July 23 - July 29, 2019SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWSVolume 13, Issue 620

Pleasantville Readies Food-Scrap Recycling Initiative for Fall

By Ed Perratore

Pleasantville will soon be the latest local municipality to launch a recycling program for compostable food scraps.

"One of the things that's very exciting about it – from my perspective, as someone who composts at home – is that you can compost many more things when you're participating in a municipal program," said Trustee Nicole Asquith. "This includes not only fruit and vegetable scraps but also meat, dairy, basically any kind of leftover food."

To take part in the voluntary program, expected to launch this October, residents collect food scraps and other kitchen refuse in compostable or paper bags, which they can tote to the drop-off location on Village Road, off Marble Avenue, at the site of Zwilling J.

A. Henckels' U.S. headquarters on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The village last year collected roughly 2,275 tons of trash. Jeffrey Econom, Pleasantville's superintendent of public works, estimates that 10 to 15 percent of this could be food scraps. If every residential household participated in the program, as much as 341 tons of trash could be kept out of landfills annually, he said.

As with other municipalities, Pleasantville's initiative is modeled after one the Village of Scarsdale began in January 2017 after much research. Scarsdale had signed up 600 households, roughly 10 percent of the village's population, less than five months after launch.

The Town of New Castle started its continued on page 2



Special Opening

Quentin Tarantino's latest film, "Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood," starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Brad Pitt, opens this Friday, July 26 at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. The Burns is one of just 60 theaters nationwide asked by Sony Pictures Entertainment to run one of the limited numbers of 35-mm prints they are striking for the film's release. Advance tickets for the film, which will be screened in both digital and 35-mm through Aug. 1, can be purchased by visiting www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

County Releases Sales Tax Projections for Municipalities, School Districts

By Martin Wilbur

Local towns and school districts are expected to reap tens to hundreds of thousands in additional revenue for the remainder of 2019 and even more next year because of the upcoming Westchester sales tax increase.

Last week, the county released the projected revenues municipalities and districts are expected to receive when the sales tax rises from 7 3/8 percent to 8 3/8 percent on Aug. 1. As part of the arrangement, County Executive George Latimer had said that 20 percent of the additional revenue from the sales tax will be sent to the county's municipalities while 10 percent would go to the school districts.

The cities of Yonkers, White Plains, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle and their school districts will not share in the extra because those communities already have had an $8\,3/8$ percent sales tax in effect.

The formula that the county is using to divvy up the money is based on population within the municipalities and districts. Close to \$70 million in additional revenue is expected to be raised for the remaining five months this year and more than twice that in 2020

Locally, the big winner is the Town of Mount Pleasant, which is projected to receive an additional \$645,567 for the remainder of 2019 and \$1.4 million next year. Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said the extra revenue will have a crucial impact on the town's budget.

"Whenever you get additional revenue, that's a significant impact on your budget," Fulgenzi said. "I need more police officers, maybe that will offset some of that cost because we need additional officers."

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With an Apparent Uptick in ICE Activity, Fear Increases for Immigrants

By Martin Wilbur

Local advocates for immigrants in Westchester County may not yet have a firm handle on the level of additional activity by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in communities with large immigrant populations.

But what has increased in recent days and weeks is a noticeable escalation in fear.

Since the announcement that ICE personnel would be stepping up activities in and around 10 metropolitan areas, including New York, on July 14, immigrant communities throughout Westchester have been on high alert.

Vanessa Agudelo, the New York Immigration Center's manager of member engagement for the Hudson Valley and a Peekskill councilwoman, said there has been "a certain level of hysteria" that has seeped into those neighborhoods.

"Under the climate that we're in, it's hard. People are almost in paralysis, they're so scared," Agudelo said. "Not everyone, but a lot of people are scared about what might happen. They're scared to take their kids to school, they're scared to go to work."

Carola Bracco, executive director of the Mount Kisco-based Neighbors Link, said there have been ongoing efforts by their representatives and legal counsel in recent months to educate community members on their rights. For example, Neighbors Link and their affiliated organizations have held forums on what people should do if they come into contact with ICE agents, Bracco said.

Despite an uptick in ICE activity, as of last Thursday that education has significantly reduced the number of people who have

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Pleasantville Readies Food-Scrap County Releases Sales Tax Projections Recycling Initiative for Fall ——— for Municipalities, School Districts —

continued from page 1

program on May 29, and Mount Kisco is undergoing similar trials to gauge residents' interest.

Pleasantville has spent \$5,685 on the first 300 food-scrap recycling starter kits, which are available for sale to residents interested in participating. For \$20, payable by check only, the kit includes a countertop pail, which takes a compostable liner and stays in the kitchen, and a storage and transport bin that residents empty at the drop-off site. The DPW will sell compostable bags for \$2 for each roll of 25.

While the kits and liners add to the convenience, residents are not required to use them. Either way, the village isn't benefiting financially, said Kim Hunter, one of many volunteers with PleasantvilleRecycles, who expects the village to roughly break

Acceptable food scraps include fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, dairy, rice, pasta and cooked food. Napkins, paper towels, wax paper and cut flowers can also be recycled through this program.

What cannot be deposited in the drop-off bins is plastic of any kind, including bags, packaging and wrappers. Baby and hand wipes and pet waste are also prohibited.

"If it's not compostable, it's not allowed," Hunter said.

PleasantvilleRecycles will be helping to spread the word about the food-scrap



ED PERRATORE PHOTO

The U.S. headquarters of Zwilling J. A. Henckels, which has agreed to host the drop-off site for food-scrap recycling once the program launches this fall. Residents will drive down Village Lane behind the building to drop off what they collect.

recycling program in the coming months at the Saturday farmers market on Memorial Plaza and at other sites. In the meantime, the village will tend to other details, such as comparing bids from interested haulers.

Hunter said that more information will be added on the PleasantvilleRecycles website, www.pleasantvillerecycles.org. For further information or if any resident has questions or would like to volunteer, e-mail the committee at info@pleasantvillerecycles.

continued from page 1

Currently, the Mount Pleasant police force has 44 officers but 48 officers is considered full staffing, he said.

The town also recently received state approval for the 3 percent hotel occupancy tax, which should also add a more modest sum to Mount Pleasant's coffers.

New Castle is projected to take in additional revenue of \$433,296 for 2019 and \$939,679 in 2020 while the Town of North Castle is slated to receive \$292,029 this year and \$633,316 next year.

The Village of Pleasantville is estimated to receive \$173,103 more in sales tax revenue by the end of this year and \$375,412 in 2020while Mount Kisco could get \$268,255 by year's end and \$582,757 next year.

Around the county, Yorktown and Greenburgh are the two municipalities that will receive the most from the higher sales tax. Yorktown anticipates \$889,849

and \$1,929,749 this year and next while Greenburgh will receive more than \$1,057,000 and nearly \$2.3 million, in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Area school districts will also see their share of additional projected revenue. Mount Pleasant is expected to receive \$159,752 for the remainder of this calendar year and \$346,449 next year while the Chappaqua Central School District stands to pick up \$198,854 in 2019 and \$431,250 in 2020 if projections are accurate.

The Byram Hills School District could collect \$140,638 more in 2019 and nearly \$305,000 in 2020.

Projections for the Bedford School District is about \$118,000 more for this year and \$257,156 additional for next year.

Meanwhile, the Pleasantville School District would receive an extra \$99,908 in 2019 followed by more than \$216,000 next year.





The Pap Test

What every woman must know about this test and possible results...

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Elisa Burns, MD Medical Director, **Director of Quality and Outcomes** Institute for Robotic and Minimally Invasive Surgery Northern Westchester Hospital

Learn more about Dr. Burns, visit nwhroboticsurgery.org/ **DrBurns**



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Q: What does the Pap test show?

A: The Pap test (or Pap smear) screens for precancerous cellular abnormalities in a woman's cervix. If abnormalities are found, you can be monitored or treated so you don't develop cervical cancer. A Pap test involves scraping cells from your cervix to examine for pre-cancerous changes in tissue. Depending on your age, history and previous Pap test results, the cells might also be tested for high-risk types of the human papillomavirus (HPV), the most common cause of cervical cancer. Ninety-nine percent of cases of cervical cancer are caused by the human papillomavirus, which is generally sexually transmitted.

Q: If my Pap results are abnormal, what are the next steps?

A: If your cervical cells appear abnormal and/or you are positive for high-risk HPV, you may undergo a colposcopy, an examination of the cervix under magnification, to find areas most likely to have abnormal cells. If these are found, a biopsy is used to make a definitive diagnosis.

Among women aged 20 to 30 years, cervical cell abnormalities often go away by themselves, so we typically monitor rather than treat these women,

as cervical cancer develops slowly. However, when an older woman receives a positive biopsy report, we more often treat because abnormalities don't always go away on their own. We usually surgically remove the abnormal area.

Q: How effective is the Pap test?

A: Very. Routine Pap tests have decreased the rate of cervical cancer in the U.S. by 80 percent. Women who get screened for cervical cancer have an extremely low rate of this cancer.

Q: At what age should I start and stop having Pap tests?

A: Start at 21. Women under 21 have a very low incidence of the type of high-grade abnormalities that will progress to cervical cancer. Screening after age 65 isn't needed if you have a recent history of normal Pap results. If your Pap test and HPV test are negative, you should repeat both tests in three years.

Did you know?

Routine Pap tests have decreased the rate of cervical cancer in the U.S. by 80 percent.

Decibel Limits, Exemptions Part of Revised New Castle Leaf Blower Law

By Martin Wilbur

New Castle unveiled the latest round of revisions to the town's proposed leaf blower legislation last week as officials hope to craft a law that will satisfy environmentally-minded residents and the needs of commercial landscapers.

Town resident Rand Manasse made a brief presentation last Tuesday during the most recent public hearing on the issue, highlighting several key changes, including the placement of decibel limits on the machinery and hours of operation. Also, all properties of at least 10 acres would be exempted from the restriction.

In the latest iteration of the measure, leaf blowers could not be used if louder than 70 decibels regardless of whether they are gas-powered, electric or battery operated. The decibel level would be measured from a distance of 50 feet.

"The noise restriction is coming about because by regulating noise levels for leaf blowers we're encouraging a shift toward more environmentally-friendly machines and create year-round solutions," Manasse

Hours of operation would allow leaf blowers to be used from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturdays and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays and holidays.

Establishment of an exemption would simplify the process of determining which properties to exclude from the legislation, Manasse said. Previously, certain recreational facilities such as playing fields, tennis courts and country clubs were exempt because it was thought that the outcome of competitions could be compromised.

The exemption would include all of Chappaqua's public schools except for Robert E. Bell Middle School, Manasse said

Also part of the latest edition of the measure is a green landscaper certification program to make property owners aware of which landscapers adhere to environmentally sustainable practices and public education sessions in English and Spanish to inform residents and landscapers of what a new law includes between town approval and implementation.

When the original legislation was introduced last fall, it proposed banning gas-powered leaf blowers by May 2021 and prohibiting the use of any blower from mid-May through September. Only electric or battery-powered leaf blowers would have been allowed.

The rationale behind the law was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit noise pollution.

However, since then, there has been strong pushback from professional landscapers who have argued that they need the stronger gas-powered to do their jobs. The development of quieter gas blowers or effective electric or battery-powered units have improved some but is

still evolving, according to the landscapers.

Vinny Disisto, owner of Ossining Lawn Mower, said achieving the 70-decibel level right now would be difficult since there is currently only one model of gas blower that is as low as 72 decibels. Others are in the 75-decibel range.

Meanwhile, landscapers said that electric blowers would require extended charging periods throughout the day and many battery-operated leaf blowers give off an annoying sound.

"You can feel the difference. They're very whiney, very loud, "Disisto said.

"The power of blowing is a lot smaller. The new (gas) blowers have a lot more blowing power so you can get off the job quick, so you're off the property or you're done with your work."

One resident objected to the exemption, saying that on his small property he would no longer be able to use his gas blower but owners of large properties, which runs counter to the purpose

Councilwoman Lisa Katz said multiple changes have been made to the legislation based on public comments but the board has not discussed the merits of the changes. She urged the board to vote hold a work session in hopes of coming up with a final proposal that addresses some of the key issues, including the exemption.

"The board itself has not sat down and talked about the 10-acre (exemption)," Katz said. "We did not sit down and talk about any of this. It just came into the

legislation."

Board members agreed to hold a work session on the issue next Tuesday, July 30 before their regularly scheduled meeting.

Supervisor Robert Greenstein said there is disagreement on the board regarding the exemption and officials may also have to discuss elevating the permissible decibel level until the technology improves.

"At some point the Town Board needs to make a decision," Greenstein said. "We've heard everybody's comments. We've had a number of revisions and they're based on feedback. Not everyone likes the revisions but we have been listening."





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With an Apparent Uptick in ICE Activity, Fear Increases for Immigrants

continued from page 1 been picked up, she said.

"We do know that ICE has been in our communities the past few days, as they've been the last few years," Bracco said. "We have seen an increase in ICE activity but we have seen community members wellinformed of their rights and have not seen many arrests."

E-mails and messages from The Examiner left for the Department of Homeland Security, which oversees ICE, were not answered in hopes of gauging activity levels in Westchester.

Agudelo said some of the education efforts have been paying off for immigrants. She said that ICE agents in some cases have been presenting administrative warrants,

which are not enforceable. In order to detain an individual, a warrant must be ordered by a court and signed by a judge, she said.

"I think it's natural out of fear that your mother or your father or brother are going to be detained because you happen to live in the area where people are learning there is ICE activity," Agudelo said. "I mean there are a lot of alarms and we're trying our hardest as advocates and as local officials to calm that hysteria that is building in our community members."

Bracco said there are many negative effects that tense periods have on families. Not only may parents fear going out or going to work, but they're likely to cut corners on the health and well-being of themselves and their families.

Complicating the situation for many families is that there is varied status among members of a household, she said. In a family unit, you could have a parent who is naturalized while the other is undocumented. One of their children could be a citizen if he

or she was born in the United States while another could be a DACA recipient.

"Even though most members of a family are U.S. citizens or are here with status, the whole family is fearful for the one person who might be undocumented and that keeps the whole family on edge," Bracco said.

Agudelo said that conditions in Central America, some of which have been made worse by this country's policies, have helped drive people desperate to flee violence and poverty. She said that some path toward citizenship ought to be considered to deter demonizing the immigrant community.

"These are people who live in our neighborhoods, their kids go to school with our kids, they're working in the downtown area or they are working in one of our markets or they work in a copy center," Agudelo said. "These are people who live among family members with mixed status and that we shouldn't be criminalizing or vilifying them and it's sad we've gotten to this point."

Summer Blood Drive to Be Held in Pleasantville on July 31

The Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department and the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps will be hosting a summer blood drive at the Pleasantville Fire House, located at 75 Washington Ave., on Wednesday, July 31 from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. Since it is difficult to organize community drives during the summer, blood donors from all towns are welcome to lend their help.

During the summer, it is more difficult to maintain an adequate supply of blood products. Schools and corporations have less drives and people are away from home more than usual. If the need for blood were to spike, lives could be lost if supplies are not on the shelf and blood needs to be shipped in from other areas.

To thank donors for helping, the NY Blood Center is offering anyone who comes a summer t-shirt. Student donors 16 to 19 years old will also be given a \$15 gift card to Dunkin' Donuts.

For questions regarding eligibility (travel, medications, last donation, etc.), call 800-688-0900. To sign up in advance, visit www.nvbloodcenter. org/donate-blood or call 800-933-2566. Although it is helpful to let the organizers know in advance that you plan to donate, walk-ins are always accepted.



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Friends, Neighbors Honor Memory of Lifelong Mt. Kisco Resident

By Martin Wilbur

For the people who knew William Stewart best, last Thursday's ceremony was a fitting tribute to a life well lived.

His friends and neighbors at Woodcrest Condominiums in Mount Kisco, where Stewart and his wife Joan moved into more than a decade ago, realize the void in their lives once Stewart passed away in April at 86 years old.

Last Thursday evening, the complex and its residents dedicated its flag and flagpole to Stewart. As a Korean War veteran, a nearly seven-decade member of the Mount Kisco Independent Fire Company and one-time department chief who had a nearly equally long tenure with the department's Ancient Fife and Drum Corps, the man they called Bill was a patriotic American, dedicated to the village and to the Woodcrest community.

"He was truly one of the most unique people I have ever known," said Woodcrest resident and friend Bill Manning. "He was kind, he was polite, quiet, completely dedicated. It is fitting that the (condominium) board dedicated the flag in Bill's honor. He loved our country and its symbol, the flag."

Every day, Stewart, along with fellow Woodcrest resident and high school classmate Cece Yazzo, would raise the flag at daybreak and lower it at dusk. Until the complex was able to install lights near the base of the flagpole last December –protocol requires that the flag is illuminated at night or it must be taken down– that would be his

routine every day, Yazzo said.

Whenever he would drive past the flagpole, he would get out of his car and salute the flag.

"He was an all-American man," Yazzo said. "He was very proud of everything and meticulous in everything he did. He really was a good man."

Shortly after his death, Board President Marilyn Hardy said residents stepped forward at a condo board meeting and wanted to find an appropriate way to honor Stewart. Hardy said if another resident in the agerestricted community needed help, Stewart would reach out to them.

The dedication and ceremony, which was moved indoors to the condominium's clubhouse because of a persistent

"If something was wrong with a unit, Bill was there. If somebody needed a ride, Bill was there," Hardy said.

Bert Scappaticci, who as a teacher knew Stewart because he had his children as students, said he misses his friend and neighbor. He had visited him in the hospital earlier this year and was encouraged that Stewart was looking forward to coming home and resuming his routine at Woodcrest.

When the Stewarts moved in, he and Scappaticci became good friends. Stewart was the first to volunteer for anything around the complex.

"In a way, he and I spoke the same language, which is interesting in itself because as we all know, Bill was not known for being a big talker – unless, of course, you



The Ancient Fife and Drum Corps played at last week's ceremony honoring William Stewart, a 68-year member of the group. It was one of many community activities where Stewart participated.

pushed the right button, which was anything about the fire department or things going on in the village, especially about the history of Mount Kisco or even about Woodcrest," Scappaticci said.

Stewart retired as president of Thomas Fox and Son Caterers. In addition to his service with the fire department and the Fife and Drum Corps, he was a member of the Mount Kisco Rotary Club, being named Citizen of the Year for 1993; was a member of Mount Kisco Historical Society; and was a lifelong parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church.

He and his wife had five children and nine grandchildren. Stewart is also survived by his sister-in-law, Pat Reilly, a former Mount Kisco mayor.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

A photo of William Stewart was displayed at the Woodcrest Condominium clubhouse last Thursday during a special ceremony to dedicate the community's flag in his honor. Stewart died in April at 86 years old.

His widow, Joan, remarked about how much they enjoyed living at Woodcrest and how pleased her husband would be.

"In the end, I wanted you to know that Bill is smiling down upon us," she said.

Mount Kisco Deputy Mayor Jean Farber said in the fall the village will formally honor Stewart for his service to the community.

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No. Castle Accepts Only One Bid for Wampus Park Footbridges

By Martin Wilbur

The North Castle Town Board recently approved the bid to replace the Wampus Brook Park South Bridge but will consider rebidding the park's new smaller north bridge because costs significantly exceeded estimates.

At its July 10 meeting, the board agreed to the bid from ELQ Industries, Inc. of New Rochelle for \$220,214, the lowest bid among the four companies who submitted proposals for the south bridge replacement. The bids

were separated by about a 4 percent price differential, according to a July 2 letter from the town's engineer, Joseph Cermele.

Last fall when officials discussed the possibility of moving forward with replacement of the two footbridges, they cited deterioration of the two spans as the chief reason behind their decision. The current bridges are made of wood and are falling into disrepair.

Both bridges, which are anchored in wetlands, carry pedestrians walking into the park over a watercourse that eventually

flows into the Long Island Sound, town officials said last September.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the new south bridge will look the same as the current bridge but with higher-quality materials. He compared the situation to the replacement of the park's gazebo where newer materials were used but the structure appears the same.

Interim Town Administrator Patricia Dwyer said the town had estimated that the cost for the park's north bridge to be about \$30,000. However, the lowest of the four



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The Wampus Brook Park South Bridge, pictured above, will be replaced later this year but the North Castle Town Board decided against moving forward with the park's north bridge because bids were more than three times the projected

bids - \$95,600 from Con-Tech Construction Technology, Inc. of Carmel – was more than three times what the town had hoped to spend.

At its last meeting, the board decided against accepting the bid and will have to weigh its alternatives, including whether to go out to bid again.

Dwyer said it is anticipated that the new south bridge will be installed sometime this

The Armonk Lions Club had donated one of the bridges to the town many years ago.

Chap Crossing Electric Shuttle Bus Service Expected to Start Soon

Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein said residents and commuters traveling between downtown Chappaqua and Chappaqua Crossing will soon see the town's new electric bus in service.

Greenstein said he is hopeful that the vehicle, which the town acquired through a \$100,000 Clean Energy Community grant from the New York State Research & Development Agency (NYSERDA) and a \$90,000 rebate from the agency, will be up and running by Aug. 1 or shortly afterward.

A charging station has been installed at Chappaqua Crossing to power the bus, he

Under an agreement with the town, Chappaqua Crossing developer Summit/ Greenfield was obligated to operate free shuttle service for at least two years between the campus and the Chappaqua Metro-North train station during the morning and evening peak rush hours. It is also slated to have an hourly run spanning lunchtime.

However, officials wanted to use the electric shuttle because it is cleaner for the environment.

The shuttle will operate Monday through Friday and on Saturday morning. Greenstein said Summit/Greenfield is

contributing \$30,000 toward the operation of the bus.

To get the complete schedule for the shuttle, visit https://mynewcastle.org/ shuttle-schedule-revised-may-9-2019.

— Martin Wilbur



The new electric shuttle bus between Chappaqua Crossing and the Metro-North station could be operating as soon as next





Mt Pleasant to Recognize Medal of Honor Recipients This Weekend

By Martin Wilbur

The Medal of Honor is the highest personal decoration that can be presented to a member of the United States military. This weekend, the Town of Mount Pleasant will once again be recognizing the brave men who have received the medal, many of whom sacrificed their lives to save their fellow officers in acts of valor.

On Saturday, the town and American Legion Post 112 in Hawthorne will be holding a special ceremony that will raise the Medal of Honor flag on the flagpole directly in front of Mount Pleasant Town Hall. The ceremony, scheduled for 11 a.m., will include Medal of Honor recipient Robert O'Malley, one of several living veterans from New York State to have received the honor who will be attending the ceremony.

The town will also be unveiling the name of the nation's most recent Medal of Honor recipient, David Bellavia of Buffalo, on its Medal of Honor monument outside Town Hall. Bellavia was presented his medal on June 25 by President Donald Trump, making him the only living recipient of the honor from the Iraq

On Sunday, the town will once again hold its Medal of Honor parade, this time in Hawthorne starting at 1 p.m. The lineup will take place at Cliff Street and Brady Avenue, then the route will proceed along Elwood Avenue before ending at the Hawthorne Fire House.

Peter Fiumefreddo, commander American Legion Post 112 in Hawthorne and the chairman of the New York State Medal of



The Medal of Honor display in the Mount Pleasant Town Hall lobby. This weekend the town will be holding a special ceremony and parade honoring some of the New York recipients of the medal.

Honor Committee, said this is the fifth year that Mount Pleasant has held its parade. When he moved to Mount Pleasant, he reached out to town officials then about installing a monument on the grounds of Town Hall to commemorate the state Medal of Honor recipients. His idea was welcomed, he said.

"When I came to Mount Pleasant, they said where do you want to put it," Fiumefreddo recalled. "That's the thing about this town, it's really a veterans' town."

That sentiment has continued to the current administration, he said. Last month, the Town Board approved a resolution designating Mount Pleasant a Medal of Honor town, believed to be the only municipality on the East Coast with that distinction. In addition to the monument outside, it also has a display in the Town Hall lobby of the medals and photos of several of the New York's Medal of Honor recipients.

Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said it was an easy decision for the board to make. Personally, Fulgenzi's father was a World War II hero and veteran, serving in the

Pacific and earning the Silver Star Medal.

"The Medal of Honor recipients, we recognize them in our community," Fulgenzi said. "We hold them to a different level, let's put it that way. We have a lot of heroes in our lives, particular individuals who have gone over and above, most of them sacrificing their lives to save fellow officers."

That is why many of Medal of Honor recipients over the years have been recognized posthumously. Since the Civil War when the medal was bestowed on there have been 3,524 medals issued, according to the Medal of Honor Historical Society of the United States.

Fiumefreddo said the state Medal of Honor Committee is also encouraging communities around New York to organize and schedule parades of their own. Last year, Putnam County held a Medal of Honor Parade in Carmel while Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro has expressed interest in having one next year, he said.



The Medal of Honor monument on the grounds of Mount Pleasant Town Hall. This weekend the town will be holding a special ceremony and parade honoring some of the New York recipients.

However, Mount Pleasant continues to take the lead in bringing the sacrifice and accomplishments of some of the bravest men to serve the country to the public's attention.

"This is the focal point," Fiumefreddo said. "Mount Pleasant will always be the focal



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8 July 23 - July 29, 2019 The Examiner

Police Blotter

County Police/Mount Kisco

July 16: A 23-year-old Mount Kisco man was arrested at 2:10 p.m. and charged with DWI charge after he fled the scene of a car crash on Kisco Avenue. At 1:45 p.m., a Toyota Scion traveling on Kisco Avenue struck a parked car and a lamppost before coming to rest against a tree near Hillside Avenue. Witnesses reported that the driver jumped out of the car and ran.

A county police officer and his tracking canine responded and began to track the suspect. The track took them across West Main Street to Manchester Drive and then to the back of a Maple Avenue property, where the suspect was taken into custody.

In addition to DWI, a misdemeanor, the Barker Street resident was charged with leaving the scene of a property damage accident, a violation. He was taken to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla to be treated for injuries suffered in the crash.

July 16: A resident arrived at the Green Street precinct at 4:09 p.m. to report that a relative visiting from Italy had lost her passport. She requested a police report to document the incident in order to obtain a replacement passport.

July 16: A Spring Street resident reported at 7:12 p.m. that he and another motorist had exchanged words while driving in the neighborhood. The other driver then followed him and stopped outside the resident's home when he turned into his driveway. When the resident approached the other vehicle, he observed the driver holding a knife in his lap. No threats were made or words exchanged but the resident felt menaced and reported the incident. Officers canvassed the area but could not locate the other person.

July 17: An employee of a South Moger Avenue business reported at 5:31 p.m. that a group of men was hanging out and blocking the store's entrance. An officer spoke with the group and the men agreed to move to another location.

During the conversation, a man in a nearby parked van began screaming at the officers and cursed them repeatedly. When he would not calm down, he was advised he was under arrest for disorderly conduct. He refused to get out of the van and had to be forcibly removed to be taken into custody.

The subject, a 19-year-old Bedford man, was charged with resisting arrest and second-degree obstruction of governmental

administration, both misdemeanors, and disorderly conduct, a violation.

July 18: Report of a strong gas odor at a Main Street restaurant at 10:19 a.m. The Mount Kisco Fire Department responded and entered the business, locating a stove that had been left on. The fire department ventilated the building.

July 18: Police responded to New Castle Drive at 11:40 a.m. to assist a 67-year-old man who had fainted. He was taken by ambulance to Northern Westchester Hospital.

July 19: Police responded to Spring Street at 7:38 a.m. on a report of a car blocking a private driveway. A summons was issued and the vehicle was towed to re-open access to the driveway.

North Castle Police Department

July 12: A caller reported being involved in a road rage incident on Main Street at 3:03 p.m., which resulted in a BMW following him. The responding officer reported being out with the two vehicles.

July 12: A complainant arrived at police headquarters at 6:12 p.m. to report that her vehicle was rummaged through at some point during the past two nights while parked on Old Route 22. A witness and owner's deposition were secured.

July 12: A traffic stop was conducted on Route 22 at 10:09 p.m. The driver was arrested and charged with second-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle

July 13: Report of a man sleeping on the ground at Stop & Shop on North Broadway at 8 a.m. near the bottle returns. The responding officer reported speaking to the

complainant, who stated that the party woke up and left the area prior to the officer's arrival. The officer also spoke with the store manager, who reported that he had instructed the man to leave the store and that he did so without incident.

July 13: Report of someone burning a fire in their backyard on Briggs Lane at 6:32 p.m. and that it is causing a smoke condition inside their house. The responding officer reported a medium-sized wood burning fire in the backyard. The fire was contained and extinguished by the homeowner and was advised of the town ordinance regarding open burning. Matter adjusted.

July 16: A 911 caller reported at 5:36 p.m. being actively involved in a road rage incident with another driver operating a gray Audi Q8 with New York license plates. The caller responded to headquarters but then declined to file a statement or provide more information.

July 17: Report of a brush fire on Cedar Hill Road at 4:30 p.m. A tree was struck by lightning and was on fire. The responding officer stated that the matter was addressed by the fire department and Con Edison.

Pleasantville Police Department

July 12: Report of an unwanted female patron at Lucy's Lounge on Bedford Road at 7:19 p.m. The party had been told on several previous occasions not to return to the premises but is now there. She was sent on her way without further incident.

July 14: An arrest was made on Great Oak Lane at 1:40 p.m. following a domestic dispute. Police did not provide additional information because of the nature of the incident.

Chappaqua's Chapin Joins Westchester County Association

Chappaqua resident Jason Chapin has joined the Westchester County Association (WCA) as director of workforce development.

Before joining WCA, Chapin coordinated and managed federal, state and foundation grants for the City University of New York, the State University of New York and The WorkPlace, a nationally recognized nonprofit based in Connecticut. In addition, he has managed statewide education, training and employment programs in New York and Connecticut that have served more than 25,000 adults and their families.

Chapin first worked with the WCA in 2016 as a subcontractor and project manager for Jobs Waiting, the \$9.8 million grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and part of the \$170 million Ready-to-Work initiative. The WCA managed the grant until April.

Since its launch, Jobs Waiting has provided training, support and placement services to about 500 long-term unemployed individuals and more than 125 workers in the healthcare sector. The grant, the largest training grant ever given in the region, was awarded to Westchester County and covers the entire Hudson Valley.

As project manager for Jobs Waiting, Chapin managed a team of over 45 staff members spread across the seven-county region. Under his guidance, enrollment, work tryout, incumbent training and placement performance goals were exceeded before the grant ended. Jobs Waiting was recognized by the Department of Labor for the most credentials earned by participants and became one of the most successful programs in the initiative.

"We are fortunate to have someone of



Jason Chapin

Jason's caliber at WCA," said Bill Mooney, president and CEO of WCA. "He is a great communicator, manager and an innovative thinker. He works extremely well with individuals and organizations and always delivers remarkable results. WCA has made workforce development a primary focus and I anticipate great things ahead for our business community, and for our workforce."

A graduate of Colgate University, Chapin received his MBA from Fordham University. He is the former board chair of the Child Care Council of Westchester and currently serves as treasurer and board member of The Harry Chapin Foundation. He lives in Chappaqua with his wife and three children.

Woman Charged in Pepper Spray Attack on Bee-Line Bus Driver

By Martin Wilbur

A White Plains woman was arrested last Friday by county police for attacking a Bee-Line bus driver last month with pepper spray outside Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla.

Johniazia Torres, 24, of West Post Road was charged with second-degree assault, a felony. She was arraigned last Friday afternoon in Mount Pleasant Town Court and released on her own recognizance, Westchester County police said.

The June 12 attack occurred at 10:30 p.m. after a female passenger demanded that the driver allow her to get off the bus directly in front of the hospital entrance. The driver told the woman that passengers could not be discharged until it reached a bus stop.

Police said when the bus arrived at the next stop at Hospital Oval East and Emergency Drive to let passengers off, the woman approached the driver and sprayed her with pepper spray. The driver experienced a burning sensation in her eyes and had difficulty breathing. She was treated at the medical center and released that night, police said.

An immediate search of the hospital and surrounding areas was conducted by patrol officers but the suspect could not be located. The case was then turned over to detectives within the General Investigations Unit, who took Torres into custody Friday at her home.

"The safety of transit personnel and riders has always been a top priority for the Westchester County Police," said Police Commissioner Thomas A. Gleason. "Our detectives were committed to closing this case with an arrest no matter how long it took. I commend them for their diligent efforts to identify and apprehend a suspect in this incident."

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Senate to Hold Series of Opioid and Addiction Hearings Across the State

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins on Monday announced that the Joint Senate Task Force on Opioids, Addiction & Overdose Prevention will be holding seven hearings and roundtable discussions across the state starting next month.

The task force will carry out a holistic review of New York's overdose crisis and the state's approach to drug use, with a focus on saving lives and improving individual and community health.

The task force will hold discussions with stakeholders and carry out a review of best practices to identify gaps in the current system and to develop short- and long-term legislative and budgetary solutions.

The first hearing will take place on Friday, Aug. 9 at. St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx at 10 a.m. Subsequent hearings and roundtables will be scheduled in Central New York, Buffalo, Staten Island, the Hudson Valley, Long Island and Albany for weeks and months after that.

"Opioid misuse and addiction is an ongoing crisis that is destroying families and communities throughout New York," Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said. "This epidemic impacts all communities, which is why the Senate majority will hold hearings and roundtable discussions throughout the state and we encourage New Yorkers to attend and participate."

State Sen. Peter Harckham (D-Lewisboro), chair of the Senate's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Committee, said opioid and other substance abuse and disorders

continue to claim lives across the state. The problem has to be effectively addressed, he

"We're hitting the road over the next few months to speak with stakeholders all over our state, to better understand how to save lives through improved state programs, better allocation of funds and new legislation, Harckham said

In 2013, Senate Democrats held independent hearings on the growing use of heroin and opioids and in 2014 advanced legislation to address the crisis. Progress was made during this year's legislative session when measures were approved to fight opioid misuse and addiction by

providing additional resources to those fighting and recovering from this disease.

For anyone who would like to participate at one of the hearings or roundtables conducted by the Joint Senate Task Force on Opioids, Addiction & Overdose Prevention, RSVP to nysoverdosetaskforce@nysenate.gov.

Two Historic Playland Rides Approved for Restoration

The county Board of Legislators unanimously approved financing for the restoration of two of Playland Park's most famous rides, the Derby Racer and the Grand Carousel.

Approved work includes a complete overhaul of the park's Carousel, the roof of which was damaged in a fire in 2017. Also approved was the reconstruction of the building that houses the Derby Racer, which was built in 1927. Both rides are on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Carousel project includes rebuilding the structure, the addition of fire breaks in the roof to inhibit the spread of fire in the

future, the replacement of the sprinkler system and the installation of new electrical systems.

The county expects to recover a significant portion of the cost of the Carousel work from insurance. In addition, the county will receive around \$465,000 in Historic Preservation Grant money for the Carousel project from the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

During its meeting on July 15, the Board approved funding of \$5.57 million for the Carousel reconstruction and \$5 million for the Derby Racer.

The Carousel is expected to re-open next in 2020.



The Grand Carousel at Rye Playland, one of two old rides at the amusement park, will be refurbished in time to reopen for the 2020 season.

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Obituary

Vincent Foscaldi

Vincent Foscaldi, 85, passed away on Sunday, July 14 in his Pleasantville home.

He is survived by his life partner, Kathleen Dunne, and his daughters, Lisa Fiore and Linnae Latessa.

Foscaldi was born Jan. 24, 1934, in the Bronx. He was a graduate of Evander Childs High School, a veteran of the U.S. Army and a lifelong entrepreneur. After starting his career at Gristede Brothers, where he became one of the youngest managers, he founded Rivercrest Food Market in the Riverdale section of the Bronx with his partner Dominic Trentadue. As the owner

and proprietor of Rivercrest for 34 years, he was an icon in the Riverdale community.

In addition to being beloved by his customers, he touched the lives of many of the young men and women that worked for him. He enjoyed having his family work with him at the store, and his employees became part of his extended family along the way. Foscaldi was a kind and generous man and when someone was in need, he was the first to quietly offer aid.

Foscaldi was a baseball aficionado his whole life. Aside from his dream of owning his own business, his other dream in life was to play second base for the Brooklyn Dodgers. He started as a player-coach in the local softball business league. In 1988,

he fulfilled part of his dream by attending the Mets Fantasy Camp, where he was able to compete with Major League players. From there, he played for the Westchester Mets in the Men's Senior Baseball League and went on to be an assistant baseball coach at Fieldston High School and Westchester Community College. His love for the game translated into many lifelong friends.

After retiring from Rivercrest, he and Kathleen traveled around the world including trips inside the U.S., Europe and the Caribbean.

He is survived by the mother of his children, Jill Foscaldi; his brother, Louis Foscaldi and his wife, Arlene; in addition to

his daughters, he is survived by his sonsin-law, Paul Fiore and Joseph Latessa; his four grandsons, Jason, Tyler, Austin and Weston; his stepson, Colin Fernandez; and his two nephews, Louis Jr. and Michael Foscaldi. He will also be missed by Kathleen's siblings, Eileen Dunne, Roberta and Robert Driscoll and Christine and Tim Landry.

The family received friends at Beecher Flooks Funeral Home in Pleasantville on July 17. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 19 at Holy Innocents Roman Catholic Church followed by entombment at Ferncliff Mausoleum.

Valhalla Man Sentenced in Child Sex Abuse Case

A 44-year-old Valhalla man was sentenced Thursday in Mount Pleasant Justice Court to six years' probation and must register as a sex offender for sexually abusing and endangering two children on separate occasions.

Albert Orjuela was arrested in January by Mount Pleasant police for inappropriately touching one child and acted in an inappropriate sexual manner in front of another child, according to the Westchester County district attorney's office.

Orjuela pleaded guilty in April to second-degree sexual abuse and endangering the welfare of a child, both Class A misdemeanors.

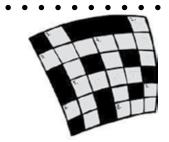
Town Justice Robert Ponzini sentenced Orjuela to six years' probation with sex offender conditions and a six-year order of protection on the sexual abuse charge. For endangering the welfare of a child, he received three years' probation with sex offender status and a five-year order of protection.

The sentences will run concurrently, the district attorney's office said.

—Martin Wilbur

Albert Orjuela





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Area Legislators Call for Fair Allocation of Cuomo Bridge Tolls

By Martin Wilbur

Two Westchester assemblymen last week called on the state to set equitable tolls on the new Mario M. Cuomo Bridge and strongly urged the Thruway Authority to provide discounts for Westchester and Rockland residents.

Assemblymen Tom Abinanti (D-Pleasantville) and David Buchwald (D-White Plains) provided statements to the New York State Thruway Authority Toll Advisory Panel, which met in Tarrytown last Thursday in anticipation of bridge toll hikes after the price moratorium expires at the end of next year.

Abinanti said that under the Thruway Authority's latest proposed formula bridge users would incur the entire cost of the bridge as well as contributing to systemwide Thruway improvements.

"Tappan Zee Bridge tolls will rise to more than \$10 only if we use the Thruway Authority's new proposed formula requiring that Tappan Zee Bridge toll payers continue to contribute to the cost of the entire Thruway system and, in addition, assume all of the new costs of the new bridges," Abinanti said.

Buchwald said the new bridge is a linchpin for the regional transportation system, but Thruway officials have thus far failed to the public with meaningful information.

"Full transparency is essential. If the bridge toll is to be increased, the public deserves to know exactly how that relates to paying for the costs of the new bridge," Buchwald said. "I do not think it is appropriate to meaningfully raise tolls without everyone understanding the long-term financial situation, including the extent to which a toll increase would pay for the bridge and Rockland/Westchester Thruway improvements or if it would subsidize other Thruway operations."

He and Abinanti called on the Thruway Authority to provide toll discounts for residents of Westchester and Rockland counties. Buchwald also pressed for a reduced combination toll for commuters who then travel into Manhattan so they won't be hit with to major tolls once the congestion pricing goes into effect.

Abinanti, whose district includes Tarrytown, where the eastern side of the bridge is anchored, has proposed three potential formulas that he believes is fair. One alternative is to dedicate all Cuomo bridge tolls only to bridge costs. Another is to dedicate all revenues from each of the Thruway Authority's regions to pay for the costs of that region so the downstate region's tolls would be set to meet the area's costs.

A third suggestion would be to continue the current formula of using Thruway Authority revenues statewide to pay for all Thruway costs, including new bridges, and set the level of all tolls at the necessary level necessary to meet all costs.

He said Cuomo bridge construction costs were originally estimated at \$5.2 billion with a projected \$14 toll to pay for the project. However, the last figures had costs at \$3.9 billion with the projected toll reduced by a least 20 percent, Abinanti said.

Six years ago, using 2013 numbers, Abinanti said he calculated that any of his three formulas could result in bridge car tolls of no more than \$6 to \$7 with local resident discounts.

"Bridge tolls will rise to more than \$10 only if we use an unfair formula requiring that bridge toll payers continue to subsidize the cost of the entire Thruway system and, in addition, assume all of the new costs of the new bridges," Abinanti said.

Other area officials similarly urged the Thruway Authority for fair toll pricing. Rockland County Executive Ed Day said over the past 20 years tolls on commercial traffic, particularly five-axle trucks, has lagged. The toll for a five-axle truck in October 2000 was

raised to \$20 during rush hour and is now at \$32.75, he said.

As a result, a published report revealed that truck traffic on the bridge in 2017 was 2.4 million vehicles, an increase of one million trucks in previous seven years.

"There is no question that it is well past time that the commercial toll rates for the bridge be dramatically increased," Day said.

He added that any toll increase must set aside a percentage of revenue for dedicated transit capital improvements between Rockland and Westchester.

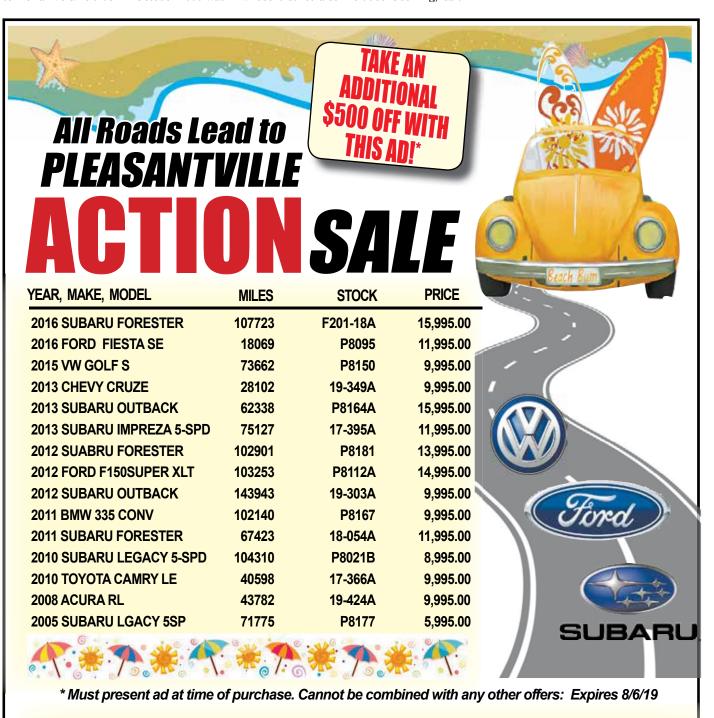
State Sen. David Carlucci (D-New City), whose district also includes Ossining, said

there should be no toll hike on the bridge beyond 2020 unless it can be justified. He said the advisory panel, which was entirely selected by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, had not met before last week since it's 2015 creation.

"Simply put, commuters cannot afford a toll hike on the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge, and any panel tasked with determining the toll rate needs to be accountable to the people," Carlucci said. "Representing Rockland and Westchester counties, I know that residents are strapped financially, and a toll increase will pose a significant financial burden on them."

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Local Swim Coach Hits the Water to Fight Against Cancer

By Martin Wilbur

As a coach and master swimmer, Dan Levy is no stranger to the water. He enjoys not only leading children to be successful in competition but loves being able to get into the pool himself.

This weekend, he plans to do something he's never been able to try.

Levy, a regular participant in the annual Swim Across America events to raise money for cancer research, plans to head to Larchmont on Saturday and be one of the hundreds of swimmers looking to complete the Long Island Sound Open Water Swim.

Since 2016, Levy has been part of each of the seven pool swims throughout Westchester, including the one at Chappaqua Swim & Tennis, raising money and awareness. He plans to be at Chappaqua's swim, which is scheduled for this Sunday, as he is again in the midst of completing the pool swims that started on July 12.

But the Long Island Sound Open Water Swim has eluded him, only because it has coincided with important meets for teams he has coached.

This year there is no conflict, so Levy contacted Swim Across America's Long Island Sound Chapter President Anthony (Tony) Sibio to let him know he'll be at the two-kilometer swim this Saturday. The event starts at 6 a.m.

"I think he knows that I would never do it because it was always the same day as the meet," Levy said. "He just wanted to



Chappaqua Swim & Tennis swim coach Dan Levy will be swimming in the Long Island Sound this Saturday raising money for cancer research as part of Swim Across America. He is also in the midst of completing seven pool swims throughout the county.

know that I was available if it ever works out, so I've been trying to do it for years but as soon as I saw the championship was a week later, I was excited. It almost felt incomplete, like I was doing all of them except the main one."

For many of the hundreds of swimmers like Levy who participate in the swims each summer, the war waged against cancer is a personal one. Levy lost his sister, Karen, to colon cancer in 2008. The year before that, his friend and Chappaqua Swim & Tennis member David Simon succumbed to the disease.

Then last December, one of the children that he coached at Chappaqua, eight-year-old Scarlett Chwatko, lost her battle with brain cancer. This year, Chappaqua's Swim Across America team has been named Team KiDS, in honor of Karen, David and Scarlett.

Levy said Scarlett remains an inspiration.

"Just last summer Scarlett was swimming at a meet and she had just come from treatments and was exhausted, of course," Levy said. "I told her mom and I told Scarlett you don't have to do all four races. We didn't realize she'd be coming straight from treatments but she wanted to do them all. For the last few years she was so heroic and such a fighter, it was more important to her to finish each race than her time. She did all four races and I'd like to think that I'm carrying on her spirit and fight that she'd continue to be giving if she was still around."

As of nearly two weeks ago, more than 20 people were on the team and not just

his swimmers and club members but participants from the entire community, he said.

Sibio said when he helped establish the first series of swims in 1992, they had 17 swimmers and raised \$15,000. Last year there were more than 900 participants with nearly \$1.2 million collected.

Proceeds from the swims will go toward immunotherapy research at the Swim Across America Laboratory at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, pediatric oncology research at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian and patient services with the Westchester-based Cancer Support Team, he said.

While Swim Across America now has corporate sponsorships that help out, the overwhelming portion of money raised is because of the dedication of people like Levy, Sibio said.

"Basically, it's a way to fight. When you're dealing with cancer, it's a helpless feeling and everything is out of control and this is a way to turn around and say 'I can fight back this disease," he said.

Registration is still open for the three remaining swims – this weekend's Open Swim and Chappaqua event, which is Sunday from 4 to 7 p.m. and the Aug. 3 swim at Lake Isle Country Club in Eastchester from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. Club membership is not required to participate in the pool swims.

For more information or to register, visit www.swimacrossamerica.org/long island.



THERE'S A WORD FOR IT

A vocabulary-building quiz By Edward Goralski

Lulu of a Quiz. This week all of the quiz words begin with "lu." Hopefully this quiz, lurking here on this page, will lure you away from other activities. With some luck you may know all the word definitions, and then you might want to brag to friends and colleagues over lunch. No matter how you do on the quiz, a trip to Lululemon may be indicated.

1.luminary (n.) A) an award	B) person of prominence	C) temporary calm
2. lurch (v.) A) to roll abruptly	B) lie in wait	C) discover
3. lupine (adj.) A) inactive	B) flower like	C) wolfish
4. lucre (n.) A) an inducement	B) monetary gain	C) success
5. lustrate (v.) A) to indulge oneself	B) light up	C) purify ceremonially
6. lucubration (n.) A) intense study	B) a close bond	C) protection
7. ludic (adj.) A) lacking conviction	B) understandable	C) playful
8. luthier (n.) A) a rebellious person	B) a violin maker	C) radiated energy

such as violins or guitars

C. Relating to, or characterized by play; playful B. One who makes stringed musical instruments,

C. To purify ceremonially
A. Laborious or intense study

B. Monetary gain; profit; also money

C. Wolfish

B. A person of prominence or brilliant achievement A. To roll or trip abruptly; pitch; also stagger

:SA3WSNA

Local Governments Sue IRS, Treasury Secretary Over SALT

A lawsuit filed in federal court last Wednesday seeks to challenge regulations that were recently finalized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Treasury Department that would deny a full charitable deduction for donations to the charitable funds for which states authorize tax credits.

The case, Village of Scarsdale v. Internal Revenue Service et al., asserts that the IRS's regulations "usurp the lawmaking function and purport to unilaterally impose the current administration's political will in violation of clear statutory limits."

Deductions for donations include longstanding charitable funds and those created after the federal government severely limited the state and local tax deduction (SALT).

In doing so, the regulations would cause charitable reserve funds explicitly authorized under New York State law to "suffer irreparable harm," according to the documents. This includes the charitable reserve funds established by the Village of Scarsdale and the Town of Rye after SALT was limited by the passage of the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017.

If successful, the lawsuit would reverse the IRS's regulations.

Scarsdale and the Town of Rye are members of the Coalition for the Charitable Contribution Deduction, which consists of Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester counties, 17 municipalities, 17 school districts and eight state and countywide professional and advocacy organizations.

The towns of New Castle and Bedford are among the municipalities that are part of the coalition. Local school districts participating include Briarcliff Manor, Byram Hills, Pleasantville and Pocantico Hills

"Starting today, we will stand up for New Yorkers already reeling from the cap on the SALT deduction by making our case in court that these regulations are arbitrary, capricious, and invalid," said New York State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Scarsdale), who took the lead role in developing New York's charitable reserve fund legislation, coordinated the coalition and had attended the IRS's public hearing on the proposed regulations last October.

"The denial of charitable deductions for donations to charitable reserve funds disproportionately hits communities like mine," Paulin added. "In trying to satisfy the whims of this administration without running afoul of powerful interests, the IRS regulations strayed far from the law that they were supposed to interpret. These regulations will cause real harm for villages like Scarsdale and taxpayers across the country struggling to remain in the communities they fell in love with and to send their children to the same nurturing, high-quality schools."

The IRS and Treasury Department have clearly exceeded their authority with these regulations, said Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains). "As a previously practicing tax attorney, I have confidence in the merits of this case, which is important to so many New Yorkers."

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York on the same day as the attorneys general of Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York filed their own lawsuit challenging the same IRS/Treasury Department regulations.

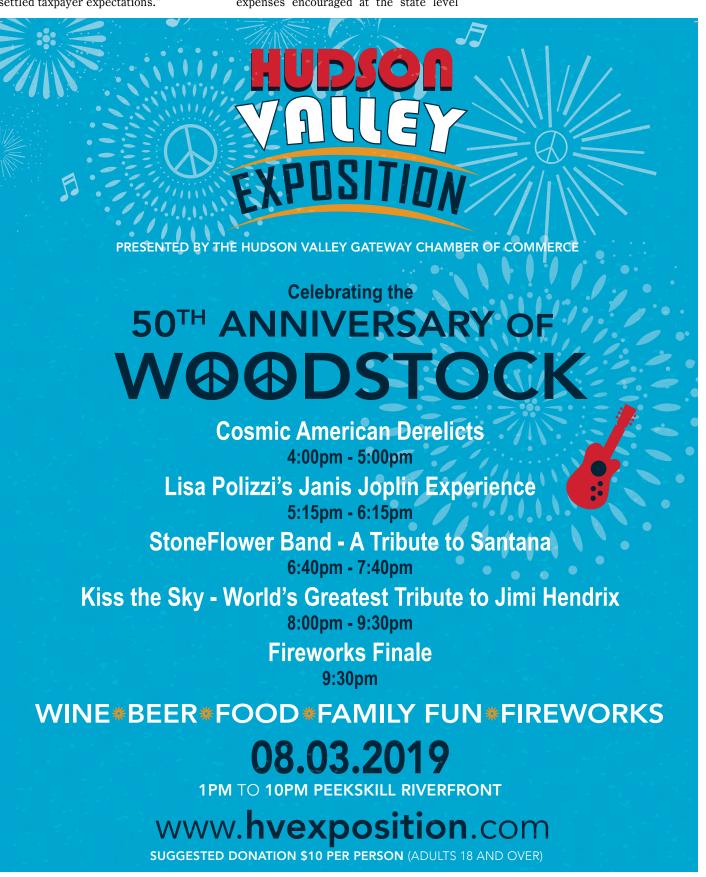
The coalition asserts that in preventing individuals from receiving a full federal charitable deduction for making a contribution to a charity state or municipality when that donation has been encouraged at the state or local level with a tax credit, the IRS has broken "with judicial precedents, published guidance binding on the IRS and the Treasury Department, IRS administrative pronouncements and settled taxpayer expectations."

Prior to the IRS/Treasury Department issuing its regulations, 70 active programs across 24 states already encouraged charitable contributions to various public and private programs with tax credits at the state or local level – all of which will now be denied a full charitable contribution at the federal level.

The complaint also takes aim at the complex and confusing distinctions made by the regulations in order to create carve-outs and "safe harbors" for various corporate entities which also benefit from federal deductions. Those deductions include charitable giving and business expenses encouraged at the state level

with tax credits – distinctions which "result in divergent consequences for substantively identical circumstances without any statutory authority, let alone a reasoned explanation, for doing so, the suit claims."

Representatives of the local governments that comprise 3CD had previously stated their belief that the regulations are arbitrary and capricious, and therefore invalid. Under the Administrative Procedure Act, they now ask that the regulations be found unlawful and be set aside.



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Adam Stone
astone@theexaminernews.com
Publisher

Martin Wilbur mwilbur@theexaminernews.com Editor-in-Chief



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Guest Column

Five Reasons Children Should Play Outside More

Whether it's dance lessons, computer projects, art class or yoga, children these days are busy bees. And while such activities are enriching and fun, experts say that many kids aren't spending enough time doing something much simpler and every bit as important as structured programming: playing outdoors.

"Finding time for the kids to play outside can be such a challenge for parents," said Keri Wilmot, a pediatric occupational therapist and an expert contributor to TheGeniusofPlay.org. "As a parent I worry about 'stranger danger' or whether my kids will be able to navigate social issues on their own. Without spontaneity, playtime has lost some of it's fun."

Outdoor play is necessary for healthy child development, according to The Genius of Play. The initiative, whose mission is to raise awareness about the importance of play and help parents make play a critical part of raising their kids, is sharing five benefits of unstructured outdoor playtime.

• Physical Development. Research has shown that physically active kids tend to be leaner and healthier, while an inactive childhood can lead to a sedentary (and likely unhealthy) lifestyle in adulthood. Furthermore, physical play builds gross and fine motor skills necessary for success in school and beyond. Hanging from the monkey bars, for instance, helps kids develop the hand muscles needed to grip a pencil.

- Risk-Taking. Through outdoor play, children are given the opportunity to step outside their comfort zones and try new things. While taking risks won't always lead to success on the first try, moments like a first bike ride without training wheels or the first trip down the big slide in the playground are critical for building the confidence and resilience needed to pursue a future career, start a business or handle life's many challenges.
- Social Skills. Childhood games played outdoors can help build social skills and teach kids to follow directions. From games as simple as tag, to those with more complicated rules, like Kick the Can, Capture the Flag and sports like soccer and basketball, communication, teamwork and other important social skills are developed during outdoor play.

- Problem Solving, Children's imaginations are often stimulated by the world around them. Being outside widens their horizons and can encourage kids to tap into their creativity in order to come up with solutions to challenges, such as learning how to build a sandcastle or figuring out how to climb up a jungle gym.
- Reducing Stress. So much outdoor play involves physical activity, thrilling moments and a sense of freedom, all of which can boost endorphins, helping to lower stress levels and reduce anxiety and depression. Interestingly, simply touching dirt when creating mud pies or digging for worms can be beneficial. According to a Bristol University study, certain types of "friendly" bacteria in soil have been found to activate the group of neurons that produce serotonin, which contributes to a feeling of well-being and happiness. So, don't be afraid to let your kids get a bit dirty out there!

Playtime is essential for children. To promote health, happiness and confidence, be sure some of it is spent outdoors.

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Letters to the Editor

Recent NYC Power Outage a Harbinger of Things to Come

It lasted only a few hours, but the July 13 blackout in New York City was a harbinger of worse things to come.

On the 42nd anniversary of the enormous 1977 blackout, and 16 years after the 2003 blackout that caused more than \$1 billion in damage and claimed the lives of 90 New Yorkers, the energy infrastructure of America's largest city remains vulnerable.

Thanks to Con Edison, power was restored within hours and catastrophe was averted. We can anticipate, however, that our aging transmission grid will combine dangerously with dwindling resources and rising demand to make blackouts more frequent.

New technologies make our lives better

but eat up a lot of electricity. Yet while New York should be expeditiously adding new sources of generation, we're actually losing them and not replacing them fast enough: when Indian Point shuts down in 2021, 2,000 megawatts of reliable 24/7 power will be gone.

The immediate replacement for Indian Point is natural gas, but with Albany doing everything it can to slow or stop new plants and pipelines coming online, we'll likely be looking outside our state for a substantial portion of our electricity. That, in turn, means our old, fragile and insufficiently updated transmission grid will be even more stressed than it is now.

Mechanical failures like Saturday's are

troublingly commonplace. Our government must prioritize investment in renewing and upgrading power lines and control systems throughout the state – a huge undertaking, most of which has been too long delayed.

Today's circumstances tell us New York can count on more outages, but we can't count on them being as localized as the last one. What we should be able to count on is an energy infrastructure prepared for the 21st century – and 19 years into that century, it's past time for Albany to act.

Arthur "Jerry" Kremer Chairman, New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance

Organ Donors Can Make the Difference Between Life and Death

As we take time to relax and enjoy the summer, it is important for us to take a moment to think about people who may not be so lucky. In particular, I want to raise awareness of the critical need for organ donations in our state.

Currently in New York there are over 10,000 people in need of an organ. These people are more than statistics; they are our friends, family and neighbors. Luckily, there is something that we can do. I encourage you to consider signing up to become an organ donor, offering a new

lease on life to those in need.

New York has consistently held the lowest rates of organ donor registration in the country with currently only one in every four New Yorkers registered to donate organs, eyes and/or tissue. I registered to be a donor years ago and it is humbling to think that my choice can benefit the lives of up to 75 people who are in need. While I know some of you may be hesitant, I highly recommend you discuss the topic further with your doctor and family.

To register as an organ donor, you can mail an enrollment form to the New York State Department of Health. If you need a copy you can call our office at 914-941-1111. It is also possible to register at www.health.ny.gov/professionals/patients/donation/organ. You can also register at the Department of Motor Vehicles or Board of Elections offices. Please consider signing up as an organ donor today.

Assemblywoman Sandy Galef 95th Assembly District

New Garden, With Pleasantville Roots, Dedicated in Valhalla

By Lindsay Emery

A new therapeutic garden was unveiled at the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) in Valhalla last week to engage children and young adults with disabilities in community service.

The space, called "Adam's Garden," was an idea initiated by Brendan Klein, hired as a liaison last December for WIHD's self-advocacy group to expand community service opportunities for young adults with disabilities. Klein has gained extensive experience volunteering at the Pleasantville Community Garden on the grounds of St. John's Episcopal Church in Pleasantville.

The church and the Pleasantville Community Garden provided technical support and seed money for the new garden.

Naomi Brickel, Klein's supervisor and director of the Community Support Network, expressed how much this project meant to her. The garden, which will feature seasonal flowers and vegetables, was named after her son, Adam Brickel, who was a sophomore at New Rochelle High School when he suddenly passed away last year from a heart

condition

Klein decided that he wanted to honor Brickel's son by naming the therapeutic garden after him.

"I think that people with disabilities don't often enough have the opportunity to be empowered by helping others, as we, as people, we all are so empowered when we give to others, and unfortunately, I know that people with disabilities don't always get that opportunity," Brickel said during a July 15 ribbon-cutting ceremony that was attended by various dignitaries.

Klein also built a bench with his father, engraving Adam's name on it and placing it in the garden.

"I think it's the most fulfilling aspect of my work and the most fulfilling project I have worked on and to have it have a theme of helping people that you don't even know, just somehow really resonated with me, so thank you, Brendan, I'm touched." Brickel said.

WIHD President and CEO Dr. Susan Fox said the idea for the garden came out of a service project that began with growing small plants in the windows of the offices, but it soon expanded to include WIHD's child welfare program.

"So it became this really nice community collaborative project that involved people with disabilities, children in our child welfare program and the community at large," Fox said.

Some of the programs that Klein has developed include GetWIHDit and TicTacGo, Brickel said. These social groups bring people with disabilities together and create opportunities for them to engage in social activities such as going to basketball games or playing fantasy football.

"This group, in particular GetWIHDit, is all about doing good for learning, doing good for yourself and doing good for others – social consciousness," Brickel said.

She explained that the garden will not only provide an activity for the children but they will also be able to bring home produce to their families.

David Juros, the founder and executive director of the Pleasantville Community Garden, has supported Klein through his volunteer work at the local garden.

"Brendan's helped us almost since the beginning, and at first, he came and started helping in the garden and helping us plant, helping us harvest," Juros said.



Last Monday, a new therapeutic garden was formally opened on the grounds of the Westchester Institute for Human Development in Valhalla, an idea spawned by Brendan Klein, fourth from left. Also pictured with Klein at the ceremony are, from left to right, Assemblyman David Buchwald, state Sen. Shelley Mayer, WIHD Child Welfare Services Director Danielle Weisberg, Naomi Brickel, director of WIHD's Community Support Network, and WIHD President and CEO Susan Fox.

"Then, with his group, he decided to start the seeds for us."

Juros was proud when he learned that Klein was extending his knowledge of gardening to another group and was happy to help financially support the organization.

"We help with the information that they need, but he doesn't need much," he said. "He's pretty much the farmer himself now."

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Westchester Comic Makes Move to a New and Larger Audience

By Martin Wilbur

Whether anyone likes to admit it or not, millions of peoples' ears perk up when they hear a discussion on sex, love and relationships.

For standup comic Chrissie Mayr, it's among the topics that serve as fertile ground for her live comedy shows. Now, she's taken it to the next level.

Mayr, a White Plains resident and frequent visitor to Lucy's Laugh Lounge in Pleasantville and other venues around the metropolitan area, started a new hour-long Monday evening talk show on July 15 that she is hosting on Compound Media. The more than suggestively named show, "Chrissie Mayr's Wet Spot" will fuse comedians, psychologists and anyone else who has an opinion on love and relationships.

And, of course, it's meant to make people laugh.

"Every show it's going to be a panel of different comedians, adult film stars, a therapist, any type of expert, basically, or anybody that knows a lot," Mayr said.

The show is a logical step in Mayr's career, which has been

primarily on stage in comedy clubs. She said it's a great move to be part of Compound Media, a subscriber network launched by former Opie & Anthony co-host Anthony Cumia about five years ago. The network boasts upwards of 100,000 subscribers and allows her to reach an audience that would take years to build in the clubs, Mayr said.

She also becomes the first woman to host a show on Compound. It airs every Monday evening at 8 p.m. and is broadcast out of the network's studios in midtown Manhattan.

"This is a perfect fit for me because I still have a day job and I perform a lot," Mayr said. "I'm very excited about it and already we've booked like really exciting guests with huge followings."

Comedians Jim Florentine, Goumba Johnny, Anthony Rodia and Krystyna Hutchinson and adult film star Jesse Jane have been or are scheduled to be among the first wave of guests.

Mayr said there is also room for a small studio audience of about 20 people who can ask questions or add to the discussion – hopefully.

Her foray into radio, or a radiotype show, was ignited after she



Chrissie Mayr, a White Plains resident, has a new weekly comedy show on the paid subscriber network Compound Media about relationships.

was asked several times to appear on some of Compound Media's other programs. Mayr would portray silly characters or put her spin after browsing the news for bizarre happenings like the time she learned a woman was found dead in a clothing donation bin.

She said with the latest technology available at Compound Media's studio, it allows her and the tech staff to get creative.

"I wanted it to be a modern, funny, edgy take on 'Loveline' (a syndicated call-in show) if you remember from the '90s," Mayr said. "There's a lot of '90s references."

Unlike entertaining a room during a standup routine, Mayr also must remember that she is the host of the show, so while she has the spotlight, she's also there to draw out the guests.

"I'm quick on my feet. I've done improv for years but there's nothing like sitting in the host's seat and it felt like I was jumping off a building," Mayr said before her first show but after she had done a pilot last month. "It felt like this pressure. It's like pressure you can handle and it's like your brain shifts because you're listening for gaps in conversations. Are all the guests

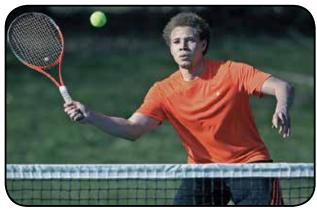
speaking evenly? Is this flowing? Is it funny? Is there a lull? Do I need to switch topics, keeping an eye on the audience?"

Although she has thoroughly enjoyed the preparation leading up to the show's kickoff, Mayr has no plans to abandon the standup world. In fact, this fall, she's booked for shows in venues up and down the East Coast

"I feel really excited and I feel ready for this this challenge," Mayr said.

For anyone interested in getting tickets to one of Mayr's live Compound Media shows, e-mail cmwetspot@gmail.com.





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Bernie Williams to Headline Start of New Music Series at P'ville Venue

By Martin Wilbur

Bernie Williams would only occasionally hit leadoff during his illustrious 16-year baseball career with the New York Yankees.

Next weekend, the former star outfielder will find himself in the leadoff spot for a new Sunday evening music series that debuts this weekend at Lucy's Lounge in Pleasantville.

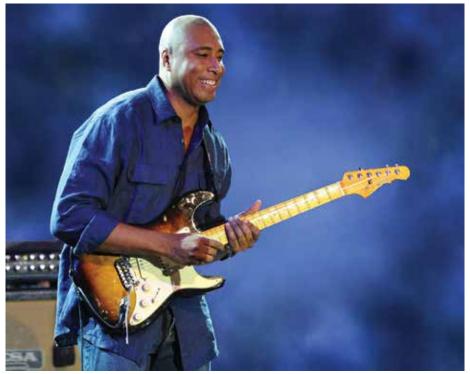
Williams, an accomplished jazz guitarist who has been nominated for a Latin Grammy and has devoted himself to music since his retirement from baseball in 2005, will be the headliner for the first Live at Lucy's on July 28. He will be joined by other guest musicians.

The idea behind the series is to showcase some of the musical talent that lives and performs in Westchester, including potentially some national acts, while providing the popular Lucy's Lounge with a crowd on what is typically an off night of the week, said Duke Covone, one of the producers and organizers of the series.

"It could be anything from old '80s bands where not all the members are around anymore or one or two of them are still doing their thing and they come out to play," said Covone, who several months ago launched a Tuesday night jam session at Lucy's.

"Anybody who could play at The Turning Point or at Darryl's House could be the kind of people we'd want to attract. But the difference is it's Westchester County, so we want to make sure we have some real exclusive opportunities where we get a very well-known recording artist."

Part of the lure of Live at Lucy's is the



Former Yankees star Bernie Williams, now an acclaimed jazz guitarist, will be the featured performer for a new music series that begins on Sunday evening at Lucy's Lounge in Pleasantville.

intimate gathering where the artist will be able to interact with the audience, Covone said

"There's a lot of good talent that could come down, play for the night in front of a select group of people and make a little pocket change," he said. "I'm sure they play bigger venues, bit it would be fun to give people bigger access on a personal level." Covone said that through his involvement in the music business – he is also a performer – he was introduced to Williams, who was amenable to the idea. It also doesn't hurt that Williams is a local resident, living in Armonk.

"He's a great musician, he's got a couple of CDs out," he said. "I had a conversation with him and he said (he'd) love to do it. He really enjoys the venue and he really enjoys supporting it, so he's going to do it."

If you can't get down to Lucy's this Sunday, there's no reason to fret. Williams will be returning the final Sunday of each month as a sort of resident musician, Covone said.

The series' second show will feature blues performer Popa Chubby, who will appear on Aug. 11. Covone said he is working on filling future Sunday evenings throughout the year.

For Covone, Lucy's is an ideal venue for the music series. It's centrally located in the county and within walking distance of a train station. Plus, it has the type of atmosphere that patrons enjoy.

"I've always liked Lucy's. I'm a performer as well and it's one of the first places I ever performed when I first moved to Westchester from New York City," said Covone, a New Castle resident. "I always thought it would be great to have some type of a place like that and I never could find a place that I thought would work not only from a logistical standpoint but the venue, the vibe, the management, and Lucy's was the one."

Sunday's program will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 to \$51 and can be purchased by visiting https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bernie-williams-friends-tickets-64690151986.

Lucy's Lounge is located at 446 Bedford Rd. in Pleasantville. For more information about the Live at Lucy's Sunday Night series, including future shows, visit its Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/LucysLoungeNY.

Greenburgh Nature Center Live Butterfly Exhibit a Sight to Behold

By Natalie Chun

Greenburgh Nature Center opened a special butterfly earlier this month that features monarchs from Folk's Butterfly Farm in Pennsylvania.

The butterfly exhibit is an annual event and is one of the most popular events at Greenburgh Nature Center. Director of Marketing and Communications Rebecca Snyder estimated that about 2,000 people will attend the exhibit this season.

"We want to get as many people to become more aware and educated about the magic of butterflies, and why they're important in nature," Synder said.

The butterflies are kept in the center's arbor, which is screened off for the exhibit. Native plants are kept in the arbor so attendees can see the different stages of butterflies. It also allows for "a really intimate experience with these magical creatures," Snyder said.

In addition to the butterfly exhibit, Greenburgh Nature Center has a live indoor and outdoor animal museum featuring about 100 animals and is open all year. There is also a Story Walk exhibit that is free and open to the public and features a nature-themed story told along one of the short hiking trails through the Native Plant Meadow.

Greenburgh Nature Center is also currently running summer camps for children in entering grades K-3 that gives



NATALIE CHUN PHOTOS

Campers dig through the mud to look for worms that they plan on feeding to the nature center's chickens.

campers the opportunity to learn from nature and take advantage of the center's resources.

"We impact close to 90,000 people each year through our community outreach, school programming, events, communications and press," Snyder said. "Our mission is to ignite passion, curiosity and respect for our natural world."

Greenburgh Nature Center's 100-yearold manor house recently underwent major renovations with new shingles, windows and doors outside to new flooring and paint jobs inside.

"You can definitely see the change when you walk in," Snyder said, inviting those in the community to come and visit.



Greenburgh Nature Center's special butterfly exhibit is one of the center's most popular events. It is open through Aug. 3.

Coming up, Greenburgh Nature Center is hosting a Family Overnight Campout for members on Aug. 3-4. At the end of the campout, the Bye-Bye Butterflies program will take place in which the butterflies from the live exhibit will be released.

"It's to kind of honor how much they taught us through the summer," Snyder said. "We will talk about their journey and identify stopping points around the U.S. that are critical to their success."

In early September, Greenburgh Nature

Center will have their biggest fundraiser event, the Golf & Tennis Classic. There will be contests, food and beverages, as well as a round-robin tennis tournament. And in the evening, a reception with cocktails, a banquet dinner and silent auction.

The butterfly exhibit is open daily, except Friday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday, Aug. 3. For more information, visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

How Your Street's Name Influences Your Home's Appeal

Besides serving as a way to find where you live, can the name of your street influence the perception of your home and its value, positively or negatively?

The thought occurred to me a while back when I read a newspaper report about a complaint among residents in a Putnam County town where a local motel housed a number of sex offenders. The motel's street address was listed as Sodom Road.

The origins of street names can be a fascinating study, ranging from history, their locations, mystery or sheer whimsy.

I was first aware of how streets got their names when I went to elementary school in Philadelphia and the nuns taught us that the etymology of street names there were based on the plan developed by William Penn, where the major eastwest streets were the names of trees: Vine, Mulberry, Chestnut, Walnut, Locust, Spruce and Pine among them, intersected by a numbered grid.

When we took a class trip to Washington, D.C., I found that all 50 states have streets named after them and most of them cross diagonally through an alphabetic and numbered grid system. Rather than making an address clear, the intention of that

The Home Guru



By Bill Primavera

serves to confuse tourists.

When I moved to New York, I was relieved to find a grid plan that made finding any address very easy, except for the wildly erratic system in Greenwich Village, which was established

system was to confuse invaders

and to guard the Capitol. Today it

very easy, except for the wildly erratic system in Greenwich Village, which was established before the grid system was in place. That resulted in having West 4th Street somehow managing to intersect West 12th Street.

Until the mid-1800s, the densely populated cities mostly had grid systems, which avoided chaos. For those who didn't live in congested cities, and with

increased value placed on nature, it became common to name streets after trees. As a result, my immediate neighborhood, an early one, features Hickory, Hemlock and Birch streets.

The roads in our communities might reveal the types of industries they originally supported – Mill Street, Milk Street, Commerce Street and Mechanics Road. Also, presidents were honored in every town: Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Madison and Kennedy abound across the nation. Other streets reflect their surroundings such as Mountain View, Lakeside and Hudson View.

But the most creative names came with modern housing track developments where builders became responsible for naming streets, harnessing the suggestive power of words that shape a neighborhood even before the first home is built.

Sometimes the personal interests of builders attached themselves to street names. The most interesting I've found is a neighborhood in Mahopac known as the "fish bowl" where the streets are named Pike Place, Perch Drive and Trout Place. In the same community, my friends Jeanne and Gerry live in the "flower" neighborhood of Astor, Dahlia and Tulip. Nearby in Yorktown, we become American literary aficionados in Walden Woods with the names Whitman, Emerson and Thoreau.

From the 1970s and '80s, newer developments frequently adopted names of the developers' wives or daughters, and only infrequently, sons. Today, that practice is generally discouraged by town planning boards because those street signs tend to be stolen more frequently, presumably by people of the same names.

We can either be drawn to or repelled by the mystery of some street names. I had a real estate client who challenged me to find a house for her on Watermelon Hill Road simply because she loved the name so much. My personal favorites in this region are Pudding Street, Bullet Hole Road and Lover's Lane in Putnam Valley and Fiddler's Bridge Road in Dutchess County. Where did those haunting names originate, I wonder?

As I travel our byways, I wonder whether Church Street or Seminary Road lead the traveler to heaven?

And let's not forget all the names that reflect our Native American roots, such as Wiccoppee and Taconic.

There's no denying that, whether your street suggests picking a flower, enjoying the comfort of a shade tree, paying tribute to a founding father, making love or catching a fish, its name can indeed add character, charm or mystery to where you live.

Here's a good trivia question for you. Can you guess the most popular street name in America? No, it's not Main, Maple or Elm. It's 2nd Street. Surprised? The reason is that most towns in America started with a simple grid of numbered streets, but many times 1st Street was renamed Main Street, boosting 2nd Street to the lead.

So you might say that 2nd is second to none.

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

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The Weekly Feature from Entergy

Young Pleasantville Actor Ready for Breakthrough Performance

By Martin Wilbur

Listening to Nikoleta Samios speak about her love of the theater and acting, it's hard not to be struck by her confidence while realizing she's still very much a kid.

The 10-year-old actor and soon-to-be Pleasantville Middle School fifth-grader, has had roles in school productions, Summerstage shows at Arc Stages and a small part in last year's Random Farms Kids Theater's version of "Peter Pan."

But next week, Samios will be taking on her biggest role yet. For two performances, she will play the lead character in Random Farms' production of the musical "Matilda" at the Tarrytown Music Hall.

A few weeks before her two appearances, which will be on Friday evening, Aug. 2 and Saturday afternoon, Aug. 3, there was not a hint of the butterflies when hearing Samios talk about the thrill of landing the part and the work she has been putting in

to prepare for her performances.

"It's pretty hard," Samios said. "I have to memorize the whole story, which is like two or three pages long and there's four of them, which is a lot, but I did it somehow."

The character Matilda is a child who is a virtual genius. The play, which was first performed in London, requires her to speak Russian as well as have a British accent. Along with singing and dancing, the role would be a challenge for almost any actor.

Samios said she learned that she landed the lead in April. While she was relatively confident that she would secure a role in one of the show's casts, she wasn't necessarily expecting to snag Matilda's character, even though Samios was hopeful. She recalled when her mother was e-mailed the cast list.

"Actually, we were driving home from somewhere and my mother was like, "My gosh, I got Matilda," Samios recalled.



Nikoleta Samios, 10, will play the lead in the Random Farms production of "Matilda" at Tarrytown Music Hall on Aug. 2-3.

"But I thought it was a mistake."

It has required rehearsals four days a week starting right after July 4th weekend. The rehearsals typically last for five to six hours, said her mother, Alicia. She said Nikoleta loves attending the rehearsals and enjoys the entire process.

"It's like any other activity. I mean her

passion is musical theater," said Alicia Samios. "We support anything she wants to do."

Samios said starting when she was four or five years old, she would sing and dance around the house. She also has taken multiple acting and singing lessons to continue to improve on her talents as well as Acro dancing, a style that combines elements of classical dance with acrobatics.

However, Alicia Samios noticed that early on her daughter had outstanding pitch and would self-correct the few times she was off and almost immediately was aware when a note was off-key.

"Her pitch is really good, I just think even when she was really young," she said. "I could tell she had good pitch and she corrects her pitch, which is something that I just picked up on."

When Samios isn't on stage, rehearsing or taking acting and singing lessons and isn't concentrating on schoolwork during most of the year, she enjoys soccer, dancing, playing on the computer and being with her friends. She's also learning Greek and is looking forward to starting middle school in September.

The cast, which consists of other youth actors throughout the metropolitan area, has been a great opportunity for Samios to meet new friends.

"It's fun, it's fun meeting new people," she said.

Briarcliff H.S. Student Makes A Difference With Bridges to Community

By Linnet Tse

Briarcliff High School sophomore Rosie Swidler, who was born in the United Kingdom and moved to Briarcliff Manor last September with her family, first ventured to the Dominican Republic in February on a service trip with Bridges to Community (BTC), sponsored by her synagogue Temple Sharaay Tefila.

She traveled to La Guama, a rural, impoverished community of 1,500 residents, 60 percent of whom live below the poverty line. There, Swidler immersed herself in the community and helped build a cement block house for a needy family.

BTC, a community development and service-learning organization based in Chappaqua, promotes cross-cultural partnerships and sustainable community development. It began its work in Nicaragua in 1993 and expanded to the Dominican Republic a little over six years ago. Over the years, BTC has developed a sustainable and replicable community development program focused on four key areas: housing, health, education and economic development.

Swidler said that her trip "made me realize that I could truly make a difference in someone's life. It also allowed me to immerse myself in a country with a different language and culture and helped expand my horizons to understand what people's lives are like who live in severe poverty."

She found the experience so rewarding that she was determined to return during her summer vacation. So, at the end of



Briarcliff High School student Rosie Swidler with several local children during one of her two trips to La Guama, Dominican Republic to build a house for a family.

June, she returned to the community of La Guama with St. John's Episcopal Church of Larchmont on its 13th annual house-building trip with BTC. In preparation for her trip, she raised an impressive \$13,000 to support Bridges' community development work.

During her second weeklong service trip, Swidler was one of a group of 16 that built a home for Gumercindo La Pax and his wife, Fela Jimenez, and their daughter and her children. Their old home was a tin structure which was in very poor condition with a leaky roof and dirt floors that eroded in the rain. The BTC team built the family a 6-by-8-meter cinderblock house with a tile floor and metal roof to provide a safe and sturdy home, fulfilling what the family thought was an impossible dream.

"Bridges to Community has impacted my life by allowing me to understand the world better," said Swidler, reflecting on her visits to the Dominican Republic. "Through my two trips, my Spanish has improved tremendously, I have formed new friendships, and most importantly, I have come to appreciate the little things such as water that I in America have but those around the world including La Guama do not."

She also noted how it changed her perspective on the world and impacted her future goals, causing her to want to focus on improving the lives of people who are less fortunate, both locally and across the globe.

For more information on Bridges to Community, visit https://bridgestocommunity.org/.

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Happenin8s

Tuesday, July 23

Book Bingo. Play Book Bingo and win books as prizes. Children younger than kindergarten must come with an adult helper. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-669-5161 or www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org.

Game Changers. Play board games with your friends. For children six years old and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Tuesdays through Aug. 13. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

DIY CD Spinning Top. Create a fun and decorative spinner using CDs. For students 10 to 15 years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

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

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, July 24

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 through Aug. 14. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Bridge Group for Advanced Players. Are you good at bridge but you'd like to get better? Come learn from the masters. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:15 a.m. to noon. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

Toddler Storytime. Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11

a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday through Aug. 16. 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 through Aug. 16. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary. org.

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

Bilingual Storytime. Sing songs and read picture books in English and Spanish. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Wednesdays through Aug. 14. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

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

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

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

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. English only on Wednesdays. Appointments available in Spanish on Thursdays and Saturdays. Info and Wednesday appointments: 914-336-6026. Info and Thursday and Saturday appointments: 914-336-6935.

Science Lab. Become a junior scientist and learn about different science topics through stories, crafts and experiments. A new topic is discussed each week. For children four to six years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887

or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Knitting at the Library. Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels. For ages 10 and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Wednesdays through Aug 14. Info: 914-864-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Chess. Learn the rules of the game, basic openings, various tactics and basic endgame strategies in a supportive and fun learning environment. Recommended for beginner and intermediate players in grades K-12. (Chess sets that meet the United States Chess Federation standards will be provided. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Insects Rock! An interactive presentation for children ages five to nine years old. Children will experience an up-close, personal, hands-on approach with prehistoric insects, insect life cycles, insect parts, adaptation and how a fly flies. There will be detailed and really cool information on mosquitoes, fireflies, cicadas, bees, ants, butterflies, dragonflies and arachnids. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Mount Pleasant. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Dancing at Dusk. Take a journey of music and movement to Argentina! Explore the century-old history of tango, led by Grammywinning Argentine bandoneon virtuoso Héctor Del Curto, with a performance by his trio, special guest 11-year-old clarinet whiz Santiago Del Curto and Argentine tango dancers. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 5 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children: \$8. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

Create a Paper Succulent Garden. All supplies will be provided. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887 ext. 3 or at the reference desk.

Mount Kisco Arts Council Summer Concert Series. Steel drum band Silver Steel will be performing this evening. Fountain Park at Village Hall, 104 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 6:30 p.m. Free. Series continues every other Wednesday evening through Sept. 18. Info: Visit the Mount Kisco Arts Council's Facebook page or on Instagram.

New Castle 2019 Summer Concert Series: Arena Rock Tribute. A multitribute classic rock band that pays homage to iconic bands and artists who helped define classic rock in the 1970s and '80s. The third of six Wednesday evening concerts. Recreation Field, South Greeley Avenue, Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free.

Art Series: Albert Bierstadt. German by birth, American by choice, Bierstadt was the preeminent archivist of the great Westward Expansion in America. Known for his sweeping views and grand vistas, he dominated the western genre and influenced generations of painters that followed him. Look at Bierstadt's early training in Europe and the classical styles that influenced his work and choice of subject matter. 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.

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

Men's Night Out: Living With Loss. Open to men who have lost a spouse or partner to breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers. A casual night out enjoying good food while in the company of others who understand how you feel. Travelers Rest, Route 100, Ossining. 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

"Honeyland." The last in a long line of Macedonian wild beekeepers, Hatidze Muratova ekes out a living, working gently without netting or gloves and always leaving half the honey for the bees. But when a new family moves in with roaring engines, seven rowdy children, 150 cows and a profitminded approach, her life and the bees' future are suddenly on the line. This sumptuous, intimate film is a glimpse of a disappearing way of life and a tender portrait of the delicate balance between humankind and nature. Winner of the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize at Sundance. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:15 p.m. Members: \$12. Non-members: \$17. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Thursday, July 25

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 through Aug. 15. 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. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

Lifeline Theater Music Program. An outlet for unlocking the potential of children and adults with special needs through integrated arts and life skills programs. Drop 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 every Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 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 continued on page 22

The Ultimate Celebrity Wine Resurrected From the Italian Renaissance



By Nick Antonaccio

Celebrity wines have become highly popular in recent years.

A phenomenon of the last quarter century of winemaking in the United States has been the advent and increasing popularity of wines

You Heard It

Through the

endorsed by, or oftentimes owned and produced by, artists from all segments of the entertainment industry, not to mention the lesser-known Silicon Valley entrepreneurs and titans of the finance industry.

Many wines with celebrity labels on bottles are vanity wines, an expression of wealth and ego satiating. But others are true labors of love and, with significant investments, are highly acclaimed.

The current desire of wealthy Americans to

create a unique expression of their vinous preferences has its roots in Western Europe.

For centuries, dating back to the ancient Roman and Greek eras, wine has been considered an integral part of one's lifestyle. Royalty and the wealthy owned

their own vineyards, producing wines that paired well with their sophisticated and luxurious dinner menus. Middle class families sought out local wine merchants to satisfy their desire for wines. Many farmers and sharecroppers at the bottom rung of the social ladder tended their own backyard patches, typically harvesting just enough to sustain themselves from crop to crop.

European artists of the Renaissance era were sometimes paid for their efforts by goods rather than cash. Wine was an acceptable, and at times, favored form of payment.

My affinity for 15th and 16th century Italian artists, from Leonardo da Vinci to Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli and

> Caravaggio, led me to the theme for this week's column.

> I was aware that several Renaissance celebrities owned their own vineyards, producing wines that matched their personal palate and preferences. I recently came upon an

archeological discovery that elevated my admiration for one of my favorite cultural masters.

In 2015, in a patch of land in Milan, researchers from the Museo Vigna di Leonardo identified the remnants of a vineyard belonging to da Vinci. Apparently,

the master artist, inventor and scientist, who gave meaning to the modern-day term Renaissance man, also dabbled in oenology.

Through DNA techniques, the organization identified the wine produced by da Vinci and restored the vineyard to its original footprint and viniculture. The first harvest of 330 bottles will be auctioned this September, in conjunction with the 500th anniversary of the

master's death.

The vineyard had been thought to be lost to the ravages and vagaries of centuries of urban development and war. Once again, modern science has intervened in history to allow us a glimpse into da Vinci's life

and lifestyle.

First, the backdrop. After completing a commission in the dining room of a Dominican convent in Milan for the Duke of Milan, for what was to become one of the most famous and recognized paintings of all time (guess which painting; it has a wine and food theme), the Duke gifted da Vinci a 2.5-acre vineyard near the convent. Leonardo immersed himself in the science and practices of vineyard management and wine making, referring to wine as "the divine liquor of grapes."

Unfortunately, the very next year he lost the vineyard and departed Milan when the French invaded and conquered

the city-state. But da Vinci's many accomplishments were well known and the French king invited him to return to Milan and his vineyard. The vineyard was sustained long after da Vinci's death,

but was destroyed by Allied bombings in World War II.

Fast forward to 2015. Based on advanced DNA techniques, scientists were able to test samples of the rootstock of the destroyed vineyard. They determined that the original

vineyard produced a wine similar to the modern-day white wine Malvasia. The vineyard was restored in 2015 as it was originally planted, yielding its first crop in 2018.

I'll keep you informed on the details as the wine auction gets closer. What a thrill it would be to enjoy a celebrity wine that meticulously replicates the unique expression of da Vinci's vinous preferences.

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.

Estate Planning is an Essential Step for Younger Families

Among my clients, estate plans for people younger than 40 are scant. Yet, from an estate planning perspective, they carry the greatest exposure.

While death or disability at any age creates complications, the danger is amplified for younger families, especially those with children. The starting point is a Last Will and Testament or revocable trust established during your lifetime. If these documents are not properly drafted or combined with other estate planning documents, complications will still exist.

Using Trusts for Children

Where there are children, even adult children, the management of assets becomes paramount. Without proper planning, the courts will oversee the management of a minor child's assets. In the case of young adult children, the assets may be subjected to the whims of children who may be incapable of handling assets, especially after a traumatic loss of one's parents.

Using a trust created under the terms of your will or revocable trust, managed by one or more trustees for the benefit of your child, solves many problems. These trusts can be crafted in several ways. For instance, a common technique is to prepare a trust that provides for discretionary

payments of income and principal until a certain age. Upon reaching that age, the trust terminates and the assets pass to the adult child.

Another type of trust that is being used with increasing popularity is something called a beneficiary controlled trust. These trusts are often used to prevent the child from losing assets in a divorce proceeding. It does not terminate. Rather, when the child reaches a certain

age, he becomes a trustee of his own trust. Therefore, the child has some control over the management and use of the trust property.

If you are using trusts, be sure to work with an attorney to customize your beneficiary designation forms for your designated assets since they do not pass under the terms of a will or revocable trust unless you direct them to do so. If you don't customize a beneficiary designation form to specify which assets should pass to the trust being created under your will or revocable trust, the account will be distributed directly to your children, defeating the purpose of your estate plan.

Nomination of Guardians



By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq.

In New York, a child under 18 years old is considered a minor. To avoid family members fighting over the custody of minor children or to avoid the court having to appoint an unrelated person to care for your children, you should nominate a guardian in your will. There is a guardian of the person and one for the property. They do not need to be the same person. In fact, these roles are often divided.

Advance Directives

Advance directives consist of powers of attorney, statutory gifts riders, health care proxies and, in some cases, forms providing for the disposition of your remains and release of protective medical information. Anyone can become disabled at any time. Without advance directives, the problems may be worse than the problems created by death. For instance, your family may end up in a protracted guardianship proceeding to be able to handle your personal and financial needs.

Life Insurance

The optimal time to purchase life insurance is during your younger years. It should be part of every well-thought-out

estate plan for younger families. If there is a premature death, life insurance provides the cash flow to the surviving family members to move on.

Too often, life insurance is not even considered, or if it is, insufficient amounts of insurance are purchased. The most important form of life insurance for a young family is term insurance. It is cheap, which allows for a significant amount to be purchased to provide for your family in case of death.

While proceeds from life insurance are tax-free to the beneficiary, don't overlook that the value of the policy is included in the decedent's gross taxable estate. If you own significant life insurance, you could easily end up with a taxable estate for New York State purposes. If that's the case, your attorney should discuss a life insurance trust to remove the taxable value of the insurance from your estate.

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.

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Happenin8s

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Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday through Aug. 15. Info: 914-741-0276 or www. mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Bounce the Baby. Enjoy simple stories, fingerplays and lap-sit songs for early literacy skills. Incorporates board books that focus on singing to, moving with and playing alongside your babies as instructed by the librarian. For children three to 18 months old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

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

National Theatre Live's "The Lehman Trilogy." From a cold morning in 1844 when an ambitious young man from Bavaria sets foot on a New York dock to a time 163 years later when the firm he co-founded spectacularly collapses, this critically acclaimed and five-time Olivier Award-nominated play tracks the rise and fall of Lehman Brothers. Written by Stefano Massini, it is directed artfully by Academy Award-winner Sam Mendes. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m. Members: \$25. Nonmembers: \$35. Info and tickets: Visit www. burnsfilmcenter.org.

Summer Celebration. Entertainment, snacks, puzzles and crafts. Graham Clarke will be performing for children ages two to seven years old and their families. Denny Daniel will have actual items from NASA, World War II and the Cold War as well as atomic/radiology items and unique spy items. See and handle authentic space race, military and domestic items from this era and someone may even get to try on an actual NASA Space Shuttle jumpsuit. For children, teens and adults. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

LEGO Challenge. Make space-themed LEGO creations like the Mars Rover, space aliens and rocket ships. Open to all ages. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-669-5161 or www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org.

Pre-K Storytime With Craft. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 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

DIY Constellation Jar. Create a glowing constellation in a mason jar. For children seven to 13 years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info

and registration: 914-864-0130.

Read to Rover. Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. For children five years old and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Thursdays through Aug. 15. Info: 914-666-8041 or www. mountkiscolibrary.org.

Block Party: Mark Morganelli & The Jazz All-Stars. A Brazilian jazz group performs for the third of seven Katonah Museum of Art concerts. Includes complementary soft drinks, craft beer, wine and specialty cocktails along with light refreshments. Rain or shine. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 6 to 8 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$25. Children (under 18): Free. Info and tickets: Visit www.katonahmuseum.org.

American Modern Opera Company. This recital marks the debut of Veils for Desire, created by members of the American Modern Opera Company, an exciting new collective of some of today's most gifted, curious and innovative artists. Built around Britten's dramatic canticle "Abraham and Isaac," this inventive recital features works that "veil" or transform unspeakable desires into new, mysterious forms. Also included are works by Bach, Monteverdi, and AMOC Co-artistic Director and 2018 MacArthur Fellow Matthew Aucoin on piano. Featuring Anthony Roth Costanzo, countertenor, and Paul Appleby, tenor. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts. 149 Girdle Ridge Rd.. Katonah. 7 p.m. Adults: \$30 to \$56. Children: \$15 to \$56. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or www.caramoor.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 July 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 wolvesl. All guests will be served weather appropriate treats. Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 7 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children (under 12): \$13. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Summer Concerts in the Park. The Town of Mount Pleasant will host the fourth of seven Thursday night concerts. Tonight, What It Is will be performing. Preceded by student opening acts. Carroll Park, James M. Carroll Park, 202 Kensico Rd., Thornwood. 7 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.mtpleasantny.com.

"Mom's the Word." If you are a mom or have a mom, then this show is for you. A musical about the challenges of motherhood. Bring your mom, your sister, your daughter, you BFF for a night of laughs, wine and hors d'oeuvres. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. \$50. Info and tickets: Visit www.northcastlelibrary. org or www.LiceOut911.com.

Friday, July 26

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. Also July 26. 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.

Movie Madness! Come to see some family movies. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 3:30 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Ossining Food Truck Fridays & Concert Series: Mike Risko Band. Ossining continues its summer concert series with an evening of food trucks, craft beer, wine and cider and music. Louis Engel Waterfront Park, 25 Westerly Rd., Ossining Food trucks at 5 p.m. Music at 7 p.m. Free admission. Info: Visit www.OssiningChamber.org.

Friday Night Film Series: "The Big Short. This Oscar winning feature has a highoctane cast that includes Brad Pitt, Christian Bale, Steve Carrell and Ryan Gosling. A high-speed innovative look at the spiral that led to the subprime home loan bubble explosion in 2008, this film garnered 38 festival wins and 78 nominees due in part to an incredibly entertaining script and great direction from Adam McKay. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Gallery Jams. Bring an instrument and play with a group of musicians in an improvisational setting. Amps, a drum kit and mics will be available for musicians to use. Make new friends and rock out! The Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 7 to 10 p.m. \$15. Also July 28 and Aug. 1 and 2. Info and reservations. Visit www. schoolhousetheater.org.

Daniil Trifilov in Concert. This Russian piano phenomenon returns with a solo recital of Beethoven, Schumann and Prokofiev, following up on his rapturously received Caramoor performance of 2017. Since then, besides receiving raves from every corner of the globe, Trifilov has won Gramophone's 2016 Artist of the Year award and added two albums to his discography: "Transcendental," a double album of Liszt's works that won the Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Solo Album in 2018, and this season's "Destination Rachmaninov: Departure." Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 8 p.m. Adults: \$30 to \$103. Children: \$15 to \$103. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

Saturday, July 27

Pleasantville Farmers Market. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" six years in a row from 2014 to 2019, with over 50 vendors and eight nearby parking lots. This week, Market Sprouts will

feature soccer (AYSO) from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Caribbean music by International Women in Reggae 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. 16. 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 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Drawing Class With Joseph Frank. Drawing for children five to eight years old. The themes surrounding these activities will relate to celestial space and astronomy. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. to noon. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887, then press 4.

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.

Painting Class With Joseph Frank. Painting for children eight to 11 years old. The themes surrounding these activities will relate to celestial space and astronomy. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887, then press 4.

Figurative Painting Class. A figurative art class with Adam Handler, whose exhibit, "Between Nightmares and Fairy Tales: Works on Paper From 2014-2019 is currently at the Madelyn Jordon Fine Art gallery in Scarsdale Open to ages seven and up. Materials included. Madelyn Jordon Fine Art, 37 Popham Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 3 p.m. \$30 per person. Info and registration: 914-723-8739 or visit www.MadelynJordonFineArt.com.

Figure Drawing Workshop. Learn how to render a realistic human figure. Understand fundamental principles such as composition, scale and value, which are the key to successful life drawing. Examine the figure in relation to space and volume. Gesture, anatomy and expressiveness of the

continued on next page

An Age-Old Question, 'Why God Invented Whiskey,' Answered

Whiskey, which in Irish is called uisce beatha (pronounced ish-keh byah-ha, which translates literally into "water of life") certainly has its place in the cultural traditions of Ireland.

Whatever one's opinions may be, it has

become associated with the Irish for many reasons, not all of them complimentary. I've had a drop or two, though quite a few years have passed since I last tasted it. Having read early on of several attempts to lead the Irish from the evils of hard liquor, I find it a fascinating topic.

This month I profile one of the most influential Irishmen in the 19th century, Father Theobald Mathew (1790-1856). Mathew was an Irish Catholic priest and member of the Capuchin order who

had an extraordinary influence on pre-Famine Ireland. He created a temperance movement that at one point saw over half the adults of Ireland pledge never to touch another drop of "the creature." I did not just make that up.

A native of County Tipperary, he was educated in Kilkenny, spent time at Maynooth, and in 1814 was ordained to the priesthood in Dublin, joining the

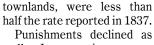
Capuchins and moving to Cork. Appalled at the debilitating impact alcohol had on the Irish, Mathew was instrumental in the 1838 formation of the Cork Total Abstinence Society. In less than nine months the society had signed up 150,000 members,

and then began to spread to other regions of Ireland.

Giant rallies saw crowds numbering 20,000 100,000 take the pledge. By 1845, just as the specter of the Famine fell upon Ireland, this grassroots movement numbered over three million adherents, more than half the adult population of Ireland. It had even begun to make inroads in neighboring Britain, where Mathew held rallies at Liverpool, Manchester and London, drawing enormous crowds at

The impact on Irish society was immediate. Compared to crime levels reported in 1837, the year prior to the movement's genesis, homicides dropped, as did assaults, incendiary fires, robberies and cases of spousal and child abuse. By 1841, "faction fights," the time-honored and culturally embedded display of Irish belligerence characterized by near-pitched battles between residents of different

each venue.



well. Incarcerations were fewer, transportation to penal colonies were almost cut in half and executions plummeted.

Unfortunately, the Great Famine (1845-1851) turned the movement upside down, as concerns of starvation, death and mass emigration seized the minds and hearts of the people the movement

sought to save from the ravages of alcohol.

In 1849, Mathew left Ireland for the United States, where he spent almost three years touring the country and gave the temperance pledge in over 300 cities and towns. Half a million Americans accepted the challenge. But his movement

never recovered from the damaging impact of the Great Famine, and over the next 60 years its influence diminished.

Mathew died on Dec. 8, 1856, in Cobh, County Cork. His influence would long be felt in the Ireland he left behind, especially with a resurgence of interest in abstinence at the end of the century. In 1898, the formation of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association, the work of Rev. James Cullen, an Irish Jesuit, attempted to counter a rise



By Brian McGowan

Irish Eclectic

in widespread alcohol abuse in Ireland. The Pioneers, still a vibrant organization in Ireland and all countries where the Irish diaspora has planted the sons and daughters of Eire, carry on the work and spirit of Father Mathew's movement.

All of this brings to mind a t-shirt inscription I once saw on a young red-headed construction worker's back while walking across 45th Street in Manhattan.

Considering the ills that alcohol abuse has caused, the words struck a chord. "God invented whiskey," the shirt proclaimed, "to keep the Irish from ruling the world."

For anyone interested in learning a bit more about the Irish language, there are a number of user-friendly websites. Check

out https://inirish.bitesize.irish to sample one of them.

Pleasantville resident Brian McGowan was born and raised in the Bronx

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

Happenings

Fr. Mathew

continued from previous page

human form will be emphasized. Short and sustained poses will be featured with a nude model. Newsprint, kneaded erasers, charcoal are provided. Feel free to bring additional materials. For adults 18 years old and up. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 1 to 4 p.m. Members: \$79. Non-members: \$86 (includes model fee). Registration required. Info and registration: 914-738-2525 or visit www.pelhamartcenter.org.

Meet NASA Solar System Ambassador David High. Westchester astronomer David High, who was inspired by writers Arthur C. Clarke and Isaac Asimov as a child, will deliver a presentation on the workings of the universe. For all ages. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they celebrate the birth of pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves as well. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 2 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also July 28 and Aug. 4, 17 and 25 at 2 p.m. and Aug. 3, 10, 11, 18, 24 and 31 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and preregistration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Researching Your Genealogy. The second of three sessions that bring helpful genealogy topics. In this session, Tips and Trips Using Ancestry.com in Researching Your Family, learn how to research efficiently and successfully using this powerful site. There will be helpful tips suggested to find those elusive relatives, which parameters to use and how to prevent looking at thousands of names in search of the one person you are trying to find. Also included are often overlooked options and the newest cool features that have just been added. Led by Toni McKeen, who has been lecturing and teaching genealogy classes in the tristate area for 15 years. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 2 p.m. Free. The remaining sessions will be Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887 ext. 3.

Empire State Stand Up Showdown Second Round. This round takes the best from the preliminary rounds and brings them one step closer to that \$1,200 grand prize. Audience and judges both help decide who advances to the finale. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 6 p.m. \$25. Also Aug. 3. Info and tickets: Visit www. lucyslaughlounge.com.

Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn. Crowned "the king and queen of the banjo" by Paste Magazine, this husband-and-wife duo build upon the folk tradition to create a distinct style pulling inspiration from Chinese atonal music, the banjo's rich American

heritage, and more to stretch "their sound beyond bluegrass, across continents, and into everything from prog-rock to Eastern instrumentation." Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 8 p.m. Adults: \$42 to \$81. Children: \$21 to \$81. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or visit www.caramoor.org.

International Orange. This jazz fusion band describe themselves as "guitar driven musical sunshine dancing to a global beat." New York City veteran musicians Todd Isler (drums) and David Phelps (guitar) started the band, which also now includes Leo Traversa (bass) and Adam Morrison (keyboards). Their original music marries the slide guitar of the American South to the sensibilities of India, Africa and Brazil. The Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 8 p.m. \$25. Info and tickets: Visit www.schoolhousetheater.

"Audition." Recent widower Shigeharu is advised by his son to find a new wife. On the advice of a film company colleague, they stage "auditions" for a new girlfriend that masquerade as an acting job. Shigeharu becomes enchanted with Asami: a spooky twentysomething responsive to his charms. The film carefully pulls the audience through a wrenching exploration of deep male fears and the stereotype of submissive Japanese women. Presented in 35mm, courtesy of the American Genre Film Archive. Part of the Summer Late Nights series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 9:15 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info

and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Sunday, July 28

Coffee with Wolves. Enjoy your morning coffee with the wolves. Visitors are encouraged to bring their newspapers and spend a relaxing morning with the ambassador and red wolves. We'll provide the coffee and the wolves. The wolves can be very active in the early morning so visitors should remain quiet and subdued, as this is a peaceful, private moment for all involved. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 9 a.m. \$12. Also Aug. 11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

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 Aug. 4 and 25 at 11 a.m. and Aug. 3, 10, 24 and 31 at 2 p.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-763-2373 or visit www.nywolf.org.

Irish-American Heritage Festival. continued on page 24

Happenin8s

continued from page 23

Music, entertainment, crafts and food vendors. Ridge Road Park, 287 Ridge Rd., Hartsdale. 1 to 5:30 p.m. \$5. Children (14 and under): Free. Info: 914-864-PARK or visit parks.westchestergov.com.

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.

Valhalla Summerfest. Explore downtown Valhalla with live music, local food and fun. Presented by the Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce. Broadway (at the gazebo), Valhalla. 3 p.m. Free admission. Also Aug. 18. Info: Visit www. mtpleasantchamberofcommerce.org.

Orchestra of St. Luke's. The summer season comes to a close with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, led by its Principal Conductor Bernard Labadie and violinist Christian Tetzlaff. The program includes one of the most popular violin concertos in the repertoire, Mendelssohn's E Minor, alongside his "Hebrides" concert overture and Beethoven's First Symphony. Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts, 149 Girdle Ridge Rd., Katonah. 4 p.m. Adults: \$30 to \$91. Children: \$15 to \$91. Info and tickets: 914-232-1252 or www.caramoor.org.

Live at Lucy's Sunday Night Series: Bernie Williams. The first event of this new Sunday evening musical series will feature guitar virtuoso and former New York Yankee superstar Bernie Williams. Williams will be joined by other guest artists. Building on Lucy's Lounge's long-standing reputation for fostering local talent, this series will showcase national touring acts in an intimate setting unlike any in the area. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. \$30 to \$51. Info and tickets: Visit www. eventbrite.com/e/bernie-williams-friendstickets-64690151986.

Monday, July 29

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

Mommy and Toddler Yoga. Stretch and shine with your toddler during this playful introduction to yoga using games, songs, stories and more. For children one to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Mondays through Aug. 12. Info: 914-273-3887.

Here We Are Together: Story Time for Children. From newborns to school-age children, with a parent or caregiver. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount

Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Mondays through Aug. 12. Info: 914-666-8041 or www. mountkiscolibrary.org.

Camp Crafts. Join in for some classic summer fun. For children six years old and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Mondays through Aug. 12. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

Expand Your Universe Art Workshop. Various medium will be used to create projects that will encourage imagination while having fun learning about paint and colors. Different surfaces and experimenting with art tools will be tried to see what the results might be. This week, paint with different materials. Wear old clothes or a smock. For children five years old and up. Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Each Monday through Aug. 12 there will be a different medium used to create projects. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

Pajama Storytime. Come and hear stories at the library in your pajamas. Bring your favorite soft cuddle buddy or a pillow. Feel free to bring a small, light snack. All ages. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Free. Mondays through Aug. 12. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

Just Write! A creative writing club, led by published poet and librarian Mary Johnson. Come and create your writing in a friendly, encouraging environment. New members welcome. The club is open to anyone 16 years old and up. All levels welcome. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipppoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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

Open Mic Comedy. This is where the comedians come out to work on new jokes, change old jokes or just experiment with words that they just learned. This is not a traditional comedy show. The performers can say and do whatever they want, and we believe in giving the artists a space that they can be bold, creative, daring, insulting and controversial if they choose. No waiter or bar service in the showroom. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Sign up at 7 p.m. Show at 7:30 p.m. Free. Every Monday. Info: Visit www.lucyslaughlounge.com.

Tuesday, July 30

1, 2, 3 Sing With Nancy. For children six months to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 a.m. 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. Tuesdays through Aug. 13. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscolibrary.org.

DIY Wood and Paper Stars. Create colorful hanging stars out of coffee stirrers and tissue paper. For children eight to 12 years old. 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.

Wednesday, July 31

Blood Drive. The Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Department and the Pleasantville Volunteer Ambulance Corps is hosting a summer blood drive. Donors from all towns welcome. The NY Blood Center is offering anyone who comes a great summer t-shirt to wear proudly. Student donors 16 to 19 years old will also be given a \$15 gift card to Dunkin' Donuts. Pleasantville Fire House, 75 Washington Ave., Pleasantville. 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: 800-688-0900. Registration 800-933-2566 or visit www.nybloodcenter.org/donate-blood.

Astronauts Are People Too. An interactive, hands-on program about living and working in space for children three to six years old. With an emphasis on STEAM, this workshop includes the reading of Canadian astronaut, Commander Chris Hadfield's children's book, "Darkest Dark," and will explore what life is like for astronauts living on the International Space Station. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration requested. Info and registration: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

Happy Birthday Harry Potter Celebration. July 31 is a magical day. It's Harry Potter's birthday, and the beloved fictional wizard turns 39 in 2019. Come for some treats and crafts. For children seven to 13 years old. 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: Guy Pene DuBois. This 20th century American painter of French heritage depicted the culture and society around him: cafes, theaters and the Roaring Twenties in his own inimitable style. 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.

Thursday, Aug. 1

Bagels & Books. "A Place for Us" by Fatima Farheen Mirza will be discussed. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 10:30 a.m. Free. Meets the first Thursday of each month. Info: 914-669-5161 or www.keelerlibrary.org.

Book Discussion. "Ella Enchanted" by Gail Carson Levine has stood the test of time. The story is a retelling of "Cinderella" featuring various mythical creatures including fairies, elves, ogres, gnomes and giants. Discussion of chapters 1-14 will touch on the themes of fairy tales and free will. Crafts and games are included. For children eight to 12 years old. 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.

Block Party: Sami Stevens Trio.

This rhythm and blues group performs for the fourth of seven Katonah Museum of Art concerts. Includes complementary soft drinks, craft beer, wine and specialty cocktails along with light refreshments. Rain or shine. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 6 to 8 p.m. Members: \$20. Nonmembers: \$25. Children (under 18): Free. Info and tickets: Visit www.katonahmuseum. org.

Grateful Dead Meet-Up 2019. Join Dead Heads in your neighborhood – and around the world - when Trafalgar Releasing and Rhino Entertainment celebrate the 9th annual Grateful Dead Meet-Up at the Movies! This can't-miss event, happening on what would have been Jerry Garcia's 77th birthday, features the previously unreleased complete June 17, 1991, concert from Giants Stadium. Widely considered one of the greatest shows of the band's final decade of performing, this concert also sounds unlike any Dead show you've ever heard as it was one of only two recorded on 48-track. As a special treat, this screening will also feature a reveal of the Grateful Dead's 2019 boxed set, featuring the Dead's legacy manager, archivist and producer David Lemieux. Part of the Sounds of Summer: Music Films Old and New Series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 8:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Nonmembers: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit www. burnsfilmcenter.org.

Friday, Aug. 2

Entergy Screening Under the Stars: "How to Train Your Dragon 3: The Hidden World." In this PG-rated, animated comedy, Hiccup discovers that Toothless isn't the only Night Fury. Hiccup must then seek "The Hidden World," a secret Dragon Utopia, before a hired tyrant named Grimmel finds it first. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. Entertainment starts at 6 p.m. Screening at dusk. Free. Refreshments available for purchase. Info: 914-864-PARK or visit www.parks.westchestergov.com.

Friday Night Film Series: "In Defense of Food." In this galvanizing documentary, author Michael Pollan focuses on ways to reverse the damage to people's health resulting from today's "industrially driven" diet. He explores the contemporary food industry and the idea that people can live healthfully by following his seven-word motto: "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants." Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www. northcastlelibrary.org.

Film Clips and Discussion. The queens of tap at MGM, Eleanor Powell and Ann Miller, will be discussed. Powell and Miller were two of the greatest female tap dancers in Hollywood musicals. Powell is best known as the MGM Queen of Tap for her solo numbers. Miller began her film career in the 1930s and continued to appear in many MGM musicals throughout the 1940s and '50s. See how both women advanced the genre of dance on film with their amazing command of tap. Chappaqua Public Library, 195 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or www.chappaqualibrary.org.

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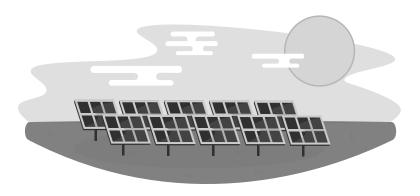
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continued from page 25

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CAMEO HOME INSPECTIONS, LLC. Arts of Org filed with the Secy of State of

NY (SSNY) on 6/6/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Came o Home Inspections LLC, 2 Ann Place, Valhalla, NY, 10595. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DAYTON LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/30/2019. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail process to: David B. Petshaft, P.C., 222 Bloomingdale Rd. Suite 116, White Plains, New York 10605. Purpose: any lawful activity.

continued on next page



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm. to hear comments on a proposed local law to remove the moratorium on establishing Districts. Improvement **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** Putnam Valley Town Board will be conducting the regular work session Town Board Meeting. BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 07-11-2019

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Putnam Valley has received a wetlands application from the following applicant: \boldsymbol{WT} 11/19 John Jacobs 250 West Shore Drive TM# 62.6-1-12 WT12/19 Susan Crawford North Shore Road TM# 51.-1-64 WT13/19

John Urbanowicz 74 Bell Hollow Road 62.-

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A LICENSE, SERIAL NUMBER 1318270, for beer, cider, liquor and wine has been applied for by Hudson Loft by On The Marc to sell beer, cider, liquor and wine at retail in a venue under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 2 South Astor St, Irvington, NY in Westchester County for on premises

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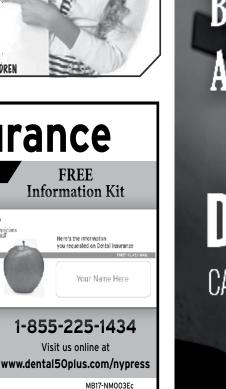
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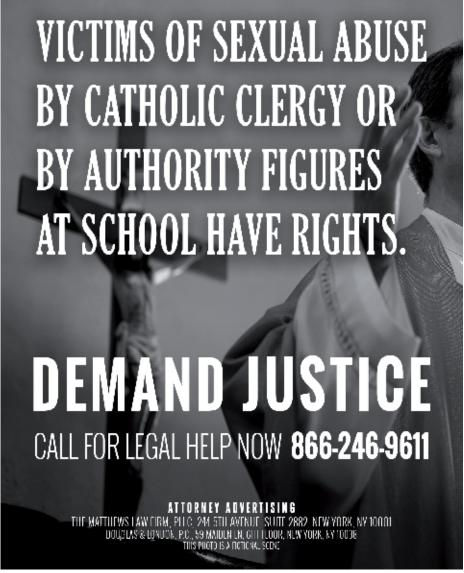








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The Chiefs' Luke Grasso fires a pitch in the 14-8 win over host Bedford/Pound Ridge.

Mt. Kisco base runner John Grasso is safe at second base on a close play vs. the host BPR Lightning.



Mt. Kisco's Sam Weiner does some celebrating after hitting a two-run double.

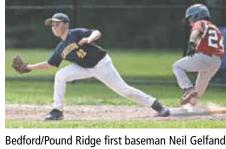
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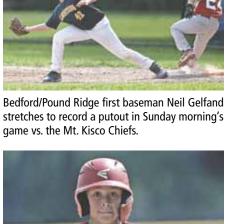
focus on GREATER HUDSON VALLEY

BASEBALL LEAGUE Mt. Kisco vs. Bedford/Pound Ridge **Sunday, July 21, 2019**



BPR Lightning shortstop Chase Hamilton is a bit too late with the tag as Mt. Kisco's Sam Weiner slides into second base during Sunday's game.







The Chiefs' Nico Racanelli runs to third base.



Sam Brooks of the BPR 9U Lightning hits the ball

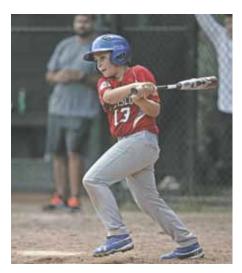
toward right field.

Mt. Kisco pitcher Blaise Seidman reaches back for a little extra in Sunday's Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League 9U game vs. Bedford/ Pound Ridge.

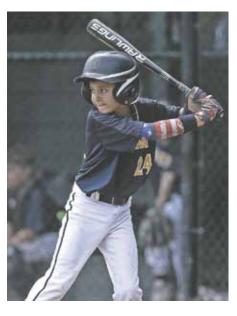


Theo Mannal of Bedford/Pound Ridge takes a mighty swing against the Chiefs in Sunday's game at Bedford Village Memorial Park.





Andrew Brauning of Mt. Kisco watches the ball leave his bat in Sunday's game.



Joseph Rodriguez of the Lightning is poised to swing the bat in Sunday's home game.



Kenta Togo of the Pleasantville Tennis Club moves forward to put away a volley in his match at second doubles.



Pleasantville's Marc Lowitz belts a forehand return during his match at first doubles last Tuesday evening. He and partner Tom Givone later prevailed in a decisive 10-point super tiebreaker that gave Pleasantville its third straight title in the eight-team Westchester Inter-Club Tennis League.



Steph Skinner of the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club makes a backhand return on the run in his match at second doubles.



Bedford Golf and Tennis third-doubles player Jon Edwards scampers to his left in a bid to retrieve the ball in last week's title match vs. host Pleasantville



David Factor of the Pleasantville Tennis Club retreats behind the baseline to hit a backhand return in the third-doubles match.

WESTCHESTER INTER-CLUB TENNIS LEAGUE 2019 Championship Pleasantville vs. Bedford Tuesday, July 16



Pleasantville's Yoshi Togo follows through on a serve in second doubles last Tuesday evening.



Mehdi Alami of the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club serves during his match at first singles last Tuesday at Pleasantville.



Bedford second-doubles player Cliff Lanier lines up a backhand return during last Tuesday's WICTL team championship at the Pleasantville Tennis Club.



Tom Givone of Pleasantville concentrates on a backhand in the first-doubles match vs. visiting Bedford Golf and Tennis Club.



Tom Givone of Pleasantville concentrates on a backhand in the first-doubles match vs. visiting Bedford Golf and Tennis Club.



Mark Leeds of Pleasantville gets set to belt a forehand return during his match at third doubles.



Josh Levy of Bedford reaches to hit a backhand in the final set of his match at third doubles vs. host Pleasantville.



 $\label{lambda} \mbox{Marabel Jaime rounds the turn as she competes} \ \mbox{in the 200 at the league championships.}$



Emily Sardo gets set to fire a shot at the cage just before scoring the 200th goal of her Wildcat career.



Senior Richie Petrillo delivers a pitch in the state regional playoffs against Section 9's Marlboro.



Nick Gorman takes the ball toward the cage in a Westlake home game back in mid-April.

Kristin Pierce fires a pitch to the plate during a Westlake home game.

WESTLAKE Spring 2019 A Look Back



Greg Cafaro dodges his way to the cage during the Wildcats' home game vs. Pleasantville.



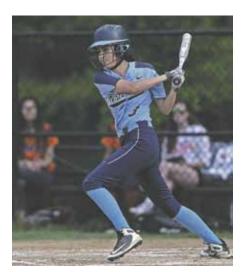
The Wildcats' Gianna Eglauf tries to find room for a shot in the home game against Irvington.



The Wildcats' Vin Spaziante swings for the fences in a game at Valhalla.



Ryan Donnery controls the ball in the sectional playoff game against host Briarcliff.



Senior shortstop Jamie Perfito hits the ball to left field during Senior Day against the Briarcliff Bears.



Tommy Carpenter runs the bases for the Section 1 champion Wildcats.

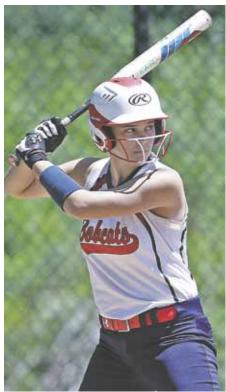


Westlake speedster Eric Nieves heads for the finish line in the 100 at the state qualifying meet.

BYRAM HILLS

Spring 2019

A Look Back



The Bobcats' Caroline Kelly awaits a pitch in a game against Keio.



during a Bobcat home game.



Will Mykytiuk prepares to send a shot toward the cage in the sectional championship game against Rye.



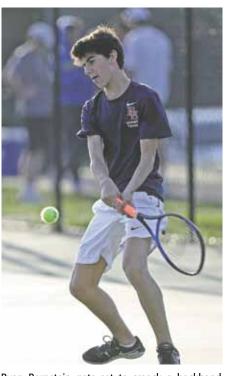
Bobcat senior Ben Mautner heads toward the cage in an easy win over visiting Edgemont.



Casey Begleiter celebrates after scoring a goal in an early-season game at Greeley.



Nicole Meyer clears a hurdle in the state qualifier meet at White Plains High School.



Ryan Bernstein gets set to smack a backhand return during the league championships at John Jay in Cross River.



Ace right-hander Carson Frye delivers a pitch during a Bobcat home game.



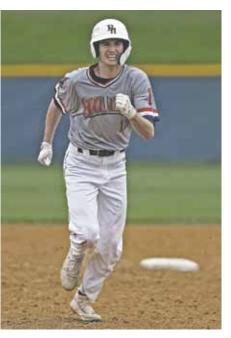
With possession of the ball, Lindsay Grotta considers her options against visiting White Plains.



Freshman Maddie Nero pitches the Bobcats to a home victory over Horace Greeley.



The Bobcats' Wylie Troy (left) and Pietro Perez run side by side in the 100 at the state qualifier.



Bobcat outfielder Noah Ackerman heads toward third base.



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