November 5 - November 11, 2019

**SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS** 

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# State Republicans Target Mt. Pleasant Democrat With Mailer

By Martin Wilbur

The New York State Republican Committee sent out a mailer in the waning days of the Mount Pleasant campaign last week to some town voters targeting Democratic Councilwoman Francesca Hagadus-McHale as "too radical."

The mailer, which was received last Thursday, was apparently sent to Republican and independent voters in the town.

Hagadus-McHale is up for re-election a year after she won a special election for the unexpired term of former councilman Mark Rubeo, who left the Mount Pleasant Town Board after being appointed town justice. She became the first Democrat to win a seat on the Town Board in about 30 years. Hagadus-McHale is seeking reelection to a full four-year term on a ticket with running mate Laura DiVenere against Republican nominees Danielle Zaino and Jerry Schulman.

She said that local Republicans tried a similar tactic in 2018, but went a step further this year to involve the state committee by

attempting to stoke fears to boost turnout among their supporters and any potential undecided voters.

"I was thinking 'Wow, it's the last week in October and we haven't had an attack yet," Hagadus-McHale said. "Everything's been pretty civil."

Referring to her as Fran Hagadus, the mailer's three main points included that she "supported two major tax hikes affecting Mt. Pleasant" in her first eight months in office, that she called law enforcement "thugs" and "goons" and supported sex offenders' right to vote in elementary schools. It cites social media posts and the month of each post but no other references.

The mailer contains an image of Hagadus-McHale dressed in black with a yellow and black "warning" stripe just above and to the left of her head.

Hagadus-McHale said she wasn't surprised by the piece, only by its viciousness.

She said all three points are fabrications or distortions. The only tax hike she has voted for since being sworn in was the 3 percent hotel occupancy tax for Mount



An image of the mailer targeting Mount Pleasant Democratic Councilwoman Francesca Hagadus-McHale that was received last week by some town residents.

Pleasant, which her Republican colleagues also supported.

Her references to "thugs" and "goons" was a June 2018 Twitter post assailing ICE

for carrying out family separations at the southern border, and was not aimed at police or other law enforcement.

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# Police Pursue Clues to Pleasantville Woman's Murder Five Years Later

By Martin Wilbur

Last week, the four-bedroom house with the blue siding at 79 Grandview Ave. in Pleasantville sat like it has for the last five years. There was no activity on the property located on the quiet residential street a short distance from Washington Avenue.

A passerby can peer through the front door to view a cluttered mess in the downstairs hallway, apparently possessions belonging to its owner

On Oct. 30, 2014, the house's owner and lone resident, 76-year-old Linda Misek-Falkoff, was found dead inside the premises after a mail carrier spotted her mail piling up in the box outside for several days.



# New Castle Awaits Cost Estimates, Design Plans for ChapLine

By Martin Wilbur

An engineering and planning firm retained by the Town of New Castle is expected to soon provide estimated costs for alternative routes for the proposed ChapLine, a 1.5-mile pedestrian and bike path.

Town officials and three members of the ChapLine Committee listened to an hourplus presentation two weeks ago featuring options for the project that would connect downtown Chappaqua with Roaring Brook Road near Chappaqua Crossing and Horace Greeley High School.

While there are multiple path variations that can be pursued, the town has to contend with the possibility of angering some neighboring residents, most

notably occupants of the 88-unit Chestnut Oaks condominium complex off of North Greeley Avenue and several single-family homeowners who have expressed privacy and security concerns, or opting for a much more expensive path by encroaching on Metro-North property and wetlands.

"There's still a number of alternatives we're looking at and those are going to be factors beyond an engineering feasibility," said project engineer Ryan Weitz from the planning and engineering firm Barton & Loguidice. "There's cost involved, there's other factors involved and that's kind of what we want to touch on so that you're aware of those moving forward."

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# New Castle Awaits Cost Estimates, Design Plans for ChapLine

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Recommendations and cost estimates were not provided at the Oct. 22 presentation by Weitz and Project Manager Leigh Jones. At this stage, the project was characterized by Town Administrator Jill Shapiro as "very

preliminary.

Weitz said options for the roughly 20-footwide ChapLine would be to either follow the existing easement the town has with Chestnut Oaks or to cross over onto Metro-North property. With the latter option, the

# State Republicans Target Mt. Pleasant Democrat With Mailer

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"I said my mother saw her parents taken away when she was 12 years old," said Hagadus-McHale, referring to their disappearance in Germany at the hands of the Nazis. "That's not law enforcement."

She also said she has no idea what they are referring to regarding sex offenders voting in schools. Gov. Andrew Cuomo last year signed an executive order that allowed some paroled sex offenders to vote in schools if that was their designated polling place after 7 p.m. on Election Day.

"I think people will feel very insulted by this," she said. "They're insulting the voters' intelligence. Like I said, up until now the campaign has been completely civil to the extent that people can be."

Mount Pleasant Democratic Committee Chairman Wayne McPartland said he and other Democrats were expecting an attack and predicted it will backfire.

"I think it will expose their dirty tactics," McPartland said. "I think people are tired of

it, especially in the age of Trump. People are disgusted with these tactics. I think it will turn off voters and we'll get more votes for our slate with Francesca leading it."

Town Republican Committee Chairman Kevin Hyland responded to an Examiner e-mail regarding the matter with a statement.

"The mailer released by the New York State Republican Committee is factual, as noted by the multiple citations," the statement read. "These are Fran Hagadus's own words and positions. We are confident that voters will reject Fran Hagadus and her radical agenda for Mt. Pleasant."

Schulman said he and Zaino were unaware that the mailer was going out. As first-time candidates, they have been concentrating on local issues.

"That was nothing that Danielle and I had anything to do with, thank God," Schulman said. "We had nothing to do with that. I believe it came from the state level."

A message left over the weekend for Zaino was not returned.

town would need to agree to a long-term lease with the railroad.

"So there are some additional costs associated with going on Metro-North (property)," Weitz said. "We'd be skirting the wetlands and then we would have to work on that wood screening fence, 1,200 feet of retaining wall to avoid wetlands and then about 2,000 feet of fencing."

Jones told the Town Board that while she has not worked directly with Metro-North, there are other professionals at Barton & Loguidice who have.

"They do work with you but it can be a very long process and it can be a costly process as well." Jones said.

Other potential features for the ChapLine could include a "boardwalk" that would take walkers and bikers through a forested area, a roughly 100-foot pedestrian bridge over Roaring Brook and a parking area at the Roaring Brook Road terminus. The other end of the path would lead the public to downtown, where there is usually plenty of parking.

Supporters of the ChapLine have backed the concept, saying it would enable people in more than 400 homes within walking distance of the path to travel between downtown Chappaqua and the Chappaqua Crossing area without needing to get into their car, a key goal of the updated Comprehensive Plan. It is also critical because the chances of getting sidewalks on Route 117 are remote.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein, a

ChapLine supporter, said it appears that working with Chestnut Oaks residents and the five homeowners where the path would cross onto a piece of their property would be more realistic than dealing with Metro-North.

"We have an easement. Rather than talking about imposing additional costs and getting leases from Metro-North and all the wetlands issues, we have an easement," said Greenstein. "Let's use the easement for the betterment of the community and how can we protect the privacy and the concerns of the Chestnut Oaks folks."

ChapLine Committee member and Chestnut Oaks resident Peter Izzo said he understood the rationale for wanting to avoid Metro-North. But depending on who would primarily use the ChapLine – residents along the trail or people from throughout the area – could determine whether there would be support in his community for the project.

However, there are also the five homeowners' properties where no easement exists but a piece of their land would still be needed. Councilwoman Ivy Pool said if any project alternative turns out to be too expensive than the issue is moot, especially since the town is not going to use eminent domain.

The town is also considering having Barton & Loguidice provide grant writing services in hopes of obtaining money to offset the project's cost.

# Dos and Don'ts During Flu Season

What you need to know...



For more information about the flu, visit the CDC at cdc.gov/flu

Fever. Body aches. Chills. When the flu hits, it zaps you of energy. Flu season starts as early as October and runs as late as April; the virus thrives in cold dry weather. To minimize your exposure, follow these dos and don'ts from Dr. Debra Spicehandler, Co-Chief of Infectious Diseases at Northern Westchester Hospital.

#### Do:

**Take positive precautions.** The best way to prevent the flu? Wash your hands with soap and water! Start washing from your wrist down and sing the 'Happy Birthday' song in your head three times.

**Get a flu shot.** The second best way is to get the flu vaccine. Washing hands prevents infections from spreading, but if someone who has the flu sneezes in your face, there's not a lot you can do. That's why the vaccine is important.

If you don't get your flu shot, there's a possibility that you'll spread the flu to others, including those who are at high risk for complications, such as grandma and grandpa, your baby nephew, your pregnant sister, and those with chronic health conditions.

**Disinfect your home.** "Influenza can be transmitted when someone sneezes, coughs, or even talks; or if you touch an object that someone with the virus has just handled—a computer mouse or doorknob, for example. Wear disposable gloves when cleaning surfaces, throwing away used tissues, or handling other items, such as laundry, that a sick person has touched or worn.

#### Don't:

**Don't go to work or school with the flu.** Even if you think the flu has come and gone, play it safe. Stay home for 48 hours after you stop sneezing and coughing and only return to work or school when you've been fever-free for 24 hours.

**Don't rush to the hospital.** Call your doctor before heading to the emergency room. Hospitals get overwhelmed during flu season and in most cases they can't eliminate your flu. However, seek immediate medical attention if you have severe symptoms such as a fever that won't break with medicine or an inability to hold down fluids—or if you have an underlying condition such as cancer or an autoimmune disease

**Don't drink alcohol.** While your grandmother may have sworn by the hot toddy, alcohol may cause dehydration that can worsen flu symptoms.



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# Police Pursue Clues to Pleasantville Woman's Murder Five Years Later

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death was a homicide by stabbing following an autopsy. Police, at the time, had said the front door was unlocked but there were no signs of forced entry.

Despite collecting "strong evidence" at the scene, five years later police investigators are still trying to piece together all the information and are looking for additional clues to move forward.

"The most challenging thing is there were no witnesses to the crime," said Capt. Mark Busche of the Westchester County police's Detective Division, who supervises open homicide and cold cases. "So this poor woman was found about five days after she succumbed to her injuries, so there was the decomposition of the body, and the nature of that environment poses some forensic challenges to us."

Busche said that while the case is dormant, the scene was processed forensically so there is evidence and leads. But there have been no new tips that have come in from the public.

That doesn't discourage Busche from eventually finding the suspect or suspects. Police investigators recently received a tip on a murder that occurred 40 years ago, helping authorities to take a fresh look at the cold case.

"We're confident that somebody knows something," he said. "We'd like to hear from them so we can follow up. But like any investigation, it has led us down several different paths that we looked down and there's always some people of interest that we investigate. It is an ongoing investigation."

Following the discovery of her body, it



The front door to the house remains open revealing the cluttered interior of 79 Grandview

was noted that Misek-Falkoff, who had been widowed for about four years at the time of her death, had previously worked for IBM and was an attorney. She had collected an inordinate number of possessions and the house's interior was filled with boxes, furniture and debris.

Busche declined to provide more detail into what additional information police are looking for that might help them solve the crime but assured the public that it was an active case. He said it is not known whether the murderer had known Misek-Falkoff.

Years ago, the longer a case went unsolved generally the less of a chance there might be an arrest, Busche said. But that is no longer the case with the advent of evolving technology. As new scientific tools are developed to help investigators, the chances of solving older cases are greater than in the

nast he said

County police spokesman Kieran O'Leary said no matter how much time elapses, an unsolved homicide is never closed.

"These cases are never just put on a shelf and not looked at," he said. "It's never a closed case. It doesn't matter how much time has passed. There's always areas of investigation and there are always things that can pay off."

"Her death has not been forgotten regardless of her tragic circumstances and that's the way we approach all of our cases at the county police," Busche added. "Cold cases, like I said, we're working on something that's 40 years old. That life is just as important as anybody's now."

In August, Pleasantville officials listed the quarter-acre property as one of four abandoned parcels in the village. The village is considering a local property maintenance law to make sure that properties such as 79 Grandview Ave. are not a blight on the community, said Village Administrator Eric Morrissey. The public hearing on the law, which would allow the village to do basic maintenance, is scheduled for Nov. 14, he said.

Police ask anyone with information regarding the Misek-Falkoff homicide to contact Westchester County police at its main number at 914-864-7701, by phone or by text at 800-898-TIPS (8477) or by e-mail at TIPS@WCCOPS.COM. All information will be kept confidential.

# Concert of Piano Trios This Sunday in Rye

The 2019-20 season of Chamber Music at Rye Presbyterian Church will continue this Sunday, Nov. 10 at 3 p.m. with music for violin, cello and piano (known as a Piano Trio). Violinist Theodore Arm will join cellist Edward Arron and pianist Jeewon Park for a concert of works by Beethoven, Brahms, Jánaček and Massenet.

Seating is \$40 (students are free) and

may be reserved by calling Ronald Arron, the chamber series' artistic director, by phone at 914-523-4646 or by e-mailing ronarron@optonline.net. Walk-ups the day of the concert also are welcome.

Rye Presbyterian Church is located at 882 Boston Post Rd. in Rye. The church is accessible to persons with disabilities. For more information, visit www.ryepc.com or call 914-967-0842.

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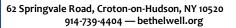
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# Rising Construction Costs to Impact P'ville's Manville Road Project

By Abby Luby

Rising construction costs that could cause an overrun of more than \$1 million will result in changes to the Manville Road Corridor Improvement Project.

At last week's Pleasantville Village Board work session, Richard Williams, senior principal engineer for Insite Engineering, advised the board to limit part of the project's scope by changing materials in certain areas because of anticipated higher bids resulting from steep price escalations in the construction market.

"We're looking at somewhere between \$3 to \$4 million, which is a lot higher than the funding that's available," Williams said. "We needed to reevaluate the scope to push the pricing down."

Last July the village approved a resolution to spend up to \$2.6 million to pay for renovating Manville Road from Memorial Plaza to Tompkins Avenue. That number includes the \$1.5 million federal grant that will be used toward the project, which is administered by the state Department of Transportation (DOT), and requires a mandatory 50 percent match of \$750,000 from the village. The design was approved by the DOT in August.

Village Administrator Eric Morrissey said if more money is needed, a supplemental bond resolution could be passed.

Williams said he consulted with construction industry professionals for an updated estimate based on higher costs.

"What we are hearing on the street is



Part of the area where the Manville Road streetscape project would be completed. Estimates now peg the original scope of work at as much as \$4 million.

that costs are rising because there is so much work out there but there are also labor shortages," he said.

The current plan calls for a full corridor enhancement where sidewalks are replaced and new granite curbs are installed along with the replacement of trees.

Details of the initial proposal also included minimizing crosswalk lengths, creating a pedestrian refuge and eliminating the slip lane that funnels traffic from Memorial Plaza onto Manville Road. Sidewalks will still have to be made ADA compliant.

To offset higher construction costs, Williams suggested to village officials that the municipality use its own manpower to eliminate the slip lane, replace the granite curbing with less costly concrete and limit the number of new sidewalks. The cost of the slip lane work would be minimal and would be funded through the village's annual budget, Morrissey said.

"Instead of replacing every panel of sidewalk in the corridor, we can focus only on the corners that require ADA upgrades," Williams said. "All these things aren't major changes but they do help. I don't think we will see a radical decrease but the goal is to try to keep the focus between the two- to three-million-dollar range and continue to keep that number down to as low as we can go."

The DOT needs to agree to changes.

Williams said he recently met with agency representative to discuss revamping the project to keep its costs more in line with available funding.

He also filed for an extension to the end of 2020 to receive project authorization, which will allow the village more time to revise the proposal and put the project out to bid. The original deadline was at the end of this year. Officials have been eyeing a spring 2020 start date for the project.

"We are pushing the DOT to get us feedback as soon as possible," said Morrissey. "We'd like to go out to bid by this winter."

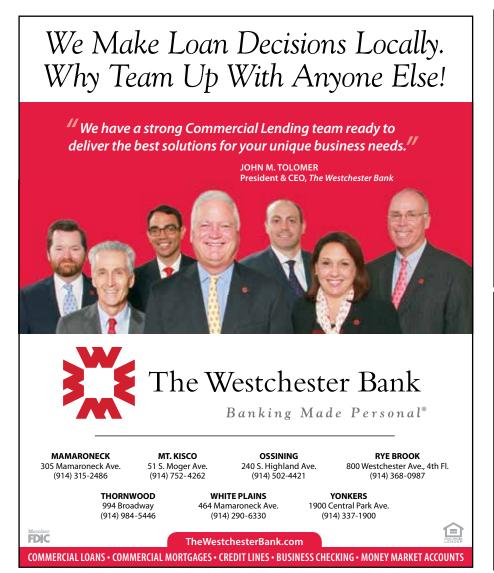
Pleasantville Mayor Peter Scherer said the essential elements for the streetscape project would remain in place. He was also hopeful the changes won't delay the project.

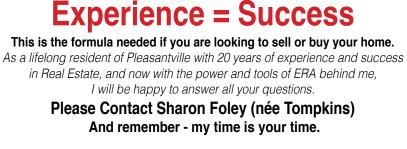
"Up until recently, we all felt it was a comfortable budget," Scherer said. "Now we are painfully learning that in the current environment it isn't."

Williams predicted that the project's timeline hinges on the final DOT approval of the traffic signal at the Memorial Plaza-Manville Road intersection. Once the signal is approved, the DOT will have to install it, test it and make sure it operates correctly.

"We are not going to be able to eliminate the slip lane until that signal is up and is in operation. That won't happen overnight," Williams said.

He said one of the advantages of scaling back the sidewalk replacement would be fewer interruptions for nearby businesses and residents.







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# Failure to Caulk Between New Sidewalk Panels Costs New Castle \$51G

By Martin Wilbur

A late change order for more than \$50,000 from the contractor of the downtown Chappaqua infrastructure and streetscape project forced the New Castle Town Board to dig a little deeper into its coffers.

ELQ Industries recently submitted to the town additional charges of \$51,195.44 after it was discovered that caulking hadn't been applied between the new sidewalk panels in the downtown hamlet. The caulking is needed to prevent water from seeping between the panels, which would cause the asphalt to start cracking,

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said Town Administrator Jill Shapiro.

Town Engineer Robert Cioli urged the town to have the caulking done as soon as possible before the onset of the cold weather. He estimated it would take one to two weeks to complete.

"It's weather-dependent so it's better that they do it sooner rather than later before the winter comes in," Cioli said.

Instead of caulking, the contractor left plastic braces in the space between the panels when the sidewalks were being done this summer.

Councilwoman Ivy Pool was the most outspoken member of the board, demanding to now why the change order came to the town when the project is virtually completed.

"It's outrageous," Pool said. "I mean, as much as WSP (Sells) really screwed us, and they definitely screwed us, and we have a long list of things to go after them for, ELQ needs to be held accountable. They should not be coming at us with a \$50,000 (change order) at the end of the project. It's ridiculous."

She also questioned why project manager Boswell Engineering failed to notice the oversight.

"It really shouldn't fall on the town to think to themselves 'Oh look, there's a piece of plastic between the sidewalk (panels) where there needs to be caulking," Pool continued.

However, it was discovered that the contractor was following the design plans, which did not include the caulking, said



Installing the new downtown Chappagua sidewalks was a major inconvenience for merchants and shoppers this summer. It was recently discovered the contractor had failed to apply caulking, costing New Castle an additional \$51,000.

Councilwoman Hala Makowska. Therefore, it would likely be fruitless to take action against ELQ Industries, she said.

"They're basically going according to the drawings and then our design was flawed," Makowska said. "So they would definitely have a defense on that front."

WSP devised the design plan for the

Last Tuesday, the board approved the change order but will not pay for the work until the caulking has been completed.

Meanwhile, the town has planned a Nov. 16 ribbon cutting to commemorate the completion of the downtown work.



his colleague, Joanna C. Feldman, Esq., will share their knowledge on how you can successfully manage your financial and healthcare needs and those of your loved ones, and will answer questions about estate planning, Wills, Trusts, Medicaid and long-term care planning, special needs planning, guardianships, and other areas of interest.





# Public Hearing on Chap Crossing Townhouse Changes Set for Nov. 26

By Martin Wilbur

The New Castle Town Board has set a Nov. 26 public hearing to help it decide whether the Chappagua Crossing site plan should be revised to accommodate changes to the 91 proposed townhomes on the campus.

In September, developer Summit/ Greenfield appeared before the town and planning boards with a draft petition to make changes to the Multi Family Planned Development Preliminary Development Concept Plan (MFPD PDCP). Among the key revisions that could spark some contentiousness is the proposal to change nine of the two-bedroom townhouses to three-bedroom units, add basements in all of the residences and whether to demolish rather than preserve the Thomas V. Wright House, the 1850s farmhouse located near the Route 117 entrance.

During a joint meeting in September, a representative for luxury homebuilder Toll Brothers, who was brought in by Summit/ Greenfield in 2017 to build the East Village, said that the market demands basements for these types of townhouses and there is greater demand for three-bedroom units. By adding nine additional three-bedroom units, there would be 71 of the larger residences and 20 containing two bedrooms.

Last week's Town Board meeting may have provided a brief glimpse at the debate that the request for the changes could generate. Before voting to set the hearing for

the last meeting in November, Councilman Jeremy Saland reminded his board colleagues to carefully consider enrollment figures he received from the Chappaqua School District when making their decision.

Saland said that Douglas Grafflin Elementary School numbers show that there were 443 students last year and enrollment has increased to 479 students this year. Currently, it is the only one of the district's three elementary schools to have any fivesection grades, Saland said. There are five sections in both kindergarten and first grade.

Grafflin is the school that is zoned to take elementary school-age children who live at Chappaqua Crossing.

Meanwhile, there were 394 students at Roaring Brook Elementary School and 413 children at Westorchard Elementary School last year. Enrollment jumped at those two schools for 2019-20 to 406 and 433 students, respectively, he said.

Saland cautioned the rest of the board that there should be dialogue between the town and district officials on the issue.

"We're already sending more students from Chappaqua Crossing," Saland said. "There needs to be more of a communication with the school district to make sure that any increase in housing stock in terms of size, they can handle that.'

Supervisor Robert Greenstein said that the townhouses will mainly attract older couples, including from throughout New Castle, who are looking to downsize their



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

New Castle residents will be able to weigh in on the requested changes for the 91 proposed townhouses at Chappagua Crossing. The Town Board, above, will hold a Nov. 26 public hearing at Town Hall.

living arrangements after their children have finished high school.

Families with young children are likely to buy the homes the empty-nesters are vacating, helping to distribute kids to all of the district's elementary schools, he said.

"This is an old problem that most towns have moved away from," Greenstein argued. "Most towns want young families. They're not afraid of the kids. You're living in the past. We need to have young families come to us. This was a nice little argument 10 years ago. It is no longer an argument that most towns are looking at. They are fighting over families.'

Saland responded that he was only asking the board and the district to do its due diligence so that an educated decision can be made on the issue.

At the joint meeting in September, some town and planning board members questioned whether the addition of basements would attract larger families who might want to convert the space to living quarters for an older child. However, there would be no bathrooms constructed in the basements.



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### **Police Blotter**

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

Oct. 29: Police responded to Kirby Plaza at 9:45 a.m. on a report of a dispute between two taxi drivers over a parking space. One of the men shoved the other driver who then spat at him. Neither man wanted to press charges and went their separate ways.

**Oct. 29:** A manager at an East Main Street coffee shop notified police of a passport he found at the store at 1:22 p.m. Officers were able to contact a Long Island resident who left it behind and told him that it would be held at the Green Street precinct until he can pick it up.

**Oct. 30:** Report of a landlord-tenant dispute on Woodland Street at 6:32 p.m. The landlord said he had come to the apartment because the tenant was behind in her rent. He was advised how to pursue the matter as a civil claim.

**Oct. 31:** Police issued a summons to a village resident at 1:01 p.m. after observing him with an open container of beer in the Shoppers Park parking lot. The summons is returnable on Dec. 5 in Mount Kisco Justice Court.

**Oct. 31:** A new Mount Kisco resident arrived at the Green Street precinct at 4:15 p.m. to provide a copy of a temporary

restraining order that prevents her exhusband from having any contact with her. The woman said she wanted officers to be aware of the court order and keep a copy on file.

Oct. 31: Officers responded to Laurel Drive at 10:53 p.m. Tree branches and wires were down. Con Edison was notified.

Nov. 1: Report of a fallen tree on power lines on Woodland Street at 7:05 a.m. The area was secured and Con Edison was notified.

**Nov. 1:** Police responded to Diplomat Drive at 8:29 a.m. on a report of an activated Life Alert bracelet. Officers located a woman who had fallen in her apartment and was feeling lightheaded. She was taken to Northern Westchester Hospital by the Mount Kisco Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

**Nov. 1:** Police responded to Main Street at 12:34 p.m. on a report that a man was screaming at a potted plant in front of a store. He was gone upon an officer's arrival.

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

**Oct. 25:** A caller reported at 6:21 p.m. that a green Subaru had heavy smoke coming from the rear of the vehicle causing a traffic safety condition. The responding officer reported that the vehicle was

secured by Armonk Garage. Roadway cleared.

Oct. 26: An employee of the Sunoco station on Main Street reported at 9:51 a.m. that he had a dispute with a male party about five minutes in the past. The complainant stated that the party left the premises and kicked over a bottle of diesel system treatment fluid that was on display outside, which broke the container, then left the location. The party left in an unknown direction, operating an older green Jaguar. No plate description was provided. The party is described as a short, bald white man with a scruffy beard. The responding officer reported that depositions were secured. A report will follow.

Oct. 26: An officer requested an ambulance to respond to Old Orchard Street at 9:39 p.m. for an intoxicated male who was vomiting heavily. The party was conscious and breathing. The officer stated that the subject was transported to White Plains Hospital.

Oct. 27: Report of a tree suspended on wires on Round Hill Road at 11:55 a.m. The caller reported that she believes the tree branch may be sparking. The responding officer reported that it was actively sparking and smoking. The

county's 60 Control was notified along with Con Edison.

Oct. 28: A caller reported at 2:59 p.m. that her 80-year-old neighbor fell and has been on the floor of her Wampus Close residence since last night. She said the party is conscious and semi-alert. The patient was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital.

**Oct. 29:** Parties arrived at headquarters at 7:09 p.m. to report a past larceny of a package taken from their mailbox at their residence. Witness and owner depositions were filed.

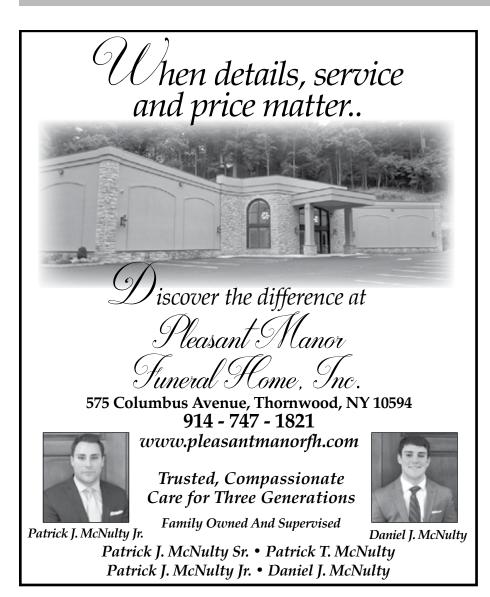
#### **Pleasantville Police Department**

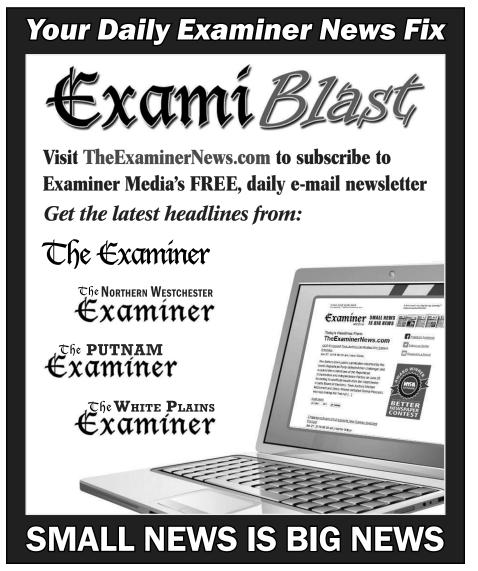
**Oct. 28:** Report of harassment on Marble Avenue at 10:44 a.m. The incident is under investigation. Police provided no further details.

**Oct. 29:** A subject reported at 4:49 p.m. that she has been receiving harassing messages via text and phone. No further information is available because there's an ongoing investigation.

**Nov. 1:** A woman reported at 1:31 p.m. that a suspicious person has been following her. The individual was apparently a process server.

# **SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS**





# Without Competition, No. Castle Dems Look Forward to Getting to Work

By Martin Wilbur

As candidates in some other towns pressed the flesh in their final frantic campaign go-rounds, there was not the slightest bit of anxiety for the North Castle Democratic ticket.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro, Councilman Jose Berra and political newcomer Saleem Hussain know that they will be sworn in to take the oath of office come January. With no Republican opposition, Schiliro is assured a fourth term as supervisor (he also spent the previous six years as a councilman), Berra will win a second full term on the board and Hussain gets his first crack at public office.

While that won't provide local political junkies with any drama this week, that's just fine with the Democratic trio.

Schiliro said he is proud that a split board in terms of party affiliation has been virtually devoid of political drama the past several years. Outgoing Deputy Supervisor Stephen D'Angelo, who is departing after eight years, and Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto are Republicans. The other incumbent, Councilman Barry Reiter, has run twice with Democratic endorsement but is unaffiliated.

'I don't have special power but I learned that politics stays outside," Schiliro said. "When we're in the building, we follow the rules, we tell the truth, we're honest, we're civil, we disagree respectfully and politics should never enter our decision-making process.

Entering the next two years for Schiliro







Left to right, North Castle Supervisor Michael Schiliro, Councilman Jose Berra and board newcomer Saleem Hussain.

and four years for his running mates, the major issues facing the town in his current term. will continue for now. Fiscal prudence, balancing the competing the needs of the community when considering land-use applications and helping downtown Armonk obtain a sufficient amount of parking.

Additionally, continuing to improve the quality of North Castle's roads and making sure - about 70 percent of North Castle's 93 town road miles have been paved during the past six to seven years - will remain a top priority.

For Schiliro, a bank senior vice president,

financial responsibility is tops. In 2009, during his first term as councilman, he saw the town's reserves plunge to just over \$400,000 and lose its AAA bond rating. He devised a fund balance policy where a percentage of any surplus automatically goes to fund balance.

By 2015, in his first term as supervisor, North Castle had its AAA bond rating restored and today sits with about a \$10 million fund balance. That has allowed the town to accelerate its already aggressive repaving schedule, Schiliro said.

"That's always been one of my most

important jobs in town," he said of the fiduciary responsibilities. "It's one of the reasons why I ran in the first place, to maybe help in that regard."

Berra, an attorney, said getting involved in serving the town has been one of the best experiences he's ever had after keeping a low profile for many years. He moved to Armonk in 1989.

"This is an amazing town. It's a privilege to be able to serve and to try to keep things moving forward," Berra said.

He said having strong municipal finances

continued on page 20

#### Tina's 5k Run/Walk **TOP FINISHERS**

First Name Last Name

TOP OVERALL MALE

| 1     | Luke                      | Dennis           | 20:18 |
|-------|---------------------------|------------------|-------|
| TOP O | VERALL FEMA<br>First Name | ALE<br>Last Name | Time  |
| 1     | Meredith                  | Kennedy          | 19:52 |
| MALE  | AGE GROUP:                | 15 and Under     | r     |

| Place | First Name | Last Name | Time  |
|-------|------------|-----------|-------|
| 1     | Nate       | Lynch     | 20:49 |
| 2     | Jack       | Dillane   | 21:17 |
| 3     | Sebastian  | Vidra     | 21:42 |
|       |            |           |       |

#### FEMALE AGE GROUP: 15 and Under First Name Last Name

| 2      | Annie      | Slocum    | 25:03 |
|--------|------------|-----------|-------|
| 3      | Kelly      | Coyle     | 29:45 |
|        |            |           |       |
|        |            |           |       |
| MALE A | GE GROUP:  | 16 - 19   |       |
| Place  | First Name | Last Name | Time  |
|        |            |           |       |
| 1      | Thomas     | Carty     | 24:57 |

Prizeman

| MALE A                   | AGE GROUP:<br>First Name |          | Time  |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------|--|
| 1                        | Chris                    | Gautieri | 21:19 |  |
| 2                        | Alexander                | Manzi    | 25:02 |  |
| 3                        | Josh                     | Weisel   | 28:21 |  |
| FEMALE AGE CROUD: 20, 20 |                          |          |       |  |

| I LINALL AGE GROOT . 20-23 |            |           |       |  |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|--|
| Place                      | First Name | Last Name | Time  |  |
| 1                          | Jennifer   | Seisdedos | 21:41 |  |
| 2                          | Rachel     | Bloom     | 25:52 |  |
| 3                          | Alexis     | Ramos     | 29:58 |  |
|                            |            |           |       |  |

| Place | First Name | Last Name  | Time |
|-------|------------|------------|------|
|       |            |            |      |
| 1     | Justin     | Gaita      | 20:5 |
| 2     | Dustin     | Steinhauer | 21:5 |
| 3     | Thomas     | Allen      | 22:1 |

| FEMALE AGE GROUP: 30 - 39 |            |           |       |  |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|--|
| Place                     | First Name | Last Name | Time  |  |
| 1                         | Kacie      | Schulman  | 24:58 |  |
| 2                         | Corene     | Suhr      | 25:30 |  |
| 3                         | Jocelyn    | Kraus     | 25:32 |  |
|                           |            |           |       |  |
|                           |            |           |       |  |

#### MALE AGE GROUP: 40 - 49 20:49 Finehirsh Brotherton William Cochran

| FEMALE AGE GROUP: 40 - 49 |            |              |       |  |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------|-------|--|
| Place                     | First Name | Last Name    | Time  |  |
| 1                         | Agnieszka  | Baginska     | 24:10 |  |
| 2                         | Dana       | O'Brien      | 25:43 |  |
| 3                         | Beth       | D'Alessandro | 26:44 |  |

| Place | First Name |         | Time  |
|-------|------------|---------|-------|
| 1     | Michael    | Rufino  | 20:27 |
| 2     | Steven     | Wolk    | 21:02 |
| 3     | Jose       | Quizhpi | 21:43 |

| FEMALE AGE GROUP: 50 - 59 |            |           |       |  |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|--|
| Place                     | First Name | Last Name | Time  |  |
| 1                         | Susie      | Snyder    | 23:56 |  |
| 2                         | Marian     | Prache    | 31:32 |  |
| 2                         | Douling    | Donnio    | 22.41 |  |

| MALE A | AGE GROUP:<br>First Name |          | Time  |
|--------|--------------------------|----------|-------|
| 1 2 3  | Gerard                   | Riso     | 24:47 |
|        | Ralph                    | Maschio  | 27:16 |
|        | Paul                     | Sohigian | 27:57 |

| FEMALE AGE GROUP: 60 - 69 |            |           |       |  |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|--|
| Place                     | First Name | Last Name | Time  |  |
| 1                         | Debbie     | Schulman  | 28:58 |  |
| 2                         | Marion     | Fioretti  | 29:33 |  |
| 3                         | Sheila     | Linehan   | 34:00 |  |
|                           |            |           |       |  |

TEAM WITH THE MOST PARTICIPANTS



N October 26, 2019

Thanks to those whose support has helped to make this event a success and congratulations to all participants!

For all Results and to view photos visit: tinagambino.org

Tina Shaina Gambino Memorial Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

www.tinagambino.org

### **Obituaries**

### Westchester Magazine Publisher Martinelli Dies at 57

Ralph Martinelli, the longtime publisher of Westchester Magazine, died last Saturday at 57.

Martinelli died from complications of a previous medical procedure, according to a family member.

An Ossining resident, Martinelli was a legendary Westchester figure, and his magazine's events attracted the county's business, political and social elite.

With more than a quarter century of experience as publisher of Westchester Magazine and Hudson Valley Magazine, Martinelli's company, Today Media, is widely admired in the industry for its innovative approach to publishing in print and online.

Today Media, which has more than 150 employees, also manages Delaware Today, Main Line Today, 914 INC, Westchester Home and Westchester/Hudson Valley

Weddings, among others.

Martinelli was a supporter of the Food Bank for Westchester and sat on the Board of Directors for Arts Westchester.

"(He) was a devoted ArtsWestchester board member for 15 years and partner to the arts in the county for more than 30," the White Plains-based ArtsWestchester stated on Facebook. "We have lost a Westchester visionary and a dear friend this weekend. ArtsWestchester offers heartfelt condolences to the entire Martinelli family at this time."

The Martinelli family has contributed to political life in Westchester for decades. Martinelli is one of six brothers, including a city court judge and a former city council president. Martinelli's father, Angelo Martinelli, was a longtime Yonkers mayor.

Martinelli attended Regis College from 1980 to 1982 and before that went to Iona



Westchester Magazine publisher Ralph Martinelli passed away on Nov. 2.

Prep.

The office of County Executive George Latimer issued a statement on Sunday lauding Martinelli for his service to Westchester and the contributions he made.

"As the President and CEO of Today Media Ralph Martinelli brought wisdom, culture and glamor to Westchester County," Latimer's statement read. "Martinelli grew up in Westchester's publishing business. He took a company, started by his father, and grew it into what it is today along with his two brothers. The County certainly pauses when Westchester Magazine hits the mailboxes, and the events he started in Westchester are always the buzz of the County. We will always remember him for the visionary he was. At this difficult time our thoughts and prayers are with his family."

As of Monday, information regarding arrangements were not yet available.

### Byron Duncan

For over two years Byron answered the God of Death with "not today." Finally, on Oct. 29, he replied "today" at 31 years old

Byron was liberated from his prison of pain and suffering, the greatest gift we could give him. He left with me and John holding, comforting and embracing him with love as he passed; he was not alone.

Duncan was born in White Plains on June 3, 1988, to Kerry Kelly (his stupid

sidekick Kablooey) and the late Robert E. Duncan. He is survived by his adored sister Kelly (aka Kelly Beenz or Chicken), uncle Dennis J. Kelly in Colombia and devoted friend and brother for life John Cambareri and family.

Duncan was a graduate of White Plains High School ('06) and will always be a Tiger. He was a three-sport athlete and proud member of the football team. He also attended William Paterson University where he continued to play as a member of Pioneer football.

A lover of a cold beer and Johnny Walker Black, a good cigar and oysters, Byron liked nothing better than indulging in all with friends. His passions included fishing (more than one got away), shooting (clays never had a chance!), Subarus (hence "Duncaru"), annoying video games, amateur photography (what an eye!), the New York Rangers and (until this season) the New York Giants; and most importantly, loving and laughing. Never a dull moment with his wicked humor and sarcasm and always up for a good time, he could light up a room. To quote a friend: "May God bless you with unlimited beer and ammo in heaven."

Thank you to all who visited, prayed, sent good thoughts and supported him throughout this ordeal. It was a small group of great friends who shared the precious gift of their time with him; you will never know how much it meant to him that he knew you loved him. Special thanks to John and his unwavering devotion; he never left his side and took this too-long, horrible journey with us every step of the

Please know Byron fought hard and did not want to leave – but he had to. Our wish is that he is not forgotten, that you remember him fondly and often. We hope his legacy will be kindness to others,



Byron Duncan

appreciation of those with special needs, love of friends and family and a good time.

In lieu of flowers, Byron would appreciate donations to Kelly's program at ARC of Westchester Foundation, 265 Saw Mill River Rd., Hawthorne, N.Y. 10532.

Visitation was at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville on Nov. 3.

Byron, we will miss you every minute of every day. Godspeed my love – until we meet again.





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# Latimer Announces Property Tax Cut in 2020 Budget

By Neal Rentz

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said last week his proposed 2020 operating budget would include a property tax cut.

Latimer made his announcement at a press conference previewing his spending plan for next year at the Greenburgh home of Monica and Matthew Marone. Matthew Marone owns and operates the White Plains-based Westchester Milk, a small business that delivers milk and other food items.

The formal release of the county executive's proposed operating budget is scheduled for this Friday, and will be distributed to the Board of Legislators.

"We're still working on final details on a

number of different things," he said.

Latimer said he wanted to make his announcement about the tax cut because residents want information about their property taxes.

The size of the tax cut has not been finalized because his administration is still working on the spending side of the budget, he said.

Latimer noted that he previously said he would freeze county property taxes for 2020 and 2021when the sales tax was increased about three months ago from 7.375 to 8.375 percent.

In addition, Latimer said he would fulfill his commitment to provide \$10 million for the reserve fund. In the middle of 2018, the reserve fund fell to as low as \$64 million, which was about 3.5 percent of the

total operating budget, he noted. Reserves should stand at about 12 percent of the budget.

"That's well below the percentage that we should be at," Latimer said

Currently, the reserve fund is at about \$69 million and the \$10 million expected infusion will bring it up to \$79 million.

"This budget will be balanced without any one-shot revenues," Latimer said. "This budget will not borrow for any ongoing expenses."

Increasing the sales tax was critical to next year's budget, Latimer said. A portion of the sales tax is provided to municipalities and school districts. Most of the county's spending – between 65 and 75 percent – is mandated by the state, he said.

The fiscal policies included in his proposed 2020 budget could help increase the county's bond rating, which is currently AA1, Latimer said. Historically, the county's bond rating was AAA. The better the bond rating the lower the borrowing costs for capital projects.

Once Latimer's budget is released it will be reviewed by the Board of Legislators, which can make changes to his plan. Latimer said he can veto all or portions of the budget once lawmakers complete their review.

He said he wants to work with the legislators to avoid vetoes and would listen to all 17 members of the Board of Legislators.

Roughly two-thirds of property taxes



County Executive George Latimer previewed his spending plan for 2020 at the Greenburgh home of Monica and Matthew Marone last Wednesday. His proposed budget, which will be unveiled in full on Nov. 8, will include a small property tax cut.

in Westchester come from a taxpayer's school district and about 20 percent of property taxes are levied by the county, Latimer said.

# Chappaqua Library Author Appearance Canceled

Due to scheduling conflicts. author Elizabeth Strout has had to cancel her Nov. 6 appearance at the Chappaqua Public Library. All ticketholders will be refunded. Refunds may take up to seven days to process. If you don't receive a refund after eight days, please contact thornton@wlsmail. org. If Ms. Strout decides to appear at another time, the library will be sure to let the public know but for now please accept our apologies.



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# New Castle Holocaust Memorial Dedication Scheduled for Wednesday

Residents and town officials will dedicate the New Castle Holocaust Memorial this Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m. The opening of the memorial will coincide with and commemorate Kristallnacht.

The project was initiated by town residents Alexandra Rosenberg and Stacey Saiontz, the recently appointed chairs of the New Castle Holocaust & Human Rights Committee.

The New Castle Holocaust Memorial, located next to the gazebo on South Greeley Ave. next to the recreation field in downtown Chappaqua, will serve as a

place where individuals and families can come together to learn, to remember and to reflect on lessons from the Holocaust.

Recently, 750 daffodil bulbs were planted at the memorial as part of the Daffodil Project, a worldwide project to commemorate the lives of the children lost during the Holocaust. The goal is to plant 1.5 million flowers across the world – one daffodil for every child killed.

As the daffodils begin to blossom in the spring, the community will hold an annual event that coincides with Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, which

commemorates the six million Jews and other victims who lost their lives during the Holocaust.

The dedication of the New Castle Holocaust Memorial follows the creation of the New Castle Holocaust & Human Rights Committee and the Horace Greeley High School Club E.N.O.U.G.H. (Educate Now On Understanding Genocide and Hate). The committee will work to educate children and create community awareness about the Holocaust, other genocides and human rights violations. The mission of E.N.O.U.G.H. is to empower students to

stand up to hate and to develop a community of tolerance through education and the understanding of people's differences.

"I proposed the idea for the New Castle Holocaust Memorial, the New Castle Holocaust & Human Rights Committee and the student-run organization E.N.O.U.G.H. as a way to combat the significant rise in hate that is permeating our world, our children's world and more specifically our schools," Rosenberg said. "The New Castle Holocaust Memorial will serve as a tangible reminder of the impact that each human being can have in creating positive change. Together, the residents of New Castle and the students of Horace Greeley will work to make sure that the horrors of the past never happen again."

New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein said creation of the memorial was "one of the most meaningful projects" during the last six years.

"It's crucial that we remember the lessons of history and provide future generations with the tools to combat hate and bigotry," Greenstein said. "The idea for these projects started in the heart of New Castle, resident Alexandra Rosenberg, who along with fellow resident Stacey Saiontz, have led these incredibly important initiatives. I want to thank them for their efforts."

The materials for the memorial and the landscaping were donated by Manzer Landscape Design & Development.



six young people to become ambassadors for the town's Every Person is Connected (EPIC) Committee. EPIC Ambassadors are community members with special needs who volunteer their time to be advocates for inclusion. Their role is to participate in town and school events to showcase their abilities and demonstrate how inclusion can work more robustly in the community. The ambassadors, five of whom are pictured above, are Kevin O'Brien, Mary Grace Sullivan, Brady McCarthy, Jonah Schumacher, Nicholas Ng and Henry Ault.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO





# Valhalla Neighborhood Irritated Over Field Lights Proposal

By Joan Gaylord

Residents of South Kensico Avenue in Valhalla continued to speak out last week against a proposal to install lights at Pat Henry Field.

During the Oct. 29 Mount Pleasant Town Board meeting as well as at the board's work session a week earlier, neighbors detailed how they believe the lights would negatively impact their quality of life.

Pat Henry Field, located at the end of South Kensico Avenue, is the home field for the Kensico Little League. The league intends to pay for the lights and their installation.

Speaking at a Town Board meeting in September, Little League representatives said they hoped that allowing for night games would allow greater flexibility in scheduling and to provide young players the experience of playing under the lights.

Residents along South Kensico Avenue, some of whom had also spoken at the September meeting, returned with a 30-minute presentation detailing their concerns, including pedestrian safety on the narrow and winding street and the likelihood of crowd noise during games that would be scheduled for later in the evening.

Resident Elizabeth Cantor, who identified herself as a "data scientist," shared the results of a web-based survey conducted among the residents. Her presentation included photos of blind



The Kensico Little League's request to install lights at Pat Henry Field in Valhalla has been met with opposition by residents who live near the field on South Kenisco Avenue.

curves on South Kensico Avenue and measurements of the two-way street that show it to be narrower than 20 feet in several places. She also displayed the numbers of residents who walk home from the train station and the times they would be walking on the street, which is unlit.

"If it wasn't suitable in 2015, why is it suitable now?" she asked the board, referring to the decision four years ago when town officials approved work at the field but did not allow for the installation of lights. "Once those lights are there, they will be there forever."

Cantor presented board members with written copies of the report along with a petition signed by neighbors who oppose lights at the field.

Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi declined to answer the question or comment on the content of the presentation. He said he was waiting for a report from the police department, which will contain traffic statistics, including the number of accidents in that area.

Residents who attended last Tuesday night's Town Board meeting had additional questions on the issue. Speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting, South Kensico Avenue resident Scott McIntyre noted there seemed to be more games played the past few yearsa at Pat Henry Field than before the renovations.

He reminded board members that residents had been assured that would not occur.

Fulgenzi said he would request a schedule of the games from the Little League, which will be a requirement.

Mark Stefanov, another South Kensico Avenue resident, brought to the board's attention a truck parked at the field and three shipping containers. "Are you just letting the Little League run over public property and not do anything?" he asked the board.

Stefanov said the renovation plans had called for trees to be planted at the site but that work had not been done.

Fulgenzi assured Stefanov that he would look into those issues.

In an e-mail to The Examiner on Friday, Fulgenzi shared that he and Mount Pleasant Town Attorney Darius Chafizadeh had inspected Pat Henry Field. He said the truck would be "immediately removed" and that he had asked the Little League about the containers. If the containers are not related to the league or to field maintenance, they would also have to be removed.

As for the trees, Fulgenzi said the town was reviewing the original plans and would update the public on that matter.





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We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters mwilbur@theexaminernews.com. The Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.



# **Editorial**

### GOP Lowered the Bar into the Mud With Mount Pleasant Mailer

Last week represented one of the all-time lowlights in local election campaign history.

For the first time in recent memory, a state political committee injected itself into a local political race.

The New York Republican State Committee sent out a mailer trashing Mount Pleasant Democratic Councilwoman Francesca Hagadus-McHale, coming up with Washington, D.C.-style political talking points under the red header "Mt. Pleasant Taxpayers Can't Afford Her Progressive Agenda."

It claims that Hagadus-McHale supported two tax hikes in her first eight months in office, that she repeatedly attacked law enforcement, calling them "thugs" and "goons" and that she backed sex offenders voting in elementary schools.

It's amazing they didn't blame Hagadus-McHale for the impeachment inquiry or for being part of The Squad.

It's unseemly enough when the state political committees get involved in races for

the Assembly and the Senate. At least that can be explained away because the winners will be affecting state policy.

But this was particularly atrocious.

First, this mailer played fast and loose with reality. Hagadus-McHale has voted for one tax hike, if you want to call it that – the 3 percent hotel occupancy tax, which her Republican colleagues on the board also supported. If they want to throw in that she backed the county sales tax increase, well Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi appeared at a press conference with County Executive George Latimer and other local officials to back that as well.

Her use of the words "thugs" and "goons" was referring to Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) actions during the heat of the family separation issue, not police.

And Hagadus-McHale said she has no idea what Gov. Andrew Cuomo's executive order to allow some sex offender parolees to vote in schools after 7 p.m. has to do with her.

But how would the state Republican

Committee, based in Albany, know about Francesca Hagadus-McHale, a first-year town councilmember more than 100 miles away?

In all likelihood, they know about her because some town Republicans were ticked off that she had the audacity to run and win as a Democrat last year, breaking the local party's 30-year total control of the town political scene. They probably gave the committee the information, asked it to put it together and send it out to make it seem like they weren't involved. In other words, they hid behind the state committee – the height of cowardice.

If you don't like that Hagadus-McHale called ICE agents "thugs and "goons," opposes family separation or that she has been involved in local protests for gun control efforts, that's fine. Then criticize her and put your name on it.

And you wonder why there are so many uncontested races, even at the town and village level?

# Letters to the Editor

### Mailer Attacking Hagadus-McHale is Political Ugliness at its Worst

I received a mailing piece last week sent out by the Mount Pleasant Republican Party viciously attacking Francesca Hagadus-McHale, one of their own Town Board colleagues. Her crime: she's the first Democrat elected to the Town Board in over 30 years.

Frankly, I have never seen such a despicable piece attacking a fellow board member – especially one who has already contributed constructively to board deliberations.

Furthermore, the piece is full of false representations of Ms. Hagadus-McHale's suggestions and general support of board initiatives in her short pe-riod of service.

How could the town supervisor allow such a piece to be sent out to the resi-dents of our town? Are Republican members of the board so frightened of a fresh new voice in their midst after 30 years of one-party rule? Are they threat-ened by her pressing for more day-to-day transparency? Or has the town Re-publican Party adopted the Trump playbook of personal attack, falsification and innuendo?

Ironically, very few matters that come before a Town Board are actually political in nature: highway maintenance, recreation and parks, public safety, taxes and the like. But it appears that our current Town Board is bent on politicizing their decisions. I suggest

the board add board-member comportment to their next open-meeting agenda so the public can learn more about just how they deal with one another during board work sessions.

As for the mailing, it wouldn't surprise me if it didn't totally backfire as the public experiences its inherent nastiness.

John Fisher Concerned Citizen Pleasantville

The writer is co-vice chair of the Mount Pleasant Democratic Committee.

### Lowey Has Been a Champion in the Battle to End Alzheimer's

This letter is to thank Congresswoman Nita Lowey for her service during her tenure as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

As a constituent living in Westchester County and an advocate for the Alzheimer's Association, I wish to thank Congresswoman Lowey for her 31 years of service to her community. As chair of the House Appropriations Committee, she worked diligently to increase funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

and especially for research, treatment and to find a cure for Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's research funding has increased tremendously under Congresswoman Lowey's leadership; from \$448 million in 2011 to \$2.8 billion in FY 2020.

Congresswoman Lowey's commitment to ending Alzheimer's has been evident during her time in Congress. She has attended numerous walks to end Alzheimer's, spoken at the Hudson Valley Chapter's Research Roundtable events and

has supported the creation of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease.

I can't thank her enough for the time and effort she has contributed to advancing this cause so close to my heart. Hopefully soon, we will see our dream of putting an end to Alzheimer's come to fruition.

Sonia Martinez White Plains

### Alternative Designs for P'ville Civic Space Could Address Parking, Costs

In response to the article of Oct. 22-28 ("Survey Results Mixed on Memorial Plaza Civic Space Project") and J. Scott Dyer's subsequent letter to the editor last week, parks in Pleasantville are typically not frequented during the weekdays, the evening/night hours and the winter. The parking area in question at Memorial Plaza is

heavily used during weekdays and evening/ night hours. A logical compromise could be beautifying a portion of the existing parking lot with pavers, planting, etc. while finding a smart way to swing the area from parking to park during fair weather weekends and holidays

This would address one of the major

concerns (loss of parking). One way to address the other major concern, cost and maintenance, is to rethink the design to be more sensitive to the existing conditions.

Craig Gibson Pleasantville

# Mt. Pleasant Taxpayers Victimized By Post Office Snafu to Get Relief

By Martin Wilbur

About 500 Mount Pleasant property owners who were late in paying their 2019 town and county tax bills because of a United States Postal Service snafu will get relief from state legislation signed by the governor last week.

The measure, which was sponsored by state Sen. Peter Harckham (D-Lewisboro) and Assemblyman Tom Abinanti (D-Pleasantville), authorizes the Mount Pleasant comptroller to refund any fees, fines, penalties and interest paid by any taxpayer who submitted their town taxes after the Apr. 30 deadline and was impacted by the problem.

The state legislation, which was signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo last Wednesday, also requires the Town Board to pass a resolution to waive the extra charges.

"By far, most taxpayers comply with and meet their tax deadlines, but on rare occasions when they do not because of some unforeseen reason or impediment that is no fault of their own, it is only fair that a reprieve be considered," Harckham said.

"Taxpayers who did not receive a bill telling them how much they owed for their property taxes because of the failure of the post office should not be penalized," Abinanti added.

Last week, Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi sent out a communication stating that the town's Receiver of Taxes Department learned last March that an unusually high number of residents had not received their 2019 town and county tax bills, affecting mainly homeowners in Pleasantville's Foxwood Condominiums. The U.S. Postal Service was notified.

The Town Board held a special meeting last June and passed a resolution requesting home rule legislation to refund the late charges because the U.S. Postal Service failed to deliver the tax bills to the roughly 500 town property owners.

The board is expected to review the steps the town will make the refunds to

residents at its work session this week.

"We are grateful for the strong support of Sen. Harckham and Assemblymember Abinanti in regard to the tax penalty refund bill," Fulgenzi said. "Both officials were very receptive to our request to pass legislation due to the United States Postal Service error. We all agreed that the Town of Mount Pleasant homeowners who were penalized for an issue outside of their control should be helped."

The town sent out about 10,000 bills for the 2019 taxes in late March.

# P'ville Man Charged in Attempt to Take Sexual Photos of a Child

A 50-year-old Pleasantville man was arraigned last week after he allegedly attempted to take a sexually explicit photo of a small child.

John Passaretti, who also has a residence in West Palm Beach, Fla., was charged with attempted use of a child less than 17 years old in a sexual performance, a Class D felony, according to the Westchester County District Attorney's office.

Passaretti was arrested early on Oct. 29 by Port Chester police with the assistance of Pleasantville police after a complaint was made that he may have photographed a young child in a sexual way. The incident was captured on a home video camera system, sometimes referred to as a "nanny cam." Criminal investigators from the district attorney's office assisted in the technology investigation.

He was arraigned in Village of Port Chester Court later in the day before Village Justice Peter Sisca and was remanded into custody.



Pleasantville resident John Passaretti

Passaretti was scheduled to appear in Village Court on Monday, Nov. 4.

—Martin Wilbur



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# Veterans: Show Potential Employers You're a Team Player

If you're a veteran, you have proven you can work on teams and, in many cases, lead them. Yet corporate recruiting experts say it's crucial to properly frame your experience to maximize your chances of getting hired.

"Veterans bring many valuable skills and qualities to the corporate environment," said Jerry Quinn, head of Military & Veteran Talent External Recruiting and Enterprise Military & Veteran Initiatives at Wells Fargo. "These include traits like strategic planning, critical thinking, problem-solving, communications and adaptability. In my experience, however, veterans sometimes have trouble conveying their unique contributions and effectiveness on teams."

The post-9/11 veteran unemployment rate is at an all-time low of below 4 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This figure may not paint the full picture about the transition to civilian life. Many veterans remain underemployed or in jobs that do not use the full range of their skills.

So, what's the best way to approach your job search? Consider these tips from Quinn and Wells Fargo's Hands on Banking program:

#### **Make the Conversion**

While in the military, people often speak



in terms of what "we" did together. In the corporate world, it's more important to be able to clearly state what "you" did to help the team succeed.

So look through your resume, converting "we" to "I," citing specific, measurable criteria where possible. And remember that potential employers may

not always be familiar with military jargon and acronyms, so use language any civilian recruiter will understand. For example, "I was a leader of a team of 100, with seven direct reports," or "I was responsible for maintaining more than \$2 million worth of specialized government equipment."

Use Keywords

Remember to customize your resume each time you apply for a job. Most job descriptions provide clues that you can use to figure out what role on the team the company is seeking to fill – whether it be a leader, a manager or an individual contributor. Use these clues to determine what attributes and teamwork experience to highlight on your resume.

#### Get Ready

Practice answering some of the most common interview questions – succinctly. You can count on getting questions like, "How do you demonstrate you're a team player?" or "Give an example of a time you had a conflict with others and how you handled it." In a brief and organized way, be ready to highlight your personal contributions.

For career opportunities and other tips and resources, visit www.wellsfargojobs.com/military.

"Teamwork means getting things done and trusting that you can count on others," said Quinn. "Being able to show that teamwork is inherent to your own values and experience will put your job candidacy at the top of any stack."

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# Officials Demand State DOT Fix Aging, Dangerous Route 9A

By Abby Luby

Cars and trucks speeding along Route 9A in Briarcliff Manor last Tuesday was the backdrop for state and local officials who publicly gathered to demand the state make the road safer.

The dangerous and aging parkway experiences several tragic accidents yearly.

Briarcliff Manor Mayor Steven Vescio, who is spearheading the effort, addressed a crowd of more than 50 people that included local businesses, residents and a host of emergency responders.

"We have suffered with a roadway that is almost 90 years old. It is time for an upgrade and a complete reconstruction of this important corridor," Vescio said.

Route 9A is used by more than 40,0000 passenger cars and commercial vehicles daily. Vescio called on the state Department of Transportation (DOT) to immediately study the Briarcliff/Ossining corridor and enact a plan to improve the road's rapidly deteriorating infrastructure.

Joining Vescio were Village of Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity, state Sen. David Carlucci (D-Clarkstown), Town of Ossining Supervisor Dana Levenberg and County Legislator Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining).

The thoroughfare was built in 1933 for passenger cars only and later converted for general highway traffic to include large vehicles and trucks. The road's three narrow and low-height stone-arch overpasses force trucks to precariously move to the left lane to clear underpasses at Pleasantville Road in

Briarcliff Manor and Ryder Road and Hawkes Avenue in Ossining.

Emergency personnel, including volunteer firefighters and police, responded to nearly 120 accidents along that stretch last year, averaging one accident every three days, said Briarcliff Manor Police Chief Donald Goery, whose department oversees a 3.4-mile stretch of Route 9A. He told the crowd that most of the accidents happen near the traffic lights at Chappaqua Road and North State Road and at the intersection at Route 100.

"It's a distance of one mile where most of these accidents occur," Goery said.

The DOT oversees 110,000 miles of state and local highways and 17,000 bridges. Any construction or rehabilitation is considered a capital project and can take several years from planning to design to community outreach before construction begins. Repair work usually happens more quickly when handled by local DOT maintenance staff.

Gearity said major DOT roadways needing upgrades necessitates that the agency should work with local governments.

"State roads crisscross through every town and village," Gearity said. "Local governments do not have the authority nor the funding to do necessary repairs or upgrades. We are the people on the ground every day who see how unsafe these roads are."

Past accidents have resulted in severe injuries and death. Fatal accidents claimed the lives of Briarcliff Manor resident Michael Knight Jr., 44, this past June, and 27-year-old Peekskill High School counselor Lenroy Stevens of White Plains in 2014. Multiple



ABBY LUBY PHOTO

State Sen. David Carlucci was one of a group of elected officials last week to call on the state Department of Transportation to make safety upgrades to Route 9A.

fatalities were narrowly avoided in 2004 after a tanker truck carrying 4,700 gallons of gasoline collided with a small car, setting off a fireball six stories high and trapping the drivers of both vehicles inside.

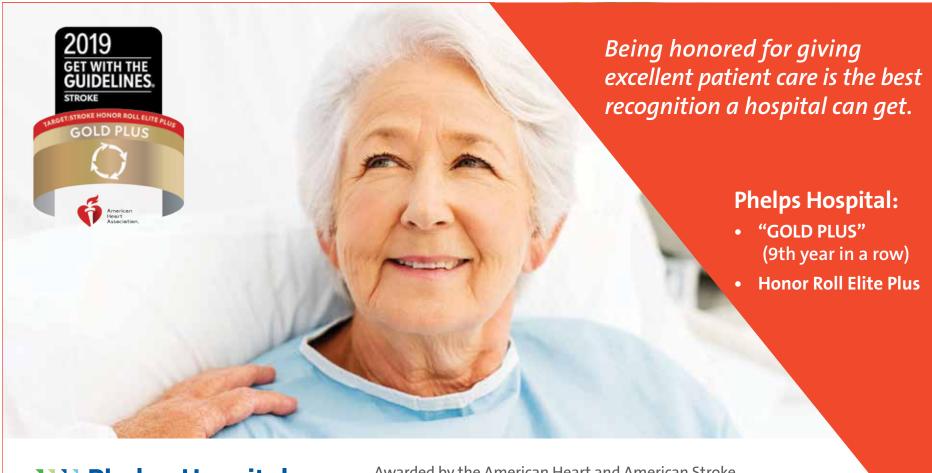
"We're here today to say in one collective voice 'enough is enough!" said Carlucci. "We demand action and we demand it now. The reality is our governor and legislators take a lot of pride in the state's infrastructure. We've built one of the largest bridges in the nation, the Mario Cuomo Bridge. We have the ability to fix Route 9A, but we have to do it immediately. We can't wait."

"It's extremely frustrating that we aren't

able to get the attention that we need [from the DOT]," Levenberg added. "I don't know about you, but when I drive on these roads at night and it's wet, I can't see the lines in the roads. DOT, we want you to listen. We know it's not an overnight fix, but it has to be the right fix."

Borgia said DOT does pay attention when a chorus of voices show that communities are united in their demands for road safety improvements. A meeting next week was scheduled with Westchester County's Head of Operations, Joan McDonald, a former DOT commissioner, she said.

"We're hoping that will get the ball rolling," Borgia said.





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# The Evolution of the Dining Room and Dining Table

As a realtor who writes about homes, as a writer who sells homes, I am always curious about various features of a home, specifically their history. My curiosity recently focused on the dining room, and in particular, the dining table.

I remember my first dining room set, which looked more like a kitchen set since it was made of chrome, was purchased from Macy's for \$35. That was more than a half-century ago. In 2019 dollars, that would be \$297, but still a bargain. A modest start, but considering that I never could cook and never sat at the table for a meal when I was a bachelor, there

was no need for anything more substantial.

Today my dining table is a massive slab of beveled glass set upon two truncated Ionic columns, with six modern chairs, all purchased wholesale 30 years ago from a Chicago furniture mart for \$10,000.

It's hard to imagine a time when the dining room table wasn't the focal point of the dining room. Through most of history, people dined on small tables or stone platforms rather than large dining room tables. Tables were used for writing and playing games, not for dining.

The Greeks were the first to design rooms specifically designed for eating – or in their case – feasting. These rooms featured couches of stone or wood which

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

accommodated only men, chauvinist pigs that they were, while women stood by and youths sat on the ground.

Ancient Romans also ate their meals in a special room, and obviously liked the company of women a bit better than the Greeks, accommodating them on the same kind of couches where the men ate.

It wasn't until the 16th century that dining room tables became popular. Although many types of tables had been around since ancient times, they were not the dining room tables we know today, which are smaller and more feminine in style, embracing the

furnishing styles of their various periods.

By the Victorian era, well-to-do consumers spent lavishly on their dining rooms, outfitting them with upholstered chairs, mahogany sideboards, beautiful bone china and expensive linen napkins and tablecloths. Mealtime for them was an event, and they staged their meals as comfortably as they could afford, which included a table substantial enough to support its lavish offerings.

In most homes the dining room table was in or near the kitchen. However, that was not always the case. Historically, the dining room and kitchen were far from each other, on a different floor and sometimes even in a different building. since kitchens could get hot and were sometimes the cause of house fires. That can be found in restorations such as Colonial Williamsburg and nearby at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson and the Roosevelt home in Hyde Park.

Through the years, the dining table has shrunk from long trestle tables with benches in the Middle Ages, designed to seat everyone in the castle. The dining

table became smaller as the nobility began to prefer more intimate gatherings in parlors off the main hall.

At the beginning of the 18th century, it was not uncommon for the ladies to withdraw from the dining room after dinner. Because gentlemen would stay to enjoy drinks and cigars,

the dining room became more associated with men, and its décor and furniture reflected this more masculine bent.

Amusingly enough, in Victorian times, any suggestion in décor of the female shape was considered risqué. This included table legs. Therefore, unseemly table legs were kept out of sight and covered up to avoid inciting men's imaginations.

Before the late 18th century, it was difficult for American families to dine together regularly, in part because dining rooms and dining tables were not yet a thing. Rooms and tables had multiple uses

and families would eat in shifts, if necessary. If there weren't enough chairs for all family members, the men would sit and the women and children might stand, coming and going from the table.

The rise of the American family dinner depended upon the arrival of the dining table and the dining room from Europe, where they had been embraced since Elizabethan

times. One of the first American homes to have a room specifically meant for dining was Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, built in 1772. The dining room, with the dining table at its center, began to be incorporated into wealthy homes across

the country, eventually

trickling down to the

middle class.

My home may not be Versailles or Monticello, but as I sit at my dining table with family and friends, I indeed feel like the king of my castle.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.





# Local Groups to Share \$1M to Fight Youth Substance Abuse

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-Harrison), chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, announced last Thursday that eight local organizations will receive a total of \$1 million in new and continued federal grants for youth anti-substance abuse initiatives through the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Program.

Among the organizations that will share in the funding are Pleasantville STRONG, New Castle United for Youth and Mount Kisco Partners in Prevention.

"Our children deserve access to resources that guide them toward a happy, healthy life free of harmful substances," Lowey said in a statement. "These Drug Free Communities grants will help youth learn, grow and thrive without alcohol and drug abuse. This is particularly important at a time when youth and teen tobacco use and vaping are rising and the opioid crisis continues to impact communities across the nation."

Each grantee will receive a \$125,000 annual award. Seven grantees are in the middle of their first or second five-year funding cycle. The eighth grantee, Irvington About Safe Kids Community Advisory Board, is in the first year of its second five-year funding cycle, so it is considered a new grant. The other organizations who continue to receive the funding are the Blind Brook Community Coalition, Dobbs Ferry Youth Services Council, Community-Drug Prevention Awareness out of the North

Rockland Central School District and Our Community Against Drug Abuse, OCADA, Inc., also in Rockland County.

"New Castle United for Youth is grateful to have been awarded a fourth year of funding under the Drug Free Communities Program," said Joseph Durney, coalition coordinator for New Castle United for Youth. "This federal funding is an essential component of our efforts and the grant has brought together multiple sectors of our community to support our youth in becoming healthy resilient adults. Thank you to Congresswoman Lowey and all those who have made this funding available."

Nicole Malgarinos, coalition coordinator

for Pleasantville STRONG, said since the funding was initiated in 2014, the community has seen progress in reducing youth alcohol, tobacco and drug use by about 30 percent.

"We know that evidence-based prevention works and that (the) DFC grant along with our community partnerships has created this sustainable community environmental level change," she said.

The DFC Program is designed to support communities as they mobilize individuals and organizations to prevent youth substance use, based on the premise that local problems need local solutions.

# Chappaqua Craft & Gift Fair Set for Nov. 16

The Chappaqua Craft & Gift Fair, now in its 35th year, will host 90 artisans and crafters who are eager to share their one-of-a-kind items for your holiday shopping enjoyment on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Robert E. Bell Middle School.

Admire the work of beautiful handmade pottery, unique handcrafted jewelry, handbags and luxury knits. Find gourmet food, bath and beauty products and myriad other notable items.

Admission is free and vendor fees support PTA-run enrichment programs at Bell Middle School. Many vendors support the raffle with a gift item, with proceeds also benefiting the Bell PTA. Pizza Station will offer family-friendly food and Pleasantville Bakery will again offer "sweets and smiles" from Kemar "Q" Newell.

The Chappaqua Craft & Gift Fair is the largest fundraising event held by the Bell Middle School PTA and will also fund after-school programming and supplemental music and computer programs. The Bell PTA also offers scholarships for field trips, after-school programs and other support for families and students with financial needs. The PTA's funding of supplemental art and enrichment programs provides young people with outlets beyond academics and sports and offers them global insight and perspective.

Robert E. Bell Middle School is located at 50 Senter St. in Chappaqua. Parking is available across the street at the Chappaqua train station lot. For more information, visit www. chappaquacraftfair.com.



# Without Competition, No. Castle Dems Look Forward to Getting to Work

continued from page 9

has put the town in a position to save money with and to lay out additional funds on projects that will save the town money in the long run.

Berra, who is the board's liaison to the town's Recycling Committee, said he would like to see more environmental initiatives undertaken in his next term. Drop-off food composting, a model that was started in Scarsdale a few years ago and has been instituted in several neighboring communities, is something the town should strongly consider, he said.

Even 10 percent participation would cut garbage costs to the town by about 5 percent, he said.

"I think it will come with a lot of support from residents," Berra said. "If we can do it in an easy, convenient way that would be a very good thing."

Pushing for a phase-in of hybrid vehicles for the town's fleet has been an undertaking that not only saves the town gas money but is something that helps the environment, Berra said.

Hussain first became acquainted with North Castle when he interviewed at IBM's Armonk headquarters. Driving through the town, he wondered who are the people who live here.

Thirteen years later and raising a young family, Hussain found out soon enough. He and his wife started in North White Plains, and although they have recently moved to Armonk, North White Plains is something that he remains passionate about.

"That's where I started being in this town and it's also where we have most of our social network right now," said Hussain, who runs strategy functions for the Cognitive Applications Unit at IBM. "I think it's an up-and-coming community and I think we can do a lot with it. It's an amazing place to live."

In the run-up to starting on the board, Hussain said he has been impressed with the set of residents who are civically engaged and wants to encourage more people to contribute.

He has also been engaged with the public listening to their challenges and concerns. Very often it's not the large issues but the small one, whether that be traffic or fixing a drainage problem or a parking issue on their street.

For Schiliro, balancing the development pressures and financial responsibilities is critical. If developers are interested in investing in the town, he will listen to what they have to say. It doesn't mean he will vote to approve but North Castle is in competition with similar communities such as Chappaqua, Scarsdale and Greenwich.

Investing in a community is typically market-driven, he added.

"Whether it's North White Plains or Banksville it's an attractive place to live," Schiliro said. "Obviously, Armonk happens to be the largest hamlet area, the largest retail area. Why do people want to invest in a town or a village? Because there's opportunity."

Even though Schiliro and Berra share a ticket, they did not share similar views on Mariani Gardens residential plan. Berra said he is very sensitive when it comes to the mass and density of some of the proposals before the town, in part because he's been hearing a lot more opposition to the large projects.

Among the large projects and proposals in town, Eagle Ridge's hotel and residential plan is going through the extensive state environmental review process; Brynwood Golf & Country Club still needs site plan approval but has been moving ahead with demolition on its site. Schiliro said he has not heard what Brynwood's financing situation is, a matter that has delayed the application.

Representatives for another project, the controversial 200-unit proposed residential complex The Vue in North White Plains, have not returned, he said.

Last week, the board officially agreed

to re-start the downtown study with consultants Nelson Nygaard to determine how much parking may be needed for downtown Armonk. Schiliro said he expects the study to be done within six weeks.

"We're always working to add more parking to downtown, but having a particular opinion on it and then the findings may change what we might be thinking of," he said.

Schiliro said he's looking forward to the next two years and continuing to get things done with his board colleagues.

"It's just a very good, apolitical, bipartisan board," Schiliro said. "It's one of the luxuries we have working together."

Hussain said he's ready to get to work and help improve the quality of life for his fellow residents.

"For me, it's just working with these guys," he said. "I'm really excited to be part of the town and to be looking at the issues together and problem-solving."

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# Byram Hills HS Seniors Inducted Into Cum Laude Society

Twenty Byram Hills High School seniors were honored for their academic achievement as they were inducted into the Cum Laude Society during a ceremony on Oct. 24.

Byram Hills High School Principal Christopher Walsh noted the importance of the event.

"First, it allows us to focus on and celebrate these students whose GPA are within the top 10 percent of their class," Walsh said. "Next, we get to honor faculty members who are being inducted into Cum Laude and gain inspiration from their remarks. Finally, inductees have invited teachers who have had a positive impact on their learning and this tradition represents the best of Byram Hills."

Walsh said that the graduating class of 2020 is special to him because they were incoming freshmen when he started as principal. The first time he met with them that year, he asked them to write down on index cards something special about themselves. Walsh took out the index cards and read their responses to the audience. Along with their academic growth over the years, the cards demonstrated growth in the students' character, personalities and identities.

Faculty addresses were delivered by high school math teacher Chris Lewick and Social Studies Chair Jen Laden, who were inducted into the Cum Laude Society during last year's ceremony.



The 20 Byram Hills High School seniors who were recently inducted into the Cum Laude Society.

Lewick delivered his address in the form of an audience participation song with an impactful message – create your own opportunities, never set limits and enlist all the people you can in your life.

"My wish for the honorees is that you can experience learning opportunities that help you to develop empathy and that you never lose the desire to engage with others," Laden said

Dr. Sandra Abt, chapter president of the Byram Hills Cum Laude Society, said "perspective will help you become happier, more successful and more self-fulfilled. Try new things and don't judge in advance." Abt closed by saying, "Your future lies before you; make the most of it."

The two 2019 staff inductees were English teacher Lisa Squadron and Byram Hills Superintendent Dr. Jen Lamia. The students inducted into Cum Laude were: Samuel Aberman, Christina Ferrari, Victoria Ganeles, Benjamin Hammond, Madison Higgins, Kallie Hoffman, Sarah Ilany, Spencer Karp, Caroline Kelly, Alison Lehman, Elena Lowe, Ella Manners, Meredith Mayers, Isabelle Nelson, Dominic Picca, Arielle Ragals, Bryan Roden, Allison Stillman, Reese Tateo and Michael Vaquero.

The Cum Laude Society is a nonprofit organization founded in 1907 to recognize scholastic achievement in secondary schools. It currently has more than 350 chapters.





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......

Please RSVP by Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

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# Judges Announced for Music Video Film Festival Set for Chappaqaua

Gorilla River, a publishing and pop culture events company, has announced an expert panel of judges for a music video event happening next year in Chappaqua.

The newly announced judges are Sirius XM host Mark Goodman, one of MTV's first VJs; Vevo Vice President of Original Content and Production Ed Walker; and music journalist Alan Light, author of "Let's Go Crazy: Prince and the Making of Purple Rain" and "The Skills to Pay the Bills: The Story of the Beastie Boys." They will offer commentary for 10 music videos, which will be screened at the event, and select three winners who will get to present their videos at the 2020 Hudson Valley Music Summit.

The Music Video Film Festival is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center.

The 10 artists who are selected will be given a 15-minute slot. This will allow them to explain their vision to the audience, show their video and receive feedback from the judges.

"MTV came on around the time when I first became aware of music in general, so it's an honor to have a familiar face like Mark Goodman join us at our inaugural event," Gorilla River CEO Dave Hoffman said in a statement. "Alan Light and Ed Walker also bring insight based on their unique vantage points in the industry.

We're very much looking forward to hearing what kind of wisdom they have to offer."

The Music Video Film Festival is an extension of the Hudson Valley Music Summit, which launched last summer in Kingston. The summit is a full day of panel discussions designed for managers, A&R reps, publicists and anyone who is responsible for managing an artist's career. Local luminaries such as Pete Shapiro, owner of the Capital Theatre, and Stefani Scamardo of Hard Head Management, spoke at the event.

In addition to expert insight, the 200 music industry professionals in attendance enjoyed vendor tables, live performances and a music video presented by Dennis Dunaway, founding bassist of the Alice Cooper Group.

"It was heartwarming to see young musicians that are as starry-eyed for success as I was when I started getting solid guidance from highly respected music business experts," Dunaway said.

Bands and video directors seeking to submit entries to the Music Video Film Festival should visit www. MusicVideoFilmFestival.com.

For more information, call Dave Hoffman at 201-248-9204 or e-mail dhoffman@ forumplanner.com.

# Nonprofit to Hold Student Essay Contest on Restoring Hope

Lifting Up Westchester, a nonprofit agency committed to helping individuals achieve self-sufficiency, announces their third annual high school student essay contest.

This year the contest will explore the role hope plays in helping to transform lives. Open to all Westchester students in grades 7-12, students are invited to reflect on the meaning of hope and the impact it can have in times of adversity.

Beyond fundamental, everyday necessities, such as food and shelter, do we need hope to thrive? Why? How can we regain hope when it has been lost? How do we know when hope has been restored?

Students are asked to provide a real-life example of how hope has made a difference between hanging on and giving up. Essays must relate back to the core mission and work of Lifting Up Westchester.

"The topic of hope is a powerful one," said Anahaita Kotval, CEO of Lifting Up Westchester. "We know firsthand how important hope is for those who are experiencing homelessness, substance abuse, incarceration or struggling to change their lives. We want this contest to encourage students to think about what the Westchester community can do to help men, women and children who are feeling hopeless."

The essay contest was established in 2017 in memory of Beth Massey Rubens, a lifelong teacher, tutor and mentor who had a love for language arts.

First-, second- and third-place cash prizes will be awarded in three grade groups; seventh- and eighth-graders; ninth- and 10th-graders; and 11th- and 12th-graders. The first-place prize in each category is \$500, while \$250 goes to the second-place finishers and \$100 is awarded to students in third place in each category. An awards brunch will be held in late April to celebrate the winners.

Students can enter the contest now through Jan. 31, 2020. Essays must be submitted in PDF format via e-mail to luwessaycontest@gmail.com.

Students, teachers and parents can learn more about how the contest works and the judging criteria by visiting www.liftingupwestchester. org.







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# Factors for Families to Consider Before Adopting a Dog

By Susan Marie

How many times have you heard someone declare, "I really want to get a dog!" and thought to yourself, "Really? You're never home."

Or you look around their home and see all of the dying plants and wonder if they could take care of a dog.

Getting a dog is a responsibility that not everybody is ready to take on. In theory, it sounds great to add a furry family member but sometimes the reality of someone's lifestyle can get in the way.

Once you get all of the logistics in order, then it might be time to start looking around for the perfect pup for you.

1. The first thing to think about is what is best for your family and your new "furever" friend. Do you have children? If so, maybe an active dog who enjoys running, playing and swimming would be ideal. Are you a senior citizen? Maybe a smaller senior dog who would enjoy cuddling with you on the sofa would be best.

It is important to keep in mind the pup's size, breed, temperament and what your home and lifestyle can reasonably accommodate. Remember that you are looking to give your pup a home and that your local shelter or rescue can help you choose which pup is best for your home and family. It is

important to plan and prepare for your new pup because this is a lifetime commitment of unconditional love.

2. How much time will you be able to spend with the pup? Who will look after them during the day if you are working or the children are in school? If for any reason you or your children will be away from home it recommended that you hire a professional sitter to visit your

home in the morning and afternoon for bathroom breaks and exercise. Recognizing that a pup is a family member that needs lots of love and attention will ensure that your pup will thrive in their new surroundings.

3. If you plan on getting a puppy, what do you know about training?

Oftentimes, people become exasperated with their puppy's behavior and may give up on the new

member of the family far too soon. Keep in mind a puppy relies on training from their pet parent to learn house rules and what they can or can't do.

Prepare yourself by researching your puppy's breed and temperament – identifying potential behavioral issues and what should be done to teach the pup in the proper way to behave in their new home.

Some pet parents feel that crating is not a good thing for

their puppy, but canines feel secure having a den-like space of their own. Crate training takes time and effort in order to have it be a positive experience. Please remember the pups are not meant to be left in their crate for long periods of time; the ASPCA advises puppies less than eight weeks old should be crated no longer than an hour and crate time should be increased gradually.

As they grow older pups should ultimately be given a bathroom and play break after three or four hours. If you have questions or concerns about training your puppy please contact a professional dog trainer.

4. What if you have a cat or a dog and you're looking to add to your family of four-legged friends? How much does the shelter/rescue know about the pup you want to adopt? Don't be afraid to ask questions. Questions are expected and encouraged from prospective pet parents. Do they know what the dog's previous living situation was? Do they know if the dog gets along well with other dogs or if they are aggressive towards cats?

Check ahead of time to see if they have a play/neutral area where you can introduce your current pup with the one you wish to adopt.

For more than 15 years, Susan Marie has been spreading the word about puppy love through her nationally syndicated weekly radio show, "The Doggy Diva Show." Susan is also the author of the award-winning children's book, "Miss Olive Finds Her Furever Home."



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# Happenin8s

Tuesday, Nov. 5

DIY Window Leaf Sun Catchers. With fall winding down, add some color to your windows with vibrant autumn leaf suncatchers. For children of all ages. (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. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

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

**Pajama Storytime.** Join Miss Debbie for an evening that includes stories, songs and fun. Pajamas and stuffed animals are welcome. For children two to five years old and their families. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 6:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

"Alexander Nevsky." On the eve of World War II, the great Russian director Sergei Eisenstein ("Battleship Potemkin") and Sergei Prokofiev were whisked into service as Russia readied itself for battle. The stirring tale of a ragtag Russian army battling a powerful invader. There will also be a 10-minute film featuring Daniil Trifonov playing the first movement of Rachmaninov's Fourth Concerto before the screening. Part of the Caramoor at the Burns: Movies Musicians Love series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 and 7 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Saw Mill River Audubon Nature Book Club. "The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition" by Caroline Alexander will be discussed. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: E-mail Kathleen\_Williamson@msn.com.

Legendary Tuesday Night Jam. This jam has fostered many great musicians over the years. Some have gone on to tour, win Grammy Awards and achieve celebrity status. You never know who you'll hear. Come on down, play or listen, dance, drink and enjoy. All levels of musical talent are welcome. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. No cover charge. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-747-4740.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 6

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

New Mommy and Daddy Meet-Up.

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

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

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

Mother Goose. Listen to stories and sing along with the librarian for a fun morning. The session incorporates picture books that focus on colors, shapes, letters and more. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.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. mountkiscolibrary.org.

Meditation Series: Midday Mind Break. Benefits of meditation include increasing focus and memory; increased health; reduced stress, anxiety and pain; and increased productivity and happiness. Led by Alka Kaminer. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.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 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Senior Movie Matinees: "A Man Called Ove." Starring Rolf Lassgård. In Swedish; with English subtitles. Refreshments served following the screening. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 p.m. \$10. Advance reservations required. Info and reservations: Contact Abby Popper at 914-773-7663 ext. 424.

People Love Yarn. Share your knowledge or learn from the group. All skill levels welcome. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 1 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: Contact Louann Rooney at rooneylm@optonline.net.

**Mind Games.** A fun way for seniors to stimulate various cognitive functions

memory, problem-solving and focus. If you are having trouble remembering things or feel that you are easily confused, come join the fun. Phelps Hospital's C Level Boardroom, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 2 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3937 or e-mail Vitality@northwell.

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

Knitting at the Library: November Knit a Hat. November Knit a Hat. Stop by for the weekly knitting group and get instructions on knitting a hat. After all, winter is coming! Any donated hats will be sent to the Community Center of Northern Westchester. If you're not interested in a hat, or you're working on a different project, you're welcome to come. Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels. For ages 10 and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-864-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Mount Kisco Democratic Meeting. All Democrats are welcome. Dinner is provided. 118 N. Bedford Rd., Suite 100, Mount Kisco. 6:30 p.m. Free. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month.

Love 'Em, Leave 'Em: Leaf Mulching Workshop. A leaf mulching expert will demonstrate how to keep your lawn healthy by mulching your leaves in places. Attendees will leave the workshop with a greater understanding of how important mulch is to the soil. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www. greenburghnaturecenter.org.

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

"13 Drivers' Licenses." Manhattanville's Colleges Department of World Religions and the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center presents this exhibit which features the story of 14 German students working together to uncover the secrets hidden within the 13 drivers' licenses. Presented by Lisa Salko. Manhattanville College's Berman Center, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase. 7 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: www.hhrecny.org.

Art Series: Champion for the Chippewa. Another proponent of the American West, Charles Russell was also a crusader for Native American rights. He fought for dedicated land for the Chippewa tribe, and his work now regularly sells for millions at auction. In connection with Russell's work, there will be a discussion of Native American arts. 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.

National Theatre Live's "Fleabag." See the hilarious, award-winning onewoman show that inspired the Amazon/BBC hit TV series that was captured live and shown in a re-broadcast from London's West End. Written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge and directed by Vicky Jones, "Fleabag" is a rip-roaring look at some sort of woman living her sort of life. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$30. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.

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

The Childbirth Experience/LaMaze Method. This series of classes is designed to cover all aspects of the childbirth experience, including information on pregnancy, labor, delivery, caesarean section, the newborn and the techniques of Lamaze childbirth preparation. A tour and childbirth films are included. Taught by certified childbirth educators. Phelps Hospital, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 7:30 to 10 p.m. \$150 per couple. The series continues on Nov. 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration required. Registration: Visit https://www.eventbrite. com/e/childbirthlamaze-class-saturday-onlytickets-63765746063. For those signing up for a refresher course, call 914-366-3382.

#### Thursday, Nov. 7

Pleasantville Garden Club. Lorraine Ballato, an advanced master gardener. professional horticulturist, author, speaker and confirmed "plantaholic," will be presenting this program titled "Smarter Gardening: Let's Talk." Life is too short to spend it deadheading, weeding, staking and doing so many other things in the garden that come under the heading of "drudgery." Until someone invents the gardening equivalent of the self-cleaning oven, smarter gardening is needed. Ballato will provide some ideas about how to change garden and gardening techniques to have less maintenance and more time for other things. Pleasantville Presbyterian Church, 400 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Membership meeting at 9:30 a.m. Program at 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillegardenclub.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 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Every Monday and Thursday (except Nov. 28). Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

Lifeline Theater Music Program. An outlet for unlocking the potential of children and adults with special needs through integrated arts and life skills programs. Drop

continued on next page

# ACL Injuries Growing Occurrence: How to Prevent and Rehabilitate Them

With the growing popularity of and participation in adolescence sports, there has been a substantial increase in the occurrence of youth athletic injuries nationwide.

Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries are one of the more devastating and frequent injuries that occur in our athletic youth population today. The ACL is one of four major ligaments that provides stability in the knee joint. Ligaments are non-stretchable, strong fibers that hold bones together.

Often when the ACL is either damaged or torn it is common to have an injury to the medial cruciate ligament (MCL) and/or the meniscus structures as well. The MCL is another one of the four major ligaments of the knee that provides stability and the meniscus is soft tissue that acts like a

cushion within the knee joint, between the tibia and femur bones. An injury to the MCL or meniscus in association with an ACL

injury can make the overall return to action slightly more complicated wor and usually longer. word

Here comes the shocking news: Nearly one in 60 adolescent athletes will suffer an ACL injury during their athletic participation. Many of these athletes will then undergo an ACL reconstruction, which is a 6- to 12-month recovery. In adolescent athletes, females are up to eight times more likely to tear their ACLs compared to their male counterparts.

There are several studies that indicate anatomical, physiological and behavioral factors between males and females that are the reasons for such a large ratio difference. The differences in strength, landing mechanics, cutting mechanics, hormone levels and training programs have all been identified as possible risk factors for ACL injuries in adolescent females. Furthermore, most of those ACL injuries occur with little to no contact.

Most non-contact ACL injuries occur from a sudden change in direction, sudden deceleration or by landing incorrectly from a jump. All these movements happen across most sports, making it all the more

important to learn what you can do to help reduce the risk.

Many well-designed sports training programs will create comprehensive

workouts to prevent several types of sportsrelated injuries. For an ACL prevention training program, it must include balance, proprioception, strengthening, endurance, conditioning, agility, proper landing mechanics and sports specific exercises. A key is to make sure you are doing exercises properly with a focus on quality of movement

In addition to learning general prevention of an initial ACL injury, it's important to consider how athletes return to sports following an injury. After ACL reconstruction, an athlete can expect at least six months of physical therapy and possible upwards of a year. Physical therapy will help you regain full range of motion, stability and strength. They will also address proper movement patterns, landing techniques and sports specific training.

It is essential to continue a comprehensive training program because adolescent athletes with an ACL injury have a 15 times greater risk of sustaining a second ACL injury of either the same or opposite leg after returning to sports. Research has shown that even though an athlete is cleared to return to their sport, there often continues to be some residual muscle weakness and asymmetry, along with compensatory movement patterns. This not only shines a light on continuing a training program after sustaining an ACL injury but should make you do whatever you can to initially prevent an ACL injury.

Understanding the need and timing of certain interventions is hard for an adolescent athlete to do on their own. It



By Rachel Amarosa

can require some help from families, their coaches local professionals. **Physical** therapists and certified athletic trainers are healthcare professionals that can perform extensive functional assessments and screenings to help determine where the weaknesses. imbalances and concerns can be for your athlete.

For the female adolescent athlete there is a hyper-focus on assessing their proper landing mechanics, form when

squatting and lunging and general testing of their overall lower extremity strength. They then use the information to provide a comprehensive training program designed to help prevent the risk of an unwanted ACL injury along with many other types of injuries as well.

Rachel Amarosa is a certified athletic trainer and the marketing and communications director at ProClinix Sports Physical Therapy & Chiropractic with locations in Armonk, Pleasantville and Ardsley. For more information about this article or about ProClinix, Rachel can be reached at 914-202-0700 or at ramarosa@proclinix.com. You can also visit www.ProClinix.com.

# Happenin8s

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in anytime and join founder Billy Ayres as he uses singing, dancing, creating plays, artwork and gardening to help participants realize their strengths and potential contributions to their communities. Ayres has created a technique called improvisational integrated music/drama. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Every Thursday and Friday (except Nov. 28). Info: Visit www.lifelinetheaterinc. org/index.html.

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 (except Nov. 28). Info: 914-741-0276 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Storytime. This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drove. Valhalla. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday (except Nov. 28). Info: 914-769-0548 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.org.

**Bounce the Baby.** Enjoy simple stories, fingerplays and lap-sit songs for early literacy skills. Incorporates board books that focus on singing to, moving with and playing alongside your babies as instructed by the librarian. For children three to 18 months old. North

Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Thursday (except Nov. 28). Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.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 (except Nov. 28). Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or www. mountkiscolibrary.org.

Bereavement Support Group. Members receive the emotional, educational and social support needed to successfully manage their issues. Phelps Hospital Room 545, 755 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. Noon. Free. Info: 914-366-3937 or e-mail Vitality@northwell. edu.

Mahjongg Club. Intermediate players welcome. Participants must bring their own set. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free. Every Thursday (except Nov. 28). Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Skin Cream Workshop. Learn how to make coconut lotions for day and night. Completely natural. Great for yourself or as a gift. Each participant will have two skin creams to take home. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 to 2 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887 ext. 3.

National Theatre Live's "Hansard." It's a summer morning in 1988 and a Tory politician is home in the idyllic house he shares with his wife of 30 years. But all is not as blissful as it seems. As the day goes on, what starts as gentle ribbing quickly turns to blood sport. With two-time Olivier

Award winners Lindsay Duncan and Alex Jennings, this witty, devastating portrait of the ruling class is directed by Simon Godwin. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Members: \$25. Nonmembers: \$35. Info and tickets: Visit www. burnsfilmcenter.org.

Fall Paint Craft. Children will paint and personalize their own fall- and Thanksgiving-themed napkin and pencil holders. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Also Nov. 14 and 21. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887 ext. 4 or at the Children's Room circulation desk.

**DIY Fall Napkin Rings.** Get ready for Thanksgiving feast by making your own napkin rings that will add a personal touch to your table setting. For children of all ages. (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. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

**Read to Rover.** Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m. (except Nov. 28) and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Opening Reception for "The 44th Annual Ground Glass Exhibition." The Ground Glass, a Westchester-based association of photographers, will be hosting this juried selection of photographs. Chuck Kelton, a respected fine art photographer and master printer for many photographers

served as the juror for this year's exhibit. The Rye Arts Center Gallery, 51 Milton Rd. Rye. 5 to 7 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Nov. 27. Gallery hours are Monday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Info: 914-967-0070 or visit www.ryeartscenter.org.

Social Security Educational Workshop. For anyone 60 to 70 years old. Led by Paul Petrone, Social Security, retirement income and tax specialist. Rye Free Reading Room Library, 1061 Boston Post Rd., Rye. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-231-3161 or visit www. ryelibrary.org.

**Creative Writing.** Meet up with other writers, share ideas and write stories. For students in grades 6-12. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Also Nov. 21. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Alan Reingold: Portraitist and Illustrator. A slide show lecture through Reingold's remarkable journey as a master artist, illustrator and portraitist and learn what it takes to navigate the life of an artist. He welcomes all students thinking of a career in art to come forward with their portfolios for a review, critique and guidance. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

On a Winter's Night. Presenting the 25th anniversary of "On a Winter's Night" from veteran singer-songwriters Christine Lavin, John Gorka, Patty Larkin, Cheryl Wheeler and Cliff Eberhardt. These are among the

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brightest starts of the singer-songwriter movement for the past three decades. In 1994, Lavin gathered them together, along with folk and Americana artists to showcase music of the "Winter Season" on the now classic "On a Winter's Night" CD, followed by several years of touring collaborations. These artists have released dozens of recordings and toured steadily through the decades, with fond memories of their touring days together. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$35, \$45 and \$55. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

#### Friday, Nov. 8

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group. Provides a safe place for caregivers, family and friends of persons with dementia to meet and develop a mutual support system. Phelps Hospital, Room 545, 755 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 10 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3937 or e-mail vitality@northwell. edu.

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

Music With Miss Laura. Stories, songs, finger plays and movement activities. For children from 18 to 36 months. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11:30 to noon. Free. Every Friday (except Nov. 29). Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

Great Books Forum Series. "Auschwitz and After" by Charlotte Delbo will be discussed. Led by Professor Scott Zaluda. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Room 131, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Info: E-mail Professor James Werner at james.werner@sunywcc.edu.

The Sleepy Hollow Experience. This outdoor immersive theater event will now be seen for the first time in the tristate area, staged at the estate of Washington Irving, just in time for the bicentennial of his publication of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." The production features live professional musicians and singers, who will perform the scenes in various locations around the estate and engage with audience members. Theatergoers will be guided by storytellers from scene to scene, meeting Ichabod Crane and Katrina Van Tassel, imbibing and snacking during the famous party scene at the Van Tassel', and, in a thrilling climax, encountering the Headless Horseman himself. Washington Irving's Sunnyside, 3 W. Sunnyside Lane, Tarrytown. 6 and 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$45 for adults and \$25 for children. Historic Hudson Valley members receive a 10 percent discount. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Nov. 10. Also Nov. 9 and 10 at 5, 7 and 9 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-366-6900 or visit www. hudsonvalley.org.

Teen Movie and Pizza. "The Sun is Also a Star" will be screened. Snacks, beverages and pizza will be provided. For children 10 years old and up; families welcome. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Registration suggested. Info and registration: E-mail CPaulsen@wlsmail.org.

"Nursery Song Swing." These catchy, fun and endlessly memorable songs are historical records, coded messages, life lessons and social comments. A screening presented by Jazz at Lincoln Center. Drinks and refreshments will be served before the screening, provided by Friends of the Chappaqua Library. New Castle Town Hall, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www. chappaqualibrary.org.

Friday Night Film Series: "Agatha and the Truth of Murder." It's 1926, and with her personal life in tatters and her writing in crisis, a young Agatha Christie decides to solve a real-life murder mystery surrounding the goddaughter of Florence Nightingale. This alternative history thriller explores the possibility of what Agatha Christie was up to when she disappeared for 11 days in 1926. 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.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Hardheaded Comedy. Luz Michelle is bringing a big night of laughter. With Zilla Voonas, Michael Nguyen, Caitlin McKee and Ralph Anthony. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit www.lucyslaughlounge.com.

Pleasantville Fund for Learning 2019 Annual Auction. A fundraiser for this nonprofit organization that provides private funding for public education programs for Pleasantville's schools. Southern Table, 39 Marble Ave., Pleasantville. 7:30 to 11 p.m. \$125 per person. Info and tickets: Visit www.pffl.org.

Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes. Having emerged from the Jersey Shore scene in 1974, they carried over a significant influence (and some key personnel) from Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band. The lukes evolved as more of a white R&B horn and in the Memphis Stax Records tradition. Organized by John Lyon, guitarist/songwriter Steven Van Zandt and Richie Rosenberg, the band is well-known for high-energy shows and no-holds-barred songs, including "I Don't Wanna Go Home," Having a Party," "The Fever," "Talk to Me," "Trapped Again" and "This Time it's for Real." The group has not only survived, they have flourished with more than 30 albums, several Eps and a box set: thousands of live performances around the globe; a legion of dedicated and enthusiastic fans; and dozens of classic songs. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$48, \$58 and \$68. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.

**Gina Chavez.** This alt-pop sensation is a nine-time Austin Music Award Winner, including 2015 Musician of the Year and

Album of the Year. Chavez's passionate, bilingual songs traverse cumbia, bossa nova, vintage pop, reggaeton and folk. With dynamic vocals and sharp social commentary, she'll take you on a journey through the Americas, expertly blending sounds with tension and grace. Chavez is currently touring her new EP "Lightbeam," a collection of songs about the journey and hardships she and her wife have undergone to be able to publicly express their love for each other as Catholic, Latina women. PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$25 to \$45. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www. artscenter.org.

Westchester Photographic Society: Photo Competition 2B. Members compete in digital competitions – color and "open mind." Critiqued by a professional judge. For adults 18 years old and up. Westchester Community College's Technology Building, Room 107, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. (Use Parking Lot 11) 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-827-5353 or visit www.wpsphoto.org.

"Back to the Garden." An original, fulllength play by award-winning Westchester playwright Albi Gorn. Follow Adam and Eve as they are expelled from the Garden of Eden and learn to fend for themselves in the wilderness that lies beyond. When they encounter the sometimes bumbling and often volatile inhabitants of civilization's dawn, they learn how to help these people in their struggle to survive and discover the truth about God's power - and their own. Axial Theatre at St. John's Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. Adults: \$25. Seniors and students: \$25. Also Nov. 9, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m., Nov. 9 and 16 at 3 p.m. and Nov. 10 and 17 at 4 p.m. Info: Visit www. GoJoClanProductions.com or AxialTheatre. org or e-mail BackToTheGarden2019@gmail. com. Tickets: Visit www.BackToTheGarden. bpt.me.

#### Saturday, Nov. 9

Pleasantville Farmers Market. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" six years in a row from 2014 to 2019, with over 50 vendors and eight nearby parking lots. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rain or shine. Please note the market is a dog-free environment. Saturdays through Nov. 23. Info: Visit www. pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

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

org. **Zumba Fitness.** Achieve long-term benefits while having a blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life. For all fitness levels. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10.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.

**Volunteer Clean-up Day.** Lend a helping hand doing various projects around the preserve to spruce it up. Cranberry Lake Preserve, 1609 Old Orchard St., North White Plains. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info and sign-up: 914-428-1005.

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. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Every Saturday. Also Wednesdays from 2:30 to 7 p.m. and Thursdays from 1 to 6 p.m. Appointment required. English only on Wednesdays. Appointments available in Spanish on Thursdays and Saturdays. Info and Wednesday appointments: 914-336-6026. Info and Thursday and Saturday appointments: 914-336-6935.

Prenatal Breastfeeding Class. Expectant parents receive information on how to initiate successful breastfeeding. Topics include milk supply and how milk is made, what to expect from your newborn, latch and positioning, how to tell if your baby is getting enough milk and more. Couples are encouraged to come together. Taught by International Board-certified lactation consultants. Phelps Hospital, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$50 per couple. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit www. eventbrite.com/e/prenatal-breastfeeding-class-tickets-63769997780.

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 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Practice ACT Exam. A full-length exam following the same protocols and guidelines as the official exam. Bring pencils and calculator. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Registration required at the children's circulation desk. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

Chess With John Gallagher. Provides new and experienced students with a strong foundation in the rules and strategies to play the game of chess. For children six years old and up. Must be accompanied by an adult. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m. Free. Also Nov. 16. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

**Drop in for Tech Help.** Receive assistance with any of your technology devices. PC, Google, Microsoft savvy volunteers help with

# Open Door Foundation to Honor Phelps Hospital President & CEO

Daniel Blum, president and CEO of Phelps Hospital Northwell Health, and Sue Greene Fuirst, board chair of the Open Door Foundation, will be honored at Tune in to Support Open Door at Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase, on Thursday, Nov. 14.

Blum, a Chappaqua reside ent, will receive the Industry Leadership Award. He has served in his present capacity at Phelps, a 240-bed regional hospital that is a member of the Northwell Health System, since December 2014. Prior to coming to Phelps, he held various leadership roles at White Plains Hospital, Stellaris Health Network, St. Vincent Hospital and New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

"Together, we've figured out a way to do the right things for our community," Blum said. "The economics are challenging yet Open Door's leadership has figured out a way to operate that is fiscally responsible, but at the same time has allowed Open Door to grow its healthcare operations and philanthropic support from the community. All of this is really important."

Blum began his career as a paramedic/instructor in New York City, later working at several hospitals in clinical and administrative roles. Currently chairman of the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association and past chairman of the New York State Department of Health Emergency Medical Services Council, he serves on the boards of a number of area civic, industry and charitable organizations. He holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy and a master's degree in healthcare administration from NYU.

Fuirst will receive the Community Leadership Award. She began her affiliation with Open Door Family Medical Center more than a decade ago as a volunteer in the organization's Reach Out and Read program and has steadily expanded her involvement, joining the Open Door Foundation's board of directors in 2011.

"Most of Open Door's patients live in poverty. They're worried about getting to work, keeping their jobs, putting food on the table, caring for their children and maintaining their housing," Fuirst said. "The extra support Open Door provides around prevention makes healthy behaviors more accessible, understandable and manageable for people with serious challenges in their day-to-day lives."

Also a Chappaqua resident, Fuirst's professional career has included roles at Music Choice, and her own company, Basics Fuirst, which includes a cooking school and a line of spice blends sold locally. Her philanthropic work has included Spiral Giving, a youth philanthropy program for which she is founder and executive director; a member of Impact 100 Westchester; and graduate of Leadership Westchester. She holds a bachelor's from Clark University.

Open Door provides more than 300,000 patient visits annually and serves nearly 57,000 people a year, many of whom might not otherwise have access to medical services. A majority of its patients live at or below the federal poverty line.

"Both honorees play key roles with

Open Door," said Lindsay Farrell, Open Door Family Medical Center president and CEO. "Sue in her unwavering commitment and advocacy on behalf of our patients and Dan as a steadfast partner in our family medicine residency program and in providing our patients with OB and prenatal services."

The evening is the Open Door

Foundation's signature fall event. It raises funds for critical services that are not covered by third-party reimbursements or government grants and cost more than \$2.5 million annually.

For tickets, sponsorships or more information to "Tune on to Support Open Door," call 914-502-1417 or visit www. opendoormedical.org.

### **Spanking New Home**



CareMount Medical executives, physicians, nurses and care team members celebrated the grand opening, relocation and expansion of its Mount Kisco endoscopy procedure suite, located on the third floor at 110 S. Bedford Rd. The 9,000-square-foot suite features five procedure rooms, 15 pre- and post-recovery bays and four nurse stations. CareMount Medical's gastroenterology and anesthesiology departments are currently performing endoscopy procedures in the suite. The new suite provides greater comfort to patients and offers state-of-the-art surgical capabilities.





# Happenin8s

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troubleshooting, downloading, Overdrive, Freegal, Hoopla or any other online service. First-come, first-served. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Saturdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. (except Nov. 23) and Tuesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Info: 914-666-8041 or www. mountkiscolibrary.org.

The Libby Richmond Trio. Hear your favorite movie music performed by saxophonist Libby Richman & Co. Movie music has been a great source of inspiration for jazz musicians. This performance will feature the melodies of Jule Styne, Frank Sinatra and Burton Lane. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1:30 to 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www. mountkiscolibrary.org.

Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they celebrate the birth of pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves as well. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also Nov. 16 and 29 at 2 p.m., Nov. 17 at 3 p.m., Nov. 23 at noon and Nov. 30 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and preregistration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Discovering the Stories Within Us. Join storyteller Laureate Karen Sangaline Pillsworth as she shares her stories and invites you to share yours. Pillsworth will take you on an adventure showing how the tales that make up our lives are joyous, sad, funny and interwoven. Discussion at the end of the program will begin putting together your own story. Using memory exercises, we will find where you want your story to begin. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Also Nov. 16. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Evening Howl for Pups of All Ages. Enjoy visiting the wolves during their favorite hour – dusk. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why November is a magical time for packs in North America. Guests will take a short sunset hike to howl with ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican wolves. All guests will be served weather appropriate treats. Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 5 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children (under 12): \$13. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Ars Antiqua: Arcadia in the Cathedral. Ars Antiqua, a period instrument ensemble comprised of America's finest baroque music specialists, will be performing the renowned TENET, Vocal Artists, whose choir of 10 singers and soloists will join the Ars Antiqua Instrument Orchestra in virtuosic choral and chamber works of the Italian Baroque. The program will feature newly-discovered Baroque music presented in an entirely adventurous and beautiful context. A buffet

reception of Italian pastries and confections will be served after the concert. Church of St. Mary the Virgin, 191 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7:30 p.m. \$35. (Tickets available at the door starting at 7 p.m.) Info: 914-238-8015 or visit www.ars-antiqua.org.

"Twelfth Night." The Clocktower Players shake up Shakespeare with soulful melodies and R&B beats woven through an enchanting new musical adaptation of this classic. Featuring Shaina Taub's buoyant jazzfunk- and R&B-inflected score, this exuberant production is a joyful tale of mistaken identity, self-discovery and true love. Produced by Clocktower's Artistic Director Cagle McDonald and directed by George H. Croom with assistance from William Brosnahan and choreography by Jennifer Jonas Cahill. Irvington Theater, 85 Main St., Irvington. 7:30 p.m. Adults: \$35. Seniors and students: \$23. Also Nov. 10 and 17 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-591-6602 or visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

An Evening With Lainie Kazan. This Oscar-nominated songstress will be using songs to talk about her life, her loves, her Broadway shows, television series and movies, plus her years of running the Playboy Club nightclubs across the country. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$45. Artist meet and greet: \$80. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www.wppac.com.

Nashville-Style Songwriters Circle. Schoolhouse favorite Peter Calo will be joined by his friends, Jesse Terry, Robinson Treacher and Cassidy for a Nashville-style songwriter circle. Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 8 p.m. \$25. Info and tickets: 914-277-8477 or visit www. schoohousetheater.com.

Friends of Music: Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. Eight musicians from this magnificent group will bring to our stage two works for winds and strings. The first, Franz Schubert's Octet in F Major. Op. D.803, was composed in 1824. The second. Jean Francaix's Octet for Winds and Strings, was composed in 1972 and will be having its first-ever performance in Westchester. Founded in 1972, the Orpheus performs without a conductor and presents an annual concert series in New York City that features performances at Carnegie Hall and the 92nd Street Y. Sleepy Hollow High School's Kusel's Auditorium, 210 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow, 8 p.m. \$35. Info and tickets: Visit www.friendsofmusic.org.

Ani DiFranco in Concert. Widely considered a feminist icon, this Grammy winner is the mother of the DIY movement, being one of the first artists to create her own record label in 1990. While she has been known as the "Little Folksinger," her music has embraced punk, funk, hip-hop, iazz, soul, electronica and even more distant sounds. Her collaborators have included everyone from Utah Phillips to legendary R&B saxophonist Maceo Parker to Prince. DiFranco has shared stages with Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger, Kris Kristofferson, Greg Brown, Billy Bragg, Michael Franti, Chuck D. and many more. Her most recent album, "Binary," was released in June 2017. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$39, \$49 and \$65. Info

and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.

#### Sunday, Nov. 10

The Social Circus: Arts for Human Development and Social Change. A new series of talks and films on multiple facets of child development, presented by professionals from Westchester-based social services agencies and nonprofits. Relevant, timely information for parents, educators or anyone with a stake in raising the next generation that leads with open minds and hearts - grounded in respect, mindfulness, curiosity and inclusiveness. Presented by Clare Vercuysen, festival coordinator, American Youth Circus Organization. Ethical Society of Northern Westchester, 108 Pinesbridge Rd., Ossining. 11 a.m. Free. Info: 914-941-3544 or visit www.esnw.org.

Apple Cidering. New York is the second largest producer of apples in the country. In this seasonal program, children will use an old-fashioned screw press to make apple cider. Participants will also learn about the colonial experience of cidermaking and get a taste of fresh, tangy apple cider. All ages. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Nonmembers: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Special Death Café Westchester: Advance Directives Workshop. Join the Death Café Westchester volunteer team in an interactive workshop where participants will discuss, review and complete their own personal New York State advance directives. Official forms, which will include the healthcare proxy and living will, will be provided. Have your questions answered about this essential part of end-of-life planning and to implement a plan of your own to ensure that your final wishes will be honored. Cake and coffee served. Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah. 1 to 3 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.DeathCafe.com.

Pack Chat for Kids. This is the best introduction to wolves for families with young children. Kids will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves as they are out searching for prey as they prepare for the birth of this year's pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 2 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-763-2373 or visit www. nvwolf.org.

Fall Chamber Music Series. The Mount Kisco Arts Council presents this performance featuring Sam Sadigursky on the clarinet and Vered Reznik on the piano. Sadigursky was recently featured in the Tony and Grammy Award-winning Broadway show "The Band's Visit." Reznik gave her New York debut in Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall in 2012. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

A Full House. A collection of one-act comedies with a twist. Presented by

M&M Productions, which is committed to developing quality, live theater and bringing it into intimate settings throughout the Hudson Valley. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Dorrance Dance. This electrifying company's inaugural performance garnered a Bessie Award for "blasting open our notions of tap." Founded by Artistic Director Michelle Dorrance, the company has, in less than a decade, forged a brand that honors tap dance's uniquely American history in a new, dynamic and compelling context - blending traditional techniques with cutting-edge choreography and inventive rhythms. The astounding skill and exuberance of this show-stopping group continues to thrill audiences and challenges expectations every time they take the stage. PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 3 p.m. \$30 to \$70. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.artscenter.org.

"Requiem." Christ's Church in Rye will present an exciting concert of sublime choral and chamber music. The adult choir will be joined by numerous guest choristers from the surrounding communities under the inspirational leadership of newly-appointed interim music director Dr. Sandor Szabo. They will perform Duruflé's largest master work. The program will also include the "Adagio for Organ and Strings" by Albinoni and "Cantique de Racine" by Fauré. The orchestra will feature professional musicians from the tristate area. Christ's Church, 2 Rectory St., Rye. 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-967-1749 or e-mail sszabo@ccrye.org.

Sustainable Sunday Speaker Series: Reducing Food Waste for Real Climate Impact. Marth Elder, executive director of Second Chance Foods, will address humanitarian and environmental costs of food waste and why food is the single strongest lever to optimize human health and environmental sustainability. All welcome. Holy Name of Mary Parish Center, 114 Grand St, Croton-on-Hudson. (Park in rear of Parish Center.) 3 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Info: E-mail contact@ HNMCare4CreationMinistry.com or visit hnmcare4creationministry.com.

Yalin Chi Recital. Chi will be featured performing works of Beethoven, Brahms and Chopin. Originally from Beijing, Chi made her début with the Central Opera Orchestra before moving to the United States to study at Interlochen Arts Academy. She has performed at venues including Alice Tully Hall, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Kumho Art Hall in Seoul and ZhongShan Music Hall in Beijing China and has worked with musicians around the world. Chi has held the principal keyboard position at the Hudson Valley Philharmonic since 2014. She studied with Seymour Lipkin and Jerome Lowenthal at the Juilliard School where she earned undergraduate and masters of music degrees, and continued studies with Peter Frankl at Yale School of Music before joining the West Point Band in 2008. Followed by a reception. The Church of St. James the Less, 10 Church Lane, Scarsdale. 4 p.m. No charge but a \$20 suggested donation is welcome. Info: 914-723-6100 or visit www. stjamesscarsdale.org.

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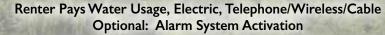
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# An Answer to the Search for New Age Wines



By Nick Antonaccio

There is so much good wine being produced today. A good portion of it can be found on your local wine retailer's shelves.

Yet there are a growing number of wines from lesserknown regions and/ lesser- known

You Heard It

Through the

producers. These wines lurk in the shadows of the wine world, waiting to be discovered and brought into the United States for the consideration of the increasing number of wine lovers (many of whom are millennials)

seeking the next great wine to enjoy, to taunt their friends and to assert their wine geek status.

The latest generation winemakers across globe - whether generational on family plots or hired by wealthy patrons smitten with the allure of producing esteemable

wines - has access to the latest techniques and technology. They are combining each to produce what I consider the greatest era of quality, affordable wines in recent history.

If you have been following my recent

'the greatest era of quality, affordable wines in recent history.'

columns, I had the opportunity to enjoy the rewards of this renaissance at the Cantine Ciani winery in the Campania region of Italy. Last week's column focused on my first visit last month to the winery. There, I enjoyed the wines of Cantine Ciani, including three whites, two sparkling wines a rosé and a red. The website describes each offering in detail. I enjoyed each of the seven offerings, but my opinion may be construed as a bit biased, so I'll leave such opinions to others.

> I also witness this new world of winemaking in my frequent forays to eclectic retail wine shops and sponsored tastings in New York City. One of these forums, the Wine Media Guild, recently held a tasting and luncheon, featuring the wines of Campania. This week's

column focuses on the wines I sampled there, including Ciani.

The Wine Media Guild is an organization of professionals whose mission is to inform and educate others in the dynamics of today's global wine markets. At their October event,

17 Campanian wineries were represented, with 31 wines offered spanning nine grapes. Several of the Cantine Ciani wines were included, notably Fiano di Avellino, Greco di Tufo, Aglianico and rosé of Aglianico. To my palate, all of the wines exemplified the unique characteristics of these ancient

On a broader scale, the wines presented were a smattering of the wines produced in the broader region of Campania. But here's the rub: many of these wines are being consumed in-country, without the benefit of marketing in the United States. I expect many more will be imported into the New York region in the next 12 to 18 months. Ask your local retailer to expand their offerings.

The quality and affordability of Campanian wines are squarely aimed at the United States market - and the producers are aggressively knocking on the doors of importers and distributors.

My favorite producers included:

Falanghina: Marisa Cuomo Furore Bianco, 2018, Costa d'Amalfi, DOC.

Fiano: Tenuta Sarno 1860 Di Maura E Adele, 2016, Avellino, DOCG.

Greco di Tufo: Donnachiara Aletheia, 2017, Tufo, DOCG.

Aglianico: Contrade di Taurasi (Cantine Lonardo), 2013, Taurasi DOCG.

One further note on my personal favorite grape of the event: the Aglianicos were well represented by vintner and by vintage. From 2017 to 2019, a tasting journey through the aging potential of this age-worthy grape included three from the highest regarded Campanian sub appellation of Taurasi. As might be expected, each of the eight

> Aglianicos presented were of differing terroirs and styles, including those from Taurasi. Each of these intense wines, rich in red fruit aromas, high in acid and tannins in youth, should continue to age well.

For the opinions of these Campanian wines from other Wine Media Guild members, visit the guild's website and Instagram accounts.

The opportunities abound to experience new wines of excellent quality at affordable prices. Begin your search in Campania. It promises to be highly rewarding.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive

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#### **LEGALS**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday November 14, 2019, 8:00pm, prevailing time, 80 Wheeler Avenue, Pleasantville, New York to hear comments as it pertains to Introductory Local Law No. 9 of 2019 to amend Chapter 173, Article VII, Section 60, of the code of the Village of Pleasantville, as it pertains to parking on Martling Avenue. Eric Morrissey Village Administrator/Clerk, Village of Pleasantville, NY

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW #1 of 2019 - Adoption of the Septic Pump Out for Protection of the Lake Oscawana Water Body Amendment to Section 90.1 **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam Valley duly adopted RESOLUTION # R19-286. Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 10-30-2019

Town of Putnam Valley Town Board Meeting November 6, 2019 6 PM Pledge of Allegiance Public Hearing Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and the Fire Department Budget. Regular Pre-Meeting 1. Resolution to set November 13th at 5 PM as the Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law #2 to override the tax levy limit if necessary. 2. Authorize the Supervisor to accept the Town Board minutes from September 11, September 18, October 2, and October 16. 3. Discussion on the de-icer law

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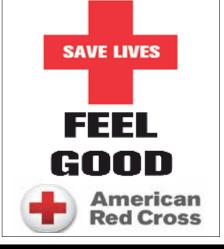
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