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September 4 - September 10, 2018

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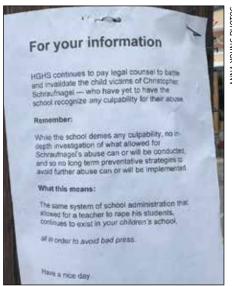
Volume 12, Issue 574

Chappaqua Fliers Take Aim at School District in Sexual Abuse Case

Anonymous fliers circulated throughout downtown Chappaqua last week criticizing the Chappaqua Central School District for allegedly trying to invalidate claims that former Horace Greeley High School drama teacher Christopher Schraufnagel sexually abused students.

Nearly three years after Schraufnagel was arrested, close to 20 fliers blasting school officials for their handling of the matter popped up along the busiest sections of King Street and South Greeley Avenue. With three different messages scattered downtown, one ends, "Your friendly neighborhood rape victim."

The messages, printed on white sheets of paper, claim school officials have refused to take responsibility for Schraufnagel's indiscretions on the Horace Greeley campus so the district can avoid bad press and having to pay



Hi There HGHS continues to battle and invalidate Schraufnagel's child victims, in an attempt to avoid paying them for the cost of their mental healthcare. Have a nice day.



The three different fliers that were posted on poles throughout downtown Chappaqua last week condemning the Chappaqua School District for their handling of the Christopher Schraufnagel sexual abuse scandal.

"HGHS continues to battle and invalidate Schraufnagel's child victims, in an attempt to avoid paying them for the cost of their mental healthcare," one flier read.

Another stated "While the school

denies any culpability, no in-depth investigation of what allowed for

continued on page 2

Mt. Kisco Independent Candidate Route 100C Bridge Replacement Running for Trustee's Seat Project Begins in Mount Pleasant

By Neal Rentz

The party that helped elect Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich and Trustee Isi Albanese last year announced its support for another challenger who will vie for one of two trustee seats in this November's election

Gina DiLeo last Thursday was endorsed by the independent 4MK party and will face off against Democratic incumbents Jean Farber and Karen Schleimer.

"DiLeo is a first-generation Mount Kisco native with a strong work ethic focused on service to our beautiful village," a party statement read. "Like others on the 4MK team, DiLeo is not a politician. She is a person of action, committed to rolling up her sleeves and working hard to benefit our entire community."

continued on page 6



Gina DiLeo has been endorsed in her race for a seat on the Mount Kisco Village Board by the independent 4MK party.

By Neal Rentz

Work began last week on a nearly \$14 million state Department of Transportation (DOT) project to replace the Route 100C bridge and create a roundabout in Mount Pleasant.

State DOT Acting Commissioner Paul Karas said plans call for the removal and replacement of the bridge carrying Route 100C over Route 9A and construction of a new roundabout at the intersection of Route 100C, the Route 9A southbound ramp and Old Saw Mill River Road in Mount Pleasant and Greenburgh. The project will improve efficiency and enhance safety for motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians along Route 100C, Karas

"The replacement of this bridge and

construction of a new roundabout in this location will both enhance safety and improve the flow of traffic at a location that provides an important connection to major employers, medical facilities and higher education institutions," Karas said.

Preparation, survey and utility work will continue into the fall, but much of the construction work, which will involve the closure of the Route 100C bridge and a detour for Route 9A, is anticipated to begin next spring, the DOT announced last week. The bridge closure will be announced in advance with construction expected to be completed in November, 2019.

The thoroughfare is a popular route for motorists heading to Westchester Community College, Westchester continued on page 6



Chappaqua Fliers Take Aim at School District in Sexual Abuse Case

continued from page 1

Schraufnagel's abuse can or will be conducted, and so no long-term preventative strategies to avoid further abuse can or will be implemented."

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christine Ackerman didn't respond for comment but Board of Education President Warren Messner said trustees did not want to make a statement regarding the fliers and the ongoing lawsuits the district is facing.

David Engelsher, the attorney for four of the plaintiffs in a civil suit against Schraufnagel, said he was heartened

& LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

to see that nearly three years after the disgraced former teacher's sexual abuse became public, the matter is still being discussed.

"I believe the reason for these fliers is that some of the people feel betrayed," Engelsher said. "You bring your children to school and leave them there for most of the day and expect they will be taken care of and not physically, sexually and psychologically abused as was the case here."

In June 2015, following allegations of improper contact with several of his students, Schraufnagel was suspended with pay until he resigned his teaching post after 12 years on the job. The popular drama teacher was arrested in October 2015 and charged with third-degree criminal sex act, a felony, and six misdemeanor charges.

The following month he pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor charges, endangering the welfare of a child, and a misdemeanor count for sexual abuse. Schraufnagel also admitted to abusing three of his 15-year-old students at Greeley between 2011 and 2015.

Last year he was sentenced to three years probation and mandated to register as a Level 3 sex offender.

Seven students and their families have also filed a civil lawsuit against the former teacher and the Chappaqua School District, describing how students were subjected to sexual, verbal and physical abuse and harassment by Schraufnagel while on school grounds and that he provided illegal drugs and alcohol to students.

Community members who buzzed about the fliers and the school district's inaction on social media believe the posters are a cry for help from one of Schraufnagel's victims.

One parent, who wished to remain anonymous, charged that the school is poorly run by leaders who retaliate against students by refusing to provide guidance, advanced classes and college recommendations if parents or students speak out against the district.

"I feel like we taxpayers are more like inmates in a prison (and) complaining just makes things worse," the parent said. "Our only control as school district residents is the school board, and of course they are trying to protect themselves legally, so we have no advocate."

Engelsher had hoped the school district would have reached some closure to the



Christopher Schraufnagel

case by now but said they have continued to deny any knowledge of the events.

"By not resolving the matters, the district is forcing the children to testify about extremely sensitive and personal matters," Engelsher said. "Maybe this is what prompted the circulation of the fliers"

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KNEE REPLACEMENT

County Officials Eye Initial \$7.5M Savings in Shared Services Plan

By Martin Wilbur

A Westchester panel will meet to vote Thursday on a reworked shared services plan that projects savings of \$7.5 million next year and up to \$27 million in recurring savings in the future.

Details of the updated plan were announced last Tuesday by the county's Director of Operations Emily Saltzman and other officials during a public hearing at the White Plains Public Library. The savings would be generated by potential efficiencies in eight areas, Saltzman said.

County Executive George Latimer resubmitted the Westchester County-Wide Shared Services Plan to the state because officials believed they could find more savings than the estimated \$2.13 million for the first year in the initial plan in 2017. Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed legislation creating the Shared Services Initiative that asks counties to submit a cost-saving plan.

Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins said with fiscal pressures mounting, exacerbated by the uncertainty of whether the state will be able to circumvent the new \$10,000 limit in state and local tax deductions, finding savings is essential.

"With the IRS's recent decision and guidance on the SALT deductions, Westchester County is bracing for a bit hit," said Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins. "So we've got to continue to work together and create solutions to reduce the

tax burden. We must think outside the box and let go of our old mentality and holding onto geographic lines."

The eight changes that will be presented to municipal officials across the county next week include creation of an online shared services portal for a potential firstyear savings of \$2.3 million that would help municipalities see where they could share equipment and services with other towns; digitizing electronic records management, which would centralize an electronic storage of records, saving an estimated \$100,000 in 2019; creating a centralized contract for technology and IT services at a potential \$1 million cost savings next year; regional management of tax assessment and billing for a \$1.8 million savings; and enhanced energy efficiency programs and shared school resource officers saving \$1 million each.

Two other proposed service sharing initiatives – consolidating justice courts and a county-wide health consortium – is not expected to yield savings the first year but could save several million dollars each down the road, Saltzman said.

"It's actually what the county would save in a year if all of these things were to happen and were undertaken by the municipalities," Saltzman explained of the projected figures.

The plan must be received by the state no later than Sept. 15 and presented to



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Pictured, left to right, are County Executive George Latimer, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins and Westchester Deputy Director of Operations Emily Saltzman who discussed Westchester's revised shared services plan last week.

Westchester residents by Oct. 15, she said.

Latimer said the effort is only a start. Some difficult decisions may have to be made by municipal leaders, which could require relinquishing control of certain operations or taking on more responsibility, he said.

"We have to figure out do we change, do we adapt or do we continue to grow or do we shrink because we're not ready to make these changes," Latimer said.

An incentive to file and execute a shared services plan is the \$225 million in state matching funds that will provide money

to the counties equal to the dollars saved, Jenkins said.

Feedback from municipal and school officials who attended the hearing was generally positive, although there was some frustration regarding statutory limitations on certain types of service sharing and that local governments and school districts at the forefront of shared services will not receive matching funds for previous efforts. However, any expansion of previous service sharing would count toward receiving matching funds.

"I am actually happy that this is happening," said Yonkers Board of Education Trustee Edgar Santana. "I think it's long overdue. If we don't face the reality that we don't save and cut costs we're heading off a cliff."

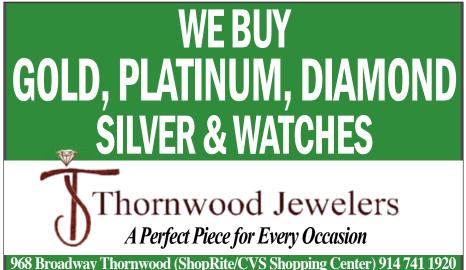
Scarsdale Mayor Dan Hochvert said it doesn't bother him that his village won't receive reimbursement from past efforts because residents have already reaped the benefits.

"I love the process," Pleasantville Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter added. "Congratulations, I love being part of the conversation and we look forward to the next steps."

Westchester's proposed shared services plan will be presented to representatives from all of the county's municipalities on Thursday at the County Center.







A Year on the Campaign Trail, Kesten Confident Heading into Primary

By Martin Wilbur

Robert Kesten doesn't talk much about the legislation he promises to pass should he be elected to the 40th state Senate District this fall.

Rather, Kesten said his focus is building coalitions of legislators and some of the thousands of citizens he has interacted with in his travels in his campaign that started last summer. Fundamental changes are needed in how Albany approaches governing the state and serving its constituents, including major campaign finance and ethics reforms, he said.

First, Kesten, 62, a Lewisboro resident making his first run for public office, must defeat former county legislator Peter Harckham in the Sept. 13 Democratic primary before he can take on incumbent state Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) in November.

"No freshman (legislator) will be passing legislation without an army of people behind them and for a year we've been building that army of people on issue after issue after issue," Kesten said.

"But we're better prepared to not only take on Pete Harckham in the primary and Terrence Murphy in the general (election) but also to get these things that people need and can't get on the floor when we walk in, because on Jan. 1 we don't just show up as a freshman senator, I show up with all the people I've been working with

in this district and around the state for the last year, specifically on the issues that they said are important."

One key issue for Kesten is to work toward single-payer health coverage in New York. While many skeptics, including fiscal conservatives, have expressed concern over the tax impact, Kesten said the costs to the people who need the coverage most will go down, especially as corporations and the federal government look to cut back on plans or force the public to pay more.

"It will save millions of dollars," Kesten declared. "Some people's taxes will go up, some will go down, but the overall costs for individuals in the lower class and middle class will undoubtedly diminish and people will have access to healthcare versus hoping they can get access to insurance, and that's a big difference."

With the future of Roe v. Wade potentially in danger as the U.S. Senate begins hearings on Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, New York must protect women's reproductive rights by approving the Reproduction Health Act, he said.

Kesten said he is a supporter of the package of gun control bills passed in the Assembly earlier this year that bans bump stocks, extends the waiting period from three to 10 days, calls for universal background checks and stopping the illicit



Robert Kesten

interstate transactions that help bring guns to New York.

He is also been an ardent proponent of the so-called red flag bill or Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), which allows a court to confiscate firearms from someone who is considered a threat to themselves or others.

"We have to make sure that guns don't end up in the hands of domestic abusers, people who are suicidal," Kesten said. "There are a whole slew of people that should not have weapons of any kind." To present relief for taxpayers, Kesten supports a more progressive tax structure to pay for education by reducing the overwhelming reliance the property tax. He would also back a statewide reassessment to make sure properties are more equitably taxed.

Kesten dismissed concerns that the region would lack sufficient power should the scheduled 2021 closure of Indian Point materialize. Con Edison and other utilities have slashed their purchase of power from the Buchanan plant because they have found alternative sources, he said.

He suggested the state explore the legality and feasibility of using some of the revenues from the state's three remaining nuclear plants and generating stations upstate to help the host communities who face the loss of large chunks of revenue.

Kesten said many of the problems in Albany stem from the influence of money, including the difficulty in holding Con Edison and NYSEG accountable for their severe shortcomings following weather disasters. Appointments and the lack of proper oversight often stems from excessive campaign contributions and promises of appointments.

The 40th state Senate District race currently allows individual contributions of up to \$7,000 per candidate in a primary and \$11,000 for the general election.

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Harckham Points to Experience as Democratic Primary Nears

By David Propper

For the first time in his political career, 40th state Senate District candidate Peter Harckham believes he's the outsider in next week's primary against Robert Kesten.

Before entering the race, many town Democratic committees in the 40th District endorsed Kesten, but when Harckham entered, those committees either stayed with Kesten or declined to endorse anyone.

"I feel very much like the outsider in this race," Harckham, 57, said.

But Harckham, a South Salem resident, noted that the difference between him and Kesten is he has experience governing and would do so more effectively. With an aggressive legislative agenda on the docket in New York, Harckham believes he can get the necessary work done for his constituents.

Serving Westchester County Board of Legislators for more than seven years, including a four-year period as majority leader, he said many positive things were accomplished with his help.

He also said he has a progressive track record he's proud of and will hold up to anyone. When asked if Kesten was running too far to the left, Harckham demurred and said voters would decide that. But he noted the race against incumbent Republican Terrence Murphy would be won by getting the support of non-affiliated voters, which he said would be receptive to him.

"The record of having gone through the tough fights," Harckham said, adding "You have to be able to communicate to people that just aren't Democrats."

Harckham worked for Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration and was set to take a job within Westchester County Executive George Latimer's administration before he decided to run for Senate. He worked for the Community of Office Renewal and then for the state Thruway Authority in governmental affairs for the new New York bridge project.

Harckham said he's been endorsed by a wide array of elected officials, including Cuomo and Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti, who are not on friendly terms. He was also endorsed by the Working Families Party, which is at odds with

Harckham, who he said has considered running for the Senate seat a couple times before, said attacks from the federal government under President Donald Trump against New York's property taxes and the environment compelled him to enter the race. He said the state Senate, controlled by the GOP's thin majority, has "abdicated its responsibility" and got nothing done.



Peter Harckham

"There are some big issues they just haven't tackled or actively blocked," Harkham said.

Some of those issues include codifying abortion rights in the state constitution, the Child Victims Act, gun control legislation, election reform and healthcare.

"This was not the time to sit on the sidelines, this is a fight I had to get into," he said.

Harckham expressed support for early voting, voting by mail and making it easier to register to vote. He slammed Murphy

for proposing a voter ID law earlier this year because it disenfranchises the poor, minorities and the elderly.

With rampant corruption in Albany, Harckham stressed it was important to close the LLC loophole that allows businesses to skirt campaign finance rules. He said individual minimum contributions should be lowered for people and corporations. State government must be more transparent when it comes to budget season, Harkham said, with every line item being justified so lawmakers can't fill their own pockets.

Harckham said he would vote to limit outside income for lawmakers, but would go along with a pay raise for the legislators to reach that deal. Being a state lawmaker should be a full-time job, he said.

"You should be working year-round," he said. "You should be compensated for that."

If there is outside income, Harckham said it should have nothing to do with state government.

Harckham said the comptroller's office and attorney general's office need to have the latitude to investigate corruption, and if a larger pattern of wrongdoing is discovered, a panel similar to the Moreland Commission should be created.

When discussing the closing of Indian Point in a few years, Harckham said the

continued on page 11

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Mt. Kisco Independent Candidate Running for Trustee's Seat

continued from page 1

She works as a realtor and a 911 dispatcher for the Westchester County Department of Emergency Services and is a volunteer firefighter, according to the 4MK statement. DiLeo also serves as a Girl Scout leader and is a member of the Italian American Club of Northern Westchester.

Attempts to reach DiLeo were unsuccessful. The Examiner was told she was out of town last week.

In response to the village's latest independent candidacy, Farber and Schleimer said they welcomed the challenge and looked forward to speaking about and debating the issues during the campaign.

"No one is indispensable," Farber said. "That being said, I am confident that my record of service will be recognized as deserving another term to continue serving Mount Kisco."

She said her record includes supporting

the referendum for the rehabilitation and improvement of Mount Kisco's three firehouses; voting for the expansion and rehabilitation of the village's DPW building; consolidating the police department with the county to save millions of dollars; working on the Comprehensive Plan update; bringing music and art to the village; and keeping the community affordable.

Asked whether she was concerned about a repeat where the 4MK challenger wins, Schleimer said last year's election

was a referendum to save Kisco Mountain and certain other issues that galvanized the electorate.

This year the board has been successful tackling the Comprehensive Plan update, major capital expenditures and the introduction of solar legislation.

"These proposals are extremely technical. I think it would be difficult for anyone to step in in the middle of these issues," Schleimer said.

Route 100C Bridge Replacement Project Begins in Mount Pleasant

continued from page 1

Medical Center, New York Medical College, Blythedale Children's Hospital and several Westchester County facilities.

Built in 1936, the current span is an arched concrete structure with two travel lanes and one turning lane. It will be replaced with a steel multi-girder bridge that will contain two travel lanes, one turning lane and 10-foot-wide shoulders and five-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides of the bridge, according to the DOT.

The roundabout will replace an intersection now controlled by traffic signs.

Congresswoman

Nita Lowey

(D-Harrison) lauded the project.

"These much-needed improvements should also significantly help the traffic flow at this busy transportation link," Lowey said.

Messages left last week for Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi were not returned.

Additional information, including downloadable brochures, regarding roundabout safety can be found at www. dot.ny.gov/main/roundabouts. An instructional video about how to safely navigate roundabouts is available on the DOT YouTube page.

League of Women Voters to Hold Harckham-Kesten Forum Sept. 5

The League of Women Voters* of New Castle invites the community to a Candidates' Night for the Democratic Party primary between Peter Harckham and Robert Kesten for the 40th state Senate District. It will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Chappaqua Library Theater, located at 195 S. Greeley Ave. in Chappaqua.

The winner of the Sept. 13 primary will run against Republican state Sen. Terrence Murphy. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

For additional information, contact Mary Kirsch at mmkmath48@gmail.com. For more information on candidates and polling places, visit www. Vote411.org.





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Rubeo, Duffy to Square Off in Mt. Pleasant GOP Justice Primary

By Neal Rentz

A race for town justice might be one of the last elected posts where you would expect a primary.

But that's what will happen next week as Mount Pleasant Interim Town Justice Mark Rubeo is being challenged in the Sept. 13 Republican primary by Michael Duffy in the race for a full four-year term.

Rubeo was appointed interim justice by the Town Board to replace Nicholas Maselli, who resigned in the spring. Rubeo, who was sworn in June 2, is completing the final year of Maselli's term, which expires on Dec. 31.

If Rubeo wins the GOP primary he will be on the November ballot without opposition because he has also secured the Conservative, Freedom and Independence party lines.

Both men pointed to their experience and community involvement to explain why they would be best for the job. Rubeo, 47, has a general law practice in Hawthorne, served on the Town Board for eight years and spent five years on the Planning Board, making him a strong candidate.

"I believe my record of service to our town and my past three months as a town justice, along with my over 21 years of legal experience, shows that I have those qualities and that I'm more than capable of continuing to serve our community in this position," Rubeo said.

Appointed to the bench in the spring, Rubeo said he has enjoyed the position, hearing a variety of cases ranging from criminal matters to traffic violations.

Rubeo, who has been active in his church and as a volunteer for the town's American Youth Soccer Organization, said he wasn't surprised that Duffy is challenging him because he had announced his resignation from the town Republican Committee and his intention to run for the seat, although he then withdrew his statement that he would run two days later.

Duffy's previous run for public office came in 2014 when he was defeated by Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti in the 92nd Assembly District.

He said his background in law enforcement and as an attorney would serve the community well if he is elected. He is also a retired White Plains police officer, was chief investigator in the Westchester County district attorney's office and was commander of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Intelligence Center.

Currently, Duffy, 66, is a defense attorney having represented clients in bench and jury trials. He is a pro bono arbitrator for the City Court in White Plains.

Duffy served as a board member for the regional Operation Safe Streets, which is responsible for funding law enforcement efforts to combat drug and crime activity



Mount Pleasant Town Justice Mark Rubeo

in the Hudson Valley.

"I think I am more qualified," Duffy said when comparing himself with Rubeo.

Duffy criticized the process in which Rubeo was chosen as interim town justice. A three-person committee consisting of Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi, Councilman Nicholas DiPaolo and Police Chief Paul Oliva interviewed candidates and recommended that the Town Board appoint Rubeo, Duffy said. However, the committee should have had at least one attorney, he said.

Having represented several town residents in his practice would likely force



Michael Duffy, who is challenging Rubeo in the Sept. 13 Republican primary.

Rubeo to recuse himself from many cases because of a potential conflict of interest, Duffy contended.

"I have no conflicts," he said.

Rubeo responded that he and his opponent know many town residents and could potentially preside over their cases. There is also a recusal process in the event there is a conflict of interest whereby the town's other justice, Robert Ponzini, would hear the case, he said.

Mount Pleasant town justices are paid \$59,000 a year.

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Police Blotter

North Castle Police Department

Aug. 25: An Alder Way resident reported at 12:06 p.m. that there was a burning odor inside her residence. The responding officer and the fire department reported that the condition was caused by a faulty light fixture.

Aug. 26: A complainant reported at

3:23 p.m. that her neighbor on Sterling Road North is playing music very loudly and that it sounds like a concert. The caller stated that she contacted her neighbor asking if he could lower his music but he refused. The responding officers reported speaking with the neighbor, who said he will lower the volume of his music. Matter adjusted.

Obituary

Dorothy Ann Nethercott

Dorothy Ann Nethercott of Valhalla passed away peacefully on Aug. 28. She was 94.

Nethercott was born in the Bronx to Walter and Dorothy (Sharp) Cody on July 26, 1924. She attended St. Anselm's and Bronx Technical School in the Bronx. Later in life, she worked at Macy's, Traveler's Insurance, Avon, Alexander's department store and Beavis Industries.

On Apr. 28, 1946, she married Clement J. Nethercott, who predeceased her on Aug. 20, 2000. Nethercott loved her family dearly and her family loved her. Her kind heart and devotion to helping others earned her induction into the Westchester County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame for selfless service to the Mount Pleasant Seniors in 1996.

Nethercott is survived by her children, Arleen M. Norton, Gerald C. Nethercott (Carol), Terrence J. Nethercott (Diane), Doreen M. DeTurris (Salvatore), Denise M. Grogan (Thomas) and Diane M. Leber (William), along with 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held at Beecher Flooks Funeral home in Pleasantville on Aug. 31. The funeral Mass was held at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Valhalla on Sept. 1 followed by burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Rosary Hill Home, 600 Linda Ave., Hawthorne, N.Y. 10532.

The family thanks the wonderful staff at Hancock Hall in Danbury, Conn. for the excellent care they provided to Dorothy during her stay.

Aug. 27: Caller reported a low hanging wire on Glendale Avenue at 8:58 a.m. The responding officer reported a downed wire is partially in the roadway. Verizon was notified and cones were placed around the wire.

Aug. 27: A caller reported a turtle was in the roadway on Reservoir Road at 7:40 p.m. An officer stated that the turtle was removed from the street.

Aug. 28: Report of a snake in the upstairs hallway on Old Orchard Road at 9:26 p.m. The snake was determined to be a copperhead. The responding officer reported that the snake was contained and safely removed from the residence by the wildlife trapper.

Aug. 29: Multiple callers reported a transformer on fire on Cox Avenue at 12:08 a.m. The dispatching officer notified 60 Control for the fire department to be dispatched. The responding officer confirmed the condition and requested Con Ed be notified.

Aug. 29: An officer on patrol reported at 10:21 a.m. that a sofa bed was on the side of Route 120. The state Department of Transportation was notified.

Valhalla Man Charged With Stealing From His Homeowners Association

A 43-year-old Valhalla man was arraigned last Tuesday for allegedly stealing nearly \$94,000 from his homeowners' association.

John Pacor, an attorney and a former board member of the Pleasant Ridge Homeowners Association where he lives with his wife and children, deposited 51 checks from the association's bank account totaling \$93,955 into his own checking account

between November 2012 and April 2014, according to the Westchester County district attorney's office.



Last August, members of the homeowners; association discovered the theft and filed a complaint with the Mount Pleasant Police Department.

Pacor was charged with one county of second-degree grand larceny, a felony, after surrendering to Mount Pleasant police earlier in the on Aug. 28. He was arraigned in Greenburgh Town Court and released on his own

recognizance. He is scheduled to return to court on Nov. 15.

--Martin Wilbur



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College Students, Administrators Decry Rising Costs at Lowey Forum

By Anna Young

Westchester college students and administrators joined Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) at Pace University last Thursday to discuss college affordability as Congress considers a bill that would cut \$15 billion from federal student aid.

During the hour-long discussion, Lowey listened to stories of how students from many of the county's colleges have struggled with the escalating cost of higher education, mounting student loans and how they have benefited from receiving scholarship money.

"Federal aid is a huge help to us, but the scare for us also is that sometimes it may not always be enough," Pace student Olivia Wint said. "That's one of my worries; I don't want someone's education to come to a stop simply because of other factors in their life."

Lowey cautioned that the Promoting Real Opportunity, Success and Prosperity Through Education Reform Act, also known as the Prosper Act, would cut billions from federal student aid and increase the cost of education. The bill would create an annual limit on loans for graduate students, abolish loan forgiveness and eliminate in-school interest subsidies for middle- and low-income students.

Lowey said the "partisan, mean-spirited bill" is dangerous and being pushed by House Republicans to reauthorize the Higher Education Act.

The ability of students to access a quality,

affordable education we all know is key to good paying jobs and economic security, but the rising cost of college has made the burden of student debt a roadblock for too many Americans," Lowey said. "Under the Prosper Act, more students would have even more debt. This bill is quite simply an assault on the financing of higher education as we know it."

Lowey said that students in the United States currently hold \$1.5 trillion in student loan debt. The average 2016 college graduate has about \$37,000 in student loans, she said.

Shelly Connor, a mother of two and a Westchester Community College and New York University graduate, said she disagrees with rising student loan rates. She said by limiting the amount of loans and eliminating loan forgiveness, education would become less accessible for many students, especially those attending community college.

Westchester Community College
President Dr. Belinda Miles said the
Supplemental Education Opportunity
Grants, Pell Grants, subsidized
undergraduate loans and incomecontingent repayment plans make college
more affordable and accessible to millions
of community college students nationwide.

"Current proposals in the Higher Education reauthorization bill would cut federal student aid, thereby shrinking the talent pipeline into high-demand jobs that stimulate economic growth," Miles said.

Pace President Marvin Krislov said more



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

Rep. Nita Lowey led a roundtable discussion last week at Pace University that addressed the spiraling costs of higher education and the threat of a reduction in student aid.

than 90 percent of Pace students receive financial aid. At Pace, more than \$196 million in institutional aid was awarded to students last year, he said, and more than 3,000 students, about 30 percent of the student body, received Pell Grants. Another 4,000-plus students received subsidized loans and 1,200 students received Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants.

"Federal financial aid is a key part of the funding mix for our students," Krislov said.

Pace student John-Carlo Bautista said Pace wasn't his first choice of college, but he ultimately chose to attend the Pleasantville school because he could receive subsidized loans while he focused on his studies and worked a part-time job. Emerald Rodriguez, another Pace student, said access to federal finance aid programs along with the financial aid package from Pace is helping her pursue a nursing degree.

Lowey said she would bring student concerns to Washington in an effort to prevent the cost of higher education from climbing even higher.

"I'm fighting with many of my colleagues to prevent this bill from becoming law," Lowey said. "We're going to continue to protect federal investments in higher education and make sure that every student has access to a quality, affordable education."





Registration Open for 9/11: Serve + Remember Volunteer Projects

In honor of those killed and those whose lives were forever changed by the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, Westchester County Executive George Latimer will join with Volunteer New York! to host 9/11: Serve + Remember next weekend and on Sept. 11.

Volunteer opportunities will be taking place on Saturday, Sept. 8, Sunday, Sept. 9 and Tuesday, Sept. 11. Service projects at the County Center will take place on Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"On Sept. 11, many Westchester County residents will search for a way to honor those lives that were lost, or forever changed by the tragic events at ground zero," Latimer said. "The 9/11 Serve and Remember Program provides that opportunity, and I encourage everyone to make time in their schedules to join in and

participate yourself."

This year's #911Day event has a special focus on the helpers that emerge in times of crises or who volunteer their time every day in the face of injustice and inequality.

Many volunteer opportunities are family-friendly, and all will help support one of 35 local nonprofits and causes where helpers are needed throughout the year.

Westchester County will also host its annual employee blood drive in partnership with the New York Blood Center on Sept. 11 at the County Center. To sign up or learn more, contact Janet Lokay at 914-995-2127 or e-mail jel1@ westchestergov.com.

"Serving together as a community on #911Day is a way to honor the lives of those lost, while bringing us closer through volunteerism," said Alisa Kesten, executive director of Volunteer New York! "We encourage families, individuals and business groups to participate."

Volunteer opportunities at the Westchester County Center on Tuesday, Sept. 11 include:

- Donate blood (for ages 16 and over)
- Create inspirational cards for deployed service members with United for the Troops from 12 to 1 p.m., 2 to 3:30 p.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m.
- Create math kits for Head Start Early Learners from 12 to 1 p.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m.

- Recycle old t-shirts to create dog toys for shelter dogs in support of the SPCA of Westchester from 12 to 1 p.m.
- Make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for local food shelters with One Sandwich at a Time from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m.
- Package diapers and support families with the Westchester County Diaper Bank and the Junior League of Central Westchester from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m.
- Create literacy puppets to support youth development with WestCOP from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Create therapy pillows for people with autism from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and 4 to 5:30 p.m.
- Create blankets for youths in hospitals with Westchester-Rockland Project Linus from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Create laundry sachets for formerly homeless women with the YWCA White Plains from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

For the complete list of the 2018 #911Day Volunteer Opportunities taking place on Sept. 8, 9 and 11 and to register to participate in the volunteer projects, call 914-948-4452 or visit www. volunteernewyork.org/service.

The community-wide action event is sponsored by Robison Oil, with additional support from Empire City Casino and Westchester Medical Center.

Area Ceremonies to Commemorate September 11

Mount Kisco

The Mount Kisco Fire Department will be hosting its annual 9/11 ceremony at the north side lawn of the public library at 100 E. Main St. at 6 p.m.

New Castle

The Town of New Castle marks the 17th anniversary of 9/11 with a memorial service, honoring and remembering all those affected and the thousands who lost their lives, including three New Castle residents with a ceremony at Gedney Park's 9/11 memorial at 6:30 p.m. Gedney Park is located on Route 133.

North Castle

The Town of North Castle will be holding its 9/11 memorial service at



Wampus Brook Park on Maple Avenue in Armonk at 5:30 p.m.

Westchester County

A ceremony to commemorate those lost will be held at the county's memorial, The Rising, at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla at 3 p.m.



Fareri, Schiliro Reach Settlement in Civil Rights Lawsuit

Bv Martin Wilbur

A settlement was reached this summer in the civil rights lawsuit brought by Armonk developer Michael Fareri against North Castle Supervisor Michael Schiliro.

In the agreement and general release that was finalized between the two

Harckham Points to Experience as Democratic Primary Nears

continued from page 5

state should focus on renewable and wind energy. He noted that power doesn't have to come from a local source. As for making up the lost revenue, Harkham said the state must ensure those communities hit with the shortfall be helped until new revenue is found.

Although Harckham officially entered the race in May, nearly nine months later than Kesten, Harckham noted, "When you're hiring for a job, you don't necessarily hire the very first resume that lands on your desk."

A Year on the Campaign Trail, Kesten Confident Heading into Primary

continued from page 4

The governor's race allows, \$23,000 and \$50,000, respectively, he said.

"There's no way that can't influence you, I don't care what anybody says, and there are elected officials who are talking that money and say 'That doesn't affect me," Kesten said. "It affects you because when that person calls, you are going to take that phone call or when that person wants coffee you are going to sit down with that person whereas other people you won't even know who they are."

He also supports term limits and limiting outside income for state legislators.

Kesten touted his independence that wouldn't require him to kowtow to the establishment of either major political party or the status quo. He said he can win this race by doing what he's done for the past year – listening to the residents of the district and focusing on their priorities.

"We have to knock on doors and make people aware that I represent over a year of being out there listening to people and understanding their needs and (Harckham) was asked by the governor of the state of New York to carry out the governor's will," Kesten said.

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

parties in late July, it states that Schiliro was to reimburse Fareri \$22,5000 for his attorney's fees. Furthermore, the developer is allowed to interact with town staff as other members of the public are allowed, according to the agreement.

It also makes clear that there is no admission of wrongdoing or liability on Schiliro's part and that no further action or claims will take place on this matter.

The litigation was filed in June 2017 in U.S. District Court in White Plains after Schiliro prohibited Fareri from speaking with town employees

regarding his projects at the old lumberyard on Bedford Road and 470 Main St. in Armonk.

The restriction was invoked following an episode at a Town Board work session the previous September when Schiliro's demands for an apology to the town's Director of Water & Sewer Sal Misiti went unanswered. Fareri was then told he would have to deal directly with the supervisor's office on issues related to his projects.

In the suit, Fareri claimed that being barred from speaking with town staff amounted to discrimination under the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause. He also had alleged that Schiliro violated his rights under the First, Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments when he barred him from speaking at the work session for failing to apologize to Misiti

The lawsuit was one in a long series of disputes between Fareri and the Town Board in recent years, mostly stemming from officials' refusal to relocate the six affordable units from the old lumberyard property to the Main Street project.



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Member of



Letters to the Editor

Kesten's Fresh Outlook Makes Him Best Candidate in 40th District

The Democratic primary is almost here. On Thursday, Sept. 13, you will have the opportunity to decide who best represents your progressive values and has the best chance to defeat incumbent Republican state Sen. Terrence Murphy and the Trump agenda he advocates for his constituents in the 40th Senate District.

I urge you to take time to attend the upcoming debate and decide for yourself who best deserves your vote and has the best chance of replacing Mr. Murphy in Albany.

For me, having listened to both Democratic candidates and weighed their commitment, ideas and programs, I believe Robert Kesten to be the best choice to challenge Murphy's failed policies.

Why Kesten? For starters, he has been a declared candidate for over a year, working hard to speak with residents at town halls, train stations and events throughout the district, and raising funds, most of it in small donations from individual contributors. That takes effort, persistence and lots of moxie. And, he's independent – a grassroots candidate not beholden to either party establishment. As such, if elected he would not be restrained from taking action in attacking corruption in Albany and proposing fresh, new solutions to problems we face in our communities.

Unlike his opponent, Peter Harckham, he is not a career politician and did not enter the race just a few months ago at the urging of the governor and other party officials in Albany.

Kesten is an indefatigable campaigner with broad local, national and international experience in nonprofit organizations and with a record of promoting effective solutions to difficult problems.

This is his first run for office and he comes to the challenge with nearly a dozen town and city Democratic committee endorsements and the fervent backing of numerous activist groups looking to improve our infrastructure, stimulate new business and jobs, fund proactive retraining programs and bringing transforming technology to New York.

If you believe in sensible gun reform, educational excellence, affordable health care, fair treatment of our immigrant neighbors, clean air and water, women's reproductive rights and voting made easy, please take the time to vote for Robert Kesten in the Democrat primary election on Sept. 13. You can make a difference!

Jay Forbes Croton-on-Hudson

League of Women Voters Reminds Public of Primary on Sept. 13

New York State suffers from perennially low voter turnout numbers. The League of Women Voters of North East Westchester (LWVNEW) would like to remind voters that the New York State Primary is Sept. 13.

While the League is concerned about voter turnout in every election, we are particularly concerned this time around because the primary is being held on a Thursday instead of a Tuesday.

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 13. If you are not sure of your polling place location,

you can find it by entering your address at the League's election website, www. Vote411.org. This will also provide you with information about the races and candidates in your area.

For voters in state Senate District 40, we are partnering with the Leagues of New Castle and the Rivertowns to sponsor a candidates' night featuring the candidates running in the Democratic primary, Peter Harckham and Robert Kesten. The forum is being held Wednesday, Sept. 5 at the Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave. It

begins at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. District 40 spans parts of Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess counties including Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, North Salem, Pound Ridge and New Castle.

We encourage everyone to get informed and get to the polls. As the League says, Democracy is not a Spectator Sport!

LWVNEW Co-presidents Del Bashkow, Katonah Peter G. Rose, South Salem

Kesten's Grassroots Campaign a Welcome Change for Democrats

I recently attended a primary election forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Putnam County. The two Democratic candidates for the 40th state Senate District, Robert Kesten and Pete Harckham, each responded to questions from the League and from audience members.

In general, I thought both candidates were well-informed and didn't differ too much in their opinions about the issues discussed. But one thing stuck out for me. I want someone who has

Correction

In last week's article on Mount Kisco's proposed legislation regarding solar power installations, it was incorrectly reported that a third tier of regulation overseeing ground-mounted solar systems of more than 1,000 square feet had been scrapped. The proposed measure still includes language for systems of that size. The Examiner regrets the error.

passion about wrongs that need to be righted, someone with "fire in the belly" to get to the bottom of today's problems and come up with solutions to fix them, someone with a broad enough background in local, state and national government who can bring a unique perspective to shaping our future for the better.

I, for one, have grown weary of our nation's Democratic leaders who continue to be polite and play by the rules while the other side runs roughshod over the ideals that make our country great. And they're getting away with it. It's time for our side to grow a backbone and make some noise. Mr. Harckham reminded us many times that he used to be a county legislator

before Gov. Cuomo asked him to join his staff. He seems to me like the old guard, ready to try again to do the same old things that didn't work so great in the past.

Mr. Kesten spent years working with local, state, national and global governments, often creating systems that gave voice to the disenfranchised. A true grassroots candidate, he will be indebted to nobody but us, his constituents. He's got the fire, smarts and freedom that I'm looking for to speak for the people.

Dale Silenok Lewisboro

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know your **Neighbor**

Billy Flooks Funeral Director, Pleasantville

By Martin Wilbur

When Billy Flooks attended Marist College, he grappled with the decision that nearly every college student must face: What would he do for a career when school is over.

Like his father and grandfather before him, Flooks, who majored in business administration, could become a funeral director or take a different path.

Flooks decided to follow in his family footsteps once he spent six months after college working full-time for his father William at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville.

"Once I finished college and I saw how my father interacted with the families... and just see the family say 'Thank you so much, it's so much easier for us,' that really just piqued my interest and that's what I wanted to do," Flooks said. "I wanted the families to feel that sense of security with me."

It has turned out to be the right

decision for the 33-year-old Flooks. Not only has he derived that satisfaction from helping families in their most difficult hours, earlier this summer he was recognized by the Business Council of Westchester as one of the county's Rising Stars as part of its 40 Under 40 program.

About 160 people were nominated for the recognition. The 40 honorees were selected based on professional and/ or entrepreneurial accomplishments, professional or business affiliations and leadership skills.

"I think they really like the community service and have something that separates you from the rest of the group," Flooks said. "With me being a funeral director, they kind of put themselves in a funeral director's spot, figuring out who can do that and who can't do that. They told me you need a special person to sit down with a family day in and day out and deal with the



Billy Flooks, center, who was recently honored by leaders of the Business Council of Westchester and greeted by County Executive George Latimer on his selection as one of 40 rising stars in the county under 40 years old.

grief."

Having familiarity with the business made it a somewhat smoother transition to properly relate to grieving families, Flooks said. His father is approaching 40 years as a funeral director. But early on it was difficult, especially when the deceased is a younger person or child. An effective funeral director has to put those emotions aside, be as compassionate as possible and tend to the family's needs.

"It definitely takes a little while to get used to that," he said.

Flooks, whose wife Lauren is also a funeral director, recommends that

anyone interested in pursuing a career in the business work at a funeral home like he did before investing the time and money in mortuary school. The sixmonth stint that Flooks served immediately after college was before he took what amounted to a year-long course to become a licensed director.

The course included embalming and preparation of the deceased, functions which he performs at Beecher Flooks, which his family purchased in 2004.

"I grew up in it so that was something I was used to seeing all the time," said Flooks who has a year and a half-old son and lives within walking distance

of work. "So, that wasn't a big hurdle for me. But for other students in the class, seeing their first deceased body to work on and embalming during the clinicals and getting into the nitty gritty of embalming, that was a huge step for them."

Funeral directors are a very small, tight-knit profession, he said. With only four mortuary schools in New York State, nearly everyone involved in the business knows of each other.

When Flooks isn't working, the White Plains native spends time with family and enjoys playing sports.







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Mount Kisco Prepares for Next Week's SeptemberFest Weekend

The Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce along with presenting sponsor Lincoln Mount Kisco is leading the way to deliver an expanded, multifaceted outdoor festival highlighting the best of Mount Kisco and inviting residents of all communities to join this three-day downtown block party.

SeptemberFest will include sidewalk sales, carnival rides and amusements, live music, a food court with great local eats and a beer garden.

The festivities take place from Friday, Sept. 14 through Sunday, Sept. 16.

"We are so excited to invite everyone to Mount Kisco for SeptemberFest 2018," said Mount Kisco Chamber Co-director Loretta Brooks. "Each day has a bundle of activities on both Main Street and South Moger Avenue all wrapping around a huge downtown carnival. Our traditional sidewalk sales begin on Friday morning, Sept. 14 and the carnival kicks off later that day. The overwhelming interest for participation from community partners and merchants is a true testament to the positive energy moving the village forward."

Lincoln Mount Kisco will be offering a Test Drive for Kids program. By taking a free test drive of a brand new Lincoln vehicle on Saturday or Sunday, Lincoln Mt. Kisco will make a donation to the Mount Kisco Child Care Center.



Inn Mount SeptemberFest's Big Top Sponsor will cater to everyone, from music lovers to foodies. The Big Top features a place to relax, unwind and dine. From lobster with a glass of chardonnay to barbecue with a craft beer, graze on gastronomic

delights from locally celebrated food

establishments.

most eagerly awaited events - SeptemberFest - running from Sept. 14-16.

> The focal point of SeptemberFest and a nostalgic nod to Mount Kisco's past is a carnival in the middle of downtown.

Everyone's invited to enjoy highenergy family fun, exhilarating rides and amusements, local musicians, interesting shops and vendors and great food. The event is also an opportunity to learn more about the many community organizations that lend support. Bring your appetite, walking shoes and shopping list.

On Sunday morning, the annual Kisco 5K Road Race will kick off. There



will be prizes for the top three male and female winners as well as prizes for the winners in each age group. Following the race, there will be a Kids Mad Dash for children 10 and under. Register online at www.kiscorun.com.

Vendor and sponsorship opportunities are still available. Sell your products, market your business and promote your brand to thousands of shoppers who visit. There is still time to reserve space by contacting the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce at 914-666-7525, visiting www.mtkiscochamber.com or by e-mailing director@mtkiscochamber.

For more detailed information about the weekend's schedule and programs, visit the chamber's website or SeptemberFest event page on Facebook.

Sepetemberfest will run from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sept. 14 and 15 and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 16.

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How Best to Use the Color Red in the Home

As a teenager just beginning to form preferences in style and substance, I told anyone who asked to know my favorite color that it was green because it was the color of nature. But that was a lie.

Actually, I was drawn like a magnet to the color red but didn't want to admit it for some reason. Did it seem too radical or daring for a young man of 16? I can't say, but given the first opportunity to choose a color for my immediate surroundings – my bedroom – I chose a flaming red.

My mother, who waited until I was in my thirties to finally tell me that she always knew I was "different," let me have my way. Her liberal permission backfired when she listed that house for sale and every prospect who came by exclaimed "Wow!" when opening my bedroom door. As a realtor now, I know that neutral colors are best when

It never occurred to me as a teenager that something deeply psychological might have been going on with me at

have impeded the sale.

it comes to preparing a house for sale and that flaming red bedroom just may



By Bill Primavera

the time. Perhaps it was a quest for excitement which the color red is said to induce. But that excitement might tend to be on the side of aggravation for some people. Consider that a matador's cape, which taunts bulls, is always red. On the other hand, consider again that bulls, along with all other cattle, are color blind and the color red has nothing to do with their charge. It is therefore probably most exciting for the bullfight spectators.

There are other famous instances where red has been used for effect. Remember the

dress Scarlett O'Hara decked herself out in after the scandal of being caught in Ashley Wilkes' amorous embrace? What about the walls of every bordello ever depicted in film? The power tie, the power suit for women (think Nancy Reagan), they're always red, right?

Whether it's lipstick or brick, the allure of red is undeniable. But as learned by my teenage bedroom, the color – as bold and captivating as it might be – needs to be used carefully. Red isn't always the best choice for an entire room.

According to environmental psychologist Sally Augustin, "Red can be a useful color to include in a home. People are drawn to red so painting the wall at the end of a long hallway red is a good idea. But it's not such a desirable color to use in places where thoughtful work will be done."

Benjamin Moore advisories tell us that "Nothing perks up a room like decorating with red, but many are afraid to introduce this powerful color into their home." However, there are many creative ways in which you can spice up your décor with red's ebullient energy without feeling overwhelmed. One way could be to create a focal point or define a space with one red accent wall. Playful touches of red can be applied in unexpected places such as stair risers, the interior of a bookcase or china cabinet or the legs of a table.

When I owned an 18th century home, I painted the floor of one room red and the effect was transforming. Of course, I have always recommended the use of red, preferably Benjamin Moore's burgundy, for the front door.

Based on research studies by Andrew Elliot, a professor of psychology at the University of Rochester, the use of red has distracting effects that reach into

the subconscious levels of our minds.

"Their studies showed that when people see something red, even briefly, before they begin some sort of competency evaluation, such as an IQ test, they do not perform as well on the test and actually avoid challenging tasks."

"On the bright side – and opposite spectrum – Elliot and his team have found that red backgrounds increase the attractiveness and desirability of a person standing in front of it," said Augustin, which explains the common association of sexual attraction with the color. "So even though your bedroom walls are a pastel blue or green, red sheets may be in order."

Red sheets? My response to that is while red sheets might induce sexual attraction, for me personally they would hardly accommodate a good night's sleep.

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.

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Armonk Outdoor Art Show Surges to Second Best in the Nation

By Martin Wilbur

Local art aficionados have known for many years that the Armonk Outdoor Art Show is a top-notch event for patrons to attend and for artists to display and sell their work.

Now, one of the country's leading art and craft show magazines has ranked the Armonk show second in the nation.

In its September issue, Sunshine Artist Magazine has bestowed the honor in its annual top 200 list, ranking the shows based on reported revenue from the artists at each event, said Anne Curran, the executive director of the Armonk Outdoor Art Show, who along with a large roster of volunteers is preparing for the 57th annual event on Sept. 29 and 30.

Curran said the ranking highlights the Armonk show's high demand among artists, including the top talents, and could bring even more visitors to town this year.

"For us to be ranked Number 2 makes us really stand out and that's great," Curran said. "For us to be ranked Number 2 draws attention to people all over who are potential patrons that either know that the show is really a great show or have never been and they're like 'Wow, the Number 2 nationally ranked show right in Armonk? I'm going to make my way there."

While the Armonk Outdoor Art Show has appeared on the magazine's top 200 list for years, its placement in the rankings has skyrocketed the past two years. In 2017, it placed 46th before making the leap into second place this year, only behind the La Quinta Arts Festival, a four-day art and equestrian show every March near Palm Springs, Calif. La Quinta is regularly in the top three, Curran said.

Making the Armonk Outdoor Art Show's rise in the art world even more satisfying is that it's run nearly exclusively by local volunteers. Curran is the only person paid in coordinating and overseeing the event.

"It's a huge boon to all the volunteers and really everyone in town," she said. "From residents, longtime residents or people who are considering moving here and real estate companies are just thrilled by this. It brings such attention."

The juried show this year will attract 185 artists from 28 states, Canada and Israel who work in a wide variety of medium. Those selected were among the more than 600 applicants who sought entry into the show, Curran said. This year, there will be 38 new artists.

The Armonk Outdoor Art show has

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS



had work sold at a large range of prices making it popular with visitors.

Curran said another advantage for the community is that the proceeds from the show help the local library. It is run by the Friends of the North Castle Library.

"They sponsor the show, the net proceeds of the show go to our library for all of the programs so it's really a big win for the community because the money comes back to fund these programs through the library," Curran said.

The show, which is held rain or shine



The Armonk Outdoor Art Show was recently recognized as the second ranked show in the United States based on artists' revenue. The 57th annual event is set for the weekend of Sept. 29 and 30.

at the field at 205 Business Park Drive, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. There are family activities, food for sale and music. Tickets are \$12 and \$10 for seniors and those who seek out the

coupon online. Children under 18 are free.

For more information, including how to access the discount coupon, visit www.armonkoutdoorartshow.org.

Armonk Knitting Circle Helping Others One Stitch at a Time

By Anna Young

While many area residents likely spent their summer vacationing or going to the pool or beach, members of the Armonk Knitting Circle felt their time would be better spent using their hobby to help others.

That's why avid knitters Janet Eiger and Mary Flannery proposed the idea to use their weekly gatherings at North Castle Library and Mount Pleasant Library to spread their love of craft by creating afghans for the homeless.

Wearing a handmade item can provide much comfort, support and warmth.

"It's about something that's beautiful. It is art, it's craftsmanship, it's an appreciation for tactile beauty and your home should be warm and feel like that, but if we can pass this along to the people who really need it to know that they aren't forgotten, how cool is that?" Eiger said.

"We can't save the world. We're angry about a bunch of things, but if you can make one person's day better or make a kind gesture, it's better."

Eiger, a Pleasantville resident, said the response was overwhelming. More than a dozen people from the knitting circle jumped at the chance to participate and provide their leftover yarn.

Knitters were asked to make 12-inch squares of any design, stitching or yarn style to create a 20-square blanket. Eiger said the goal was to create a blanket that could cover a person of average size from their shoulders down to their feet.

"We have a skill and it's nice to make something for someone living on the streets that they will hopefully use and appreciate," said Armonk resident Miri Schacter.

While the group thought they would only stitch together one blanket during their meetings, they were happily surprised to end the summer with four blankets. The blankets will be donated to a local Midnight Run, where organizations and houses of worship distribute

food, clothing, blankets and personal care items to the homeless in New York

The Armonk Knitting Circle received support from local businesses who donated yarn and encouraged beginning knitters to practice their skill by weaving the 12-inch squares needed to make the blanket whole.

"If you look at the blanket, you'll see it's comprised of everybody's yarn from different communities and that's the thing about it that's beautiful," Eiger said. "It's all of those people together and all of their yarn together helping people we've never met who are going to



One of the four blankets created by members of the Armonk Knitting Circle this summer that will be donated to the homeless.

be really cold. And everybody who knits will tell you that wearing something homemade is like wearing a hug."

While knitters will focus on their personal projects now that summer is drawing to a close, Armonk resident Suzanne Percello said the group will resume their charity project next summer.

"As knitters, we have a unique opportunity to join together in our communities to make small changes, one stitch at a time," Percello said. "We make things that can really help people, all the while putting love and good wishes into each stitch."

Vet's WW II Medals Presented Posthumously to Family

By Martin Wilbur

More than a quarter-century after Anthony Giaccio passed away, his family received medals he had earned while serving in the Navy in World War II.

Rep. Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) last week presented three medals for Giaccio's service along with a complete set of his military records, saying she was deeply honored to be able to present them to his children, grandchildren and extended family and pay tribute to a distinguished veteran.

"Even after his passing, Mr. Giaccio's legacy lives on and I know his family will be enormously proud and inspired every time they look at these medals and think about his service and sacrifice," Lowey said.

The medals were the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the Navy's Honorable Discharge Button and the Honorable Service Lapel Pin.

Born in the Bronx and a longtime Ardsley resident, Giaccio served in the Pacific theater from Mar. 31, 1943, until his honorable discharge on Nov. 19, 1945. He was a gunner's mate, third class, who served about the USS Adopt, a minesweeper and escort vessel.

His son, Anthony, gathered with about 15 relatives at Lowey's White Plains office last Thursday for the presentation. He said that last year after his mother passed away, the family was going over some of his parents' possessions and wondered whether there were any medals for which his father might be eligible after finding his discharge papers.

They enlisted the help of Armando (Chick) Galella, a Sleepy Hollow resident and a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, to help reach out to Lowey and the proper agencies, Anthony Giaccio said.

A graphic artist by trade, Giaccio died in 1992 at 68 years old. His son said that although he and his siblings knew of their father's military service it was rarely spoken of at home.

"My father never really talked about World War II," said his son, who is the village administrator in Sleepy Hollow and a Hawthorne resident. "This to our family means so much because my mother passed away last year and we all heard so much



MARTIN WII BLIR PHOTO

Rep. Nita Lowey holds one of three medals her office was able to present to the family of Anthony Giaccio last week. Giaccio died in 1992.

about our father what he went through when he was 18 years old."

Lowey said that the packet containing Giaccio's military records will forever be available for his family to read for generations. Giaccio's two greatgrandchildren, a seven-year-old boy and an infant girl, were in attendance for the presentation.

"When you want to remember and look at pictures of (your) great-grandfather,

you'll be able to look back at all the records," she said

His son said it was a bittersweet moment when he learned that his father would posthumously be awarded the three medals.

"I got very emotional when I heard that," Anthony Giaccio said.

For any veterans or family members of veterans who believe they or a loved one may be eligible for service medals, contact Lowey's office at 914-428-1707.

Atlantic Starr to Perform in Tarrytown Later This Month

The founding musicians of the worldfamous musical group Atlantic Starr had their beginnings at Woodlands High School in Greenburgh.

On Sept. 26, 2015, the Greenburgh Town Board declared each Sept. 26 as "Atlantic Starr Day" in the town to celebrate these students: David Lewis, Wayne Lewis and Jonathan Lewis.

This year, on Thursday, Sept. 27, the group will hold the "Atlantic Starr Day Celebration Concert" at the Double Tree Hotel Ballroom at 454 N. Broadway in Tarrytown at 8 p.m. A portion of the proceeds from this event will support scholarship opportunities for students graduating from Woodlands High School.

Atlantic Starr began in Greenburgh with trumpeter Duke Jones, who left the band prior to their first recordings; drummer Porter Carroll Jr.; bassist Clifford Archer; percussionist and flutist Joseph Phillips; guitarist Sheldon Tucker, who parted ways with the band before the first recordings; and three brothers: David Lewis (vocals/guitar), Wayne Lewis (keyboards and vocals) and Jonathan Lewis (percussion and trombone).

The band's membership eventually stabilized around Carroll, Archer, Phillips, the three Lewis brothers, lead singer Sharon Bryant (who was later replaced by Barbara Weathers), trumpeter William Sudderth III and saxophonist Damon Rentie, who was later replaced by Koran Daniels).

Throughout the late 1970s and early 1980s, Atlantic Starr scored several hits on the R&B charts. However, significant crossover success (onto the pop charts) did not come until the mid-1980s, with the



The members of the group Atlantic Starr, which formed in Greenburgh in the 1970s. They will perform in Tarrytown later this month.

release of their album "As the Band Turns" (their last on A&M Records) and the single "Secret Lovers."

By this time, the band had pared itself down to a quintet. In 1987, after signing to Warner Bros. records, the band solidified their pop success by scoring a Number 1 pop and R&B hit with "Always," a love ballad off their album "All in the Name of Love."

The band would continue to score hits on the R&B and Pop charts into the early 1990s. In 1991, they introduced yet another new female lead singer when Martin was replaced by Miss Black America 1986 Rachel Oliver for the album "Love Crazy." This album featured the band's biggest hit of the 1990s, "Masterpiece," which reached Number 3 on the pop and R&B charts in early 1992.

Atlantic Starr continues to perform and released their 14th album,

"Metamorphosis" last year.

Life Time to Hold Next Job Fair This Saturday in Chappaqua

In preparation for its first foray into northern Westchester this fall, Life Time, the nation's only healthy way of life brand, will host its second hiring fair for its new Chappaqua location this Saturday, Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, located at 480 Bedford Rd.

"We connected with some fantastic talent at our first event and ultimately will be hiring 200 passionate health professionals to join our Life Time family in Chappaqua," said General Manager Mike Spiegel. "We are thrilled to bring Life Time's unparalleled health and wellness experience to the Chappaqua area community and it all starts with hiring the right people."

The high-end fitness, family recreation, spa and athletic club is looking to fill full-time and part-time positions in the LifeSpa, LifeCafe, Kids Academy, member services, facility operations, group fitness, personal training and nutrition.

Prospective applicants are asked to bring several copies of their resume and dress in business professional attire to meet the club's leadership team and discuss employment opportunities. General manager overview presentations are scheduled at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Applicants are encouraged to arrive shortly

before one of those two times, although candidates with scheduling conflicts are welcomed at any time during the event.

Hired applicants will receive a free club membership, competitive pay, first-rate benefits and the opportunity to inspire and energize others along their path to healthy living.

Once open, the 42,000-square-foot Life Time Athletic Chappaqua will offer a highly personalized approach to health and wellness with a host of amenities on two floors. These include but are not limited to exclusive signature group fitness, barre, yoga and cycle classes, Pilates. state-of-the-art equipment, a vast array of personal training and nutrition services as well as health assessments.

There will also be the Kids Academy for children of all ages with various activities including music, reading, foreign language, homework help, martial arts, yoga and dance, LifeCafe, a healthy, fast-casual restaurant, and LifeSpa, a full-service salon and spa with hair, skin, nail and body services.

For more information about Life Time Athletic and to view all current job openings, visit www.careers.lifetime.life. Additional information can be found by calling 914-296-6000 or by visiting www. lifetime.life.

How Service Leadership Prepares Today's Students to Succeed

Students are more successful when they practice leadership outside of the classroom. A recent survey conducted by Harris Poll found that 91 percent of respondents agreed with this statement.

This survey was conducted on behalf of Lead2Feed, a free student leadership program attracting more than a million students and over 6,000 educators across all 50 states.

There's already real-world evidence supporting the survey data's sentiment. Participants in Lead2Feed thought critically about their role in their communities, and say they gained the following benefits:

• Engaged teachers. The Lead2Feed Student Leadership Program takes students through the steps to design and implement an effective, relevant service project. Teachers and advisers can enter their student teams into the Lead2Feed Challenge, where they can win grants for their school and charity.

When teachers participate alongside students, the entire classroom is given an opportunity to transform their way of thinking.

"What I realized was that the leadership principles I was trying to teach my students had actually began to transform me as well," said Allison Silverman, a teacher at Port Chester Middle School where students have earned more than \$50,000 for charity and more than \$15,000 in technology grants

for their school over the six years they've been involved in the program. "I gained renewed confidence in my work and in my profession."

• Relevant lessons. Classroom learning can often feel theoretical. When students lead their own community service projects, they have an opportunity to directly engage with real-world issues that have received national attention. Students at Miami's Design and Architecture Senior High sought to address the issue of mental health that has consumed the nation's psyche through a project called "No More Stalling." They created signs for school bathroom stalls with hotlines for tough issues students may be facing.

"The class of 2021 was transformed into problem solvers and they emerged with a vision," said Zudannie Nuñez-Hernandez, one of the school's teachers.

• 21st century skills. Working with fellow students to complete a project develops critical thinking, collaboration and communication skills, fostering the necessary attributes for students to become leaders within their classrooms and greater communities. Before completing the Lead2Feed program, only 27 percent of participating students felt that they could work well with others, only 18 percent believed they could develop effective solutions to problems and only 16 percent felt they could communicate clearly and concisely with their peers. After completing the program, these numbers rose to 55 percent, 49 percent and 48 percent, respectively.

"Feeding young minds and local community groups in need are all part of

this leadership program where students use 21st century skills, literacy skills and service learning to refine their leadership skills and to benefit local nonprofits," said Diane Barrett, executive director of Lead2Feed's presenting foundation, The Foundation for Impact on Literacy and Learning.

To learn more, or to become part of the Lead2Feed network, visit www.lead2feed. org.

Student leadership projects are an ideal component of a well-rounded education experience, fostering growth for the students that participate in these initiatives, and for the larger community that is improved through their service.

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Logged on in a Jiffy

State Sen. Terrence Murphy (R-Yorktown) presented Columbus Elementary School Principal Michael Cunzio, left, with a \$10,000 check recently that helped the school buy 30 new Chromebooks that will enhance the students' education in the new school year. Students can boot up the Chromebooks in about eight seconds. Also on hand for the presentation was Assistant Principal Theresa Outhouse and County Legislator Margaret Cunzio.



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Rena Bernardini began training at Westchester Ballet Center at age 5. Now she is a Demi Soloist with Fort Wayne Ballet. Your child could look like this too!

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Getting to Know Each Other at Cops & Cones



20

For the second consecutive year, the Westchester County police coordinated with the Village of Mount Kisco and its volunteer fire department for the Cops & Cones event. It was a chance for the community to meet some of the men and women who patrol their streets all while enjoying a free ice cream cone from Mister Softee and hamburgers and hot dogs grilled up by members of the volunteer fire department in a portion of the Blackeby parking lot. There were fun activities for the kids, including go-kart racing, an inflatable slide and a demonstration of some of the emergency responders' equipment.











HISTORY MATTERS By Edward Goralski The Prenatal Yoga Community Road Trip! The quiz this week is based on the historical nuggets

Road Trip! The quiz this week is based on the historical nuggets contained within the pages of "Don't Make Me Pull Over!" by Richard Ratay. Part cultural history, part memoir of Ratay's family's travels by car, the book reveals how the family road trip came to be and its evolution. The book is an entertaining read for anyone who has taken a family road trip or wished they had done so.

1.In what city did Carl Fisher open what is possibly the first automobile dealership?

A) Atlanta B) Indianapolis C) Cincinnati

The Ramada Inn chain takes its name from the Spanish word for what?
 A) Oasis
 B) Branches
 C) Shelter

,

3. The first speeding ticket based on the use of a radar gun was issued in what city?

A) San Francisco

B) Boston

C) Chicago

4. How many days did it take Alice Ramsey to cross America by automobile in 1909?

A) 59 B) 63 C) 71

5. In what year did the National Maximum Speed Limit, setting the speed limit at 55, go into effect?

A) 1974

B) 1976

C) 1980

6. What did driver Henry Wells collide with to cause the first car accident in the US?

A) Another car B) A bicycle C) A horse

7. Which future TV chef worked at the Howard Johnson's located in Lake George, NY?

A) Alton Brown

B) Sara Moulton

C) Rachael Ray

8. Which US President signed into law the Airline Deregulation Act?

A) Gerald Ford

B) Jimmy Carter

C) Ronald Reagan

8. B. The act was signed into law by President Carter on October 24, 1978

C. Early de also happens to be the last
 Howard Johnson's location
 A. The act was signed into law by President
 A. B. The act was signed into law by President

bicyclist suffered a broken leg
7. C. Lake George also happens to be the last

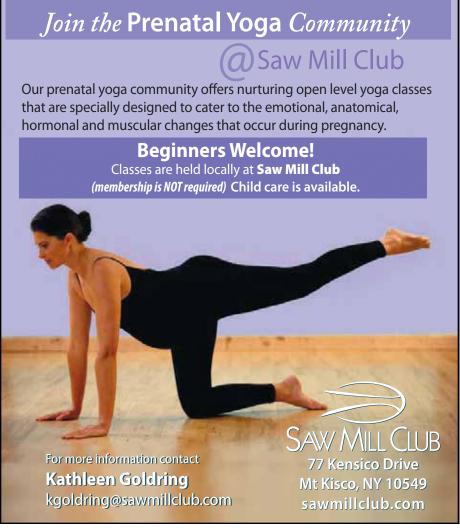
 A. If was signed into law on January 2, 1974 by President Nixon and was repealed in 1995
 B. If happened in NYC on May 30, 1896 and the pile company

man to ticket a driver using a radar gun
4. A. The first cross-country attempt by a woman
was sponsored by Maxwell-Brisco, an automo-

 B. Laborers in the Southwest would use ramas "branches" to build temporary shelters
 C. Officer Leonard Baldy became the first law-

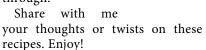
1. B. Fisher also founded Miami Beach

SH3WSNA



Seasonal Recipes for You to Try Using Fresh Corn

At market farmers over Labor Day weekend, fresh corn and ripe tomatoes were available in This abundance. inspired me to share some recipes for you to try. I think the ingredients highlight freshness of the produce, while allowing their flavors shine through.



Chile-Rubbed Corn on the Cob

Makes 6 servings *Ingredients:*

6 ears of corn, husks intact Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 tsp. chile powder

½ tsp. ground cumin

¼ tsp. cayenne pepper

2 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil



By Joanne Witmyer

Instructions:

Pull back the husks from each ear of corn but leave them attached to the base. Pull off and discard the silks. Rinse under cold running water and place in a bowl with cold water to cover. Let soak for 20 minutes.

Prepare a gas or charcoal grill for direct grilling over medium-high heat (or use a stovetop

grill pan). Oil the grill rack.

In a small bowl, stir together sea salt and black pepper to taste, chile powder, cumin, cayenne and olive oil. Spread this mixture on the corn and rewrap the husks around them. Wrap each ear of corn in aluminum foil.

Place the corn on a grill rack about four inches from the fire. Grill, turning occasionally, until tender. It should take about 15 minutes.

Remove the foil and arrange on a platter. Serve right away.

Corn Tomato Salad

Makes 6 servings *Ingredients*:

6 ears of corn, husked with silks

2 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 cups chopped tomatoes (any size or color)

4 scallions, finely chopped

2 cups arugula

Dressing

1 lemon, juiced

4 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil

Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 Tbsp. paprika

Instructions:

Preheat grill or broiler to medium heat.

Rub corn with two tablespoons

of olive oil and season with sea salt and pepper. Grill or broil corn

for seven minutes or until ears are lightly browned. Remove from grill and allow to cool. Remove the kernels form the cob and place in a large mixing bowl along with the

tomatoes, scallions and arugula.

In a small bowl, prepare dressing by whisking together lemon juice, olive oil, sea salt and pepper and paprika.

Toss the salad with the dressing and serve at room temperature.

Joanne Witmyer is
the founder of Indigo
Health and Wellness based
in Croton-on-Hudson.
She teaches group classes,
offers wellness consulting
to companies and helps private

clients achieve their health goals – particularly during times of change and transition. You can

reach Joanne at 914-208-1022 or Joanne@IndigoHW.com.

Happenin8s

Tuesday, Sept. 4

Italian Language and Culture. Mara De Matteo, born and raised in Italy and passionate about her native language, combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in her classes. She creates interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Saw Mill River Audubon Nature Book Club. Discuss Jon Young's "What the Robin Knows: How Birds Reveal the Secrets of the Natural World." Come join the discussion or just to listen. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-6506 or visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org.

Chappaqua Public Library Open Book Discussion Group. "Exit West" by Mohsin Hamid will be discussed. Led by Christine Bobkoff. New Castle Town Hall Conference Room C, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Wednesday, Sept. 5

Zumba Fitness. Achieve long-term benefits while having a blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage

and captivate for life. For all fitness levels. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 9.a.m. Every Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914 960-4097.

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

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

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd.,

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

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

Flamenco in the Courtyard. Be transported for a day amid Caramoor's architecture and sprawling grounds with the characteristic dance and song of Spain, bursting with passion, color and rhythm. Featuring a 45-minute concert followed by a tour of the Mediterranean-style Rosen House and its collection of fine and decorative art amassed by founders Walter and Lucie Rosen and an optional buffet lunch inspired by Spanish cuisine. Afterward, explore the lush and expansive gardens. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 11 a.m. Concert and lunch: \$56. Concert only: \$25. Info and tickets: Visit www.

Preschool Storytime. This interactive

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

story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.

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

Chair Yoga With Alka Kaminer.

Experience greater flexibility, cardiovascular endurance and improved balance, strengthening and toning of muscles, better digestion, stress reduction, mental clarity, improved breathing, relaxation and an overall sense of wellbeing. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887.

Affordable Care Act Navigator. A trained navigator provided by the county Department of Health will be available to help people with choosing and signing up continued on page 22

Happenin8s

continued from page 21

for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act and the state health marketplace. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Also Thursdays from 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointment required. Info and appointment for Wednesday sessions: 914-336-6026. Info and appointment for Thursday and Saturday sessions: 914-813-5192.

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

Sunset Yoga in the Park. Bring your mat or towel. All levels welcome. Sponsored by the Westchester Parks Foundation. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. 5:45 to 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-231-4033 or visit www.thewpf.org.

Mount Kisco Arts Council Summer Outdoor Concert Series: Mike McGuirk Trio. Fountain Park, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 6:30 p.m. Free. Concerts continue on Wednesdays through Sept. 19. Info: Visit www.mountkiscoartscouncil. org.

Breast, Ovarian and Gynecological Cancer Support Group. Northern Westchester Hospital at Chappaqua Crossing, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Meets the first Wednesday of every month. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Art Series: Blockbusters at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The analysis of summer blockbusters continues at the Met with a second week of exhibits, including a look at the drawings of Delacroix, African American portraits and fashion in the history of the Catholic Church and its influence throughout the world. 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.

"Close-Up." Internationally revered Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami ("Taste of Cherry," "Certified Copy") has created some of the most inventive and transcendent cinema of the past 30 years and this is his most radical, brilliant work. This fiction-documentary hybrid uses a sensational real-life event - the arrest of a young man on charges that he fraudulently impersonated the well-known filmmaker Mohsen Makhmalbaf - as the basis for a stunning, multilayered investigation into movies, identity, artistic creation and existence in which the real people from the case play themselves. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$9. Nonmembers: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www. burnsfilmcenter.org.

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

Lucy's Laugh Lounge Open Comedy Mic. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Sign up at 7 p.m. Show at 7:30 p.m. Free. Also Sept. 10, 17, 19 and 24. Info and tickets: Visit www.nomacomedy.com.

Thursday, Sept. 6

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 and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 **or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.**

Knitting Circle. This group is open to everyone who has an interest in knitting. Live, love, laugh, learn and have fun together during these creative journeys. Come share patterns and ideas and celebrate creative spirits together while enjoying the ancient art of knitting. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Every Monday and Thursday (except Sept. 3). Info: 914-273-3887.

Coffee, Tea and Activity. The Women's Civic Club of Katonah will hold its annual membership coffee. Members and prospective members are welcome and members are asked to bring a favorite breakfast finger food. The club's board will meet prior to the coffee at 9 a.m. Katonah Memorial House, 71 Bedford Rd., Katonah. 10:30 a.m. Free. Reservations required. Info and reservations: Contact Mary Jo O'Brien at 914-666-2064.

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.

Life Line Theater Music Program. An outlet for unlocking the potential of

children and adults with special needs through integrated arts and life skills programs. Drop in anytime and join founder Billy Ayres as he uses singing, dancing, creating plays, artwork and gardening to help participants realize their strengths and potential contributions to their communities. Ayres has created a technique called improvisational integrated music/drama. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Every Thursday and Friday (except Sept. 13). Info: Visit www. lifelinetheaterinc.org/index.html

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.

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 (except Sept. 13). Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

National Theatre Live's "Julie." Fresh from a breakup, Julie throws a wild party. As the revelry continues upstairs, three women become embroiled in a power struggle that rapidly descends into a savage fight for survival. This edgy reworking of August Strindberg's "Miss Julie," set in contemporary London, was written by Polly Stenham and features Vanessa Kirby Broadcast live from the National Theatre in London. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Members: \$25. Non-members: \$35. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Income From a Reverse Mortgage. Unlike a traditional home equity loan or second mortgage, you don't have to repay the loan until you either no longer live in the house as your principal residence or you fail to meet the obligations of the mortgage. Armonk mortgage professional James Shelly will deliver an informative presentation on reverse mortgages, showing how seniors can gain extra income. Find out a reverse mortgage can work for you. Coffee and snacks provided. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.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. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Opening Reception for "The Vicomte and Some of His Parts." A solo exhibition of paintings and works on paper by American artist Gary Komarin. Included in the exhibit are seven oil paintings and four works on paper all completed in the past year. Komarin is internationally recognized as a risktaker of contemporary

painterly abstraction. An artist who has forged a singular style over 30 years of painting, Komarin's free-wheeling works have a deep connection to Color Field and Ab-Ex painting, and the current trend of Provisional painting. Komarin will be on hand for the reception. Madelyn Jordon Fine Art, 37 Popham Rd., Scarsdale. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Oct. 20. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Info: 914-723-8738 or e-mail info@ madelynjordonfineart.

Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Festival Orchestra Auditions. Students in grades 9-12 are invited to be a part of one of the finest high school orchestras in the United States. Applicants must perform a two-minute section from a piece written for their instrument that is comparable to a NYSSMA Level 6 piece; scales and prepared excerpts. Timpani applicants must perform a demonstration of rolls; a rudimentary solo of choice; and prepared excerpts. Excerpts can be downloaded at http://hbms.org/festival-orchestra.php. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School

Lane, Scarsdale. 6:30 to 10 p.m. Free. Info:

Contact Orchestra Manager Mark Kushnir

at festivalorchestra@hbms.org.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge Roasters. Our own version of Roast Battle hosted by Andy McDermott and Ryan DeNisco. Eight comics enter, but only one gets to take home half the door. Featuring Juan Carlos vs. James Crowley, John Goldpaugh vs. Jeremy Cash, Bill Cannon vs. Frankie Becerra and Chris Crespo against a mystery guest. 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.

Friday, Sept. 7

Hoff-Barthelson Music School Early Childhood Open House. Start the new school year off right - learn all that Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Early Childhood Program has to offer. Children ages nine months to five years old and their adults are invited to join in the fun of a music and movement class followed by a brief Q&A with faculty and a reception where attendees can socialize with other families. Exercises and games during classes involve singing, moving and improvising; using small percussion instruments to promote inner hearing and rhythmic sensitivity; and working with a variety of whimsical materials to inspire the imagination. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 10 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Also Sept. 8 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Registration required. Info and registration: Contact Kathryn Kitt at 914-723-1169, e-mail kkitt@hbms.org or visit www.hbms.org.

ZUMBA* With Amy. Fun cardio dance fitness workout, low-impact approach, continued on page 24

The Multiple Influences of Oak on the Profile of Wine



By Nick Antonaccio

an individual wine unique from another? Why does a Chardonnay from one country differ so greatly from another? Why does one winemaker's Chardonnay differ so greatly from his

neighbor's a few miles away?

There are three principal (and many minor) factors that influence a wine in its final state: vintage, terroir and oak. In prior columns I've explored the first two factors; let's now focus on the third.

Winemakers have many choices for the vessels used in producing wine. Traditionally oak has been the vessel of choice, especially for red wines. However, there is a growing preference for stainless steel tanks and concrete eggs. This week I'll focus on oak.

Oak adds complexity to a wine; it also adds unique aromas and flavors. Oak wood naturally has a vanilla-like aroma and a tannic taste. Both of these are considered by many to be critical in the overall style of white and red wines. The vanilla hints add complexity to the wine flavors, while the natural tannins in the wood aid in softening the harshness of wines as they age.

Winemakers have many choices in oaking that enable them to stylize their wines to their unique preferences. Light oaking adds subtlety while heavier oaking adds additional structure and complexity. Your preference for a style of wine is significantly influenced by the winemaker's use of oak. If you taste a barrel-fermented and aged Chardonnay next to one produced using stainless steel, the difference will be obvious and may influence your buying decisions.

Winemakers have many choices to impart an oaky character to their wines during barrel aging. Let's briefly explore five:

- 1. The origin of the oak trees. French oak trees are the dominant wood used, followed closely by American oak trees. French oak has a tighter grain. The tighter the grain the less absorption by the wood and therefore less flavor is imparted. This is one reason why French wines (and other wines using French barrels) are considered more subtle than American wines.
- 2. The "toast" level of the barrel. The art of barrel making (coopering) is dependent on curving the barrel slats (staves) over an open fire to form the familiar shape of the barrel. Depending on how long they are toasted, the flavors imparted

will range from vanilla and mild smokiness to caramelized and more dominant smokiness and tannins. The winemaker decides the style he desires and purchases barrels accordingly.

3. The size of the barrel. This one is counterintuitive. The larger the barrel the less oak is absorbed due to the volume of wine in the barrel. The

smaller the barrel the more surface area there is to be absorbed by less volume of wine. Bottom line: aging in smaller barrels imparts more oak flavor.

4. The age of the barrel. New, virgin, barrels

leech higher levels of oak than older, previously used barrels that have already given their best effort. Winemakers seeking heavier oakiness will only use new barrels (translation: Cabernet Sauvignon). Others will mix new and old barrels or use old barrels exclusively (translation: many Chardonnays). In some cases, economics dictate. New barrels can cost from \$900 to \$2,000 each versus. \$200 for older ones.

5. The length of time wine ages in the barrel. The most influence by the

individual winemaker on the final product comes at this stage. The longer wine matures in the barrel the more obvious the oak. This is when the subtlety, or lack thereof, is determined. However, in France, Italy and Spain the time in barrel is governed by law.

Each of the steps in producing a fine wine is critical to the final product

> offered in your local wine shop. The impact of oak is not always understood or appreciated. But if you look for the influence of oak, you'll begin to appreciate the subtleties of individual winemakers' efforts and whether they meet your

preferences in wine.

You Heard It

Through the

NB: This week's column is a reprise of an earlier composition.

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





Happenin8s

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easy learning environment. This feel-good workout is exercise in disguise. Free trial class available. Addie-Tude Dance Center, 42 Memorial Plaza, lower level, Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. \$14 drop-in fee. Every Friday. Also Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. Walk-ins welcome. Info: Call or text the instructor at 914-643-6162 or visit www.amyolin.zumba.com.

Friday Night Film Series: "Molly's Game." This true story, staring Jessica Chastain as the title character Molly Bloom, follows the Olympic-class skier who ran the world's most exclusive high-stakes poker game and became an FBI target. Part thriller, part crime drama, this film was an Oscar nominee for best adapted screenplay by Hollywood writer/director Aaron Sorkin. 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.

Let's Face the Music and Dance: The Films of Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. A lecture accompanied by film clips. Discussion will be led by Philip Hardwood. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Country Line Dance. Dancing followed by a complete dinner. All proceeds to go to the scholarship fund at Fox Lane High School and New York Boys' State. Moses Taylor American Legion Post 136, 1 Legion Way, Mount Kisco. 7 to 11 p.m. \$15 per person. First Friday of every month. Info: 914-241-0136.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge Comedy Night: Chris Monty. With over 20 years of standup comedy and television under his belt, Monty continues to delight audiences worldwide. His latest high-profile projects include his stand-up comedy special titled "What's the Worst That Could Happen" (Amazon Prime), Vinyl (HBO), Red Oaks (Amazon Prime), Paul Bart: Mall Cop 2 (Sony Pictures), Kevin Can Wait (CBS), and Orange is the New Black (Netflix). He channels a refreshing and unique style of the 1960s cool funnyman mixed with a modern chic. Also featuring Denise Simon, Julie Kottakis and Josh Kincade. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$22. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs.com. Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

Saturday, Sept. 8

Pleasantville Farmers Market. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" from 2014 to 2018. With 56 vendors and seven nearby parking lots, it's a delicious good time. This week, create jewelry with Lauren Beck Jewelry from 9:30 to 11 a.m., the music series will

feature the vocal trio The Forget-Me-Nots from 10 a.m. to noon and there will be an electric vehicle showcase from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Rain or shine. The market is a dog-free environment. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 17. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

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.

Demystifying Medicare Healthcare Coverage for Seniors. This engaging, interactive program of the library system's Westchester Seniors Out Speaking is perfect for anyone trying to navigate the complicated healthcare system for older adults. It will help those who already have Medicare, as well as people soon to be 65, planning their retirement or assisting relatives and friends with their medical decisions. The workshop outlines the various parts of Medicare and lays out the costs associated with health insurance provided by the government and private companies. Topics include: original Medicare, Advantage Plans, prescription drug plans (Part D), Medigaps (supplemental plans) and various costsaving programs (MSPs, Extra Help, EPIC, etc.). Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave., Ossining. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Walk-ins welcome; pre-registration preferred. Pre-registration: 914-231-3236. Info: Visit www.westchesterlibraries.org/ westchester-seniors-speaking-out.

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

Origami. Join Westchester Origami Workers, a regional group of Origami, USA to share models and techniques. Open to all adults. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 3 p.m. Free. Typically, the first Saturday of every month. Info: 914-666-8041 or www. mountkiscolibrary.org.

Legends of Lore and the Little People.

Hear tales of leprechauns, elves and fairies with master storyteller Jonathan Kruk. He will lead visitors on a magical tour through trails and over a troll bridge, as he tells enchanting tales of some very special spots at the reservation. Visitors will find leprechaun lairs, fairy gates, troll knolls, tree ents and more along this one-mile journey. There will even be an appearance by a live unicorn. Sponsored by the Friends of Trailside Nature Museum and Ward Pound Ridge Reservation Westchester County Parks. Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Routes 35 and 121, Cross River. 2 p.m. Free. Parking is \$5 for county park pass holders; \$10 with out the pass. Info: 914-864-7322 or visit www.parks.westchester.gov.

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.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge Comedy Night: Chris Lambeth. A New York-based actor and comedian, Lambeth has shared the stage with a variety of headliners including Bill Burr, D.L. Hughley, Craig Robinson, Marc Maron, Maria Bamford, Maronzio Vance and Wyatt Cenac. He has performed on AXS TV's Gotham Comedy Live and the critically acclaimed podcast 2 Dope Queens. As an actor, he earned a masters of fine arts from The Theatre Conservatory at Roosevelt University in Chicago. His television and film credits include "High Maintenance" (HBO), "Jessica Jones" (Netflix), "The Last O.G." (TBS), "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" (Netflix) and the upcoming film "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" Also featuring Lucie Steiner, Darin Patterson and Dan Enfield. 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.

Sunday, Sept. 9

Rockefeller State Park Preserve Fall Warblers. This walk has been timed for the fall migration of warblers and other birds that concentrate in the preserve this time of year. Meet in the main parking area.

Rockefeller State Park Preserve, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. 6 a.m. Free. Info: 914-666-6503 or www.sawmillriveraudubon. org.

Salsa Social. Come and learn how to Salsa. A fun and exciting workout. Singles or couples; no partner necessary. Josie's School of Dance, 42 Memorial Plaza, Level B, Pleasantville. 5 to 9 p.m. Intro lesson at 4:30 p.m. \$10 admission. Dinner: \$6. Second Sunday of every month. Info: 914-332-8670.

"The High Holidays: A Call to Covenant." Rabbi Frank Tamburello will lead a discussion on this topic during this humanistic Rosh Hashana service. The Westchester Community for Humanistic Judaism invites families, singles and couples interested in a new and more creative relevant interpretation of the holiday are welcome to attend. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 6:30 p.m. Free: donations accepted. Info: Contact Charlotte Klein at 914-218-8535 or visit www.wchj.org.

An Evening With Groucho. Award-winning actor and director Frank Ferrantes recreates his PBS, New York and London acclaimed portrayal of legendary comedian Groucho Marx in this fast-paced 90 minutes of hilarity. The two-act comedy consists of the best Groucho one-liners, anecdotes and songs including

"Hooray for Captain Spalding" and "Lydia, the Tattooed Lady." The audience becomes part of the show as Ferrante ad libs his way throughout the performance in grand Groucho style. Accompanied by his onstage pianist, Ferrante portrays the young Groucho of stage and film and reacquaints us with the likes of brothers Harpo, Chico, Zeppo and Gummo, Charlie Chaplin, W.C. Fields. Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. 7 p.m. \$25, \$30 and \$40. Info and tickets: 914-739-0039 or visit www. paramounthudsonvalley.com.

Monday, Sept. 10

Morning Bird Walk. Go birding with the Saw Mill River Audubon. Beginners welcome. Rain or shine. Rockefeller State Park Preserve, 125 Phelps Way (Route 117), Pleasantville. 7:30 a.m. Free. Meets the second Monday of each month. Info: Visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org.

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

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Ceol - or Can it Be Called Irish Soul?

Let's delve into the heart of Irish culture: ceol (pronounced kee-yole), the Gaelic word for music. Call it "Irish soul," if you want. While Irish traditional music embraces many forms, it is in the realm of instrumental music that it truly shines.

This is music that inevitably gets people tapping their feet, reflecting its origins; music that was made for dance. Of the more than 1,600 tunes forming the bulk of the genre, 95 percent originated to liven the feet of long-ago dancers, through brilliant jigs, reels and hornpipes. This was music composed by and for a rural working culture, music that lifted them from the drudgery of hard lives and fed their enjoyment at communal

celebrations and other events, such as fairs and weddings and even wakes.

Rarely was an event held without a fiddler or a piper nearby, or at the very least a reveler playing the humble but beautifully tuneful tin whistle. Few of these musicians could read a note of music. They didn't need to. The music was learned and passed on by ear, much as the stories and legends of the Irish were also transmitted, from speaker to listener.

Where can one hear this

Irish soul? Topping any list is Dunne's (914-421-1451 or www. dunnespubandrestaurant.net) at 15 Shapham Place in White Plains. At half past seven on a Wednesday evening you can enjoy a host of performers playing reels and jigs and airs for hours on end, in a true Irish music seisiún, or session, which has been a hallmark of the establishment for many years now.

Dunne's is a perfect place to sit and relax in a genuine pub atmosphere and sample some of the delicacies of an excellent kitchen serving traditional Irish dishes and more standard American fare, all well and hearty. And if you have a decent hand at the fiddle, flute, uilleann pipes, tin whistle, or bodhrán drum and have

a working knowledge of some good session tunes, you may be able to edge your way into the performer's circle.

If not, sit back and tap your foot and enjoy the music.

Irish Eclectic

Despite the wealth of Irish monikers gracing numerous pubs, restaurants and assorted watering holes throughout the area, few offer anything close to what Dunne's provides. Have a favorite place of your own where traditional music is reveled in? Let me know and I'll spread the word.

If you're interested in the more

technical aspects of the music, visit my blog, where I will soon be documenting some of the finer details for those with a curious mind.

An equally important part of the "Irish heart" is storytelling. On this topic, I just finished reading a nice little book, "Leitrim Folk Tales," by Susie Minto, a transplanted Scot who

at the time of birthing this collection of tales (2013) claimed nine years of residence in Ireland's County Leitrim as a "blow-in," local vernacular for a resident not born there.

Largely drawn from stories collected by the Irish Folklore Commission in the late 1930s, Minto's book brings alive the memories of folk, some whose lives reached back to the days before the Great Famine of 1845 to 1852. Other titles in the series, published by the History Press Ireland (www.thehistorypress.ie), bring us the legends and tales of Roscommon, Clare and Donegal.

Reader Maureen McLoughlin shared with me recently the Irish Folklore Commission's website (www. ucd.ie/irishfolklore/en/collections/ schoolscollectionduchas). It's a



By Brian McGowan

fascinating online trove of folk history and legend. One can spend many hours digging into the tales and recollections it preserves, items that would have been lost forever if not for the work of dedicated researchers and archivists who roamed the Irish countryside 80 years ago and set the schoolchildren of Ireland

on a mission to save their country's heritage from obliteration.

Take a look when you have a moment. Do a search for the area your own immigrant ancestors hailed from, and a familiar surname or two, and you may find a relative speaking to you across eight decades of time. And that, trust me, is beyond remarkable.

Pleasantville resident Brian McGowan was born and raised in the Bronx and is a second, third and fifthgeneration Irish-American/Canadian, as his immigrant ancestors followed several paths to the New World. Reach him at brian.m.mcgowan1952@gmail. com or on Twitter (@Bmcgowan52M). To see more of his writing on "things Irish," follow his blog, "Rethinking Irish," at www.rethinkingirish.com.

Active Release Technique and How it Can Help You

Are you a runner with severe knee pain that is preventing you from training for a marathon? Or are you a mother who can't lift your newborn because of low back pain?

If so, you are not alone. Millions are agonizing from similar conditions as a result of repetitive stress or acute injuries. A solution for this pain and suffering is Active Release Technique (ART).

What is ART?

ART is a muscle stretching technique used to resolve issues involving the muscles, tendons, ligaments, nerves and fascia. It is performed with the provider's hands to reduce fibrous adhesions and restore proper motion and function. Many symptoms may not be a result of a direct injury and instead are the result of a repetitive stress.

With these micro-injuries, tearing of the muscle and soft tissue occurs gradually over time. The body then responds with inflammation and eventually repairs the small tears with adhesions and scars. These adhesions then begin to accumulate causing the muscle to become tighter and eventually weaken, leading to a decrease in performance. The overall goal of ART is to break down these adhesions over time and restore the texture and function of the soft tissue.

Who can benefit from ART?

With more than 500 protocols, ART can be helpful in various conditions such as headaches, shin splints, plantar fasciitis, tennis elbow, muscle strains and pulls, frozen shoulder, IT band syndrome and even general low back pain. ART can also be performed to release any nerve entrapments in injuries such as sciatica and carpal tunnel syndrome.

What to expect during an ART session?

ART sessions are comprised of examination and treatment. The provider begins by using their hands to evaluate the texture, tightness and movement of the soft tissue along with searching for adhesions and attempting to reproduce

the main complaint.

Once the abnormal tissues are identified, a tension is applied with the provider's hands to the area and the patient is directed to move their body part in a certain position. This is repeated a few times. Retesting after treatment is then performed to assess the specificity of the treatment.

Each ART session is unique and specific to each patient given the nature and severity of

their condition. After being treated, patients typically respond rapidly with decreased pain and increased flexibility and mobility. A few sessions may be needed depending on the tissues' response to each treatment.

Other benefits

ART is not only used to treat specific



By Dr. Ivana Monserrate

injuries once they occur. Incorporating ART into daily life or any training regimen can prevent injuries from wear and tear on our bodies, reduce recovery time and help with overall maintenance. Routine ART treatments prevent accumulations of scarring in the tissues and stress on the joints, tendons and ligaments leading to reduced risk of acute injuries or injuries resulting from overuse.

Dr. Ivana Monserrate is a chiropractic at ProClinix

Sports Physical Therapy & Chiropractic who is certified in Active Release Therapy. Monserrate works in ProClinix's Armonk and Ardsley locations. For more information or to ask questions about ART and how it can help you, call 914-202-0700 or visit www.proclinix.com.

Happenin8s

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or e-mail tinacampbell@masternetworks. net or drop in.

"Going Public." This exhibit by Daniel Bejar addresses themes relevant to the upcoming midterm elections. The Fine Arts Gallery at Westchester Community College, Academic Arts Building, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Oct. 19. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays. Info: 914-606-6835 or visit www.sunywcc.edu/gallery.

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.

Drop-in Sand Art Craft. Have fun with sand art today on your day off from school. All ages welcome. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 5 p.m. Free. 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.

Tuesday, Sept. 11

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.

Senior Afternoon Cinema: "An Education." Starring Carey Mulligan and Peter Sarsgaard, this film tells the coming-of-age story about a teenage girl whose life changes in every way when she meets a suave and appealing man nearly twice her age. This film received three Oscar nominations. Part of the Jacob Burns Film Center's Senior Afternoon Cinema series showing a film one Tuesday afternoon a month. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 p.m. Members: \$9. Senior non-members: \$11. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Drop-in Board Game Afternoon. Drop in to play a fun game with other kids. Play one of our games or bring your own. Open to children seven years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

English Conversations. For speakers of other languages seeking to improve their English. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100

E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Current Affairs Book Club. "The Death of Democracy" by Benjamin Carter Heltwill be discussed. Hett, an associate professor of history at Hunter College and CUNY, persuasively challenges familiar arguments that the rise of Nazi Germany was an inevitable consequence of abstract forces like racism, militarism and capitalism. Hitler's appointment as chancellor in 1933 was, he argues, a political gambit orchestrated by a small circle of powerful men. This cabal held Hitler and his message in contempt and were confident they could use and discard him, detaching him from his base and shepherding his followers into a conventional right-wing authoritarian system. Hett's page-turning account lays out the dire consequences of their simultaneously underrating Hitler's ability and grievously overestimating their power. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

"Rebirth." On the 17th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks, this 2011 documentary will be screened. "Rebirth" was filmed over the ensuing years after the Sept. 11 attack on New York's World Trade Center and diligently tracks the lives of five people who were profoundly affected by the attacks. Each individual sits with the filmmakers year after year updating them on their lives, states of mind and struggles to come to terms with their anger and grief -- and their emotional healing process in the aftermath of the tragedy. Bedford Playhouse Board Chair Sarah Long will host a Q&A with her husband and producer David Solomon. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford. 7 p.m. Free. Seating is limited; reservations are required. Info and reservations: 914-867-3051 or e-mail RSVP@bedfordplayhouse.org.

Wednesday, Sept. 12

Thornwood Lions 5th Annual Golf Outing. Includes 18 holes, golf, cart, lunch, cocktail hour and buffet dinner. Westchester Hills Golf Club, 401 Ridgeway, White Plains. Registration and lunch at 10 a.m. Shot gun start at noon. \$225 per person. Day of outing: \$250 per person. Info and reservations: Contact Sal Pennelle at 914-494-9633.

"The Big Chill." A 35th anniversary screening of this film about a group of 30-somethings who reunite for a friend's funeral and spend the weekend together, reminiscing and confronting the uncertainty of their lives as adults. Poignant and humorous, this Baby Boomer milestone film is perhaps the decade's defining ensemble, featuring Tom Berenger, Glenn Close, Jeff Goldblum, William Hurt, Kevin Kline, Mary Kay Place, Meg Tilly and and JoBeth Williams. With its playlist

of '1960s rock and R&B hits, this was the consummately curated soundtrack. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 and 7 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

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

Art Series: Dale Chihuly. Celebrate a happy New Year with a look at Dale Chihuly's installation art in Jerusalem's Tower of David. Classically trained in Venice, Italy in all manner of glass blowing techniques, Chihuly's ground breaking glass sculptures in a variety of styles and compositions have taken the world by storm. 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.

Improv Workshop With Chips Cooney. This legendary performer will be teaching and running an improv workshop. Performers of all levels are welcome to join. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughs.com.

Along the Hudson: A Photographic Journey. Joseph Squillante has been photographing the Hudson River for over 40 years. His love for the river and all the beautiful life it supports and sustains are evident in his stunning work as he captures the true spirit of the river from its source in the Adirondacks to its mouth at New York Harbor. Squillante presents his life's work and shares his knowledge on this important natural resource. In partnership with the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Thursday, Sept. 13

Book Lovers. "The Alice Network" by Kate Quinn will be discussed. Discussion led by Barbara Bernstein. New Castle Town Hall Conference Room A, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

"The Land of Steady Habits."
Straight from its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, writer/director Nicole Holofcener's ("Enough Said") latest feature follows Anders Hill (Ben Mendelsohn), long ensconced in "the land of steady habits" – the affluent hamlets of Connecticut that dot the commuter rail line – who's finally ready to reap the rewards of a sensible life. Solidly in his mid-50s and newly retired, his son's college tuition paid in full, Hill decides he's had enough: he

leaves his wife (Edie Falco), buys a condo and waits for freedom to transform him. Stripped of the comforts of his previous identity, he embarks on a clumsy and heartbreaking journey to reconcile his past with his present. Followed by a post-screening Q&A between Janet Maslin and Holofcener. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$12. Non-members: \$17. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter. org.

Friday, Sept. 14

Fall Crafts at Lyndhurst. Showcasing more than 300 modern American makers, artists, designers and craftspeople from across the country selling their exciting contemporary creations and is a celebration of all things handmade. A full-day art and shopping experience for the entire family, which includes interactive kids' activities, delicious gourmet foods and concessions, hands-on demonstrations and more at Westchester's favorite out-of-the-box shopping experience. Rain or shine. No pets allowed within the show site. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway, Tarrytown. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adults: \$12. Seniors: \$11. Children (6 to 16): \$4 Children (under 6) and Lyndhurst members: Free. Also Sept. 15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Info: Visit www.lyndhurst. org. Tickets available at the venue the day of the event.

Opening Reception for "Bring Your Own Sunshine." The exhibit features paintings by contemporary artists Nancy Daubenspeck, Dana James and David Konigsberg. Kenise Barnes Fine Art, 1947 Palmer Ave., Larchmont. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Oct. 27. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Info: 914-834-8077 or visit kbfa.com.

Friday Night Film Series: "Keeping Up With the Steins." Family gatherings are always stressful and none more so than when they are for the most important moment in a young man's life - his Bar Mitzvah! Young Benjamin uses his upcoming Bar Mitzvah to reconcile the strained relationship between his father and grandfather. With an all-star cast including Jeremy Piven, Garry Marshall and Jami Getz, this comedy contemplates the universal issues we all face when major events make us evaluate our place in the world. 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.

The Calla Lilies Are in Bloom Again: Katherine Hepburn on Film. A lecture accompanied by film clips. Discussion will be led by Philip Hardwood. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Westchester Choral Society to Hold Auditions for New Members Next Week

Members of the Westchester Choral Society will meet for their first rehearsal of the season on Sept. 11 and you could be among them.

The Westchester Choral Society, the longest continuously performing chorus in Westchester County, welcomes new members at its first few rehearsals each season. Interested singers may attend one or two open rehearsals before scheduling a singer-friendly audition, which requires singing a prepared solo, sight reading and repeating scales and arpeggios.

The Sept. 11 gathering will be held at Rye Presbyterian Church in Rye with subsequent rehearsals at the Music Conservatory of Westchester, located at 216 Central Ave. in White Plains. All rehearsals are from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Once the roster is set, the chorus will begin working in earnest on learning music for its Dec. 1 concert. This year's fall concert will include Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols and additional holiday favorites based on audience selection. It will be a fun and festive afternoon and one you won't want to miss, whether on stage or in the audience.

For the 12th consecutive year, the Westchester Choral Society has the continued good fortune to be guided by Music Director Frank Nemhauser, who brings knowledge, enthusiasm and humor to the group. In addition to holding the

choral society's baton, Nemhauser serves as musical director for the Berkshire Choral International and is director of vocal studies and associate professor at Mannes College of Music in New York.

For additional information on the Westchester Choral Society and its upcoming concerts, visit www. westchesterchoralsociety.org. Contact Numa Rousseve at 914-285-9026 or e-mail wcpresident@gmail.com if you would like to audition for the chorus.



The Westchester Choral Society, pictured her at its spring concert last May, will be holding auditions for new members starting on Sept. 11.

Hudson Chorale Auditions Set for Sept. 10 in Pleasantville

Come sing with Westchester's highly acclaimed community chorus, Hudson Chorale. The group is welcoming new members in all voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) to join for an exciting concert season that will appeal to choral singers of a wide range of musical preferences.

Singer-friendly auditions will begin Monday, Sept. 10, by appointment, from 6 to 7 p.m. prior to the season's first rehearsal. Rehearsals take place on Monday evenings from 7:15 to 9:45 p.m. at the Pleasantville Presbyterian Church, located at 400 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville.

Hudson Chorale selects its programs from a wide range of choral styles, from great oratorios to gospel. Unlike its last concert, which featured all 20th century contemporary American composers, the 2018-19 season will highlight 19th and 20th century iconic European composers.

The first concert program will take place on Jan. 26 and 27, 2019, at the magnificent Chapel at Maryknoll. The highlight will be Gabriel Fauré's exquisite "Requiem" in its original chamber orchestra version, along with a collection of motets by Mendelssohn, Bruckner and Brahms. The second half of the season culminates on May 17 and 19, 2019, with performances of Stravinsky's "Symphony of Psalms," Bartok's "Four Slavic Folk Songs" and Brahms' "Quartet Op. 92" and "Liebeslieder Waltzes."

Music Director Ira Spaulding is a choral conductor, singer and master class

instructor whose career spans 40 years of performance in more than 60 countries. He is currently professor of vocal and choral music at City College of New York and maintains a career abroad as a singer, teacher and conductor. The chorus's accompanist/assistant music director, David Baranowski, is a household name to choral singers in Westchester with his virtuosity on piano, keyboard, organ and harpsichord.

To receive additional information and/ or to schedule a time for an audition, contact Jeanne Wygant at JeanneWygant@ optonline.net or call 914-478-0074. To learn more about the chorus, visit www. HudsonChorale.org.





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