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August 13 - August 19, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 13, Issue 623

## Mt. Kisco Decides on Additional \$4M Bond to Cover Firehouse Work

By Martin Wilbur

Mount Kisco officials have agreed to place a \$4 million referendum on the November ballot to pay for scaled-back expansion and renovation of the municipality's three firehouses after learning the village's engineering firm miscalculated project estimates.

If approved by voters, the extra money would be added to the \$10.25 million voters authorized officials to borrow in 2017.

Mayor Gina Picinich said the Village Board met with the Board of Fire Commissioners on Aug. 1 to make a final decision on how much additional money was needed. With the change in the law approved earlier this year by the state legislature that pushed up election deadlines, Aug. 5 was the deadline for Mount Kisco to include the referendum on the general election ballot, she said.

Based on the revised calculations, the original bond would have fallen far short of the amount needed to complete even the most urgent work at the Green Street, Main Street and Lexington Avenue firehouses.

"They've now had to say that we needed all the things that were included in the initial



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The Mount Kisco Village Board settled on asking village residents to borrow another \$4 million this November for work at the Green Street firehouse, shown above, home to the Union Hook & Ladder Co. and Mount Kisco Fire Rescue Police, as well as the Main Street and Lexington Avenue firehouses.

scope of this project but clearly that's more money and we don't want to put that big a burden on taxpayers," Picinich said of the commissioners.

In February, board members were informed by H2M architects + engineers that because

the company had erred in calculating square footage at the Green Street, Main Street and Lexington Avenue firehouses, the original project would have cost the village millions more than it had anticipated spending. Factoring in cost escalation, the original design would have come to roughly \$18 million.

Picinich said the reduced scope of the work would be "absolutely mission critical." The initial designs included making the three facilities ADA compliant, adding energy efficiencies to the structures, expanding the bays and adding office space and training areas.

The fire department will likely cut back on the offices and the training areas, she said.

"It's not a luxury but if something's got to give that's what's going to have to fall back," the mayor said. "But things like ADA compliance, things like expansion of the bays for equipment, things like making space so firefighters can actually stand in a safe space while putting on their equipment, these are absolutely mission critical."

Deputy Mayor Jean Farber said there would have to be a roughly 20 percent reduction in the scope of the work at each of the firehouses.

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## Lowey, Gun Legislation Advocates Step Up Demand for Meaningful Change

By Martin Wilbur

Stunned by the recent back-to-back mass shootings in El Paso and Dayton, proponents of stronger firearms legislation, gun violence survivors, law enforcement and researchers vowed Monday to exert political pressure to curtail attacks.

About 20 speakers attended Congresswoman Nita Lowey's (D-Harrison) roundtable discussion at the Greenburgh Public Library as victim counts from gun violence and mass shootings continue to spiral.

Lowey, who called on Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to reconvene the Senate from its August recess to pass a pair of national background check laws

while reiterating her support for the banning of assault weapons and a national red flag law, said the victims and their family and friends deserve to see the bloodshed come to an end.

"We have too many guns and too few laws on the books to protect our communities from the senseless acts of violence," Lowey said.

Participants in the roughly 90-minute forum uniformly agreed with Lowey that there is a direct correlation between the number of firearms in circulation and the number of deaths by gunfire. Dr. Charles Branas, chair of epidemiology at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, said the school recently completed a study revealing that



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Congresswoman Nita Lowey led a roundtable discussion with about 20 speakers in hopes of combating the scourge of gun violence across the United States.

mass shooting rates in states with lax gun laws are higher than those with tighter measures.

Meanwhile, New York State,

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## No. Castle Sets Mariani Gardens Permit Hearing for Sept. 25

By Martin Wilbur

Despite several objections, the North Castle Town Board last Wednesday scheduled a September public hearing on Mariani Gardens' special permit application for its residential plan and conditionally approved the first installment of its Community Benefits Agreement.

The hearing on the permit will open on Sept. 25 provided that the applicant, 45 Bedford Road LLC, progresses in addressing several site plan issues before the Planning Board. It is also required to place the initial \$250,000 installment for the \$1.25 million Community Benefits Agreement into an escrow account by the end of this week.

Attorney Mark Miller, representing the partnership that is looking to build 43 units at the four-acre site on Bedford Road in Armonk, requested the Town Board schedule the hearing even though there are outstanding matters.

Partner Mark Mariani hopes to receive final approval this fall and break ground on the multifamily housing project before the end of the year, he said.

"We understand that if you open the hearing on the 25th and for whatever reason, if you're not comfortable closing it that night, we'll be prepared to present whatever it looks like at that time, hear from members of the public,

*continued on page 4*

# Riverside Crafts Fair

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# Lowey, Gun Legislation Advocates Step Up Demand for Change

continued from page 1

which passed tougher gun laws following the December 2012 Sandy Hook shooting and strengthened them during this year's legislative session, has seen its number of gunfire deaths continually diminish, he said.

"States that are permissive have significantly higher mass shootings and

that applies to all other day-to-day issues as well," Branas said. "Homicides and suicides are part of that as well. This spillover effect is something to really, really be concerned about."

White Plains Assistant Police Chief Joseph Castelli said the more restrictive lawmakers can make the legislation, typically the safer

the environment.

"New York is very good," Castelli said. "You're never going to eliminate it but it's very good, especially around here. So on a national level, the more restrictive it can be helps some of the areas where it's already bad."

During the discussion, Las Vegas shooting survivor Erin Fuller Brian, a Westchester resident and co-president of the Westchester chapter of Brady, which has been fighting for gun control legislation, said it was important for her and others to relate their stories despite the pain it causes.

Brian said opponents of common-sense gun control measures can dismiss generic calls for tighter laws or the citing of statistics but it's harder for them to do that to her face.

She said national legislation is needed because while New York and other states have effective gun laws, that's not enough because firearms can find their way across state lines.

"You're only as safe as the state with the weakest gun laws," Brian said.

Several high school students also participated in the forum. One student, Samantha Tellefson, who attends Clarkstown South High School in Rockland County, said there has to be greater consequences for violent threats made by peers against fellow students.

Other panelists said the time is at hand to make political gains against the gun lobby. If there is no movement toward some meaningful legislation following the El Paso, Dayton and Gilroy, Calif. shootings the past

two weeks, then the answer is to make inroads at the voting booth in 2020.

With polls showing that 92 percent of Americans and 83 percent of gun owners favoring background checks, it's possible for the tide to change, said Barry Graubart, state deputy chapter leader for advocacy for Moms Demand Action.

"Once again, gun violence has torn apart the lives of Americans," Graubart said. "No single law can stop all gun violence, but there's so much more we must do to keep our families safe."

Lowey said in addition to background checks, a national red flag law and outlawing assault weapons, the proposed Stop Online Ammunition Sales Act would require federal licensed ammunition dealers to confirm the identity of individuals who look to make purchases online.

"Make no mistake: this is not just a mental health issue, it's a guns issue," Lowey said. "We cannot let our country continue to devolve into a hub of fear. I'm inspired by the discussions we've had today and looking forward to working with all of you to combat the President's racist, anti-immigrant, hate-filled rhetoric and fight to change gun laws in this country once and for all."

## Rally This Saturday in Chappaqua

Brady Westchester and an assortment of advocacy groups will be holding a Northern Westchester Rally for Gun Reform this Saturday at the gazebo on South Greeley Avenue in downtown Chappaqua from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information about Brady, visit [www.bradyunited.org](http://www.bradyunited.org).

## Mt. Kisco Decides on Additional \$4M Bond to Cover Firehouse Work

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Trustees looked to the fire commissioners for guidance on how much extra money should be requested, she said. Originally, the commissioners wanted to ask the public for the additional \$8 million, Farber said.

"We wanted the fire commissioners to make the decision on how much they want to ask from the public and we would support any amount they wanted," Farber said.

Frank Mannion, chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners, said fire officials looked to balance the needs of the department and the community.

"Understanding the financial impact to taxpayers was a major consideration in our decision making," Mannion said. "Our volunteer firefighters live in our community. We bear the financial burden the same as every other taxpayer."

Should the public vote in favor of the proposition, it will come with a cost. According to estimates from the village, the average homeowner with a current home market value of \$413,000 would see a \$122 increase

in Fiscal Year 2020-21, or about 3.52 percent from the bond alone. The following two years would see increases of about 2 percent, or \$71 and \$72, respectively.

For each of the remaining 12 years of the 15-year bond, there would be a projected 1 percent tax increase as a result of the bond, Picinich said. Should there be higher revenues for the village than projected, the increases could be reduced, she said.

Farber added that the extra borrowing will ensure that the village would exceed the tax cap in the upcoming years.

The village expects to be compensated by H2M for any additional costs it will incur for redesigning the plans, going out for an additional bond and any other costs associated with going out for a second bond, Picinich said.

"There are going to have to be revisions to all of the plans," she said. "We have every expectation that they will foot the bill for that. So everything associated with a damage, we have every expectation they will compensate us for this."



## Ask the Doctor

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### Q: Why are amputations a common concern among those with diabetes?

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### Q: How are you working to lower the number of amputation among diabetics?

**A:** Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) is recognized as one the most effective methods of treating diabetic wounds and we've seen a significantly lower amputation rate. This is because healing wounds need oxygen. As 100 percent pure oxygen cruises its way to overtaxed, narrowed cells and tissues, it strengthens them with the energy, oxygen and nutrients needed to maximize healing of your most intractable diabetic wounds.

### Q: How does Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy work?

**A:** HBOT is a prescribed treatment performed on an outpatient basis under the supervision of a trained technologist. Treatment is noninvasive and typically lasts two hours. You just sit back, relax and breathe normally. HBOT for diabetic wounds typically consists of twenty to thirty treatments in a hyperbaric chamber, five days a week. However, therapy can be expanded if the wound remains resistant to healing.

### Q: Do you think it will heal my diabetic wounds?

**A:** It's important to speak with your doctor about an evaluation and a course of treatment. At Northern Westchester Hospital we partner with you to develop a treatment plan that will improve your quality of life. We also partner with Healogics, the nation's leader in wound care management resources. These partnerships, coupled with advanced technology, give me confidence about the future of wound care for those with diabetes. With this treatment, we hope to see more and more people escaping the fate of the estimated 86,000 people each year who have lower limb amputations. This highly effective treatment can also be used for bone infections, radiation injury, compromised grafts and flaps, anemia, ischemia's and vascular disease.



# Mount Kisco Mulling Term Limits for Village Board Members

By Martin Wilbur

Mount Kisco officials are considering whether to propose propositions that would impose term limits on Village Board members and an age limit for village justices.

Mayor Gina Picinich said last week that she and Trustee Isi Albanese have been advocates of putting the questions to Mount Kisco residents.

She said with two-year terms for trustees and the mayor, either eight-or 10-year limits would seem appropriate, although the specifics would be open to a discussion among the board and the community.

"By putting term limits in place that will let folks know if you're elected to these positions you have a finite time in which to make a contribution and be effective," Picinich said. "So many positions across this country elected officials have term limits."

It would also encourage a wider cross-section of residents to get involved in local government, according to the mayor. Many people who may be interested in running are discouraged if they have to

challenge an incumbent, Picinich said.

"Having term limits in elected positions makes it easier for others to step forward," Picinich said. "That's a good thing. That's a very good thing."

Since 2007, there have been few contested races for Village Board seats. When Picinich challenged then-mayor Michael Cindrich in 2017 on an independent line, it marked the only contested mayoral election in the past 12 years. In that same timeframe, there have been only three contested trustee races.

Because all five board members serve two-year terms, with the mayor and two trustees running in odd-numbered years and the other two trustees running in even-numbered years, there is an election every year in Mount Kisco.

Picinich said term limits for the village justices have also been explored but that is something that hasn't been done across New York State. Instead, officials may consider a separate referendum that would impose an age limit that is consistent with state justices, she said.

New York State requires state Supreme Court and Court of Appeals justices to step down during the year they turn 70

years old.

Two other board members reached last week, Deputy Mayor Jean Farber and Trustee Karen Schleimer, said they were undecided about whether they would support term limits for the board and age limits for the justices.

"I'd like to have a greater understanding of what this really means," Farber said. "There are no other towns and villages in northern Westchester surrounding us that have term limits. I understand that everyone should have the chance to participate but it's been my position that it can be hard to find people who are willing to give up so much of their time to become a trustee."

Schleimer said she hasn't weighed the issues closely because there are greater priorities currently facing the board. However, she seemed to be skeptical.

"I think there are great things to be said for experience," Schleimer said.

Picinich said there wasn't enough time for the full board to discuss the potential propositions for inclusion on this year's ballot. The change in state law earlier this year pushed up all election-related deadlines, so the cutoff to place a referendum on the ballot for this year's general election was last Monday, Aug. 5, she said.

The mayor did not say whether the propositions could be offered in 2020 or in 2021 should a board majority agree to that.

"I think the important thing to keep in



Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich would like to see propositions on the ballot asking voters whether Village Board members should have term limits and whether their should be age limits for village justices.

mind is it's not the board deciding to make this change, it's the board saying we'd like to ask the community if you would like to make this change," Picinich said.

Westchester has 12-year limits for the county executive and county legislators.

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# No. Castle Sets Mariani Gardens Special Permit Hearing for Sept. 25

*continued from page 1*

who I'm sure will want to speak, and will adjourn it as you see fit," Miller said. "We get it."

The Town Board had approved rezoning the parcel from Nursery Business to a residential multifamily zone in June following a contentious public hearing where many residents feared the project would compromise the Bedford Road Historic District.

There could be as many as two Planning Board appearances for the applicant to resolve site plan issues before the hearing on the special permit is opened. A work session with the Planning Board has been set for Sept. 9. There is also the possibility

that representatives for Mariani Gardens appear on Sept. 23, Miller said.

Director of Planning Adam Kaufman said the key issues include making the Bedford Road and Maple Avenue intersection attractive because it is an important gateway to the hamlet; enhancing pedestrian safety with the possibility of a sidewalk to connect the property with Armonk Square; and roadway improvements along Maple Avenue from Bedford Road to Route 22.

"The applicant needs to take that a little bit further and give us some ballpark, rough estimate (about) how much that's going to cost and how does the board figure out how to pay for these improvements, figure out the timing of these improvements and to

factor that into thinking of how development occurs in the hamlet," Kaufman said.

Kaufman wrote a letter on July 30 stating that the Planning Board wanted the Town Board to hold off on the hearing for the special permit until it has additional time to review the plans.

While there is still plenty of work to do on the application, most of the Town Board agreed the hearing should be scheduled. Supervisor Michael Schiliro said if the board isn't satisfied with the progress made in the next six weeks, it can open the hearing on Sept. 25 and immediately adjourn it to a future date.

"I just want to make sure you're clear on that," Schiliro told Miller. "We want to make sure we're in a proper position to hold proper hearings and have the right information and a lot of that is the Planning Board and the work that they're doing."

However, Councilman Jose Berra, the dissenting vote last week who also opposed the rezone, said the town shouldn't be in a hurry until progress is made regarding the critical issues that are being worked on.

"I would let the Planning Board do its work, I would get more information, I'd let things progress and not make it seem to some at least, and maybe a sizeable part of the community, that this is just being rushed along," Berra said. "I really don't see a negative impact to the applicant doing that."

Two residents who spoke during last Wednesday's Town Board meeting reiterated their reservations about the project. Co-town Historian Sharon Tomback said little

by little the project could jeopardize the historic district.

"Now we're nibbling away, just nibbling away," she said. "So we're going to have a sidewalk and we're going to have a road and what else are we going to have?"

Resident Susan Shimer urged the board to postpone scheduling a hearing until there are some more definitive answers related to the expected improvements. She said the board has up until 60 days to schedule the hearing after a completed application has been submitted.

"I see it not as a completed application but an application in flux and until you have a completed application, I think it's premature to set the public hearing," Shimer said. "Certainly, there is no requirement that you do so."

She also questioned how the town would benefit from the Community Benefits Agreement since the project would require expansion of the town's Sewer District #2 and Water District #4.

Since Mariani Gardens received its zoning change there has also been a revision to the four four-bedroom units, the two so-called A buildings, that are closest to Bedford Road.

Project architect Jon Halper said the A Building units, which had been turned 90 degrees so the front of the structures face the entrance drive, will once again face Bedford Road. However, the garages for the units will be attached in the rear, obscuring them from the street, he said.

## United Way to Honor Community-Minded Young Professionals

The Emerging Leaders Alliance of United Way of Westchester and Putnam is now accepting applications for its Rock Star Awards, which honors community-minded and philanthropic young professionals and college students who are making a difference in Westchester and Putnam counties.

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, Aug. 30. Applications can be found online at [www.uwwp.org/rockstar](http://www.uwwp.org/rockstar). The awards will be presented at United We Rock Award Ceremony, which will be held on Thursday, Oct. 24 at Manhattanville College in Harrison from 6 to 8 p.m.

Candidates should be young professionals or college students from 18 to 45 years old who have worked to improve their communities through volunteerism, advocacy or activism in their professional lives.

The winners will be chosen by a panel of judges made of past winners and two United Way of Westchester and Putnam board members.

For more information on United We Rock, visit [www.UWWP.org](http://www.UWWP.org), call 914-997-6700 ext. 753 or e-mail [fbutcher@uwwp.org](mailto:fbutcher@uwwp.org).



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# Court Denies Petition to Throw New Castle GOP Off Indie Line

By Martin Wilbur

The Republican slate in this fall’s New Castle town election will appear on a second ballot line after a state Supreme Court justice recently dismissed the Democrats’ challenge to invalidate and dismiss an independent party nominating petition.

Candidate for supervisor Jim Smith and town council hopefuls Lauren Levin and Sean Maraynes now have the Team New Castle line following a July 24 decision from Justice Janet C. Malone.

Smith and his running mates said while they were confident they had filed a valid Team New Castle petition after the Board of Elections upheld its soundness, it is one more reason for the public to be cynical about politics.

“I think there are certainly a lot of local issues that are very important to the town,” Smith said. “But this issue of, I guess a toxic political culture, that is paralyzing our country, it is a major issue everywhere, including our town and I think the sort of political gamesmanship is a big deal.”

The Republicans submitted the Team New Castle petition containing 618 signatures on May 28, the final day a nominating petition could be filed to appear on an independent line under the revised 2019 election laws. It was challenged on June 4.

There had been questions regarding the legitimacy of Team New Castle’s signatures and more than 100 of the signatures had been thrown out when the Board of Elections commissioners convened on June 14. However, the candidates were still 38 signatures above

the minimum threshold.

Mayarnes said he was confident that he, Smith and Levin would remain on the independent line but until it was official there was some doubt.

“I knew that everything we did was 110 percent aboveboard, so I knew that we definitely should win and fundamental fairness prevailed so I was cautiously optimistic,” he said.

Levin had said in June that they created the Team New Castle line to offset the advantage that the Democrats obtained by securing the nominations for two additional lines, the Working Families and Independence parties.

Meanwhile, the Democrats, whose slate consists of two incumbents, Councilwoman Ivy Pool running for supervisor, Councilman Jeremy Saland and Jason Lichtenthal, had charged their opponents were looking to obscure their Republican credentials by using the Team New Castle moniker. That name has been used by incumbent Supervisor Robert Greenstein and his running mates going back to 2013 to help promote a nonpartisan approach.

Greenstein and Councilwoman Lisa Katz are both registered Democrats and former Town Board member Adam Brodsky was an independent despite all receiving the nomination from the local Republican Committee.

Levin said she hopes that over the next three months the two sides can debate the issues and put the political machinations to the side.

“Our slate is focused on the town,” Levin

said. “We want to make this town a better place. Creating this paradigm, talking about political issues and rhetoric, that’s divisive and pitting neighbors against neighbors. I don’t think that that’s productive.”

Attempts to reach members of the Democratic ticket for comment were unsuccessful.



## Swimming for a Cause

For the eighth consecutive year, swimmers at Chappaqua Swim & Tennis made waves against cancer, raising more than \$72,000 for Swim Across America Long Island Sound. Swimmers of every age – 126 in all – participated in the annual summer fundraising event, which took place on July 28. Proceeds from the swims throughout the Long Island Sound chapter raised \$1.3 million and will support 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 Westchester-based Cancer Support Team.

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# NYSERDA, Con Ed Offering Businesses Energy Efficiency Incentives

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and Con Edison recently announced a partnership to begin a pay-for-performance pilot program that will leverage Con Edison's smart meter technology to measure energy

efficiency savings at small- and medium-sized businesses in Westchester and reward the providers based on those measurements.

The program, Business Energy Pro, supports the mandate of the New York State Climate Leadership and Community

Protection Act – the most ambitious climate and clean energy legislation in the nation – of 100 percent clean electricity by 2040 and economy-wide carbon-neutrality.

"We support the state's environmental goals and want to be a leader in finding new approaches to create the clean energy future those goals envision," said Matthew Ketschke, Con Edison's senior vice president, Customer Energy Solutions. "This pilot will help businesses reduce their energy usage and help keep our region clean and sustainable. We think this program can help us build on the success we have had with our energy efficiency programs the last decade."

Under the program, NYSERDA and Con Edison will work with energy efficiency service providers to seek out small- and medium-sized businesses and offer energy-savings packages that could include lighting, heating, cooling, refrigeration and building control systems.

For energy efficiency providers, Business Energy Pro will provide flexibility, minimize transaction and administrative costs and support innovative solutions and services. The providers will receive payments based on the energy savings that are confirmed by the customers' smart meters.

Pay-for-performance models have begun to emerge nationally with significant potential benefits to customers, energy efficiency service providers and utilities. Pay-for-performance differs from more traditional energy efficiency incentive programs that

provide rebates to business customers based on the type of upgrades installed rather than on actual savings. Business Energy Pro's model is intended to incentivize energy efficiency service providers and customers to choose comprehensive packages of energy-efficiency upgrades.

NYSERDA will make available about \$10 million from the Clean Energy Fund for the program under which competitively selected energy-efficiency service providers will be paid for demonstrated energy savings from small-to-medium businesses who implement energy efficiency projects.

Given the current natural gas constraint in parts of Westchester, Business Energy Pro places special emphasis on gas reductions by offering increased incentives during the peak winter months in this area.

Business Energy Pro will target about 60,000 Con Edison small- and medium-sized business customers in Westchester and Staten Island, the areas where Con Edison first began to install smart meters.

NYSERDA anticipates using data and experience from the program to design pay-for-performance energy efficiency programs for residential and commercial customers in other parts of the state with the potential to inform longer-term strategies statewide.

To access the Business Energy Pro RFP, visit [www.nyserdera.ny.gov](http://www.nyserdera.ny.gov). More information on the program can also be found at [www.coned.com](http://www.coned.com).

## SPCA in Briarcliff to Take Part in National Adoption Day This Saturday

The SPCA is once again teaming up with NBC NY Channel 4 of NBCUniversal for its fifth annual Clear the Shelters adoption event this Saturday, Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at its shelter in Briarcliff Manor.

During this special one-day extravaganza, many animals will have waived or reduced adoption fees (some exclusions apply).

Potential adopters are encouraged to submit an application in advance to help jumpstart the approval process. Walk-ins are welcome that day as well.

Pre-approval does not guarantee a specific animal and adoptions are on a first-come first-served basis. All members of the family must be present, including dogs to facilitate meet and greets with other dogs. Animals adopted through the SPCA of Westchester



Sarge is one of more than 100 dogs and cats that will be up for adoption this Saturday at the SPCA shelter in Briarcliff Manor on National Adoption Day.

are spayed/neutered, have age-appropriate vaccinations and are microchipped.

"We're very grateful to NBCUniversal for once again hosting this important event," said Shannon Laukhuf, SPCA's executive director. "Clear the Shelters has helped raise awareness about the importance of adoption, giving thousands of animals a second chance at a happy life."

The SPCA has more than 100 wonderful dogs, cats, puppies and kittens all looking for loving new homes. Since 2015, NBC's Clear the Shelters campaign has resulted in more

than 250,000 pet adoptions nationwide.

To preview animals for adoption at the SPCA of Westchester, visit [www.SPCA914.org](http://www.SPCA914.org).

The SPCA of Westchester is located at 590 N. State Rd. in Briarcliff Manor.

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# Mount Kisco Weighing Mixed-Use Proposals for Moger Lots

By Martin Wilbur

Plans from two developers that could build more than 300 housing units and as much as 50,000 square feet of retail at the South Moger and North Moger parking lots are being weighed by Mount Kisco officials.

Mayor Gina Picinich, who did not identify the two outfits, said village officials have made site visits to some of each developer's projects in the metropolitan area and are carefully considering the proposals before them.

They were selected as part of the RFP process the village initiated last year as the board was nearing completion of its Comprehensive Plan Update.

"The big thing that we're focusing on right now is the financial agreement," Picinich said. "It has to ensure that it provides an equal benefit to both the village and the developer from a financial standpoint."

Development of the two lots to increase foot traffic in the heart of downtown Mount Kisco, which includes having more people live within walking distance of the Metro-North train station, was a key feature of the Comprehensive Plan update.

Picinich said the current proposals that have been pitched to the village call for 230 to 330 residential units between the two lots; retail space ranging from 8,000 to 50,000 square feet with different ideas for those uses and a strategy for filling the spaces and maintaining a high occupancy rate; and increasing parking by about 50 percent to

accommodate the additional uses.

The village is also looking to receive the parking revenue that would be generated and to share the maintenance expenses, she said.

Providing green roofs and energy-efficient systems along with a permanent art space is also required in the proposals.

Both developers have extensive experience in design in the Northeast, Picinich said.

"We're working with them and working with these developers to get to a plan that really makes sense for everyone," she said.

The biggest hurdles in coming to terms with either developer is "right-sizing the financials" so the agreement works for both sides and making sure there is enough shared parking, Picinich said.

"So we're hoping to get some clarity on that and then the board could have further discussion by the end of the summer, beginning of the fall with regards to a letter of intent," the mayor said.

Once the board is satisfied with one of the proposals, the village would move forward with the letter of intent and there would have to be additional design work. Officials would eventually have to decide whether to sign a contract.

Picinich stressed that there is flexibility regarding the timeline but the goal is to move quickly but prudently.

"Every step in the process is important that we get it right and we make sure we are doing what is good and appropriate in the village," Picinich said.

Deputy Mayor Jean Farber said the board



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The South Moger parking lot in Mount Kisco, a potential site for a new mixed-use development in the village. Officials are currently considering plans from two unnamed developers.

is hopeful that one of the two developers will ultimately be selected. The RFP process saw three firms submit proposals by the village's deadline.

However, Trustee Karen Schleimer, who opposed various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, including development of the North and South Moger parking lots, said if the rest of the board likes one of the proposals, they should first try it out on one of the lots, not both.

"It would be better to do a trial balloon on the

North Moger lot than to go full bore with both parking lots with so many units," Schleimer said. "What happens if it doesn't work?"

She maintained that having a few hundred units of housing within walking distance of the train station may not be attractive as it sounds. Schleimer said that young professionals she has spoken to don't want to spend the commuting time or expense of living an hour from Manhattan if they work in the city.

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Beginning at the Gazebo in the South Moger Ave. parking lot, this event will take place on **Saturday evening, August 24th from 6pm-10pm**. The Cruise will circle downtown Mt. Kisco for about 1- 1/2 hrs. while **Spectator Judging** will determine whose vehicles are the most deserving of several trophies in a wide variety of classes.

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# Police Blotter

## County Police/Mount Kisco

**Aug. 6:** A Spring Street resident reported at 11:34 p.m. that a passenger in a car sprayed water at him as he walked near Spring Street and Moore Avenue. The man told officers that a black sedan pulled up near him and the front seat passenger sprayed him.

**Aug. 7:** Police responded to the Mount Kisco Metro-North station at 11:31 a.m. to assist MTA police with carrying an elderly woman up the stairs. The station's elevator was out of service due to a power outage and

the woman was stuck on the platform. MTA police secured a specialized chair that is utilized by EMS personnel so officers could safely transport the woman up the stairs.

**Aug. 7:** A Stewart Place resident reported at 3:41 p.m. that someone entered her car overnight and rummaged through it. Nothing of value had been left in the car and nothing was missing, according to the owner.

**Aug. 8:** Report of a group of youths possibly disturbing customers at Rite Aid on South Moger Avenue at 5:02 p.m. The youths moved on upon an officer's arrival.

**Aug. 8:** Police responded to Mountain Avenue at 8:18 p.m. after power lines were reported down. The Mount Kisco Fire Department and the village's Highway Department assisted in closing off the area until Con Edison arrived.

**Aug. 9:** Report of an injured raccoon in the roadway on Lexington Avenue at 8:37 a.m. The animal was deceased and was subsequently removed by animal control.

**Aug. 9:** County police responded to West Street at 9:35 a.m. on a report of an odor of gas inside a residence. The Mount Kisco Fire Department and Con Edison also responded.

**Aug. 9:** A village resident reported at 2:26 p.m. that his car was damaged by a hit-and-run driver while it was parked on South Moger Avenue.

been burning with wood only. The pit was extinguished prior to the officer's arrival.

**Aug. 4:** A caller reported at 10:31 p.m. that several men had been arguing in the street on Smallwood Place over a possible road rage incident. The vehicles involved were described as a Trailblazer and a Toyota Prius. The vehicles left the area about 10 minutes in the past.

**Aug. 6:** A Greenbriar Circle resident reported at 10:08 p.m. that her oven was on fire. The call was transferred to the county Department of Emergency Services for dispatch of the Armonk and Banksville fire departments. The responding officers reported the smoke and fire was from burnt food in the oven. The Armonk Fire Department ventilated the residence and cleared the scene.

## Ongoing Investigation to Determine Cause of Millwood House Explosion

The Westchester County Cause and Origin Team is investigating a house explosion last Monday in Millwood that virtually destroyed the structure.

On Aug. 5 at about 5 p.m., there was a report of a loud explosion that rocked 392 Saw Mill River Rd. (Route 100), a short distance north of Route 120.

New Castle Police Chief James Carroll said the home was unoccupied at the time and no one was injured as a result of the incident but that a couple of nearby homes had windows blown out.

It was neither known what caused the explosion nor how long it may take the Cause and Origin Team to determine what happened, Carroll said.

Route 100 was closed by emergency responders for about three hours. The



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Debris remains on the scene at the Millwood property where a house explosion practically destroyed the structure last week.

Millwood and Ossining fire departments responded to the scene along with the Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

— Martin Wilbur

## North Castle Police Department

**Aug. 3:** A subject was arrested at 12:34 p.m. and charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle following a traffic stop on Route 22. The vehicle's operator had a suspended license.

**Aug. 3:** Report of ongoing loud music through the wooded area near Tallwoods Road at 8:16 p.m. The responding officer spoke with the homeowner who lowered the volume. Matter adjusted.

**Aug. 4:** A Custis Avenue resident reported at 7:28 p.m. that his neighbor was burning garbage in the wooded area behind his home causing a smoke condition. The responding officer reported a firepit that had

## Pleasantville Police Department

**Aug. 3:** Report of a larceny on Memorial Plaza at 8:50 a.m. An unidentified person stole vegetables from a Pleasantville Farmers Market vendor and boarded a Metro-North train.

**Aug. 6:** Report of a missing cell phone on Romer Avenue at 6:38 p.m. An investigation is ongoing.

**Aug. 7:** Cash was reported stolen from an office building on Bedford Road at 2:23 p.m. The investigation is ongoing.

**Aug. 8:** At 8:30 a.m., report of a past crime. Items had been taken out of a house on Clinton Street. The investigation is ongoing.

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# Registration to Participate in 9/11 Service Projects Now Open

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

Volunteer opportunities will be taking place on Saturday, Sept. 7, Sunday, Sept. 8 and Wednesday, Sept. 11. The community-wide action, sponsored by Robison Oil with additional support from Empire City Casino and Westchester Medical Center, will also feature service projects at the County Center on Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"Each year, hundreds of Westchester County residents look for ways to honor the thousands of lives that were lost or forever changed on Sept. 11," Latimer said. "I encourage everyone to participate in the 9/11 Serve and Remember Program, and spend a little bit of time doing something good in memory of those who lost so much."

"Over the last nine years we have worked with thousands of volunteers to help turn 9/11Day into a day of doing good," said Volunteer New York! Executive Director Alisa H. Kesten. "Businesses have sent teams to create blankets for children in shelters, youth athletic teams have stepped up to make sandwiches for those in need, families have come together to create cards thanking our veterans – each good deed brings our community closer together and builds on this American legacy of positive response in our darkest days."

Westchester County will also host its annual employee blood drive in partnership with the New York Blood Center on Sept. 11 at the



County Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteer opportunities at the County Center on that day include:

- Donate blood (for ages 16 and up)
- Create inspirational notes and cards for deployed service members

- Create blankets for children
- Help feed the hungry with one sandwich at a time
- Package diapers for needy families
- Donate diapers for the Westchester County Diaper Bank
- Participate in a sensory-friendly community service project to support the troops
- Support families in emergency shelters
- Sock and underwear drive for children in need
- Courtney's tie drive to support veterans
- Create math kits for elementary school children

There are additional projects taking place on Sept. 7, 8 and 11 outside of the County Center.

For the complete list of the 2019 #911Day volunteer opportunities taking place on September 7, 8 and 11, to register or for more information, call 914-948-4452 or visit [www.volunteernewyork.org/service](http://www.volunteernewyork.org/service).

## Kids on the Town for Armonk's Aug. 15 Third Thursday

Back with its last Third Thursday of the summer, the Armonk Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring its Aug. 15 event in Armonk Square from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

International choreographer Michael Salem, from NBC's "World of Dance," along with his partner Hanu, will be hosting an infinite motion demonstration and dance party for kids and adults. There will also be fun crafts and kids' activities. All entertainment and activities are free.

Immediately following the Kids on the Town event, the chamber will host a summer concert in Wampus Brook Park from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Ladies and Gentlemen will perform a live variety of classic, soul, funk and R&B hits at the gazebo.

Picnickers are welcome to bring blankets, chairs, food and drinks. The Fortina Pizza truck will be on hand offering hot personal pies.

The rain venue for the concert will be at

the same time at the North Castle Public Library's Whippoorwill Hall.

Third Thursday Sale Days will be going on throughout the day at participating stores in town. It's a good time to check out the summer sale merchandise before it's gone. Armonk also has a great selection of restaurants and boutiques.

For more information, visit [www.armonkchamberofcommerce.org](http://www.armonkchamberofcommerce.org).

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# Obituaries

## Kaitlyn Lovett

Kaitlyn M. Lovett passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 8 at 28 years old.

Lovett was born in Bronxville on Sept. 12, 1990, to proud and loving parents John and Maureen Lovett (nee Barry). She was the oldest of five children. She is survived by her parents; her brothers, Daniel and Brian (Lindsay); her sisters, Faith and Rebecca; and her grandparents, Richard and Sheila Barry.

Lovett grew up in Hawthorne and attended Holy Rosary Grammar School and Maria Regina High School. After getting her bachelors and master's degrees from Quinnipiac University, she moved to Raleigh, N.C. to pursue her passion and become a teacher. She was a fourth-grade teacher at Immaculata Catholic School in Durham, N.C. at the time of her passing. She was known for her love of her students, her constantly upbeat personality, her always-present smile and her love of her dog, Opus. She will be greatly missed by all those whose life she touched.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Immaculata Catholic School in Durham, N.C. in Kaitlyn's name.

Family and friends are invited to Pleasant Manor Funeral Home, Inc., located at 575 Columbus Ave. in Thornwood, on



Kaitlyn Lovett

Wednesday, Aug. 14 from 3 to 8 p.m. for visitation. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Kaitlyn at Holy Rosary Church on Thursday, Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. Interment will follow at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

## Benedetto DiMaggio

Benedetto (Benny) DiMaggio of Valhalla was released from his struggle with dementia on July 30 at Sharon Hospital in Sharon, Conn.

He was 89.

DiMaggio was born on May 5, 1930, in the Bronx and lived in Valhalla for 55 years. He was the son of Orazio and Josephine (Panzarella) DiMaggio. He attended Bronx Vocational High School and was a Korean War veteran. He enjoyed a long career with the Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Authority (MABSTOA). He was beloved for his generosity and ever-ready sense of humor.

DiMaggio is survived by his wife of 62 years, Dorothy; daughter Susan; brothers

Joseph and Alfred (Connie); and a host of nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his honorary children and grandchildren, Kristin and John Calderola and Jillian, John and Matthew Calderola. He was preceded in death by his son John, his sister Josephine and his brothers Charlie, Fiori, Salvatore and Vincent.

The family thanks the staff of Wellspring Village at Brightview Senior Living in Tarrytown for their care of Benny during his final months.

Visitation was at Hawthorne Funeral Home on Aug. 1. A funeral Mass was held at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Valhalla on Aug. 2 followed by interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

## Dr. Junichi Iwai

Junichi Iwai, M.D., Ph.D., husband and father, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 3 in Phoenix, Ariz. while visiting his wife Shizue.

Iwai was born in Yokohama, Japan on Mar. 23, 1931. He was the eldest of three brothers, whose parents were school teachers. He graduated from the University of Tokyo and the University of Tokyo School of Medicine. Soon after graduating from medical school, he took a research position in the medical department at the Brookhaven National Laboratories on Long Island in 1966. He became a resident of Bellport, N.Y. in 1968 and never left. He often enjoyed playing tennis with various partners in marathon days at the Bellport Country Club. He was proud of saying about his tennis, "I am last seeded in my family." And others would add, "but the most enthusiastic." Perhaps his highest accomplishment in tennis was winning the BNL Men's Doubles Championship with Dr. Darrel Joel.

He opened his private cardiology practice in 1982 in Setauket and later moved it to East Patchogue, where he cared for his patients until he retired in his eighties.



Dr. Junichi Iwai

Iwai is survived by his wife, Shizue, sons Ryu and Sei and grandchildren Jonathan and Julia. Dr. Sei Iwai lives in Briarcliff Manor. Ryu Iwai lives in Phoenix.

A celebration of his life will be held in Bellport at a later date.

## Suspect Pleads Guilty in Chappaqua Armed Robbery

A 68-year-old New York City man pleaded guilty Aug. 7 in last October's Chappaqua home invasion and robbery, Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino's office announced.

Philip Budin's plea to second-degree attempted robbery, a Class D violent felony, was accepted by County Court Judge Barry Warhit. The judge also required Budin to pay restitution by the Oct. 10 sentencing date.

On Oct. 24, 2018, Budin along with his alleged accomplice Mirabai Sheridan, spotted their robbery victim at DeCicco's & Sons in Millwood, and upon leaving the supermarket followed the woman to her Chappaqua home. Carrying a bouquet of flowers, Sheridan approached the house's



Philip Budin, one of two suspects in a Chappaqua armed robbery last fall, pleaded guilty to the offense on Aug 7.

door armed with a gun and pushed her way in, according to the indictment.

Sheridan allegedly forced the victim to the floor and restrained her hands and wrists with plastic ties. She then stole property from the house before fleeing as Budin waited in the car.

County and New Castle police along with investigators from the district attorney's office investigated various leads. Budin and Sheridan were arrested on Nov. 14 after they were found by police in Mamaroneck following another

potential victim from a supermarket. Police pulled the pair over and arrested them and found a gun in the car.

The case against Sheridan is still pending.

— Martin Wilbur

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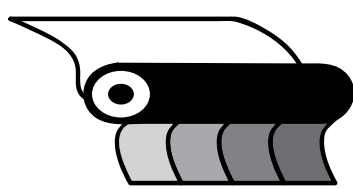
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# Local Author Releases Memoir Exploring Family, Multiculturalism

By Natalie Chun

Author Marlena Baraf released her first book, "At the Narrow Waist of the World," on Aug. 6, a memoir that delves into her relationship with her mother as she battled mental illness and her journey in finding herself in new and unknown cultures.

The work, according to Baraf, is named after the country her family is from. Raised in Panama by a family of Spanish Jews, Baraf experienced what she calls an "insider-outsider feeling."

"We do have a little bit of the insider-outsider that we're very assimilated, and very integrated into the society in Panama, but I was still a little different from the Catholic majority," Baraf said. "I went to convent school as a Jewish girl."

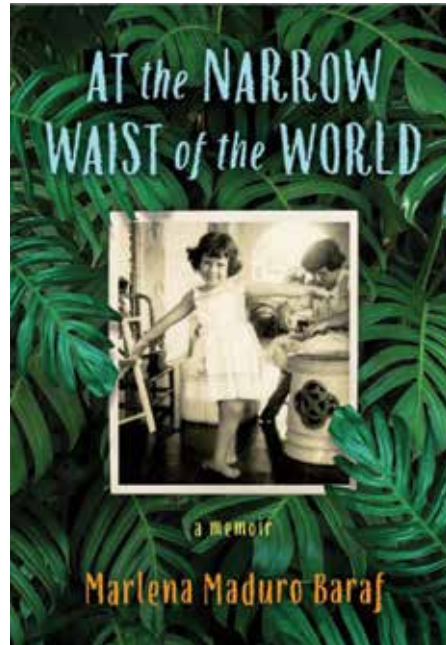
After growing up in Panama, Baraf moved to the United States where she again had to adapt to a new culture and "understand the diversity that is the nature of this country."

In addition to her own exploration, Baraf faced a strained relationship with her mother, the main motivation for writing the book.

"Daughter-mother is such a powerful relationship and I kind of pushed her away for a sense of survival of me," she said.

While her mother was in an institution and Baraf attended boarding school, she began writing letters, which is what led her to a career as a writer. She includes excerpts of some of these letters in her book.

Baraf, a White Plains resident, studied creative writing at Sarah Lawrence College



The book cover for "At the Narrow Waist of the World."

where she was asked to dig into her earliest memories. That was when she realized she had to discover who her mother was, especially coming from an adult's perspective.

"Then I saw her a little differently. I saw her as a woman like I am," Baraf said. "So in the end, it became a book about discovery of

her and discovery of me."

While incredibly personal, Baraf believes it to be a universal story as it explores her relationship with the rest of her family as well.

Having grown up in different settings with many cultural identities, Baraf calls herself a hybrid and believes her exposure to different cultures have helped to change her outlook on life.

"I feel it has given me perspective," she said of her background. "It's like you're on this bridge between two cultures. And you can see maybe just a little farther. And you can see that we're all human, with the same kinds of concerns. So it's been something that I value deeply, having this exposure and people in this country."

Baraf has sought out others with a similar perspective in her blog series Soy/Somos. After writing an essay in the Huffington Post, Baraf was inspired to continue creating similar pieces in which she interviews members of the United States' Latino community.

She has interviewed people from Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico with careers as chiropractors, carpet installers and storybook illustrators. Though she has traveled for some of these interviews, many are done locally, which she said speaks to Westchester's deep diversity.

"We do have a huge variety of people from different countries, different ethnic backgrounds and racially diverse," Baraf said. "So I think that definitely New York and

Westchester, it just has so many different people that it is perfect for me, is a place I love to live in because of it."

The interviews for Soy/Somos are conducted in both Spanish and English but Baraf writes them in English. In the memoir, Baraf incorporated some Spanish and hopes that readers will enjoy the mixed phrasing.

"It's totally in English, but everyone tells me (it's) very musical," Baraf said. "There's something in my original Spanish language and mixed with English, that that adds a little music to the book."

"At the Narrow Waist of the World" is available in paperback and e-book at local bookstores, Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

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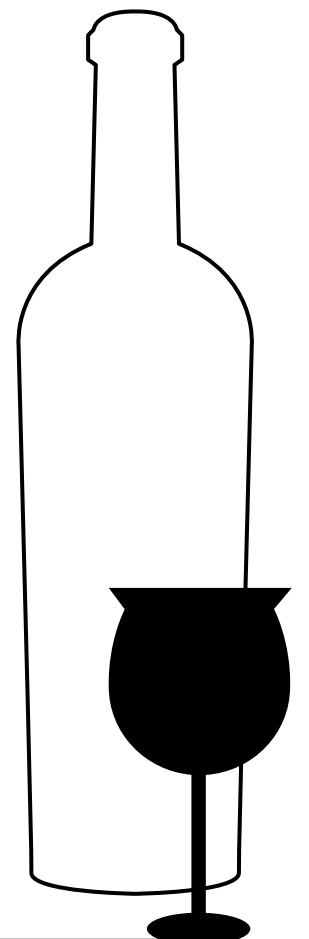
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## Guest Column

### Until Common-Sense Guns Laws Are Enacted, Evil Has Triumphed

By Joel Gingold

What is happening to us?

It seems that every day the blood of innocent civilians, so often children, is flowing in our streets. And we make some noise about it and offer condolences, and in a week or two, it's forgotten. Have we simply become inured to the slaughter? Does it not even bother us anymore?

In just a week we've experienced murder in a Walmart in Mississippi, a street fair in Brooklyn and a festival in Gilroy, culminating in the horrendous massacres in El Paso and Dayton. And it goes on and on and nothing of consequence is done. What is wrong with us?

The president on the first day of his campaign branded Mexicans as murderers and rapists and continues to rail against immigrants. Then he declared that there were "good people" among the white supremacists and neo-Nazis in Charlottesville. And yet we're shocked when a deluded man in Texas travels 600 miles to wreak havoc on Mexicans shopping at Walmart in El Paso or an equally misguided individual opens fire in a synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Dayton's valiant police officers confronted the shooter within 30 seconds of his first shot. Thirty seconds! Yet nine people were slain and 27 injured. Why? Because he was using an assault weapon just like his counterpart in El Paso.

After each incident, the president and the governor and senators and representatives and state legislators offer their time-worn

thoughts and prayers and then check with their campaign treasurers to see how much the National Rifle Association (NRA) has donated to their next campaign. They do nothing that would stop lunatics from getting their hands on assault rifles and blowing away dozens of their neighbors.

So, we have Dayton and El Paso and Gilroy and Brooklyn and Las Vegas and Marjory Stoneman Douglas and Sandy Hook and Santa Fe High School and Virginia Tech and Sutherland Springs Baptist Church and Tree of Life Synagogue and the Capital Gazette and Thousand Oaks, Calif. and Orlando and San Bernardino and on and on. It's so bad that folks fear going to school or to religious services or even to their neighborhood Walmart. Schools have become fortresses and six-year-old children endure active shooter drills.

And every one of you who has fought so hard to thwart common-sense gun controls? You all had your fingers on those triggers just as much as the shooters did. You, too, bear the guilt.

This, of course, doesn't apply to everyone who owns a gun. There are millions of trustworthy gun owners around the country. I know many of you personally and no one wants to take your guns away. That's just a myth perpetrated by the NRA to keep you in line.

But I'm sorry. Just being responsible is no longer good enough. As gun owners, you have a special obligation to stand up and speak out against the insanity of gun violence in this country. You have no choice but to support common-sense gun

laws and pressure your representatives to do the same. As one who knows and understands firearms, your voice will carry much more weight than mine and you can be instrumental in stopping this senseless slaughter.

Because it's getting worse. And if it continues, maybe someday the only answer will be to remove all of the guns out there so the rest of us can live our lives without the threat of being gunned down in the street every time we go out. I know you don't want to see that and I don't want to see it either. So it is imperative that you, the responsible gun owners, become part of the solution. To have the guts to stand up to the NRA and its purchased politicians and say ENOUGH! It all stops here! NOW!

If I sound angry, it's because I am. I'm furious with the NRA and with a president who spews hate instead of promoting healing while his sycophants stand around and nod their heads and mumble platitudes. I'm fed up with the never-ending stream of mass shootings and the thoughts and the prayers and the nothing that ever gets done about it.

The Irish political philosopher Edmund Burke said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men (and women) to do nothing." In the realm of gun violence, evil has been indisputably triumphant. Where are all those good men and women?

*Joel Gingold is a Croton-on-Hudson resident.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Health Care Should Be a Right, Not a Privilege

I am lucky as a senior to have Medicare and that I can afford to buy Medicare supplemental insurance for prescription drugs, dental and long-term care.

Although I am a pretty healthy senior, this past half-year I incurred some huge medical bills that would have drained my retirement savings. I was flabbergasted to see how much the bills were for X-rays, MRIs, medications, doctors and physical therapy submitted to my supplemental medical health plan, and for the bills to my dental plan for treatment of a failing root canal.

I fortunately paid only a small fraction of the total claims submitted by my providers. Who could ever pay these enormous medical bills without health insurance? Granted, my additional insurance coverage above and beyond basic Medicare is not free and does cost me quite a bit before co-pays and deductibles, but I could never have paid my recent bills without additional insurance coverage. What would happen if I had a major, catastrophic illness or injury if I didn't have adequate insurance coverage?

I am thankful that, one, I'm a senior with Medicare coverage, and two, that I was able to work and save during my working years

to pay for supplemental coverage. This makes me "privileged." But shouldn't all people regardless of age, sex, race, gender identity, wealth or employment status be entitled to basic, universal health care as a right, not as a privilege?

The New York State legislature is currently developing a universal, comprehensive, single-payer healthcare plan known as the New York Health Act (A.5248/S.3577). This would provide quality care to every New Yorker and cover all medically necessary care, including medical, dental, vision, mental health and reproductive care.

Learn about the myths and facts from the experts at the NY Health Act Forum on Thursday, Sept. 26 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library. Speakers include state Sen. Gustavo Rivera (the bill's sponsor), Katie Robbins (Campaign for NY Health) and health economist Peter Arno. You can also find information from the Campaign for NY Health at nyhcampaign.org.

**Virginia Stillman**  
**Ossining**

### County's Merestead Preservation Efforts Are a Welcome Step

Per The Examiner's recent story about Westchester County's plans to restore the Merestead mansion and grounds ("County Seeks Relief From Merestead Restrictions, Increased Uses, July 16-22), last month I went on a tour of the property hosted by County Legislator Kitley Covill. For the past two years, she has been working to revitalize this historic county-owned park on the border of Mount Kisco and Bedford.

It is a stunning property with beautiful meadows and historic buildings that are in various states of disrepair. Covill has developed an innovative plan to help restore the property and provide needed revenues. The plan will balance the wishes of Merestead's former owners by preserving the estate's history and maximizing the use of the land to allow for additional appropriate public use.

It's both prudent and heartening that the county is taking solid steps to preserve and reinvigorate this environmental and cultural gem. A hearty thank you to all involved.

**Jessica Bennett**  
**Katonah**



# Letters to the Editor

## Oversight Agencies Preclude Vendors From Cutting Fish at Pleasantville Market

In last week’s letter to the editor in The Examiner, Kathryn Ward asked why Pura Vida Fisheries, the popular fish vendor at the Pleasantville Farmers Market, does not cut fish anymore.

The answer is simple: The New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets does not permit it.

That agency and the Westchester County Department of Health have both renewed their focus on and increased their inspections for safe food handling at farmers markets, and have contacted all markets to ensure that vendors are acting within the scope of their licenses.

Pura Vida’s 20-C license does not permit the portioning of foods during the market. This is for the same reason that meat vendors cannot cut raw meat in the market: Without sanitary facilities to wash knives between cuts, there is a potential risk of contamination.

We can’t speak for the situation other vendors may have with their licenses in other markets, but if they are cutting fish for customers in a market with only a 20-C license, they are in violation of code. Whatever vendors, market managers or shoppers may think of the rules is beside the point; it is our obligation to enforce rules that govern public health and safety. This not only protects the public but also the vendor. If Pura Vida were inspected during a market and caught cutting fish, they could be shut for the day, their product confiscated and a fine imposed by either oversight body.

While we are sympathetic to the idea that cutting fish to order in the market was a convenience that may be missed by Pura Vida shoppers, all we can do – other than offer some suggestions for delicious ways to deal with leftover fish – is suggest that shoppers contact the state Department of Agriculture & Markets.

Please write to Executive Director of Market Operations Steven Bates at [steven@pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org](mailto:steven@pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org) for information.

We also encourage shoppers to reach out to us directly with any questions about market operations. We work hard to ensure that the market serves both shoppers and vendors well, and we’re happy to discuss any concerns during the market.

**Peter Rogovin**  
**President, Foodchester, Inc.**  
**Operator of the Pleasantville Farmers Market**

## Proposed Legislation Would Help Migrant Children at Southern Border

Any person who values human life should be utterly appalled and deeply concerned at the treatment of Central American migrant children at our southern border.

Their families have fled corrupt and murderous governments and have come seeking asylum in the United States. They have been traumatized by their own countries. Some children are with their families, others are alone.

These children in confinement living in deplorable conditions are experiencing medical and mental health issues. The maltreatment amounts to child abuse and neglect. It violates child protection policies, practices, and laws in every state and U.S. territory.

Lawmakers in Congress have introduced several bills aimed to promote humane treatment of immigrant children. They are:

- H.R. 541/S. 292: Keep Families Together;
- H.R. 3918/S. 2113: Stop Cruelty to Migrant Children Act;
- H.R. 3312: Family Reunification Act;
- H.R. 3525: U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act and;
- H.R. 3731: Strategic & Humane Southern Border Migrant Response Act.

I implore you to contact your local politicians urging them to get these bills passed. Keep the pressure on them.

Aren’t we fortunate that we can sit contently with our children and grandchildren safely in our homes?

**Karen Sevell Greenbaum**  
**Croton-on-Hudson**

## New York Should Approve Physician-Assisted Death for the Terminally Ill

The New York Medical Aid in Dying Act (A2694/S3947) presents New York with an opportunity to join other states in helping to prevent the prolonging of suffering for terminally ill patients. My hope is that drawing more attention to this bill, and other similar ones, will help to grant more power to patients who are trapped in a situation where it is easy to feel powerless.

I am a co-sponsor of this legislation because I believe that it is an important step in promoting patient autonomy and physician humanity. Physician-assisted death is a topic being discussed with increased frequency throughout the country. Many states, some of which border New York, have similar bills that have already been approved or that are awaiting approval.

New Jersey and Vermont have both passed legislation that grant terminally ill patients bodily autonomy. In New Jersey, the Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act went into effect Aug. 1. In Vermont, the Patient Choice and Control at the End of Life Act has been law since May 2013. In addition to these two neighboring states, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Massachusetts all have proposed similar bills and are awaiting further action.

I would like to encourage any supporters of these bills to reach out to their elected representatives and express their views.

**Assemblywoman Sandy Galef**  
**95th Assembly District**

## Reminder to the Public That Early Voting Begins Oct. 26 This Year

From mass shootings to problems at our borders, everyone’s stress level is raised. The overhaul of voting procedures passed by the state legislature in January should help. With early voting, we can relax and vote at our convenience.

Every registered voter in Westchester can vote early. Anyone over 18 who is registered by Oct. 1 will be able to vote during early voting, Oct. 26 to Nov. 3, or on Election Day, Nov. 5.

Responsibility for administering early voting falls on the Westchester Board of Elections (BOE). The BOE has identified 16 polling sites in Westchester so that few will have to travel more than five miles to vote early. Each early voting site will offer space and staff for the usual identification of voters, distribution of the correct ballot to each voter and the voting booths and machines. This is in addition to the siting, staffing and supplying of the usual polling places available in Westchester on Election Day.

The Westchester Board of Elections will inform every voter of the locations and times for early voting, as they always have for the approximately 400 sites available on Election Day, by postcard. Save your postcard. Receiving a voter’s postcard proves that you are registered. If you aren’t sure you’re registered, call 914-995-5700 by the middle of September.

Be sure you are registered, then vote early!

**Catherine Ray**  
**Ossining**

## Great Ways to Keep Your Mind Sharp

- When you think about exercise, you likely envision using the treadmill or lifting weights. Every bit as important to your long-term health and wellness are activities that keep your mind sharp and your cognitive abilities strong and limber.
- Here are several things you can do to help keep your mind sharp:
- Solve a Crossword Puzzle: A crossword puzzle asks you to reach into your long-term memory bank to solve clues. You may be filling in boxes, but well-constructed crossword puzzles will require you to think outside the box, as sometimes clues are a bit trickier than they seem at first glance, relying on word play or double meanings to work. A relaxing way to unwind and concentrate, consider adding this ritual into your morning.
  - Get More from Nature: On your next nature hike, don’t check out mentally. Set goals and keep your senses alert, paying attention to sounds, sights and smells.
  - Learn a Language: A multilingual brain works more efficiently, and it is never too late to pick up a new language. There are many languages apps available to help, some of them free, as well as more traditional taped audio lessons you can pop on while commuting to work or doing chores around the house.
  - Make Math Fun: Want to build your critical thinking skills and improve your ability to problem solve? Delve into mathematics with fun math puzzles found online. Free online software, such as ClassPad.net, includes resources to help you solve problems, from simple calculations to statistics, graphing and more.
  - Get Sleep: Sufficient high-quality sleep is one of the most fundamental ways to maintain a sharp mind and keep your brain healthy through the years. Seven to nine hours is ideal for adults, according to the National Sleep Foundation. If you aren’t sleeping well, or feel foggy during the day, consider how to shift your evening routine to get more and better quality sleep.
- This article was printed by permission of statepoint.net.*



# Obsessing Over the Bathroom Scale

How many times, I wonder, have my wife Margaret and I targeted the next Monday to start a new diet? It would be impossible to calculate, but this time around, as I ponder all the reasons that I let my weight go, I suspect that where I live is a major contributing factor.

You see, I am happily ensconced in a luxury condo with our president's name sprawled across a sign at our entrance – although the letter “T” has been stolen several times – I can attest that, yes, where we live can affect our weight.

When I lived for nearly a half-century in a maintenance-intensive single-family house, I was in much better physical shape and didn't tax my weight scale as much as I do today. There were incalculable chores to be done inside and out – especially out – that required energy expense that I now neatly tuck in a savings account called weight gain.

My living arrangement has made everything just too easy for me, starting with a one-floor spread on the top floor of a building with an elevator. No longer do I have to trudge down steps to the basement for tools or up to the second floor to sleep or to the attic to store things. And there is no outside yard work.



By Bill Primavera

I hesitate to mention that my current residence affords a gym and indoor and outdoor swimming pools, as well as a quarter-mile track and a walking path that goes on for miles. And, I did avail myself of all these accommodations – when I first moved in. But I have sluffed off as one tends to do when an activity isn't at the top of one's list of favorite things.

While my dietary efforts for the most part have been in vain, that doesn't mean that I don't try daily to beat the odds. Part of that process involves an almost unnatural relationship with my bathroom scale.

Every morning, I surrender myself to it just before I jump into the shower. If this simple act stopped there, it would be considered perfectly normal behavior, but there's a secret ritual that has developed over the years that may render normalcy questionable.

The ritual kicks in when my big toe steps lightly on the scale as I wait with baited breath as digital figures start their little dance. The final number pops up in excessively large digital display, the only reading I am able to achieve without my glasses.

Typically, I don't accept the preliminary

hard evidence of my imprudence. Surely the scale must need to “warm up” before it gives me an accurate reading. I step off and onto the scale again, but this time, I lower my weight slowly as I lean on a shelf nearby. The result of this little trick may actually be higher than the first reading.

As I write this, I'm thinking to myself, okay, now the reader knows I'm weird, but considering that one out of three women and one in five men in this country are on a diet, surely other people's home scales get a workout.

With our distant ancestors, not fettered by body image issues, it was the need for measurement in commerce that created the first scale. Evidence of the earliest scales in Roman times shows that they were actually balancing systems, using two plates attached to an overhead beam fixed on a central pole, much like the smaller version held by Lady Justice. The weight of any object for trade, like gold, was measured by placing it on one plate and weight-setting stones on the other, until equilibrium was reached.

Today, bathroom scales come in many models and range from the inexpensive and simple to the more elaborate, supported by technology, where we can also know our Mass Body Index.

Through the years, I've met a few people who have told me they never get on a scale and don't have one in their homes. Their only weight monitoring system might be to cut back on dessert when they feel their pants getting a little snug. This system is so foreign, so unfathomable to me that I can only marvel at it.

But, judging from the number of bathrooms I've visited as a real estate agent, I would say that these lucky people are in the minority and that the bathroom scale is one home gadget that is here to stay.

Bill Primavera is a residential and commercial Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate, as well as a publicist and journalist who writes regularly as The Home Guru. For questions about home maintenance or to engage him to help you buy or sell a home, call him at 914-522-2076.



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## Task Force Hearings Scheduled to Address Opioids, Substance Abuse

State Sen. Peter Harkham, chair of the Senate Committee on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, announced last week the schedule of public hearings to be held by the Senate Joint Task Force on Opioids, Addiction & Overdose Prevention.

Harkham is co-chairing the Joint Task Force along with Sen. Gustavo Rivera, chair of the Senate Health Committee, and Sen. David Carlucci, chair of the Senate Mental Health Committee. Hearings and roundtables will be held in Madison County (Aug. 26), Buffalo (Aug. 30), Staten Island (Sept. 16), the Hudson Valley (Oct. 3), Long Island (Oct. 15) and Albany (Nov. 15). More details regarding the time and location of the hearings will be released soon. Last Friday, the first hearing took place at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx.

The Joint Task Force will travel the state and learn about the issues surrounding opioid overdose and addiction facing all communities. The group will engage a variety of stakeholders to help identify gaps that exist in the system, develop solutions to address co-occurring disorders, learn how to better prevent overdose in people who are addicted, find more avenues to get people into treatment and uncover best practices to help reverse the epidemic.

"Opioid and other substance use disorders continue to claim way too many lives in New York State, in all age groups," Harkham said. "After our initial public hearing in the Bronx on Friday, the New York State Senate Joint Task Force on Opioids, Addiction & Overdose Prevention will be 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."

Several measures were approved during the past session. Most notably, the minimum number of days for inpatient substance abuse treatment was doubled from 14 to 28 before insurance companies may conduct their concurrent review.

Additionally, a new law reduces the number of co-pays a patient could be charged for outpatient treatment to a single co-pay at the rate of a regular doctor's visit. Frequently, patients had been hit with multiple co-pays for each specialist they saw in a single outpatient visit. With most patients needing multiple visits per week, outpatient Substance Use Disorder care became unaffordable.

Also, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) will be covered by all insurance plans, both public and private, and be mandated in all correctional facilities throughout the state. Additional legislation was passed requiring physicians to discuss the risks associated with opioid prescriptions and possible alternatives, as well as Stephen's Law, requiring that treatment centers, at the consent of the patient, must inform their support network should they determine that a patient is in a life-endangering situation, such as a failed drug test.

Those who would like to participate at one of the hearings or roundtables may e-mail [nysoverdosetaskforce@nysenate.gov](mailto:nysoverdosetaskforce@nysenate.gov) or call Harkham's office at 914-241-2600 for more details.

## Providing Hope

State Sen. Peter Harkham recently presented a \$9,000 state grant to the Hawthorne-based Hope's Door to assist the organization's lifesaving programming. Hope's Door provides services in five locations across Westchester empowering victims of domestic violence to achieve safety, independence and healing from the trauma of abuse. Pictured, left to right, are Kayla Stephens, youth educator; Maya Lloyd, senior domestic violence counselor; Jessica Beladino, domestic violence counselor and human trafficking; Hope's Door Executive Director CarlLa Horton; and Harkham. To seek help or for more information about Hope's Door, call 888-438-8700.



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## BACK TO SCHOOL

### *What Will You Be Putting in Your Child's Lunchbox This School Year?*

According to Gina DeVito, a registered dietitian and director of wellness initiatives at Open Door Family Medical Centers in Westchester and Putnam counties, parents can do a great deal in preventing childhood obesity by collaborating with their children when it comes to lunch and snack decisions.

"When children are younger, nutritional counseling is geared more towards the parents as far as preparing and buying foods. But once children are in school, they are freer to make their own decisions," DeVito said. "We try to educate parents about making foods appetizing and palatable and we teach children about different food groups, the nutritional benefits, portion control and how it all connects with doing well in school and athletic performance. It starts with learning what the child likes to eat and then making

recommendations around that."

DeVito acknowledged that children, like most adults, need the occasional bag of chips or slice of pizza, but that small changes can go a long way.

"Kids will have birthday parties and be exposed to not-so-healthy foods and as a parent you can't be unrealistic," she said. "We emphasize balancing these foods with healthier options.

Yes, you can have chips, but not in the lunch box and maybe only on Friday, but the rest of the week you need to eat something more nutritious. And if the parents model this behavior at home, it can become a power message for the entire family."

DeVito recommends:

- Avoiding soft drinks with no nutritional value and replacing them with flavored infused water.



- Employing crunchy vegetables (like carrots or cucumbers) for after school snacks instead of chips or sweets.
- Choosing fat-free milk rather than chocolate milk.
- Avoiding energy drinks.
- Offering after school snacks that may include whole grain crackers with some peanut butter or almonds instead of sweets or ice cream.
- Making certain changes in the preparation of vegetables and other foods that will replace junk food. If a child has to choose between ordering French fries or blandly prepared string beans there won't be much of a choice.
- Teaching older children, who will stop at the pizzeria after school, to opt for one slice with mushrooms or peppers instead of two with highly processed meats.

"Making even minor changes can make a big difference in overall health and in preventing obesity," DeVito said. "Food can be both happy and healthy. You don't want to demonize certain foods, but rather demonstrate balance and mindful choices."



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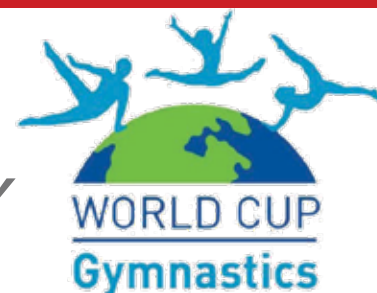
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# BACK TO SCHOOL

## How to Help Your Child Deal With Back-to-School Anxiety

Returning to school in the fall can bring excitement as well as stress for many children. There are several things parents can do to help their children ease back into the new school year and deal with the anxiety that often accompanies that first day and even those first few weeks.

1. Help your child know that feeling anxious about going back to school is normal and don't minimize how they feel. Don't say, "don't worry, it will be fine." Instead stress how it is normal to feel some anxiety about going back to school. Everyone feels it to some extent. Anxiety is a protective emotion and it will help prepare children to get ready for school and it will pass when a child adjusts to being back to school.
2. Help them understand what the purpose of anxiety is and to listen to it rather than push the anxiety away. Anxiety is like an unpleasant but helpful alarm, so the alarm will keep on ringing and get louder until a child figures out what it is alarming them.
3. Help children figure out what is making them concerned or anxious so they can talk to themselves in a way that will help them to cope. Ask them to pay attention to what is going through their minds when they get anxious and come up with helpful things to say to themselves. If the anxiety, for example, is related to "I am starting high school and I will not do well and won't get into a good college," help them to say something like, "I am understandably anxious about starting high school and am worried that I won't do well but that doesn't mean I actually won't do well. I just need to make sure I prepare in advance, organize my work, make sure I have enough time to study, take away all distractions when I study and get support when I need it."
4. Help them gradually approach all the things that are making them anxious rather than avoiding what is making them anxious about school. If seeing their friends is making them anxious and they are avoiding seeing them or thinking about meeting them at school, help them create a fear ladder and slowly climb it. Say, "how about you call Matt to see if he can meet up before school, and then after that, you could meet again and include Jack and Alex, too?"
5. Do something academic to prepare because the brain drain is real over the summer. If



By Dr. Lata K. McGinn

a student has a weak subject, get a tutor for a few weeks or use online forums like the Khan Academy or Crash course (a YouTube channel led by "Fault in Our Stars" author John Green and his brother Hank) to help them prepare. It will help them get a refresher and build their confidence.

6. Help children to focus on positive things about going back to school. Ask them if they are looking forward to any aspect of going back to school. If seeing their friends is something they feel good about, say things like, "it will be nice to catch up with Jane. You have so much to tell her." Of course, if seeing their classmates is anxiety provoking, pick another topic.

*Dr. Lata K. McGinn is a licensed clinical psychologist and co-founder of Cognitive Behavioral Consultants. She is also a tenured professor of psychology, director of the Doctoral Clinical Program, and director of the university-based Cognitive Behavior Therapy Training Program for Anxiety and Depressive Disorders at the Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, Yeshiva University/Albert Einstein College of Medicine. More information can be found at [www.cbc-psychology.com](http://www.cbc-psychology.com).*



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# Happenings

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

## Tuesday, Aug. 13

**STEM Fun.** Make volcanoes, bouncy balls and spinners. For children in grades K and up. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 4 p.m. Free. Also Aug. 20. Info: 914-669-5161 or [www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org](http://www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org).

**Flight Time.** A place to learn about how things fly and the history of flight. You'll even get the chance to build your own aircraft. For children six years old and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Earring Making.** Learn to make earrings while helping a good cause. For every pair of earrings you make, make another pair that will be donated to a battered women's shelter. Led by Joan Lloyd. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.org).

**DIY Constellation Projector.** Bring the universe down to earth with a flashlight and a cardboard tube. For children five to 10 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.

**Italian Language and Culture.** Mara De Matteo, born and raised in Italy and passionate about her native language, combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in

her classes. She creates interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**History and Biography Book Club.** "A Spy Among Friends: Kim Philby and the Great Betrayal" by Ben MacIntyre will be discussed. Extra copies of the books are available at the library for checkout. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 7:30 p.m. Free. The club will meet the second Tuesday of each month through December (except in October). Info: 914-669-5161 or [www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org](http://www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org).

**Women Reading Women Book Club.** "Big Little Lies" by Liane Moriarty will be discussed. Copies of the book will be available at the circulation desk. New members welcome. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: E-mail [denisedauriasommer@hotmail.com](mailto:denisedauriasommer@hotmail.com).

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

**"Stop Making Sense."** Jonathan Demme made his documentary debut with this euphoric showcase for the Talking Heads, exploding from the stage just after their big mainstream success with the album "Speaking in Tongues" and the single "Burning Down the House." We remember Demme in so many ways, but one of the best is to show this masterpiece of a live performance film – now celebrating its 35th anniversary – every single year. It never gets old, and as always, we promise to play it loud, the way he wanted. Part of the Sounds of Summer: Music Films Old and New series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Wednesday, Aug. 14

**Veterans Community Day.** County Executive George Latimer and the Veterans Service Agency invite veterans who are Westchester residents for a community outreach day. Mount Kisco American Legion Hall, 1 Legion Way, Mount Kisco. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free.

**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. Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:15 a.m. to noon. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://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](http://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](http://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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Every Wednesday. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://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. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.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](mailto:rooneylm@optonline.net).

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

**"Wattstax."** In 1972, Stax Records organized a benefit concert to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the riots in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles. The epochal "black Woodstock," held at L.A.'s Memorial Coliseum, featured incendiary performances by Stax artists Isaac Hayes, Albert King, Rufus and Carla Thomas, The Staple Singers, The Emotions, The Bar-Kays, and other greats of soul, R&B and gospel – plus biting humor from a then little-known Richard Pryor. It's more than a concert film, it captures a heady moment in mid-1970s African-American culture, when the community came together to celebrate its survival and renewed hope in its future. Part of the Sounds of Summer: Music Films Old and New series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

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

**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. Info: 914-864-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.org).

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

**DIY Crayon Space Art.** Make your own

*continued on next page*



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# Pace's Cybersecurity Camp Inspires Next Generation of Students

Utilizing underwater robots, aerial drones and cutting-edge coding techniques, 50 high school students from throughout the region gained hands-on cybersecurity experience as part of Pace University's Camp CryptoBot on Aug. 1.

Inspired by a mission to motivate younger students to pursue cybersecurity – especially women and those from underserved areas – the camp is supported by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the National Science Foundation as part of the national GenCyber program. Earlier in July, Pace also hosted a two-week cybersecurity workshop for teachers to help integrate cybersecurity concepts into lessons and after-school activities.

"Pace University's commitment to cybersecurity education benefits the whole nation. Everything we do today has a cybersecurity component to it," said NSA National Cryptologic School Commandant Diane M. Janosek. "GenCyber gives students the opportunity to learn about the role cybersecurity plays in their daily lives and encourages them to consider working in this field."

By 2020, it's estimated that up to two million unfilled cybersecurity positions will exist in the United States, said Professor Pauline Mosley, who spearheaded the camp on behalf of Pace University's



Some of the 50 high school students who attended the Aug. 1 cybersecurity camp at Pace. The camp helped to introduce students to a career in cybersecurity where it has been estimated that there will be as many as two million unfilled positions in the United States by next year.

Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems.

"From national security to personal privacy, this shortage poses a critical

threat to our society – but also an opportunity for students," Mosley said. "Pace University is committed to closing that gap by inspiring younger students to

pursue cybersecurity and by equipping teachers with the resources they need to incorporate these lessons."

In addition to hands-on labs, Camp CryptoBot also taught students to understand safe online behavior and how ethics applies to cybersecurity. The five-day camp was free for all accepted students and included breakfast and lunch.

Fourteen-year-old Nickole Leite, who attends Yonkers Middle/High School, said that although topics such as cipher codes are complicated at first, once you get to know them each becomes simplified and very secretive – something she's been drawn to since she was a young child.

"When I was little, I used to read a lot of mystery books, so learning about different kinds of codes before decrypting and encrypting them is like something out of a movie," Leite said. "To know it's real life and I know how to do this is amazing."

GenCyber offers summer free cybersecurity camps to students and teachers in grades K-12. Since 2014, more than 12,000 students and 3,000 teachers have attended GenCyber camps. This year, 122 GenCyber camps will be held at 76 institutions across 38 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico, reaching more than 3,000 students and 800 teachers.

## Happenings

*continued from previous page*

far-out universe with crayons and paint. For children five to 10 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.

**New Castle 2019 Summer Concert Series: The Chappaqua Orchestra.** The final Wednesday evening concert of the season. Recreation Field, South Greeley Avenue, Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free.

**Art Series: Going Once, Going Twice.** With the \$3.7 billion sale of Sotheby's earlier this summer, the art world is facing consolidation as well as a move toward less transparency in its international dealings. Explore the major international auction houses and galleries that exert influence on the world's art market. Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"Frances Ha."** Frances (Greta Gerwig) lives in New York, but she doesn't really have an apartment. Frances is an apprentice for a dance company, but she's not really a dancer. She has a best friend named Sophie (Mickey Sumner) but they aren't really speaking anymore. Frances throws herself headlong into her dreams, even as their possible reality dwindles. Frances wants so much more than she has, but lives her life with unaccountable joy and lightness. A modern comic fable that explores New York, friendship, class, ambition, failure and redemption. Followed by a Q&A by artist-in-residence Shelby Coley and Creative Culture Director Sean Weiner. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd.,

Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

### Thursday, Aug. 15

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

**Baby Time.** A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-741-0276 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.lifelinetheaterinc.org/index.html).

**Toddler Storytime.** Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Info: 914-741-0276 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://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](http://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. Info: Visit 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Mahjongg Club.** Intermediate players welcome. Participants must bring their own set. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free. Every

Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Royal Opera House Live: "Romeo & Juliet."** Since its 1965 premiere with The Royal Ballet, Kenneth MacMillan's "Romeo and Juliet" has become a modern ballet classic. The choreography captures the passions of the young couple as they fall in love despite the barriers that keep their families apart. Each revival provides opportunities for talented new dancers to interpret the doomed lovers as the whole company evokes the vibrant color and action of Renaissance Verona, where a busy market scene quickly bursts into the setting for tragedy. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$30. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Pre-K Storytime With Craft.** North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Bananagrams and Boggle Bash.** Spend a fun, noisy hour playing classic word games. There will be prizes for all participants. For children in grades 3 and up. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-669-5161 or [www.ruthkeelerlibrary.org](http://www.ruthkeelerlibrary.org).

**Read to Rover.** Dogs love listening to stories. Come meet Rover and read your favorite story. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Armonk Chamber of Commerce's Third Thursday.** The last of three Thursdays this summer where merchants

*continued on page 22*



# Happenings

continued from page 21

offer all-day sales and deals along with music and activities. This month, international choreographer Michael Salem, from NBC's "World of Dance," along with his partner Hanu, will be hosting an infinite motion demonstration and dance party for kids and adults. There will also be fun crafts and kids' activities and Ladies and Gentleman, a group that plays classic, soul, funk and R&B hits, will perform at Wampus Brook Park, Main Street, Armonk. Music from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Chili Cookoff from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Armonk Square. Info: Visit [www.armonkchamberofcommerce.org](http://www.armonkchamberofcommerce.org).

**Full Moon Wolf Walk.** Celebrate the August full moon with more than 50 moon-loving wolves. While enjoying nature's summer chatter by the outdoor fire pit, guests will enjoy seasonal treats and the symphony of howls. Guests will learn about the history of wolves in the United States, their importance in a healthy ecosystem and the efforts to save these magnificent creatures for future generations. Guests will also take a short moonlit walk to visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Zephyr and Nikai. Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 7 p.m. \$20. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**"Douvau Jou Ka Leve."** Based on her own experience and interweaving poetic narration with interviews, this personal documentary by Haitian filmmaker and actress Gessica Génésis – the title translates as The Sun Will Rise – investigates the "disease of the soul" consuming her homeland. Taking on mental illness, Haiti's history of turmoil and the fraught divide between Vodou and Christianity, it's a moving meditation like no other. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Mindfulness for Moms.** Have you ever wondered if there is a different approach on how to handle your daily obligations? If it is possible to pause between stimulus and reaction? There are a variety of skills – exercises in breathing, listening and communicating – that can support and improve your struggles throughout the day. Learn some ways to improve your daily approach. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Raditia Lasry at [bodymindsoulhyc@gmail.com](mailto:bodymindsoulhyc@gmail.com).

**"Big."** A screening of this 1988 blockbuster feature starring Tom Hanks. Visit the spot on the boardwalk where scenes from the movie were filmed. Playland Park, 1 Playland Parkway Beach, Rye. Movie tickets go on sale at 7:30 p.m. at the main beach booth. Movie at 8:15 p.m. \$5. Children (under 5): Free. Parking fees apply. (Does not include amusement park admission.) Info: Visit [www.parks.westchestergov.com](http://www.parks.westchestergov.com).

## Friday, Aug. 16

**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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk.

11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://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](http://www.amyolin.zumba.com).

**Watercolor With Music.** Come listen to music and paint what you feel. For children six years old and up. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Ossining Food Truck Fridays & Concert Series: Taj Weekes & Adowa.** 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](http://www.OssiningChamber.org).

**Friday Night Film Series: "Beginners."** Starring Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer, this poignant, funny drama follows a young man as his life shifts due to two incredible announcements from his elderly father. Post-screening discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Westchester Photographic Society: "Show Us How You Did It."** Members show images explaining how they captured the image and the post processing techniques used. All photographers, beginner to professional, are welcome. Must be 18 years old and up. Westchester Community College's Technology Building, Room 107, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-827-5333 or visit [www.wpsphoto.org](http://www.wpsphoto.org).

## Saturday, Aug. 17

**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, join Girl Scout and avid coder Ella Dundas as she introduces kids to robots, coding, circuits and more and Grammy-nominated father-and-son acoustic guitarists, John Eurell Sr. and John Eurell Jr., also known as Sundad, will create music filled with beautiful rhythms and harmonies inspired by cultures from around the world. Plus, market sponsor Hospital Northwell Health will visit, offering information on health-related topics. 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](http://www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org).

**Chappaqua Farmers Market.** Locally-raised and produced food to the community creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers in the region. Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30

a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through November. Info: Visit [www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org](http://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.

**Herb Garden Days.** The New York unit of the Herb Society of America is revamping its traditional Herb Fair for 2019 at John Jay Homestead. Instead of having the traditional fair in September, this year's event is a series of Herb Garden days, coinciding with the Saturday farmers market. This month's herbs are basil and lemon. (The July's lemon-themed herb day was postponed due to extreme heat.) Visitors will learn about every aspect of this popular herb and be inspired by its many uses and benefits. Herb Society member Wendy Podell is leading a children's activity for the day, making a bird of clay using sage as feathers. John Jay Homestead, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission. The third Saturday of each month through September. Info: E-mail [hersocietyny@gmail.com](mailto:hersocietyny@gmail.com).

**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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Bethel Springvale Inn Open House.** Are you or someone you know thinking about moving to an assisted living community? Do you worry that you can't afford it? Discover the tremendous value of wonderful retirement living, services and amenities offered. Bring your questions and join the discussion. Learn about quality assisted living at a great value which includes the lowest monthly rates; spacious apartments; 24/7 nursing services; three meals a day; housekeeping and laundry services; and a convenient location. Bethel Springvale Inn, 62 Springvale Rd., Croton-on-Hudson. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free. RSVP required. Info and RSVP: 914-739-4404 ext. 2204.

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

**Painting With Pan Pastels.** Pan pastels are professional artists' quality soft pastel colors packed in a unique (cake-like) format. They can be used on nearly any surface, and the colors blend beautifully, using sponge applicators to create an infinite palette. This workshop will introduce participants to this amazing medium and techniques on how to use it. Create a finished work of your

own (maybe even two works) by the time the workshop is over. No prior art training is required; all levels welcome. Led by Jill Kiefer. (The instructor will have some resources, but feel free to bring an outline version and color version of something you really want to paint.) For participants 15 years old and up. Pelham Art Center 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 1 to 4 p.m. Members: \$59. Non-members: \$66. (Plus a \$20 material fee.) Registration required. Info and registration: Visit [www.pelhamartcenter.org](http://www.pelhamartcenter.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 Aug. 18, 24 and 31 at 11 a.m. and Aug. 25 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Summer Reading Finale: Two By Two Zoo.** Celebrate the end of the summer reading programs by meeting with animals from the traveling Two By Two Zoo. All ages. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.org](http://www.mountkisco.org).

**Can I Tell You Something?** Stand-Up Comedy Infused With Story. Stand-up comic Alyssa Sequoia returns to the Hudson Valley Writers Center for her next installment of her comedy series. With special guest comedian Matthew Broderick. Hudson Valley Writers Center, 300 Riverside Drive, Sleepy Hollow. 5 p.m. \$10. Info and tickets: Visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/can-i-tell-u-something-tickets-66597293297](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/can-i-tell-u-something-tickets-66597293297).

**Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Welcome to the Party.** Frankie Becerra is back and he is bringing the party. See an incredible show featuring some of the best and brightest standup comedians in the tristate area. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 6 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughlounge.com](http://www.lucyslaughlounge.com).

**Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Hard Headed Comedy.** Luz Michelle returns. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughlounge.com](http://www.lucyslaughlounge.com).

**"Police Story."** The heart-stopping set pieces fly fast and furious in Jackie Chan's breathtakingly inventive martial-arts comedy, a smash hit that made him a worldwide icon of daredevil action spectacle. Packed wall-to-wall with charmingly goofball slapstick and astoundingly acrobatic fight choreography – including an epic shopping-mall melee of flying fists and shattered glass – "Police Story" set a new standard for rock-'em-sock-'em mayhem that would influence a generation of filmmakers from Hong Kong to Hollywood. Part of the Summer Late Nights series. Jacob Burn Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 9:15 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

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# Walking With My Wife Around the Pond in Search of Birds

By Brian Kluepfel

I'm at the point in life where I'm much closer to death than to birth, but in no rush to get there, so I take measures to avoid accelerating the process.

This means that whenever we can, my wife and I walk around the pond in upper Ossining. It's right where Route 133 splits and becomes either Pleasantville Road or Chappaqua Road or whatever your phone tells you. ("Turn left onto Briarcliff-Peekskill Parkway." Who the heck calls it THAT?)

So, we walk around the pond and we often see birds. All kinds of birds. A few weeks ago, it was the bright orange bill of a cormorant sticking out of a treetop. I never knew that they took refuge there.

For a few weeks we were worried about a lone, haggard male mallard who appeared to have lost his mate. I told my wife maybe the female bird was just taking care of the new babies, and a week later, she made me look like a genius, scooting across the pond with a half-dozen ducklings in tow. We saw her today with just one – a much larger duckling – but nature's cruel law of averages means that all six are likely still not around.

Speaking of predators, we saw two red-tailed hawks involved in quite a conversation at the Acme Supermarket parking lot on the way to our pond yesterday. One was screaming bloody murder and the other seemed rather unbothered by the whole thing. We wondered what it was all about – territory, sex, food – the same stuff we humans fight about, I suppose.

Today we also saw a great blue heron around the

perimeter of the pond, each time changing its position slightly, shifting from the muddy banks into the water itself, looking for one of those big fish we've seen lurking around the bottom. (Maybe a turtle, but the ones we saw were a mighty big mouthful for a heron to take on, never mind if they were snapping turtles.)

In the bushes on Croton Avenue, on the way to the pond, we saw a flash of bright yellow among sunflowers in Roberto's (we found out later) well-appointed garden. This was one of our loveliest locals, an American goldfinch, a flower lover that's the state bird of New Jersey.

## For The Birds

Over at the pond, a mourning dove (named for its eerie, sad call) patrolled the ground, pecking for food and not disturbed at all by the increasing human foot traffic. A jogger remarked that the woodpecker we spotted soon thereafter, hearing the tell-tale knocking against the tree trunk, was most certainly a female. But when I asked if it was a red-bellied woodpecker, she replied that no, it just had some red on the head. (She didn't realize, I think, that the red-bellied woodpecker is a species name.) I believe it was a sense of conflated feminism and birding because I couldn't even make out the colors in the gloaming, to be honest.

Later, at the church on the way home, high up in the treetops, picking at some ripened berries, was a pair of cedar waxwings, another striking summer addition to our avian species, masked and not quite anonymous. (Excuse the poorly disguised pop culture reference.)

So take a walk with your significant other in a local park, around a pond, down a country lane, with or without binoculars. You never know what you'll see,



For the Birds columnist Brian Kluepfel and his wife, Paula Zorrilla, out searching for birds in the local area.

but you'll see it together and go home to a happy nest.

*Brian Kluepfel is a member of the Saw Mill River Audubon and edits its newsletter in addition to authoring travel books for the Lonely Planet series of guides. He has also published guides with Fodor's and his articles have appeared in Westchester Home and Birdwatching Daily. He lives in Ossining.*

*B.F.*

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Additional field trips & programs listed at our website!

## Pruyn Sanctuary Native Gardens Open House

**Sunday, August 18, 1:00 to 3:00 pm**

See native plants you may want to grow & get plant lists.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY** is soliciting bids for the collection and disposal of residential garbage, solid waste and recyclables from various Districts within the Town. Sealed proposals must be received by the **Town Clerk of the Town of Putnam Valley by 2:00 pm, September 3, 2019 at the Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579.** Bidders may obtain information on population and number of households for the purpose of this bid. Bids must be accompanied by a certified check payable to the "Town of Putnam Valley" in the minimum amount of \$1000.00. A packet with all bid specifications and contract documents may be obtained from the office of the Town Clerk, The Town shall have the right to accept any or all of the items on each proposal form and to advertise for new proposals, if in its opinion the best interest of the Town will thereby be promoted. The transfer station will no longer be used, therefore you need to locate your own tipping facility. We also request that you bid on a one, two or three year contract. The Town reserves the right to select any option.

**Town of Putnam Valley August 14, 2019 Work Session is cancelled.**

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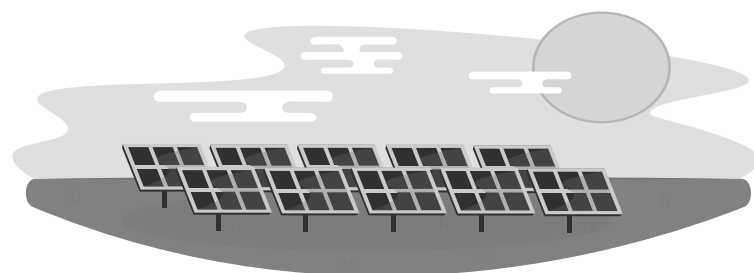
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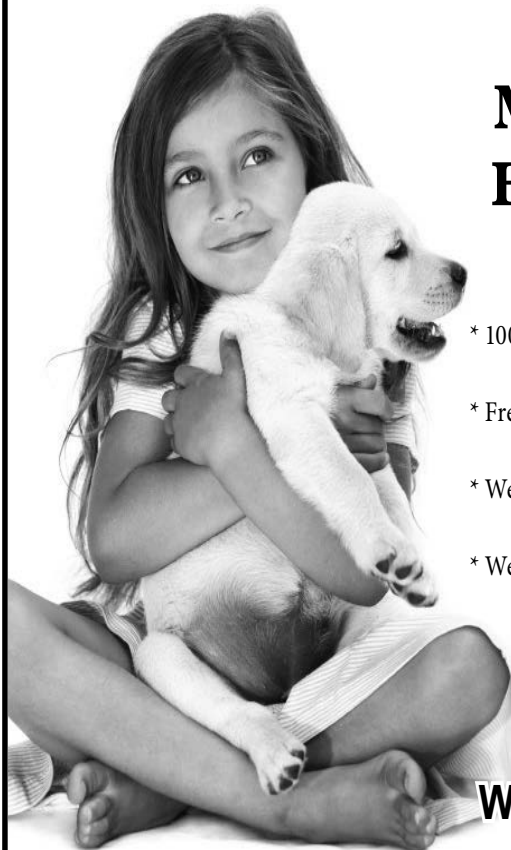
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# The Pioneers of America's Surging Wine Culture



By Nick Antonaccio

Last week I explored the burgeoning dominance of wines produced in the United States. Traditionally, wines from Western Europe have been considered the finest in the wine-growing world. While this may be disputed,

the long history of these wines bears much truth to this general opinion.

However, over the relatively brief history of winemaking in the United States, a number of wines have achieved international acclaim. The classic example is the Judgment of Paris in 1976, a blind tasting judged by Frenchmen in which American wines were rated higher than a number of the finest French wines. Today, a number of California wines, dubbed "cult wines" by the media, command the respect and prices of the finest Bordeaux wines.

Competition and prices aside, American winemakers are experimenting in unique fashions with grape varieties, unencumbered by strict regulations that can stifle such experimentation in other wine-growing

regions. Last week I presented two of the factors that are creating a broad change in wine offerings now available to consumers for the first time – terroir and regulation. In the hands of American alchemists, who continually experiment in their vineyards and wineries, American wines are winning accolades and exciting consumer palates across the world.

This new environment has called into question the very core of the profiles and deep-rooted belief system prevalent in Western Europe. American winemakers are consistently challenging the wine cognoscenti with the ethereal question: What is the true expression of a grape?

Is Pinot Noir grown in Burgundy for over a millennium expressive of the underlying DNA of the grape or does New World Oregon provide a better environment to extract its true characteristics?

Is Barbera grown in Piedmont, long considered the hallmark terroir of this Italian grape, the true expression of its DNA or does Sonoma County, Calif. inherently have the unique terroir that influences the strands of DNA to produce the grape's true bouquet and taste?

The world's winemakers are increasingly considering these esoteric questions. And it's not simply terroir (as complex as the concept

and definition may be). It goes beyond variations in soil, elevation, sun exposure and microclimate. It is also a function of particular clonal rootstock utilized for grafting; the vineyard manager's techniques in training vines; irrigation practices and the degree of modern technology employed.

Here are several examples of the winemaking revolution taking place in 21st century America.

Yorkville Winery in Northern California plants all six grapes permitted by the Bordeaux regulating body, bottled as Richard the Lion-Heart. Bordeaux winemakers typically include two or three varieties.

Thus, Yorkville produces a Bordeaux-style wine not found (to my knowledge) in the very region of the birth of Bordeaux wine.

In addition, the growing environment in Sonoma County is quite different from that in Bordeaux, resulting in unique aroma and taste characteristics. My personal wine cellar holds a six-pack of Yorkville wines, one bottle of each varietal. I plan to hold a blend-your-own Bordeaux wine event in the near future.

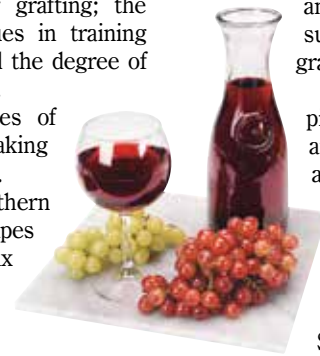
Unti Vineyards in Sonoma's Dry Creek Valley grows grapes typically found in prime Italian and French regions. Continuous experimentation over the past 20-plus years by the father-and-son proprietors have resulted in unique expressions of Sangiovese, Barbera, Aglianico, Mourvedre, Grenache

and Syrah red wines. Their whites are just as unique: Fiano, Verdicchio, Grenache Blanc and Picpoul plantings. I am not aware of any other winery that vinifies such an expansive panoply of grape varieties.

Robert Sinskey Vineyard is a pioneer in Napa Valley organic and biodynamic practices. Like a scientist in his laboratory, the owner/winemaker seeks to produce wines that best express the terroir of the vineyards. Infatuated with the Alsace region of France, Sinskey produces a Napa Valley blend of typical Alsatian grapes: Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Riesling and Gewürztraminer.

As my knowledgeable wine buddy Peter says, "It is truly amazing what talented and imaginative winemakers can do when they are not told what they are not permitted to do."

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



*You Heard It Through the Grapevine*

## Happenings

continued from page 22

### Sunday, Aug. 18

**Jewish Heritage Festival.** Music, entertainment, crafts and food vendors. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. 12 to 6 p.m. Free admission. Free. Info: 914-864-PARK or visit [parks.westchestergov.com](http://parks.westchestergov.com).

**Open Wide.** Join a naturalist to learn all about snakes and lizards during a lively hands-on presentation that is sure to engage and enlighten all ages. Stick around until the end and check out snack time for the snakes. Fun for the whole family. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**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. Info: Visit [www.mtpleasantchamberofcommerce.org](http://www.mtpleasantchamberofcommerce.org).

**Sunset Photo Session.** Join us for this special opportunity to photograph ambassador wolves Nikai, Alawa and Zephyr. Guests will also be given access to photograph the critically endangered Mexican wolves and red wolves from vantage points not generally available during regular visits. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 6 p.m. \$100 per person. Space limited; pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Ray Blue and Kirk Lightsey.** Blue's

music can be described as a fusion of straight-ahead jazz and rhythmic groove. A New York-bred saxophonist, composer, arranger and educator, he has shared the stage and studio as a leader, a sideman and a band member with John Gilmore, Dr. Art Davis, Benny Powell, Eddie Henderson, Alicia Keys and many others. Lightsey's talent originates from the Motor City. He was born into Detroit's rich music scene and grew up in a town known for its jazz pianists. When Lightsey was discharged from the Army, he went back to Detroit with fellow Army band member Cecil McBee. Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 8 p.m. \$25. Info and tickets: Visit [www.schoolhousetheater.org](http://www.schoolhousetheater.org).

### Monday, Aug. 19

**Morning Bird Walk.** Go birding with the Saw Mill River Audubon. Beginners welcome. Rain or shine. Rockefeller State Park Preserve. (Use Sleepy Hollow Road entrance.) 7:30 a.m. Free. Meets the third Monday of each month. Info: Visit [www.sawmillriveraudubon.org](http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org).

**Master Networker Meeting.** Join this high-energy interactive membership network of learning-based, service-oriented entrepreneurs and business leaders. Come be a guest any Wednesday to learn more about this world-class business training and referral program. 719 Bedford Rd., Bedford Hills (next to ShopRite). 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday. RSVP suggested. Info and RSVP: Contact Tina Campbell at 914-441-1383 or e-mail [\[masternetworks.net\]\(http://masternetworks.net\) or drop in.](mailto:tinacampbell@</a></p>
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**"Deconstructing the Beatles' Abbey Road Side 1."** The latest from "Beatleologist" Scott Freiman is a masterpiece filled with such classic Beatles songs as "Come Together," "Something" and "Here Comes the Sun." Take a track-by-track journey into The Beatles' inspiration and evolution in the studio with the man who's been presenting his beloved, exhilarating multimedia deep dives into the band's work here for years. Because of the depth of the "Abbey Road" songwriting, he created two separate presentations for this album, and both have been captured live for all to enjoy. Freiman is on hand for a Q&A following the evening presentation. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 and 7:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

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

**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.lucysloughlounge.com](http://www.lucysloughlounge.com).

### Tuesday, Aug. 20

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

**Armonk Readers Book Club.** "Circe" by Madeline Miller will be discussed. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"Cage Shuffle."** The sequence of the stories is random. The sequence of the dance is not. In this abbreviated version of "Cage Shuffle," Paul Lazar speaks a series of one-minute stories by John Cage from his 1963 score "Indeterminacy" while simultaneously performing choreography by Annie-B Parson. The stories are spoken in a random order with no predetermined relationship to the dancing. Chance serves up its inevitable blend of strange and uncanny connections between text and movement. With live tape and digital collage scored and performed by composer Lea Bertucci. Followed by a Q&A with Lazar and Parson moderated by Peter Pucci. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).





Boulders starting pitcher Luis Ceden fires to the plate during Sunday afternoon's game vs. the Quebec Capitales.



Rockland outfielder Collin Ferguson drives a pitch toward right-center field in the sixth inning of Sunday's game.



The Boulders' James Mulry came on in relief to pitch a scoreless seventh inning against the Quebec Capitales.



Boulders shortstop Marcos Almonte fires to first for an out during the top of the ninth inning in Sunday's 3-1 loss.



Rockland first baseman Matt Oberste sets his sights on a foul pop near the Boulders' dugout.

*focus on*  
**ROCKLAND BOULDERS**  
**Sunday, August 11, 2019**  
**Palisades Credit Union Park**



Blake Grant-Parks of the Boulders runs toward third base shortly after collecting one of his two hits in Sunday's game.



Rockland second baseman Ryne Birk had a pair of hits in Sunday's 3-1 loss to Quebec.



Rockland third baseman John Brontsema awaits a pitch during Sunday afternoon's game at Palisades Credit Union Park.



The Boulders' Grant Heyman tries to leg out a hit in the bottom of the second inning vs. Quebec.



Grant Heyman is greeted near the dugout by teammate Collin Ferguson after blasting a long homer to right field in the eighth inning for the Boulders' only run of the game.





The Renegades' Hill Alexander runs to third base during their five-run first inning in the first game of Thursday's doubleheader.



Hudson Valley starter Edison Gonzalez struck out eight in six innings to earn the win in the opener of Thursday's doubleheader sweep.



Renegades southpaw Jacob Lopez delivers a pitch during Saturday's game at Dutchess Stadium. He yielded three first-inning runs, but shut out Tri-City over the next four innings to earn the win.



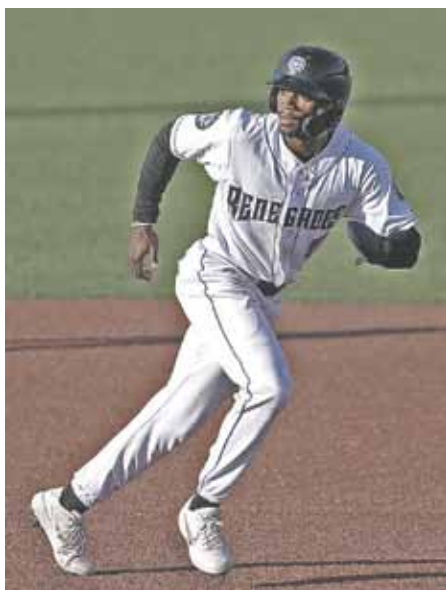
Garrett Hiott of the Renegades runs the bases on Thursday at Dutchess Stadium.

*focus on*

## NY-PENN LEAGUE First-Place Renegades Sweep All Four Games From Visiting Tri-City



Renegades second baseman Cristhian Pedroza throws to first to complete a double play in the second inning of Saturday night's 13-3 win over Tri-City.



K.V. Edwards of the Renegades retreats to second base after taking a big lead in Saturday's 13-3 victory over Tri-City.



Hudson Valley catcher Jonathan Embry had three hits in the 9-3 victory over Tri-City in Thursday's opener.



Renegades left fielder Pedro Diaz tries to reach the fences as he bats during Thursday's twin bill.



Renegades catcher Jordyn Muffley launches a two-run homer in the bottom of the second inning of Saturday's win over the ValleyCats.

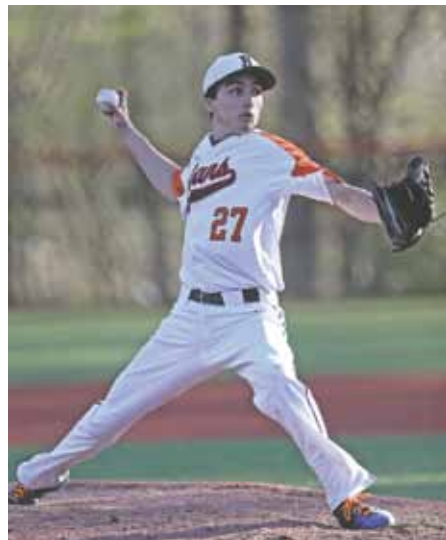


Jackson McGowan follows the flight of his two-run homer in the second inning of Thursday's first game vs. the Tri-City ValleyCats.





Andrew Lanzilotti of Fox Lane lifts a fly ball toward right field in the season-ending playoff game vs. Arlington.



Patrick Poggi of Briarcliff delivers a pitch during a Bears home game.



Westlake southpaw Tom Iazzetta pitches during a home game early in the season.



Westlake senior Vincent Spaziente races to third base with a triple during a Wildcat home victory.

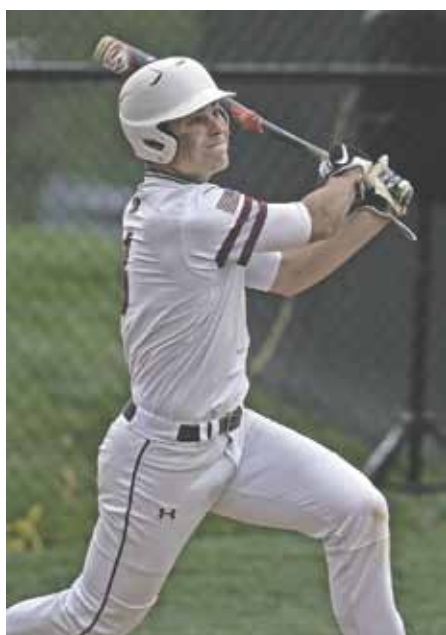


Greeley senior Nate Jbara runs toward third base in a Quaker home game.

# BASEBALL

## 2019

### *A Look Back*



Valhalla's Joe Pecora drives a pitch to right field during a Viking home game.



Pleasantville senior Colin Finnegan belts a pitch to left field in a game at Parkway Field.



Carson Frye of Byram Hills takes a big swing as he bats during a Bobcat home game.



Fox Lane infielder Jack Williamson pivots and fires to first trying to turn a double play against the visiting Carmel Rams.



Valhalla's Jake Sekinski applies the tag at second base on a steal attempt in a home game vs. Keio back in late April.

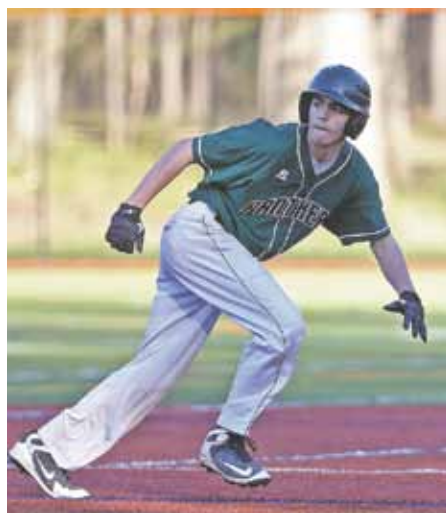


Byram Hills infielder Gianluca Nelson throws to first base trying to turn a double play in the Bobcats' home game against Greeley.

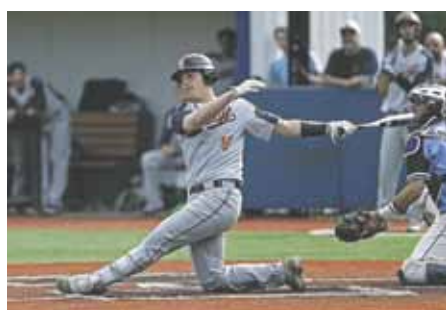


Pleasantville third baseman Matt Satriale stays ready to make a play during a home game at Parkway Field.





John DiGilio of Pleasantville heads back to first base after moving toward second on a fly ball to left vs. host Briarcliff.



Briarcliff's Michael Hardy swings for the fences in the Class B sectional final vs. Westlake at Pace University. He finished the game with five hits.



Briarcliff's Alex Benson scampers to his right for a ground ball during the sectional playoffs.



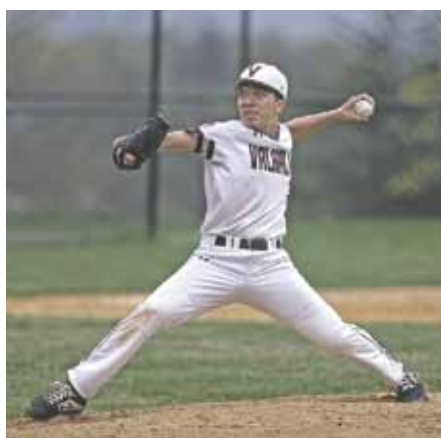
John Alley delivers a pitch in Fox Lane's home victory over Carmel back in early April.



Anthony Scaglione of Westlake hangs onto second base after arriving there safely in the Wildcats' home win over Briarcliff late in the regular season.



Sal Nardone of Westlake hits the ball down the left-field line in the Section One championship game.



Robert Carbone of Valhalla reaches back for a little extra as he pitches on the Vikings' remodeled home field.



Fox Lane catcher Dean Massari finished his senior season with a batting average over .500.



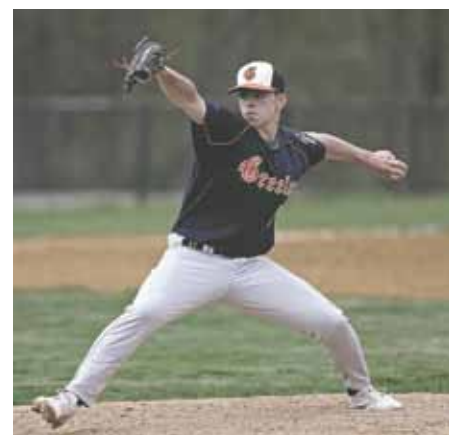
Dominic Picca of Byram Hills gets set to throw to first to complete a double play vs. Nyack in the sectional playoffs.



Horace Greeley infielder Jake Andersen fields a throw at second base as Kyle Cacamise of John Jay (East Fishkill) slides into the bag early in the season.



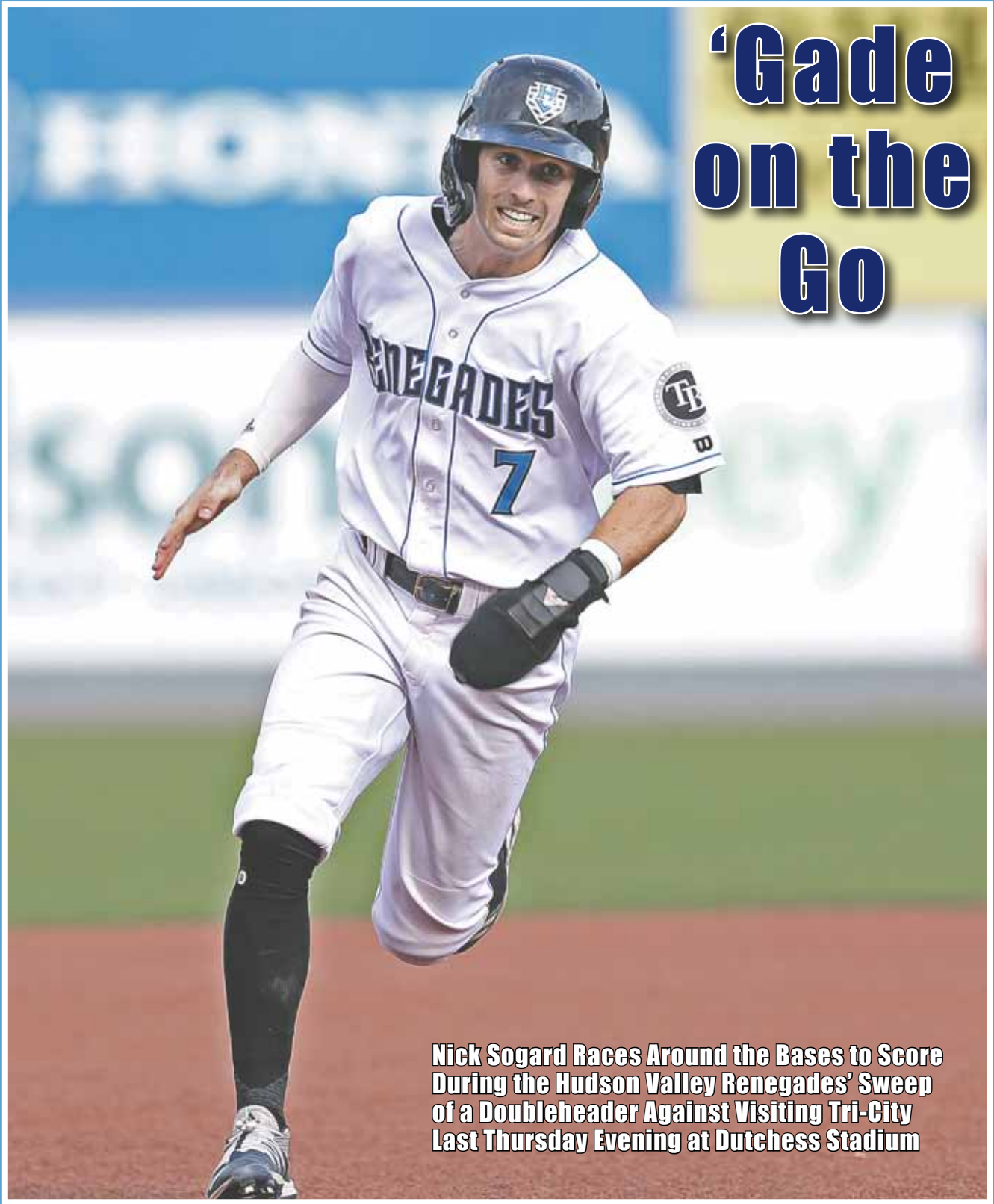
Robert Faller of Valhalla waits for a pitch to swing at during a home game vs. Westlake.



Tyler Rosenberg of Greeley fires a pitch to the plate during a Quaker road game.



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**Nick Sogard Races Around the Bases to Score During the Hudson Valley Renegades' Sweep of a Doubleheader Against Visiting Tri-City Last Thursday Evening at Dutchess Stadium**

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO



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