June 26 - July 2, 2018 SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS Volume 12, Issue 564

# **Rhodes Resigns at Greeley; Seven Bridges Principal to Be Appointed**

#### By Anna Young

The Chappaqua Board of Education announced last Friday morning that Horace Greeley High School Principal Robert Rhodes will resign from his post at the end of this week.

Board members accepted the resignation during a special meeting at the district's Education Center. Rhodes, who has served in his position for six years, has been on paid leave since June 5.

No details surrounding Rhodes' abrupt departure from the school were provided by district officials at Friday's meeting.

Assistant Principal Laura Dubak, who has been serving as the Horace Greeley interim principal, will remain in that role through June 30. Dubak announced in an e-mail to parents on Thursday that she is leaving the district and is expected to become assistant principal at Byram Hills High School next year, although that

district has yet to officially appoint her.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christine Ackerman said that Seven Bridges Middle School Principal Andrew Corsilia will be the next principal at the high school, effective Aug. 1. He is expected to be appointed to the post at an upcoming meeting.

In a communication to the community on Friday morning, Ackerman stated that the district will immediately look for an interim principal at Seven Bridges and will search for a permanent replacement.

"Mr. Corsilia's strong background as a secondary (school) leader and his understanding of our high school will provide the necessary stability for our District as the high school rebuilds its administrative team," Ackerman said. "I am fully confident that Andrew Corsilia, Lauralyn Stewart, Jason Semo and our continued on page 2

#### Title Town



Proud parents and community members honored the Pleasantville High School boys' lacrosse team Sunday afternoon on their first-ever state title. The Panthers captured the championship after crushing Penn Yan Academy 16-2 on June 9 at St. John Fisher College in Rochester. The team, which finished the season 21-1, was presented with a proclamation from County Legislator Margaret Cunzio declaring June 25 Pleasantville Panthers Lacrosse Team Day in Westchester.

# Mt. Kisco Explores Establishing Trust to Relieve Federal Tax Burden

#### **By Neal Rentz**

The Mount Kisco Village Board is considering creating a charitable trust to help alleviate some of the federal tax burden on residents who pay high property taxes.

Mayor Gina Picinich last week said due to federal tax changes approved last year, the deductibility of state and local property taxes is now limited to \$10,000, which hurts many New York State residents, particularly those living in Westchester.

The state legislature approved a measure to allow municipalities to establish charitable trust funds.

"We wanted to start a conversation with the community," Picinich said.

If a trust is created, residents could make a charitable donation and receive a receipt that would be submitted to support a deduction when filing their state and federal income tax returns.

Mount Kisco residents would receive a 95 percent federal credit on village property taxes but would be responsible for paying the rest of the property taxes owed, Picinich said. Money paid to the trust could be used for various programs, including the public library.

Picinich said there were several key unanswered questions facing municipalities considering the action, including whether the Internal Revenue Service would accept donations to local governments as charitable deductions. If not, it is unclear whether the IRS could impose penalties or use the information to flag taxpayers for an audit. Furthermore, it is unclear whether those who make their mortgage and tax continued on page2

### County Protests Swell Demanding End of Family Separation Policies

#### By Anna Young

Westchester residents, organizations and elected officials gathered on the steps of the county building in White Plains last Friday demanding policies that separate children from their migrant parents at the U.S. border be eradicated.

With the demonstration attracting more than 100 people carrying signs and chanting "Keep families together" and "Abolish ICE," protesters stressed that the roughly 2,300 children already separated from their parents should be immediately reunited with their families instead of being housed in detention facilities throughout the nation.

"Children need to be protected and cherished and not placed in concentration camps," said CarlLa Horton, executive



NNA YOUNG PHOTO

Protesters gather outside the county building in White Plains urging children be reunited with their migrant parents.

director of Hope's Door in Hawthorne. "Our country has a history, a sad history, of separating children from their parents starting with the indigenous Native continued on page 4

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### Rhodes Resigns at Greeley; Seven Bridges Principal to Be Appointed

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department leaders will effectively guide our high school through this transitional time."

Until Corsilia is appointed and takes over, Ackerman said she will serve as the point person for the high school administration.

Rhodes' resignation from Greeley is

the latest in a series of administrative departures over the past two years. In addition to the shakeup at the high school, the district saw former superintendent Dr. Lyn McKay resign in October 2016 during the highly contentious period following the guilty plea of former drama teacher Christopher Schraufnagel. Schraufnagel was brought up on charges stemming

from the sexual abuse of students between 2011 and 2015.

In addition, the district also lost Eric Byrne, another central administrator.

Chappaqua will soon name a new principal at Douglas Grafflin Elementary School. Ackerman said the district has identified a finalist and a site visit was scheduled for Friday.

It is expected that the Board of Education will hold a special meeting next week to officially appoint the candidate to

fill the Grafflin vacancy, she said.

"I understand there is a lot of change in our District at this time and that might be unsettling for some," Ackerman said. "I will share with you that I am excited about our future and see this as a tremendous opportunity for us to make our District even stronger. The new and returning staff, faculty and administration in our District have my full confidence and support moving forward."

# Mt. Kisco Explores Establishing Trust to Relieve Federal Tax Burden

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payments through an escrow account would be allowed to pay into the trust and whether there are limits to what the charitable trusts could fund.

The village's Finance Committee has discussed the issue during its past two meetings, Picinich said. It has recommended that if a trust is created taxpayers should look for guidance from an accountant and/ or financial adviser, not the village. Also, the cost of setting up a trust may not be equal to the benefits that could be provided to local taxpayers.

Though the Finance Committee supports the concept, its members are concerned about the village's liability and expense. It would like to see the IRS rule on another municipality before the village moves ahead with the plan, Picinich said.

Village officials do not know when the

IRS may make a decision. The deadline for the village to create the trust would be in the fall to allow it to take effect in time for the filing of 2018 tax returns, she said.

Trustee Karen Schleimer said the county and school district would also need to approve a trust.

"We're all in the dark," Schleimer said.

Complicating the matter is the fact that some taxpayers may find it beneficial to no longer itemize because of the higher standard federal income tax deduction, she said. Mount Kisco officials will provide updates on the issue as they become available.

Village Manager Edward Brancati said the Village Board would have to pass two resolutions – one to create the trust and another to authorize the deduction of up to 95 percent contributions.

### State Legislation Allowing New Castle Sports Field Fence Ads Approved

Legislation authorizing the Town of New Castle to lease space on the fences at Gedney Park, Millwood Park and the town's Recreation Field has won approval in the state legislature.

The parks host an extensive schedule of baseball and softball practices and games, and town officials believe revenue generated through advertising and sponsorship messages on the fences will produce additional funds to help maintain the fields, said Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains), the bill's Assembly sponsor.

The legislation requires any revenue raised from these advertisements to go solely toward care of these parks and fields.

"With the New Castle Town Board having unanimously requested this state legislation, I worked to support these town parks," Buchwald said. "This non-property tax revenue will improve recreational opportunities for town residents."

The signage will give the town's baseball and softball fields more of a stadium feel, said New Castle Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Ike Kuzio. He said the town will move forward with the project for next year.

The legislation was sponsored in the state Senate by Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown).



### **Healthy Legs are Beautiful**

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#### Q: What causes spider veins and varicose veins?

**A:** Your arteries supply blood from your heart to your entire body. Normally, as blood in the legs returns to the heart through your veins, the blood pushes through one-way valves something like one-way swinging doors, which prevent it from flowing backward. Sometimes, a defect in the valves cause a backflow of blood in your veins. The result? Spider and varicose veins.

#### Q: Are they dangerous?

**A:** Spider veins are typically a cosmetic issue. However, they may cause discomfort in your legs. Varicose veins are more likely to cause noticeable symptoms, including heaviness, weakness, burning, throbbing, or itchiness on the leg. They can also form blood clots which may cause considerable pain due to inflammation. At the first sign of symptoms, it's important to see your primary care physician. When treated early, you will likely experience less pain.

#### Q: If I'm diagnosed, what can I do to find relief?

**A:** The first step is to try non-surgical remedies that can help lessen symptoms. Though compression garments won't make vein abnormalities disappear physically, they squeeze the leg and reduce the amount of blood and pressure in the veins, which slows or stabilizes

the worsening of painful symptoms. It's also important to maintain a healthy weight and exercise regularly. Being overweight and living a sedentary lifestyle – sitting or standing most of the day – puts more pressure on your leg veins and significant swelling can occur in patients who don't move around; keep your body moving throughout the day.

### Q: What if my symptoms don't improve with lifestyle changes?

**A:** If your symptoms have not improved with compression treatment and exercise, you may benefit from a number of same-day, office-based, non-surgical treatments such as sclerotherapy or radiofrequency ablation (RFA). The goal of both treatments is to eliminate blood flow into abnormal veins, therefore reducing or eliminating the symptoms cause by them. These treatments help varicose and spider veins eventually disappear.

If non-surgical methods fail and patients continue to experience persistent varicose veins, we can do a minimally invasive procedure called a phlebectomy. During this procedure, patients are given a local anesthetic and varicose veins are removed through tiny incisions. Following a phlebectomy, you'll wear compression stockings for two to three weeks and you should be able to resume regular daily activities within a day or two.

## New Castle, Con Ed Review Storm Response in Face-to-Face Meeting

#### By Martin Wilbur

Con Edison representatives last week pledged to New Castle officials that they will be better prepared to handle future severe storms as the utility seeks improvements to its systems following last March's devastating weather events.

The Town Board sat down with Con Ed during its June 20 work session to spell out an extensive list of questions and concerns while the six company officials in attendance explained what is being done to avoid a repeat of the widespread breakdowns that resulted after the Mar. 2 nor'easter and Mar. 7 snowstorm.

Jane Skolnick, Con Edison's director of regional community affairs for Westchester, said the utility is compiling the feedback it has been receiving from municipalities and will return later this year with an extensive updated plan.

"We plan on all this information, we've started to accumulate it and to gather it and to bring everybody back in the fall in a meeting to address what to do," Skolnick said.

One of the key snafus that occurred during and following the March storms, Skolnick said, was a glitch in Con Edison's technology system where large volumes of information, such as damage assessment, were being funneled. As a result, the outage map

was dispensing wrong information and it caused thousands of customers to be informed that their power had been restored when it hadn't while others were notified of estimated restoration times when they had electricity.

It also forced Con Edison's predictive platform that outlines the likelihood of neighboring to be inoperative.

She said the utility has been working with technology experts to make sure a breakdown of that system doesn't occur

"Unfortunately, people were getting these messages, they're frustrated to begin with, they've been without power, so that just elevated that whole frustration for every customer," Skolnick said. "When it happens in an event like that it's different."

Skolnick and Con Edison General Manager Joseph Somma said the severity of the storms and volume of outages made the back-to-back events the second worst event behind Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Somma said at one point there were about 1,800 wires down and 682 roads closed in Westchester, making restoration an arduous process.

The storms were so severe that about 70 percent of the toppled trees that brought down lines had been deemed healthy trees, many of outside the



The New Castle Town Board posed questions and sought answers last week into Con Edison's problematic response to last March's storms.

utility's right of way, Skolnick said.

However, Town Board members pointed out that there were plenty of other issues that needed to be addressed aside from technology. Councilman Jeremy Saland and Councilwoman Ivy Pool, the board's liaison to the town's Emergency Preparedness Committee, quizzed Con Edison's representatives on its criteria to call for mutual aid.

There was also confusion because town officials weren't being told why a municipality with fewer customer outages had more crews within its borders than New Castle.

Skolnick said critical facilities and infrastructure, such as hospitals, nursing homes and water treatment plants, are priorities. Generally, if large clusters of residents can be restored in one area, those will be done first.

Saland said the storms pointed to "a much more colossal failure on the part of Con Edison." When residents had trouble getting in contact with the utility, many turned to town officials for answers and there were few to be had,

'We need to partner with Con Edison but that doesn't mean they get a pass or should be treated with kids' gloves when they fail the people they serve," Saland said. "We would be derelict of our responsibility to New Castle residents if we didn't demand answers to our questions. Simply, we need to best protect the community going forward."

Although the storm was predicted, its severity and impact were not, Skolnick said. Because of that, there were widespread outages from the mid-Atlantic into New England, which made for greater demand for mutual aid.

Skolnick said smart meters, which will automatically tell Con Edison which customers are experiencing an outage, will be installed throughout the county by the end of 2019. About 10 percent of New Castle currently has them installed.

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# **County Protests Swell Demanding End of Family Separation Policies**

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Americans right through slavery. This doesn't end well and we're better than this."

With Children's Village in Dobbs Ferry, Leake & Watts in Yonkers and Lincoln Hall in Somers among the facilities reportedly housing children within Westchester, County Executive George Latimer is offering that the county's Department of Social Services (DSS) assist federal officials with reuniting children with their families.

Last Wednesday, the Yonkers-based Hudson Valley Community Coalition transported a busload of residents to Washington to meet with U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand and Rep. Nita Lowey in hopes of reuniting children with their families. At the same time protestors held a daylong vigil outside the federal courthouse in White Plains.

DSS Commissioner Kevin Maguire said his department is prepared to support the federal government if they ask.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo also threatened to sue the federal government for detaining immigrant children and housing them in New York State, including the locations in

During the rally, Latimer harshly criticized President Donald Trump for a

systematic attempt to isolate people from one another. He said elected officials have an obligation for the safe care of everyone and issues of race, gender, religion, ethnicity and jurisdiction shouldn't cause division.

"We're angry. We're tired of one part of the political spectrum saying how angry they are and saying how they want to make American great when they're ruining the American that makes us the difference in the world," Latimer said. "We don't want to be like Russia, we don't want a totalitarian leader. If we stand together we will win and we will turn this country back into what it has been before this administration decided to redefine what America is."

State Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D-Yonkers) implored residents to use their anger to host demonstrations, vote for elected officials who represent their ideals and fight back against the current administration's policies.

"This is not new for America. We know our history. We know that bodies have been dragged from parents. We also thought we've evolved and that we had transcended that history," Stewart-Cousins said. "We're not going back, we're going forward. No person in one office has the audacity, the mendacity, the craziness to take all of this sad and proud history of America and decide it's disposable."

Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) added that the country is at its best when it's welcoming to those who are looking for a way to improve their families' lives. He said the Trump Administration has closed the doors to the ideals the country represents, and that people must fight until every child is returned to their parents.

Demonstrators also took to the streets and gathered in front of the Martin Luther King Jr. statue in front of the county courthouse where they continued the rally.

Suzanne Sunday, a retired psychologist and trauma expert, explained the lifelong struggle a child could face when they are separated from their parents. She stressed that children of all ages need psychological counseling while they're incarcerated.

"We have to understand that we're not just doing damage to these children now, but we're very likely creating a lifetime of struggle and psychological struggle," Sunday said. "We need to think about all the children and get them reunited with their families."

The Hudson Valley Community



Hope's Door Executive Director CarlLa Horton, holding an enlarged version of Time magazine's controversial cover, at the protest demanding the federal government reunite children with their migrant parents.

Coalition is scheduled to hold a rally this Saturday, June 30 at 1 p.m. outside the federal courthouse on Quarropas Street in White Plains



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# **Substance Abuse Treatment Center Opens at Chap Crossing**

#### **By Anna Young**

A nationally acclaimed alcohol and drug addiction treatment facility opened the doors to its newest facility in Chappaqua last week.

Mountainside Treatment Center, an outpatient substance abuse facility located within Chappaqua Crossing, aims to help clients maintain sobriety while living within their home community. Professional clinicians provide clients with evidence-based treatment and holistic care that centers on individual therapy and intensive outpatient programs.

"People suffer from misusing opioid prescriptions and we've lost 174 individuals a day now, but if you factor in how many we've lost from alcohol it becomes 415," said John Hamilton, Mountainside's chief clinical outreach officer. "We here at Mountainside are going to be part of the solution in our relationship with the community."

Michael Orth, commissioner of the county Department of Community Mental Health, said mental health issues and substance abuse have become the prime health issues within Westchester. He commended Mountainside's team for opening at an optimal time to help those who are suffering.

The 4,200-square-foot facility is an open and calm space that offers individual and group counseling, family



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein gets ready to cut the ribbon at the grand opening of Mountainside Treatment Center's newest location in Chappagua as the center's executive team looks on.

and couples counseling, psychiatric services, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, medication-assisted treatment and health and wellness education. The facility is equipped with individual and group counseling rooms, an exam room, family wellness rooms and

Chappaqua is Mountainside's fourth location. Its other facilities are in New York City and Canaan and Wilton, Conn. The Chappaqua facility, which will begin

offices specializing in recovery coaching.

seeing clients next month, will have extended hours during the week but hopes to provide 24-hour support in the future.

New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein stressed that the rehabilitation facility is another step in carrying out the town's objective to provide all residents with a safe environment that promotes community health and safety. He added that substance abuse and opioid addiction is a national crisis that subsequently effects every community and Mountainside will provide the necessary resources for those in need.

"We don't live in a vacuum. We understand that some families need professional assistance in their efforts to combat the dangers of addiction," Greenstein said. "We welcome the opportunity to offer others outside of New Castle the resources that they may need."

Mountainside is located at 480 N. Bedford Rd. in Chappaqua. For more information, call 914-534-6030 or visit www.mountainside.com.

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# Valhalla Resident to Force Mt. Pleasant Town Justice Primary

**By Martin Wilbur** 

A Valhalla resident who was defeated four years ago in an unsuccessful state Assembly bid announced last week he plans to challenge newly appointed Mount Pleasant Town Justice Mark Rubeo for the Republican nomination.

Attorney Michael Duffy, who operates a White Plains law practice, said he will force a September primary because he was unhappy with the handling of the town's interview and selection process to fill the vacancy created by the recent retirement of Nicholas Maselli from the bench.

Duffy, one of seven candidates to be interviewed by town officials for the interim seat, said he learned of several other people who had submitted their names for consideration and thought they were better suited to the post than Rubeo, a litigation and real estate lawyer.

Rubeo resigned from the Town Board following his selection.

"Some of them were very well-qualified and if they had been chosen I wouldn't have even considered a primary because (in) a primary you're going against your own in the party," Duffy said. "I'm a lifelong Republican. But Mr. Rubeo, he's a good attorney I'm sure in what he does, but every day of my life is working local courts and doing local cases."

Duffy said he's fed up with the town's Republican Committee, which seemingly

handpicks its friends.

"Based on what I learned I think that's what happened," Duffy said, "and that's what I don't like and it seems like cronyism."

The criticism is reminiscent of accusations leveled last year by former councilman Denis McCarthy, who made similar complaints after he was passed over for the Republican nomination for re-election.

Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi, who interviewed the interim town justice hopefuls with Councilman Nicholas DiPaolo and Police Chief Paul Oliva, said if they were going through the motions and had predetermined Rubeo's selection



Michael Duffy will force a primary this September in the race for the Mount Pleasant town justice seat.

### Hawthorne Developer Proposes 16 Condo, Rental Units for Route 9A

**By Neal Rentz** 

Developer Jim Zappi is proposing to construct a two-story housing development mixing condominiums and rental units on Route 9A in Hawthorne.

Zappi said last week he was inspired to pitch the idea for 16 housing units on Rutledge Avenue following comments he heard from residents about the need for additional housing at the recent Comprehensive Plan update meeting.

Zappi, founder and CEO of the Hawthorne-based ZappiCo Real Estate Development, is seeking a zoning change for the .75-acre parcel from the Town Board to create a transitional zone.

The proposed monthly rent for the apartments in the complex would range from about \$1,500 to \$3,000, depending on the size of the unit, Zappi said. There would be one building with separate entrances.

Lower level units would measure about 800 square feet and upper floor units would be about 1,600 square feet, he said.

Town Board members did not

comment directly on the proposal at the June 19 work session. Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said he hoped the development would include a grassy area for recreation.

The breakdown between rental units and condos hasn't been decided yet, Zappi said.

Zappi's daughter, Brianna Zappi, director of sales and marketing, said the proposed development was needed.

"This is a good fit for the town's housing crisis," she said.

they wouldn't have taken the time to interview seven candidates.

Rubeo said he is appreciative that Duffy believes he's a good attorney and is grateful for the selection.

"I'm excited and honored for the opportunity to continue my many years of serving the community where I grew up by running for election to a four-year term this fall," he said.

Neal Rentz contributed to this article.





### Glamour Time



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Glam Dolls Beauty Lounge owner Patricia Bolani Perez, second from left, receives help from her staff to cut the ribbon at her new Thornwood shop last Wednesday. She was joined, from left, by receptionist Michael Fischer, hairdresser, makeup artist and hair extension specialist Brianna Rinaldi and Sara Malziu, a hairdresser, spray tanning technician and Reiki specialist. The business, located at 51 Kensico Rd., had a soft opening in April. For more information, call 914-579-2499 or e-mail BeautyLounge@glamdollsny.com.

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# **Committee Slaps Murphy in Latest Unfair Campaign Practice Spat**

**By Martin Wilbur** 

Another petty quarrel between state Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) and one of two Democrats vying to oppose him this fall played out last week before the Westchester County Fair Campaign Practices Committee.

This time, the committee found that Murphy had engaged in an unfair practice after his campaign had issued a press release about three weeks ago accusing former county legislator Peter Harckham of having "lied" about the senator's role in helping to nominate Donald Trump for president at the 2016 Republican National Convention.

The committee concluded that Harckham, who is hoping to win the Democratic nomination in the 40th state Senate District race, hadn't lied, but that his claim, based on a published report, was inaccurate. It stated that Murphy's press release is in violation of one of the committee's principles.

"The Committee considers selective quotation or misrepresentation of its findings to be an unfair campaign practice since the Committee did not say Mr. Harckham 'lied," last week's finding stated.

This is the fourth time in this campaign cycle that Murphy, Harckham or Robert Kesten, the other Democratic hopeful who plans to oppose Harckham in a September primary, have been cited by the committee for an unfair practice. In addition to finding

Harckham having engaged in an unfair campaign practice, Murphy twice went to the committee to file complaints against Kesten. In both instances, Murphy received a conclusion in his favor.

Harckham Campaign Manager T.J. Rogers called Murphy's constant filing of complaints to the committee "nonsense" by trying to game the process and using it as a tactical campaign advantage.

He called it "tedious" and challenged Murphy and his campaign to focus on serious issues.

"Let's stop this nonsense, and focus on issues that matter to voters like passing the Child Victims Act or the Red Flag legislation to keep our schools and families safe," Rogers said. "These other antics are just a distraction to prevent a real discussion about his record on the issues."

Murphy's campaign didn't back down after the latest finding. Campaign spokeswoman Martha Ruiz Jimenez released a statement saying that a lie and an untruthful statement are the same.

"Webster's Dictionary defines the noun lying as 'the telling of lies, or false statements; untruthfulness, from the idiom, lie, to prove or imply the falsity of," Jimenez said. "The Committee found Mr. Harkcham's statement was 'inaccurate'. Mr. Harkcham apparently has a different definition of what lying is."



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#### **Police Blotter**

#### **County Police/Mount Kisco**

June 20: Police responded to Oakwood Cemetery on Lexington Avenue at 11:58 p.m. on a report that a vehicle was inside. Officers located a subcontractor working on a cell tower that is at the rear of the property.

June 21: Report of a man drinking beer outside a store on East Main Street at 12:40 p.m. An officer issued a summons to the man for an open container violation.

June 21: Police and the Mount Kisco Fire Department responded to the senior center on Carpenter Avenue at 2:53 p.m. on a report of smoke in the building. The smoke was caused by a piece of pottery that had been placed in a toaster oven.

June 21: Police responded to Diplomat

Towers at 8:16 p.m. on a report that a car had pulled into a parking space and two youths had jumped out and run away, leaving the doors open and the engine running. Officers determined that the incident was a prank involving two teens who moved their friend's car when he went inside the building.

June 22: Report of a noise complaint on Spring Street at 1:17 a.m. involving loud music and a gathering of people in a backyard. After speaking with officers, the group agreed to turn the music off and go inside.

June 22: Report of a noise complaint at 3 p.m. involving a car that had its alarm continually going off. An officer located the car's owner who said she was aware of the problem and was making arrangements to take the vehicle to a mechanic. With the owner's

permission, the officer looked under the hood, identified the problem as a faulty sensor and removed it, restoring peace and quiet to the neighborhood.

June 22: Police responded to Laurel Drive at 5:28 p.m. on a report of a tree blocking the road. The Mount Kisco Highway Department responded to remove the tree.

#### **North Castle Police Department**

June 15: Report of criminal mischief on Washington Avenue at 8:34 p.m. A caller reported a domestic dispute between herself and her husband who is intoxicated. She stated he has damaged a door inside the house.

June 16: At 7:48 a.m., a complainant reported damage to the 13th hole at the Whippoorwill Country Club, which occurred sometime overnight. The responding officer secured a deposition. The report was made as a matter of

June 16: A 20-year-old male was reported to be located in a backyard on North Lake Road with a head injury and having difficulty breathing at 6:17 p.m. Armonk Fire Department Ambulance was dispatched; the party was transported to Westchester Medical Center.

June 17: Report of a stolen motorcycle on Bedford Road at 1:45 p.m. The alleged theft occurred sometime overnight. The responding officer secured depositions.

June 17: The North White Plains Fire Department chief contacted headquarters at 4:40 p.m. to report that the department was on the receiving end of a road rage incident while heading to a previous call 50 minutes earlier on Custis Avenue. The responding officer went to the firehouse to speak with the complainant.

**June 19:** Report of a vehicle crashing into the building at the Beehive restaurant on Old Route 22 at 5:04 p.m. The responding officer gathered information and photos were secured.

#### **Pleasantville Police Department**

June 16: A 27-year-old Pleasantville woman was arrested at 2:45 a.m. on Memorial Plaza and charged with criminal mischief, resisting arrest obstructing governmental administration.

June 23: Police made an arrest regarding a sex crime at 2:35 p.m. at 475 Bedford Rd. Police could not provide additional information because the matter is still under investigation.





#### THERE'S A WORD FOR IT By Edward Goralski A vocabulary-building quiz

Stay for a Spell. Last month Karthik Nemmani, a 14-year-old eighth-grader at Scoggins Middle School in McKinny, Texas, won the 2018 Scripps National Spelling Bee. Nemmani not only won cash prizes for himself, but a school-wide pizza party. This week the quiz features spelling words from the contest and the Bee study guides. No cash prizes or pizza for this quiz, just an opportunity to expand your winning vocabulary.

alpinist (n.) A) a walking stick B) best of a group C) a mountain climber 2. expatiate (v.) A) to speak at length B) execute promptly C) look forward 3. culicide (n.) A) poor social skills B) an insecticide C) useless effort 4. cosmopoietic (adj.) A) world creating B) visually appealing C) sophisticated 5. esclavage (n.) A) an escape from routine B) a necklace C) a protective screen 6. cerivcorn (adj.) B) dependable C) centrally placed A) bearing antlers 7. tocsin (n.) A) a poisonous substance B) a musical composition C) an alarm signal 8. geusioleptic (adj.) A) approachable B) frightful C) having pleasant flavor 4. A. Cosmos-producing; world creating

8. C. Having or characterized by pleasant flavor 7. C. An alarm bell or signal

6. A. Bearing antlers; branching like antlers

pegge' or Jewels

5. B. A necklace having several rows of chains,

3. B. An insecticide that destroys mosquitoes

2. A. To speak or write at length or in detail the Alps

1. C. A climber of high mountains, especially in

**SHEWSNA** 

# Mt. Kisco Outfit on Mission to Employ the Developmentally Disabled

**By Martin Wilbur** 

A Mount Kisco-based nonprofit organization is making life a little easier and a lot more rewarding for adults with autism and other developmental disabilities.

Extraordinary Ventures New York (EVNY), launched about three years ago, opened a shop last September at 350 Lexington Ave. in the village, a place of employment for adults who have aged out of school and other programs.

The storefront, located in the back of the building and accessible from Carpenter Avenue, provides several services for the public, said Andrew Tedder, EVNY's program director.

One portion of the space serves as a small laundromat, where local businesses and residents bring loads of laundry, which is sorted, washed in high-capacity machines, dried and folded by the employees and neatly bundled in see-through plastic. Laundry loads and the machines are color coded and instructions are posted throughout the laundromat area to help the employees complete their tasks.

Another part of the operation sees the workers make candles and handmade jewelry that are sold as gift items or small gift baskets, perfect for a range of occasions, from year-end teacher appreciation presents to holiday office grab bags.

A recently added component is what



Brian, one of about a dozen employees at Extraordinary Ventures New York, folds laundry with Program Director Andrew Tedder.

Tedder calls "business solutions," where the organization's employees shred documents brought to them by businesses and professional offices.

With the unemployment rate for developmentally disabled adults at an estimated 85 percent, Tedder said EVNY provides a place for its employees to earn a paycheck and enhance their self-esteem but also contribute important services to their community.

"I need my people to know that they're doing a service and they're doing a good job for people," said Tedder, who currently has about a dozen workers under his direction.

One regular laundry customer is a

Katonah nail salon, which brings its smocks and towels for weekly washings. A recently widowed Mount Kisco resident hadn't done his laundry in weeks since his wife passed away and desperately needed help. A local family with seven children has figured out that it's easier and more efficient to bring their load to EVNY's laundry service.

Each customer's laundry is ready for pickup within 48 hours and costs \$25 a bag. EVNY has a supply of its own bags with its logo emblazoned on the outside.

Tedder said employees typically work a two- or three-hour shift a few times a week. They must punch in their time card and be supervised by their own jobs coach. They can choose one or a combination of tasks, but high-quality work is demanded.

"Our expectations are high. We don't want folks with lower expectations in the employee population," Tedder said. "It's step-by-step instruction."

The idea for EVNY came from its current Board President Melanie Schaffran and her husband, Drew. They were instrumental in establishing the Devereaux Millwood Learning Center about 25 years ago with other parents of children on the autism spectrum. In fact, some of the current employees are graduates of the school.

Tedder said from the basement of their home the Schaffrans started EVNY for their adult child. It was modeled after Extraordinary Ventures North Carolina serving the Chapel Hill area, a similar organization with which there is no official affiliation, but it has encouraged and mentored its Mount Kisco counterpart, he said.

Tedder met Drew Schafran while he was working at the John Jay Homestead farmers market, one of many jobs Tedder, a single parent, has done since his now 11-year-old son was diagnosed with autism about eight years ago and could no longer commute into the city.

Previously, Tedder had a long career in retail for a variety of companies domestically and abroad and has put his experiences into practice at EVNY.

"I love kind of evangelizing the cause," Tedder said. "I have a lot of experience at startups, growing up in startups, but I have a personal stake in (this) mission."

His mission is to find more employees and make the general public aware of EVNY and to use its services. Tedder said it's not a social service agency and runs like a business. The goal is for EVNY to eventually be self-sufficient, although it receives grants and donations.

"This is meaningful work," Tedder said. "It's not busy work."

For more information about Extraordinary Ventures New York, call 914-708-7743 during regular business hours or visit www.EVNY.org.



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### **Obituaries**

### Rev. Monsignor Thomas Gilleece

Rev. Monsignor Thomas E. Gilleece, pastor of the Roman Catholic Church of St. John and St. Mary in Chappaqua, passed into eternal life on June 15 at White Plains Hospital. He was 76.

Gilleece was born on Aug. 21, 1941, in the Bronx to Mary and Michael Gilleece. In 1963, Fr. Gilleece earned his bachelor's degree; in 1966 his masters of theology; and in 1967 his masters of divinity, all at St. Joseph's College and Seminary in Yonkers. He was ordained to the Roman Catholic priesthood on May 27, 1967, in the Archdiocese of New York.

Fr. Gilleece would go on to serve the archdiocese for the next 51 years. His first assignment was at Immaculate Conception Church in New York City as parochial associate. Three years later, he became a faculty member at Cardinal Spellman High School. During Gilleece's seven years there, he made a lasting impression on his students, many of whom kept in close contact with him. In 1977, he earned his third master's degree in religious education from Fordham University and became the associate vicar of education for the Archdiocese of New York.

Fr. Gilleece was named pastor of St.

Paul in Congers, N.Y. in January 1990. He served there until July 1, 2001, when he became the chancellor of the Archdiocese of New York. In 2002, he was given an honorary doctorate from St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill, N.Y. His service to the Archdiocese of New York and the people of God included a number of distinguished boards, commissions and professional associations, including the Interparish Finance Board; Board of Trustees of Catholic Charities; Board of Trustees for Providence Rest; College of Consulters for the Archdiocese of New York; Archdiocesan Priests Personnel Board; Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission; Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission; Prestybrial Council; chancellor of the Equestrian Order of Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; Knights of Malta; Pierre Toussaint Residence; chief administrator of Catholic Education; chaplain for the Valley Cottage, Congers and Chappaqua fire departments; and a member of the Chappaqua interfaith

The people of St. John and St. Mary welcomed our beloved pastor on July 1, 2007. Gilleece served the parish community with humility, compassion,

humor and great love.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mary and Michael Gilleece; his brother, the Rev. Michael Gilleece; and his sister, Patricia Myron. He is survived by his siblings, Winnie Jaeger, James Gilleece, Kevin Gilleece and Eileen Prisinzano; seven nieces; eight nephews; and 34 grandnieces and grandnephews.

The wake and masses were held at

the Church of St. John and St. Mary in Chappaqua on June 21. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 22 followed by burial at Gethsemane Cemetery in Congers.

Donations in Gilleece's memory may be made to Providence Rest, 3304 Waterbury Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10465 or St. John and St. Mary Poor Box Collections, 30 Poillon Drive, Chappaqua, N.Y. 10514.

#### Bobbi Ornstein

Bobbi Pollinger Ornstein of Mount Kisco died Apr. 27 at Northern Westchester Hospital after a courageous two-year battle with lung cancer.

She was 68.

Ornstein was born Dec. 2, 1949, in Brooklyn where she lived with her parents, Hilda nee Sherman and Oscar, and her brother Steve Pollinger. She spent her early adult years in Brooklyn and Manhattan where she attended Hunter College, graduating with a bachelor's degree in health science and physical therapy. She had a long and successful career as a physical therapist, including establishing and developing the Physical Therapy Department at Caremount Medical. She was extremely devoted to her patients and profession, working at Caremount until weeks before her death.

Ornstein was loved for her zest for life, compassion and loyalty. Her ethical convictions led her to be a vegetarian and then vegan for much of her adult life. She volunteered for the SPCA, walked for the Avon Strides Against

Breast Cancer and traveled to Haiti as a physical therapist to aid earthquake victims. She loved teaching and sharing her knowledge. But what she most loved was nurturing her sons Doug and Mark. They loved her laughter and joy of life. She took great pride in their lives and watching them grow into wonderful and sensitive men.

She is survived by her sons Doug (Laura) of Charlotte, N.C. and Mark of Portland, Ore. She is predeceased by her parents.

Ornstein's life will be celebrated at the Ethical Culture Society of Northern Westchester at 108 Pinesbridge Rd. in Ossining on Saturday, July 7 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. At that time stories, words and laughter will be shared as Bobbi would have wanted. Wear colorful and vibrant clothing, bring a joke, something sweet to eat and share or a good Bobbi story.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Farm Sanctuary, 3150 Aikens Rd., Watkins Glen, N.Y. 14891 or to the SPCA of Westchester, 590 N. State Rd., Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. 10510.



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#### Eda Vogl

Eda M. Vogl of Mahopac and a former longtime Valhalla resident died on June 19

She was 91.

Vogl was born on Apr. 13, 1927, to the late Pasquale and Eda (nee Rabbia) Figorito in Brooklyn. She and her late husband, Franzl Vogl, were the former owners and operators of Franzl's Restaurant in Valhalla.

She was predeceased by her devoted husband, Frank, in 1998; two brothers, John and Lou Figorito; and sister Rose Baccarella. Vogl is survived by her loving children, Franzl Vogl and Linda Vogl, both of Mahopac, and Craig Vogel of Danbury, Conn.; one sister, Jean Aloi, of New Jersey; and one cherished granddaughter, Amanda Vogl.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on June 22. A funeral Mass was held at Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne on June 23 followed by interment.



# Therapy Dog Changes Lives of Volunteer, Seniors for the Better

**By Anna Young** 

Sometimes animals can provide an instant feeling of relief, but for Tommy Formicola helping seniors find comfort through pet therapy at The Bristal in Armonk has provided him with a sense of purpose.

Formicola, a 21-year-old Armonk resident with Down Syndrome, eagerly awaits his four-legged friend Tobie, a six-year-old Havanese therapy canine, to arrive at the assisted living facility every Monday so they can get to work helping seniors destress and feel calm.

"I feel really happy and this is a good fit for me," Formicola said. "I like the nice people and they love me. I'm very kind and cute and maybe funny, sometimes. I feel happy and glad because the dog cares about older people and they're very nice."

The pet therapy program, which started last year at The Bristal, is funded through The Good Dog Foundation, a New York City-based nonprofit organization that eases human suffering and promotes recovery from trauma and stress using animal-assisted therapy services. Benefits from pet therapy include improvements in depression, anxiety and dementia and promoting physical healing.

Karen DiPietro, a first-year volunteer with the foundation, said it's been a



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Karen DiPietro, from The Good Dog Foundation, with volunteer Tommy Formicola and Tobie, a therapy dog from the foundation. They visit The Bristal assisted living facility in Armonk every Monday.

wonderful experience for her having Formicola donate his time and efforts over the last two months. During their hour-long sessions, the pair walk Tobie around the facility greeting everyone and placing him in the laps of those who want to pet and hug him.

"I look forward to seeing Tobie every week. I love him," Bristal resident Eileen Segal said. "I know how important animals are. They are always there for you and that's what's so important."

Formicola agreed, adding that Tobie has helped him get out of the house and learn how to interact with strangers. He said he looks forward to reuniting with Tobie every week and taking him for walks. Most importantly, he values the love he gives him and receives in return.

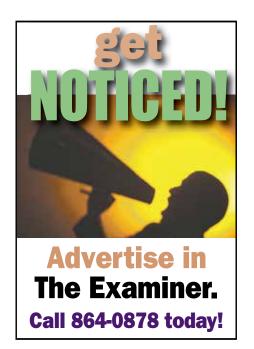
"He always loves me and shows me that," Formicola said.

While staff at The Bristal have seen positive results in their senior residents from the sessions over the last year, Formicola's mother, Luisa, said the program has transformed her son's life. Volunteering has helped her son evolve into a more responsible and independent adult after growing up battling severe anxiety around animals. He now begs her regularly to adopt a dog of their own.

"For him, it's a wonderful thing to be able to connect and feel that unconditional love that he's used to giving and now he's getting it from the dog," Luisa Formicola said.

She added that it's been even more meaningful for her to watch Tommy look forward to interacting with the seniors, staff and Tobie every week.

"I think it has made him feel like he can do something worthwhile and give back," she said. "A lot of the time he's being helped and it's a special thing for him to know that he's a member of society and that he can contribute, too. Tommy is very compassionate and kind and he has a special magic."





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# Edenwald School Seniors Reach New Heights at Graduation

#### By Martin Wilbur

Schools across Westchester spent the past week recognizing the many accomplishments of their graduating students.

A similar scenario unfolded last Wednesday in a different setting. Seven students overcame severe challenges to earn their diplomas at the JCCA's Edenwald School in Pleasantville.

Superintendent David Bernsley said despite facing extreme adversity the students, all between 17 and 20 years old, never quit. He congratulated them and their families for their hard work and perseverance.

"You went through it, you had grit, you will always have this to fall back on and you can do whatever you want in this world," Bernsley said in his remarks to the graduates. "You are the best of the best."

Joe Mott, senior recreation coordinator for the JCCA campus, said most of the student body faces cognitive and/or emotional disabilities. They struggle with their thought process and controlling their emotions, requiring extensive support services to be successful and to stay focused in the classroom, Mott said.

A majority of the roughly 100 students live on campus although some commute daily from throughout the metropolitan area, he said. Some will go on to college while others will pursue a trade.



Last week's Edenwald School graduates.

"A lot of these kids have struggled in other schools due to their inability and instability," Mott said. "But they've come here and stabilized and really achieved great heights with tutoring and a lot of support and through the cottages and through the school that helps them be able to graduate and be successful."

No one exemplified the fortitude embodied in last week's graduates than Taylor Harrison, a Mount Vernon resident and a three-year Edenwald School student. Harrison became the first Edenwald student last week to earn a Regents diploma.

She is going on to Bronx Community College in the fall and hopes to return to Edenwald one day to be a high school teacher.

"There were a lot of obstacles during the time, the three years that I was here, passing the Regents with the score that I wanted," Harrison said. "I'm kind of an overachiever and wanted a higher score." A couple of weeks ago, it was unclear whether Gregory McClain, a Bronx native, was going to graduate, said Rohan Dinham, a vocational coordinator at the school. However, he persevered to the end and will now return to his mother's house with a high school diploma.

McClain will attend community college and hopes to become a child care worker. He said it was an emotional experience to walk to the front of the gymnasium where the commencement ceremonies were held with his classmates to the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance."

"When I walked out I had tear in my eyes," said McClain. "I had all this emotion."

In addition to Harrison and McClain, last week's graduates were Robert Pendarvis, Felix Escobar, Kenny Hill, Shadow Gray and Alyssa Bryant.

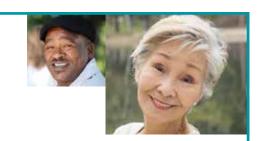
It was also a special day for staff members like Mott.

"Watching these kids grow up and really succeed when a lot of people thought they couldn't is really empowering," he said. "You're amazed by how successful they are and you see it in the faces of a lot of kids, they never thought they would ever get to this point. This is a huge accomplishment just for people who struggled and have been taken from their homes, being successful and graduating is a huge accomplishment."



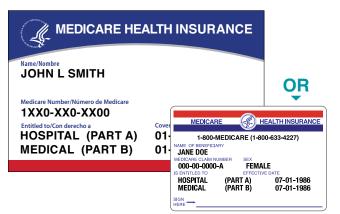






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#### Letters to the Editor

#### Child and Parent Separation is Not a Political Issue

"Americans pride ourselves on being a moral nation, on being the nation that sends humanitarian relief to places devastated by natural disasters or famine or war. We pride ourselves on believing that people should be seen for the content of their character, not the color of their skin. We pride ourselves on acceptance. If we are truly that country, then it is our obligation to reunite these detained children with their parents — and to stop separating parents and

children in the first place. People on all sides agree that our immigration system isn't working, but the injustice of zero tolerance is not the answer." ----Laura Bush June 17, 2018

The Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center wholeheartedly agrees with the sentiments expressed by former First Lady Laura Bush. As a human rights organization we view this not as a political issue but rather a humanitarian one.

We encourage all who agree with this view to contact their congressional representatives so that the former First Lady's vision for our country can be fulfilled.

> Chairman Joseph Kaidanow Executive Director Millie Jasper Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center White Plains

#### Kesten is the Candidate That Has No Conflict of Interest With the Utilities

A LoHud article of Mar. 6, 2018, made it clear that "Con Ed and others, were supposed to have improved their response plans after Superstorm Sandy... A state-appointed commission found that utilities needed to get a better handle on the condition of poles, transformers and other vulnerable assets."

This commission criticized Con Ed and NYSEG for being unprepared and not improving since 2012.

So six years later, the storms of this year left many people without power for nearly two weeks. Unacceptable!

Our government representatives, such

as Sen. Murphy, are supposed to monitor what's going on with investigations into problems, with solutions being implemented or not. Why didn't they follow up and deal with the lack of progress on storm preparedness and remediation? Was there a conflict of interest?

Public information lists the following as contributors to Sen. Murphy's campaigns:

Consolidated Edison, Inc. Employees PAC; the Utility Workers of America; Cablevision Systems of New York PAC; Time Warner Cable of New York PAC; AT&T PAC; Entergy Corporation Political Action Committee; New York State

Laborers Political Action Committee; and the Independent Power Producers of New York, Inc.

I would like a state senator that has no obligations to a utility so he or she can fight for us. Robert Kesten is the candidate for the 40th state Senate District seat because he is not taking donations that will sway him from keeping an eye on the utilities we count on – for safety, for commerce, communication and everyday life.

Susan Johnson Croton-on-Hudson

#### Cuomo Putting Up Harckham in Senate Race Will Hurt Democratic Unity

Since Peter Harckham decided to run for state senator in the 40th District, we've been hearing about his accomplishments as a former Westchester County legislator. He left that office to accept a mid-level appointed position, working for Gov. Cuomo on the Mario Cuomo Bridge,

#### Correction

In last week's article on Ralph's Ices, it was incorrectly reported that North Castle Town Board had reduced the applicant's bond. A reduction was discussed but not agreed to by the board.

On the story regarding the Eagle Ridge scoping session, the article incorrectly stated the former IBM property was in New Castle. The land is actually in North Castle.

The Examiner regrets the errors.

which most of us continue to call the Tappan Zee Bridge.

There is no doubt that Harckham had some successes in the county legislature, but along with that comes a glaring failure. Harckham was the majority leader when renegade Democrats formed an IDC (Independent Democrats) and sided with the Republicans, giving Astorino veto power and tying the hands of the legislature.

He was not strong enough to regain a supermajority and gave up the office before his term was up to go work for the governor.

By acquiescing to the governor's request that he run for this position and taking funds from big money donors, like those who contribute to the governor and even some Republicans, who will he represent if he wins a primary and wins in November?

Harckham is a candidate foisted on

us by Cuomo. Robert Kesten has been working within communities across the district, meeting with constituents, supporting local candidates and identifying issues and working on solutions since last September. Kesten has done all the homework and now Harckham wants to jump in and reap the benefits. Kesten's support is the result of a true grassroots effort. We deserve someone representing us who understands our problems and will work hard for us.

Do we want another Hillary/Bernie division within our Democratic Party? We know how that ended up. Harckham and the governor should remove themselves from our Senate race for the good of all of us and for party unity.

Betty Maher Lewisboro

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# know your Neighbor

### **Sharon McQuillan Director of Golf, Pleasantville Country Club**

#### **By Martin Wilbur**

Sharon McQuillan laughs remembering her introduction to golf. She was 19 and there was a boy who she was interested in who regularly played the sport.

"I ran home to my dad, because I knew my dad played golf and said, 'Dad, dad, teach me how to play golf. I want to play golf with this boy," McQuillan recalled.

Her father obliged, giving McQuillan her first lessons.

While the relationship didn't last, McQuillan's passion for the sport has never waned. A golf pro who competed in tournaments, including major events like the U.S. Women's Open on the LPGA tour, she's now in her second year as the director of golf at Pleasantville Country Club. It comes after a decade as the head pro at Bonnie Briar Country Club in Larchmont.

McQuillan has spent nearly all of her adult life playing, instructing others or directing the golf operations as she does now in Pleasantville, a fun and enjoyable way to make a living. She even met her future husband while taking lessons and he was her instructor.

"I always enjoyed playing sports and golf," she said. "I even played tennis. I guess because he was teaching me, too, and I was getting better and better and the better I got the more I wanted to play. Then when we started going down to Florida and you're playing all the time, now you get better."

A strong athlete who grew up in Yorktown and graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in Somers, McQuillan was a ski instructor while attending Briarcliff College. But golf turned out to be McQuillan's favorite outlet.

She had briefly entertained the notion of becoming a doctor while still in school but realized she likely wasn't going to make it through the required years of study. Instead, McQuillan opted to work in the medical field as a researcher but found that all she really wanted to do was play golf when work was over or when she had a day off.

"I couldn't wait to run to the golf course. I would make a beeline to the golf course," McQuillan said.

One of her top memories from being on the LGPA tour came in in 1982, when McQuillan was paired with Janet Alex at the U.S. Women's Open. She was friendly with Alex, and although McQuillan didn't make the cut after the first two rounds, Alex went on to win the tournament.

Playing in a major tournament can be intimidating not only

because you're up against the highest level of competition but you face the large crowds. Miss a putt and you'll hear a collective groan or make one and there will be a sudden burst of applause, far different than a practice round.

"The thing that I remember about that stuff, it's not even the players you were playing against, it's the whole scene," McQuillan recalled. "The fairways were lined with people and you're like, 'Holy crap, these people are watching me play golf."

During her career as an instructor, McQuillan worked at Jim McLean's Golf School for nine years and has made the rounds at Quaker Ridge, Sleepy Hollow, and Ridgeway before her stay at Bonnie Briar. She also has her own golf instruction.

She arrived in Pleasantville last year after hearing about the director of golf vacancy



at the nine-hole course and knowing people in the area. All of the residents are members and non-residents can join as well.

McQuillan also owns and operates the pro shop in the club's lower level.

She said she is proud to have been the head pro at two Westchester golf clubs.

"I don't know how many women

been a head pro of a club, get out of the business and because a head pro again," said McQuillan, who was one of the first women PGA members. "As a woman, I'd have to check with the PGA."

She's also happy to see that the fastest growing segment of golf is girls' golf, something that the LPGA and the USGA is actively trying to promote.

For people who are devoted to improving their game, plenty of practice and making the time and financial commitment to take many lessons is essential, she said. McQuillan said there's nothing better than hitting the sweet spot on the ball and seeing it go where you intended.

"If people come for lessons, for the most part they're spending an amount of money, they're putting time and energy into something," McQuillan said. "You tell them you can't do one lesson."

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# Mt. Kisco Club Stresses Water Safety in World's Largest Swim Lesson

#### **By Martin Wilbur**

On the first afternoon of summer, the Willowbrook Swim & Tennis Club in Mount Kisco had the distinction of participating in an appropriately timed and critically important event.

About 20 children from the club and surrounding community last Thursday turned out for an event called "The World's Largest Swimming Lesson," where about 600 pools in more than 20 countries emphasized lifesaving water safety skills to youngsters 14 and under.

For a half-hour last Thursday, Willowbrook swimming coach and instructor Kelly Blacker reminded the children about the rules of the pool to stress safety, such as refraining from running on the deck and only diving into the deep end. Then they went into the water where they were taught various skills, including how to tread water and float on their back.

Blacker said child drownings often occur in moments.

"We want to prevent drownings because drowning is 100 percent preventable, yet kids and adults drown all the time, Blacker said.

This was the ninth year in a row that the global event was held. Since its inception, about 235,000 children



Kelly Blacker, a swimming coach and instructor at Willowbrook Swim & Tennis Club in Mount Kisco, leads about 20 children through "The World's Largest Swimming Lesson" to promote water safety.

and adults have participated. Last year, the event included more than 41,000

participants.

Abigail Adams, director of communications at the American Red Cross in Westchester, said offering swim lessons to children as young as toddlers is one of the most important water safety steps parents can take. Lessons can reduce the risk of drowning by 88 percent in children one to four years old, she said.

But parents, babysitter and caregivers also must be vigilant when going to the pool with children. Adams said most drownings occur within the sight of one or both parents and can happen in an instant

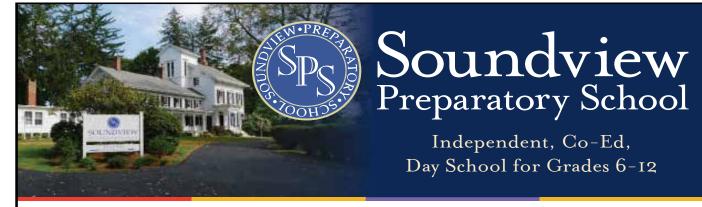
Blacker said she was inspired to be a swimming instructor after an elementary school friend lost a sibling in a backyard swimming pool drowning. The tragic accident ripped the family apart.

"I saw that as a young child and I've made it my life's passion to try and prevent that," she said.

A few of last week's participants signed up for the lesson even though they are already outstanding swimmers. Eleven-year-old twins Carly and Haley Penn said having the lesson was a good reminder to follow rules and safety at the start of summer.

One of the youth instructors, 14-yearold Jack Engel, said his father had been a competitive swimmer and encouraged him to take up the sport.

"It's a vital skill to prevent deaths and I feel like it's one of the main reasons why I still do it," Engel said.



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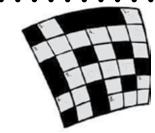
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### Have You Thought About Where You Want to Live After You Die?

There's some lucky stiff spending eternal life on top of Marilyn Monroe thanks to either his vanity or warped humor or his wife's open-mindedness or wealth.

Whatever the circumstances, it led to someone shelling out \$4.6 million through an eBay auction in 2011 to buy the crypt just above the blonde bombshell's final resting place at a Los Angeles cemetery.

When we are alive and kicking, we put so much thought into where we want to live – the community, the neighborhood, the block, the style of house, the

amenities. Sometimes, but not always, we put just as much thought into buying that piece of real estate where our remains will stay after our souls have left this earthly plane, whether it's a plot of land with a headstone, a grand mausoleum, a crypt or an urn for the mantel.

From what I've observed of those who have passed among family and friends, we either totally ignore or obsess about that final piece of real estate in which we'll invest. My mother refused to consider that my father might die throughout his

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

final illness and made no plans for a funeral or burial until after the mortician came for his body.

At that time, my family was living in Virginia, but my mother wanted my dad's body returned to their "true home," to be buried on the outskirts of Philadelphia. When we learned that it would be necessary to transport him by train, involving an overnight layover in Baltimore, my mother said, "No, Al always hated travel and he's not going to spend his last trip overnight in a train station." She decided, perhaps somewhat capriciously, to bury him "here

with the hillbillies."

So, my dad remains in Virginia for his eternal rest and I've been able to visit him only once in the past 40 years. When my mother died, she was cremated and her urn is buried next to him. Ultimately, a bad commute sealed the fate of my dad's last real estate investment.

Likewise, most of us will probably wait until the last minute to make burial arrangements for our loved ones and then ask a funeral director to make recommendations. From my local funeral

parlor, Yorktown Funeral Home, I learned that, sure enough, that is frequently the case. A funeral director must recommend several cemeteries when last-minute decisions are made.

Interested as I am in historic properties, I'm very aware of the family plots we find on private properties throughout my region of Westchester and Putnam counties and, surprisingly, New York State still allows municipalities to make that determination. In an age of track developments, few of us think about on-site burials, but still, some of us with enough acreage might consider it.

In New York State, it was all laid out in the Burial Laws Amendment Act of 1880. It's kind of creepy to consider that a body comes within the definition of "clinical waste" and as such cannot be disposed of except under the provisions of the Control of Pollution Act of 1974 and the Environment Protection Act of 1990

As for me, no thanks, I don't want to be buried in the traditional way in a metal box six feet under, unless I opt for a "green" burial, where it's natural in all respects. No embalming fluid, no concrete vault, just a biodegradable casket, shroud or my favorite fuzzy

blanket, where I am reunited with the earth and recycled to new life.

Or better yet, I will choose cremation to hasten the process foretold in Genesis 3:19: "For dust you are and to dust you will return." I've already suggested to my wife that she dump my ashes into the flowing Hudson. From there, I will be carried out to the great Atlantic and from there to the seven seas, covering the globe. In effect, my last home on earth will be without boundary – and totally tax free.

Here's an epilogue to the Marilyn Monroe story. For anyone who thought there wasn't some dark humor to the real estate deal on top of Marilyn Monroe's final resting place, consider that when the crypt was sold in 2011 for that princely sum it was disclosed that the occupant who had to relinquish his envied position above her was lying face down. You can't make this stuff up.

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

#### SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS





### **County, Business Leaders Celebrate Job-Training Program Milestone**

#### By Sean Browne

Business leaders and elected officials last week celebrated the success of a critical program in Westchester that provides retraining for the unemployed and matches their skills to businesses with job openings.

Jobs Waiting, a federally-funding regional job training initiative designed to provide people who have been out of work at least six months, with intensive training to change careers and land a job. Its 300th hire in the past three years was recognized as an event to promote the program was held June 18 at the County Building.

The program model is built around rigorous six-week boot camps, which offers specialized training in resume building and interview and social media skills. It is led by the county in partnership with the Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board, career centers throughout seven Hudson Valley counties and the Westchester County Association.

"This is a program that is working," County Executive George Latimer said last Monday. "Today is an opportunity to talk about something that we hope to continue to be an asset as we grow our economic efforts here in Westchester County and because of our work that we are doing regionally in Putnam County as well."

Since its 2015 inception, Jobs Waiting has enrolled 463 participants in 21 career readiness boot camps. More than 300 people have now found jobs through the program in the Hudson Valley.

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-Harrison), who assisted in securing a \$9.8 million Ready to Work grant from the U.S. Department of Labor that helped fund Jobs Waiting, said she's been impressed with how the program has been able to connect employers and job seekers.

"I have watched in awe as Jobs Waiting has trained hundreds of individuals for skills to match open jobs in (the) local healthcare and technology workforce," Lowey said. "I am so thrilled that over 300 job seekers have been employed by more than 200 employers throughout the region."

Healthcare has been the biggest job creator for Jobs Waiting, with more than 150 participants earning healthcare credentials.

Maribel Valencia-Barajas, a Jobs Waiting participant, said after completing the training she was able to land a job as a medical record specialist for Westchester Neurological Consultants in Yonkers.

After working a variety of retail and insurance jobs, Valencia-Barajas wanted more of a profession but did not know how to get started. Jobs Waiting was able to help her, she said.

"I developed tools that I did not have before, a professional resume, a LinkedIn profile and a professional pitch," said Valencia-Barajas, who was recognized as the 300th Jobs Waiting member to get a job. "I learned how to put myself out there and gain confidence. Jobs Waiting helped me pay for my medical assistant training for 900 hours and I earned my credentials and got hired."

In the future, she wants to take classes in health management so one day she'd be qualified to oversee the operation of a doctor's office.

Jobs Waiting has also been useful to employers because open job slots are being filled by trained job seekers. In addition, human resource departments have found the program exceedingly beneficial.

"Jobs Waiting has saved us time and effort in our recruiting because the candidates are professional, polished, motivated and vetted before they even come through our doors," said Eric Saidel, director of human resources for the Tarrytown-based ENT and Allergy Associates, which has partnered with the program. "I love that the program gives qualified employers the talent they have."

More information about Jobs Waiting can be found at www.jobswaiting.com.

Maribel Valencia-Barajas was recognized last week as the 300th job recipient of the federally-funded program Jobs Waiting, which trains the unemployed to have new careers.



SEAN BROWNE PHOTO



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# Ex-Chief Celebrates 50 Years With P'ville Volunteer Fire Department

Roger Lemcke is celebrating 50 years with the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department this month.

Born, raised and educated in Pleasantville, he worked for the Village of Pleasantville's Department of Public Works, retiring after 37 years.

Lemcke enlisted in the Army in 1969 and received basic training in Fort Jackson, S.C. and Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and finally Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill. He was deployed to Vietnam in 1970-71, served 1971 to 1972 at West Point's Stewart Field detachment and was honorably discharged in 1975 after three years of inactive reserve. Lemcke's guard unit was activated in 1998 and 2001. He ultimately retired from the army at the rank of staff sergeant in 2002.

Lemcke's Army career was highlighted by several commendations and medals including the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross and two army commendation medals. He also received a Good Conduct, Vietnam Campaign medal, two achievement medals and two national defense medals.

Continuing his unselfish commitment to volunteer, Lemcke was elected as



Roger Lemcke, a former chief with the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department, celebrated 50 years with the department this month.

lieutenant for the Daniel P. Hays Hose Company of the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department in 1974. Thereafter, he rose to the rank of captain and was ultimately appointed second assistant chief in 1995 and became department chief in 1999. He served in that position until 2001.

From 2001 to 2007, he served as deputy chief, marking 12 years on the chief's staff. Lemcke's service to the department was accomplished while coaching Dad's Club baseball for 12 years and being an active member of American Legion Post 77, where he is a 39-year member. He also joined the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps as a driver in 2008.

Lemcke received the Firefighter of the Year Award twice as well as registering most calls for the fire department and for the ambulance corps during other years. He also received a lifesaving award and a unit citation as a member of the Ambulance Corps and has also been named Member of the Year.

The support and backing of family is essential for volunteers like Lemcke.

"He is the epitome of the volunteer," said Lemcke's wife, Jeanne. "I have always been proud of him and have been by his side. Wherever we spend our retirement years, I am sure he will continue volunteering and excelling at whatever he does."

"Above all else, same beautiful wife who was with me through it all for 50 of those 50 years," Lemcke said.

Volunteerism is a family affair as Jeanne Lemcke volunteered for the Pleasantville Ambulance Corps for five years, and their son, Craig, also proudly wore the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department uniform. Lemcke has three other children, Jill, Karen and Aaron. Craig and his wife, Chaille, live in Denver with their daughter Mila; Jill and her husband, Bert, live in Fairfax, Va. with their three children; Karen lives in New York City; and Aaron lives in Mahopac.

To this day, Lemcke continues his work with the ambulance corps and the fire department, recently taking on the responsibility of lieutenant at Hays Hose. He responds to a significant number of calls for both organizations. Lemcke has assumed leadership roles in all of his endeavors and it can be said that he is a volunteer's volunteer, putting his community first.

After 50 years of service Lemcke continues on and is a sterling example to all who volunteer as first responders.

# Happenin8s

Tuesday, June 26

Buying and Selling Commercial Real Estate. Listen to finance, taxation and economic development experts. Presented by T Square Properties and whether their BEST practices (buying, exchanging, selling and tenant management) are best for you. 56 Lafayette Ave., Studio 10, White Plains. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Seating limited; RSVP required. Info and RSVP: Contact Toni at 914-328-7511 or e-mail Toni@tsquareproperties.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.

Author Talk. Local resident Jodi Baretz, author of "Mindful is the New Skinny," writes about the struggles that have touched her and her clients regarding the topics of mindfulness and nutrition. She offers a sane and sustainable approach to ending the love-hate relationship with food and yourself. Baretz is a psychotherapist and certified holistic health coach in private practice at the Center for Health and

healing in Mount Kisco. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www. chappaqualibrary.org.

#### Wednesday, June 27

**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.

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.

**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

event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Martin Wilbur at mwilbur@theexaminernews.com.com. ograms that to two-and-a-half years old. Mount

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Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except July 4). Info: 914-769-0548 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Senior Benefits Information Center.
Counselors offer older adults one-on-one

Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd.,

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.

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

continued on page 22

# Happenin8s

continued from page 21

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

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

Sing Me a Story, Read Me a Song. Sing old and new favorites like "Bingo," "Goodnight Moon," "Skip to my Lou," "Miss Mary Mack," "The Little Engine That Could" and more. For children two to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 2 to 2:45 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.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.mountkiscolibrary.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.

**Dancing at Dusk.** Highlights music and dance from cultures around the world for children of all ages to explore with their families. To celebrate the 10th anniversary of this series, some of the favorite artists

are returning, including Reena Shah, who will lead the instruction of dances from Bhangra to Bollywood, accompanied by Dhol, Indian Flutes and more. Move to the intricate rhythms of Indian music while learning the celebratory dances to accompany them. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 5 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (12 and under): \$7. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

First-time Home Buying Workshop. Meet with mortgage experts and learn more about the advantages of home ownership, the mortgage qualification process and first-time home buyer mortgage programs. Refreshments will be served. People's United Bank, 59 Kensico Rd., Thornwood. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. RSVP required. Info and RSVP: Contact Vincent DiMella at 914-246-7138.

Mount Kisco Arts Council Summer Outdoor Concert Series: Drew Bordeaux. Featuring this Mount Kisco native who performs with his acoustic guitar and his earthy solo vocals. Fountain Park, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 6:30 p.m. Free. Concerts continue on alternating Wednesdays through Sept. 19. Info: Visit www.mountkiscoartscouncil.org.

"Young Sherlock Holmes." A teenage Sherlock Holmes meets and befriends his future sidekick, the bemused and bespectacled John Watson. When assorted people start having inexplicable delusions that lead to their deaths, Holmes decides to investigate. Part of The Game is Afoot: A Sherlock Holmes Film Series. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Talkbacks: Special Needs Trust. Featuring speakers Robert Mascali, who assists individuals, their families and attorneys regarding public benefit compliance and helping people plan their estate and trust matters, and Rick Shonter from The Centers. The first in a series of public discussion events on a substantive issue. Arc Stages, 147 Wheeler Ave., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Free. RSVP required. Info and RSVP: E-mail marlenecanapi@arcstages.org.

Art Series: Modigliani Part II and Forger Elmyr de Hory. Tonight's class will take a deeper look at the work of Amadeo Modigliani, a friend of Picasso and Brancusi. While he only lived for 35 years, Modigliani's paintings, drawings and sculptures have captivated the art world for the last century. In addition to his talent, explore the hubris of art forger Elmyr de Hory and his intriguing copies of Modigliani's work. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

**Separation/Divorce Support Group.** A new group for men and women

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

"The Pearl Button." The ocean contains the history of all humanity. Chile, with its 2,670 miles of coastline, the largest archipelago in the world, presents a supernatural landscape. In it are volcanoes, mountains and glaciers. Some say that water has memory; this film shows that it also has a voice. Followed by a Q&A with artists-in-residence Martha Gregory, a filmmaker, director and editor who works on narrative and documentary films. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Nonmembers: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www. burnsfilmcenter.org.

#### Thursday, June 28

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

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

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

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

**Bridge for Beginners/Intermediate.** With Joel Goren. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Also July 5, 12 and 19. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

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

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

Isabel Leonard and Sharon Isbin. A Spanish program performed by Metropolitan Opera star Isabel Leonard and renowned classical guitarist Sharon Isbin in the perfectly suited setting of the enchanting Spanish Courtyard of the historic Rosen House. Featuring works by Enrique Granados, Manuel de Falla, Xavier Montsalvatge, Federico García Lorca and others. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 7 p.m. \$25, \$35, \$45 and \$55. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

Summer Comedy Contest. Lucy's Laugh Lounge is proud to present its Summer Comedy Contest. Starring Regina DeCicco. Also featuring Trina Alper, Jonathan Bar-Ness, Alex Barry, Joseph Conklin, Ryan DeNisco, AJ Foster, Dean Gemmell and Rick Kenney. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs. com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

"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 29 and 30 at 8 p.m. and July 1 at 3 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-277-8477 or visit www. schoolhousetheater.org.

#### Friday, June 29

**ZUMBA**\* With Amy. Fun cardio dance continued on page 24



# **StepWISEnow Briarcliff Manor**

#### By Martin Wilbur

Molly Roffman knows what can happen to healthy, active older adults once they've sustained a fall.

A longtime physical therapist, Roffman has witnessed patients enter nursing homes after falling or tripping and end up losing their independence forever.

"I saw from that experience firsthand how devastating it all can be," she said. "Sometimes people would come in after a fall and never go home again."

Roffman launched StepWISEnow earlier his year, a balance training and fall prevention practice in Briarcliff Manor. Her studio hosts a variety of classes throughout the week, many of which she leads, that have been proven to help with balance. She employs a beginner's level class that includes light warm up, seven tai chi movement sequences, how people can do tai chi on their own and how to reduce stress and increase mindfulness.

Then there are step and chair yoga classes, line dancing and ZUMBA Gold to keep the senior limber and less

susceptible to falls.

There are also workshops and private lessons. Two smaller rooms offer reflexology and Reiki by certified practitioners.

Roffman cited New York State Department of Health findings that show nearly all falls are predictable and preventable. About one-third of adults 65 years old will fall every year; those who have fallen already will be at risk to do so again, she said. In fact, some adults can start experiencing slowly deteriorating balance as early as their fifties, Roffman said.

While making one's residence more suitable for seniors, such as getting rid of throw rugs and common-sense clearing of clutter, is recommended, nothing is as effective as the aforementioned exercises that have proven to be effective, she said.

Attendees of the StepWISEnow studio range from 55 to 95 years old for the one-hour classes.

"It's really exciting and what's really wonderful is to see the really dramatic changes you can make from these



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Molly Roffman puts a tai chi class through its paces at StepWISEnow. The studio helps the older adult improve and maintain good balance, which helps to prevent falls.

exercises," said Roffman, who can accommodate up to about 15 people in a class. "It doesn't matter how old you are, you can improve your strength and your balance at any age no matter how much you've exercised in the past."

To reap the biggest benefit, Roffman suggests two classes a week for participants. Within six months there will be a noticeable improvement, she said.

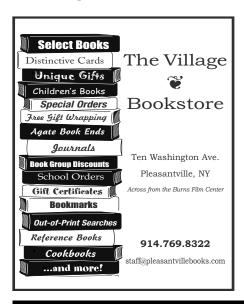
Several women who have attended Roffman's classes reported improvements in their balance and activity less time than that. Bernadette Carroll of Sleepy Hollow said following a knee replacement about two years ago, she lost a certain amount of balance, but she has been regaining it at StepWISEnow.

"In the two months I've been coming here it's improved tremendously because if you do what she's saying, it uses all the muscles," Carroll said. "When she says sit back and bend your knees, you feel all the muscles working and when you're just watching it you don't realize it."

In the future, Roffman said she may schedule classes and workshops off-site, but for now her challenge is to make sure seniors have the tools they need to prevent falls and enjoy life.

"Basically, what I'm trying to do is there's a major gap in the continuum of care for older adults," she explained. "Programs that are available are not being provided for people who are falling and dying and losing their independence and it should be happening because these are programs that we know that are effective, but they're not being offered."

StepWISEnow is located at 325 S. Highland Ave. in Briarcliff Manor. For more information, including the schedule of classes, visit www. stepwisenow.com.







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# Happenin8s

continued from page 22

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.

Ossining Waterfront Summer Concert Series: Out After Curfew. This classic rock cover band plays music by artists such as Tom Petty, Fleetwood Mac, Pink Floyd, Counting Crows and many others. Concessions provided by some of Westchester's best food trucks are available. Louis Engel Waterfront Park, Westerly Road, Ossining. 7 p.m. Free.

Friday Night Film Series: "Modigliani." Starring Andy Garcia, this 2004 feature about tempestuous talent Amadeo Modigliani and his rivalry with fellow artist Pablo Picasso during Paris' annual art competition. Lauded by Rex Reed as a film that is as haunting as it is dramatic, this feature is a romantic interpretation of the very turbulent period at the end of Modigliani's life. 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.

Kronos Quartet. The string quartet reimagined, having spent its 40 years exploring new sounds by bringing more than 900 works and arrangements into the world and delving into an eclectic repertoire spanning 20th century masters, contemporary composers, jazz legends, rock artists and genre-defying creators. Kronos Quartet has won over 40 awards for their contributions and now bring their revelatory artistry with a dynamic program. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 8 p.m. \$25, \$35, \$45 and \$55. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

#### Saturday, June 30

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, the Mount Pleasant Library will be at the market for youngsters from 9:30 to 11 a.m., the music series will feature dynamic guitar duo Isra-Alien from 10 a.m. to noon and there will be a visit from the Open Door Family Medical Center WIC Program, which will present a farm-to-table recipe demo from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Rain or shine. The market is a dog-free environment. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 17. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

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

Butterfly Exhibit. This exhibit in the enchanting Native Plant Meadow enables visitors to enjoy close encounters with butterflies and learn about their importance in nature. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore St., Scarsdale. Members: Free. Non-members: Adults--\$11. Seniors and students--\$10. Children--\$9. Children (under 2): Free. Includes admission to the Manor House Animal Museum and exhibits. Exhibit continues through Aug. 5 during regular nature center hours, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekends. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.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. Call or visit website because classes are subject to change.

Float Like a Butterfly. Join a naturalist on a short walk to the beautiful Native Meadow. Learn about the life cycle of a butterfly and discover the epic migration Monarchs complete every year. Get up close and personal with the butterflies. If you're lucky one might even land on you. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore St., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$10. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

"Celebrating Life." The Yoga Teachers Association (YTA) of the Hudson Valley is thrilled to host "Celebrating Life (and Turning 100!)" with beloved yogini and soon-to-be centenarian Tao Porchon-Lynch. A rare opportunity to experience Porchon-Lynch's unique and accessible teachings firsthand. After some yoga practice and her signature "yoga talk," move to the lounge for an early celebration of her 100th birthday in August. Refreshments will be served and Porchon-Lynch will be available for pictures and book signings. Participants should bring a yoga mat. Yoga Studio at Club Fit, 584 N. State Rd., Briarcliff Manor. 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. In advance: YTA members--\$45. Non-members: \$65. At the door: YTA members--\$55. Nonmembers--\$75. Pre-registration requested. Info: Contact Audrey Brooks at 914-582-7816 or ytapresident@gmail.com. Pre-registration: Visit www.ytayoga.com.

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.

Piano Recital by Sayuri Goto Paino Studio. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

Lippi, Rosato and Pilc. This incredible trio will perform in an evening of dynamic musical explorations and jazz improvisation with Jerad Lippi on drums, Rick Rosato on bass and Jean-Michel Pilc on piano. The opening act will be Lagond Music School graduate Henry Mermer, who will present a set of original compositions and poetry alongside his quartet. Featuring Mermer on drums, Adam Cordero on saxophone, Odin Scherer on guitar and Finn Carroll on bass. Lagond Music School's Gallery, 9 Haven St., Elmsford. 7 p.m. \$15 in advance. \$20 at the door. Info and tickets: Visit www. lagond.brownpapertickets.com.

Summer Comedy Contest. Lucy's Laugh Lounge is proud to present its Summer Comedy Contest. Starring Andy Fiori. Also featuring Joe AL, Bill Cannon, James Crowley, Chris Vaccarelli, Kaitlyn Murphy, Will Murphy, Kyle Shaw and Frank Starr. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs. com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

Old 97's in Concert. One of the pioneers of the alt-country movement, Old 97's tour behind their newest release "Graveyard Whistling," a release filled with raucous energy, deceptive cleverness and knockabout spirit. In 1996, Old 97's recorded "Too Far to Care." It was their major label debut following two independent releases and a year-long bidding war where the Dallas-based quartet had signed with Elektra Records. But rather than venture into some state-of-art studio in New York or L.A., the band went to Village Productions in Tornillo,

Texas, a remote facility near the Mexican border with a mixing board acquired from an engineer who had worked on some of Queen's albums. Now more than 20 years later, they have returned to record their 11th studio album, "Graveyard Whistling." Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$30, \$35 and \$40. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall. org.

Orchestra of St. Luke's. Currently serving as music director of the Seattle Symphony, Ludovic Morlot makes his debut leading Caramoor's orchestra in residence, Orchestra of St. Luke's, in this program featuring the New York premiere of Matthew Aucoin's "Evidence," a musical adventure full of "color and character." Also on the program is Tchaikovsky's romantic Romeo & Juliet Fantasy Orchestra and Smetana's "Dance of the Comedians." Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 8 p.m. \$25, \$40, \$50, \$60, \$70 and \$80. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

#### Sunday, July 1

Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they celebrate the birth of pups! Guests will visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr as well as the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also July 4, 7, 14, 28 at 11 a.m., July 29 at 1 p.m. and July 8, 15, 21 and 22 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and preregistration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Beginner Bird Watching. Learn how to recognize birds by shape, behavior, plumage and more using binoculars and field guides to zero in on the identity of that mysterious little brown (or yellow or red or green) bird. Bring your own binoculars. Suggested for ages 18 and up. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www. greenburghnaturecenter.org.

"Inuksuit." Discover this John Luther Adams work, an epic outdoor piece performed by more than 60 percussionists and other instrumentalists and directed by Doug Perkins. The program calls for the audience to wander outside among musicians playing an incredible array of instruments, including conch shells, sirens, gongs, bells, drums, cymbals and glockenspiels, dispersed throughout the landscape. Hear more about the sound art exhibition in a panel discussion moderated by curator Stephan Moore. Also, an

# Summer Sky Brings a Wonderful Martian Show to Gazers

One night during the holiday season about 40 years ago, a family friend and I stepped outside. As long strands of incandescent bulbs flickered around us among juniper branches and dormant azaleas, he pointed to a reddish dot in the sky.

"That's Mars," he said with a long swing of his arm and a hand on my back, cigarette smoke swirling around his fingers.

I wasn't old enough then to truly

understand what I was looking at. Some were stars, some were planets, sure, but to

Mars was that place people used to think had little green men, but the only one we knew of was in the Bugs Bunny cartoons.

In the years after, I fell for the solar system's moons. Mars is no match for the giant outer planets. It only has two, the tiny, lumpy Phobos and Deimos. Phobos orbits so close to the planet that it gets all the way around in about eight hours, fast

enough that future vacationers will watch it coast across the Martian sky and then reappear a few hours later.

It's doomed, though. Before long it'll spiral inward and be torn apart by Mars's gravity and rain down on the parched mountains below or become a gorgeous ring stretching across its sky.

Still, keeping an eye on Mars is like keeping in touch with those old friends. Earlier this month, when

NASA announced that organic molecules, carbonbased chemicals,

were found by the Curiosity rover, my eyes widened. These chemicals themselves don't mean there's life there now, or that there ever has been, but it's another piece of the puzzle. Little by little we're inching toward finding something, someone. Little green men? No, but this onagain, off-again hunt for life on Mars is always exciting.

As July's heat settles in, the orbits of Earth and Mars will line up so

Mars will be closer and appear brighter than it has since 2003. It'll be directly opposite the Sun in the sky – at opposition – toward the end of the month. Watching it move into the sky earlier and brighten a little each night until then will be an amazing show.

If you look toward the east after dark you can see it rise among the flickering, dim stars of Capricornus, the strange half-goat,

half-fish sea creature. Mars reaches opposition about every two years. This time, we'll be only about 36 million miles apart, right next door as these things go.

Before then, it's Saturn's and our moon's turns. The Full Strawberry Moon is on Thursday, June 28. It's also called the Full Honey Moon, if you've ever wondered where the name of that vacation came from. The moon will look almost full for a couple of nights before and after, most notably



By Scott Levine

tomorrow, June 27. That night, Saturn, its rings and its 62 moons will be bright and at their own opposition.

With Saturn and Mars joining Venus and Jupiter back in the evening's prime time, the summer's heat gives us a great chance to see some old friends. If you're lucky, maybe you can catch Mercury, too. I hope you'll step out

and let me know what you see. Clear skies!

Scott Levine has loved astronomy since he was young and now watches and writes about the skies near his Croton-on-Hudson home. You can read Scott's Sky Watch astronomy website, with its "Space, taken easy" approach to naked-eye astronomy, at scottastronomy.wordpress.com. You can also find him at astroscott@yahoo.com or on Twitter @scottlevine13.

# **Happenings**

**Clear Skies** 

continued from page 24

interactive percussion activity for children and a pre-concert talk. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. Panel discussion at 1 p.m. Interactive percussion activity at 2 p.m. Pre-concert talk at 3 p.m. Concert at 4 p.m. Free. Reservations required. Info and reservations: 914-232-1252 or visit www. caramoor.org.

#### Monday, July 2

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

Summer Wolf Camp for Kids. Give the young animal lover in your family a chance to thrive among wolves all week long. This five0day program will include opportunities for your child to learn about nature and wildlife through woodland exploration, scavenger hunts, wilderness games, live animals and more. Children will learn about various habitats, animal

communication and behavior, food chains and local wildlife. For children in grades 1-6. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$350 per child. Also the weeks of July 9, 16, 23 and 30. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

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

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.

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.

Telephone Support Group for Women With Metastatic Breast Cancer. This Support Connection group offers the opportunity to share information and experiences with women across the country who are living with breast cancer.

Share information and experiences. Confidentially discuss concerns and gain support from others who understand from the comfort of home. Open to women nationwide living with recurrent, advanced stage or metastatic breast cancer. 8 p.m. Free. Typically, the first Monday of each month. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Contact Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290

#### Tuesday, July 3

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.

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

Kensico Dam Music Fest and Fireworks. DJ entertainment followed by a live concert with patriotic favorites and fireworks after dark. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. DJ

entertainment at 6 p.m. Concert at 8 p.m. Fireworks at 9:15 p.m. Free. Info: 914-231-4033.

Ossining Waterfront Summer Concert Series: Jon Bates Band. Bring your dancing shoes because this party band will get you up on your feet before and after you watch the dazzling fireworks display explode over the Hudson River. Concessions provided by some of Westchester's best food trucks are available. Louis Engel Waterfront Park, Westerly Road, Ossining. 7:30 p.m. Free.

#### Wednesday, July 4

Independence Fair. Day celebratory, family-friendly event is in honor of America's founding and hosted by the Bedford-Armonk Rotary Club. Features readings of the Declaration of Independence, petting zoo, stilt walker, log cutting, an 18th century equestrian demonstration, pony rides, crafts, historic house tours, hayrides, live music, discovery centers, fishing, pet adoption, student art show and food from the grill and other refreshments. A festive way for families to explore the National Historic Landmark home of founding father and America's first Chief Justice John Jay. John Jay Homestead, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. Food and most activities available by ticket purchase. Info: Visit www.bedfordarmonkrotary.org or e-mail bedfordarmonkrotary@gmail.com.

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#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

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 AL-VIN 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: West-chester 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.

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:

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# The Lowly Natural Cork is Raised to Lofty Heights



stoppers. Much has changed in the last 10 years. Natural cork dominated the closures for bottles over many centuries. And, in spite of inroads from other forms of closure, they still

But in the end, natural cork is simply a choice made to seal a bottle of wine. Not a very high-tech concept. Well, maybe not.

Recent studies have uncovered a compelling influence that natural cork seems to impart on the contents of a bottle of wine. Modern science has changed our understanding of the composition and genetics of numerous products and processes in ways previously unimaginable. But a lowly cork?

In another example of the serendipitous anomalies found in science, a Portuguese cork producer striving to reduce the incidence of cork taint in wine has stumbled on a hidden benefit of corks. Their premise? Cork is not just a closure; it impacts the evolution of wine while in a bottle. And with a positive effect.

Natural cork has long been known to

have desirable qualities, notably being breathable, thus enhancing the nature and quality of bottled wine over a number of years. These qualities partially contribute to the amazing ageability of individual bottles of wine. Under ideal storage conditions, Bordeaux wines may continue to age for up to 50 years - and longer.

Ten years ago, the incidence of cork taint (an off-putting aroma like wet newspaper) was rather high and alternate forms of closure were developed. While these closures have risen in popularity over the cork taint concerns, the last few years have seen a measurable enhancement by the cork industry to minimize and eventually eradicate this problem. Of the several alternatives that were introduced into the market (screwcap, glass, agglomerated, which is fused particles of natural cork, and synthetic), only the screwcap seems to have gained a modicum of sustained popularity among winemakers and the consuming public.

Today, after the Portuguese cork industry undertook a major effort to improve corks and lower the incidence of taint, cork is regaining its ages-old prominence. Annual production exceeds 12 billion, accounting for 70 percent of all closures. The latest competition has come from other natural material, notably sugar cane, on which I

have previously reported.

The attraction of natural cork persists among winemakers. But in the end its centuries-old use is basically as a bottle stopper. Well, maybe.

A recent study enhances the reputation of cork as the optimum natural closure. The trade publication Drinks Business recently reported on a research paper in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry concerning the impact of certain compounds in natural cork on the aging and quality of wine. It interviewed the director of

research and development for Amorim Group, Dr. Miguel Cabral, for further insights. Amorim, the largest producer of natural corks in the world, has been conducting research on natural cork.

His premise: cork is cultivated from the bark of the Quercus suber tree, a genus of the oak family. Barrels from oak trees are used to store and age wine, imparting distinct aromas, flavors and structure to a wine. So naturally, one would expect, on a significantly smaller scale, a similar impact from corks.

Quotes by Cabral from the interview:

"Amorim was attempting to put the science behind the belief that wine matures

'differently and better under cork.' When we put wine in a barrel there is an extraction of phenolic compounds (sic) from a barrel into the wine, and it's the same when we put wine in a bottled seal with a cork."

These compounds include tannins, phenols and polyphenols and "have been shown to reduce color deterioration and astringency in wine."

Cabral has identified 40 different extractible compounds in a natural cork that may be beneficial to the aging of wine.

Wine is a living, breathing organism,

constantly interacting with its environment. Amorim's fascinating research may offer insights into wine's future manipulation. I endorse this nature-based advancement of modern

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

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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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