



## Latimer, Developer Sign Lease for North 60 Biotech Project

By Martin Wilbur

County Executive George Latimer signed a 99-year lease agreement last Thursday to advance the proposed \$1.2 billion biotech project on 60 acres of county-owned land near Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla.

The lease signing for the project, known as North 60, came during the annual county executive's address to Westchester County Association (WCA) members at its breakfast in Tarrytown. Developer John Fareri, of Fareri Associates, whose company emerged as the developer from a Request for Proposal process, joined Latimer on the dais at the event to sign the agreement.

"We want to be a county that uses forethought so that we look forward and ahead on the cutting edge of an industry that is clearly going to be the growth industry of the future," Latimer said after the breakfast.

In what WCA President and CEO William Mooney called the biggest



County Executive George Latimer, left, and developer John Fareri sign the 99-year lease agreement that will allow the North 60 biotech proposal to move forward on county-owned land. The project now faces an extensive review process by the Town of Mount Pleasant.

development project in the county in at least 30 years, up to two million square feet of biotech and medical office space

would be built along with a 120- to 135-unit hotel. There would also be a retail component.

The application will require a zoning change from the Mount Pleasant Town Board and site plan approval from the town's Planning Board.

Fareri said he hopes that an expedited review process would enable his team to receive the necessary approvals in 12 to 18 months. If approved, the project would be built in multiple phases that could take 10 to 15 years to complete, he said. The first phase would call for the construction of 220,000 square feet of biotech and medical office space, the hotel, which will also feature conference rooms, and 80,000 square feet of rental space.

Fareri said his company has been preparing for close to a decade to move forward and was confident the project will be a boon for the county. Over the next few months Fareri Associates plans to submit the necessary documents to begin the environmental review.

"This will be a great economic engine for not only Westchester but for the entire

*continued on page 4*

## Brynwood Asks No. Castle to Drop Fee-Simple Taxes for Project's Condos

By Martin Wilbur

The developers of a proposed luxury golf course community in Armonk have petitioned the North Castle Town Board to eliminate the originally agreed upon fee-simple designation for the units and have them taxed as condominiums.

Brynwood Partners LLC submitted its petition Jan. 4 after failing to secure financing since the Town Board agreed to rezone much of the 156-acre former Canyon Club property on Bedford Road in June 2015 to a Golf Course Community Floating Overlay (GCCFO) district, said attorney Mark Weingarten,

representing the petitioner. The project would see the construction of 73 high-end condominium units and a redesign of the golf course.

Weingarten said the partners have met with 38 lenders and have been told repeatedly that they will not be extended the capital needed to build the project because there's "a mismatch" between the condos and the required form of ownership.

"The concept of the single-family home ownership taxation, the fee-simple taxation, for these essentially villas or

*continued on page 2*

## P'ville Planning Commission Lead Agency for Mixed-Use Proposal

By Anna Young

The Pleasantville Planning Commission unanimously declared itself lead agency last week for review of a proposed four-story mixed-use project at 70 Memorial Plaza.

The board took the initiative on the Pleasantville Lofts, LLC plan for an 82-apartment complex with first-floor commercial space. The 32,000-square-foot parcel is located next to the post office.

Project architect Michael Gallin, who appeared at the Jan. 9 meeting on behalf of Pleasantville Lofts, informed board members that he plans to resubmit the

proposal within the month after his recently hired landscape architect has a chance to enhance the proposal and construct the lighting design for the building.

"My hope is once we have that material there will be some real meat for you guys to then have another round of chewing," Gallin said. "Without the landscaping and site lighting, I'm hesitant to resubmit a complete package."

Gallin added that the proposal would also include improvements to the overall building development and layouts for the apartments.

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## Brynwood Asks No. Castle to Drop Fee-Simple Taxes for Project's Condos

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condos that would typically be used, is not something they believe would sell, it's not something they'd be able to explain to people coming in to buy and they think it impacts the marketability and the ability to sell these units," Weingarten said.

"Frankly, until we get a lender willing to come up with construction dollars to do it, we're stuck and that's where we've been for the last three-and-a-half years."

Although condominium taxation yields roughly half the taxes of a comparably priced single-family home, the applicant is prepared to build an "ultraluxury" product that would yield at least as much tax revenue. Weingarten said the anticipated price per square foot would range from \$700 to as much as \$950. As a result, that would bring at least as much as the projected \$2.2 million in annual tax revenue under the fee-simple plan and possibly in excess of \$2.8 million, he said.

Currently, the projected sale price for the units would range from \$2.6 million to \$3.3 million.

If Brynwood is unable to at least meet the \$700 per square foot threshold for the first 36 units, it would agree to make

the other 37 units age-restricted housing, requiring at least one resident be at least 55 years old. That would further limit the possibility of school-age children.

Additional benefits that Brynwood would provide in addition to the previously approved Community Benefits Agreement is to deposit \$190,000 with the town in escrow to immediately pay for the restoration of the windmills and stone wall at nearby Windmill Farm. The developer would also accelerate the remaining installments that reach \$1,050,000 in the agreement, Weingarten said.

He said the demand for high-end housing for older adults in Westchester would support the project.

"The market or empty-nester housing just continues to increase," Weingarten said. "The demographics here in Westchester County just continue to have more people looking to sell their homes and looking to move into some quality project. So we think the market is going to be there for this very high-end product."

Town Board members, who agreed to re-establish themselves as lead agency and refer the petition to the town and

county planning boards at the Jan. 9 meeting, will have to decide whether they want to grant the zoning text amendment or potentially risk seeing the project never get off the ground. Having Brynwood agree to fee-simple taxation was one of the key reasons why the town granted the zoning.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said he would like to see the property developed as a golf course with a residential community but the pros and cons need to be weighed.

"The reality is this project as is is not getting built," Schiliro said. "There's a reality there. So we need to listen to the developer. Is there some way we can consider, not approve, but consider some revision?"

Councilman Jose Berra, who has been reluctant to agree to condo taxation for developments in town, said the matter is problematic, although he did commend the applicant for attempting to bring in at least as much tax revenue as under the fee-simple arrangement.

"I understand the dilemma that you're in. (But) people are paying higher taxes on comparably priced units," he said. "So

that's something I have to deal with."

Weingarten responded that the units would attract the older adult and therefore not be in competition with single-family housing stock.

One Windmill Farm resident, Jan Bernstein, said relinquishing fee-simple taxation would be a major concession.

"I think that this puts the town at tremendous risk and I'm not sure what the town is getting for it. That you're going to restrict 37 units?" Bernstein said. "That's what you're doing for damage control for the town? That doesn't make sense to me."

But another Windmill resident, Bob Greer, said it is unrealistic to expect anyone to pay twice the taxes for an expensive condo, plus carrying costs, while no longer being able to deduct state and local property taxes over \$10,000.

"I can't for the life of me imagine how the people in Windmill wouldn't love to have multimillion-dollar condos across the street, which will impact the value of their house," Greer said.

In addition to the zoning text change, Brynwood needs a special use permit from the Town Board and site plan approval from the Planning Board.

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**A:** When your calf muscles contract, your Achilles tendon tenses, allowing movement. As we age, its mechanical properties degrade and its blood supply diminishes. A sudden movement can result in a painful rupture – a complete tear through the tendon – and an inability to move your heel. Think of your Achilles tendon as silly putty. Pull it slowly and it elongates and stays intact; pull it fast and it may snap.

#### Q: This sounds painful, is there anything I can do to lower my risk?

**A:** Absolutely. Warm up before exercising to get your blood circulating; drink plenty of water to hydrate your muscles and tendons; and be aware of the temperature outside – strenuous activities in cooler temperatures put you at a higher risk. Your tendons become less elastic, less malleable and more prone to injury.

#### Q: What are symptoms of a rupture?

**A:** If it's a rupture, you'll likely experience one or more of these symptoms: the feeling of having been kicked in the back of the leg or heel; a popping sound when

the injury occurs; possible severe pain, with swelling near the heel; an inability to bend the foot downward or push off the injured leg when walking; an inability to stand on the toes of the injured leg.

#### Q: What should I do if I have symptoms?

**A:** If you have any of these symptoms, elevate and ice the leg to minimize swelling. If you're unable to bear weight you should go to the Emergency Room. If you can bear weight, make an appointment with an orthopedic surgeon for a diagnosis. If it's a rupture, I generally recommend surgery. Non-surgical management is associated with a higher risk of re-rupture and decreased strength. The goal of surgical treatment is to pull the frayed tendons together at the right length for optimal long-term function. This results in faster, more efficient tendon healing.

Regardless of the type of treatment, an Achilles tendon rupture requires a year or more to recover with full function. Consistent physical therapy will help strengthen your calf muscles and your Achilles tendon so you're able to resume all the activities you were doing before the rupture, without pain. The reported risk of re-rupture after surgical repair is about five percent.



# Suspended Fox Lane Teacher, District Quarrel Over Video

By Sean Browne

A recently suspended Fox Lane High School teacher is disputing some of the claims made by the Bedford Central School District in a release last week that explained why he was temporarily removed from the classroom.

Social studies and business teacher Michael Poplardo was suspended Dec. 6 for misconduct following a hearing conducted by a state appointed officer. The officer ordered that he be suspended and lose one month's pay.

Poplardo, who has taught for 29 years, was suspended Jan. 2, is scheduled to be reinstated on Feb. 2.

In its Jan. 9 release, the district stated that, "The misconduct consisted of [Mr. Poplardo] showing a video to students called 'Fox News Reporting: The Truth About Sex and College.' This video, which is 41 minutes long, contains inappropriate sexual content and presents a one-sided, biased political viewpoint."

The district stated that Poplardo had been warned in writing on two previous occasions "not to show videos with inappropriate political and sexual content. He chose to disregard those warnings."

Poplardo, who spoke to The Examiner on Saturday, said that to characterize the video as containing inappropriate sexual and political content is misleading and that



Fox Lane High School social studies teacher Michael Poplardo disputes Bedford School District officials' stance regarding a video he showed to seniors last spring about sexual assault that led to his suspension.

the district is spreading misinformation.

"The video is from a lesson meant to show kids the realities that can happen with sexual assault," Poplardo said. "The video doesn't show any inappropriate sexual material. It was meant to educate my class and it covers the pitfalls and consequences that occur with sexual assault."

Poplardo contended that the video, which he showed last May, was part of a two-day lesson that was meant to educate

his students regarding sexual assault before they go away to college.

Student feedback was overwhelmingly positive, the teacher said. He required that his students provide him feedback on the video.

Poplardo said because he felt the video had educational value, he refused to accept the district's initial offer of a fine equivalent to roughly one week's salary along with training and counseling. He also took issue with the district's statement regarding two previous videos.

One video was from The Onion about Social Security and the other was a clip from "Saturday Night Live" featuring Miley Cyrus where she mocks the 2013 U.S. federal government shutdown in one of her songs, "We Can't Stop."

Poplardo said none of those videos contained inappropriate subject matter. He also took issue with the district for dredging up the two previous complaints, which took place five years ago.

He is appealing the decision, accusing the hearing officer of bias. Poplardo said there is "overwhelming evidence" of a lack of impartiality.

"Here is a quote from my appeal; the hearing officer said this: 'Contrary to Mr. Poplardo, I believe rape is violence.' This is the smoking gun that demonstrates that I could not have gotten a fair hearing. Of course I believe rape is violence," he said.

However, the district's release stated that Poplardo filed the papers for an appeal after the deadline had passed and the district will ask to have the matter dismissed.

While the teacher may be at odds with the school district, Poplardo has the support of at least a portion of the student body. A GoFundMe page, with a fundraising goal of \$8,000 was established by a student last week to help Poplardo pay for expenses. The site showed that more than \$4,000 had been raised by the end of last week.

"The lesson was intended to prepare them [students] for some of the pitfalls they might face in college," a caption on the GoFundMe page reads. "The district administration viewed the video as controversial and suspended him without pay for one month. Both current and former students, however, were thankful for what they call, 'Mr. Pop's Stay Safe' lesson."

Any funds collected beyond the stated goal will go toward starting a scholarship, Poplardo said.

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## P'ville Planning Commission Lead Agency for Mixed-Use Proposal

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While the proposal remains under review, the owner of 70 Memorial Plaza has already started demolishing the two vacant buildings and removing the rock outcropping located on the property. Village Administrator Eric Morrissey said the owner was authorized by village officials to conduct the demolition work.

Demolition work started before New Year's and is expected to continue for three months.

Plans include the development of a four-story building that would consist of seven studio apartments, 38 one-bedroom apartments, 33 two-bedroom units and four three-bedroom residences. Tenants would have the option to access the roof for recreation use. There would also be 7,691 square feet of street-level retail space.

The proposal also includes a three-



ANNA YOUNG PHOTO

The Memorial Plaza parcel in Pleasantville where a mixed-use development is planned. The developer received permission to remove two vacant buildings on the site.

level underground parking garage with 137 spaces constructed for the residents' use and those parking to visit the central business district. The entrance and exit to the parking garage would be located on Cooley Street, which would be transformed into a two-way road. A residential pedestrian entry will be located on Memorial Plaza with a large canopy to promote additional foot traffic.

Village officials have previously noted the possibility for shared parking with the developer. That may be necessary in light of plans to redevelop the west end of Memorial Plaza into a civic space resulting in a loss of roughly 50 parking spaces. However, decisions regarding shared parking have been reached.

### SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

## Latimer, Developer Sign Lease for North 60 Biotech Project

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region," he said.

Under the terms of the lease agreement, Westchester will receive \$125,000 a year in rent plus 6 percent of the annual gross rental income. The county's share does not include revenue derived from the hotel. It was not mentioned how much in tax revenue may be generated by the project.

The total amount of new construction

and the final breakdown between biotech and retail space will ultimately be determined by market demand, Fareri said.

Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said town officials have waited for this project to move forward for about seven years. It will not only supply the county with tax revenue but the town with

additional property and sales taxes.

"The potential for jobs offered to people in the Town of Mount Pleasant and the surrounding areas, the possibility that what's being built there could need services from those in the Town of Mount Pleasant," Fulgenzi said. "There's many different benefits that can be derived from this, aside from the tax dollars, which are obvious."

The town's Zoning Board of Appeals will recommend zoning for the property since there will be a variety of uses at the site, he said.

County officials and business leaders hailed the signing as a monumental step forward that will position the county as a national and international leader in the biotech industry.

Mooney estimated North 60 will bring between 7,000 and 9,000 permanent jobs to the county that are mostly high skill. Building the project is expected to generate about 4,000 construction jobs, he said.

"(It's) one of the best things in the history of Westchester County," Mooney said.

Board of Legislators Chairman Ben Boykin (D-White Plains) called North 60 a "generational project" for Westchester.

"It'll bring significant tax revenue into the county, tremendous job and growth opportunities," Boykin said. "This is about economic development at its highest and we'll say proudly today that we'll move forward with this."

Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) said having new construction that will generate tax revenue and jobs without having new residences will help benefit the coffers of the town as well as the Mount Pleasant and Pocantico Hills school districts.

She said town officials support the project and look forward to moving along the review.

"This will really expand Westchester's reputation as a biotech hub," Cunzio said. "We also have to focus on all the construction and labor jobs that come with it. Jobs start right away on construction (and last) for years. It's something that everyone should be proud of."

Although the Board of Legislators unanimously approved the lease agreement in late 2017, former county executive Rob Astorino didn't sign it before he left office. Latimer, who complimented Astorino for initiating the project, said that his administration reviewed the agreement but signing was delayed because the possibility of adding a residential component was raised and debated.

Ultimately, a residential portion was omitted, although Latimer said that if one is added the lease would have to be amended. Fareri, who owns 20 acres that are adjacent to the county property, can propose housing at a future date on his land, which would only require approvals from the town, he said.

Michael Welling, co-founder of the Westchester Biotech Project and a partner for Meridian Risk Management, said a wide assortment of companies and organizations could call North 60 home. It could include data analytics firms, wet labs and dry labs, research organizations and corporate headquarters, he said.

The biotech industry is one of the fastest-growing and most lucrative in the world, Welling added.

"I see that in 20 years from now that we could be a global leader in biotech space," Welling said. "We now have the resources here to do it."

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# Consultant: Traffic Operating Well Since Whole Foods Opening

By Martin Wilbur

A month after the opening of Whole Foods, traffic near the Chappaqua Crossing complex has flowed well, the New Castle Town Board was told last week by its traffic consultant and police officer monitoring the site.

Lou Luglio, the consultant retained by the town, informed officials at the Jan. 8 board meeting that while tweaks are being made to the timing of turn signals at Route 117 and Roaring Brook Road and the new light outside the Horace Greeley High School entrance, the roads and intersections near the campus have been operationally sound.

"On the whole, though, from an operational standpoint, we think everything is running pretty smoothly without any incident, without any major traffic congestion at any one of these intersections," Luglio said. "So we're happy with the MPT (Maintenance and Protection of Traffic) plan and with the new traffic signal timing, and so with these recommendations, that's the only thing we would really talk about or recommend."

It had been anticipated by Town Board and Planning Board members that in the supermarket first weeks the roads and intersections would be plagued by congestion and backup, particularly over the holidays and when school



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Traffic has flowed well along Route 117 and Roaring Brook Road near Chappaqua Crossing since Whole Foods opened Dec. 15.

opened. Town officials required Summit/Greenfield, the developer of Chappaqua Crossing, to pay for town police officers to direct traffic at three key intersections from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends through Jan. 20.

However, New Castle police Lt. James Carroll said that traffic has flowed well enough that starting Monday, Jan. 14, he had reassigned the third officer who was stationed near the campus entrance closest the Metro-North grade crossing and Saw Mill Parkway.

"Overall, the MPT plan is performing well and safely," Carroll said.

Traffic flow has been satisfactory despite higher than projected traffic counts at the intersections during peak hours, according to Luglio. Counts were taken on Dec. 13, two days before Whole Foods opened, and on Dec. 18.

A joint Town Board and Planning Board meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday night for Luglio to make a presentation before both boards and for its members to ask questions.

Last Friday, the attorney for Summit/Greenfield, Mark Weingarten, sent a letter to the town requesting that the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) that allowed Whole Foods and Chase Bank to open be amended to allow the 40,000-square-foot Life Time Fitness and Pet Valu, which will be located next to the bank, to begin operations on Feb. 1.

The letter also requested that officials permit another 17,000 square feet of retail when those businesses are ready to open under the amended TCO. That would bring the amount of operating retail up to 100,000 square feet, 20,000 square feet less than what was approved by the town.

A public hearing is expected to be scheduled regarding the amended TCO

in the next two weeks to enable Life Time Fitness and Pet Valu to open by their target date.

Luglio recommended that three left-turn signals outside the site be extended to allow for improved traffic flow. Changes that were made at the two intersections include increasing the left-turn signal out of the high school exit onto Roaring Brook Road from 10 to 15 seconds; increasing the left-turn arrow from Roaring Brook Road by six seconds; and increasing the left-turn light from northbound Route 117 onto Roaring Brook Road by four seconds.

That would give drivers at Roaring Brook and Route 117 10 seconds to make left turns, he said.

Another recommendation is to allow right turns on red out of the high school onto Roaring Brook Road if the green light for drivers coming out of the Whole Foods exit directly opposite the school entrance is skipped. Luglio explained that the light is a "smart signal," which doesn't change to green for the exiting Whole Foods traffic if there are no cars waiting.

The electrical contractor responsible to adjust the signal timing was to be contacted before the end of last week, Luglio said. Furthermore, traffic counts will continue along Route 117 and Roaring Brook Road through Feb. 15, he said.

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# Cortlandt Man Arrested for Attempted Abduction of Woman in Mt. Kisco

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County police arrested a Cortlandt man last week and charged him with the attempted abduction of a woman in Mount Kisco along Route 117.

Kyle Gregg, 23, of Doris Lee Drive in Cortlandt Manor was charged with three felony counts consisting of second-degree attempted kidnapping, second-degree criminal possession of a weapon and third-degree criminal possession of a weapon with a defaced serial number. He was also charged with third-degree menacing, a misdemeanor.

Gregg was initially booked at county police headquarters in Hawthorne following his Jan. 7 arrest and held overnight pending arraignments the next day in Mount Kisco Justice Court on the attempted kidnapping charge and in Cortlandt Town Justice Court on the weapons charges, said a county

police spokesman.

"I commend our detectives for their work in bringing this case to a fast and successful conclusion," said Police Commissioner Thomas A. Gleason. "I would also like to thank the Putnam County Sheriff's Department for its assistance in locating the suspect."

Police said the 50-year-old victim, who was not identified, was walking southbound on North Bedford Road about 11:35 p.m. on Jan. 5 when a vehicle pulled up alongside her just south of the Bedford town line. The driver offered her a ride and the woman refused.

A short time later a little further south on North Bedford Road, the vehicle, a Nissan Sentra, stopped adjacent to the woman again and this time the driver demanded that she get in the car. When the woman refused, the driver pointed a handgun at her and again demanded she



Kyle Gregg, who was arrested last week for allegedly attempting to kidnap a woman along North Bedford Road in Mount Kisco.

get in the vehicle. The woman ran away from the vehicle and the driver fled from the scene.

County police detectives, working

with the department's Real Time Crime Center, determined that Gregg's vehicle had Maine license plates and was likely a rental car. Through further investigation, detectives were able to identify the driver and looked for him in the Cortlandt area.

On Jan. 7 at about 4:40 p.m., a deputy sheriff from the Putnam County Sheriff's Department observed Gregg's vehicle in the vicinity of Oregon Corners at the Cortlandt-Putnam Valley border and made a traffic stop. Westchester County Police responded and took the suspect into custody.

A loaded .22-caliber handgun was recovered during the arrest.

Following his arraignments, Gregg was remanded to the Westchester County Jail in Valhalla where he was held on \$25,000 cash or \$50,000 on the kidnapping charge and \$10,000 cash or \$25,000 bond on the weapons charges.

## County to Hold Alternatives to Suicide Info Session This Wednesday

Westchester County and the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) will hold a suicide prevention forum at the White Plains Public Library this Wednesday, Jan. 16 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The event, "Alternative to Suicide – An Overview," will present a model program from the Western Massachusetts Recovery Learning Community (MRLC)

in a discussion led by internationally renowned experts Sera Davido and Caroline Mazel-Carlton.

"Suicide rates in Westchester County appear to be on the rise. It is imperative that we know how to recognize the potential signs, and be there to support and assist those who so greatly need to find an alternative, said DCMH

Commissioner Michal Orth.

According to the MRLC, "The goal of 'Alternatives to Suicide' is not to simply force someone to stay alive from moment to moment. Rather, it is to support them to create meaning and a life that they want to live. Not killing one's self is simply a side effect of all that."

The program is open to anyone who

is interested in learning about this innovative model and wish to participate an open, supportive discussion on the topic.

To RSVP to this event, please e-mail [ASB1@westchestergov.com](mailto:ASB1@westchestergov.com). Light refreshments will be available. The White Plains Public Library is located at 100 Martine Ave. in White Plains.

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# Democrats, Activists Call for Passage of State Elections Reform Package

By Martin Wilbur

Democratic state elected officials rallied with various activists in White Plains last week urging for election reforms to encourage greater voter turnout and remove the influence of big money in politics.

Lawmakers were joined by labor unions and social action organizations Jan. 8 calling for the state legislature and Gov. Cuomo to enact fair elections legislation that would call for publicly financed small donor matches, stricter limits on individual contributions to campaigns, early voting and same-day registration. All are reforms that have been enacted in other states.

By getting big money interests out of campaigns it will blunt the influence of lobbyists and allow more ordinary citizens to run for public office and spur turnout on Election Day, said Assemblywoman Sandy Galef (D-Ossining). New York City passed similar measures more than 25 years ago and Connecticut instituted similar reforms about a decade ago, she said.

"We need to get the big money out, small donations in," said Galef, who has been fighting for reforms since she first arrived in the Assembly in 1993. "When people give a small donation to a campaign and are invested in a campaign they go out and vote and that's what's really important.

And it also brings democracy to us. People give to these small campaigns."

Supporters of an election reform package said they see for the first time a realistic chance of passing these changes with a Democratic Senate joining the Assembly and Cuomo. In fact, on Sunday the state Senate's Democratic Conference announced that the Senate was scheduled to vote on legislation on Monday afternoon.

Joan Mandle, executive director of Democracy Matters and a professor at Vassar College, said the campaign contribution limits are out of whack with the rest of the country. For example, individuals can give up to \$60,000 to each candidate in a gubernatorial race and limits for Assembly and Senate seats exceed what congressional candidates may receive from individual donations, she said.

As a result, New York ranks 47th in voter turnout among the nation's 50 states.

"A lot of people don't vote in New York and we need to change that and this legislation will change that, too," Mandle said.

Andrew Falk, field director for Citizen Action, one of more than 175 organizations across the state lobbying for a fair elections package, said legislation would more closely reflect public sentiment because lawmakers' decisions

won't be as easily influenced.

He said the public is turned off when their representatives listen to the big money interests rather than their issues.

"The fair elections campaign, that's not just on the plate that is the plate because if we get money out of politics. We can get our individual issues addressed," Falk said.

One of the biggest upsets in state government last year was the victory by Alessandra Biaggi in the 34th Senate District.

She defeated Independent Democratic Conference leader Jeffrey Klein in a primary then went on to win the general election despite being outspent by an 11-to-1 margin.

She said she was able to overcome that disparity but few have been able to and many potential public servants don't even try.

"It is actually embarrassing that New York State is 47th in the country for voter turnout," Biaggi said. "I will fight like hell



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef was one of many officials and representatives from grassroots groups that called for election reforms last week in White Plains. Galef has been trying to get legislation passed for 26 years.

with all of the members of my conference to make sure this is a priority."

"It's only when we're breaking down the barriers of participating in our democracy that we will create a government that works better for all of us," said Kevin Sheil, head of the Communications Workers of America, Local 1103.

Advocates for election reform have scheduled a day of action in Albany for Tuesday, Feb. 12 to try and convince legislators on the importance of making changes.

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# Police Blotter

## County Police/Mount Kisco

**Jan. 8:** An officer on patrol observed a man on the property of a car dealership on Kisco Avenue at 3:28 a.m. Further investigation revealed he was an employee who had come in early due to an anticipated delivery.

**Jan. 8:** A 36-year-old Mount Kisco man was charged with petty larceny, a misdemeanor, after staff at Rite Aid reported that a man took some beer and left the store without paying. An officer located the man on Main Street and took him into custody at 3:01 p.m. The suspect is due to answer the charge on Feb. 7 in Mount Kisco Justice Court.

**Jan. 8:** A Meadowbrook Lane resident reported at 4:44 p.m. that she observed a man in her backyard the previous night at 11:30 p.m. The man climbed over her fence and onto a neighbor's property when her dog began barking at him. The man was near a shed on her property but the homeowner said nothing was taken.

**Jan. 9:** A man who let his dog into the backyard of his home on Beverly Road reported at 10:28 a.m. that he thought he heard several people moving around in a wooded area behind his home. Officers responded and searched the area but no one was located.

**Jan. 9:** A woman whose pocketbook was stolen from her car in Yorktown a day earlier reported at 12:42 p.m. that her credit card was used the same day to purchase \$619 in merchandise at TJ Maxx in Mount Kisco. The victim had previously reported the theft to the Yorktown Police Department and learned of the fraudulent purchase when she was canceling her credit cards.

**Jan. 9:** Police responded to Locust Street at 4:53 p.m. on a report of a domestic dispute. It was determined that an argument between two people had occurred and was verbal in nature.

**Jan. 10:** A man walking near the Mount Kisco train station reported at 12:46 a.m.

that a woman was panhandling in the area and then began screaming at him when he did not give her any money. The woman was gone upon an officer's arrival.

**Jan. 10:** A woman turned in a pocketbook she found on West Street at 1:15 p.m. The bag did not contain any identification or other items that would identify the owner. The bag is being kept at the county police precinct on Green Street.

**Jan. 11:** Police responded to Moore Avenue at 8:57 a.m. on a report that a 52-year-old man was found deceased inside his home. It was determined that the man apparently died of natural causes.

**Jan. 11:** Police responded to Rite Aid on South Moger Avenue at 2:48 p.m. on a report that two people were fighting at the rear of the store. Officers were advised that the dispute was verbal and that the two parties had left the store.

## North Castle Police Department

**Jan. 4:** A Maryland Avenue resident

reported at 4:52 p.m. that a vehicle struck the mailbox and drove away. The responding officer secured photos. A report will follow.

**Jan. 4:** Report of a larceny at Stop & Shop on North Broadway at 7:10 p.m. The responding officer reported that video was secured and a report will follow.

**Jan. 7:** One party is in custody for criminal possession of a controlled substance following a traffic stop on North Broadway at 11:09 a.m. The vehicle was removed and impounded at Armonk Garage.

**Jan. 9:** A party arrived at police headquarters at 11:39 a.m. to report an incident of fraud in which a company posed as a computer software firm requiring immediate payment of \$600 in Apple iTunes gift cards and requiring remote access to his personal computer. Depositions were secured and a report was taken as a matter of record.

# Obituaries

## Niel Petersen

Niel "Paco" Petersen of Hawthorne passed away on Dec. 23 due to natural causes.

He was 84.

Petersen was born on Dec. 16, 1934, to the late Neils and Ellen C. (nee Purcell) Petersen in Port Chester. He was raised in Larchmont.

Petersen was predeceased by his wife, Patricia; son Donald and his brother John; two sons, Gary and Paul; daughter Shari Beyer; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Niel and Pat met at Davis & Elkins College in West Virginia and were married the following year. They settled in Hawthorne and raised their family in a loving home. He was the East Coast district manager for Continental Conveyor Co. and had enjoyed retirement

since 1990.

Petersen was an animal lover and had many cherished dogs throughout his lifetime. He and his Yorkshire Terrier, Cody, enjoyed their walks and had an inseparable bond. He enjoyed numerous hobbies and sports such as boating, gardening, golf and skiing and was an enthusiast of vintage airplanes. Niel's family and friends will forever be grateful for his generous and caring spirit and for bestowing pearls of wisdom which he gathered through his life's experience.

A funeral service was held on Jan. 12 at Hawthorne Reformed Church.

## Genevieve Weglarz

Genevieve Weglarz of Hawthorne died on Jan. 6.

She was 83.

Weglarz was born on Jan. 21, 1935,

to the late Thomas and Bertha (nee Wildchirt) Piekarski in Brooklyn. She was very kind and considerate and always had nice things to say about everyone and did not have a mean bone in her body.

Weglarz was predeceased by her devoted husband, Kazimierz Weglarz, in 1988 and two brothers. She is survived by her loving children, Theresa (Michael) Gray of Hawthorne, Thomas (Diane) Weglarz of Cortlandt Manor and Gerard (Jacinta) Weglarz of Wappingers Falls; six cherished grandchildren, Alyssa, Kaitlyn, Sarah and Amanda Weglarz and Kevin and Samantha Gray; one sister; and good friend Joseph DeNault of Wappingers Falls.

A funeral Mass was held at Holy Rosary Church in Hawthorne on Jan. 11 followed by interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to a charity of one's choice would be appreciated.



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# Peeping Tom Rattles Bedford Neighborhood; Suspect Still Sought

By Anna Young

An unidentified man has reportedly been peeping outside a home on Cliffside Lane in Bedford Corners.

The Bedford Police Department is on the hunt for an alleged peeping Tom after a home security camera captured the man last Wednesday trying to gawk into a bedroom window. Police said the incident happened on Jan. 2 around 8:20 p.m.

In the surveillance video, the trespasser can be seen approaching the bedroom window holding a ladder, until he spots the security camera and runs away. Police also believe he took the ladder from another nearby home.



Police are investigating a reported peeping Tom in Bedford Corners.

A Cliffside Lane resident, who wished to remain anonymous, said a spooked neighbor posted to the neighborhood's private community Facebook page that outside motion lights were on during the incident. The family's ladder had also been stashed in the woods behind their home and was broken.

The resident said police arrived the next day, canvassed the area and

provided the neighborhood with a photo taken from the security camera. Police have been patrolling the area since.

"Everybody feels safe in our neighborhood but when something like this happens it makes you pause," the resident said. "Now the neighborhood is talking about adding cameras to their homes."

The suspect is described as a white male in his late teens or early twenties with glasses, a beard and mustache.

While no suspects have been identified yet, police are encouraging anyone with information on the trespasser to call 914-241-3111.

## Millwood Man Pleads Guilty to Raping 16-Year-Old Girl

By Martin Wilbur

A Millwood man pleaded guilty earlier last week to raping a 16-year-old girl in his apartment last June after the two parties met on the internet.

Victor Gonzalez, 40, entered his plea for third-degree rape, a Class E felony, on Jan. 8 in the Westchester Sex Offense Court in front of Judge Susan Cacace, according to the Westchester County District Attorney's office.

After finding each other online, the girl agreed to meet Gonzalez at the White Plains Metro-North station on June 21,



Victor Gonzalez

2018, law enforcement authorities said. When she got off the train, Gonzalez picked her up and drove her to his New Castle apartment. The district attorney's report stated that the victim remembered waking up in Gonzalez's residence with him on top of her engaging in sexual intercourse.

The teenager told police that when the defendant used the bathroom, she fled the apartment and sent a text message to her mother asking for help. Although she did not know her location at the time, the girl's mother gave New Castle police

a location from the Find My iPhone application and officers responded to the area. Officers found the girl in the general location hiding in the bushes, disheveled and upset.

Gonzalez was arrested a short time later by New Castle police at his residence.

He is being held at Westchester County jail pending his Mar. 26 sentencing. He faces up to four years in prison.

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# Trees, Landscaping at Center of Mt. Kisco Cemetery Solar Plan

By Sean Browne

Creating an environmentally sensitive layout for Sunrise Solar Solutions' proposed ground-mounted solar array at Mount Kisco's Oakwood Cemetery layout was the focus of the opening of a public hearing before the village's Planning Board last Tuesday.

Sunrise Solar Solutions, a Briarcliff Manor-based installer of solar systems, is proposing about 3,600 panels on about four acres on the northern portion of the grounds as part of a lease agreement with the Lexington Avenue cemetery.

"We [Insite Engineering] have been working with Sunrise Solar Solutions and we have been working with the town to develop a plan that is compliant with the town's solar regulations," said Scott Blakley, senior principal landscape architect at Insite Engineering. "We believe that we have created an environmentally sensitive layout."

The proposed action would generate about 1.7 gigawatt hours of power annually, enough energy to provide roughly 200 Mount Kisco homes with electricity. In order to generate that power, 13 trees must be removed from that portion of the site.

"A number of trees will be removed along the western edge [of the cemetery]," Blakley said. "We are proposing to cut the trees and leave the stumps to minimize disturbance along that edge. We are trying to maximize the amount of sun exposure to the solar arrays."

Blakley said trees in the eastern part of the cemetery must also be removed. The cemetery plans to plant and grow evergreens to offset the loss of the removed trees, he said. It is still not known how many trees will be replaced.

Accommodating the solar panels may not be the only reason for the tree removal. Blakley said that some of the trees are dying so removing them would be justified. That claim was supported by Planning Board member Michael Bonforte.

"I have looked at those trees, and the ones that have come down are in similar height and stature as the others where the root structure can't support them anymore, so they do need to come down from a safety point of view," Bonforte said.

Sunrise Solar Solutions would be able to install 3,600 panels on 162 tables. Those tables would be mounted on a frame that is secured to the ground. Blakley assured the board that there would be limited ground disturbance to install the solar frames.

John Rhodes, chairman of the Mount Kisco Conservation Advisory Council, outlined a list of requested environmental protections that the Planning Board should consider, including accounting for every tree that is removed with a replacement.

"It didn't seem like all of the trees that

are being cut down are being replaced or even at least a quantity of them," Rhodes said. "We would like the board to make sure that every tree that is being removed be planted."

He also appealed to the board to have the applicant install pollinator-friendly plantings within the project's fence to be maintained at two acres; reduce the impact on viewsheds, wetlands and wetland soils in the area; and reduce the impact on wildlife habitats and corridors.

A full review under the state Environmental Quality Review Act

(SEQRA) should also be called for by the board.

Mark Farrell, a member of the Board of Directors at Oakwood Cemetery, said there is a need for solar panels at the cemetery.

"We need to generate revenue at the cemetery. This seems to me and the board as a relatively responsible way for us to utilize our land," Farrell said.

The company is seeking site plan, special use permit and wetland permit approvals from the board. In November, the Village Board approved legislation to regulate

solar arrays for roof-mounted systems and larger ground-mounted systems.



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## Editorial

### Brynwood's Fate Shouldn't Hinge on Unwillingness for Condo Taxation

In the weeks ahead, the North Castle Town Board will have a major decision to make regarding one of the more significant projects in the community.

In mid-2015, Brynwood Golf & Country Club was granted its zoning change for much of its 156-acre parcel to develop 73 luxury condominium units and to redesign its golf course. In exchange, there would be just over \$1 million in payments as part of a Community Benefits Agreement to help rehabilitate the nearby Windmill Farm's stone walls and windmills and a conservation easement that would keep the overwhelming majority of the acreage either a golf course or open space in perpetuity.

Like many major proposals, there had been an arduous process to get to that point. One key issue was density. Originally, Brynwood was seeking more than 240 units and returned with multiple iterations until it reduced the number of units to an acceptable level. Under the previous two-acre zoning, Brynwood would have been limited to no more than 49 single-family houses.

Another prime sticking point was the type of taxation. The applicant and its representatives agreed that the luxury condominium units would be fee-simple residences, meaning they would be subject to the same taxes a single-family house of

the same value would have. In New York State, condominiums are taxed based on a commercial formula where the taxes are roughly half of comparably priced houses.

While the town, pushed by some vocal residents at Windmill Farm, did its best to secure the fee-simple arrangement, it's become apparent three-and-a-half years later that the project is never going to be built with fee simple units.

It's not at all surprising. Why would anyone pay the \$2 million for the unit, give or take several hundred thousand dollars, plus all the common charges and have to deal with the restrictions that a homeowner's association or condo board can impose on its residents? That doesn't take into consideration the loss of the deduction of state and local taxes above \$10,000.

Apparently, more than three dozen lenders came to the same conclusion.

To its credit, the Town Board listened closely to the pitch from Brynwood's representatives last week. It is okay to be disappointed that fee-simple taxation isn't going to fly but it shouldn't be the reason why the project remains stalled or is aborted.

Opponents of condo taxation cite an issue of fairness and that there would be competition with comparably priced single-family homes. That would be

inaccurate.

In the case of luxury condominium units, such as those proposed by Brynwood, few, if any, people with school-age children would move in there. If you have \$2 million or more to spend on a residence in Armonk and you have children, you're buying a single-family home.

For more conventional condominium complexes, it helps diversify the types of people who can stay in a community. The loss of two groups local policymakers often bemoan are young professionals and older adults. With condos, younger people can establish equity with an initial purchase and remain in the region. Older adults can be empty-nesters who want to downsize and want the convenience of no maintenance or seniors on fixed incomes. They're not competing with anyone for single-family houses.

Yes, there are some who can't afford the taxes in Westchester on a single-family house but can on a condo. They're not vying for private houses either.

Brynwood Golf & Country Club was a good proposal three-and-a-half years ago when the Town Board granted the floating overlay district. Nothing has changed – except the reality that condo taxation has a very valid purpose in the housing market.

## Letters to the Editor

### Full Restoration of SALT Deduction is About Tax Fairness

The congressional district I represent, New York's 17th, is full of hard-working, diverse, middle-class Americans who have relied on the state and local tax deduction to help provide for their families and invest in their futures. Like other New Yorkers and Americans in high-taxed states who depend on the deduction, they pay more for food and housing and contribute more in taxes to state and local spending in areas with considerable spillover effects such as education, transportation and

health care.

New York is a "donor state." It contributed \$35.6 billion more in taxes to the federal government than it received in federal dollars in 2017. The cap on the so-called SALT deduction imposed by the federal tax law digs even deeper into the pockets of residents of these states, increasing their subsidization of other states and, egregiously, enormous giveaways to the very wealthiest and corporations.

Full restoration of the SALT deduction is a matter of tax fairness – for my constituents, yes, but also for many other taxpayers around the country who are now being taxed twice on the same income. Capping the deduction was never about fiscal parity; it was about taking punitive action aimed at Democratic states – even the Trump administration has admitted as much.

**Rep. Nita M. Lowey,**  
17th Congressional District

### Women's Marches Set to Roll in New York, D.C. This Saturday

On Saturday, Jan. 19, the third annual Women's March will take place in Washington, D.C. and many other cities across the country, including New York.

The first march in 2017 was in reaction to the election of Donald Trump to the presidency. As women, we feared the worst as Trump vowed to "make America great again." While he has never actually articulated what that means (when was America at her greatest and when did she stop being great?), it has become clear from his words and actions that perhaps Mr. Trump would like us to return to the Gilded Age: robber barons, machine politics and corruption, extreme

economic inequality and a country full of women who did not have the right to vote.

So we will march again this year to protest this vision of "greatness." We march to convey the message that we cannot and will not accept the proliferation of racism, sexism, victimization of immigrants, the eroding of rights for minorities including the LGBTQ community, the systematic dismantling of the Affordable Care Act, voter suppression, attacks on reproductive rights, the lies and misinformation that emanate from the White House on a daily basis and the willful ignorance of the very real and imminent dangers facing

our planet. I urge you to show up and join in with your mothers, daughters, granddaughters and the supportive men and boys in your life.

As a side note, the press has reported some controversy regarding two of the organizers of the Women's March in Washington, citing anti-Semitic and other prejudicial comments. The march in New York, however, has been organized by a different and unrelated group, The Women's March Alliance (womensmarchalliance.org).

**Celeste Theis**  
Croton-On-Hudson



# P'ville Firefighters Remember Murdered Colleague at Annual Vigil

By Anna Young

The frigid cold weather didn't stop Pleasantville firefighters from gathering once again at Graham Hills Park last Monday evening to pray for justice as the murder of fallen comrade Thomas Dorr remains unsolved.

While it's been 23 years since Dorr was found dead in the county park, firefighters

refuse to give up hope that Dorr's killer will be found and brought to justice. During last week's annual vigil, friends and co-workers each held a candle and gathered in front of the tree planted in memory of their friend who was found murdered on Jan. 7, 1996.

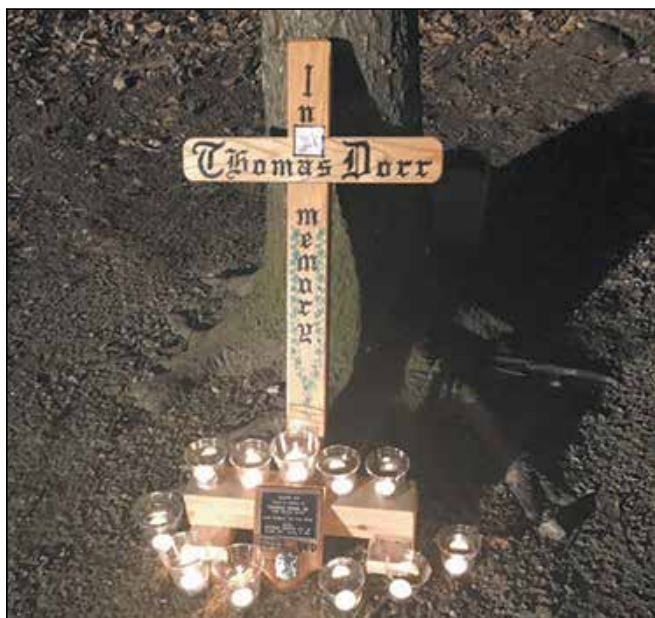
Dorr, 50, a White Plains Water Department employee, was near his Pollywoggle Road home feeding wild turkeys the day of his murder. Following the outing, he planned on walking to the Washington Avenue firehouse to join other volunteers on standby during a blizzard, but never made it.

"Those who were there know it was a night as cold as this," said former Pleasantville Fire Department Commissioner John Brooks. "People stood by and found out Tom wasn't there that night and the next morning we found out what had happened."

When firefighters



Pleasantville firefighters light candles to remember Tom Dorr last Monday night 23 years after he was killed.



ANNA YOUNG PHOTOS

The memorial at Graham Hills Park for Tom Dorr, the Pleasantville firefighter who was brutally murdered 23 years ago. His murder remains unsolved.

learned Dorr was missing, they began a search. His body was found the next morning, beaten and stabbed, buried under two feet of snow.

Dorr had served the Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department since 1979.

Brooks, who plans the vigil every year, remembered Dorr as a big guy – he stood about 6-foot-7 – who drove a small car but would always be the first person on the scene to help someone.

"He was always willing to help you and tell you what he thought," Brooks said. "Just a really good guy."

While the case remains unsolved more than two decades later, Dorr's wife, stepson and stepson's friend were all suspects following the murder. Dorr's death is one of two homicides in the village that are open cases. In October 2014, Linda Falkoff was stabbed to death in her Grandview Avenue home and police have yet to make an arrest in that case.

"It's a shame 23 years later that we still don't have anything to account for what happened," Brooks said. "Hopefully next year we can raise a drink to Tom and this will be all over."

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## Selecting Housing for the Eventuality of Retirement

A while back, I was invited to speak before a meeting of the Retired Municipal Employees Association. As I planned my remarks, I thought about how I was close to an age when some people think about retiring and living differently than they do now.

As for me, I intend never to retire from the enjoyable work I do in the real estate business. I just love matching buyers with their dream homes and helping sellers get the best deal on their major investment.

Nevertheless, my living preferences have changed significantly in the past few years, just as if I were retiring.

When I was still in my twenties and my wife and I moved to a historic home in need of repair, I was eager and ready to restore and maintain it. I was known as the "young guy" on the block who always answered the door with a hammer or paintbrush in hand.

After more than 40 years living there, I found myself wanting to do something other than hammering and painting, so we moved to the no-maintenance convenience of Trump Park Residences in Yorktown. In terms of planning for the future, we consider that the smartest housing decision we ever made for ourselves.

The housing issues facing retired and elderly people can be quite simple, such as finding living space on one level with no steps and being conveniently located

to shopping and medical services

Many older people are still in the homes in which they raised their children, married them off and then retired as empty-nesters. These homes may have become too big to rattle around in or maintain, and the tax bill that paid primarily for the education of their children no longer has the same payback.

But they may still want to remain in those homes, no matter how impractical. Surveys by AARP have found that about 80 percent of older persons say that they want to stay in their own homes. This phenomenon has been called the preference to "age in place."

It's understandable. After a long period of living in one place, our homes become an extension of who we are and how we express ourselves. Longtime residence is also a connection to the community where people know their neighbors and merchants as well as their houses of worship, libraries and community service.

For a long stretch, our homes have been our principal financial asset, and today,

the high demand for homes has made this a good time to cash in on our investments if we want to move.

Others who have paid off their mortgages and have equity can take reverse mortgages to stay put and live more comfortably through their golden years.

Those who decide to downsize must think carefully about the percentage of income they should be paying for housing and still manage to afford other necessities of later life besides food and clothing.

Affordability depends on their individual situations and whether they live with a spouse, alone or with relatives. Today, about 54 percent of older persons live with their spouses, 31 percent live alone, 13 percent live with relatives other than their spouse and 2 percent live with non-relatives.

If the decision is to move later in life, people seem to know what they want. A survey done by the National Association of Realtors in concert with MetLife found that retired and older citizens want easy, comfortable homes with single-story floor plans or homes that offer a first-

floor master bedroom. They also like home maintenance and repair as part of their next home purchase, preferably with no necessary outside chores and low maintenance inside, including washers and dryers, storage space, easy-to-open windows and easy-to-use climate controls.

As for my wife and me, we made the decision to downsize, yet upgrade, when we purchased a unit at Trump Park Residences. It affords us all the benefits I've listed above. Let the younger folks do as I did in my youth, answering their doors with hammers or paintbrushes in hand.

Interestingly, my daughter recently informed me that she and my son-in-law have discussed the eventuality of my wife and I living with them when the time comes. I was greatly touched, even though I'm sure we would rather remain independent as long as we can and to seek at-home care should we need it. And while the sentiment expressed by my daughter is lovely, I do wish she had waited another 15 or 20 years before discussing the matter with me.

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



By Bill Primavera

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# My Doctor

told me to be fresh

**“One of the most important things my patients can do is eat what’s in season.”**

- Dr. Ellen Lestz

Nutrient-dense food choices help strengthen immunity and protect against colds and other viruses. That’s why Dr. Lestz, pediatrician, says that along with regular checkups, one of the best things you can do for your kids’ health is to improve their diet by eating food picked fresh and in season.

To hear more from Dr. Lestz, visit [wphospital.org/fresh](http://wphospital.org/fresh)

*Keep your kids healthy this year.  
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# 'Bring It On' to Be Staged at White Plains Performing Arts Center

By Neal Rentz

Sandbox Theatre will bring it on starting later this week at the White Plains Performing Arts Center.

"Bring It On: The Musical, which is scheduled to open this Friday, Jan. 18, is based on the 2000 film that starred Kirsten Dunst and Eliza Dushku. It was performed on Broadway in 2012.

The musical is the latest production from the Mamaroneck-based Sandbox Theatre, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary and is expanding into Greenwich, Conn. Sandbox Theatre provides theater programs for students in grades K-12. "Bring It On" will be performed by three separate casts of youths in grades 5-8 during its six-show engagement that runs through Jan. 27.

Mamaroneck resident Jason Summers, who is the artistic director for Sandbox, is directing the production.

Summers said "Bring It On: The Musical" tells the story of Campbell, a high school cheerleading team captain whose passion is to lead her team to a championship. Through a series of circumstances, she is forced to attend another high school, where she again seeks to win the state championship by forming a new team. At the same time, she learns valuable life lessons.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SANDBOX THEATER

The Sandbox Theatre's production of "Bring It On: The Musical" will be performed on weekends from Jan. 18-27 at the White Plains Performing Arts Center.

Summers has an extensive background as a theater director, choreographer, teacher and performer regionally and throughout New York. He recently wrote and directed the musical "Growing Up '70s," starring Barry Williams, who's remembered as Greg Brady on "The Brady Bunch" television show.

Summers said that Sandbox Theatre is fortunate to be able to stage their productions at the White Plains Performing Arts Center.

"It's been wonderful and gratifying," he said, adding friends and family of the performers enjoy viewing the shows at the venue.

Though he worked with adults, including on Off-Broadway productions, Summers said he particularly enjoys working with youngsters. In particular, he relishes helping children who were initially shy but have learned to work with their Sandbox Theatre colleagues and have grown as individuals, he said.

Summers said Sandbox Theatre is an appropriate name for a company of young performers. Following the creation of a sandcastle in a sandbox, "Kids knock it down and begin again," he said. Sandbox Theatre participants create a production and then look forward to returning for their next play, he said.

The White Plains Performing Arts Center is located at 11 City Place in White Plains. Tickets for "Bring It On: The Musical" are \$16. To purchase tickets, visit [www.wppac.com/whats-on-stage](http://www.wppac.com/whats-on-stage). The center can also be reached by calling 914-328-1600.

For more information about the Sandbox Theatre, call 914-670-7768 or visit [www.wstshows.com](http://www.wstshows.com).



## Happenings

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

### Tuesday, Jan. 15

**Drop in for Tech Help.** Receive help with any of your technology devices. PC, Google and Microsoft savvy volunteers will help with troubleshooting, downloading, Overdrive, Freegal, Hoopla or any other online service. First-come, first-served. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 3 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkiscoliberal.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberal.org).

**Reading With Tobie and Karen.** A program for school-age children. Tobie and Karen are with The Good Dog Foundation. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.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.mountkiscoliberal.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberal.org).

**Essential Oils:** Health for the New Year. With the new year and cold winter months upon us – and quite possibly a few viruses floating around – learn how essential oils can help boost your immunity. Participants will make

a roller ball to take home. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Registration required: Info and registration: 914-864-0038

**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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Mount Kisco Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting.** Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkiscoliberal.org](http://www.mountkiscoliberal.org).

**Armonk Readers Book Club: "The Art of Hearing Heartbeats."** When a successful New York lawyer suddenly disappears without a trace, neither his wife nor his daughter Julia has any idea where he might be – until they find a love letter he wrote many years ago, to a Burmese woman they have never heard of. Intent on solving the mystery and coming to terms

with her father's past, Julia decides to travel to the village where the woman lived. There she uncovers a tale of unimaginable hardship, resilience and passion that will reaffirm the reader's belief in the power of love to move mountains. Discussion led by Diana Cunningham. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 ext. 3.

**Saw Mill River Audubon Nature Book Club.** The New York Times bestseller "The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History" by Elizabeth Kolbert will be discussed. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-6503 or e-mail [office@sawmillriveraudubon.org](mailto:office@sawmillriveraudubon.org).

### Wednesday, Jan. 16

**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 (except Jan. 21). Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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 (except Jan. 18 and 21). Info: 914-769-0548 or

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# Chappaqua Author Draws on Own Family to Write Second Novel

By Martin Wilbur

If writing what you know about most makes for the most compelling stories, then Lynda Cohen Loigman may have a hit on her hands.

The Chappaqua resident and author traveled back to where she grew up, Springfield, Mass., as the prime setting for her new book "Wartime Sisters." It is scheduled for release next Tuesday by St. Martin's Press.

Much like her first book in 2016, "The Two-Family House" where she used ideas from her mother's history and experiences in Brooklyn, this time she drew inspiration from her hometown.

Loigman's mother, one of three sisters in her family, moved out of Brooklyn when she was 18 in the early 1960s. Her mother stayed behind to finish her senior year in high school before rejoining the family in Springfield.

"So I had it in my head that I wanted to have this story about sisters who moved, like sisters in transition and what it felt like if one of them was left behind and what it was like to catch up with the others later," Loigman said.

Instead of her mother's time period, which Loigman concluded wasn't intriguing to write about, she focused the book around the lives of two sisters, Ruth and Millie, when they're living in Brooklyn in the 1930s. But Ruth's husband gets a job at the Springfield Armory heading into America's involvement in World War II. Although Ruth and Millie aren't close, Millie is left behind without family or friends.



RANDY MATUSOW PHOTO

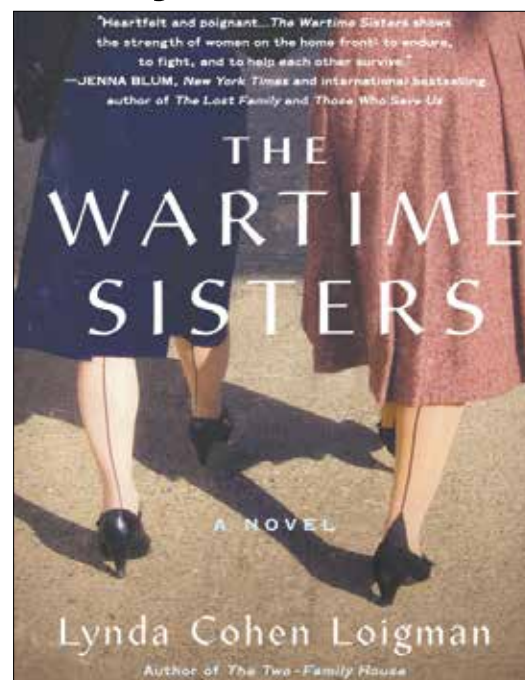
Lynda Cohen Loigman, whose second novel, "Wartime Sisters," will be released next Tuesday.

Five years later they reunite, but circumstances change and the strains in their relationship grow.

Loigman said that she made multiple trips to Springfield and the armory to research about what life was like leading up to the war and the lives of those who worked at the facility, which had been in operation since Revolutionary times.

"I'm really surprised I learned so much about it and how important it was to the war," Loigman said. "It's surprising I never had a class field trip there, but it's a museum now. The original building, the arsenal building, is a museum."

For Loigman, the satisfaction of having



now been a twice-published author has certainly been more personally gratifying than her initial career. A graduate of Harvard before heading to Columbia Law School, her legal specialty was wills, trusts and estates. After Loigman married and had her daughter, the oldest of her two children (she also has a son), she put an end to her full-time law career to raise her family.

However, the dream of being an author had long been in the back of her mind especially since she hadn't been enamored with law from the start.

"I never really liked being a lawyer and I always had this idea for the first book that I had, since my daughter was six months old,

I had that idea and eventually I was just thinking about it so much, but I was really not a writer," Loigman said.

To realize her dream, about six years ago Loigman enrolled in the writing class at Sarah Lawrence College. The story behind "The Two-Family House" was developed in that workshop.

"I wrote that book through the class, then I got an agent and I kept taking the class," she said.

Right up until this past year. Aside from receiving direction and being in an atmosphere with other creative people, Loigman made friends with other authors, or people who similarly became authors.

"You don't make a lot of new friends when you're 50," Loigman said. "I have made a lot of new and wonderful friends because of this and that's a very special thing."

Loigman does have an idea for her next book but that will be on hold temporarily as she begins heading out to help market "Wartime Sisters." That starts next Wednesday evening, Jan. 23, when she makes an appearance at Scattered Books, located at 29 King St. in Chappaqua, from 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information about Loigman and her books, visit [www.lyndacohenloigman.com](http://www.lyndacohenloigman.com).

## Ancient Order of Hibernians Donate Over \$4G to Two Local Nonprofits

On Nov. 28, the Ancient Order of Hibernians' (AOH) Division 16 and Ladies AOH Division 16 donated \$4,523 to Hospice Care of Westchester/ Putnam Counties.

A presentation was made at the annual Tree of Life ceremony held at the Holiday Inn in Mount Kisco. Hospice Care, a nonprofit home health care agency, provides home health services to patients with advanced illnesses.

On Dec. 15, the AOH and Ladies AOH donated \$4,523 to Rosary Hill Cancer Center in Hawthorne. The Rosary Hill Home is run by the Dominican Sisters and provides hospice care for incurable cancer patients who are unable to afford care for themselves.

Since 1992, the AOH has donated \$248,250.14 to Hospice Care of Westchester/Putnam, Rosary Hill Home and other organizations. The fundraising drive was administered by Chairman Brian Jones.

The division is grateful to the following parishes for their help:

St. Patrick's, Bedford; St. Francis

of Assisi, Mount Kisco; Holy Rosary, Hawthorne; St. Lawrence O'Toole, Brewster; St. Matthias, Bedford Hills; St.

Mary, Katonah; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Shrub Oak; Holy Innocents, Pleasantville; and Church of Saint John and

Saint Mary, Chappaqua.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 16 was formed on Sept. 13, 1891, consisting of men of Irish descent and practicing Roman Catholics living in northern Westchester County. The AOH originated in America on May 4, 1836, in order to protect the Catholic Church from a mounting wave of religious bigotry, discrimination and mob violence. In April 1844, the AOH valiantly defended the old St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City from being burned down.

The division has a long and distinguished history of supporting different community groups in the area as well as supporting the annual Mount Kisco St. Patrick's Day parade since 1991. The Parade Committee is pleased to announce that the 29th annual St. Patrick's Day parade will be held on Saturday, Mar. 9 and the annual St. Patrick's Day dinner will be held on Saturday, Mar. 2.

For further information or an application, write to the Ancient Order of Hibernians, P.O. Box 473, Mount Kisco, N.Y. 10549 or visit [www.AOHDIV16.org](http://www.AOHDIV16.org).



The Ancient Order of Hibernians' Division 16, covering northern Westchester, late last year donated about \$4,500 each to Hospice Care of Westchester/Putnam Counties and Rosary Hill Cancer Center. Pictured, left to right, during the presentation to Hospice Care, are Charles McGuinness and Ed Reilly of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, two Hospice Care representatives and Jim Cullinane and William McCormack of AOH.



# Happenings

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www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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

**Preschool Storytime.** This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except Jan. 18 and 21). Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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

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

**Senior Afternoon Cinema: "To Catch a Thief"** To keep a wave of thefts from being pinned on him, a reformed jewel thief living in high style on the French Riviera must ferret out the true culprit. Starring Grace Kelly and Cary Grant. Was an Oscar winner for best cinematography. Part of the Jacob Burns Film Center's Senior Afternoon Cinema series. 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.

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

**Book Group Discussion.** Martha Iwan leads a discussion on "Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard" and "Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth" by Sarah Smarsh. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

**Affordable Care Act Navigator.** A trained navigator provided by the county Department of Health will be available to help people with choosing and signing up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act and the state health marketplace. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. 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.

**Science Lab.** Become junior scientists and learn about different science topics through stories, crafts and experiments. There's a new topic every week. For children four to six years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

**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.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

**DIY Cotton Ball Penguin.** Celebrate Penguin Awareness Day (Jan. 20) by creating an adorable penguin of your own. For children four to 11 years old. Children under five years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

**Art Series: Lino Tagliapietro.** One of the most revered of the Italian master glass blowers in the world, Tagliapietro is famous for upholding the centuries-old tradition of glassblowing while also looking forward to creating and collaborating with glass in ways never before seen in the world. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

**White Album Outtakes:** Listening Party With Scott Freiman. The Beatles' "White Album," one of the greatest records ever made, just celebrated the 50th anniversary of its release. With newly released outtakes from the recording sessions, journey even deeper into The Beatles' creative process. Join "Deconstructing The Beatles" Scott Freiman as he hosts a tour through

some of the highlights. Hear some of the original Esher demos, featuring "unplugged" versions of Beatles songs recorded after the group returned from India, plus alternative and early versions of "White Album" favorites. Freiman will provide the stories behind the music and insight into the recording sessions. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:15 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$25. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

**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 every Monday and Jan. 30. Info and tickets: Visit www.nomacomedy.com.

## Thursday, Jan. 17

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

**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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Every Monday and Thursday. Info: 914-273-3887.

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

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

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

**Pre-K Storytime With Craft.** Stories, songs and a take-home craft. For children three to five years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. 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.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

**"Heal."** A scientific and spiritual journey to discover that our thoughts, beliefs and emotions can have a huge impact on our health and ability to heal. This documentary taps into the brilliant minds of leading scientists and spiritual teachers while following three people in their actual high-stakes healing journeys. Followed by a panel discussion with experts drawn from nearby communities. Part of the Ossining Documentary and Discussion Series. Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave., Ossining. Seating at 6:15 p.m. Screening at 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.OssiningDocumentaries.org.

**"Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom."** Listen to David Blight who will talk about his long-awaited definitive biography of Douglass, the escaped slave who became one of the leading intellectuals and political leaders of his era. Blight is the director of the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance and Abolition at Yale and author editor and winner of multiple awards. Followed by a book signing. Part of the John Jay Homestead Scholars Lecture Series. John Jay Homestead Historic State Historic Site, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. Registration and light refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Program at 7 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$25. Reservations recommended. Info and reservations: 914-232-8119, visit www.johnjayhomestead.org. or e-mail friends@johnjayhomestead.org.

**"What is Democracy?"** Director Astra Taylor's idiosyncratic, philosophical journey spans millennia and continents, from ancient Athens' groundbreaking experiment in self-government to capitalism's roots in medieval Italy; from modern-day Greece grappling with financial collapse and a mounting refugee crisis to the United States reckoning with its racist past and the growing gap between rich and poor. Featuring a diverse cast

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# Art Show: Bedford Celebrates 46 Years of Supporting Local Charities

This year marks the 46th year of Art Show: Bedford, an eagerly awaited annual community event that unites the arts with charitable giving.

The art show, which opens for the first of five days on Saturday, Jan. 26, features a blend of contemporary and traditional artwork in all media and is a fundraiser for many local non-profits.

The event will be held in the St. Matthew's Church Fellowship Hall at 382 Cantitoe St. in Bedford over the course of two consecutive weekends. The show kicks off with the Preview Party on Friday, Jan. 25, followed by an exhibition and sale on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 26 and 27 and Friday, Feb. 1, Saturday, Feb. 2 and Sunday, Feb. 3.

Tara Deeks and Susannah Swanson are co-chairing this year's event.

"Many people have the misconception that the show benefits St. Matthew's Church, which is not the case," Deeks said. "The proceeds of the show are donated entirely to a cross-section of local non-profits that serve the most needy and marginalized members of this region."

"Although hosted by St. Matthew's, its goal is to galvanize the entire community to support many worthy local charities while also celebrating the arts," Swanson added.

Christopher Brescia and Sarah Ryan of the Lane Contemporary Arts Gallery in Katonah will assist in curating the show and will introduce exciting new artists to the roster of its many exhibitors.

Organizations supported at last year's show included A-Home; Abbott House; the Boys & Girls Club; Bridge Fund; Caring Circle of Hospice Care; Community Center of Northern Westchester; Emergency Shelter Partnership; Endeavor Therapeutic Riding; Hope's Door; Hope's Door Star Program; Hospice Care of Westchester/Putnam; Hour Children; Making Headway; Midnight Run; Mount Kisco Child Care Center; Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry; My Second Home; Neighbors Link; Part of the Solution; Pegasus Project; SPCA; Waterside School Scholarship; and Westchester Exceptional Children's School.

Thirty-eight artists have been selected to participate in the juried show, exhibiting a collection of unique paintings, photographs, sculpture, pottery, glass, wood carvings and jewelry. Acclaimed local photographer Julie Testwuide has specially created a stunning work, "Great Blue," to illustrate the graphics connected with the event.

The judges for this year's show include Michael Gitlitz, executive director of the Katonah Museum of Art, and Peter MacGill of Pace/MacGill Gallery in Manhattan. Art awards include The Mary Berol Award, sponsored by Marilen Tilt; Best Painting, sponsored by April Foley; Best in Show, sponsored by the Women of St. Matthew's; Best Mixed Media, sponsored by the Katonah Art and Frame Shop; and Best Photograph, sponsored by the Paint Box of Bedford Hills.

The Friday night Preview Party will be catered by Happiness Is. Plentiful hors d'oeuvres will be accompanied by champagne, wine and beer provided by The Wine Connection and The Study Fine Wines. Music will be performed by Mark Weigel's band, DogBone. Tickets can be obtained in advance for \$125 or at the

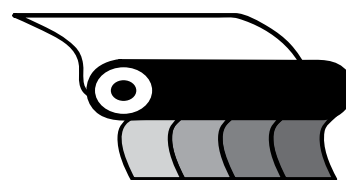
door for \$150.

On Saturday, Feb. 2 from 5 to 6 p.m., all are invited to attend a Collector's Evening when Lewis and Laura Kruger will offer their insightful perspectives on collecting art. Lewis Kruger is chairman emeritus at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City. Laura Kruger, an art historian, is the curator of the Hebrew Union College Museum. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door for \$45, which includes wine and hors d'oeuvres.

Hours for the show are 6:30 to 9 p.m. for the Preview Party on Jan. 25 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Jan. 26 and 27 and Feb. 1-3.

The Collector's Evening on Feb. 2 is from 5 to 6 p.m. Daily admission to the show and sale is free.

For more information, including portfolios and bios of the featured artists, visit [www.artshowbedford.org](http://www.artshowbedford.org).



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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KABATCHNICK ENTERPRISE HOLDINGS LLC** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/7/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **18 Belmont St., White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ROMANOFF ELEMENTS, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/25/2018. Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to **Carol Romanoff 55 Byram Ridge Road, Armonk NY 10504 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**Articles of Organization (DOM-PROF. LLC).** Erica O'Connor PT PLLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 11/6/18. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of DOM-PROF.LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to **c/o Schecter, 153 W. Main St., Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: The practice of Physical Therapy.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EATON TAX SERVICE LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY on 01/02/2019. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Eaton Tax Service LLC, 142 Mt Joy Pl, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**The name of the LLC is Goodbear Holdings LLC.** The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on December 20, 2018. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Westchester County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is **c/o 25 Bank St. Apt 214K, White Plains, New York 10606.**

**The name of the LLC is Goodbear Property LLC.** The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on December 20, 2018. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Westchester County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is **c/o 25 Bank St. Apt 214K, White Plains, New York 10606.**

**DB PRINTING & PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS LLC**, Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY 9/26/2018. Office loc: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **LLC: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
January 16, 2019 6 PM

**1.Pledge of Allegiance 2. Departmental Reports 3. Proclamation** – Legislator Barbara Scuccimarra **4. Supervisor's Comments 5. Vincent Tamagna** discussion about State/County-provided shuttle

*continued on next page*



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# What You Need to Know About Your IRAs and Long-Term Care



By Salvatore  
M. Di Costanzo

After a house, an individual retirement account (IRA) is usually the largest asset when looking into someone's financial portfolio. The tax and Medicaid rules dealing with IRAs are very different yet related,

quite complex and often misinterpreted or misapplied.

It is important to have a general understanding of these rules in order to avoid paying unnecessary taxes or worse; spending down the value of the IRA toward the cost of your long-term care needs.

Medicaid rules and regulations afford IRAs special protection. The general Medicaid rule is that an IRA will be considered an exempt resource if you are taking your required minimum distribution (RMD). An RMD is the minimum amount that you must withdraw from your IRA according to the Internal Revenue Code.

The RMD is an amount calculated by applying the IRS life expectancy tables published by the IRS, to the prior Dec. 31

balance of your IRA. The code provides that you must begin taking RMDs no later than Apr. 1 of the calendar year following the year you turn 70 1/2. From a tax perspective, the concept is simple: the IRS wants their tax revenue on your deferred IRA that has been accumulating tax-free.

Thus, if you are taking your RMD, the entire principal balance of your IRA will be protected if you need to apply for Medicaid. Be mindful, I didn't say the RMD was protected. While the principal balance of the IRA is protected, the RMD is not. The RMD is treated as income and added to the rest of your income. As you may know, New York requires that you contribute your income to the cost of your care.

I regularly meet with individuals who have been told to spend down their IRA in order to become eligible for Medicaid. Unfortunately, this article is going to sound familiar to many who read it. Some may be the persons who have consulted and worked with me. Nursing homes, professionals other than attorneys and non-elder law attorneys are often the biggest culprits in providing this erroneous information. I once worked with a family

who cashed out an IRA containing more than a \$300,000 balance because they were told to do so by a nursing home.

Medicaid rules are very stringent. Not only must the applicant be receiving their RMD, but it also must be taken on a monthly basis. One of the first things usually done with clients is have them contact their financial advisers to change their RMD distribution from annually to monthly, if they have not already taken the RMD.

Another stringent and relatively unknown rule is that an IRA will lose its exempt status if the applicant takes out more than the RMD. This is usually an issue in homecare situations. For instance, an applicant may be at home in need of Medicaid to cover the cost of caregivers. The only asset is a small checking account and an IRA.

Unfortunately, in our geographic area, the process of applying for Medicaid to cover the cost of homecare services can take a few months. If the applicant depletes their checking account, he or she cannot take a distribution from their IRA because it will expose the entire balance and render them ineligible for Medicaid

until further planning is done. This is a rule that families have a difficult time digesting. Often, other family members pitch in to cover the cost of care until Medicaid is approved.

These rules have many subtleties and illustrates the importance of working with an elder law attorney. Medicaid planning and tax planning is not a do-it-yourself project.

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

## Guest Column



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service 6. Legislative Report 7. School report 8. Approval of minutes for December 19, 2018, and January 2 and January 9, 2019. 9. Rescind Resolution #R-26 Pump Station Custodian 10. Appoint Douglas Montaruli Pump Station Custodian for the year 2019 at a salary of \$5,100. 11. Appoint Planning Board ad hoc member. 12. Possible appointment of Zoning Board Member 13. Waive Building Department fees for Tompkins Corners Cultural Center drainage project. 14. Waive Building Department Operating Permit Fee for Tompkins Corners Cultural Center 15. Appoint Lake Peekskill Egg Addler 16. Appoint Roaring Brook

Lake Egg Addler 17. Appoint Barger Pond Egg Addler. 18. Budget Transfers 19. Public Comment 20. Audit of monthly bills

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# Happenings

*continued from page 20*

including celebrated theorists, trauma surgeons, activists, factory workers, asylum seekers and former prime ministers, this urgent film connects the past and present, the emotional and the intellectual, the personal and the political, in order to provoke and inspire. Following by a Q&A with Taylor and Jacob Burns Film Center Programming Director Brian Ackerman. Part of the Global Watch: Crisis and Social Action series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$12. Non-members: \$17. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Friday, Jan. 18

**Hoff-Barthelson Music School Early Childhood Open House.** Children 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 during which participants 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. Faculty members guide young students to develop many of the skills involved in music-making and a joyful bond grows between children and their adults as they listen, sing and move together with the music. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 10 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Snow date: Jan. 25. RSVP requested. Info and RSVP: 914-723-1169, visit [www.hbms.org](http://www.hbms.org) or e-mail [stusch@hbms.org](mailto:stusch@hbms.org).

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**Explore Osmo.** Children explore, learn, create and interact with digital games in a whole new way. For children in grades 3-5. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Every Friday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Films Directed by Women: "Everything, Everything."** Followed by a post-screening discussion by Carolyn Wertheim. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**Friday Night Film Series: "The Big Sick."** Oscar winner for best original screenplay last year, this film follows the blossoming relationship between Kumail, a Pakistani comic, and Emily, an American grad student. When an unexpected situation develops, Kumail finds himself exploring various family relationships on a much deeper level. This romantic drama brings in incredible performances from Holly Hunter, Ray Romano and Kumail Nanjiani. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"The Last Pair of Earlies."** Hudson Stage presents a staged reading of this story by Joshua Allen. In 1921, a young shoemaker is consumed with dreams of leaving his home in rural Mississippi for the excitement of Chicago, but tragedy befalls them on the way to the promised land. Many years later, his dreams unfulfilled, he and his wife discover the true price of his ambition. Their future becomes uncertain as they are forced to confront the demons of their past and the emptiness of their present. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7:30 p.m. \$10 door donation. Info: 914-271-2811 or visit [www.hudsonstage.com](http://www.hudsonstage.com).

## Saturday, Jan. 19

**Pleasantville Farmers Market.** Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" from 2014 to 2018. With nearly 40 vendors participating in the Indoor Market, the delicious good time continues each week. The farmers market is a dog-free environment. There will be seasonal vendors throughout December. Pleasantville Middle School cafeteria, 40 Romer Ave., Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through Mar. 30, 2019. Info: Visit [www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org](http://www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org).

**Chappaqua Farmers Market.** Locally-raised and produced food to the community creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers in the region. First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, 210 Orchard Ridge Rd., Chappaqua. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. First and third Saturdays of each month through March. Info: Visit [www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org](http://www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org).

**Third Saturday Bird Seed Sale.** The sale supports the local conservation work of the Saw Mill River Audubon. Pruyn Sanctuary, 275 Millwood Rd., Chappaqua. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Third Saturday of each month. Info (including bird seed descriptions and prices): Visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/seedsale](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/seedsale).

**Practice Tai Chi With Larry Atille.** Learn specific feldenkrais and chi kung breathing techniques for deep relaxation and apply them to tai chi movement. This is a hands-on class that will be

geared to the level of experience of the class and challenge all participants. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a floor mat or towel. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East. Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday. Info: 914-273-3887.

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

**Winter Wolves.** Winter offers families a unique opportunity to visit the wolves during their favorite time of year. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why this season is such a magical time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as their maturing pups experience their first winter season. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and potentially behold the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Guests will enjoy hot beverages in the woodstove-heated classroom. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 2 p.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Also Jan. 20 at 2 p.m., Jan. 27 at 1 p.m. and Jan. 21 and 26 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Jewish Earth Day.** The Westchester Community for Humanistic Judaism will host a Tu B'Shevat seder with seasonally appropriate refreshments. Rabbi Frank Tamburello will tell the historic development of the celebration. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 2:30 p.m. Members: Free. Non-members: \$10. Children (under 13): Free. RSVP required. RSVP: E-mail [charlotteklein48@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteklein48@gmail.com). Info: Visit [www.wcjh.org](http://www.wcjh.org). Make checks payable to WCHJ and send to Olga Turovsky, 84 Sprague Rd., Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583.

**NYC Comedy Night.** This event will bring together three veteran comedians of the New York comedy scene, including Lenny Marcus, a regular at comedy clubs like the Comedy Cellar and Comic Strip Live, who has appeared on numerous television programs, including three times on the "Late Show with David Letterman." Also appearing are veteran New York comics Buddy Fitzpatrick and Karen Bergreen. Fitzpatrick has appeared in multiple films as well as on television networks Comedy Central, Nickelodeon and AXSTV. He was a frequent opener for Joan Rivers and he currently opens often for Joy Behar. Bergreen, who will serve as the evening's host, regularly

appears on Comedy Central and was a panelist on the Oxygen game show "Can You Tell." She has also performed live on television programs including "The View," "Nick Moms," "Stand-Up in Stilettos" and "LIVE at Gotham." The second event in the three-date benefit concert series this season for the Friends of the Irvington Town Hall Theater, a nonprofit group. Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main St., Irvington. 7:30 p.m. \$25 and \$35. VIP ticket: \$50. Info and tickets: Visit [www.irvingtontheater.com](http://www.irvingtontheater.com).

**Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Stacey Prussman.** Prussman is a national touring headlining stand-up comic, radio host, actress and public speaker and has appeared numerous times on The Howard Stern Radio Show. Prussman has also been a guest on several popular radio shows on the Sirius XM network and was a guest on Jay Mohr's top-rated podcast, "Mohr Stories," a regular on The Anthony Cumia Show and is a guest host every Thursday on the ever popular Artie Lange/Artiequitter podcast. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughs.com](http://www.lucyslaughs.com). Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

**Gina Chavez in Concert.** A multi-ethnic Latin pop sensation, Chavez is a nine-time Austin Music Award winner, including 2015 Musician of the Year and winner of Album of the Year for her sophomore release, "Uprooted," a passionate collection of bilingual songs traversing cumbia, bossa nova, vintage pop, reggaeton and folk. With dynamic vocals and sharp social commentary, Chavez's songs take audiences on a journey through the Americas, expertly blending sounds with tension and grace. Purchase College's PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$25 to \$45. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit [www.artscenter.org](http://www.artscenter.org).

**"Dial Code for Santa Claus."** Keep the holiday season alive for one more night with a screening of this outrageous French thriller. Previously only available via VHS bootlegs – and a huge audience smash at Fantastic Fest 2018 – this film is an enormous discovery. Made a year before "Home Alone," "Dial Code Santa Claus" is way more stylized – and bloodier. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 10 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Sunday, Jan. 20

**Sunday Morning Winter Photo Walk.** A new once-per-season tradition led by local photographer Heidi Fuhrman and Rockefeller State Park staff members Rebecca Policello and Julia Jardine. Fuhrman will not burden the walk with

*continued on page 26*



# Some of My Favorite Vacations: Trips That You'll Never Regret



By Richard Levy

**Mekong River Cruise.** My Cambodia to Vietnam Mekong River cruise on Ama Waterways was to date my trip of a lifetime. Nothing can compare with its tranquility and enlightening experience.

The picturesque countryside, quaint villages and ancient temples drifting by as if in slow motion are mesmerizing.

The historic Angkor Wat temples are more impressive than the pyramids. You'll observe everyday lives of thousands of people living and working in colorful floating villages. There's a heart-wrenching excursion to Cambodia's "Killing Fields" where the Khmer Rouge brutally murdered a quarter of the population. Stop in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia. Get blessed by Buddhist monks in an ancient temple. Visit a silk factory and remote villages. Venture into Viet Cong secret tunnels, then arrive in vibrant, bustling colonial Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), once called "The Pearl of the Orient."

The Mekong River cruise is seven unforgettable days exploring Cambodia and Vietnam as you can only experience on a river cruise. Onboard a beautiful ship, there were endless gourmet meals,

impeccable service and every possible amenity. Don't put this trip of a lifetime on your bucket list, make plans now and just do it.

**Ravello, Italy.** A charming Italian city nestled high above the scenic Amalfi Coast. Everywhere you look there are drop-dead gorgeous vistas. Nightly concerts in ancient churches and great restaurants and the finest ceramic factory in Italy for hand-painted dishes. Splurge and stay at the Belmond Hotel Caruso where celebrities and world leaders stay.

Amalfi is where you can take day trips to Capri and Positano. Fly into Rome, train to Naples, rent a car and drive down the breathtaking Amalfi Coast.

**Bellagio, Lake Como.** A medieval village on a glistening lake surrounded by the snowcapped Alps with small villages tucked into the mountainside. Stay at the five-star Grand Hotel Villa Serbelloni, where royalty, celebs and the rich and famous have stayed for decades. Its Michelin Guide restaurant is one of the best in Italy. Worth every lira, I mean euro.

Take a tour boat around the lake and stop for lunch in a quaint village. A week in Bellagio and at Villa Serbelloni will be

your most luxurious, romantic vacation ever. Fly into Milan and taxi to Bellagio.

**Lucca, Italy.** Italy's magnificent medieval walled city is only an hour from Florence. Its massive walls were built during the 14th century to protect Lucca from invading armies. It appears the wall has worked; they haven't had a war since 1480.

Once inside, you've left the chaos of civilization. After exploring its twisting and winding streets, take a walk around the ramparts with its vistas of the Tuscany countryside. The centuries-old Church of San Giovanni

has nightly Puccini concerts performed by local opera singers and musicians.

The food of Lucca has been heavily influenced by the ancient Etruscans who favored cooking with fresh herbs like rosemary, sage and thyme.

Come to Lucca, you won't want to leave. Fly into Rome, train to Florence, spend a few days, then rent a car to Lucca.

**Favorite Airlines:** Jet Blue, Air Canada, Norwegian Air.

**Favorite Travel Apps:** Google Flights, Hopper, Booking.com.

**Favorite Travel Luggage:** I love my high-tech looking RIMOWA carry-on luggage. A true work of art, super light and very easy to use.

**Critical Tip:** Make sure your passport does not expire six months before or after your trip or you will be turned away at the airport.

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

**Travel Maven**



**FEEL GOOD**



**American Red Cross**

**NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF FOXWOOD CONDOMINIUM, ON BEHALF OF ALL UNIT OWNERS, Plaintiff v. MICHAEL CASARELLA and CHRISTINA CASARELLA, Defendant, Index no. 54254/2018.** Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated November 20, 2018, and entered in the above-entitled action on November 27, 2018 (the "Judgment"), I the undersigned Referee in said Judgment named, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd., White Plains, New York 10601, the premises directed by said Judgment to be sold. The premises will be offered for sale, as one parcel, on Thursday, January 31, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. The premises therein is described as being in the County of Westchester and State of New York, and designated as Tax Lot no. 2.121, Block 2, Section 69, Sheet 51 and commonly known as 121 Foxwood Circle, Mt. Kisco, New York 10549. The premises is more particularly described as follows:

## THE land area of the Property is described as follows:

The Unit is designated as Lot 2.121, Block 2, Section 69, Sheet 51, on the Tax Map of the Town and Village of Mount Kisco and further described as follows: The unit ("UNIT") designated and described as Unit No. 121 in the Declaration (the "Declaration") establishing a plan for condominium ownership of the land (the "Land") and buildings (the "Buildings") comprising Foxwood Condominium (collectively the "Property") made by the Granter under Article 9 –

B of the New York Real Property Law, dated November 27, 1985 and recorded in the Office of the County Clerk of Westchester County on December 5, 1985, in Liber 8286 cp 59. Being further designated and shown on the floor plans certified by Jack P. Fermery, A.I.A., filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Westchester County, Division of Land Records, on December 5, 1985 as Map #22143. The Land is comprised of all that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Village and Town of Mt. Kisco, County of Westchester, and State of New York and more particularly bounded and described in herein. Together with an undivided .8686 percent interest in the Common Elements.

The premises will be sold subject to the provisions of the filed Judgment, Index No. 54254/2018 the Terms of Sale, and an assigned mortgage held in the principal sum of \$331,550.00, with interest thereon.

The approximate amount of the Judgment, for the property referred to therein, is \$14,737.91, plus interest and costs, as provided in the Judgment. The successful bidder will be required to deposit 10% of the bid by certified or official bank check, unendorsed, made payable to the Referee in accordance with the terms of sale.

**Robert A. Hufjay, Esquire, Referee. (914) 664-8400**  
**Ansell Grimm & Aaron, P.C., Attorneys for Plaintiff,**  
**365 Rifle Camp Road, Woodland Park, New Jersey 07424**  
**(973) 925-7343**  
**Attention: Stacey R. Patterson, Esq.**

## LEGAL NOTICE

# Happenings

*continued from page 24*

an instructional class; rather, she will help point out photographic opportunities and approaches during an energetic two-hour jaunt through the carriage trails in search of broad vistas and eye-catching closeups. Each season brings different photographic opportunities, and winter brings unique light and simplicity to an image. All ages and both beginner and advanced photographers are welcome. Any camera (even a cell phone) is fine. Rockefeller State Park Preserve, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. 10 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: Contact Julia Jardine at 914-631-1470 ext. 107 or visit [www.RockefellerStateParkPreserve.Eventbrite.com](http://www.RockefellerStateParkPreserve.Eventbrite.com).

**Winter Wolves for Kids.** This is the best introduction to wolves for families with young children. Children will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role of wolves in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves; they're out searching for prey as their growing pups experience their first winter season. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and potentially behold the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Guests will enjoy hot beverages in the woodstove-heated classroom. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Also Jan. 26 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Full Moon Wolf Walk.** Celebrate the December full moon with more than 40 moon-loving wolves. While enjoying nature's winter chatter by the outdoor fire pit, guests will enjoy seasonal treats and the symphony of howls. Guests will learn about the history of wolves in the United States, their importance in a healthy ecosystem and the efforts to save these magnificent creatures for future generations. Guests will also take a short moonlit walk to visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Zephyr and Nikai. Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 4:30 p.m. \$20. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Sunday Cinema: "Inquiring Nuns."** A 50th anniversary screening of one of the earliest examples of Kartemquin co-founders Gordon Quinn and Gerald Temaner's exploration into the world of cinéma vérité. This film captures the attitudes, fears and dreams of everyday Chicagoans, giving audiences and researchers insight into the political and social climate of 1960s Chicago. The film's music is composed by Philip Glass in his first credited film score. The Picture House, 175 Wolfs Lane, Pelham. 8 p.m.

\$12. Seniors, students and members: \$10. Info and tickets: Visit [www.thepicturehouse.org](http://www.thepicturehouse.org).

## Monday, Jan. 21

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

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

**Free Test Event.** A SAT/ACT test event open to all high school students. C2 Education, 195 N. Bedford Rd., Mount Kisco. Free. Seating limited; registration required. Info and registration: 914-362-1100 or e-mail [mount.kisco@c2educate.com](mailto:mount.kisco@c2educate.com).

**Tin-Punch Workshop.** Throughout the 1700s and 1800s, tanners, also known as tinsmiths or tinkers, used pieces of iron covered in tin to craft everyday objects such as lanterns, cupboards, footwarmers, colanders, scoops and cooking utensils. Using hammers or mallets, they would curve and bend the tin. Today, tin-punch is often used in decorative pieces for the home. Participants will have the opportunity to make several tin-punch decorations to take home. For children six years old and up and adults. Horace Greeley House, 100 King St., Chappaqua. 1 to 3 p.m. Free. Walk-ins welcome registration recommended. Info and registration: 914-238-4666 or visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com).

**The Best of the 2018 New York International Children's Film Festival:** Kid Flicks One. Not just one film, but nine animated and live action shorts. See stories from all over the world. An exciting way to spend a day off from school. For children three years old and up. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Children (13 and under): \$7.50. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Explore Creative Writing.** Do you like to write? Do you have fun creating with words? Come and write for fun. No pressure, no testing, no stress. Just relax and write. For children seven to 10 years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to

4:45 p.m. Free. Every Monday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"Take This Hammer."** This documentary takes place in the spring of 1963, when prolific author/activist James Baldwin sets out to assess "the real situation of Negroes in the city, as opposed to the image San Francisco would like to present." He meets members of the African-American community, having a series of frank exchanges with people on the street and community leaders, listening and offering encouragement. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 5 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

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

## Tuesday, Jan. 22

**"The Borscht Belt."** An exhibition of photos by Marisa Scheinfeld featuring her large-scale photographs of the abandoned remains of once-famous Catskill region resort hotels. The traveling exhibition by this adjunct instructor at Westchester Community College is based on her widely acclaimed book "The Borscht Belt: Revisiting the Remains of America's Jewish Vacationland." The Fine Arts Gallery at Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Building, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Feb. 22. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. Info: 914-606-6835 or visit [www.sunywcc.edu/gallery](http://www.sunywcc.edu/gallery).

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

**Sling and Play With Chloe.** A fun, musical, early communication program for children and caregivers to enjoy together. Based on the award-winning Baby Signing Time series, this class uses songs and games to help families learn to communicate using real signs from American Sign Language. This class is taught by certified instructor and professional children's entertainer, Chloe from Chloe's Kids. For newborns through three years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"Detour."** Shot on a minuscule budget for the "Poverty Row" outfit Producers Releasing Corporation and running a mere 68 minutes, Edgar G. Ulmer's "Detour" (1945) conjures more mood and atmosphere than most big-budget Hollywood films can muster in two hours. On his way to join his girlfriend in Los Angeles, down-and-out piano player Al Roberts (Tom Neal) hitches a ride with con man Charles Haskell (Edmund MacDonald). When Haskell mysteriously dies, Al assumes his identity and runs into a new set of troubles when he picks up a hitchhiker (Ann Savage) who uses his lies against him. With limited sets and stock footage, Ulmer created a terse, bitter picture that carries film noir into the realm of existentialism. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1, 2:45, 4:30, 6:15 and 8 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and ticket: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Lincoln Center Theater: "The King and I."** Reprising her Tony Award-winning role, Kelli O'Hara takes to the stage alongside Ken Watanabe in a powerhouse performance. Set in 1860s Bangkok, the musical tells the story of the unconventional relationship that develops between the King of Siam and the British schoolteacher he brings to instruct his many wives and children. The fine score includes "Whistle a Happy Tune," "Getting to Know You" and "Shall We Dance." Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$30. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**DIY I Have a Dream Mobile.** Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy based on his famous "I Have a Dream" speech by creating a mobile that expresses your own dreams – for yourself and your community. Each participant will fill out a cloud template with their own dreams, then attach the clouds with string and watch your dreams soar. For children seven years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Comedy Night.** Six popular comics for a night of great dining and outrageous comedy. For adults 18 years old and up. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Show at 8 p.m. \$89 per person (plus tax). Show only: \$55 per person (plus tax). Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit [www.broadwaytheatre.com](http://www.broadwaytheatre.com).



# Our Virtual Tour of Spain's Wine Regions: The Land and its History



By Nick Antonaccio

This week we are traveling to the final destinations on our virtual tour of Spain's six major wine regions before heading home. We motor in our Spanish-produced Tauro Sport Coupe rental to the far northern coast and the sixth region, called Green Spain.

As we depart from the Duero River Valley region that we visited last week, we make one last stop – the Rueda region. From here we will travel first to the northeast corner of Green Spain and then traverse all the way to the western extremes.

In these areas, the dominant wines are white. So, the rest of our journey will focus on the delightful white wines from three areas: Rueda, Txakoli and Rias Baixas.

Rueda. Located northwest of Madrid and Segovia along the Duero River, this area has been producing various wines since the 11th century. Fast forward to the 20th century when Spanish vintners rediscovered the local Verdejo grape and began producing light, crisp wines. These wines have been compared to French Sancerre and New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc. Stylistically this is a valid comparison, but Ruedas are distinctive unto themselves; they have a bit more fruit – think Granny Smith apples – and don't try to be complex, just refreshing. Examples of locally available wines: Basa (\$13), ConClass (\$11) and Naia (\$12).

Leaving Rueda, we head into Green Spain. Its name is derived from its northern maritime exposures to the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of Biscay and its mountainous terrain, including the Basque country near the Pyrenees. The inland mountains capture the moisture from the sea, creating the most rainfall in all of Spain. Hence the verdant hillsides and lush vegetation. Here two white grapes thrive in very distinct areas: Hondarribi Zuri in the Txakoli region and Albarino in the Rias Baixas region.

Txakoli. Located in the northeastern extreme of Green Spain, at the foot of the Pyrenees, this area had been forgotten by the rest of Spain and the wine-consuming world – until recently. It now seems to be caught up in the current frenzy in the United States for anything Spanish. This is a good thing.

The grape, Hondarribi Zuri, is a local indigenous grape. The wine is unique in that it has a certain frizzante characteristic,

making it perfect for summer quaffing. It is high in acidity, yet low in alcohol; its aroma is lime-tangy, yet it has floral flavors. It will be a welcome alternative to your standard summer fare. It can be a bit difficult to find, but worth the search. Try Itsas Mendi (\$17).

Rias Baixas. From Txakoli, we now travel along the northern coastline, peering up at the looming mountains, breathing in the salt air and soaking in the sea breezes. Our destination is the nearby town of Galicia and the home of the Albarino grape. This grape has reference points in Viognier (summer fruit bouquet of apricots) and Riesling (acidity and minerality).

This is not just another pretty face on the Spanish wine scene. It is complex and refined, unique in its aromas and crisp to an extreme; a perfect accompaniment to seafood. Try these offerings: Burgans (\$12), Nora (\$15) and Martin Codax (\$13).

The idyllic atmosphere and great wine make Galicia a great locale for the final destination on our virtual tour of Spain. As we make our long trek back to Madrid for our flight to New York, we're already reminiscing about our favorite cities and

wines and dreaming about a return trip.

A dose of reality: Fares to Spain are very reasonable in the springtime, before the hordes of Trip Advisor zealots and the perennial rush of exchange students descend on the land. Plan an itinerary of culture, architecture, food and wine in the metropolitan centers and the tiny secluded villages. I trust my Spanish guide has titillated your travel urges and taste buds. Your questions and comments are always welcome.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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