crisis, has evolved into a crisis center that includes helping potential suicides and others in need.

"It's something I feel extremely strongly about and the good news is after the county executive and I had a sit-down and talked about it and brought in the Commissioner of Mental Health Michael Orth, we certainly realized we may have all of the tools there to put it together along with the funding, grants, etc.," Cunzio said.

Complaints were also lodged about the long queuing and traffic backups to the Saw Mill River Parkway entrance at Marble Avenue in Thornwood during peak hours. Latimer pledged to visit the troubled location and to work with the state Department of Transportation to propose a solution.

Also, Thomas Bock, president of the Westchester County Association of Fire Chiefs, urged Latimer and Cunzio to support an opt-out of the state's sparkler law in order to prohibit the sale of those devices as a safety precaution. He said Nassau and Suffolk have agreed to opt out and Westchester should follow suit.

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# County Holds Hearing to Explore Shared Services Initiative Savings

By Anna Young

The second public hearing inviting Westchester residents to share suggestions about what should be included in the county's shared services plan was held last Thursday evening in Mount Kisco to a sparse crowd.

Last month, County Executive George Latimer took the first step in creating a revised countywide plan to comply with Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Shared Services Initiative. The effort, now in its second year, forces counties across the state to submit a plan by Oct. 15. Each county's plan must be approved by the state.

To ensure an approach that includes varied types of shared services, consolidation and technological innovations, the county enlisted a team from SUNY's Rockefeller Institute of Government and the Benjamin Center at SUNY New Paltz to assist with developing a plan.

Dr. James Malatras, director of the Rockefeller Institute, and Benjamin Center Director and Associate Vice President for Regional Engagement Gerald Benjamin led the 90-minute meeting where few elected officials offered remarks.

Lewisboro Supervisor Peter Parsons cited health insurance costs as the biggest problem affecting municipalities, calling it a "nightmare." Municipalities and



Left to right, Patricia Dwyer, owner of Sourced Municipal Solutions, and shared services consultants Gerald Benjamin, Dr. James Malatras and Emily Saltzman during a June 14 public hearing in Mount Kisco.

school districts must work together to ensure both entities can share facilities, he added.

"I work pretty well with my school, but we have empty rooms we can't access and an empty gym we can't access because they want to charge me so much damn money for it that I can't afford to use it," Parsons said.

Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich said her board is currently working on a plan to share a sewer line with a neighboring community. Picinich also

praised the preceding administration for partnering with the county Department of Emergency Services to consolidate the village's police department in 2015. She said the controversial decision at the time has provided the community with a highly professional police force while saving taxpayers money.

"It's obvious that shared services are a plus when you do it right," County Legislator Kitley Covill (D-Katonah) said.

Under the state's timetable, each county must develop a shared services plan to

submit to its county legislators by Aug. 1. A minimum of three public hearings must be held and the Board of Legislators must approve a final plan by Sept. 15.

"The shared services plan is an opportunity to increase funding from the state, try new ideas and learn from other plans and other counties' successful experiences," said Westchester County Director of Operations Joan McDonald.

An afternoon hearing was also held last Thursday in Yonkers.



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# Opposition to Privatization Strong at Airport Hearing in Armonk

By Sean Browne

Residents strongly opposed potential privatization of Westchester County Airport during a June 11 public hearing, telling officials that it could escalate the number of flights and create additional noise for surrounding communities.

The sentiment was voiced at Armonk's Hergenhan Recreation Center during the second of three public hearings on airport-related issues scheduled for this month by County Executive George Latimer. Latimer announced in May that he was seeking public feedback that would help guide county officials on the airport's future. The first hearing on June 6 in Rye Brook focused on the facility's Master Plan.

Last week, discussion centered on governance of the airport and presented another opportunity for Westchester residents to voice their opinions on the matter to Latimer's staff and the Board of Legislators.

"We now have a decision to make on the airport, you the public are now being brought into the dialogue so that you can express whether we should change the governance of the airport," Latimer said.

While some in the crowd of more than 100 residents favored privatization, the vast majority of the roughly 25 speakers were opposed.

Westchester County owns the airport, although it leases operation to AvPORTS,

a private company that specializes in managing and operating airports, while the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) oversees air travel. The contract between the county and AvPORTS is renewed annually.

Some citizens from towns near the airport have reported a sharp increase in airplane noise in the past year or two and that would likely continue along with loss of control of the facility should privatization occur. The facility is the state's third busiest airport behind Kennedy and LaGuardia.

Mount Pleasant resident Jordana Silverstein said plane traffic has already become excessive.

"In the two hours and 10 minutes since the mic has been open no less than 25 planes have flown over my house causing the windows to shake," Silverstein said. "On Memorial Day we had 228 flights over my house and on a good day we have only several planes fewer."

In addition to air traffic, some planes fly too low on their approach to the airport, making the noise level worse, said North Castle Supervisor Michael Schiliro. Furthermore, private flights, which account for most of the air traffic, aren't regulated.

"There has been a concern about the increase in air traffic and the noise from those planes," Schiliro said. "Commercial traffic is regulated at 240 sets per half hour, but the private is not regulated (from) what I understand."



SEAN BROWNE PHOTO

Left to right, County Executive George Latimer, Joan McDonald, Westchester's director of operations, and County Attorney John Nonna listen to comments during the second of three public hearings on Westchester County Airport last Monday.

Another concern is the impact that privatization of the airport would have on the environment, particularly the nearby reservoir.

The hearings are scheduled to provide feedback from the public in time for deliberation on the 2019 budget. Latimer said the public hearings will give the county strong feedback on how to handle the airport moving forward.

In the past there has been a lack of communication between the public and the

county on the issue and he said he wants to change that.

"What has not happened in the past is a public discussion whether we should or should not change the governance of the Westchester County Airport," Latimer said. "We are here to discuss the future of governing the airport."

The third and final public hearing, which will address operations, will be held on Monday, June 25 at the West Harrison Senior Center at 7 p.m.

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## Police Blotter

### North Castle Police Department

**June 8:** Report of a suspicious person on Route 22 at 8:37 a.m. An additional caller reported a male was walking on northbound Route 22 pushing a shopping cart. The responding officer assisted the party in traveling to the Bronx River bike path.

**June 8:** The department received information from the town administrator's office between 10:50 and 11:02 a.m. of four instances of low hanging utility wires. Two instances are on James Street and the other two are on Elizabeth Place and North Lake Road. In each case, the low hanging wires belonged to Verizon and/or Optimum.

**June 9:** A complainant reported at 12:52 a.m. that someone took his iPad while he was shopping in the store at the Shell Gas Station on North Broadway. The complainant was uncertain who took the item, stating that he put it on the counter and when he went back for it the iPad was gone.

**June 9:** A caller reported at 7:11 p.m. that several ducks have fallen into the sewer on MacDonald Avenue.

Responding officers reported finding one duckling and was able to free the animal with the assistance of the Armonk Fire Department.

**June 9:** The department received a call from a female employee at LaQuinta Inn on Business Park Drive at 10:59 p.m. reporting that a guest was injured in a shower fall in Room 101. Armonk Fire Department Ambulance was dispatched to the scene and transported the party to Westchester Medical Center.

**June 11:** Report of an active car fire on Pine Ridge Road at 9:26 a.m. The fire department responded and extinguished the blaze. The vehicle belonged to a landscaper at the location.

**June 11:** Report of a suspicious person on Clove Road at 3:19 p.m. The caller reported a homeless person was sleeping in the third base dugout at the field. The responding officers reported that the matter was adjusted and the individual left the area.

**June 12:** A caller reported a loud party occurring on Leisure Farm Drive at 10:34 p.m. An officer was dispatched and informed the homeowner to keep the noise level down. Matter adjusted.

## Lowey Secures Federal Money for WCC Children's Center

Congresswoman Nita Lowey last week visited Westchester Community College's Virginia Marx Children's Center to announce \$211,361 in federal funding to sustain access to the school's campus-based child care for low-income students. Lowey also toured the center and spoke with several WCC student-parents whose children are enrolled at the center.

"Hard-working parents should not be forced to choose between their education and childcare," Lowey said. "For our economy to succeed, it is imperative that every American have access to an education and the skills to find good-paying jobs. That is why I am so pleased to announce this new federal investment of more than \$210,000 per year for WCC's child care initiative. Make no mistake about it, these funds will make a difference for many area residents working to earn college degrees or certificates. Parents will have the ability to attend class and enter the workforce more quickly and with less debt, which will increase their earnings and stimulate our local economy. This funding is a

real win for our communities."

"It is a special treasure to be able to support our students and their young children at the same time," said Dr. Belinda S. Miles, president of Westchester Community College. "This is a unique place where our students come to achieve their academic and career goals while their children take part in an accredited curriculum supporting early childhood development, a distinction among child care centers."

The money awarded comes in the form of a Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program (CCAMPIS) grant, administered by the U.S. Department of Education. The program enables low-income parents to pursue a postsecondary education by providing them access to campus-based child care programs.

Under the grant, approximately 35 Pell-eligible student-parents at WCC will receive subsidies for child care worth as much as \$5,754 annually. The exact award will be calculated on a sliding scale based on income.

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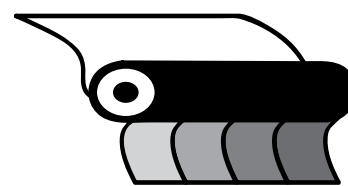
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# App-Based Transportation Service Set to Debut July 1 in New Castle

By Martin Wilbur

A new app-based transportation service will begin operating in New Castle on July 1 in hopes of filling the void being left by the departure of Leros Point to Point's Greeley Taxi.

The app, which will be called Chappacar, is the brainchild of two livery service veterans, Douglas Thornton, the owner of County Trip Service, which has a contract to operate out of Westchester County Airport, and Liam Tobin, who formerly worked as a dispatcher and chauffeur manager before leaving for the technology sector.

Residents can buy the app at The App Store and the Google Play Store and download it onto their mobile device. Once the service is activated, customers can use it as an on-demand platform or book a reservation for a future time and date with pickup and drop-off information displayed, Tobin said.

If it's an on-demand call, the technology picks up the customer's geolocation and provides the customer with the closest available car.

"Everything is in place and we're just waiting for (Leros) to vacate the premises and we're going to turn it on July 1," Tobin said.

New Castle is the first community that Chappacar will service, he said. Tobin and Thornton said they plan to phase in surrounding communities, including Pleasantville and Armonk, in the near future.

Although New Castle officials have stated that they have sent out more than 60 Requests for Proposals to taxi companies across Westchester, Tobin said it doesn't matter if a contract is awarded to another entity.

"We would love to be involved in the conversation but if they go in a different direction it really wouldn't affect us," he said.

Roughly 35 drivers from County Trip Service, which is fully licensed with the county's Taxi & Limousine Commission

and whose drivers have been drug-tested and fingerprinted, will provide the rides, Thornton said. He said his drivers will not wait in one spot.

"No driver is sitting in any fixed location," Thornton said.

New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein said last Friday that he and Town Administrator Jill Shapiro hope to sit down with Tobin and Thornton. Meanwhile, the town will continue to search for a conventional service but officials may have to consider contracting with multiple companies or allow cabs to service the train station, he said.

"We're just not sure the form that it's going to be," Greenstein said.

Tobin said that while New Castle was scheduled to be the first community to receive their service, they pushed up the launch date when it recently became public that Leros was leaving the town at the end of June.

Thornton said the car service will pick up anywhere within the town and also pick up out of town to return to New Castle.

An added incentive for each town Chappacar will service is that a still undetermined percentage of each fare will be donated to that community's

high school booster club, he said.

"We come in, the community supports us, we want to cater to the community," Thornton said. "One of the issues we all have in the industry and as constituents, the (transportation network companies) model does not support the local communities, even once they do business."

Reservations and calls will begin being accepted on Sunday, July 1. By then, the service's website, [www.chappacar.com](http://www.chappacar.com), should be activated as well as the phone number. Chappacar's number will be 914-238-TAXI (8294).

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# Party City Plan Scheduled for July Public Hearing in Mt. Kisco

By Neal Rentz

The proposal to move Party City to the long-vacant portion of the building that houses Modell's Sporting Goods on Mount Kisco's Main Street was met with virtually no opposition from the Planning Board last week.

However, board members said they are worried that the plan for the front windows might not be particularly attractive.

Party City is proposing to move from its current 3 Main St. location to 154-162 E. Main St. For its plan to advance, the

Planning Board would need to approve an amended special use permit. The property is located in the Commercial Business zone.

Board members scheduled a public hearing on the project for its July 10 meeting.

Party City is scheduled to leave its current location Feb. 1, 2019, replaced by a HomeGoods discount home furnishing store. HomeGoods received its approval from the board last month.

The two-story building at 154-162 E. Main St. is 22,399 square feet with Modell's currently occupying 12,794 square feet. Party City is proposing to move an existing wall that would reduce Modell's area to 10,078 square feet and allow Party City to operate in 11,078 square feet. Modell's special use permit was approved in November 2015.

William Null, an attorney representing Party City, said his client has no plans to change the front of the building except to create a separate entrance. Rather than displaying merchandise, the store would place window screen drawings in its front window, which could change seasonally, he said.

Some Planning Board members were concerned about the screen drawings. Board Chairman Doug Hertz asked if there is an alternative to make the



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

William Null, an attorney representing Party City, discussed his client's proposal to move into the vacant portion of the Modell's Sporting Goods store on East Main Street at the June 12 Mount Kisco Planning Board meeting.

windows more attractive, including the display of merchandise.

Board member Crystal Pickard asked that shelving with merchandise could be pulled forward as an alternative to the drawings so the store would be more attractive to passersby on Main Street.

Michael Bernard, senior director of construction for Party City, said the front window drawings is corporate policy.

## Scoping Session Begins for Hotel, Residential Plan on Former IBM Land

By Martin Wilbur

The New Castle Town Board opened the scoping session last Wednesday for the proposed Eagle Ridge hotel and residential project on a 32-acre parcel once owned by IBM.

Developer MADD Madonna Armonk, LLC has proposed building a 97-room boutique hotel with amenities, including a restaurant, bar and banquet hall on a six-acre portion of the site. On the building's third and fourth floors, there would be 69 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments.

On the 26-acre parcel, the applicant intends to build 94 townhouses.

During the start of the scoping session, there were no speakers other than town officials and representatives. The board left the session open and will allow written comments from the public until at least its June 27 meeting.

Project planning consultant Patrick

Cleary said the developer has also proposed three other developments for the site – a hotel only, a hotel and townhouses and a hotel with 60 townhouses instead of 94.

Board members pointed out multiple issues that they will be concerned about as the applicant moves through the environmental review. Councilman Jose Berra requested that the developer takes community character into strong consideration and that traffic impacts be studied for the three signalized intersections in downtown Armonk.

Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto said that the sewer and water analysis will be crucial.

Supervisor Michael Schilero asked whether the developer will analyze the impact the proposed MBIA hotel might have on the project.

"We think we have a better project and we're getting their first," Cleary said.



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# Sen. Murphy Honors Three Local Women of Distinction

A Westchester County legislator, a minister and scores of selfless volunteers were among the 14 women honored by state Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) at his 2018 Women of Distinction ceremony at Pace University on June 7.

The event celebrated the accomplishments of women throughout the Hudson Valley who have made their communities better places to live as a result of their achievements in business, charitable works and education.

"I look forward to this ceremony every year," Murphy said. "Our honorees were nominated by their peers and community leaders and it is always a pleasure to recognize their accomplishments."

Each town in the 40th State Senate District nominated a local resident to be considered for the special designation.

These are the local 2018 Women of Distinction Award recipients.

**Margaret Cunzio, Mount Pleasant.** Cunzio is serving her second term on the Westchester County Board of Legislators. A New York State certified teacher and administrator, she teaches at



This year's Women of Distinction were honored by state Sen. Terrence Murphy on June 7. Each year 15 women, one in each town in the 40th State Senate District, are recognized for outstanding professional, community and volunteer efforts.

Iona College and Western Connecticut State University and is also a fitness professional at Equinox in Armonk. She previously served on the Mount Pleasant Architectural Review Board

and is involved with the Mount Pleasant Recreation Center senior program.

**Suzanne Grant, Mount Kisco.** Grant is a devoted volunteer, helping to expand educational opportunities

for students in the Bedford Central School District. She served two terms on the district's Board of Education and serves on the Student Achievement Committee. Grant has also served on the Mount Kisco Conservation Advisory Committee, the Mount Kisco Elementary School Association and is a founding member of Citizens for Byram Lake Reservoir.

**Betsy Towl, New Castle.** Towl was the executive director of the New Castle Historical Society for 22 years. She led the Greeley House Campaign to purchase and restore the historic home, secured grants from the Greater Hudson Heritage Network Conservation and Museum Association of New York and received a Lower Hudson Conference of Historical Agencies & Museums Historical Services Award. Towl has also been community director for the Girl Scouts.

Vanessa Herman, assistant vice president, government and community relations for Pace University, welcomed the honorees and guests on behalf of the college.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Murphy's Hypocrisy on Gun Measures in State Legislature is Obvious

The hypocrisy of state Sen. Terrence Murphy knows no bounds. He has the audacity to admonish the Assembly to pass what he calls school safety measures when he, himself, sponsored a bill to repeal the NY SAFE Act, a common-sense gun safety measure which has done far more to prevent school shootings in New York than anything he and his Republican colleagues in the Senate have ever considered. He will not even look at the additional gun safety legislation already passed by the Assembly that has gone to die in Senate committees.

Mr. Murphy proposes adding school resource officers, a fine idea. But at the same time, he would repeal the prohibition on assault rifles in New York to ensure that those SROs would be outgunned and unable to adequately protect the students for whom they are responsible.

Mr. Murphy proposes to add mental health professionals to the schools, again a useful measure. But he will not support a red flag law that will allow judges to order guns to be removed from people determined to be a threat

to themselves or others. So if that school psychologist has concerns regarding a particular student, there is nothing she can legally do to prevent that student from bringing a weapon to school the very next day.

In fact, Gov. Cuomo has proposed a law that would permit the psychologist to go to court to attempt to restrict that student's access to guns. But does Mr. Murphy support that initiative? Of course not.

Because Mr. Murphy wants to have it both ways. He wants you to think he is all for protecting students while he twists and turns every which way to avoid confronting the NRA, which has given him a 93 percent rating and pours funds into each of his campaigns.

Without addressing the real school safety problem – keeping guns away from those who should not have them – all the additional school personnel Mr. Murphy wants to add will do little to ensure the safety of our students. It's clear to me that Mr. Murphy ranks his support from the NRA far above the lives of our children.

So stop lecturing the Assembly, Mr.

Murphy. They have already done far more than you to ensure safety in our schools. If you really care about student safety, withdraw your bill to repeal the SAFE Act and get behind the common-sense gun safety legislation already pending in the Senate.

But we all know that's never going to happen, because it would anger Mr. Murphy's buddies in the NRA, and their support is obviously the most important thing to him.

We can change all of this by removing Terrence "Hypocrite" Murphy from the Senate in November. Support Democrat Robert Kesten who will vote for the common-sense measures that will actually allow you to send your children to school without fear. And no, Mr. Murphy, he does not want to take guns away from responsible owners or repeal the Second Amendment. He only wants to ensure that your children, and ours, will be safe in their classrooms.

**Sincerely,  
Joel E. Gingold  
Croton-on-Hudson**

### Time for Murphy, Senate GOP to Support New York Health Act

Imagine having diabetes and not being able to afford the insulin that keeps you alive. Or being able to afford only the most basic health insurance policy with such a high deductible that you don't benefit from it. What if you had to stay in an abusive relationship or a miserable job because leaving would mean losing your health insurance? Or if the cost of a nursing home stay for an elderly parent wipes out their savings and yours as well?

These are some of the personal stories we heard when we traveled to Albany on June 5 to lobby for the New York Health Act (S4840/A4738). We joined a diverse group of citizens who visited the offices of state senators Terrence Murphy and Sue Serino to urge them to support this bill. This legislation would make quality healthcare available to all New Yorkers through a single-payer healthcare system.

This means that instead of paying insurance premiums, copays and deductibles, everyone in New York State would be covered by one plan, funded

by a progressively graduated payroll tax as well as other taxable income. Neither Sen. Murphy nor Sen. Serino seem to be in favor of this bill.

Virtually everyone has a story about a healthcare issue. Think about how many hours you have spent navigating through the thicket of health insurance obstacles in order to get the care or medication that you or a loved one needs. Insurance providers are for-profit companies. Their first obligation is to their stockholders, not to patients. The U.S. is the only industrialized country that does not provide its citizens with healthcare. Your health depends on your wealth. At least half of all personal bankruptcies are due to unaffordable medical costs. It doesn't have to be this way.

Versions of the New York Health Act have passed the Assembly in legislative sessions in 2015-16 and 2017-18. It passed again just in the last two weeks by a more than 2-1 majority. But it continuously dies in the Senate's Health Committee on which Sen. Murphy

serves. Citizens need to educate themselves and their elected officials about the necessity, practicality and efficiency of guaranteeing healthcare for all. You can find out more at [www.nyhcampaign.org](http://www.nyhcampaign.org) and [www.pnhp.org](http://www.pnhp.org).

The Affordable Care Act was a big step in helping Americans access healthcare but it isn't enough. The Trump Administration, having failed to repeal it, has been chipping away at the ACA, causing insurance premiums to rise. Now it is looking to deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions. If they succeed, we will be back to living in a country with the best medical care in the world – if you can afford it. If not, well, you are on your own.

Since the Trump Administration clearly does not see healthcare as a basic human right, it's time for states to step up. New York can lead the way.

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## Doran Nuccio Pleasantville Middle School Music Teacher

By Anna Young

Listening to Pleasantville music teacher Dorian Nuccio talk about his three decades in education, it's easy to understand why he struggles to hold back his tears when discussing his upcoming retirement.

After all, it could be considered destiny that Nuccio arrived at Pleasantville Middle School for a 29-year teaching career. Both of his parents were educators, including his father who graduated from Pleasantville schools.

"I've been coming to Pleasantville my whole life," Nuccio said, explaining how he visited extended family on Washington Avenue every Sunday for dinner. "When I interviewed here, I was telling the guy who was giving me the tour things about the school he didn't know. It's just in the blood."

From an early age growing up in Somers, Nuccio had music running through his veins. His father was a music teacher at Somers High School and encouraged him to learn the different instruments he would regularly bring home. His father,

who eventually became Nuccio's high school music teacher, would place an instrument in the living room and tell him not to touch it, which only made him want to learn to play it more.

"A week would go by and he would ask me if I wanted to touch it. Now you talk about the eagerness to learn and he would teach me things and I would go and practice and learn how to play trumpet," Nuccio said. "Three weeks later it would be a shiny French horn. Then soon I'd come home and there was a saxophone."

Soon, Nuccio learned how to play every instrument in the band.

"It became a game," he said. "I had a great time because once you knew an instrument was similar to another it was very easy to pick up."

After working as a camp counselor one summer, he realized how much he enjoyed working with children and wanted to become a teacher. He credits his mother, a former elementary school teacher in Katonah, for showing him how fulfilling working with kids was as he spent weekends helping her prepare for



school events.

Nuccio used his personal passion to ensure adolescents would grow up with the same joy and appreciation for music he had. He attended SUNY New Paltz as a music major and received his master's in education and administration at Fordham University.

Nuccio said life has come full circle for him as he sees his own students applying for teaching jobs in the school district. He said if his students don't follow him into musical education, he hopes they grow up enjoying music as an art form.

"I don't expect these kids to go to conservatory with their instruments, but

I do expect them to be smart consumers," he said.

As Nuccio reflects on the steppingstones that resulted in countless band concerts, fundraisers, parades, school trips and talent shows, he said working in Pleasantville has been the most amazing experience of his life. While he choked up discussing his retirement with the conclusion of this school year, he said it's the right decision.

"I know inside it's right," Nuccio said. "I'm going out at a fairly good age and I have a lot of irons on the fire for future things. It was a hard decision, but all my passion comes from these great kids."

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# No. Castle Library Celebrates Gallery Opening at Armonk Branch

By Martin Wilbur

It's fitting that the Armonk branch of the North Castle Public Library now has a gallery for art exhibits.

Patrons and officials celebrated the long-awaited opening last Thursday of the new Friends Gallery, a renovated space that will not only feature exhibits of local artists in five-week rotations but serve as the space for the library's ever-expanding offerings of free programs.

The roughly 1,000-square-foot space used to be known as the Magazine Room but has been repurposed to be a community space, said Library Director Edie Martimucci. Since its refurbishment, the bookshelves have been removed and there is space to be a small art gallery.

"It's been exciting," said Martimucci, who has worked for the library for more than 20 years. "I've always wanted artwork in here and there was never any wall space."

The Friends of the North Castle Library runs the annual Armonk Outdoor Art Show, its major fundraiser, which has donated to the library for more than 50 years. The room was renamed in honor of the Friends, whose efforts have paid for and made some of the programming possible.

"The most important thing is that we have the opportunity after 80 years of operation of this library to recognize the Friends' accomplishments and all the volunteers and the predecessor organization, the North Castle Free Library," said Sean Ryan, a former Friends president.

About \$400,000 of funding over the last five years has been obtained for the library through a state Library Construction grant that Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) and George Latimer, when he was in the Senate, helped procure. That accounted for a significant

chunk of the roughly \$1 million expense to refurbish the library.

Buchwald said the facility and its trustees and the town make sure the money is well spent.

"I've very happy to promote the program in general and specifically try to make sure that North Castle's applications are reviewed," Buchwald said. "So much great work goes into the North Castle Public Library."

Over the generations, the library has become a valuable community resource, which not only provides books and other materials but hosts hundreds of events and thousands of visitors. The library's two branches in Armonk and North White Plains contains about 105,000 items. Last year, the North Castle Public Library had 163,000 visitors and hosted 2,100 programs and events.

County Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant), who grew up in Armonk and used the North Castle Public Library regularly, said the facility is an important community center and would not successfully operate without its volunteers.

"Without this volunteer base you would not have the library the way it is



North Castle Library Director Edie Martimucci, third from left, is joined by town officials, Assemblyman David Buchwald and County Legislator Margaret Cunzio to celebrate last week's dedication of the Friends Gallery at the Armonk branch.

now and they really are involved in their programming and in their expansion and, of course, their connection with the art show," Cunzio said.

Martimucci said the Friends Gallery will help improve the library's already impressive services. Artists have been signed up for the remainder of the year to exhibit in the room.

"It'll be just one more layer of cultural offerings that we can give to the community and I'm really excited about that," Martimucci said.

## Summer Reading Registration at Mt. Pleasant Library to Launch

Join the National Circus Project for the big kick-off events at the Mount Pleasant Public Library's main branch in Pleasantville for the children's summer reading program on Friday, June 22 at 1 or 2:30 p.m.

The show will feature circus arts from around the world – juggling, unicycling, balancing, object manipulations and clowning – and lots of audience participation.

The program, Reading Rocks! is for children entering Pre-K through grade 4 in the fall. After registering, children can pick up their summer reading backpack, reading record and stickers to mark the time spent reading this summer.

They can also add Pete the Cat shoes to the display in the children's room. They add a sticker to their record with every half-hour of reading they do. Each time they bring their records to the library, they choose a Pete the Cat trading card and receive a raffle ticket to enter to win a weekly prize – and the grand prize of a Kindle Fire kid's edition.

For students entering grades 5-12 in September, the library has a young adult summer reading program. Participants create an online account, log their minutes read throughout the summer and are entered to win weekly prizes. At the end of the program, they are awarded raffle tickets based on the number of minutes they have read and any challenges they have completed.

Those tickets are then entered into the grand prize drawings, which includes a Kindle Fire Tablet



This year's summer reading programs kick-off event takes place this Friday afternoon at the Mount Pleasant Public Library in Pleasantville. Children who register for the program can add stickers to the Pete the Cat display at the library.

(courtesy of the Valhalla Lions), an entertainment bundle (featuring a prize from the Jacob Burns Film Center) and a bag of books full of advanced readers and popular titles (from The Village Bookstore and Friends of the Mount Pleasant Public Library).

Both programs run from June 25 to Aug. 3.

For more information and to register, call 914-769-0548 ext. 227, visit [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org) or visit the main library in Pleasantville or branch library in Valhalla.

## P'ville Schools Receive \$52G in Grants for Educational Programs

By Anna Young

The Pleasantville Fund for Learning (PFFL) awarded more than \$52,000 in grants to the Pleasantville School District last week to enhance and expand opportunities for students.

Organization co-chairs Joan Jacobsen and Keri Gregersen attended the June 12 Pleasantville Board of Education meeting to present 10 grants to faculty and staff at each of the district's three schools. The grants will be used to integrate social and emotional learning into schools, STEAM labs and educational programs.

"I'm reminded of all the fantastic things that the Pleasantville Fund for Learning has supported over the years and there isn't a school or area that isn't touched by the generosity of the community and the great work you guys do to put this together," said Board President Angela Vella.

This year, several local organizations and community members partnered with the PFFL to fundraise, including the Bedford Road School and Pleasantville Middle School PTAs, the High School Parent Council, the Special Education PTA, the Pleasantville Rotary Club and the P-Daddy golf tournament.

At Bedford Road School, a \$1,300 grant will provide a color printer, digital camera, supplies and instruction for an introductory photoshop class. Another \$3,233 will deliver six iPods with charging stations and applications to support

music instruction and \$1,600 for a child-size bass instrument.

At the middle school, \$17,812 was awarded for furniture and supplies for the Active Learning Center while \$13,250 will support an inquiry-based science program that will align fifth- and sixth-graders to the Next Generation Science Standards. There was also \$2,800 for seven sit-to-stand desks to be used in modified and general education classes.

Additionally, the middle school received \$1,537 for three 3D printers and supplies to be used with computer-aided design and STEM courses.

Pleasantville High School received \$7,000 to implement RULER (Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, Regulating Emotion), a program that teaches emotional intelligence and integrates social and emotional wellness into schools. Then \$3,600 will pay for a set of eight interactive virtual reality headsets for social studies, while two new display boards costing \$769 will be used during district art shows.

"Thank you so much to all the organizations that contribute to this," Vella said. "We all want the best for our children and we all want to provide the best program possible and the enrichment activities and features that we can provide with the extra fundraising and funds you guys provide us, which is amazing. It's amazing what it does for our kids."





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## When Two Combine Their Tastes in One Household

Sometimes when two people decide to get married or live together, the going can be tough in combining tastes for furnishing and decoration, especially among those who have lived on their own and established individual preferences.

Most people would agree that men let their wives take the lead in decorating their home. It just seems to be the natural order of things, right? Not so with my wife and me.

I think one of the reasons my wife decided to marry me was that she was impressed that I had decorated my bachelor apartment so well. The furnishings inventory of mostly 18th century reproductions and some originals, influenced by my having grown up near colonial Williamsburg, was impressive for a single guy, as was my debt to various department stores and antiques shops. While not originally to her taste, which was strictly modern, my wife adapted to the early American style, maybe because such a great investment had already been made in it.

She came to the marriage with her modern bedroom set and a good copy of the tulip chair designed by Eero Saarinen. However, when we bought



By Bill Primavera

our first home in Brooklyn Heights, built in 1826, those modern things disappeared because they looked out of place. I reigned supreme as the decorator for some years to come.

By the time we settled into a new condo building three years ago, I had conceded to my wife's preference for a more casual, modern look again. I was ready to be casual and comfortable.

So, we've been a good match in combining tastes, even when they change. In all these years, there has been only one disagreement about our

décor – and it happened very recently. Enter the issue of the large Staffordshire figurines, two of which I liked and she hated.

Some years ago, I made a good buy on these figurines, the mainstay of Victorian mantelpiece decoration, and displayed them in a big English oak cabinet in our dining room. Little did I think they would become our one and only point of departure in taste. I share the story here because it may demonstrate how compromise works.

At our broker's open house when it was time to sell, we got busy de-cluttering and creating more open space on our tables

and shelves, as I advise seller clients to do. In the process, I noticed that the two Staffordshire pieces had disappeared from the haunts they had long occupied. When I asked my wife where they were, she said, "Oh, I don't think we should display them. I never liked them, and you did say to de-clutter."

My precious Staffordshires relegated to clutter?

She offered no hint about where they might be, but I knew that her favorite hiding space was in our kitchen's lower cabinets. Sure enough, I explored and found them tucked in between the mop bucket and the Drano, no less.

I returned them to their rightful home without saying anything. They remained for a couple of days, then disappeared again. And again, I retrieved them. Left in the dining room for a few days more, I was satisfied that my wife had given up trying to classify them as clutter.

The morning of our open house was quite busy with last-minute details. I didn't notice anything unusual until I set out on a personalized tour and entered the dining room. Darned if the figurines hadn't disappeared again!

Even though there were many realtors in the kitchen, like a man obsessed, I actually moved a couple of people aside to access the regular hide-and-seek place. But surprise, surprise, the

figurines weren't there. I then opened every drawer and cabinet in the kitchen, but they were nowhere to be found. I gave up.

A home stager with whom I worked regularly told me how to combine tastes peacefully.

"I find that since people are getting married later in life and they have already purchased pieces of furniture that they love and have grown attached to, the problem is that once they have found that perfect person they too come along with their own pieces that don't necessarily coordinate. His, mine and ours is how I refer to it. Usually it takes a little psychology, negotiation and compromise to dig a little deeper and combine their likes in decor so they complement each other."

I'm all for psychology, negotiation and compromise but it is very telling that when we had sold the house and packed up to leave, those Staffordshires were left behind for the new owners.

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



## Business of the Week

### Set in Stone Pleasantville

By Colette Connolly

If you're looking to renovate your kitchen or bathroom with the kind of tiling that will look great and also complement your personal style, a visit to Set in Stone in Pleasantville is a must.

Owned by Wendy Tufo, this new store is beautiful to step into. It's also where Tufo can work her magic and help customers go through the difficult process of choosing the right product for whatever area of the house they choose to decorate.

The store feels more like a gallery space, with ceramic, porcelain, cement, mosaics, glass, marble and quartz tiles expertly arranged on the walls.

"I wanted the store to be visual, where customers could take in the whole experience," explained Tufo, who has been in the tile industry for 18 years, having worked for high-end stores

Walker Zanger and Klaffs.

She chose the boutique-style layout after she saw how customers became quickly overwhelmed in larger showrooms.

At Set in Stone, which opened Mar. 1, Tufo offers a wide selection of tile, some considered trendy, other timeless, along with classic brands, that customers can focus on without distraction. There are tiles for the high-end user as well as the more economically conscious.

"I didn't want to cater specifically to the affluent customer," she said. "Anyone can come in here and select tile for their kitchen or bathroom and find a price that suits their budget."

She's also happy to guide customers through the process of choosing the right tile for their project.

Set in Stone carries European and American-made products. Many of



Wendy Tufo, the owner of Set in Stone in Pleasantville.

Tufo's porcelain tiles come from Spain and Italy, she said, and are excellent choices for powder rooms, bathrooms,

feature rooms and other areas. Some of the brands you'll find at Set in Stone include Compaq, The Surfaces Company, a Spanish tile business that manufactures marble and quartz surface coverings, European Alleanza Quartz and Aurea Stone.

"I really enjoy the creative aspect of it," Tufo said. "Helping clients from concept to completion is very gratifying."

Tufo said she asks her customers if they have any concepts or color schemes in mind. From there, she suggests a number of design ideas.

"I always want to make sure that my customers are making the 100 percent sure decision," she said.

While some may want to renovate a kitchen or bathroom to help them sell their house, others want to update a space for their own enjoyment, she said.

"I try to bring them into the future, to perhaps choose something that's timeless, classic and that they'll never tire of."

Set in Stone is located at 71 Wheeler Ave. in Pleasantville. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 914-801-0271 or visit [set-in-stone-pleasantville-ny.business.site](http://set-in-stone-pleasantville-ny.business.site).

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## Tuesday, June 19

**Simply Diamond/Simply Simon.** The top hits of Neil Diamond and Paul Simon performed by Brian LaBlanc. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Show at 8 p.m. \$89 per person (plus tax). Show only: \$55 per person (plus tax). Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit [www.broadwaytheatre.com](http://www.broadwaytheatre.com).

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

**Nature Book Club: "Birding Without Borders."** The club will be discussing "Birding Without Borders: An Obsession, a Quest, and the Biggest Year in the World." Traveling to 41 countries in 2015 with a backpack and binoculars, Noah Strycker became the first person to see more than half the world's 10,000 species of birds in one year. Come join the discussion whether you've read the book or not. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org).

## Wednesday, June 20

**Innovations in Digital Health: Changing Care Delivery and Patient Experience.** Hear from the experts from the top health institutions in the Hudson Valley will focus on how technology is enabling healthcare providers to meet patients and consumers at the personalized and granular level. Speakers will showcase how the latest technologies are advancing modern medicine, healthcare and wellness. Part of the Westchester County Association's All Access Healthcare Series. Doubletree by Hilton, 455 S. Broadway, Tarrytown. 8 to 10 a.m. WCA members: \$35. Non-members: \$45. Info and registration: Visit [www.westchester.org](http://www.westchester.org).

**Zumba Fitness.** Achieve long-term benefits while having a blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life. For all fitness levels. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 9 a.m. Every Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. (except July 4) Drop in or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

**Baby Time.** A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and

parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday (except July 4). Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Ambassadors for Successful Aging.** Are you aware of the benefits available to you as a Westchester County senior? Information can be provided to you on housing, home care, transportation options, counseling options, memory care, nutrition, vision and dental services along with SNAP, HEAP, EPIC and STAR and other programs that can save you money and help you plan for the future. Feel free to discuss a Westchester County "ambassador." No appointment necessary. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except July 4). 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 (except July 4). 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 (except July 4). Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Toddler Storytime.** Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except July 4). Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Senior Benefits Information Center.** Counselors offer older adults one-on-one counseling covering a broad range of topics including Medicare health and prescription plans, food stamps, HEAP, EPIC, weatherization, minor home repair and tax relief programs. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 Main St., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except July 4). Info: 914-231-3260.

**Preschool Storytime.** This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger

plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except July 4). Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Bilingual Storytime.** Sing songs and read picture books in English and Spanish. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except July 4). Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkiscoblibrary.org](http://www.mountkiscoblibrary.org).

**Ice Cream Social & Summer Games.** Kick off summer and the end of the school year with historic games and ice cream at the Greeley House. Make your own Victorian ice cream and play colonial and Victorian games. All ages are encouraged to attend. Rain or shine. Horace Greeley House, 100 King St., Chappaqua. 12:30 to 2 p.m. Suggested donation: \$5 per person. Registration recommended; walk-ins welcome. Info and registration: 914-238-4666 or visit [www.newcastlehs.org](http://www.newcastlehs.org).

**Pure Joy!** Performing Art Presents "Beauty and the Beast." Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 2 and 6 p.m. \$16. Also June 22. Tickets are available at the door. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Affordable Care Act Navigator.** A trained navigator provided by the county Department of Health will be available to help people with choosing and signing up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act and the state health marketplace. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday (except July 4). 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 (except July 4). Info: 914-864-8041 or [www.mountkiscoblibrary.org](http://www.mountkiscoblibrary.org).

**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 (except July 4). Also Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Art Series: Al Hirschfeld.** A contemporary of Miguel Covarubbias, Hirschfeld was born in 1903 and studied art in Paris and London before returning to New York to eventually conquer The New York Times and Broadway. The discussion will also center on the concept of caricatures and line drawings as they exist in other cultures and artistic styles. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Separation/Divorce Support Group.** A new group for men and women separated, in the process of separating or post-divorce. Establishes a safe place where attendees can deal with the pain and loneliness brought about by the ending of a significant relationship. This nondenominational group will use the 12 Steps to focus on its members and the choices made to cope and adjust. Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 15 S. Bedford Rd., Mount Kisco. \$10. Every Wednesday (except July 4). 7 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Contact Ilene Amiel at 914-980-0898 or e-mail [12stepdivorcegroup@gmail.com](mailto:12stepdivorcegroup@gmail.com) or visit [www.meetup.com/Mount-Kisco-12-step-Separation-Divorce-Support-Meetup](http://www.meetup.com/Mount-Kisco-12-step-Separation-Divorce-Support-Meetup).

**Hope on the Hudson.** An evening of three short films and discussion hosted by filmmaker and environmental activist Jon Bowermaster, who, along with panelists from Riverkeeper, Clearwater and Hudson Valley Farm Hub, will share stories of hope, success and the many efforts to preserve the Hudson River. The three shorts to be shown are "City on the Water," about New York City's 520-mile coastline and the efforts to make the waterways healthier and more accessible; "Restoring the Clearwater," which explores the nearly year-long restoration and return of the titular ship to the Hudson River to continue to fulfill Pete Seeger's mission to educate and roam America's first river; and "Seeds of Hope," documenting a unique effort during the 2017 harvest to save several varieties of native American seeds that have gone nearly extinct. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**"Leave No Trace."** An advance screening of this film that tells the story of war veteran Will (Ben Foster) and his teenage daughter, Tom (Thomasin Harcourt McKenzie), who have lived off the grid for years in the forests of Portland, Ore. When a small mistake tips them off to authorities, they are sent on an increasingly erratic journey in search of a place to call their own. After clashing with their new surroundings, Will

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# The High Line: New York's Great Escape

By Richard Levy

What an oasis is to Bedouin tribes of the desert, the High Line is to folks in New York City – without the camels.

Thirty feet in the air, a mile and three-quarters long and built on abandoned, elevated railroad tracks, The High Line is an architectural wonder as it twists and winds above the Meatpacking District on New York's West Side, running north from 14th Street to 34th Street with an incredible endless gorgeous landscape of thousands of spectacular plants, flowers, trees, shrubs and wild grasses from all over the world.

It's the best place in New York City to clear your head of stress, anxiety or internal clutter. Its magical vistas make it unable to think about anything else. Gaze to the left and there's the majestic Hudson with ships drifting slowly down the river. Turn to the right and feast your eyes on a New York City skyline of old tenements contrasting with garish new glass buildings.

## The Travel Maven

The High Line's most spectacular structure is the futuristic IAC "Sail Building" of dramatically sculptured glass designed by Frank Gehry. (It looks like it's always moving.)

Walking on the High Line empowers you; it makes you feel invigorated and free. As you float along its length, you'll be delighted when you see the Empire State Building towering proudly over the randomly placed old and new architecture below. When you get to the end, you'll want more and turn around and stroll back.

The High Line is a mind-cleansing experience, almost like walking meditation. If you're having a bad day, just head for the High Line on your lunch hour. When you get back to work you'll be more productive. Perhaps

cancel your shrink appointment and instead take a 50-minute walk on the High Line. You'll get more out of it and you won't miss your shrink telling you "it's time to stop."

The High Line is also a very innovative date. It is romantic, but also

an intellectual place and a perfect place for spies to pass secret documents. You can climb down stairs from many locations and wander past colorful restaurants, cafes and shops on the streets below. Take time out and sit on a bench to watch the moving sideshow as hundreds of folks from all over the world float by looking happy and relaxed, almost in a trance, lost in their unique High Line moment. Despite all the people traffic, nobody ever bumps into each other. It's as if everyone is moving in slow motion.

My favorite restaurant near the High Line is unequivocally Valbella at 13th Street and Ninth Avenue. It has romantic ambience, amazing service and five-star food. To start, you must order their platter of incredible Parmigiano Reggiano. I absolutely loved their South African Jumbo Tiger Shrimp topped with lump crab meat in lemon sauce; a rack of Colorado Lamb pounded, breaded



By Richard Levy

and covered in cheese, lemon and white wine sauce; and Chilean Sea Bass, pan seared with shrimp and clam and house-made tomato sauce. Their decadent desserts include molten lava chocolate cake, homemade Napoleon, delicate puff French pastry and cream enveloped in toasted almonds.

Walking the High Line is a one-of-a-kind magical high unlike any you've ever experienced. So be spontaneous, take a day off next week and head for the High Line. It's like taking a one-day vacation on the longest and most inspirational work of art in the world.

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

## Make Music Day Returns This Thursday to Briarcliff, Ossining

Make Music Ossining Briarcliff will return for its fourth year with a wild and wonderful mix of more than 25 free musical events this Thursday, June 21.

Make Music Ossining Briarcliff is part of Make Music Day, a global music celebration that takes place each year on the summer solstice and brings people of all ages and skill levels together to make music. Mike Risko Music founded the Make Music Ossining Briarcliff celebration and has been coordinating it since 2015.

This year, 36 U.S. cities and the state of Vermont will host thousands of performances across the country as part of the world's largest annual music event.

Completely different from a typical musical festival, Make Music concerts are performed by anyone who wants to participate and are enjoyed by everyone who wants to attend. From classical to folk, hip-hop to opera, Latin jazz to punk rock, live music of all genres resounds on streets, sidewalks, porches, plazas, parks, gardens, storefronts and other public spaces on the longest day of the year.

Last year, over 20 concerts were given for Make Music Ossining Briarcliff and more are expected this year. Highlights



All musicians, professional or amateur, can participate in one of more than 25 musical events throughout Briarcliff Manor and Ossining on June 21 as part of this year's Make Music Day.

will include:

- Mike Risko Music (144 Croton Ave., Ossining) will host a kickoff jam from 10 to 11 a.m. Bagels and "jam" will be served and maps of all the musical locations will be distributed.

There will also be a drum circle/bucket jam at Mike Risko Music from 4 to 5 p.m. and the first 25 people to attend will receive a free set of drum sticks.

- Holbrook Cottage (1253

Pleasantville Rd., Briarcliff Manor) will host singer songwriter Amy Hersh playing music for pre-K children from 12 to 1 p.m.

- The Ossining Public Library (53 Croton Ave., Ossining) will host musician Greg Connors from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Friends Corner.
- The Boathouse Restaurant (46 Westerly Rd., Ossining) will host punk rocker Christina Picciano from 7 to 8 p.m. The Mike Risko Band will wrap up the day from 8 p.m. to closing, jamming with some of the other Make Music Day musicians. All are welcome to meet up here for a who's who of Make Music Day Ossining Briarcliff and a fun musical evening outside one of Ossining's best restaurants.

All musicians, amateur or professional, young and old, are invited to participate in the scheduled concerts. Businesses, buildings, schools, churches and other institutions can visit the website to offer outdoor spaces as concert locations for future Make Music Days. A full schedule of events is posted at [www.mikeriskomusicschool.com/makemusicday.html](http://www.mikeriskomusicschool.com/makemusicday.html).

For information call 914-762-8757 or e-mail [makemusicossining@gmail.com](mailto:makemusicossining@gmail.com).

# Happenings

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and Tom set off on a harrowing journey back to their wild homeland. Followed by a Q&A with Academy Award-nominated director Debra Granik and critic-in-residence Marshal Fine. The Picture House, 175 Wolfs Lane, Pelham. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Seniors, students and members: \$12. Info and tickets: Visit [www.thepicturehouse.org](http://www.thepicturehouse.org).

**The Business of Comedy Seminar.** Booking agent, manager, writer, producer, director and performer Carole Montgomery will lead this seminar. The perfect event for the newer comedian or prospective performer to learn a bit. After the lecture, Montgomery will be joined by Frank Pellegrino for a live Q&A with the audience answering questions about the business. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughs.com](http://www.lucyslaughs.com). Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

## Thursday, June 21

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

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

**Storytime.** For children 18 months to five years old. Mount Kisco Public Library,

100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

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

**Bridge for Beginners/Intermediate.** With Joel Goren. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1:30 p.m. Free. Also June 28. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"Playing the Part."** Built around a 14-hour interview, this film uncovers Ian McKellen's untold story. From his upbringing living through the war, becoming a pioneering stage star in repertory and West End theater companies, coming out and being a leader in the campaign for equality, to his mainstream film breakouts as Magneto and Gandalf in some of the largest film franchises of all time. His work and influence transcend generations, celebrated here in this fully authorized insight. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

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

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

**The Armonk Chamber of Commerce's Third Thursdays.** This month, features two live bands, Gilbert and Willful Misconduct, plus a chili cookoff with local restaurants competing. Visitors will get to vote for their favorite chili, with an award for the people's choice given. Main Street, Armonk. 5 to 8:30 p.m. Chili cookoff from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation: is \$5 per person (over age 12). All proceeds to benefit the chamber's Byram Hills High School Scholarship Fund. Info: Visit [www.armonkchamberofcommerce.com](http://www.armonkchamberofcommerce.com).

**Preview of "Brand-New & Terrific: Alex Katz in the 1950s."** For the first time in the New York metropolitan area, the largest museum exhibit to showcase Katz's work from his pioneering period in 1950s, will go on view. Organized by

the Colby College Museum of Art in close collaboration with the artist (who will be 91 next month), it is currently on national tour. Featured are more than 60 works from public and private collections, including many rarely seen works from the artist's own holdings. Live jazz, wine and refreshments. Neuberger Museum of Art, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase 6 to 8 p.m. Free (with museum admission). Exhibit runs from July 1 through Oct. 14. Info: 914-251-6100 or visit [www.neuberger.org](http://www.neuberger.org).

**Healing Powers of Reflexology.** Westchester resident and nationally certified reflexologist Christine Knowlton will lead this discussion on what techniques are best in this complementary therapy. Learn about the benefits of this non-invasive holistic therapy which relieves stress, reduces pain and inflammation, increases circulation and promotes healing. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**Verona Quartet.** The Verona Quartet returns for its final performance as Caramoor's Ernst Stiefel String Quartet-in-Residence for a summer evening. The program includes the World Premiere of a Caramoor commissioned piece by Julia Adolphe, whose work has recently been performed by the New York Philharmonic. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 7 p.m. \$20 and \$40. Students (under 18): Free. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit [www.caramoor.org](http://www.caramoor.org).

**Solving the Retirement Income Puzzle.** An educational workshop for the recently retired or people approaching or entering retirement. Led by Social Security, retirement income and tax specialist Paul Petrone. John C. Hart Memorial Library, 1130 E. Main St., Shrub Oak. 7 to 8 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-245-5262 ext. 227 or visit [www.yorktownlibrary.org](http://www.yorktownlibrary.org).

**"Killer of Sheep."** Charles Burnett's 1978 drama examines mid-1970s life in L.A.'s Watts neighborhood through a series of vignettes involving a sensitive man living a tough life (Henry G. Sanders). Stunningly original and artistic, and by turns sad, funny and profound, "Killer of Sheep" was pulled out of obscurity after almost 30 years and restored and is now considered essential viewing. Part of "REMIX: The Black Experience in Film, Media and Art series." Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Part of Anniversary Screenings for members who use promo code A S2018 for a free ticket. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**"The Dog in the Dressing Room."** A romantic comedy, written by Deborah Savadge and directed by Bram Lewis,

where jealousies, games and secrets are uncorked along with the champagne. Starring Estelle Bajou, Gregory Perri and Jack Utrata. Savadge, is the winner of the Playwrights First Award and the Golden Prize for her play "Dark at the Center." Recommended for audiences 13 and up. The Schoolhouse Theater & Arts Center, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 8 p.m. \$38. Seniors: \$35. Also June 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30 at 8 p.m. and June 17 and 24 and July 1 at 3 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-277-8477 or visit [www.schoolhousetheater.org](http://www.schoolhousetheater.org).

**Summer Comedy Contest.** Lucy's Laugh Lounge is proud to present its Summer Comedy Contest. Hosted by Ryan Shanahan and headlined by Tommy Gooch. Featuring Tim Barge, Alyssa Sequoia, Paul Dagliolo, Jordan Fried, Freddy G, John Goldpaugh, Josh Kincade and Andy McDermott. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8:30 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughs.com](http://www.lucyslaughs.com). Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

## Friday, June 22

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

**Summer Reading Kick-Off Event: The National Circus Project.** This show will feature circus arts from around the world - juggling, unicycling, balancing, object manipulations and clowning - and lots of audience participation. For children five years old and up. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 1 to 1:45 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:15 p.m. Free. Registration is required; children participating must also register for the Children's Summer Reading program. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Friday Night Film Series: "The Line King."** This entertaining documentary looks at the life and times of cartoonist Albert Hirschfeld. Best known for his black and white portraits of celebrities and Broadway stars, many entertainers felt that they hadn't made it until Hirschfeld did their caricature. 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 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**So Percussion.** A quartet of Brooklyn percussionists with a passion for new music, artistic collaborations, community

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# The 'Man's Disease' That's Killing More Women Than Men

By Dr. Harlan Weinberg

The recent death of First Lady Barbara Bush put a spotlight on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which now kills four times more women in the United States than men.

Many people think the typical COPD patient is a middle-aged male who smokes two packs a day, but the reality is quite different. In fact, women in the United States are more likely than men to develop the disease. More than seven million American women are living with this diagnosis, which encompasses emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

Here's everything you need to know about COPD from diagnosis to treatment.

## Risk Factors and Symptoms

Cigarette smoking, which destroys lung tissue and causes inflammatory changes in your airways, is the number one risk factor for developing COPD. Symptoms include shortness of breath with activity, a chronic cough or a chronic cough with saliva. Over time, these problems cause increasing fatigue and diminish quality of life. It not only impacts other organs, including the heart, but can cause secondary medical problems, including various cancers.

Statistics from the American Lung

Association (ALA) are sobering.

Women comprise 58 percent of the 14.7 million Americans living with COPD; 53 percent of those die from COPD.

Nearly 8 percent of women in the U.S. have a COPD diagnosis compared to just under 6 percent of men.

Over the past three decades, the number of deaths among women from COPD has quadrupled.

Women are 37 percent more likely than men to develop COPD.

American women are more likely to die of COPD than of breast and lung cancer combined.

In general, women who smoke are more susceptible to the lung-damaging effects of cigarette smoke than male smokers because they suffer greater lung-function reduction at a lower level of smoke exposure. Female smokers typically develop the disease at a younger age. What's more, women who develop COPD tend to actually smoke less than men who are diagnosed. Once women have COPD, their shortness of breath is more severe.

The dramatic increase in the number of women with COPD is a legacy of the 1960s through early the 1980s, when women started smoking in greater

numbers. Because women are generally smaller, more lung area is exposed to the toxic chemicals of cigarette smoke. Women are also more likely to develop asthmatic airway changes than men, and irritability of the airways (asthma) is an important risk factor in women.

Women also have more trouble overcoming nicotine dependence than men. One hypothesis is that female estrogen hormones may inhibit the body's ability to eliminate nicotine. Because nicotine is eliminated more slowly from women's bodies, it is more addictive. Women are also more susceptible to occupational and other environmental exposures, which damage the lungs.

The need for better diagnosis, treatment Because COPD has long been thought of as a man's disease, women are often misdiagnosed with asthma. Due to the lack of data on the effects of cigarette smoking on women, there is less information available about their unique susceptibility to cigarette smoke. Women who live in poverty are especially impacted by limited access to health care.

Women with COPD struggle more mentally and emotionally. Not only does this reduce quality of life, it has medical consequences. The quality of life for

women with COPD is worse overall than that of men with a similar severity of disease because they are at higher risk for anxiety and depression. These mental health problems pose challenges when on treatment plan or when trying to quit smoking, stay active or obtain social and emotional support. This, in turn, increases the likelihood of disease flareups, emergency visits and relapses.

It's very important for woman who currently smoke or have ever smoked to go for an evaluation by either a primary care physician or a pulmonary physician – even if you are not experiencing shortness of breath. Ask for pulmonary function testing and a chest x-ray.

There is no such thing as safe exposure to cigarette smoking, and there is persuasive evidence that women's lungs are more damaged by smoke. If you have never smoked, don't start. If you smoke, stop right away.

*Dr. Harlan Weinberg is medical director of Pulmonary Rehabilitation, Pulmonary and Critical Care at Northern Westchester Hospital. To learn more, call 914-458-8700 or visit [www.nwhrehab.org/pulmonaryrehab](http://www.nwhrehab.org/pulmonaryrehab).*

## Happenings

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service and engagement and artistic education. The group will perform pieces ranging from 20th century "classics" to contemporary works including the World Premiere of Vijay Iyer's Mallet Quartet "Tourque." Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. Pre-concert talk with the artists at 7 p.m. Concert at 8 p.m. \$20 and \$40. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit [www.caramoor.org](http://www.caramoor.org).

**Classic Stones Live: The Greatest Rolling Stones Tribute Show.** Front man Keith Call has all the moves and swagger of Mick Jagger, and along with his partner Bernie Bollendorf, who portrays rock 'n' roll outlaw Keith Richards, they complete the duo hailed as "The Glimmer Twins." Their jaw-dropping resemblance to these two icons is simply amazing, but what truly makes 'Classic Stones Live' unique is their musical prowess, attention to detail and the spot-on renditions of all of your favorite Stones classics. Every last detail has been accounted for by this eight-piece band. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$28, \$32 and \$36. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

### Saturday, June 23

**Millwood Fire Company Yard Sale** Fundraiser. Toys, tools, household items,

books and more will be sold to benefit the fire company. No clothes or furniture. Donations which can be dropped off on the house porch behind the firehouse. All items will be listed to sell. Rain or shine. Millwood Fire Station #2, 366 Croton Dam Rd. (Route 134), Ossining. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: E-mail [mkavy@millwoodfire.org](mailto:mkavy@millwoodfire.org).

**Pleasantville Farmers Market.** Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" from 2014 to 2017. With 55 vendors and seven nearby parking lots, it's a delicious good time. This week, there will be yoga with Jeanine Gayeski 9:30 to 11 a.m.; old time music by the Shovel Ready String Band from 10 a.m. to noon; and Nutrition Bits & Bites: Food Matters/Exploring food origins from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Rain or shine. The market is a dog-free environment. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 17. Info: Visit [www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org](http://www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org).

**Chappaqua Farmers Market.** Locally-raised and produced food to the community creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers in the region. Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Every Saturday. Info: Visit [www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org](http://www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org).

**Practice Tai Chi With Larry Atille.** Learn specific feldenkrais and chi kung

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

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

**American Roots Music Festival.** Acclaimed singer-songwriter Aimee Mann, named one of the top 10 living songwriters by NPR Music, headlines the American Roots Music Festival, now in its eighth year. Rising star multi-instrumentalist Valerie June brings her unique blend of Appalachian tradition, gospel and blues. Many other artists round out this day-long celebration of folk, country, bluegrass, gospel, blues, Old Time and intriguing folk fusion. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. Afternoon performances at noon. Evening performances at 7:30 p.m. Day only: Adults--\$30. Children--\$15. Evening performance: \$35 to \$90. Info and tickets:

914-232-1252 or visit [www.caramoor.org](http://www.caramoor.org).

**"Sabrina."** A screening of this film starring Humphrey Bogart, William Holden and Audrey Hepburn. Followed by a discussion led by film historian and librarian Philip Harwood. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

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

**Rebecca's Piano Studio Recital.** An opportunity to see young performers shine and fill the room with brilliant music.

*continued on page 25*

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**FORMATION OF NRMHA MANAGEMENT, LLC** filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/30/18. 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 c/o **New Rochelle Municipal Housing Authority, 50 Sickles Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

**BUILDER BOYS, LLC** Arts. of org. filed with the SSNY on 04/25/2018. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of

process to the LLC **39 Mitchell pl. #11b White Plains NY 10601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A2E COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 4/03/2018. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Maqsood Khan, 25 Rockledge Road, Apt. 1B, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SMG HOMES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on March 23, 2018. Office location Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ABIRI-MILAN MEDIA LLC** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on May 7, 2018. Office Location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **33 Westview Ave, White Plains, New York, 10603. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ALVIN IRBY LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on January 21, 2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: **124 E 117th St, Apt 4D, New York, NY 10035. The principal business address of the LLC is: 124 E 117th St, Apt 4D, New York, NY 10035. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**Notice of Formation of ALTOGETHER SOCIAL, LLC.** Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 5/1/18. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Deborah Meringolo, 25 City Place, Apt. 6A., White Plains, New York. 10601. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF AR JAY HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC** Article of Incorporation filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 5/14/2018. County of Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to **P.O.Box 204, Armonk, N.Y. 10504. Purpose: Home inspections & Any Lawful general Purpose.**

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# Three Things to Change When Going Through a Divorce

By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo

In many cases, a divorce is a traumatic experience for all parties. Usually neither party has given any thought to the unintended consequences of death or disability during divorce. Until there is a final decree or judgment of separation or divorce, each party remains the spouse of the other.

Upon one party's death, and without proper planning, the surviving spouse maintains all inheritance rights, whether by last will and testament, revocable trust or intestacy (meaning you have no will). Moreover, all beneficiary designations, transfer on death accounts, fiduciary appointments (such as agents under a power of attorney, executors in a will or trustees of a trust and health care agents under a health care proxy) remain intact until the divorce is complete.

None of us know when we will die or become disabled, but if it happens during the divorce proceedings, your spouse may receive a windfall and/or be in a position to make your financial and medical decisions. To prevent this from happening, follow these instructions.

First, it is imperative that you meet with an elder law and estate planning attorney to redraft your will or revocable

trust to disinherit your spouse to the fullest extent permissible under New York State law. In New York, a surviving spouse is statutorily entitled to receive a portion of your estate. This is referred to as the elective share and is equal to the greater of one-third of your estate or \$50,000. By changing your estate plan, you can redirect some, but not all, assets to others, such as children.

Unfortunately, upon the commencement of a divorce, the court will issue an order restraining the parties from changing the ownership of their assets. Your will only pertains to assets in your individual name, with no joint owner or beneficiary designation, and your revocable trust only covers assets within it. Thus, these would be the assets that you can redirect. You will be unable to redirect jointly owned assets or assets that have beneficiary designations.

Another reason to redraft is to change your executors, trustees and guardians. If you die, you most likely do not want your spouse administering your estate. If you have minor children, there are opportunities to appoint someone other than your spouse as guardian of a minor children's property. It is important to consider a trust for minor children at

this point as well. You generally cannot remove your spouse as guardian of the children.

Second, remove your spouse as agent under your power of attorney. I am aware of cases where a divorced spouse continues to use a power of attorney in the face of a pending divorce to manage assets subject to the divorce. If you lose your capacity during divorce proceedings, you need a trusted person who can continue the proceeding and also ensure that your financial matters are handled properly.

Third, and probably the most sensitive topic, if you don't want your spouse making medical decisions on your behalf, redraft your health care proxy. Depending on the level of animosity in the divorce, you may be giving your spouse the opportunity he or she has been waiting for!

The above planning recommendations should be addressed shortly after the commencement of a divorce proceeding. If you do not have existing documents, then you need to prepare them.

Perhaps you made it through a divorce and never updated your estate plan or have no estate plan at all. A divorce

necessitates the preparation of an estate plan, especially where children are involved. If you have an existing plan that was never updated during a divorce, then the concern of a spouse unintentionally inheriting property or acting as a fiduciary does not exist; however, a divorce does not revoke any dispositions or appointments you made in favor of your spouse's relatives such as an in-law.

Finally, you cannot neglect beneficiary designations. After your divorce, you most likely will need to redo those designations to match your estate planning goals and objectives and any obligations under the divorce decree. The preparation of customized beneficiary designation forms coincide with the drafting of a new estate plan.

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

## Assistance of Counsel

# Happenings

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Rebecca Li, an Armonk resident and local pianist, will hold a piano recital consisting of her prestigious students. Works by classical composers will be performed at this event through solos and duets. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Summer Comedy Contest.** Lucy's Laugh Lounge is proud to present its Summer Comedy Contest. Featuring Andrew Bayroff, Frankie Becerra, Samantha Bednarz, Kendra Dawsey, Dave Jenkins, Jorja Metz, Jonny Rocket and Patrick Holbert. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughs.com](http://www.lucyslaughs.com). Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

## Sunday, June 24

**Story Walk.** Take a stroll in the Native Plant Meadow and join children and families to read a favorite nature-themed story and walk among one of the short hiking trails. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. Open during regular hours. 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekends. Free. Continues through Sept. 23. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**"Sticks, Stones & Mud: An Art Exhibition of Children's Friendship With Nature."** Strawtown Studio, a lower Hudson Valley environmental arts organization, has teamed up with Rockefeller Preserve for this special event, which includes a family nature art workshop where families will have fun exploring natural materials to create a work of art followed by a reception. Rockefeller State Park Preserve, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. Workshop from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reception from 1 to 3 p.m. Free admission. Parking: \$6. Registration for the workshop is required. Info and registration: Contact Julia at 914-631-1470 ext. 107 or visit [www.RockefellerStateParkPreserve.Eventbrite.com](http://www.RockefellerStateParkPreserve.Eventbrite.com).

**African American Heritage Celebration.** Music and dancing, crafts and food vendors. Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla. 12 to 7 p.m. Free admission. Info: 914-231-4033.

**Apollo's Fire.** Apollo's Fire was founded in 1992 by award-winning harpsichordist and conductor Jeannette Sorrell, who envisioned an ensemble dedicated to the baroque ideal that music should evoke the various Affekts or passions in listeners. Based in Cleveland, the ensemble has released 25 commercial CDs, tours internationally and makes its Carnegie Hall debut later this year. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149

Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 4 p.m. \$35, \$50 and \$70. Garden Listening: \$10. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit [www.caramoor.org](http://www.caramoor.org).

## Monday, June 25

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

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

**Lucy's Laugh Lounge Open Comedy Mic.** Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Sign up at 7 p.m. Show at 7:30 p.m. Free. Every Monday. Info and tickets: Visit [www.nomacomedy.com](http://www.nomacomedy.com).

## Tuesday, June 26

**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](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

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

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**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF J&R WINDOWS LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the (SSNY) on 04/17/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 90 State Street, Suite 700 Office 40, Albany, NY 12207. The principal business address of the LLC is: **49 Park Drive, Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HELLO METHOD, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/05/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **36 Ivy Hill Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RED DOOR BAKING COMPANY, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/04/2018. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and mailed by SSNY to: **3199 Albany Post Rd. Suite 226A, Buchanan, NY 10511. Purpose: Any lawful acts or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SAS CAPITAL ADVISORS, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/17/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and mailed by SSNY to: **201 Willett Avenue #302, Port Chester, NY 10573. Purpose: Any lawful acts or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KFAM VENTURES LLC ARTS.** of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/25/2018. Office:

Westchester County. United States Corporate Agents, Inc. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to **United States Corporate Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, New York 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF AMEN HOMES LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State New York on January 31, 2018 in Westchester County. The Secretary of State is designated as agent for service of process. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of process to: **c/o Christopher Miller, 422 South 7th Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

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# Health Studies Abound But Which Ones Are Valid and Reliable?



By Nick Antonaccio

In past columns, I've written about the overwhelming conclusions of multiple studies on the health benefits of a moderate consumption of wine.

Two glasses a day for men and one a day for women provide antioxidants and other compounds (polyphenols) that aid in preventing diseases, protecting against premature aging and providing overall health benefits.

I've also written on the deleterious effects of wine consumption. Certainly, all alcohol is potentially harmful to our overall health and for the unintended social consequences of excessive drinking. A number of studies have proven the negative effects of alcohol consumption, even at lesser levels than recommended. The British national health overseer urges consumers to eliminate consumption of wine or limiting it to one or two glasses per week.

While valid studies surely abound, I've read numerous "respected reports" of small control groups that draw conclusions concerning entire age groups and genders.

I've read numerous reports conducted over months, not years, that draw universal conclusions.

I've read numerous reports involving disease-afflicted volunteers that draw conclusions on every individual that walks the earth, sick or healthy, young or old.

In a perverse way, several reports are similar to those pervasive opinion polls to which we are perpetually exposed. Any topic and any issue seemingly will foment multiple conclusions. And multiple controversies. And embraced or rejected by the public to align with each person's private viewpoints or preferences.

For me, there hadn't been a convincing long-term study that provided indisputable evidence of the health impact of wine consumption.

Until last year.

The prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced a new study, one of the largest ever.

As reported by The New York Times, this government agency would undertake a \$100 million global trial to determine the impact of wine consumption on the incidence of heart attacks, strokes and death in 7,800 volunteers aged 50 and older in 16 countries over a six-year period.

A lofty goal, and much needed in the face of conflicting reports that currently

exist in the infosphere.

When I reported on this encouraging new study, I noted several counterintuitive aspects of it and the suspicious provenance of its funding. Most notably, the overwhelming source of funding was being pledged by outside sources: five of the largest alcohol-producing companies in the world. But not to worry. Private-public studies are legal under certain circumstances and the public was assured these firms would have no influence on the study. It would be conducted by independent parties, under the auspices of the prestigious NIH.

Lo and behold, the NIH just this past week announced the termination of the study.

Why? According to an NIH advisory panel, a small number of government employees had conflicts of interest due to interactions with alcohol industry officials aimed at influencing the study's results. Surprise, surprise. The industry funding sources had attempted to influence the outcome and had successfully done so. The advisory panel found that employees attempted to "intentionally bias the framing of the scientific premise in the direction of demonstrating a beneficial health effect of moderate alcohol consumption."

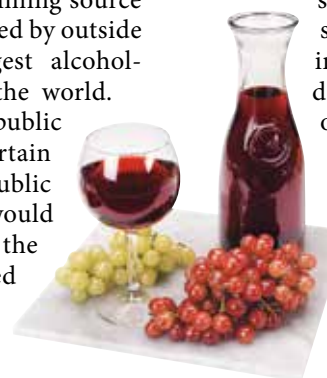
Deputy Director Lawrence Tabak advised NIH officials these actions cast "doubt that the scientific knowledge

gained from the study would be actionable or believable."

The overseer of the NIH, its director, Francis Collins remarked, "Is it even possible at this point that the results of such a trial would have sufficient credibility to influence anybody's decision-making?" As obvious as this may be, I credit the NIH for terminating the study before it gained more traction and careened toward any false conclusions.

Finally, a case of government controls and checks and balances performing their intended purpose. Continuing this study clearly could have resulted in a disputed conclusion that would not have resolved its intended purpose. Perhaps the role of government in self-regulating itself is back on track.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.



*You Heard It  
Through the  
Grapevine*

## Summer Comedy Contest Starts This Week at Lucy's Lounge in P'ville

Starting this Thursday evening, Lucy's Lounge in Pleasantville will be hosting a summer comedy contest featuring contestants competing for the title of best up-and-coming comic in the area.

Round 1 will consist of four nights, June 21, 23, 28 and 30, where eight comics will perform each night. Three comics from each evening will advance to the second round and two will move on from each of the two evenings in Round 2 to the final. The contestants will be graded by a panel of judges and will advance to Round 2 on July 19 and

21. The final is scheduled for Friday, July 27.

Comics will be judged on originality, audience reaction, writing and stage presence.

The public is invited to attend each night. Admission is \$20 per person. Start times are 8:30 p.m. on June 21, 7:30 p.m. on June 23 and 30 and 8 p.m. on June 28.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit [www.lucyslaughs.com](http://www.lucyslaughs.com). Lucy's Lounge is located at 446 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville.

## Chili Cook-Off Featured as Part of Next Armonk Third Thursday

The Armonk Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring its June 21 Third Thursday event in downtown Armonk featuring a chili cook-off, plus music and children's activities in Armonk Square. Restaurant and eatery specials will be posted and available throughout the evening as well.

The event features two live bands – Gilbert and Willful Misconduct – from 5 to 8:30 p.m. The chili cook-off will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., with local restaurants competing for the top prize. Fortina, Moderne Barn, Indi-Q, Country Kitchen, Inkas, Hot Spot, Armonk House, Tauck Kitchen + Bar, Granola Bar and DeCicco & Sons will serve their finest creations. Visitors will vote for their favorite chili, with an award for the people's choice given at 8 p.m.

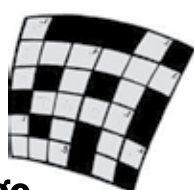
The suggested donation is \$5 per person (for anyone over 12 years old). Proceeds benefit the chamber's Byram Hills High School Scholarship Fund.

There is more fun lined up for the rest of the summer, with Third Thursday events scheduled in July and August. On July 19, there will be a classic car show, where local enthusiasts get to show off their wheels. Finishing up the season on Aug. 16 will be a repeat performance from Westchester Circus Arts and a full-fledged aerial show. There will be live music, children's activities and restaurant and eatery specials throughout town on those dates as well from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.armonkchamberofcommerce.com](http://www.armonkchamberofcommerce.com).



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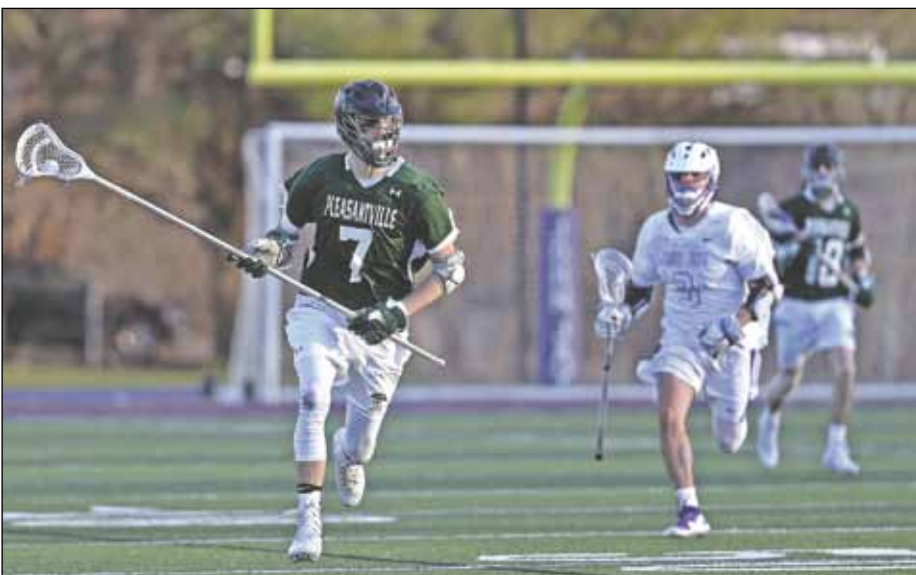
Senior All-American Declan McDermott dodges his way to the cage in the sectional championship game.



Jack Howe sets his sights on the cage during a home game against Mamaroneck early in the season.



Pat Doherty gets ready to fire a shot at the cage in the Panthers' game at Byram Hills.



Cullen Dell, an All-Section senior defenseman, takes the ball toward midfield in the Panthers' road game vs. John Jay.

# ExaminerSports

## PLEASANTVILLE PANTHERS

### 2018 State Champions



Defensive standout Charlie McPhee searches for an open teammate during the state Class D semifinal game against Mattituck at SUNY Albany.



Goalie Jack Fitzgerald controls the ball behind the cage in the Panthers' home win over Fox Lane.



Garrett Carney celebrates a Panther goal during the sectional playoffs.



The Panthers' Jack Halloran controls the ball in the midseason game at John Jay.



Brian Reda, a 2018 All-American selection, became Section One's all-time leading goal scorer.



Jake Coleman gets ready to pass the ball from behind the cage.



Senior midfielder James Daniele races toward the cage.





All-Section junior Jack Howe tries to run past a defender in the Panthers' thrill-packed game against the John Jay Indians.



Senior Rob Feeney is all smiles after scoring the Panthers' 20th goal in the one-sided victory over Mattituck in the Class D state semifinal.



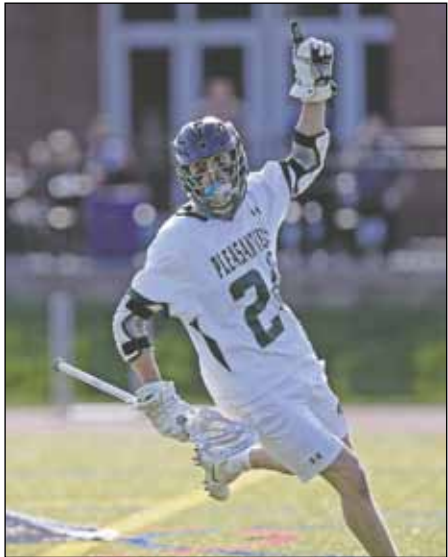
Declan McDermott turns on the speed as he tries to get to the cage against Lakeland/Panas.



Freshman midfielder Matt May passes the ball in the fourth quarter of the Panthers' state semifinal rout of Mattituck.



A frequent sight in the state semifinal game, the Panthers celebrate after scoring a goal against Long Island champion Mattituck.



James Danielle celebrates after scoring a goal and lets everyone know where the Panthers will finish this season.



Brian Reda displays the championship plaque after the Panthers beat Westlake for their fourth straight Section One title.



Jack Mueller, a senior defenseman, moves the ball up the field in a home victory over the Lakeland/Panas Rebels.



Justin Lupo scores his first varsity goal during the Panthers' lopsided home win over Fox Lane.



Panther coaches Chris Kear (kneeling) and Bob Kear look on from the sidelines during the road game vs. John Jay.



Jack Fitzgerald gets set to clear the ball after making a save in the regular-season win over Briarcliff.



## Henry Davis Fox Lane High School



**2018  
Section One  
Player of the Year**

## Samantha Morillo Valhalla High School



**2018  
State Federation Champion  
Discus and Shot Put**

## Greeley Tennis Duo Captures Third Place at State Tournament



Spencer Lowitz hits a forehand volley.



Kenta Togo goes airborne for an overhead smash.



## Brendan O'Neill Pleasantville



**2018  
Conference 3  
Player of the Year**

# Exami *Blast*

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Daniella Mulvey drives a pitch toward right-center field.



Wildcat sophomore Kristin Pierce watches the flight of the ball off her bat at North Rockland High School.



Angelina Guarneri takes a few steps away from third base in the Wildcats' season-opening win over Haldane.

# Westlake Wildcats

## 2018 Section One Champions New York State Semifinalists



The 2018 Westlake softball team poses together after winning the school's first-ever sectional softball championship.



Senior catcher Kelly Pierce hoists the championship plaque after the Wildcats defeated Rye Neck.



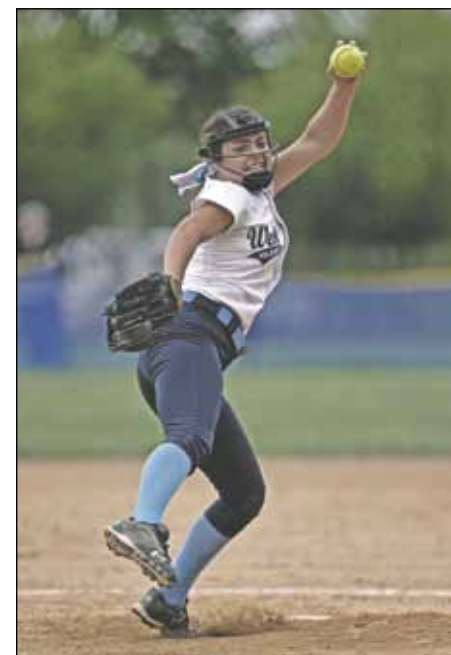
The Wildcats start their postgame celebration after the final out of the Class B sectional championship game against Rye Neck.



Second baseman Laine Peterson throws to first trying to complete a double play in the sectional final.



Jamie Perfito easily trots home with a run for the Wildcats early in the season.



Allison Brunetto pitched four consecutive shutouts in the Section One tournament.



Third baseman Antonia Perino charges toward the plate during a Westlake home game.



Senior first baseman Nicole Dragonetti swings for the fences against Babylon in the regional playoffs.





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To make an appointment call 914-849-7900. Visit [wphospital.org/armonk](http://wphospital.org/armonk) for more information.

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