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May 21 - May 27, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 13, Issue 611

P'ville HS Senior, Officers Honored for Preventing Woman's Suicide

By James Anderson

Last Nov. 25, Pleasantville police received multiple calls about a woman displaying apparent suicidal behavior on the bridge over the Metro-North tracks on Manville Road.

When police arrived, a civilian was already intervening, attempting to bring the woman to safety.

That Good Samaritan was 17-year-old Pleasantville High School senior Garrett Carney.

Last Monday, the Pleasantville Village Board recognized Carney and village police officers Pat Leone and Jonathan Smith for their role in thwarting the suicide attempt.

Leone and Smith were commended for their "exemplary courage, determination and commitment to the woman's safety" while Carney received an honorary certificate for his courage and service, a

just acknowledgment of the magnitude of his action, said Police Chief Erik Grutzner.

"This situation would have been tragic if not for the actions of Mr. Carney, Officer(s) Smith and Leone," Grutzner said.

Carney said he had been driving eastward on Manville Road over the bridge at about 2:35 p.m. As he pulled up to the light, he saw a young woman straddling the south-side railing.

Carney observed people walking past her, with no apparent interest in her behavior. He then pulled over and approached the woman, who is in her early twenties. Moving cautiously, Carney said he gave her an emphatic, "Oh, hey there!" and immediately offered a friendly arm around her shoulder.

He said he positioned himself to catch her if she tried to make any rash

continued on page 4

A Perfect Pleasantville Day



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

You couldn't ask for a more spectacular day last Saturday to stroll Memorial Plaza, meet friends and neighbors, have something to eat or watch the kids take in a few games and activities during the annual Pleasantville Day. For more photos, see page 21.

Mt. Kisco ShopRite Plan Inches Ahead; Bedford Looks to Review

By Ed Perratore

ShopRite's move to Mount Kisco edged closer to reality last week but before the village's Planning Board can approve the plan the developer must first dodge a curveball from the Bedford Planning Board.

The current plan would move the supermarket from its longtime home at 747 Bedford Rd. in Bedford Hills to Diamond Properties' The Park at 333 N. Bedford Rd. The 38-acre site also hosts Grand Prix New York, the fitness center Saw Mill Club East and other businesses.

ShopRite's new 85,652-square-foot space would require numerous changes to the landscape, including retaining walls, tree plantings, driveway realignments and a parking lot expansion. Also on the list of items to complete are property line

changes, easements and variances.

While the bulk of The Park's land lies within Mount Kisco's borders, certain portions – chiefly wetland buffer zones – would likely require approval in the form of a Bedford wetlands permit.

But when Bedford's Planning Board reportedly put the project on a recent agenda, the developer admitted surprise.

"Bedford put this material on their agenda without our actually submitting an application to them because they were of interest," said project architect Michael Gallin of Gallin Beeler Design Studio in Pleasantville. "At that meeting, they discussed their interest in being intimately involved and have played around with the idea of being a co-lead agency."

"We are trying to resolve that," he added. "We don't think that would serve Bedford,



ED PERRATORE PHOTO

The proposed site of the new ShopRite supermarket at The Park, located at 333 N. Bedford Rd. Retaining walls would replace at least some of the steep slopes to increase the number of parking spaces for the new store.

Mount Kisco or us as the applicant."

Mount Kisco Planning Board Chairman Doug Hertz said the board planned to

discuss next steps during an executive session after the May 14 meeting.

"We absolutely hear your position loud and clear," he said. "Our desire is to move this application along as quickly as is practical."

"As you know, because the building sits almost entirely in the village, we've been historically active on every piece of this application up to this point. I'm failing to understand why this should change today."

Changes Drafted

Among the many recent modifications to the plan are key changes to two other addresses Diamond Properties owns or leases: the businesses at 309 and 383 N. Bedford Rd. Both require significant modification so that driveways accessing The Park, particularly for the new ShopRite,

continued on page 4

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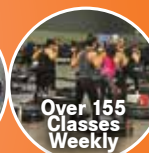
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P'ville HS Senior, Officers Honored for Preventing Woman's Suicide

continued from page 1

movements. Then, Carney proceeded to engage the woman in conversation, asking her about how she was feeling, and what troubles she was experiencing.

"(I) was just there to see if she was alright," Carney said. "I wasn't trying to tell her to do anything, but just to try to figure out what was going on."

He also wanted to let her know that "she wasn't alone."

She offered little conversation, but her answers to his questions revealed a troubled individual. In response to Carney asking her what was on her mind, he recalled her saying "I don't want to be here, no one wants me here."

Through his conversation, Carney said he learned that the woman was from Brooklyn. She was visiting family at Foxwood Condominiums, about a mile from the site and had been in a verbal altercation with relatives, he said.

By that time Leone and Smith arrived on the scene, finding Carney having already engaged with the woman. The officers jumped into action, pulling the woman away from the bridge's edge.

Grutzner said upon further investigation, police found this was "not merely a cry for help; she fully intended on ending her own life, even removing her cell phone and identification from her person prior to going on the bridge."

"Instead of going on with his day or



JADE PEREZ PHOTO

Pleasantville High School senior Garrett Carney, above, was honored by the Village Board last Monday along with Pleasantville police officers Pat Leone and Jonathan Smith for stopping a woman from jumping to her death from the Manville Road bridge onto the Metro-North train tracks last November.

hoping that someone else would do something, Mr. Carney took the initiative to reach out to the woman and connect with her," Grutzner said. "This action may sound simple, but the recognition of the situation and the motivation to act reveals the best in Mr. Carney."

According to Carney, his last interaction with the woman was a hug and her words, "Thank you. You saved a life today."

Jade Perez contributed to this article.

Mt. Kisco ShopRite Plan Inches Ahead; Bedford Looks to Review

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are aligned with streets on the other side of North Bedford Road.

Currently, businesses at 309 N. Bedford Rd. are Subway, Seraphic Nails and ET Audio/Video. About one-third of an acre of the property will transfer from that address to 333 N. Bedford Rd. A 4,688-square-foot portion at the south end of the existing building and the parking lot in front of the building will be demolished to align the driveway with Park Drive across North Bedford Road.

The remaining 5,698-square-foot space will continue to house Subway and Seraphic Nails, but the property will lose 14 of 33 currently available parking spaces.

At 383 N. Bedford Rd., the recent closing

of The Living Cornerstone, a Christian book and gift shop, makes Mount Kisco Automotive Center the sole remaining tenant. Diamond Properties leases the building, and the northern portion of the structure, which is now vacant, will be demolished to align The Park's northern driveway with Foxwood Circle across North Bedford Road. The existing building is 7,893 square feet; the replacement retail building will be 5,528 square feet and have 31 parking spaces, 13 more than before.

The southward relocation of the driveway also puts it fully into Mount Kisco – and out of Bedford Hills – according to project engineer Stephen Spina of Armonk-based John Meyer Consulting.

Also in the works is a traffic study being conducted through Georges Jacquemart

of BFJ Planning, who will soon finish his review and confirm the scope of the study.

"Once that's done," said Spina, "they'll have all they need to begin the traffic study, which will take a few weeks to do."

Grand Prix New York, which features go-kart racing and virtual-reality games, will also expand by 3,817 square feet into space previously leased to Photo File. The former warehouse area, which increases Grand Prix's overall space to 121,913 square feet, will be mostly converted to add indoor rock climbing and ninja courses to the section devoted to kids' activities, with some changes to its go-kart tracks. This would require a special use permit from the Planning Board.

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BOGLE
MERLOT **\$7⁹⁹**

BOGLE
CHARDONNAY **\$8⁹⁹**

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750 ML **\$174⁹⁹**

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TEQUILA 1942
750 ML **\$129⁹⁹**

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ARTEMAS
CABERNET **\$59⁹⁹**

RUFFINO
CHIANTI
TAN **\$20⁹⁹**

KIM
CRAWFORD
SAUV. BLANC **\$13⁹⁹**

KENDALL
JACKSON
CHARDONNAY **\$12⁹⁹**

MEIOMI
PINOT
NOIR **\$18⁹⁹**

**MEZZA
CORONA
PINOT GRIGIO**
1.5 L
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County Legislators Approve Law to Restrict Outdoor Tethering of Dogs

By a bipartisan 16-1 vote, the Westchester County Board of Legislators on Monday passed a measure to protect pets by restricting how and when dogs can be tethered outdoors.

Under the new legislation, dogs in Westchester no longer will be allowed to be tethered outdoors overnight or

during a weather alert. Also, tethering to a stationary object is banned for dogs less than six months old, sick or injured dogs or nursing mothers whose offspring are present.

The new measure requires someone to be home when a dog is tethered outdoors, and defines what types of

tethers are safe and acceptable. It also requires tethered dogs to have adequate access to food, water, dry ground and sufficient space, among other conditions to ensure safe and humane treatment.

"This is a clear, specific, focused piece of legislation that not only will protect the safety of animals, but also gives animal control officers unambiguous guidelines to enforce, making their jobs easier," said County Legislator Kitley Covill (D-Katonah), a co-sponsor of the bill and chair of the board's Legislation Committee.

Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant), chair of the Public Safety Committee, also supported the legislation.

"This legislation helps codify proper care, treatment and maintenance of dogs

and will be a tool for animal control and law enforcement officers," Cunzio said. "Chaining or tethering a dog and leaving her or him out in extreme weather with little or no shelter is an inhumane practice. I am proud to have worked on this legislation and I look at this as a starting point to examine other issues involving the care of animals."

Dogs who are left tethered outdoors are at risk from extreme weather conditions. They often lack access to food, water and shelter. Dogs tied up outside can strangle or injure themselves on their tethers.

Tethering can also increase the threat to humans. According to a study from the Centers for Disease Control, chained dogs are nearly three times more likely to bite a person than unchained dogs.



Quite a Save

Westchester County Police Officer Mike Mignone and Mount Kisco volunteer firefighter Kevin Ford came to the rescue of a crew of six little ducklings last Friday night. Police said that the ducklings fell into a storm drain in the village's Blackeby parking lot while following their mother. Mama Duck watched anxiously as the storm drain cover was removed and the little ducklings were brought to safety one at a time. When they were all together again, the family continued on to their destination.

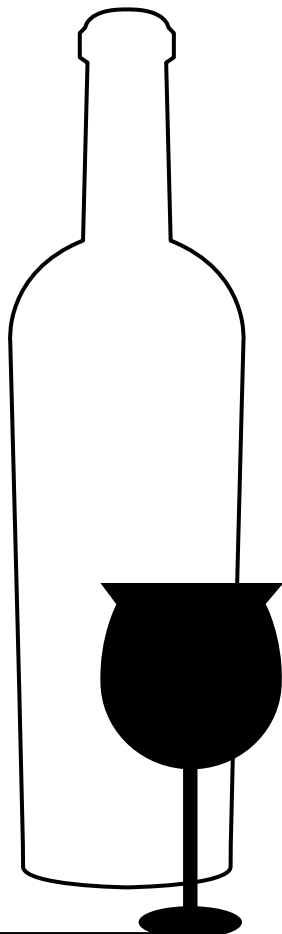


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Mt. Kisco Approves Katonah Art Center Plan Subject to Conditions

By Ed Perratore

What began in turmoil over a missing site plan and Certificate of Occupancy ended with a whimper for the Katonah Art Center last Tuesday.

The Mount Kisco Planning Board approved the facility in its 4,700-square-foot space at 40 Radio Circle subject to a list of conditions for the applicant to satisfy.

Concern over the single-story property arose last October, several weeks after the art center moved into the building, when a routine fire inspection revealed that the applicant had neither an approved Certificate of Occupancy nor a completed safety plan. Moreover, no fire inspection was conducted before it moved in.

The only site plan on record for the entire building, which hosts multiple tenants, dated back to 1982. The Planning Board chairman at that time had never endorsed that plan, according to Mount Kisco Village Planner Jan Johannessen.

During a late February Planning Board meeting, Building Inspector Peter Miley said that the Katonah Art Center had passed its fire inspection. But without approval of a site plan, no Certificate of Occupancy would be forthcoming.

Planning Board Chairman Doug Hertz ultimately proposed that the applicant make site improvements that comply with improvements other village properties have made for site approval. The alternative, he said, would be a plan

based on considerations from 1982.

Project architect Patrick M. Croke and the Planning Board since worked toward a resolution granting an amended site plan, change of use permit and special use permit, all of which the board approved last week.

The approvals are subject to various conditions that must be met including:

- The applicant must identify and secure any required permits and approvals from outside agencies, and the building inspector and village engineer will determine whether any modifications sought are substantive enough to warrant another Planning Board review;
- The architect must submit as-built floor plans for the entire facility;
- All plans seeking approval must have a common revision date, with all references to the 1982 site plan removed;
- Plans must be revised to allow for no fewer than 110 parking spaces shared among the tenants, providing consistent business operations, and must follow dimension specifications for driveway and parking-space aisles; and
- Landscaping revisions, along the eastern property line, are to include planting about five evergreen trees.

Building construction must commence



Architect Patrick M. Croke, who prepared the plans for Katonah Art Center's Planning Board application for 40 Radio Circle, addresses the board last week.

within six months and be completed within a year, the Planning Board resolution stated.

Other tenants at 40 Radio Circle Drive include the Karafin School, Gentle Care Pediatric Dentistry and the wholesaler Red and White Kitchen Company.

Mt. Pleasant Schools Looking for Curriculum Advisory Committee Members

The Mount Pleasant School District Curriculum Initiative Advisory Committee, comprised of administrators, educators and community members, meets to discuss new initiatives or updates to curriculum in the district. It is looking to hold a meeting during the first week of June to discuss needed changes and to look forward to items for the 2019-

20 school year. The committee needs two parent volunteers to join the committee – one at the elementary school level and one at the secondary level.

If anyone is interested, please answer a few short questions at <https://bit.ly/2QeLOmy> by no later than Thursday, May 23. Those selected for the committee will be notified.

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P'ville School Officials Deal With Fallout of 'Promposal' Controversy

By Martin Wilbur

Pleasantville school officials continue to investigate a recent "inappropriate and unacceptable" social media message sent recently by a student asking another student to the prom.

Word of the "promposal," which has become an increasingly popular method for students to ask others to the prom, prompted parents and residents to press

school officials for more information as word spread throughout the community about the incident and how it is being addressed, according to a joint statement released last Wednesday by Superintendent Mary Fox-Alter and the Board of Education.

On May 8, Pleasantville High School Principal Joseph Palumbo had sent a letter to parents addressing the matter.

"As soon as we were made aware of the incident, we began an investigation," the principal's letter stated. "The students involved have been cooperative and remorseful, however, that does not in any way excuse the conduct. The district rejects the message that was included in the 'Promposal' and is treating this issue with the utmost seriousness."

Reached last Wednesday,

Superintendent Mary Fox-Alter did not reveal when the message was sent or its nature, although it is believed to be racially offensive. She also did not discuss any disciplinary action taken against the student or students involved in the incident citing privacy issues under state law.

Apparently, screenshots had been taken of the message but how extensively it was circulated is not certain, she said.

Pleasantville school officials, through their joint statement, pledged to review the diversity education offered by the district. Steps that have been taken include reaching out to the Anti-Defamation League to learn how Pleasantville can include more programs on acceptance and diversity.

"As a district we're committed to improving our programs," Fox-Alter said.

She said the district had already scheduled "Upstanders Day" for this Thursday at the high school. For that program, the district invited the organization Value Up, which seeks to enrich the lives of young people, to present its Walk a Mile Assembly. The assembly includes a multi-media presentation that focuses on respect and diversity and addresses issues such as substance abuse, bullying and poor academic engagement.

Area Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parades

Sunday, May 26

American Legion Post 112 in Hawthorne will be hosting a Memorial Day ceremony and concert at Mount Pleasant Town Hall at 2 p.m. The event will honor local fallen heroes and Medal of Honor recipients. Also, the Streets of the Bronx will be performing. Mount Pleasant Town hall is located at 1 Town Hall Plaza in Valhalla.

Monday, May 27

Valhalla: American Legion Post 1038 will hold its annual parade, a Valhalla tradition since before World War II. The parade will step off at 9:30 a.m. at Westlake Drive behind the Valhalla Methodist Church and will head south on Columbus Avenue. It will be followed by a ceremony at the Village Green gazebo at 10 a.m. Hot

dogs, ice cream and refreshments will be served after the ceremony at American Legion Post 1038. Everyone is welcome.

Pleasantville: Parade participants will assemble at Bedford Road School at 9:30 a.m. The parade steps off at 10 a.m. and heads to Memorial Plaza where it will be followed by a ceremony.

New Castle: Ceremonies will begin at the Victory Corners Monument at King Street and Bedford Road at 10:30 a.m. with clergy, parade marshals, town officials, veterans and a bugler. At 11 a.m., the parade will step off from Ridgewood Terrace on Bedford Road, proceed along Route 117 to King Street to South Greeley Avenue and ending at Memorial Circle at the Chappaqua train station.

Thornwood: The Memorial Day ceremony begins at 11 a.m. at the

monuments located at the Old Thornwood Railroad Station. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony by the Gilbert Rauh American Legion Post No. 1574 at the Legion Hall located at 52 Garrigan Ave. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Legion Hall.

Thursday, May 30

Mount Kisco: The village will continue holding its parade down Main Street to Village Hall on the traditional day. It is scheduled for 6 p.m. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held at the American Legion, 1 Legion Way, at 6:30 p.m.

North Castle: The town will hold its ceremony at American Legion Post 1097, located at 35 Bedford Rd. next door to Town Hall. It is scheduled for 5 p.m.

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

No. White Plains Nonprofit Organization Launches Baby Bank

By Martin Wilbur

Since moving to North White Plains last year, (914) Cares has been so successful in providing clothing and other basic necessities to needy families, that the nonprofit organization has now taken up an additional cause.

On Mother's Day, it launched Baby Bank Westchester, which helps local families who have trouble making ends meet with diapers and various baby products such as soap, shampoo, car seats, strollers and other products.

The Baby Bank, which operates out of 901 N. Broadway, opened after (914) Cares had its special use permit approved by the North Castle Town Board on Apr. 24. It takes up about 2,000 square feet. Last September, (914) Cares and Kids' Kloset opened at the location.

"This can truly transform the lives of an entire other group, which is babies and their caregivers," said Stephanie Roth, the founder of Kids' Kloset who is overseeing Baby Bank. "What this program will truly do is to serve as a diaper bank for a substantial six-month period of time to families in need and will also provide six months of essentials – non-food, non-medical – for families and babies at risk."

The Baby Bank is partnering with two other well-respected organizations – Westcop and Open Door Family Medical

Center – in order to identify families in need. It will also work with school districts throughout the county. The items are for babies from birth to two years old.

Roth said that for a child to go to day care, a parent or caregiver has to have enough diapers to drop their baby off for the day. At certain times, needy families may run short, preventing the parent from going to work.

Also, these items are not covered by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), WIC or other federal assistance programs, Roth said.

"They really need to be given out another way," she said.

According to (914) Cares, 12.3 percent of children in Westchester live in poverty; there are 51,000 households that have income of under \$24,000 annually. With an average family spending \$12,600 on child-related expenses in their baby's first year, the Baby Bank addresses a critical need in the community.

Before approving the special permit last month, North Castle officials lauded the efforts of the organizations that have teamed up to add this service.

"It's a great cause and just wonderful people that are looking out for those who are less fortunate," said Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto. "Thank you."



Last September, County Executive George Latimer helped the leaders of (914) Cares celebrate the opening of the organization's space in North White Plains. Last week, it added Baby Bank Westchester to the services it provides.

"You're just doing great work so we're hoping you can continue to grow and help the people that you're helping," added Supervisor Michael Schiliro.

There are many ways for community members to help the Baby Bank. The public can donate money for the purchase of necessities, volunteer to sort through items or host a baby shower as a collection drive.

Donors will be able to help through a registry wish list as well as a series of community held baby showers across the county in order to begin stocking needed items for the Baby Bank's shelves. A formal launch of the program will begin Sept. 1.

To find out more information about (914) Cares/Baby Bank Westchester or to donate, visit, <https://www.914cares.org>.

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Two Wrong-Way Drivers Arrested on Saw Mill; Charged With Intoxication

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County Police arrested two wrong-way drivers in separate incidents in Pleasantville and Bedford on the Saw Mill Parkway in the early morning hours of May 14 and charged them with driving under the influence of alcohol.

In the first incident, at about 1:10 a.m., the wrong-way driver crashed into another vehicle near Grant Street in Pleasantville, according to police. The wrong-way driver was traveling northbound in the southbound lanes in a 2013 Honda Civic when he collided with a 2011 BMW, seriously injuring himself and the other driver.

Police said the wrong-way driver, who was identified several days later as Christopher Meehan, 52 of the Bronx because he did not have identification with him, had a strong odor of alcohol on his breath. He had to be extricated from his car by the Pleasantville Fire Department and was taken to Westchester Medical Center by the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps, police said. He was admitted to the hospital with serious injuries.

The driver of the BMW suffered leg

injuries in the crash and was transported to the Westchester Medical Center emergency room where he was treated.

The wrong-way driver was charged with Driving While Intoxicated, second-degree reckless endangerment and third-degree assault, all misdemeanors, police said. He will be required to surrender to county police following his release from the hospital.

A 36-year-old Brookfield, Conn. man was arrested in connection with the second incident at about 2:30 a.m. County police said they received a report of a wrong-way driver traveling northbound in the southbound lanes in New Castle. Officers observed the vehicle, a GMC Envoy, near the Mount Kisco-Bedford border and were able to stop it at the Route 117 exit in Bedford.

The driver, identified as Matthew Seiter, failed a field sobriety test after a strong odor of alcohol was detected on his breath. He was charged with second-degree reckless endangerment, a misdemeanor, and Driving While Ability Impaired and reckless driving, both violations.

Seiter is due to appear in Bedford Town Court on June 5.

Obituary

JoAnn Calandra

JoAnn Calandra passed away peacefully at The Bristol in Armonk on May 15.

She was 90.

Calandra was the beloved wife of the late state Sen. John D. Calandra, who predeceased her in 1986; the loving mother of Marisa Carbone and John (Lina) Calandra; and the cherished grandmother of Nicole, John, Christopher and Matthew.

Family and friends are invited to Pleasant Manor Funeral Home, Inc., located at 575 Columbus Ave. in Thornwood on Tuesday, May 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. for visitation. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Anthony of Padua Church in West Harrison on Wednesday, May 22 at 10 a.m. Entombment with her beloved husband will follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.



JoAnn Calandra

Police Blotter

North Castle Police Department

May 12: Report of a motor vehicle accident with injuries on Cedar Hill Road at 12:15 p.m. The Banksville Fire Department chief and medic are on the scene upon the officers' arrival. The parties were taken out of the vehicle and transported to Westchester Medical Center. Armonk Garage removed the listed vehicle.

May 14: An officer reported highway debris on the shoulder of Route 22 at 11:57 a.m. There were two black contractor bags and a carpet that were found on the roadside. The state Department of Transportation was notified.

May 14: A resident reported finding a white French bulldog by the name of Lucy on Cox Avenue at 4:58 p.m. A search uncovered that the dog resides at a home on Roseanne Drive. The dog was reunited with its owner.

May 14: Report of an abandoned vehicle on Washington Avenue at 9:14 p.m. The desk officer was unable to make contact with the registered owner and the vehicle has been in the same

condition since May 3. Armonk Garage was dispatched and removed the vehicle for impound.

May 14: An officer on patrol reported at 11:48 p.m. that a tree was blocking the northbound lane on Bedford Banksville Road. Another officer responded to assist in removing the tree to the side of the road. Two traffic cones were placed near the tree. A message was left for the county Department of Transportation to clean up the location.

May 15: Report of an erratic driver on Greenway Road at 9:03 a.m. The caller reported a vehicle driving recklessly through the established work zone almost striking a few of the workers.

Pleasantville Police Department

May 10: A 74-year-old woman who lives on Foxwood Drive reported at 8:13 p.m. that she has received more than 50 phone calls from the same company.

May 14: Report of criminal mischief at 1:50 p.m. The complainant reported boxes were damaged outside the residence.

WCC to Offer Courses at Center for the Arts Through Next May

County Executive George Latimer and Westchester Community College President Belinda S. Miles announced last week that Westchester Center for the Arts would continue to offer a full slate of arts, jewelry and ceramics classes at the County Center in White Plains through the spring semester of 2020.

County and college officials worked together to delay a previously scheduled closure of the center while long-term plans continue to be explored.

"This collaboration means offering classes taught by our renowned arts faculty for continuing education

students at the Center for the Arts while pursuing sustainable programs and partnerships that best meet stakeholder needs in Westchester County," said WCC President Belinda Miles.

Space is available and registration is currently underway for summer programs and teen summer camps. Fall 2019 classes have been announced and interested students may register beginning Aug. 1.

For more information, including hours of operation, visit www.sunywcc.edu/arts.



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Pleasantville Taking Steps to Make Village Safer for Pedestrians

By Jade Perez

The Pleasantville Village Board was presented with ideas to improve pedestrian safety last week as a group of residents hope to encourage and promote more walking in the community.

The village's Pedestrian Safety Committee presented on May 13 the results of a recent an online survey it conducted addressing how residents move around Pleasantville and what areas should be improved.

Responses from 653 people revealed that 44 percent of residents walk three to five times a week. Vehicular speed and traffic are the two major areas of concern for pedestrians.

Three intersections where respondents called for safety improvements are Bedford Road and Marble Avenue, Manville Road near the Saw Mill Parkway and Manville Road and Washington Avenue.

Samantha Hoover, a village resident and committee member, said there were several other concerns among survey respondents.

"Some people are saying that speed limits are not held to, pedestrians walk with no awareness for moving traffic, you can't let children walk alone, you can't be seen at night and cars don't stop at pedestrian crosswalks especially on Bedford and (during) the evening rush hour," Hoover said.

The committee has already met with Police Chief Erik Grutzner about speed tracking and enforcement, particularly in those key areas. Committee members have also engaged the Department of Public Works (DPW) in hopes of seeing lighting and signage improvement.

With the committee's "Slow Down, Look Up" campaign, they also hope to raise awareness of the dangers to drivers and pedestrians and work to create a safer environment. The committee has researched what other towns have been doing to promote pedestrian safety and has ideas, including pedestrian flags and high-visibility crosswalks.

According to Hoover, pedestrian flags are effective and relatively easy to install. The walker would pick up a flag from a bucket, cross the street and leave the flag in a bucket on the other side of the crosswalk.

"This just brings attention to the walker and gives them a little more power, especially for kids, but really for anybody," Hoover said. "So I think that's something we should consider."

The practice is used in Bridgeport, Conn., Salt Lake City, Seattle and many other municipalities across the country, she said.

Another strategy to give more attention to the walker are high-visibility crosswalks, which would involve painting it a color that would catch motorists' attention.

"Right now, coming off the effects of winter, the crosswalks, some of them, are really faded and we sort of ignore them, some more than others," Hoover said. "But some of them are only half faded and don't really mark the space that well. So I think it

doesn't necessarily have to be rainbow, but I think if we picked a bold color that could go a long way in empowering the pedestrian."

While the high-visibility walk was favored by several officials, particularly Trustee Nicole Asquith, DPW Superintendent Jeff Econom said it may be difficult to paint the crosswalks because they have to follow the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Therefore, the village is limited on what materials can be used on the roads, he said.

Econom noted that the county will be working on Bedford Road next year and the DPW has plans to help make pedestrians more noticeable to drivers.

"What we're doing at the DPW, the

center island at the Bedford-Marble (intersection), we put a light on the top of the head button, and the center of the island we're getting a couple more lights near Tutor Time," Econom said. "And by Memorial Plaza we're getting lights on top of those head buttons, which will give more light to pedestrians at that intersection."

Also, the police department is assigning officers to the three intersections cited by respondents in the survey for one-hour shifts to practice traffic enforcement. The department has established posts at those locations to make the officers more visible in hopes of increasing enforcement and safety.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Pleasantville Village Trustee Nicole Asquith holds one of the Pedestrian Safety Committee's "Slow Down, Look Up" signs to help promote strategies to make the village safe for those who walk.



Commander Peter Fiumefreddo

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W'chester Med Center Prepared to Open New Ambulatory Care Facility

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester Medical Center last week unveiled its new eight-story, 280,000-square-foot ambulatory care pavilion that will provide large-scale outpatient care for the first time at the hospital and feature some of the world's most advanced technology.

The \$280 million facility, which is expected to open in phases starting by the end of this month, features eight operating rooms that will expand the medical center's surgical capacity, 36 private pre- and post-surgery bays and imaging for the radiologists and cardiologists that is so advanced they can potentially diagnose diseases or find tumors or blocked arteries that may have previously gone undetected.

"It will help us tremendously to improve outcomes," said Dr. Rifat Latifi, director of the Department of Surgery at Westchester Medical Center. "Every patient who comes here is treated with the latest advances in surgery and technology. That's an incredible addition to the Westchester region as far as the technology is concerned."

Since Westchester Medical Center is a tertiary care center the hospital hasn't done much outpatient care, said Michael Israel, president and CEO of WMCHHealth.

The ambulatory care pavilion is also moving in a direction that is being dictated in the healthcare field.



Westchester Medical Center's new ambulatory care pavilion from the outside.

"This has the overarching goal of keeping people out of the hospital," said Dr. Julio Penza, chief of cardiology.

While the main part of the hospital would be able to do nearly all of what the new ambulatory care pavilion can accomplish, it is not equipped to handle the large influx of patients who would come and go for procedures on the same day, he said.

The technology, such as the world's first spectral-detector-based computed tomography device that captures two views for improved diagnostic capabilities, and the Vascular and Interventional Technology, was acquired as part of the 15-year, \$500 million agreement Westchester Medical Center signed with Philips about



Michael Israel, president and CEO of WMCHHealth, right, and Dr. Zvi Lefkovitz, chief of radiology at Westchester Medical Center, discuss the advantages of the new ambulatory care pavilion.

four years ago, Israel said.

"You want to do it, the question is can you afford to do it?" he said. "Can you afford to get the best, the greatest technology and the fact of the matter is we found a way to do it, with our partnership, to do it."

Israel said that the facility was funded by a combination of bonding with assistance from the Westchester County Local Development Corporation, the medical center's own operating funds and through various business arrangements. It is Westchester's largest healthcare construction project more than 40 years.

The entire facility is expected to be in full use by late summer or early fall.

Dr. Zvi Lefkovitz, the hospital's director



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

Director of the Surgery Department, Dr. Rifat Latifi, in one of the operating rooms at Westchester Medical Center's new ambulatory care pavilion.

and chief of radiology, added that the ambulatory care pavilion is a boon for Westchester residents. When he started his career more than 30 years ago, Lefkovitz said he could only dream about this type of equipment that he now gets to work with today.

"One of the unique things about this is our relationship with Philips and we are really putting the most advanced technology in the world here, so the people who live here in Westchester don't have to go to the Mayo Clinic, Mass General or Johns Hopkins," he said. "They can do down the block and literally get the best technology anywhere."



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Trio of Pace Grads Overcome Adversity to Earn Their Degrees

By Martin Wilbur

Walking across the stage at college commencement ceremonies is a significant milestone for anyone.

For three new Pace graduates, Lisdy Contreras Giron, Jordan DiPaolo and James Hickey, their journey to receive their degrees on Monday could have easily been derailed by factors outside their control.

Giron, a Fox Lane High School graduate, came to the United States with her parents from Guatemala when she was five years old and is a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipient. She graduated with a criminal justice degree and plans to work the upcoming year as a paralegal at a law office before going on to law school in a year.

DiPaolo, from a small Texas town, had no money for higher education and needed to first join and serve in the military to go to college. After her service and giving birth to her now four-year-old son, the health science major will be working at Kendal on Hudson in Sleepy Hollow.

By the opening weeks of Hickey's senior year at Lakeland High School, the Mohegan Lake native had lost both of his parents and lived with different friends and their families before earning his diploma. Having held a job since he was 10, Hickey worked in sales out of high

school, helping to support himself.

"There were times that it got to points where it was hard," Hickey said. "I didn't know what to do and I had no one to ask. The hardest part is when you have a parent or parents or a guardian that's sick and weren't right, you don't know who to ask and I had no one to ask for help."

Giron also faced plenty of challenges.

"I have always felt like I had to kind of do this to give back to my parents, that to also validate all the sacrifice that they have made for me, to where I am," said Giron. "Because of my financial situation my dad has literally put everything on the line for me to get through school. So to walk across that stage on Monday, all their dreams, all their aspirations are going to be lived through me."

Neither she nor her family were eligible for financial aid, so Giron worked two or three jobs at a time through school to pay for her education. Her father, who is a waiter, also contributed.

As the oldest of three children, Giron also felt the need to be her parents' protector; she quickly became bilingual and served as their interpreter.

From the time she was eight years old, she knew she wanted to be a lawyer. It was an internship in the Manhattan district attorney's office during her time at Pace that helped her settle on criminal law.

"I knew that I had a moral obligation



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

From left, Jordan DiPaolo, James Hickey and Lisdy Contreras Giron all overcame major obstacles to graduate from Pace University on Monday.

to advocate for others, so I think that coming from my background and coming from my circumstance just kind of made me more aware of social justice issues and that's kind of what started the passion for me to look at going into law," Giron said.

DiPaolo left home at 17 to join the Navy in order to pay for school. She had dreamed

of going to college and of eventually living in New York. While in the service stationed in Virginia, DiPaolo met her future husband, who is from Rockland County, which is where the couple and their son now live.

On Monday, DiPaolo became the first member of her family to earn a bachelor's degree.

"I wanted to go to school, I wanted to further my education," she said. "I knew I wanted to be in the medical field and I knew I couldn't afford it. So, okay, it was like the military it is, because they help you go to school."

DiPaolo, who graduated with Latin Letters and spoke at Monday's commencement ceremony, will eventually go on to graduate school and become a physician's assistant or nurse practitioner.

From as young as Hickey could remember, his father was sick. His dad underwent a liver transplant when Hickey was five, then five years later, his mother suffered a stroke. At 11, Hickey's father passed away, plunging his mother into deep depression. An only child, Hickey, in effect, became his mother's caregiver at an age when the biggest concern should have been his Little League batting average.

"I was managing her bank account and checking account from Social Security to make sure, okay, we can't pay gas this

continued on page 15

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Letters to the Editor

Electric Leaf Blower Ban Would Be Far Costlier Than Advertised

Wow! I think the idea of banning leaf blowers in New Castle is just about the dumbest thing I've ever seen government try to impose on a helpless citizenry.

There is noise attendant upon living in the country just as there is in the city. Carnegie Hall sits atop the N, R, W and Q lines, which you can sometimes hear and feel rumbling during a concert, and Ravinia Park in the Chicago suburb of Highland Park, where whistles and diesel noise often drown out the music, was once described by Fritz Reiner as "the only train station with its own symphony orchestra." Does the noise intrude? Yes! Has anyone ever tried to ban it? No! It provides a needed service and the noise comes with the territory.

Personally, I don't like hearing leaf blowers, but they are nothing compared to huge lawnmowers, chainsaws,

snowplows, road pavers, garbage trucks and even a bunch of hedge trimmers going at once. Next-door house construction, nailing, hammering, furnace repair, oil delivery and the delivery and removal of dumpsters would also be higher on the list. Why not ban them all? Why not ban cars and motorcycles?

Oh, and let's do the cost-benefit analysis. (My wife and I are both Stanford MBAs.) There are about 18,100 people living in New Castle as of 2016, or about 7,100 households at the average household size in the U.S. And some expert from the Sustainability Advisory Board thinks this ban on "a machine driven by dirty fossil fuels" (Tsk! Tsk!) will, by driving up the costs for those 7,100 households by no less than \$25 a month (that's \$100 for the summer per household, or a total of

\$710,000 per year) be the equivalent of "taking 29 cars off the road."

Why, that's only a cost to the taxpayers of \$24,482 per year per car eliminated. And, given the capital costs of replacement equipment, I believe the probability is that the increased cost for each household would be much higher – like, say, the nonsensical expert estimates for the Mount Kisco firehouse refurbishment, now subject to a 70-plus percent increase, or the new Millwood fire station, which we were promised would be fully prefunded and not increase our taxes a dime. Taxes went up over 50 percent the following year. Guess what, the Brooklyn Bridge is for sale, too!

Chris Wyser-Pratte
Town of New Castle
(Ossining School District)

A Servant for Us All, Malichio Willing to Speak Uncomfortable Truths

We've lived in Mount Kisco 22 years, raising four children, all attending Bedford schools. On May 21, we will be voting for Joe Malichio for school board.

Not long ago our district was in a downward spiral with failed leadership. Malichio pushed for district-wide changes, producing important results for students, parents and residents with fresh ideas concerning fiscal trajectory, personnel, contracting and curriculum.

Joe stood up for special education parents – publicly. As the Dual Language Bilingual Education program was launching, he was the only person outside of Mount Kisco who defended parents supporting traditional classroom setting and the only person asking the hard questions about great Mount Kisco

Elementary School teachers who would be displaced by this same program. He's had the courage to discuss similar issues we face in our village, relating to district funding. We want a board member who is bold, telling uncomfortable truths and sticking their neck out for us.

We find the coordinated slander of Joe's character by some to be shameful. He was accused of having "disdain for the residents of Mount Kisco. How does expressing concern about the fairness in tax allocation between towns or the declining academic trajectory of Mount Kisco Elementary School represent contempt? We and many who live in Mount Kisco share these exact concerns. Others have accused him of lacking "equity, inclusion and diversity." However,

these same folks appear to have no issue with the almost complete displacement of middle and working class families, primarily African Americans, from Mount Kisco. Mount Kisco Elementary School by any impartial measure would be deemed a poor segregated school is now called "diverse." Please read "Bedford By the Numbers."

Speaking honestly appears to be Joe's crime. His primary goals are to preserve and improve the academic and fiscal condition of our district, but with a sense of fairness to all constituents. He is a good person. We share his goals.

Anne & Colin Redhead
Mount Kisco

Questions Remain Regarding Pville Farmers Market's Request

While I appreciate the informative response letter from the president of Foodchester to my questioning why Pleasantville taxpayers should pay to manage traffic at the Pleasantville Farmer's Market ("An Asset to the Village, P'ville Rightfully Supports Farmers Market"), a couple of questions remain:

- The letter stated that the "village owns the farmers market" but did not explain what that means.
- The letter stated that Foodchester has been meeting with the village

board and stakeholders for the past two years. I assume the stakeholders include representatives of the 50 market vendors that sell their wares. Did Foodchester or Village Board members consider requesting that each vendor contribute a nominal fee (say \$10 to \$20 a week) to the village to help defray some of the costs to manage downtown traffic during farmers market hours?

Howard Zane
Pleasantville

Malichio's Support of Bedford's Students Makes Him Right Fit for Board

I think Joe Malichio is an outgoing and trustworthy man who truly cares about those around him and tells it like it is. Joe has always been there for me when I needed advice, and he has a long record of supporting Bedford Central School District students. Please support Joe Malichio for school board on May 21.

Braille Diaz
Mount Kisco

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Reilly Honored With Mount Kisco Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award



SHARON LUPPINO PHOTO

Lifelong Mount Kisco resident Ed Reilly, owner of Fox Caterers, was recognized last week as the Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year.

The Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce honored Ed Reilly as its Citizen of the Year last Wednesday night at the Mount Kisco Country Club.

In addition to the honor bestowed to Reilly, the chamber also celebrated Bicycle World as its 2019 Business of the Year and Stem Cells Save Lives as its Organization of the Year.

Reilly, a lifelong village resident, is owner of 100-year-old family business Fox Caterers, has been involved in Mount Kisco Little League, the Mount Kisco Maroons, the village's Board of Ethics and the Ancient Order of the Hibernians. He is also the chamber's vice president.

"Ed is a man of many talents and traits," the chamber stated in the event invitation.

Ilene and Eric Marcos are the owners of Bicycle World.

"Their continued commitment to our community is apparent in their eight consecutive years of accepting gently used bikes, donating some of their own inventory and fully tuning and reconditioning them for donation along with helmets to the Boys & Girls Club and Northern Westchester Community Center," the Chamber noted.

Vito Salvatore is the director of Stem Cells Save Lives. After a successful transplant helped him, Salvatore felt compelled to give back.

"Vito's passion and desire to help others is apparent in the import work Stem Cells Save Lives is doing for those who need the assistant," according to the chamber.

Trio of Pace Grads Overcome Adversity to Earn Their Degrees

continued from page 13

month but we could pay electric," he remembered.

He was fortunate enough to get a job at a local paintball shop to have a little money coming in. But on Sept. 24 of his senior year at Lakeland, Hickey's mother passed away. The house they had been living on was foreclosed.

In addition to finishing high school, Hickey worked two jobs and stayed with various friends. After graduation, he got a job in sales. Before he turned 18, he

was determined to stay away from Child Protective Services.

"I'm lucky I had the friends that I did," he said. "I'd move around, sleep on the floor of a friend's house and just worked to make a few hundred bucks for a room rental.

After saving some money, Hickey enrolled in Westchester Community College and moved on to Pace after his second year, majoring in business. Along with starting a Fantasy Investment Club and working two jobs, he managed to graduate with a 4.0 GPA.

He will begin his career on June 3 at Merrill Lynch.

For each of the three graduates, they agreed the perseverance needed to reach this point will serve them well in their lives.

Giron said she is grateful for what she has, even if her own status at this point remains in limbo.

"Here we are, four years later and we are making the most of what we had," she said. "I'm definitely grateful for Pace and I love Pace."

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Chappaqua Library Honors Winners of Young Writers Contest

By Martin Wilbur

It's a fallacy that today's teenagers can only communicate by posting photos or writing messages of 280 characters or less.

Last week the Friends of the Chappaqua Library recognized the most accomplished student wordsmiths in the community with the 39th Young Writers Contest, a culmination of the annual competition that includes middle school and high school students.

This year, there were more than 200 entries from students in grades 6-12, expressing themselves through poetry and stories of fiction and non-fiction, said Richard Ma, a member of the Friends of the Chappaqua Library board.

During a reception at the library early last Friday evening, the winners along with the second- and third-place finishers were announced plus those students who received honorable mentions.

"We're just so thrilled," said Katherine Whymark, the president of the Friends of the Chappaqua Library. "Having over 200 (submissions) is just wonderful. The kids are still reading, they're still writing and some of the stuff we've heard over the years is shocking, not at all something I would expect from middle schoolers or high schoolers."

During the reception, the winners had an opportunity to read a portion of their work to their peers and the audience

assembled for the event. Whymark said the winners each received a cash prize from the Friends.

Ma said not only has there been outstanding writing but it helps the students to prepare themselves for later in life with a critically important skill.

"Are our kids equipped to write and communicate and gather thoughts versus just having a social media (presence) or with traditional storytelling?" Ma said. "I think our schools do a great job in fostering that."

This is the third year that Seven Bridges Middle School eighth-grader Tessa Wheeler decided to enter the contest, thinking it's her last year in middle school.

She not only won the middle school fiction category with her essay "Snow Days," but received an honorable mention for her nonfiction piece "My Psychiatrist is a Bag of Doritos."

Wheeler said she likes to draw out the details and create a different type of work than what someone might see or expect.

"I really put time into the story," Wheeler said. "I worked on the story for a few months, got eight pages and I decided why not, let's do it."

Horace Greeley High School sophomore Erica Dunne, who finished second in both the fiction and poetry categories, said she first entered the contest in seventh grade and decided to try it again now that she's

in high school.

Dunne said she likes the process of sitting down and creating a piece. She explained the differences for her writing poetry and fiction.

"I think in poetry it's finding a way to be realistic yet so heartfelt because sometimes they don't go hand in hand," Dunne said. "It can sound really pretty but it doesn't sound like real life. Then in fiction it's like getting to explore all different sides of the things. You can really write about anything and really having that first draft come together at the end is always satisfying."

Whymark said it's also highly encouraging that many of these students use the library on a regular basis.

"It's so great to see these kids so involved at this age," she said.

In addition to Wheeler and Dunne, others honored at last week's reception were Emmie Shapiro (second place), Alexa Troob (third place) and Gabrielle Wheeler and Mia Vieira (honorable mention) for middle school fiction; Helen Vandenberg-Curry (first place), Devisi Goel (second place), Leela Young (third place) and Elliott Saiontz, Jenna Rosenberg and Patrick Fang (honorable mention) for non-fiction; and Grace Frisch (first place), Campbell Gavin (second place), Devisi Goel (third place) and Lori Zelikson, James Chintomby, Ava Choi and Julia Aram (honorable mention)



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The Friends of the Chappaqua Library had an impressive turnout to honor the student winners of its 39th annual Young Writers Contest. Students also had the chance to read a portion of their work.

for poetry.

High school students recognized for fiction were Sophie Nadel (first place), Evan Bazel (third place) and Lori Saxena, Noah Goldstein and Kathryn Genda (honorable mention); Lauren Schmutz (first place), Zoya Yan (second place), Linda Zhang (third place) and Ellie Leibner and Rohan Acharya (honorable mention) were tops in non-fiction; and Luke Mozarsky (first place), Linda Zhang (third place) and Lori Saxena and Elizabeth Chen (honorable mention) were those honored for poetry.

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Whether to Dust or to Leave it Where it Lies

If we are made from dust and shall return to dust, does that give us a pass to live with the stuff?

While dust is inevitable, it horrifies some of us, as though its presence on our furniture and floors tells the world something unflattering about us, not only as housekeepers, but as human beings. And some of us just don't give a damn.

I remember an interview long ago in The New York Times in which an eccentric artist said she hadn't dusted her apartment in over 30 years, saying that "after the first two years or so, you really can't tell the difference." That kind of empirical research really impresses me.

In the HBO movie "Grey Gardens," Jackie Kennedy Onassis' aunt and cousin, Edie Beale and her daughter, are depicted as living in absolute squalor in a neglected, ramshackle house with garbage strewn throughout and a hoard of cats and raccoons relieving themselves on the floor. When Jackie arrives to help remedy the situation and registers her shock at the condition of the property, Edie dismisses the condition of her living environment by saying simply



By Bill Primavera

that her daughter "hasn't been keeping up with the dusting."

Is inattention to dust the first degenerative step to chaos in the home? Maybe for some, depending on their mental attitude about it. But how do unkempt homes affect its occupants?

A recent survey revealed that 83 percent are happier in a clean house. The act of cleaning gives 57 percent of the population a feeling of satisfaction. Further, it shows that 38 percent of women and 24 percent of men experience stress living in a messy environment.

It would seem that, especially in these harsh times, dusting and cleaning can be therapeutic. Psychologists have found that there is a marked difference in mood before and after cleaning, just as with a therapy session.

According to Dr. Carol Nemeroff, professor at Lewiston-Auburn College at the University of Southern Maine, this psychological boost may be derived from biological programming to clean our nests.

"And, because we know that good hygiene leads to good health," she said, "cleaning may ultimately be related to a

basic survival instinct."

Wow, get out that dust rag!

For those who don't mind living with a coating of dust on their furniture and appliances, it may be motivating to know that dust is composed largely of our own flaking skin cells. Now that we know what it contains and that it can cause real stress, does this explain the expression "uncomfortable in our own skin?"

Add to our skin cells other flaky stuff like fabric fibers, dust mite excrement, hair, pet dander, pollen, regular dirt, debris and microparticles, and you have a pretty nasty brew that can give people with allergies and breathing problems a real hassle.

But beyond the psychological and unhealthy effects of dust, it can do real physical damage to most everything it lands on, from furniture surfaces to computer keyboards and vents.

There are fancy and simple ways to get rid of dust. The fancy way is with an air purifier of which there are two types: those with fans that pull air through filters that trap the dust and those called electrostatic precipitators in which an electrical charge is applied to the dust drawn into the device and captured on oppositely charged plates. Both are available as either portable units, which offer varying degrees of effectiveness,

depending on the model, or as whole-house systems. Prices range from \$100 for a portable model to over \$1,000 for a whole-house system.

Among the houses I've listed or sold, I was aware of only a couple that had a whole-house air purifier system. So, unless people are plagued by allergies, I suspect that most of us dust with old-fashioned elbow grease, using either regular rags or one of those new magic dusters to which particles cling, such as the Swiffer Sweeper or Pledge Grab-It cloths. Because the latter option can be expensive, a regular rag can be made just as effective if dampened before use and shaken out frequently.

I definitely do not recommend a feather duster because it merely spreads the dust around until it lands again on the surface of things.

It's funny how the exploratory process can affect you. As I sit at my computer, I'm very aware and uncomfortable that between the keys of the keyboard is a lot of trapped dust. Are the raccoons soon to follow?

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

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The Weekly Feature from Entergy

New Mt. Kisco Eatery Brings Varied Menu to the Masses

By Martin Wilbur

If you're in Mount Kisco and hungry for lunch or an early dinner and can't make up your mind what to eat, Mt. Kisco Local should satisfy your appetite.

Owner Rick Yazzo opened the buffet-style eatery at 222 E. Main St. about a month ago, with food stations filled with a wide variety of American and ethnic fare, mainly Italian and Chinese favorites. If you can't find something to eat at Mt. Kisco Local, maybe you're not hungry or just not a decisive person.

Yazzo, a lifelong Mount Kisco resident who has been in the food and restaurant industry his entire life, opened the storefront eatery after working for about five years as the head chef for DeCicco Family Markets, mainly out of the supermarket's Jefferson Valley location. It was there that he noticed how his selections at the food stations were popular with shoppers.

He took over the storefront that had been previously occupied by Sinapi's Bagels about seven months ago and decided to try his hand with his own place.

"I figured if I could do what I do over there, they'd love it," Yazzo said. "(It's) natural, local, antibiotic-free foods."

His American staples have included the sirloin meat loaf and mashed potatoes and Cornish game hens, which have proven popular. A couple of days a week Yazzo will include Chinese and even some Japanese favorites at the food station, cooking up General Tso's chicken, baby back Teriyaki ribs, beef and broccoli with mushrooms, chicken fried rice and chicken lo mein.

Then there is a full array of Italian specialties including calamari with shrimp or chicken, sausage and peppers, chicken cacciatore, chicken marsala and various pastas. There are also fish selections available on Fridays at each one of the stations.

In all, there are about 20 mouth-watering items for a hungry diner to choose from.

"I just try to mix it up – a lot of things," Yazzo said. "They like the hens, they like the meat loaf."

Customers are charged \$7.99 per pound of food and can take as much or as little as they want. There are about a dozen seats for those who want to sit or patrons can put a cover on the carryout plastic food containers and take it with them back to the office or wherever they prefer to eat.

Mt. Kisco has a delivery service charging



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Mt. Kisco Local owner Rick Yazzo is optimistic that the public will go for natural, local, antibiotic-free food that tastes great and is reasonably priced.

\$8 within Mount Kisco and \$15 in neighboring communities, Yazzo said.

Yazzo's introduction to the food business came as a young child. His grandfather arrived from Sicily in 1920 and worked in the city's meat market district. By 1940, he opened up a small butcher shop and grocery on Lexington Avenue and West Hyatt, Yazzo said.

Five years later, his grandparents then established a lodge on Crow Hill Road, which catered and hosted wedding receptions and parties and also served as a



The food station at Mt. Kisco Local. There are about 20 dishes to choose from each day, including American, Italian and Asian fare.

weekend getaway for people from the city during the summer.

Yazzo's mother opened longtime Mount Kisco fixture The Brass Horn, on the site of the current Mrs. Green's, in 1960. The restaurant moved to East Main Street, today the site of Winston's, in 1988 until it closed in 2005.

Yazzo learned how to cook simply by watching his parents' chefs over the years and putting his own spin on the dishes.

Although Mt. Kisco Local doesn't open to customers until 11 a.m., each morning Yazzo gets into the store by 5:30 to 6 a.m. to start cooking the food fresh every day.

His philosophy is quite simple – consistently good food at a reasonable price.

"Give them quality and the people will come back," Yazzo said.

Mt. Kisco Local is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, give them a call at 914-218-8033, e-mail mtkiscolocal@gmail.com or visit its Facebook page.

Greeley Student Shows Kisco Pantry Clients Art of Growing Tomatoes

By James Anderson

The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry serves some of northern Westchester's neediest families. Last Tuesday, a local high school student introduced to a group of its clients how to produce a popular vegetable to supplement their diet.

Caroline Gershman, a Horace Greeley High School sophomore, gathered about 10 pantry clients last Tuesday to instruct them how to pot and tend tomatoes. The free class aimed to help households that rely on the pantry's support by teaching them the valuable skill of growing their own vegetables.

While one classmate translated her instructions into Spanish, Gershman demonstrated how to construct the pot by compiling layers of rock, soil and fertilizer into a five-gallon plastic container to create a perfect home for a tomato sapling. All the materials for the class were donated by Michael's Garden Gate Nursery in Mount Kisco.

By the end of the half-hour class, the participants had each created their own pot with a single sapling to take home. Each sapling is expected to yield about 10 pounds of tomatoes per growing season, reducing each family's reliance on the pantry.

"Not everyone has the opportunities

that I do," Gershman said. "So I decided to help, first by teaching people how to grow their own tomato plants."

The potted tomato plant provides a pragmatic alternative to a garden, she said. Many of the roughly 300 families that use the pantry do not have yard space to plant. The sapling can be left inside, producing tomatoes for the family.

Gershman said the best way to assist families in need is to help them be self-reliant.

"They don't have to worry so much about getting tomatoes or vegetables because they'll have vegetables at home," she said.

The inspiration for Gershman's class came from a school-driven science research project that she was involved with about sustainability. After completing the project, Gershman said she "decided to bring this to the community."

The Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry, which operates out of the United Methodist Church on East Main Street, collects donations from congregations from at least 11 area houses of worship. Every Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning, the pantry opens and provides a variety of fresh and non-perishable food to families in need.



RONALD FEUCHS PHOTO

Horace Greeley High School sophomore Caroline Gershman, left, leads a class last week about how to grow your own tomatoes at the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry.

It was during one of those Tuesday evening that Gershman advertised her class, and received 17 initial sign-ups.

Even though the class is essentially a lesson in tomato planting, the greater purpose is to bring attention to how

sustainable growing can help the community.

Gershman hope to expand her lessons, including to other pantries.

"We'll see where it goes," she said.

Students, Parents Spruce Up Mt. Kisco as Village Renews Adopt-an-Area

By Martin Wilbur

Last spring Mount Kisco officials, merchants and residents helped clean up and landscape seven village-owned areas to make the municipality more attractive.

That initiative has been renewed this year with another six locations identified for landscaping with flowers and plants.

A joint effort among students and parents landscaped one of those areas – across the street from Mrs. Green's – placing a combination of shrubs, annuals and perennials on the triangle on Route 128.

"This is the best one because it's the both elementary schools, West Patent Elementary and Mount Kisco Elementary, and it's just a great community event," said Fortunato Cambareri, who is spearheading the overall program. "We're beautifying Mount Kisco."

A couple of the other locations include the library grounds, which is being handled by the Mount Kisco Rotary Club, and another spot by Citibank on South Moger Avenue, Cambareri said. Also involved are Nationwide Insurance and representatives of the 4MK Party, which have taken up two areas in the center of the village, he said.

Materials and plants were donated by several local landscaping companies and nurseries, Cambareri said.

Village Trustee Isi Albanese said

perhaps the biggest project will be the area where the state Department of Transportation is reconfiguring the intersection of Route 172 and Main Street by Northern Westchester Hospital. That's expected to be done this fall.

Albanese said the Adopt-an-Area program is getting the attention of merchants and residents throughout Mount Kisco.

"A lot of the storeowners are seeing that we're doing a little bit extra," he said. "I always believe that if a lot of people do a little bit rather than one person doing a lot it makes a big difference."

Parent Chris Pflueger, who participated in the Route 128 landscaping and planting last Saturday with his family, gave up part of his morning and early afternoon to pick up a rake and do some work. While the reaction to the effort last year was largely unknown beforehand, it got the attention of people around Mount Kisco fairly quickly, he said.

"Everybody noticed it," Pflueger said. "I even had family coming in and they said it looks so much different here. It looks so much better, you realize that a little bit of flowers, a little planting, it puts a smile on everyone's face."

Cambareri said the intra-school effort came about after his wife, a member of the village's Garden Club and who is active at West Patent Elementary School,



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Parents and children turned out last Saturday in Mount Kisco to beautify an area on Route 128 near Mrs. Green's. This is the second year the village has undertaken the Adopt-an-Area program.

discussed the possibility with others connected with the club and the school. They created a flyer and sent out an e-mail blast to gauge interest.

There was no shortage of participants to sign up and help out.

"It's so nice to see the kids and the parents at both elementary schools come together because that are both the elementary schools of Mount Kisco," Cambareri said.

Wheels and Heels Compete for a Good Cause

By Ed Perratore

Elementary school students racked up the miles for a worthy cause Sunday morning at the ninth annual Bedford Central School District Elementary BikeRun.

Held at the Fox Lane Middle School/High School campus, the event combined bike and foot races of up to 400 contestants from Bedford Hills, Bedford Village, Mount Kisco, Pound Ridge and West Patent elementary schools.

Over the BikeRun's first eight years, the race has raised more than \$20,000, over \$4,000 per school, to the school district's physical education programs. Food, activities and music added to the festivities, and two dozen local businesses donated more than \$5,700 in raffle prizes.

Students competed in three grade tiers, with all completing the bicycle portion of the race before running over to the track for their specified laps. (Each lap of the bike course is two-fifths of a mile.)

Kindergartners and first-graders rode two laps by bicycle – some fitted with training wheels – and ran one quarter-mile lap on the track.



Riders were poised for the start of the bicycle portion of the Bedford Central School District's ninth annual Wheels and Heels Elementary BikeRun.

Second- and third-graders road three laps and ran two. Fourth- and fifth-graders pedaled for five laps, or two miles, before running four laps, a mile, on the track.

Each year's winners are timed with the use of technology. Contestants



ED PERRATORE PHOTOS

A student completes the running course at Sunday's Wheels and Heels Elementary BikeRun. The event promotes physical education and raises money for physical education programs at district's five elementary schools.

wear individually encoded RFID devices and when they complete the last lap on the track, records both time and student. Everyone who completes the course receives a prize. The best part on this hot day,



Participants received medals for their efforts.



Bike riders come off of a turn during the bicycle portion of the Wheels and Heels Elementary BikeRun.

though, was likely the ample cups of ice water waiting at the end.

A Gem of a Day to Celebrate Pleasantville



It was a day of fun in the sun last Saturday for the annual Pleasantville Day festivities on Memorial Plaza. Under sparkling blue skies, there was something for everyone to enjoy – fun and games for the kids, delicious food for anyone who was hungry and information about local service and nonprofit organizations. Even if you weren't into the rock-climbing wall, the bungee trampoline or the inflatable obstacle course, it was a perfect day to mill around the plaza and greet friends and neighbors. Then there was some entertainment, including the juggling stilt walker, who got his share of looks of wonderment.

MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS



Happenings

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

Tuesday, May 21

Westlake Middle School Scholastic Book Fair. Fun, games and great books. Westlake Middle School Library, 825 Westlake Drive, Thornwood. 3 to 8 p.m. Also May 22, 28, 29 and 30. Info: Visit <https://wms.mtplcsd.org>.

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

Earring Making. Learn to make earrings while helping a good cause. For every pair of earrings made, make another pair that will be donated to a battered women's shelter. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.org.

English Conversations. For speakers of other languages seeking to improve their English. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.org.

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.

"Resilience." A new documentary that delves into the science of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and a new movement to treat and prevent toxic stress. Followed by a Q&A and refreshments. Co-sponsored by the Westchester Resilience Coalition and Break the Hold. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Mount Kisco Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.org.

Armonk Readers Book Club. "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane" by Lisa See will be discussed. Discussion led by Diana Cunningham. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

"Personal Problems." This entirely African-American conceived and produced drama comes from the pioneering writer Ishmael Reed and filmmaker Bill Gunn, who wrote and directed the underground classic "Ganja &

Hess." Originally intended to air on public television in 1980, it went unseen for many years; the original tapes have been carefully restored and this experimental, challenging film about married life in New York City at the time is now available in its full-length version for the first time in decades. Introduction by writer Ishmael Reed. Part of the REMIX: The Black Experience in Film, Media and Art series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

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, May 22

Baby Time. A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday (except May 27). Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Yoga for Toddlers. Introduces children to basic yoga poses and mindfulness while keeping it fun with games. It will be taught by certified yoga instructor Karen Savir. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel or yoga mat. For children two to five years old. Caregiver supervision is required. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 10 to 11 a.m. Free. Also June 5. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-669-5161 or visit the library.

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

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except May 27). 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 (except May 27). Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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

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.

Blood Drive. Pleasantville resident James Bathon, a rising senior at the University of Notre Dame and a Holy Innocents parishioner and youth group member, has organized a blood drive and is seeking donors. Holy Innocents Church Hall, 431 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 2 to 8 p.m. Registration to donate recommended. Info and registration: Visit donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/121130.

Affordable Care Act Navigator. A trained navigator provided by the county Department of Health will be available to help people with choosing and signing up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act and the state health marketplace. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Also Thursdays from 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Appointment required. Info and appointment for Wednesday sessions: 914-336-6026. Info and appointment for Thursday and Saturday sessions: 914-813-5192.

Science Lab. Become junior scientists and learn about different science topics through stories, crafts and experiments. There's a new topic every week. For

children four to six years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

DIY Eagle Bag Puppet. Celebrate America this Memorial Day by creating an Eagle Puppet to honor the magnificent eagle, our national bird. For children four to 10 years old. Children under five 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.

Yoga in the Park. All levels and flexibilities welcome. Bring your own mat. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. 5:45 to 7 p.m. Free. Rain date: May 29. Info: 914-231-4033 or visit www.thewpf.org.

GOLDEN Paints Lecture and Demonstration. A fun, informative lecture covering a technical review of the vast potential of GOLDEN. Instructor Roy Kinzer will discuss pigment types, characteristics, heavy body, fluids, OPEN paints, gels, mediums, pastes, iridescent and much more. Get key information on color mixing for brilliant hues and controlling drying time, as well as techniques associated with oils, such as wet-into-wet and glazing. Learn the wide range of techniques that they can be used for, from traditional uses to printing to collage and much more. For ages 15 and up. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Suggested donation: \$10. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-738-2525 ext 111 or visit www.pelhamartcenter.org.

Author Talk: "Lanterns." Lyric poet Lorraine Joy McLeod's second collection of poetry is an invitation to share her sense of beauty and revelations as she journeys toward what is most sacred. New Castle Town Hall, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

Hate Crimes Forum. In light of the recent rise in acts of anti-Semitism and hate crimes that the Christ Episcopal Church and San Marcos of Tarrytown and the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center in White Plains are offering a special program to help the public to prepare an informed response to these events. Guest speaker Helga Luden, a Holocaust survivor, will share her story. Luden was among the many refugees that were turned away when they sought asylum but were not allowed to disembark when their boat reached New York. Her presentation will be followed by a Q&A and general discussion. All welcome. Christ Episcopal Church & San Marcos, 43 S. Broadway, Tarrytown. 7 p.m. Free. Info:

continued on next page

How to Save Recipes When They Go Awry

You know the feelings that arise when you're in the kitchen, maybe trying a new recipe, cooking for a group of friends or experimenting with a different twist on a favorite meal?

It's all going smoothly, you're humming a bit while you cook, wearing your favorite apron and you are confident that your dish will turn out just the way you envisioned.

In a flash, all of this culinary excitement can turn to dismay when you inadvertently over-season, overcook or realize you're missing an ingredient.

There is hope for salvaging recipes with these types of snafus. While your first instinct may be to get discouraged and start the entire recipe over, consider trying these creative ideas instead. I think it's a natural part of the cooking process, to experiment and pivot when the ingredients present us a challenge.

It's also interesting to share stories with fellow cooks, both novice and experienced. We've all been there. Here are some ideas to try when surprises like these occur in your kitchen.



By Joanne Witmyer

Over-Seasoning

Just this weekend, I was able to laugh while relating to a family member a story about how, while making a Finnish bread, I measured the salt over the mixing bowl filled with other ingredients. Suddenly, the salt container shifted to release an unexpected surge of crystals (well beyond the amount specified by this recipe) into the bowl.

My solution was to estimate the approximate amount of excess salt. Then I calculated how much more the other ingredients for the bread needed to be increased to account for the extra salt. I ended up doubling the recipe (no extra salt though) and making a few more loaves of bread that day, storing some in the freezer.

If something similar happens to you when you're making a soup, try adding more liquid – such as water or broth. Taste the soup as it cooks, to ensure the saltiness has lessened, and add more liquid as needed. In this example, additional spices and herbs in the recipe may be helpful to add so the soup doesn't lose its flavor or taste too watery.

Overcooking

When breads or cakes become overly dry – or even burnt – after baking, this is an opportunity to apply innovative ideas about how to repurpose or repair the end result. For example, if your bread comes out of the oven crisper on top than you wanted, you can shift direction and salvage the inner moist parts of the bread, cube them and use in a pudding. The top of the bread could be added into a Ribollita (a Tuscan bread soup) recipe, in which it will soften and add to the complex flavor of the soup.

Correcting an overcooked cake can be fun, especially because it involves more icing. Use a sharp knife to gently remove the burnt pieces of the cake – usually the top and bottom layers – and add extra icing to patch and firm up the remainder of the cake. Or cut the moist cake sections into small pieces to be iced individually – square mini treats to be presented in festive cupcake liners.

Missing Ingredient

I usually try to assemble on my countertop all of the ingredients for a recipe before beginning to cook. Yet I am still sometimes surprised, such as when I was spontaneously creating an almond buttermilk cake with cherries. I knew that a

carton of buttermilk was in my refrigerator but I hadn't anticipated that its expiration date had passed. So, I did some quick research in my cookbooks to pinpoint two alternative ingredients that were in my kitchen and could be used: one cup of buttermilk equals one cup of skim milk plus one tablespoon of freshly squeezed lemon juice.

For this recipe, the taste was slightly different than it would have been if buttermilk had been available; however, it helped me understand more about the nuances of ingredients and a fresh perspective. Because I felt that the lemon flavor was more pronounced than the tanginess of buttermilk, I presented this cake with a revised name: lemony almond cake with cherries.

I look forward to your questions or stories about how you have experienced these types of surprises in your kitchen.

Joanne Witmyer is the founder of Indigo Health and Wellness based in Croton-on-Hudson. She teaches group classes, offers wellness consulting to companies and helps private clients achieve their health goals – particularly during times of change and transition. You can reach Joanne at 914-208-1022 or at Joanne@IndigoHW.com.

Nourish

Happenings

continued from previous page

Contact Susan Copley at 914-564-6893 or visit www.hhrecny.org.

Art Series: Manuel Neri. Born in 1930, this American sculptor has galvanized the figurative art scene with emotional works that convey the inner life of the model. Friends with abstract sculptor Marco di Suvero, Neri splits his time between his studios in California and Carrara, Italy. He works in a range of materials from plaster and bronze to marble when creating his life-size masterpieces. 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.

"Unrelated." After an argument with her husband, a woman named Anna (Kathryn Worth) arrives alone in Tuscany for a holiday with her former schoolmates and their children. The group quickly splits into old versus young and Anna begins spending more time with the teens, finding their mild hedonism a fitting distraction from her marital woes. She is specifically drawn to their ringleader, the handsome and flirtatious Oakley (Tom Hiddleston). As the sexual tension between Anna and Oakley rises, her behavior becomes increasingly reckless, putting her at odds with the adults in

the group and ultimately forcing her to reckon with a devastating secret. Notable for its formal and stylistic achievements, Joanna Hogg's debut film received critical acclaim upon its release. Introduction by Nicole Klein and Saidah Russell. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Thursday, May 23

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

May 27). Info: 914-273-3887.

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 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 5 p.m. Free. Every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (except May 31) 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. Info: 914-741-0276 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Storytime. For children 18 months to five years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to

11:45 a.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

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

Pre-K Storytime With Craft. Stories, songs and a take-home craft. For children three to five years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Family Storytime. Stories, songs, fingerplays and other activities. For children one to four years old and their siblings and caregivers. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 4 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Read to Rover. Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. For children five years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkisco.library.org.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE FEISTY WOMAN LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/27/19. Office location: Putnam County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to **602 Williamsburg Dr., Mahopac, NY 10541. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KES-TELOO VENTURES, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 4/5/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to principal business address: **1501 Half Moon Bay Drive, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520. Purpose: Internet Marketing.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF INSPIRED BY JESUS LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 3/19/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to principal business address: **111 North Road, White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

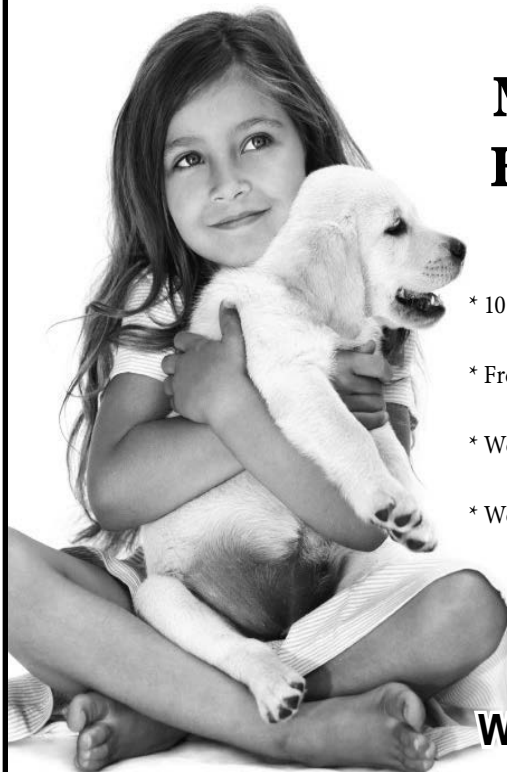
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LLC. THE NAME OF THE LLC IS MARY DARRAGH MACLEAN LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Sec-

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Always Make Sure That a Co-op Board Allows Transfers to Trusts

We have all heard a horror story or two about co-op ownership. These stories usually arise out of actions or inactions taken by the Board of Directors.

For instance, a board might implement a policy requiring a percentage of the floor be carpeted. Some boards have reputations of rejecting applicants who want to purchase a unit without a satisfactory explanation. Unknown

to many, however, are the dire consequences that follow when a board does not allow someone to transfer their co-op to a trust.

Assume for a moment that you require long-term care, whether home care or nursing home care, and that you apply for Medicaid to cover the cost of your care. Further assume that you own a co-op as your primary residence. For Medicaid eligibility purposes, your primary residence is



By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq.

considered an exempt asset. That means that Medicaid cannot force you to sell your co-op or count the value of your co-op when determining eligibility.

Moreover, unlike a house, which is considered real property, the law does not allow Medicaid to place a lien against your co-op. Medicaid can, however, file a claim against your estate upon your death in order to recoup any

benefits paid on your behalf. But Medicaid can only file a claim against your "probate estate."

Your probate estate consists of assets in your individual name (with no beneficiary or joint owner) that pass under the terms of your Last Will and Testament. By way of example, if you own a co-op in your name and your Last Will and Testament leaves your co-op to your children, your probate estate includes your co-op.

Whoever you have nominated to act as your executor must probate your will by going through a process in Surrogate's Court. Once that process has commenced, Medicaid might file their claim, which could exceed the value of your co-op.

In recent years, Medicaid has become more aggressive in pursuing estate recoveries, thereby causing elder law attorneys to implement techniques to avoid estate recovery. A common technique is to transfer the co-op to a trust since assets in trusts do not have to go through probate. Thus, by using a trust, you avoid probate, and defeat any Medicaid claim.

Enter stage right: the co-op board. If you own a co-op in the geographic area that this article reaches, there is a 50 percent chance that your board does not allow transfers to trusts. This policy is detrimental to your estate and long-term care planning because, as noted above, it could result in the loss of your co-op after your death.

Many boards that do not allow transfers to trusts simply do so out of lack of understanding. In fact, I have

had the opportunity to address several boards, and after doing so, have agreed to allow such transfers.

If you already own a co-op, it is important that you implement proper estate planning using trusts and other documents to preserve your estate if you get sick. Prior to drafting a trust, you must find out if your board allows transfers to trusts.

If you are someone who is looking to downsize and a co-op is within your sights, I hope this article brings insight into your decision-making process. Remember, you must find out if the Board of Directors allows transfers to trusts prior to entering into a contract to purchase the co-op. If the board does not allow transfers, you may lose the value of your co-op.

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

Happenings

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"Madagascar: A Musical Adventure Jr." Pure Joy! Performing Arts presents this production for children and their families. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6 p.m. Adults: \$16. Students (17 and under): \$10. Children (under 3): Free. Also May 24. Info and tickets: E-mail purejoyperforming@gmail.com. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

Opening Reception for "Pepper No. 30 Revisited." The Ground Glass, a Westchester-based association of fine art photographers, will be hosting this selection of photographs. The exhibit consists of the group's individual interpretations of Edward Weston's iconic image, "Pepper No. 30." Friends Gallery at the North Castle Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through June 7 during library hours. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

"The Souvenir." Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. A shy but ambitious film student (Honor Swinton Byrne in a mesmerizing breakout performance) begins to find her voice as an artist while navigating a turbulent courtship with a charismatic but untrustworthy man (Tom Burke).

She defies her protective mother (Tilda Swinton) and concerned friends as she slips deeper into an intense, emotionally fraught relationship that comes dangerously close to derailing the potential of her life and career. Recreated from her own memories of her schooldays in London, writer-director Joanna Hogg paints an enigmatic and personal portrait of the artist as a young woman, combining passionate emotions and stylish aesthetics into a lush, dreamlike story of young adulthood and first love. Includes a talk by programmers Nicole Klein and Saidah Russell. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Nature Photography Workshop II. Knowing the habits of your subject, utilizing sources to check variables like the weather and being well-prepared will give you your best chance to get the nature photographs you want. This workshop delves deeper into additional information. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Registration requested. Info and registration: 914-769-0548.

"The World Before Your Feet." A screening of this documentary that follows

37-year-old Matt Green and his quest to walk every block of New York City. The film tells the story of one man's unusual personal quest and the unexpected journey of discovery, humanity and wonder that ensues. Following the film, Green and film director Jeremy Workman will discuss making the film and why Green still has not finished his walk. Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main St., Irvington. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Info and tickets: Visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

Friday, May 24

Miss Keila's Jukebox. Children explore the world of music with instruments, props and even a parachute. For children six months to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Friday (except May 24). Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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.

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

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 May 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. 6:30 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children (under 12): \$13. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Saturday, May 25

Pleasantville Farmers Market. The market is in the heart of Westchester

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retary of State of New York (SSNY) office on 4/16/2019. The County in which the office is to be located is Westchester. The SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail copy of any process against the LLC is: **Northwest Registered Agent 90 State Street, Ste 700 Office 40 Albany NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ORAINE PHOTOGRAPHY, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 3/6/2019. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as

agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Oraine Photography, LLC, 406 Homestead Ave, Mount Vernon, NY 10553. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

FORMATION OF ELMSFORD CHICKEN, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/10/19. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to **Ashish Parikh, 100 Menlo Park Mall, Ste. 500, Edison, NJ 08837. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY OF THE TAILORY, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/25/19. Formed in PA 2/18/14. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC on whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to Anthony Lopes, 3901A Main St., Ste. 203A, Philadelphia, PA 19127. The office address in PA is 1105 Tyson Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111. Cert. of formation filed with **Kathy Boockvar, Acting Secy. of State, 302 N. Office Bldg., 401 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE STYLE MIXX LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 11th, 2019. Office in Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail process to **Nicole Hamilton-Wint, 3439 Fish Avenue, Apt 2C, Bronx, New York, 10469. Purpose- any lawful acts.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). The name of the LLC is: **Nate The Dog Man, LLC.** Articles of Organization were

continued on page 28



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The Influences That Formulate Our Opinion of Wine



By Nick Antonaccio

How often does this happen to you? You're at a dinner party and the host opens a bottle of wine. Everyone sips it and marvels at the aroma and flavor of such a fine wine. You sit there quietly thinking that Mother Nature must have had a bad hair day when this wine was produced.

Conversely, you're at a restaurant and a dining mate orders a bottle of wine. You sample the wine and become flush with a rush of excitement. Ah, a new experience that you will remember even when dementia creeps up on you later in life. You look around the table and everyone else is nursing their respective glass; nary a one, not even the person who ordered the wine, is asking for more.

Has this happened to you?

Are your sensory elements out of line with the rest of society? Have your senses of smell and taste been permanently affected by those massive quantities of extra spicy chicken wings you inhaled during college? Or are you the true

'What causes such a broad band of opinion when it comes to wine?'

connoisseur in the group, with a palate that can detect resplendent scents of herbs and spices grown in exotic lands?

It happens to me all the time.

As I've learned through trial and error, there are no prescribed rules to follow in judging a wine's merits. My perception of wine is just that: an individualized experience that differs from person to person, from palate to palate.

Why is this? What causes such a broad band of opinion when it comes to wine?

We don't typically find this dichotomy when we experience other gustatory pleasures in life. After all, barring any allergic reaction or intolerance, doesn't everyone enjoy pizza,

mint chocolate chip ice cream and pigs in a blanket?

There are three reasons for the distinct elements we bring to our individual interactions with wine.

1. Perception. If you read a wine critic's review of a particular wine, the tendency is to accept it as the de facto essence of the

wine. It is etched in our subconscious as an ultimate assessment. However, these notes are simply one person's palate speaking. For this reason, I disdain the concept of blind tastings. A critic brings a lifetime of personal perceptions to an individual tasting moment. Why should we arbitrarily rely on this evaluation?

2. Experience. Each palate is the repository of the four senses of taste and thousands of senses of smell. No two individuals possess the identical memory footprint of taste and smell. The best way to determine the caliber of a wine is to sample it. Over time our cerebral storage cells capture the subjective elements of wine and build an internal data bank. Each time we sample a new wine, these data elements come surging to the forefront of our palates and our sensory neurons. In this way we "remember" the citrus aromas of Sauvignon Blanc and the peppery mouthfeel of Syrah, and apply these memories to the wine at hand.

3. Genetics. Yes, some of us have more taste buds than others, some have more

sensitive olfactory senses, and some can assimilate elements of aromas and flavors better than others. It's a function of our DNA. Be it ethnic or evolutionary, some of us just have a predisposition to the finer elements of the physiological make-up of wine. If you're in this elite group, capitalize on it. Use these innate

skills to discern amongst the sea of mediocre wines in the marketplace. If you're like the rest of us, follow Theory 2 above; drink your way to an educated palate.

The most difficult question posed to me by inquiring minds is "what wine should I be drinking?" Invariably my response is "whichever wine you enjoy." Remember: "Continuous experimentation results in instinctive behavior."

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



You Heard It Through the Grapevine

P'ville Officially Unveils New Community Access TV Studio

By Martin Wilbur

The long-awaited opening of the new Pleasantville Community Television (PCTV) studio finally arrived last Wednesday, ending a nomadic operation for the past year and a half.

The studio, inside the village's old pump house at 2 Lake St., has technology upgrades that will make it one of the leading public access studios in the county.

Pleasantville Mayor Peter Scherer thanked the perseverance of the PCTV Board of Directors and the Superintendent of Public Works for Jeff Econom for completing "an amazing transformation for this building."

"To morph it not only into a leading community TV studio but also a place... that will serve the business community, the government community, the commercial world right here in Pleasantville, we're the center of so many things and it's just one more jewel," Scherer said during the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

PCTV was displaced from its longtime home on Jackson Alley in 2017 after there was a leak, which made the space unusable. For most of the time since it was forced to vacate that space, it operated out of Pleasantville High School.



ED ELLIOTT PHOTO

Station Manager Shane McGaffey talks about some of the equipment during last Wednesday's opening of the new PCTV studio in Pleasantville.

PCTV Board President Juliette Saisselin said collaboration between the school district and the village was critical to continue programming, which culminated in having officials take enough time to get the new space ready and operational.

"Thank you so much for supporting us and having use of the high school studio so we could continue to operate, and without the village we wouldn't be here," she said.

State-of-the-art equipment, including the studio's greenscreen cyclorama with virtual sets, will allow for quicker transitions from show to show, allowing more people to use and rent the studio,



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The studio's greenscreen cyclorama will allow for quicker transitions between tapings, which increases its use.

said Station Manager Shane McGaffey. It will also allow quicker tape editing, which can now be done during the filming of other shows, he said.

That will also allow more people and organizations to use the facility, bringing more diverse viewpoints and topics to the public, McGaffey said.

"I hope that the studio gets a lot of

use, I hope that we're more efficient and we accomplish the goals and I hope that the community is better and better informed," he said.

It was estimated that the village spent close to \$75,000 to transform the space into the studio. PCTV is also paying a \$1,000 monthly rent to the village for use of the space.

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filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) office on: 02/14/2019. The County in which the Office is to be located: Westchester. The SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: **415 South St, Apt 4A, Peekskill, NY 10566. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF UNDERPINNED LLC. Art. Of Org. file with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/16/19. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **118. N. Bedford Rd., Suite 100, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF QUILT-STONES, LLC. filed with SSNY on 4/25/18. Office in Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **126 Kellbourne Ave, Sleepy Hollow, NY Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF TIG & PEACH LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/2/2019. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designed as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, **545 Fowler Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIT SPORTS LOUNGE & GRILL LLC Art. of Org. filed with Sec. of State 04/11/2019. Off. loc.in Westchester CO. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process **Tracy Arce and Carlos Reyes,**

234 North Ave New Rochelle, NY 10801. PURPOSE: Any lawful business.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Putnam Valley has received a wetlands application from the following applicant: **WT 08/19 Andrew Brown 21 Cove Road TM# 41.9-1-23**

PUBLIC NOTICE: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Village Treasurer of the Village of Pleasantville has received the Tax Roll and Warrant for the collection of taxes for the fiscal year 2019-2020. Payments will be accepted in the Finance Department on the Third Floor of Village Hall, 80 Wheeler Avenue, in said Village from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays as follows: Taxes and other assessments, if any, become due and payable June 1, 2019, but may be paid in two installments without penalty. The first installment may be paid without penalty from June 1, 2019 to and including July 1, 2019. The second installment may be paid without penalty from June 1, 2019 to and including December 31, 2019. To all first installment taxes remaining unpaid after July 1, 2019, five percent (5%) will be added for the month of July, and an additional one percent (1%) for each month or fraction thereof until paid. To all second installment taxes remaining unpaid after December 31, 2019, five percent (5%) will be added for the month of January, and an additional one percent (1%) for each month or fraction thereof until paid. On or before February 1, 2020 a delinquent list will be published.

SPRINT has modified wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing building located at 951 Main Street, Peekskill, NY 10566. The modification consisted of the collocation of antennas at a top height of approximately 86 feet above ground level on the building. Any inter-

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ested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6119001816-MI c/o EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or via telephone at (443) 866-1410.

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P'ville Fire Department Parade to Celebrate 125 Years of Service May 31

This year's Pleasantville Fire Department parade will be held Friday, May 31 at 7 p.m. It will be a special event, marking the department's 125th year of service to the Pleasantville community.

There will be 20 other neighboring fire departments to join the celebration of this occasion. The parade's grand marshal will be former chief Asterio Scopino.

Few people have shown the dedication and commitment to our department than Scopino. He just finished a six-year term on the chief's staff, starting as second assistant chief, then moving up to first assistant chief and culminating as chief of the department. He has now opted to join the chief's staff again for another term.

Scopino joined the department in 2004. Prior to being elected to the chief's staff, he served as both lieutenant and captain of Pioneer Engine Company #1. He is also a qualified driver on all of the department's apparatus and annually leads the department in most alarms, responding to more than 350 last year.

Asterio, who moved to Pleasantville in 2000, is a systems operator for Metro-North. He has been married for 19 years to Annemarie and is the father of three great kids – Luke, 17, a Pleasantville Fire Department Junior Corps member, Brian, 15, and Paul, 14. He enjoys attending his kids' sporting events, working on the house and watching all forms of auto racing.

He said that joining the department, serving 15 years and fulfilling all the positions of responsibility, it has been one of the most satisfying experiences for Scopino.



This year's Pleasantville Fire Department parade, scheduled for Friday, May 31, will celebrate 125 years of service to the village.

Camaraderie has also been important for him, both with fellow department members as well as police, ambulance and other mutual aid departments. Scopino defines this as "knowing the people I can rely on before I need to rely on them."

The main reason people join is neighbors helping one another, Scopino said. Joining the department has introduced him to countless people that he would have not otherwise met. Most have become close friends.

While serving for 15 years has passed in a blink of an eye, Scopino said he intends to continue volunteering as long as his mind, body and family let him.

The department thanks Chief Scopino for his valuable service to the community and to the department. The department is also eternally grateful to his wife, Annemarie, and sons for supporting him in his service. The Pleasantville Fire Department cannot do what it does without the support of the members' families.

Annual Inspection

On Saturday, May 11, the department held its annual inspection. All of the rigs looked great. The event was attended by County Executive George Latimer, Assemblyman Tom Abinanti, County Legislator Margaret Cunzio and Mayor Peter Sherer.

In addition, various chiefs and commissioners from neighboring departments attended and reviewed the rigs and the members. Cunzio awarded member volunteers who were also veterans with medals commemorating their dual service. This was based on county legislation that she authored.

The inspection is a competition and the rigs are judged by a team that looks at cleanliness, condition of equipment and upkeep. Hayes Hose Engine 90 won the inspection for the second straight year.

Memorial Day Parade

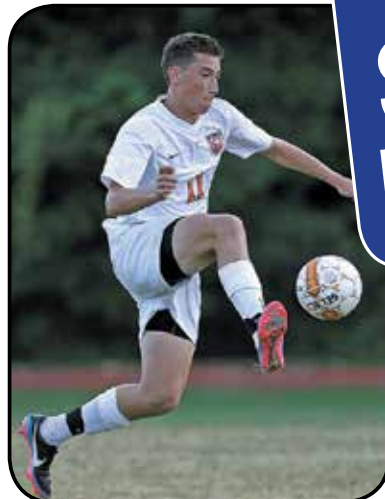
On Monday, May 27, the department will participate in Pleasantville's annual Memorial Day Parade. The parade starts at Bedford Road School and proceeds to Memorial Plaza where a ceremony follows to honor servicemen who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Anyone interested in joining the Pleasantville Fire Department can stop by headquarters at 75 Washington Ave. almost any Monday night when there are drills and meetings and equipment maintenance. If you see us in there, come on in, we will make time to talk to you. You can also call 914-769-2336. (It will be a recording, but someone will get back to you.) We always need a few good neighbors in our department.



Asterio Scopino, the Pleasantville Fire Department's former chief, is celebrating 15 years with the department this year. Last year, he led the department in calls, responding to more than 350.

For more information, visit www.pleasantvillefire.org.



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Photos are \$25 each.

Happenings

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County and centrally located in our beautiful, historic walking village. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" five years in a row from 2014 to 2018. With over 50 vendors and seven nearby parking lots. This week, a Market Sprouts Program kickoff event with Marco the Magician at 9:30 and 11 a.m. along with the music series with the Sleepy Hollow String Band from 10 a.m. to noon. 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. Locally-raised and produced food to the community creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers in the region. Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through November. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.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.

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.

Calligraphy Workshop. An exhibit of Japanese calligraphy by Yoshiko Katsumi, master calligrapher, and her students. There will also be Ikebana arrangements on display. Members of the public will learn to do their own calligraphy. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.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.

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. 1 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also May 26 and June 30 at 2 p.m. and May 27 and June 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 23 and 29 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Drop in for Tech Help. Receive help with any of your technology devices. PC, Google and Microsoft savvy volunteers will help with troubleshooting, downloading, Overdrive, Freegal, Hoopla or any other online service. First-come, first-served. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Every Saturday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Tuesday from 3 to 4 p.m. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscoliberalry.org.

"Sweeney Todd." The Actors' Studio Theater presents a production by Stephen Sondheim. Directed by Debbie Feinstein with musical direction by Bruce Sacks. The Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., Croton Falls. 1 and 7 p.m. Adults: \$17. Seniors and students: \$10. Also May 26. Info: 914-924-7669. Tickets: Visit sweeneytodd.brownpapertickets.com. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

"Wood Thrush: Voice of the Forest." Join educator, photographer and researcher Elijah Goodwin for a fascinating discussion. Goodwin has been studying wood thrush for year. Wood thrush are known for their hauntingly beautiful song. You will hear its loud flute-clear song in the woods in summer – including at Rockefeller State Park Preserve, where they nest. However, their nesting success is extremely low and their population is in decline. Goodwin has been studying the wood thrush in Rockefeller Preserve for years. He will present his findings and the serious implications behind them. In addition to his scientific experience, which ranges from banding hawks and owls during migration to New Jersey to studying bird song learning on the East Coast and Mexico, he's a photographer whose images have appeared in National Geographic News and other publications. Rockefeller State Park Preserve Gallery, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info: 914-631-1470. Registration: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wood-thrush-voice-of-the-forest-tickets-59297740137>.

Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Joe Matarese. Matarese, from "America's Got Talent," makes his return. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$25. Info and advance tickets: Visit www.lucyslaugh.com.

Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

Sunday, May 26

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. 11 a.m. Also June 1, 8, 15, 23 and 29 at 2 p.m. and June 30 at 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-763-2373 or visit www.nywolf.org.

For Shear Pleasure. At the end of a long winter, help us celebrate the arrival of spring. Bring the whole family down to the barnyard and have a wonderful, wooly time. Share the experience from sheep to sweater. Touch the wool and have a go at carding, hand spinning and a "wooly" craft. Enjoy a short story then hang around to help feed other barnyard animals. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Ballroom Dancing and Dinner. Dancing followed by a complete dinner. All proceeds to go to the scholarship fund at Fox Lane High School and New York Boys' State. Moses Taylor American Legion Post 136, 1 Legion Way, Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$18 per person. Fourth Sunday of every month. Info: 914-241-0136 or contact Commander John A. Graziano at 914-248-7134.

Tuesday, May 28

Learn About the Dentist. Young children learn about visiting the dentist with dental hygienist Joanne Roos. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. to noon. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

"Charade." By the 1960s, the era of the big Hollywood musical was all but over, and Donen teamed up with Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn for this sparkling romantic thriller. It's hard to imagine a more successful example of the genre. Filled with humor and snappy dialogue, it's a Hitchcockian story of a trio of crooks

(James Coburn, George Kennedy and Ned Glass) relentlessly pursuing the elegant young Hepburn (in gorgeous Givenchy) through Paris to recover the fortune her husband stole from them before he was murdered. And then Grant, a charismatic man of mystery who keeps changing his name, steps in to save the day. Pure movie fun. Followed by a reception in the Jane Peck Gallery after the evening screening featuring wines courtesy of Costello Banfi, Montalcino Tuscany. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Learn to Create: 3D Modeling and 3D Printing Class. This program will be led by Byram Hills High School seniors Spencer Cohen and Tyler Kaminer. A laptop is recommended. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Free. For students in grades 6-8. Also, May 29, 30 and 31. Space limited; registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887.

Wednesday, May 29

Senior B.E.A.T. (Be Educated About Transportation). Seniors learn how to safely and successfully use the Bee-Line Bus System to promote greater travel independence. Join Program Specialist Mary Ellen Burns to learn about the reduced fare MetroCard; key bus safety and "how to ride" skills; accessibility features available on a Bee-Line bus; how to plan a trip and much more. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Mary Ellen Burns at 914-813-7741.

DIY Giant Paper Bag Stars. Create and decorate with paint or glitter a giant paper star to hang in your bedroom or on your wall. For children eight years old and up. 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.

Art Series: The Frick, Part I. We will visit one of New York's gems, the Frick Collection, in two classes this spring. The Frick houses a permanent collection of masterpieces spanning centuries while also hosting breathtaking rotating exhibitions. In addition to talking about the history behind the collection, explore a few pieces from the permanent collection. Then enjoy a more in-depth look at the artists featured in the visiting exhibitions: the portraiture of Renaissance artist Giovanni Moroni, the murals of Tiepolo and faience from France. 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.

P'ville Farmers Market Reopens Saturday to Begin Summer Season

This Saturday, May 25 the Pleasantville Farmers Market, the region's largest year-round farmers market, kicks off its 22nd outdoor summer season at Memorial Plaza.

Sustaining a thriving farmers market that has consistently satisfied customers and served the local community for over two decades is a big challenge. But the market's success can be measured in several ways, in addition to the happy smiles on shopper's faces. It has been recognized as Westchester's best farmers market by Westchester Magazine for five consecutive years, attracting an average of more than 3,000 visitors every Saturday.

"We owe a lot of our success to partners who share a vision for collaboration and community-building," said Peter Rogovin, president and chairman of Foodchester, Inc., the nonprofit group of local residents who operate the market.

The village, school district and Foodchester work closely to ensure that the tenets of a three-part mission are met: to promote a culture of community and pride in the village; to support Pleasantville's economic development; and to encourage a healthy community by providing access to producers of wholesome, regionally grown and produced food.

Foodchester also partners with local organizations. For example, the market enables the Pleasantville Community Garden to collect excess produce at the end of each market day to donate to Hillside Food Pantry. This food is added to what the garden grows or collects from other sources.

Since 2014, the market has been able to contribute more than 64,000 pounds of produce and fruit to help ease food insecurity in Westchester, said garden founder Devin Juros.

Other community activities the market provides or supports include allocating space in the market for local nonprofit organizations; offering over 15 high school internships; donating funds to local organizations that address hunger in the community; and providing a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating high school student from Pleasantville, based on community service in areas of environmental stewardship, education and leadership.

The market's sponsors also support programs valued by the community such as Phelps Hospital Northwell Health (health and sustainability and culinary events); Kiwi Country Day Camp (Market Sprouts kids events); Armonk, Pleasantville and Scarsdale Prep (music series performances); and the Pleasantville Lions Club (40 percent Bonus Bucks program for customers using Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps).

In addition to bringing visitors to Pleasantville, the market provides visibility to many local and chamber businesses through its Business Supporters program. Participating businesses are acknowledged for their support of the market on the market kiosk, its website, in social media efforts and ads and through a new event being developed for the fall. Shoppers are encouraged to seek out these businesses and support them as well.

One of the most important partnerships the market has is with over 50 talented farmers and food artisans who are dedicated to providing shoppers a beautiful, delicious harvest year-round from a sustainable food system. Foodchester inspects all vendor farms and kitchens, so shoppers may be confident in the integrity of what they

purchase. Furthermore, the market's vendors provide the core of a community hub for local residents and those visiting from neighboring communities.

The quality of vendors has inspired a large group of dedicated shoppers and volunteers who've helped sustain the market since its inception in 1998.

This spring, when the Pleasantville Carry Out Bag Ordinance went into effect, encouraging the use of reusable bags and setting fees on the use of new single-use bags, shoppers adapted smoothly. They began donating clean reusable bags to a bag exchange to make them available to any shopper who needed them.

The Pleasantville Farmers Market regularly collects customer feedback in hopes of improving. The village, in partnership with Foodchester, recently added two handicapped parking spots adjacent to the market's main entrance. For years the market has publicized and provided signage to highlight the eight parking lots within a five-minute walk of the market, plus street parking, adding up to over 400 spots in all.

This year, in response to requests for better coordination in the main parking lot, village crossing guards will assist arriving and departing shoppers. Maps showing the location of all eight parking lots will be available from dispensers on the market



An average of about 3,000 patrons descend on Memorial Plaza every Saturday from spring to fall for the Pleasantville Farmers Market, considered Westchester's best market for the last five years.

kiosk and at the Managers Tent.

This year, the market will feature some of the best and most varied musical talent from around the region, including acoustic rock, bluegrass, Brazilian jazz, reggae, Dixieland jazz and more.

Engaging health and sustainability and culinary programs continue to be sponsored by Phelps Hospital Northwell Health. Shoppers can look forward to a series of "Let's Talk" events coordinated by Marina Stopler, a Foodchester board member. There will also be a number of creative chef demonstrations highlighting seasonal cooking.

"The programs are important," said Mark Ipri, Foodchester's vice chair, "because in addition to seeking great product variety, shoppers appreciate the market's entertaining, positive vibe."

To subscribe to market news, view events or vendor lists or get directions, visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Educational Website Launched Tracing Slavery in the North

Historic Hudson Valley recently announced the launch of a new, groundbreaking interactive documentary website revealing the history of slavery in the colonial North.

"People Not Property: Stories of Slavery in the Colonial North" is a mix of original videos, interviews, reenactments and infographics, as well as photos, illustrations and hundreds of artifacts and documents that tell the wrenching stories of America's history of slavery in the northern colonies, from the Middle Passage to life in the American colonies.

'People Not Property' is an unparalleled resource and useful for educators, students and the public. The website covers topics such as how slavery was established in the north; how individuals resisted slavery; how abolition did not translate into freedom; and the lasting impacts of slavery in today's America.

"Historic Hudson Valley has been researching and sharing the story of northern slavery at our site, Philipsburg Manor, for more than two decades," said

Waddell W. Stillman, president of Historic Hudson Valley. "People Not Property extends this narrative across the colonial North, and shines a light on the lives of individuals enslaved people throughout the mid-Atlantic States."

The interactive website includes interviews and contributions from African-American scholars; civil rights advocates; historians; Historic Hudson Valley staff; interpreters; and performers who share stories that had been assumed lost and illuminate long buried history. Stories in the interactive documentary include those of Caesar, the enslaved miller of Philipsburg Manor whose unpaid labor made the Philipse family wealthy; Cuffee, one of the alleged ringleaders of the conspiracy and rebellion of 1741, in which enslaved Africans and working-class whites worked together to burn New York City in an insurrection; and Joan Jackson, who over a lifetime spent both enslaved and free in Connecticut, fought alongside her husband to secure the freedom of her



Historic Hudson Valley has created a new educational website to address slavery in the north. The site can be found at www.peoplenotproperty.hudsonvalley.org.

eight surviving children.

With financial backing from the National Endowment for the Humanities and support from Historic Hudson Valley's African American Advisory Board, the project connects Historic Hudson Valley's historic properties including Philipsburg Manor and Van Cortlandt Manor, along with other historic sites in the north, to the national story of slavery.

"Despite the fact that slavery was

crucial to the economic development of the American colonies, the history of enslaved people in the northern colonies has long been neglected," said Dr. Elizabeth Bradley, vice president of programs and engagement at Historic Hudson Valley. "Historic Hudson Valley is proud to share these stories of family and separation, work and community, negotiation, resistance and perseverance with a digital audience."

Historic Hudson Valley worked closely with C&G Partners, a leading multispecialty design studio in New York, to bring the ambitious project to life. The firm provided design, development and media production on all aspects of the website and filmed and produced the site's short-form films depicting the lives of enslaved individuals. The site is accessible to the public for free at www.peoplenotproperty.hudsonvalley.org.

Visitors to Philipsburg Manor can also experience the website on site via a discovery station in the visitor's center.

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