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September 24 - September 30, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 13, Issue 629

## Pleasantville School District Looks to Tackle the Vaping Crisis

By Abby Luby

Last Wednesday Mary Ann Flatley, a licensed mental health counselor and the student assistance counselor for the Pleasantville School District, stood before 25 students in the Pleasantville High School gym. She pointed to a large screen behind her showing a box for a JUUL starter kit for electronic cigarettes. Then she held up an Apple iPhone box.

"What happens when you see these two boxes?" she asked. "Do you make a connection between Apple and JUUL?"

Students nodded and they became curious and engaged.

"It's all about the marketing. The good quality associated with Apple is associated with JUUL," Flatley said. "Think about why JUUL is appealing. Is it the name?"

Vaping has been recognized as an epidemic by health officials. Its related

illnesses and eight associated deaths are making headlines. JUUL Labs Inc. dominates the U.S. e-cigarette market and they advertise their vaping devices and e-cigarettes on social media, specifically targeting teens and adolescents.

JUUL has been scrutinized for its strong appeal to young people and the company has reportedly taken steps to reduce its advertising. Pleasantville High School Principal Joe Palumbo said the district is being proactive about the vaping issue.

"There has been an early push to meet with students at the beginning of the school year to promote wellness," Palumbo said. "We talk about the impact of peer pressure, especially through the persuasive power of digital media. We tell students that their digital fingers have the ability to push the off button."

Flatley's wellness classes at Pleasantville High School and Pleasantville Middle School seek to educate teens and adolescents about the dangers of vaping. Involved with the school district is John Mueller of Pleasantville STRONG, a federally funded



ABBY LUBY PHOTO

Pleasantville Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter addressed a group of students at Pleasantville High School last Wednesday about vaping.

drug-free community coalition working to reduce underage drinking and drug use.

Mueller said the group has warned

against vaping for some time.

"One of the things we do on Back to

*continued on page 2*

**State Bans Flavored  
E-Cigarettes, page 13.**

## As Downtown Chappaqua Work Nears Finish, Difficulties Remain

By Martin Wilbur

The long and sometimes painful Chappaqua infrastructure and streetscape project is in its final stage, but not before testing the patience of downtown merchants and residents and straining the town's budget for the work.

New Castle Supervisor Robert Greenstein said that the updated timeline calls for all sidewalk work and the installation of street trees to be done by Oct. 4, the final paving along South Greeley Avenue and King Street to be finished by Oct. 11 and for the bluestone surfaces to be in place by Oct. 18.

Traffic light and pedestrian poles are also expected to be finished during the week of Oct. 7, he said.

"We're actually pretty close to being done," Greenstein said. "There will be some checklist items after, but it pretty much will



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Merchants and residents have had a challenging time navigating downtown Chappaqua this summer with new sidewalks and other improvements being installed. Most of the work is scheduled to be completed by Oct. 18.

be done with the final paver by Oct. 18."

Final punch list items are scheduled to be finished by Nov. 22. If the latest schedule remains intact, all work will be done before

*continued on page 4*

## Bedford Considers Closing Up to Two Elementary Schools

By Erin Maher

The Bedford Central School District is considering eliminating one or two of its elementary schools in the near future due to declining enrollment.

An e-mail sent to district residents Wednesday night by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christopher Manno outlined the district's long-range facilities plan for the 2019-20 school year, which mentioned the option of operating as few as three of the district's elementary schools. Currently, the district operates five K-5 schools – Mount Kisco Elementary, West Patent, Bedford Village, Bedford Hills and Pound Ridge.

The facilities plan is spearheaded by the district's Space and Enrollment Committee. Since June 2017, the committee has been working with Dr. Paul Seversky from the SES Study Team, a demographic and

strategic planning firm, to assess the district's enrollment and school capacity.

Last December, Seversky presented his findings to the Bedford Board of Education. His report showed the projected school enrollment decline over the next five years and beyond. He estimated that by the end of the 10-year period concluding in 2028, high school enrollment is projected to drop by 28 percent. There were 1,384 students in grades 9-12 in 2018 and only 997 students are anticipated in those grades by 2028.

Districtwide enrollment has fallen from 4,367 students in 2013-14 to 3,915 last year, according to historical data provided by the district.

To address the issue, school officials have retained Interactive Inc., a national evaluation firm, to explore ways Bedford could operate with a smaller student population.

*continued on page 2*

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# Pleasantville School District Looks to Tackle the Vaping Crisis

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School Night is help parents try to detect if their children are vaping," he said.

Called Hidden in Plain Sight, the group constructs a mock bedroom typical of a teen. Hidden in the room are certain items, such as small thumb drives, used to charge e-cigarettes. Parents search for items that provide clues about whether their teens are vaping.

"We are able to point out to parents what they missed," Mueller said. "We just don't know all the long-term pulmonary damage vaping causes because it's so new. It's really scary."

Many of the high school's wellness classes replace the regularly scheduled physical education classes led by Myndi Hill, who sat in on Flatley's presentation. Flatley told students that vaping was originally advertised as a way to quit

cigarette smoking and led many to believe that e-cigarettes had no nicotine, which is not true.

She showed another picture on the screen of 18-year-old Chance Ammirata of Miami, who landed in an emergency room in August because he couldn't breathe. Ammirata starting using JUUL e-cigarettes when he was 16 and doctors told him a hole appeared in his right lung. After they repaired his lung, his surgeon told CBS News that Ammirata's lungs were inflamed and could have come from something he'd been inhaling.

Ammirata blamed his condition on using JUULs, and has started a social media campaign (#LungLove) to persuade teens and adults to stop. There was a hushed silence when the students saw a picture of Ammirata.

Flatley explained how certain substances used in vaping flavors become

heated and turn into an aerosol or vapor when inhaled into the lungs.

"There's a lot we still don't know about the effects of vaping, but we do know that lung ailments have been tied to vaping," she said.

According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), sweet and fruit-flavored e-cigarettes have attracted and addicted millions of underage users to nicotine. In March, the FDA proposed guidelines that would prohibit the sale of flavored e-cigarette products in traditional retail outlets, except for mint and menthol. However, the guidelines allow for flavored e-cigarettes to be sold on line and in vape shops.

"It's important that you really be informed about vaping," Flatley said. "It's not wrong for you to be mad that you are being targeted by people making billions of dollars off the stuff that's makes people

sick."

She said some students may have very little knowledge of vaping, while others could be struggling to kick the habit.

"To just stop is really, really difficult. If you want to come up with a plan to stop, I can help you do that," Flatley said. "Come into my office and we can talk about how to ride the wave of craving."

Flatley flashed a sign reading "Need Help Quitting?" and listed a free app called quitStart and "Text DITCHJUUL to 88709."

At the end of the session, Superintendent of Schools Mary Fox-Alter, spoke emphatically about the dangers of vaping.

"Nicotine is the most addictive substance in the world, and I want these people to stay as far away from you as possible. I don't want you near this stuff, I don't want you to get addicted, and if you are experimenting, I want you to reach out to Ms. Flatley," Fox-Alter said. "The most important resource in this whole country is you. So anybody that is trying to addict the most important generation of this moment, infuriates me."

## Bedford Considers Closing Up to Two Elementary Schools

*continued from page 1*

According to last week's e-mail, the district may consider three alternatives to address the continuing declining enrollment: continue operating five elementary schools, operate four elementary schools or operate three elementary schools. If any changes are made, the preparation for implementation would begin next year, although no timeline for closing the schools has been mentioned.

No decisions have been made as to

which, if any, elementary schools in the district would be shuttered. Manno said last week that the goal in sending out the communication was transparency.

"Our goal is to be extraordinarily transparent in this process, make sure everyone knows what the process is, what the steps are, exactly what we're doing, to be very clear about the decisions that need to be made, and I believe that's articulated very well in the publication that went out

today," Manno said at the board's Sept. 18 meeting.

The next step for the district will be a presentation on Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. during the next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting. The presentation is expected to outline all of the alternatives for the district.

To read the available demographic reports, visit <https://www.bcsdny.org/domain/479>.

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# Pleasantville Ready to Roll Out Food Scraps Program Next Week

By Abby Luby

A Pleasantville committee will informally introduce a new program for village residents next week to recycle food scraps, the latest municipality to launch or consider composting in Westchester.

PleasantvilleRecycles will launch the program Oct. 5, said Kim Turner, who leads the initiative.

"We see the benefits of getting out of the landfill waste stream," said Turner. "Right now, Pleasantville waste goes to an incinerator in Peekskill, which doesn't burn efficiently."

To get the program up and running, Pleasantville's Department of Public Works at 1 Village Lane has repurposed the site to house bins that will be used in the collection of food scraps on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Composting kits can be purchased from the village for \$25. The kit includes a countertop pail, a storage/transportation bin and a roll of 25 compostable bags.

The money derived from the sale of the starter kits goes back to the village. Last spring, officials appropriated \$6,000 to cover initial program costs, including signage near the DPW site, banners, 10 large totes – the large stationary bins where residents place their food scraps and biodegradable bags – and the initial 300 starter kits. The program is expected to pay for itself, according to Turner.

Types of scraps that will be accepted for composting are meat, bones, dairy, fish, fruit, vegetables, bread, pasta and cooked and leftover food. The scraps will be collected by Suburban Carting Company, which will take



ABBY LUBY PHOTO

Dan and Kim Turner with the food scrap composting starter kits to be used for the Pleasantville food scraps program that is scheduled to launch on Oct. 5.

them to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency, a commercial composting facility with stations in New Paltz and Kingston.

"We've had a great response from people who are interested," said Turner, who has collected more than 100 names of those wanting the starter kits. "It's not essential for folks to use the starter kit; they can bring food scraps in any kind of container."

Many cities and communities throughout the United States have food scrap programs.

In Westchester, Scarsdale's composting program is the one that the Turners reached out to for guidance.

"We first started talking to Scarsdale about two or three years ago," Turner said. "They've been terrific partners."

After about three years, Scarsdale's food scrap program was able to be included in curbside pickup.

"Our plan for now is to have an additional

drop-off day for food scraps," Turner said.

Locally, the Town of New Castle has a food scrap program in place and the Village of Mount Kisco is also considering one.

After the program's soft opening on Oct. 5, PleasantvilleRecycles plans a more formal rollout in November. Informational sessions are planned to be held at the Mount Pleasant Public Library and in front of Key Food. Starter kits will be sold at the Pleasantville Farmer's Market on Saturday, Oct. 12 where a village employee will accept check payments. For now, payment is accepted only by check, made payable to the Village of Pleasantville, which can be dropped off at the office of the village administrator and village clerk, on the third floor of Village Hall during business hours.

"We've been sensing the need to get

involved with saving the planet," Turner explained. "There are so many different ways to do that. (My husband) Dan and I tried to compost in the backyard and we could see how much food is wasted. Recycling food scraps is such a simple and easy way to make a difference."

In 2010, the Natural Resources Defense Council estimated that 40 percent of the food in the U.S. goes uneaten and ends up in the garbage. The USDA's Economic Research Service has found that 31 percent food loss at the retail and consumer levels translates into 133 billion pounds and \$161 billion worth of food.

For more information about Pleasantville's food scrap program, visit [www.pleasantvillerecycles.org/foodscraps.html](http://www.pleasantvillerecycles.org/foodscraps.html).

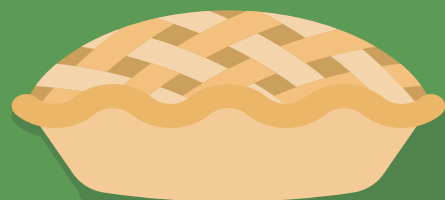
## Types of Food to Be Accepted for Pleasantville's Composting Program

- Fruits and Vegetables (remove stickers, bands, ties)
- Meat and Poultry (including bones)
- Fish and Shellfish (including shells)
- Dairy Products
- Bread and Pasta
- Rice and Grains
- Egg Shells
- Chips and Snacks
- Nuts and Seeds
- Leftover, Spoiled and Expired Food (including cooked food)
- Coffee Grounds (including paper filters)
- Tea Bags (no staples)

- Paper Towels and Napkins
- Cut Flowers
- Compostable Bags (no plastic bags)

## Items That Will Not Be Accepted

- Plastic bags, plastic packaging and wrappers are never allowed in the bins. Plastic does not biodegrade and would contaminate the compost. Use only compostable bags, paper bags or no bags.
- Baby/Hand wipes are not allowed in the bins. They are synthetic, do not biodegrade and will contaminate the compost.
- Pet waste



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# As Downtown Chappaqua Work Nears Finish, Difficulties Remain

*continued from page 1*

the start of the holiday season.

Greenstein explained that various delays have complicated the project. Those included Con Edison responding slowly to moving utility poles, the discovery of contaminated soil in multiple locations and two underground oil tanks this summer found near the corner of South Greeley Avenue and King Street in front of the building that houses Great Stuff once crews began digging up the sidewalks.

In each instance involving the soil and the underground tanks, the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) was required to be notified for soil testing before work could resume, Greenstein said.

With a wet spring that repeatedly halted sidewalk work, the project will now be completed nearly a year after the original forecast if the latest timeline is accurate.

Greenstein said last week that while final costs are not yet known, the town is definitely over budget. In May 2017, officials pared down the streetscape to come in at \$11.6 million for the project. That doesn't include a \$1 million fee for Boswell Engineering to oversee the work and another \$1 million for contingency. All of the contingency has been exhausted, used overwhelmingly toward the environmental mitigation measures, Greenstein said.

"We've gone over budget," Greenstein said. "There's no question about it. I don't know the exact number yet. There's some change orders and some credits we'll

be getting."

Councilwoman Ivy Pool said most of the work, perhaps as much as 90 percent of the project, consisted of the infrastructure upgrades, including water, sewer and drainage. As a result, it was a large undertaking and the town was overly optimistic about the timeline, she said.

"It's going to be beautiful, absolutely, but the critical infrastructure work that needed to happen, and it was extensive in nature, so I think the notion that it was going to be a quick turnaround was flawed," Pool said.

In addition to the work and the budget, town officials have had to manage the expectations of those who have been affected the most – storeowners who faced the prospect of having their foot traffic and business dwindle because of the work that started in mid-2017.

Phyllis Jacobson, owner of Petticoat Lane on King Street near South Greeley Avenue where sidewalks were ripped up in July, said she and other merchants knew that they were going to be facing steep challenges. However, many shoppers were understandably reluctant to endure the inconveniences, she said. Jacobson thanked her core group of customers for continuing their support.

"It's terrible and the stores are all having a very hard time staying in business," Jacobson said. "People stop coming to town."

Across the street, George's Men's Shop owner Toni Magnotta said initially her store

didn't see much of a downturn since it is a service-oriented business. Dry cleaning is the largest portion of the service that is provided.

Lately, Magnotta has seen business tail off once the sidewalk was broken up. Local residents and customers have noticed as well, she said.

"Every single customer that comes in here complains about outside. Every single one," Magnotta said. "They ask us, every single one, they ask us when is it going to be done. I don't know, usually when we are given target dates, they don't usually hit them."

Chappaqua resident Ed Brown, who visits downtown regularly, said not only has the project appeared to have been poorly executed but the conditions outside have been dangerous. On Aug. 23, Brown said he was at the Citibank ATM vestibule when he tripped and fell.

Since there hasn't been final paving, there have been raised drains and other impediments that can trip up pedestrians, he said.

Access to some stores on certain days was impossible because the orange cones and barriers that were set up were sometimes similar to a maze with a dead end, he said.

"The company contracted to do the work had absolutely no respect for the community and its citizens," Brown said.

Greenstein acknowledged that coordination of the sidewalk work has been problematic, particularly near the South

Greeley Avenue-King Street intersection. A sidewalk should not have been torn up until the subcontractor was ready to do the work, he said.

"There's no question that the sidewalk by Family Britches and Great Stuff has been excavated for way too long," Greenstein said. "There was the problem with the oil tanks, that was a problem. That was not our fault but there's no question that these sidewalks took too long."

Pool, who was not yet on the board when the town signed the contracts for the project, said she was hesitant to criticize in hindsight. However, she would have liked to have seen a performance-based contract from the outset. Without that, it has hampered the town to hold the vendors to a project timeline, Pool said.

"There are delays that are genuine and things that have come up along the way and also there's been some miscommunication and miscalculation about the scope of the project along the way," she said.

Work on South Greeley Avenue near Woodburn Avenue has mostly been completed, including the sitting wall near Pizza Station and the pouring of concrete for the sidewalks.

On North Greeley Avenue by Sotheby's, the sidewalks have now been poured while the sidewalks and the concrete for the brick pavers by Starbucks will be put down this week.

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# Mount Kisco Authorizes Borrowing for Comp Plan Projects

By Joan Gaylord

The Mount Kisco Village Board took steps toward implementing the municipality's recently updated Comprehensive Plan when it voted last

Monday to accept five state Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) classifications and authorize three bond resolutions.

The votes accepted SEQR Type II classifications for projects planned for the downtown streetscape and improvements

to Village Hall, the Mount Kisco Public Library, police headquarters and the Fox Center. All of the initiatives were approved earlier as part of the town's Comprehensive Plan update that was adopted last February.

The five projects are considered to be renovations that will have no environmental impact as they will update or improve existing structures, officials said. The action under SEQR requires local governments to determine the environmental impact of any actions the town might take. Those with Type II classifications are ones that do not require further review.

Board members also voted to adopt three bond resolutions totaling \$13.6 million. The first, for \$3.6 million, will be to fund improvements to various buildings in town. The second would be used for streetscape improvements while the third would be used to address improvements that must be made to the Woodland watermain. The latter two resolutions authorize the village to seek funding for up to \$5 million for each project.

Village Manager Edward Brancati said that the resolutions permit the maximum amounts that could be borrowed. He pointed out that the town might not need to borrow the full amounts, as it will also pursue grants to help defray the costs of the work.

Trustee Peter Grunthal noted that with the approval of the three bond resolutions

the village would maintain about the same level of debt obligation. Previous debt that had been assumed has now nearly been paid in full and will be retired.

"We are coming to the end of the majority of our debt," Grunthal said.

The board voted 4-1 to authorize the bond resolutions. Trustee Karen Schleimer cast the dissenting vote.

"These capital projects have already been planned," said Mayor Gina Picinich, adding that the bonds will now provide the funding.

The full Comprehensive Plan is available on the town's website, [www.mountkisco.ny.gov](http://www.mountkisco.ny.gov).



## Zeroing in on Hunger

In recognition of September as Hunger Action Month, regional ShopRite stores have been hosting the annual ShopRite Partners in Caring Help Bag Hunger days. Local dignitaries and community leaders helped raise awareness to fight hunger and food insecurity by bagging groceries at their local ShopRite stores for an hour. Last Friday afternoon, community members, pictured above, bagged groceries at the Thornwood ShopRite. In the past 20 years, the company-wide program has raised and donated close to \$50 million for local food banks and charities.

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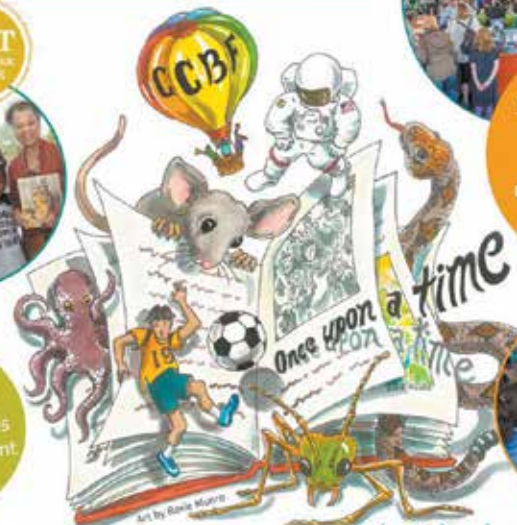


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## Films on Purpose to Screen Climate Documentary This Wednesday

Films on Purpose, in partnership with area Audubon chapters and Federated Conservationists of Westchester County, will host a free screening of "Paris to Pittsburgh" on Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center.

The film offers a hopeful message on the actions by ordinary Americans and their elected representatives to address the catastrophic effects of global climate change. A panel of environmental professionals will discuss the Westchester Climate Action Plan (CAP) currently in development by the Westchester County Climate Crisis Task Force.

The event begins with a reception that includes light food and drink and will conclude with a panel discussion immediately following the film. The 77-minute film will be presented at 7 p.m.

The panel will be moderated by Michael Gerrard, a Columbia Law School professor who teaches courses on environmental law and energy regulation. Panelists will include Richard Slingerland, Tarrytown's village administrator and a leader of the CAP Community Resilience team; Nina Orville, a principal of Abundant Efficiency, founding executive director of the Southern Westchester Energy Action Consortium and the leader of the CAP Energy team; and John Parker, an attorney whose practice has focused on energy, environmental and land use issues and compliance and regulatory matters, who leads the CAP air sector team.

"Paris to Pittsburgh" documents the response by American individuals and local governments to the American withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement. The title refers to the words of Donald Trump who, in announcing his administration's withdrawal from the accord, said, "I was elected to represent the citizens of Pittsburgh, not Paris."

The film looks at the actions by local governments, including the City of Pittsburgh, and private individuals, to address the emergency posed by global climate change through technology, investment and activism.

The film features voices from local leaders as well as everyday Americans presenting the stories behind climate-related recovery and resiliency, as well as innovative efforts to reduce carbon emissions, and the success stories of boomtowns formerly reliant on coal such as Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, led by Mayor Bill Peduto who stood up to defy President Trump when the nation's withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement was announced, is now a city committed to energy efficiency.

Free tickets can be reserved on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/film-screening-paris-to-pittsburgh-tickets-67787844267>. A \$5 contribution is recommended and can be made at the door. Reservations are not required.

The Chappaqua Performing Arts Center is located at 480 Bedford Rd. in Chappaqua.

## Mt. Kisco to Honor Two Late Community Members

The Mount Kisco Village Board unanimously voted last week to include William Stewart and Fernand Jobin on the village's Wall of Honor.

Friends and neighbors shared their reminiscences of the two men and how so many people benefitted from their contributions.

Stewart, a Korean War veteran and longtime member of the Mount Kisco Independent Fire Company and one-time department chief, was also part of the department's Ancient Fife and Drum Corps. He died in April at 86 years old.

Jobin passed away in January 2018. He was 102 years old.

The Wall, which is located in Leonard Park, honors Mount Kisco citizens who made extraordinary contributions to the town as volunteers.

Mayor Gina Picinich said a date has not yet been set for the ceremony.



JOAN GAYLORD PHOTO

Former Mount Kisco mayor Pat Reilly addresses the Village Board last week before officials announced they would include her brother-in-law William Stewart, on the Village's Wall of Honor. Centenarian Fernand Jobin will also be included.

## SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

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# NWH Unveils New Technology to Help Disinfect Operating Rooms

By Martin Wilbur

Northern Westchester Hospital (NWH) is one of the first two hospitals in the world using new technology that provides the proper disinfection of equipment in the operating room and other departments.

Last Thursday, the hospital unveiled its Focused Multivector Ultraviolet (FMUV) Shadow-less Disinfectant System, a modular unit where staff can place equipment inside its walls, close the doors, turn on the switch and have the items disinfected in 90 seconds. That is the fastest disinfection of any unit that is used in the healthcare industry.

Although it has been known that ultraviolet rays are a disinfectant for many years, the new technology, designed by the Long Island City-based PurpleSun, will help hospitals reduce infections and increase workplace efficiency, said Audrey McNicholas, the company's director of technology.

"We've created an automated system so you can guarantee the performance of the disinfection every time," McNicholas said.

She said the shadow-less system allows all sides of the item, such as a rolling tray, to be exposed to the ultraviolet rays and cleaned.

Kristine Goldstein, NWH's program director of infection prevention, said with manual disinfection only, there is a greater



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

Northern Westchester Hospital staff and representatives of PurpleSun, in front of the Focused Multivector Ultraviolet Shadow-less Disinfectant System.

chance that a spot could be missed. She said that the hospital was focused on increasing patient safety when bringing in the FMUV unit.

"We knew that we had to bring in a unique disinfection system in order to protect our patients from certain site infections," Goldstein said.

The equipment does not eliminate the need for conventional manual disinfection but makes it far more efficient, she said.

A study published earlier this year by the American Journal of Infection



The interior of the Focused Multivector Ultraviolet Shadow-less Disinfectant System, which helps staff at Northern Westchester Hospital disinfect operating room equipment. Right: A view of the unit when its doors are shut.



Control showed that PurpleSun's FMUV eliminated up to 97.7 percent of pathogens in a live operating room setting.

PurpleSun President and CEO Luis Romo said he got the idea for the technology while he was still a medical student. He said it not only improves the quality of the disinfection but increases workflow and efficiency for a hospital's environmental and disinfection teams.

"You can be doing a cycle and be cleaning other areas which allows you to do multiple things at the same time," Romo said. "It's an efficient procedural process."

The company has a partnership with Northwell Health that will bring the technology to its hospitals. There are two

units at Northern Westchester Hospital and one at Staten Island University Hospital, the first two facilities that have begun using the system.

Goldstein said that over time the FMUV units will be used in other areas of the hospital. It can be folded up so it takes up as little room as possible when not in use and is also on wheels so it can be easily transported from area of the hospital to another.

"Our environmental staff loves it," Goldstein said. "They've really taken to the process."

NWH staff was trained to use the equipment last month and it is being used in the hospital's 11 operating rooms.

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Beecher Flocks Funeral Home	Jacob Burns Foundation	Ride of Pleasantville Bike Shop
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## County to Host Household Recycling Day at FDR Park This Saturday

Westchester County's Department of Environmental Facilities (DEF) will be conducting a Household Recycling Day this Saturday, Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park, located at 2957 Crompond Rd. in Yorktown Heights.

In addition to properly labelled household chemicals and other special wastes found in a typical household, residents can bring documents for shredding and expired or unwanted medications for disposal.

**Generally, the following items are accepted for safe disposal or recycling:**

**Properly labelled household chemicals such as:**

- Household cleaning products

- Most automotive fluids (antifreeze, brake fluid, gasoline but not motor oil)
- Flammable liquids (kerosene, butane, lighter fluid, turpentine)
- Metal, jewelry and furniture polishes and waxes; wood preservatives
- Fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides
- Photographic and swimming pool chemicals
- Batteries (only vehicle, rechargeable or button cell)
- Fluorescent light bulbs and CFLs
- Fire extinguishers
- Barbecue propane tanks (up to 20 pounds)
- Mercury containing devices

- (thermometers and thermostats)
- Electronic waste (TVs, computer monitors and towers)
- Expired or unwanted medications, (over the counter and prescription)
- Personal documents for shredding (limit of four file-sized boxes per household)
- Tires

Items that will not be accepted and should not be brought to Household Recycling Day include paint (both latex and oil); non-rechargeable alkaline and carbon zinc batteries (which can be safely discarded in the trash); motor oil; smoke detectors; cell phones; explosives (flares, fireworks, ammunition); construction debris; and hypodermic needles.

Also, waste from businesses, schools and other institutions will not be accepted.

At two previous events earlier this year, 3,560 households delivered more than 119,000 pounds of household waste and 37,000 pounds of documents for shredding.

If you can't make it to FDR Park this Saturday, you can dispose hard-to-get-rid-of household waste by visiting the county's Household-Material Recycling Facility at 15 Woods Rd. in Valhalla. The facility is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment, and accepts the same items that are accepted at Household Recycling Day.

For more information about Household Recycling Day and the Household-Material Recycling Facility, including making an appointment, call 914-813-5425 or visit <http://environment.westchestergov.com/new-h-mrf>.

The next Household Recycling Day will be on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rye Playland, located at 1 Playland Parkway in Rye.

## Owner of P'ville Payroll Processing Firm Sentenced in Scheme

By Martin Wilbur

The owner of a Pleasantville payroll processing firm was sentenced to up to six years in prison Wednesday for stealing withholding tax money collected from his clients that should have been forwarded to the state and federal governments.

Stefan Malgarinos, owner of Manos Business Management, was also ordered by County Court Judge Michael Martinelli to pay restitution totaling more than \$285,000 to five companies that hired the firm to file withholding taxes.

Malgarinos was sentenced to concurrent terms of two to six years in state prison

for second-degree grand larceny, a Class C felony, and one to three years for first-degree scheme to defraud charge, a Class E felony. He had pleaded guilty to those two charges in February.

According to the Westchester County district attorney's office, Malgarinos' firm was hired by businesses to file the returns, pay withholding taxes collected from employees and remit unemployment insurance premiums to the appropriate state and federal authorities.

From Oct. 1, 2012, to Dec. 16, 2015, Malgarinos collected the full amount of taxes but failed to remit the entire amount and used the funds for himself without the

knowledge or permission of his clients, authorities stated.

He admitted in his guilty plea earlier this year that in 2015 he received more than \$107,000 from Blueline Tactical Supply and Shooting Sports in Elmsford to pay the company's tax obligations but remitted only \$17,690.48. He then used \$87,732.84 without permission, the district attorney's office said.

Malgarinos must pay restitution to Blueline Tactical; \$108,880 to Mid-Bronx Haulage; \$71,680 to Barrier Contracting LLC; \$17,204 to South of the Border; and \$2,000 to The Sinon Group.



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**NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF FOXWOOD CONDOMINIUM, ON BEHALF OF ALL UNIT OWNERS, Plaintiff v. MICHAEL CASARELLA and CHRISTINA CASARELLA, Defendant, Index no. 54254/2018.** Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated November 20, 2018, and entered in the above-entitled action on November 27, 2018 (the "Judgment"), I the undersigned Referee in said Judgment named, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd., White Plains, New York 10601, the premises directed by said Judgment to be sold. The premises will be offered for sale, as one parcel, on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. The premises therein is described as being in the County of Westchester and State of New York, and designated as Tax Lot no. 2.121, Block 2, Section 69, Sheet 51 and commonly known as 121 Foxwood Circle, Mt. Kisco, New York 10549. The premises is more particularly described as follows:

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

The Unit is designated as Lot 2.121, Block 2, Section 69, Sheet 51, on the Tax Map of the Town and Village of Mount Kisco and further described as follows:

The unit ("UNIT") designated and described as Unit No. 121 in the Declaration (the "Declaration") establishing a plan for condominium ownership of the land (the "Land") and buildings (the "Buildings") comprising Foxwood Condominium (col-

lectively the "Property") made by the Grantor under Article 9 - B of the New York Real Property Law, dated November 27, 1985 and recorded in the Office of the County Clerk of Westchester County on December 5, 1985, in Liber 8286 cp 59. Being further designated and shown on the floor plans certified by Jack P. Fermery, A.I.A., filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Westchester County, Division of Land Records, on December 5, 1985 as Map #22143. The Land is comprised of all that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Village and Town of Mt. Kisco, County of Westchester, and State of New York and more particularly bounded and described in herein. Together with an undivided .8686 percent interest in the Common Elements.

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

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

**Robert A. Hufay, Esquire, Referee.**  
(914) 664-8400

**Ansell Grimm & Aaron, P.C., Attorneys  
for Plaintiff, 365 Rifle Camp Road,  
Woodland Park, New Jersey 07424 (973)  
925-7343,**

**Attention: Stacey R. Patterson, Esq.**



# Marriage Proposal Uncovered at P'ville Crossword Puzzle Tournament

By Abby Luby

A few amorous words can suddenly change the moment – especially when they are totally unexpected.

That's what happened at the end of the 22nd Westchester Crossword Puzzle Tournament at the Westchester Table Tennis Center in Pleasantville Friday night.

About 50 players sat poised to try their hand at taking home the top prize. But for the championship round there was something different, a specially commissioned puzzle.

Ten months earlier New York Times crossword puzzle editor Will Shortz was contacted by actor Brendan McGrady who asked if there was someone who could help him create a personalized puzzle. Shortz put him in touch with Doug Peterson, a professional crossword constructor in Pasadena, Calif., and they worked together to create a puzzle with a wedding theme.

McGrady knew his girlfriend, Amanda Yesnowitz, would compete in the tournament. Yesnowitz, an acclaimed lyricist for musical theater productions, is a nationally-ranked crossword puzzle solver whose debut crossword appeared in the magazine section of The New York Times in 2012.

Throughout the tournament, Yesnowitz and McGrady, who live in New York City, sat near the front of the room. At the end, the three finalists, Jeffrey Schwartz, Ken Stern and Glen Ryan, tackled the final puzzle on large boards on easels, while everyone else in the room who was given a smaller-sized



ABBY LUBY PHOTOS

Brendan McGrady proposes to his girlfriend Amanda Yesnowitz during last Friday's 22nd Westchester Crossword Puzzle Tournament in Pleasantville. The championship-round puzzle contained answers that led to McGrady popping the question.

handout of the puzzle could attempt to solve it as well.

Answers included Amanda and engagement, while the word ring was used repeatedly as part of larger words or phrases. Ryan, who completed the championship puzzle in record time – 5 minutes and 23 seconds – finished first, followed shortly afterward by Stern and Schwartz.

Shortz stepped up to hand Ryan his trophy and turned to the audience and explained about the commissioning of the



Amanda Yesnowitz and her fiancée Brendan McGrady kiss after McGrady proposes to her at the 22nd Westchester Crossword Puzzle Tournament in Pleasantville last Friday as Will Shortz looks on.

puzzle and his connection with Peterson.

"Doug Peterson wanted me to tell you this puzzle was a request from someone named Brendan. I wonder if anyone knows anything about this," Shortz said.

"I think I do!" McGrady shouted as he bounded to the front of the room. "This is a great puzzle and I think a great puzzle is like a great relationship," he said. "It's challenging, you learn something from it, hopefully there is room for lots of wonderful word play, and most importantly, it should be an absolute blast to go through."

McGrady held a small shopping bag and said, "But the puzzle's not done yet. I'm going to need Amanda to help me with the last piece. This puzzle is all about rings and boxes, well I have the last piece right here."

He held up a ring box and motioned to

Amanda to come up.

"Amanda? Will you help me solve this puzzle?"

Completely surprised and left speechless, Yesnowitz giddily walked up to McGrady, who got down on one knee and held the open ring box out to her. There was thunderous applause as she put the ring on and they embraced.

Shortz, who was standing next to the couple and beaming, said, "Well, that is a first."

The popular tournament was the brainchild of Shortz, a Pleasantville resident and longtime crossword puzzle editor of The New York Times and puzzle master for NPR's "Weekend Edition Sunday" since 1987. He also owns the Westchester Table Tennis Center.

The tournament benefits the Pleasantville Fund for Learning that provides grants each year to the Pleasantville School District. The evening draws serious crossword enthusiasts from the tristate area who are adept at speedily completing the puzzles.

Players of all ages compete, with trophies and book prizes awarded to winners in various categories. Before the finalists were announced, Shortz awarded trophies and puzzle books to the best overall solvers, as well as the best solvers who are 25 and under, 60 and over, the best Pleasantville resident, and the best first-time contestant.

Prizes were also given to the best solvers working in pairs. Book prizes were courtesy of St. Martin's Press.



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# Obituary

## Thomas Weber

Dr. Thomas K. Weber, surgeon, scientist, mentor and public health advocate, died from Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma on Sept. 15 at home with his family. He was 64 years old.

Weber was born in New York City on Sept. 19, 1954. He began to develop his lifelong interests in history, science, music and literature from an early age in Pearl River. He had a loving childhood thanks to his parents, Kenneth and Viola, younger sister Jeannie and beloved dog Skipper.

After graduating from Pearl River High School in 1971, Weber began his studies at McGill University and completed his undergraduate degree and medical training at University College Hospital London, his general surgery residency at Albany Medical Center of Union University and two consecutive surgical oncology fellowships, the first at Harvard Medical School and second at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

His inspiring career included roles as chief of surgery at the Einstein Division of Montefiore Medical Center in New York City; chief of surgical services at the Brooklyn VA Medical Center; and culminated with his role as a director of surgical oncology for Northwell Health in Westchester. Weber was held in high esteem by his students

and colleagues through his professorships at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, SUNY Downstate and the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.

As a scientist, Weber led research funded by the American Cancer Society, National Institutes of Health and private foundations to advance the understanding of the genetic predisposition to colorectal cancer and to increase colorectal cancer screening. Weber authored or co-authored more than 80 scientific papers on the surgical management, genetic characterization and screening for colorectal cancer.

Weber was active in organizations focused on surgical oncology, genetics and cancer awareness, including the Society of Surgical Oncology, Human Variome Project, International Society for Gastrointestinal Hereditary Tumours, National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable and the New York City Department of Health Colon Cancer Control Coalition.

He organized New York City's first colorectal cancer event in 2003 and went on to found the Colon Cancer Foundation. The foundation raises awareness of the disease and the importance of timely colon cancer screenings, supports young investigators and their colorectal cancer research and advocates globally for policies that advance the mission of a world without colorectal



Thomas Weber

cancer. The foundation gives a voice to thousands of survivors and families who have lost loved ones to colorectal cancer. It continues to galvanize the scientific community to focus on the increasing incidences of colorectal cancer in young people through the Early-Age Onset

Colorectal Cancer Summit.

Weber dedicated his life to helping others. His optimism, intellectual curiosity, determination and compassion permeated all his professional activities and personal relationships. He developed enduring friendships at all the places he lived and worked. He enjoyed vacationing in Martha's Vineyard, listening to classical music or rock 'n' roll, reading, running and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Clare Oswald Weber; his boys, Luke and Nick; his sister, Jeannie Weber Aplin, and her husband, David Aplin; many nieces and nephews; and a large loving extended family who he cherished.

A memorial visitation will take place at Beecher Flocks Funeral Home in Pleasantville on Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. A funeral service will begin at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26 at the First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, located at 210 Orchard Ridge Rd. in Chappaqua.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Colon Cancer Foundation ([www.coloncancerfoundation.org](http://www.coloncancerfoundation.org)) to support the fulfillment of Tom's vision for a world without colorectal cancer, talk to your doctor about getting a colonoscopy or donate blood in his memory to support lymphoma patients.

# Police Blotter

## North Castle Police Department

**Sept. 13:** Report of two dead raccoons in the roadway on Middle Patent Road at 1:23 p.m.

**Sept. 14:** A caller reported at 10:07 a.m. that items were missing from her vehicle which was parked on Washington Place East. The responding officer reported that depositions have been secured.

**Sept. 15:** Fire Control dispatched the Banksville and Armonk fire departments to Bedford Banksville Road at 3:45 p.m. for a reported fire near the structure (wood pallets). The responding officer reported that firefighters extinguished the fire prior to his arrival. The county's Cause and Origin team was contacted.

**Sept. 15:** A MacDonald Avenue resident reported at 7:13 p.m. that her giant black

and white rabbit is missing. The caller's information was obtained and she was informed that if this department has any reported sightings, she will be contacted.

**Sept. 16:** A caller reported at 10:26 p.m. that a male party was in the middle of Washington Avenue swinging a stick like a sword. The responding officers discovered the party was intoxicated and escorted him to his residence. Matter adjusted.

**Sept. 17:** An older male party on Wrights Mill Lane who took prescribed medication was having a bad reaction at 10:32 a.m. The caller is requesting an ambulance and stated that the male party is conscious. The call was forwarded to 60 Control. The party was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital.

**Sept. 17:** Report of a two-vehicle accident on Starkey Road in the vicinity of

James Street at 3:57 p.m. The caller stated there did not appear to be any serious injuries. The responding officer reported locating the accident at the listed location. It was a one-vehicle accident into a rock wall with airbag deployment.

## Pleasantville Police Department

**Sept. 15:** Report of a disturbance on Roselle Avenue at 9:04 p.m. Youths were playing in the park after dark. The youths were dispersed.

**Sept. 16:** A Pine Street resident reported at 10:13 a.m. that the license plates were taken off her car.

**Sept. 17:** Report that Pub Street on Wheeler Avenue received two counterfeit \$100 bills. The matter is under investigation.

## Cassidy-Flynn Funeral Home Director Recognized

John G. Flynn was recognized last month by the New York State Funeral Directors' Association at the Hilton Saratoga Convention Center in Saratoga Springs for his dedication to funeral service on his 51st year as a licensed funeral director.

Flynn, a Bedford resident, is president of Cassidy-Flynn Funeral Home, Inc., King David Memorial Chapel, Inc., Omega FFuneral Service, Inc., Omega Monuments, Inc. and Funeral Flowers by Carol, all located in Mount Kisco.

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# Big Crowds, Great Weather Mark Armonk Outdoor Art Show

By Martin Wilbur

The last weekend of summer turned out to be picture perfect for the 58th renewal of the Armonk Outdoor Art.

Large crowds gathered at Community Park in Armonk last Saturday and Sunday to see one of the best and most successful art shows in the United States featuring 185 artists showing and selling a wide assortment of work.

Some patrons have returned to the show for years, often looking for pieces to buy for their home or for gifts, while others attended for the first time.

"It's a fabulous show," said Susan Posmentier, a Croton-on-Hudson resident, accompanied by her niece, Stephanie Fishman, who came from Edgewater, N.J. to take it all in. "It's high end, beautiful pieces. We're considering what we're going to buy, as a matter of fact. It's going to be an expensive day but I'm loving it."

John Goule, of Yorktown Heights, who decided to attend for the first time because one of his granddaughters, who works in the fashion industry, was coming up from the city for the show. But he was also curious after recently receiving a mailer that called it the second-best art show in the country. That distinction, of being the number two

fine art show and design show based on sales reported by the exhibitors, was bestowed by Sunshine Artists Magazine in 2018 and the Armonk Outdoor Art Show retained that lofty ranking this year.

"I went to one of these (art shows) last March in Florida and it's terrific, really terrific," Goule said. "So I would expect that this would be really good. I think it is."

On Saturday afternoon, during the show's first day, organizers took a few minutes out of the hectic weekend to honor Boies Schiller Flexner LLC, the Armonk-based law firm co-founded by celebrated attorney David Boies, with the Spirit of Community Award. Boies Schiller Flexner was the event's first corporate sponsor 15 years ago and the firm has continued to support it every year since then, said Marian Hamilton, the art show's co-chair.

Hamilton said those involved with the show have appreciated the law firm's ongoing support. Associate attorney Reed Forbush accepted the award on behalf of Boies Schiller.

"The proceeds at the art show fund many of the activities at the (North Castle Public) library," Hamilton said. "There's children's activities and a lot of adult programming and there's been some renovations to the actual building. These funds really go for good things, so we



Armonk Outdoor Art Show Executive Director Anne Curran was ready to hand over the Spirit of Community Award plaque to Reed Forbush, an attorney with Boies Schiller Flexner LLC in Armonk, which has been a corporate sponsor of the show for 15 years. Show co-chairs Susan Geffen and Marian Hamilton were also on hand for the presentation.

really appreciate the support over the years."

Of course, the show wouldn't be a success if it weren't for the artists, who came from more than half the states across the country, Canada and Israel to show their work. Unique pieces ranging from sculptures, paintings, printmaking, drawings, pastels, mixed mediums, photography and digital art were on display and for sale.

Lisa Cohen, whose specializes in photography of wild horses, mainly in Colorado and Wyoming, said she looked forward to returning to



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

Large crowds strolled throughout the sun-splashed Community Park for the Armonk Outdoor Art Show last weekend.

Armonk this year. It's the second time she was accepted by a panel of jurors to earn one of the coveted spots.

"I think it's the best show, if not in the country, the world," said Cohen. "It's completely organized, very artist-friendly, the work is outstanding, the organizers, the 300 volunteers, it's just a well-oiled machine. Everything works perfectly."

Kathleen Willer, who produces acrylic paintings, said she was thrilled to be part of the show for the first time. The Milwaukee area artist was in Philadelphia for a show the previous weekend and looks to exhibit in 20 to 25 events a year to sell her work.

The crowds strolling through the grounds was keeping Willer busy on



Photographer Lisa Cohen standing in front of her work at last weekend's Armonk Outdoor Art Show. Cohen specializes in photographing wild horses.

Saturday.

"The other artists are high-quality artists, the people are engaged and interested and I just talk to everybody," she said. "I haven't been sitting down much, so that's nice."



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# Arc Stages' 'Hedwig' Inches Closer to Opening This Friday Night

By Martin Wilbur

Ever since Arc Stages' Artistic Director Adam Cohen first saw "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" when it debuted off-Broadway at the James Street Theater in the late 1990s, it's been one of his favorite shows in both performance and writing.

For years, Cohen has been looking for the opportunity to stage a production of the show, which he described as funny and memorable. The first time he saw the critically acclaimed rock musical written by John Cameron Mitchell, he sat in his seat moved by the production.

"It's kind of a musical, it's kind of a cabaret, it's kind of standup comedy, there's no real slot where it fits in," Cohen said. "It's a rock 'n' roll show. It's a little bit of a lot of things. It has all these elements for sure."

Starting this weekend Cohen gets his wish as Arc Stages' professional theater company The Next Stage begins a seven-performance engagement of 'Hedwig' starting this Friday and continuing on weekends through Oct. 12.

"It was such a moving experience for me," Cohen recalled. "It's like it redefined everything I had known about musicals. The story is just beautiful and meaningful."

Hedwig is a singer and performer who was talked into have a sex-change operation, but the procedure went awry, so she was left with an angry inch in a sensitive place.

"The Angry Inch is also the name of her band, so there's a lot of humor in telling this crazy story and it also has a lot of depth and heart and vulnerability," said actor Will Taylor, who plays Hedwig.

The show's director, Ann-Ngaire Martin, implored Cohen to finally give the show a try. They also cast Lauren Singerman as her husband, Yitzhak.

Martin said casting Taylor in the role of Hedwig was key in making the show work. Even some very accomplished musical theater actors have been unable to capture the rock sound that is needed to pull off the role. The character also is humorous and there's plenty of interactivity with the audience.

Similar to Cohen, Singerman said she jumped at the chance to audition for the show.

"This has been one of my favorite shows for over 20 years, so I always wanted to play this part," she said. "It's totally exploded what I thought musical theater could be when I saw it this time."

Cohen said initially he was a bit hesitant to select the show, thinking that there may have been too many productions both on and off Broadway. But it's one of those productions many people have heard of but are not overly familiar with it, he concluded.

Then he thought that perhaps the subject matter might be too risqué for some theatergoers. Cohen just hopes that local audiences



Hedwig, played by Will Taylor, and her husband Yitzhak (Lauren Singerman) in Arc Stages' production of "Hedwig and the Angry Inch."

give it a chance.

"I feel like people will understand why we're passionate about the show if they come see it," he said.

After Friday evening's opening, "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" will also have performances on Sept. 28 and Oct. 4, 5, 6,

11 and 12. All performances are at 8 p.m. except for the Oct. 6 show, which is a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$28 and \$36.

For tickets and more information, visit [www.arcstages.org](http://www.arcstages.org).

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# State Bans Sale of Flavored E-Cigarettes to Stem Vaping Crisis

By Rick Pezzullo

New York State became the first state in the nation last week to implement a ban on the sale of flavored electronic cigarettes and nicotine e-liquids, following a vote on emergency regulations by the Public Health and Health Planning Council (PHHC).

The ban is the latest in a series of actions to combat the increase in young people using vape products, largely as a result of e-cigarette companies marketing flavors that are intended to get children addicted to nicotine.

"It is undeniable that vaping companies are deliberately using flavors like bubblegum, Captain Crunch and cotton candy to get young people hooked on e-cigarettes – it's a public health crisis and it ends today," Gov. Andrew Cuomo said on Sept. 17. "New York is not waiting for the federal government to act, and by banning flavored e-cigarettes we are safeguarding the public health and helping prevent countless young people from forming costly, unhealthy and potentially deadly life-long habits."

On Sept. 15, Cuomo directed the Department of Health to convene an emergency meeting of PHHC to consider the ban. Cuomo also directed the state police and the Department of Health to immediately partner to ramp up enforcement efforts against retailers who sell to underage youth, with the possibility of criminal penalties, in addition to announcing that he will advance legislation to ban deceptive marketing of e-cigarettes to teens and children.

As part of the Family Smoking and Tobacco Prevention Act of 2009, Congress banned the sale of cigarettes with flavors other than menthol and tobacco.

"The alarmingly high numbers of young people in New York State who are using vape products is nothing short of a public health crisis," said state Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker. "These regulations are a part of many critical steps we are taking to combat this disturbing trend."

Flavors are considered largely responsible for the dramatic increase in use of e-cigarettes by youth and are a chief reason that youth start and maintain e-cigarette use. According to Department of Health data, nearly 40 percent of 12th- graders and 27 percent of high school students in New York State are now using e-cigarettes, an increase largely driven by flavored e-liquids.

High school use in 2018 (27.4 percent) is 160 percent higher than it was in 2014 (10.5 percent). While New York's high school student smoking rate dropped from 27.1 percent in 2000 to a record low of 4.3 percent in 2016, aggressive marketing strategies promoting flavored e-cigarettes is primed to turn that trend.

In a 2017 survey of 15- to 17-year-old adolescents in New York State currently using electronic vapor products, 19 percent of the adolescents said flavors were the reason that they first tried an e-cigarette and 27 percent said flavors were the reason for maintaining use.

Studies also show nearly 78 percent of high school students and 75 percent of middle school students report being exposed to pro-tobacco marketing in 2016. Legislation will be advanced next session to prevent deceptive and misleading advertisements to target

youths.

The American Lung Association opposed Cuomo's emergency action, stating it did not apply to menthol flavored e-cigarettes.

"The governor had the opportunity to take decisive action, but instead left menthol e-cigarettes on the marketplace," said Harold Wimmer, president and CEO of the American Lung Association. "While today's announcement was well-intentioned, it will drive our youth to use menthol-flavored products in even greater numbers. We will continue to work towards the permanent removal of all flavored tobacco including e-cigarettes from the marketplace."

Wimmer said flavors have been shown to draw youngsters to tobacco use and a lifetime

of addiction and tobacco-related death and disease.

The Department of Health will provide retailers with a two-week grace period before conducting visits to enforce the flavoring ban that begins on Oct. 7. Local health departments and the department's district offices, with state oversight, will handle enforcement. Retailers who violate the ban will face fines of up to \$2,000 per violation, which is defined as each unit of flavored e-liquid or product containing e-liquid that is possessed, manufactured, sold or offered for sale.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo implemented a statewide ban on flavored electronic cigarettes last week.



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## Guest Column

### Alzheimer's and Dementia: The 10 Warning Signs You Need to Know

Recognizing and taking steps to address the warning signs of Alzheimer's and other dementias can be extremely challenging – especially in the early stages. It's easy and common to dismiss cognitive changes in oneself or a family member as “normal aging.”

“Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging,” said Dr. Keith Fargo, director of scientific programs and outreach at the Alzheimer's Association. “With normal aging, you may forget where you parked your car – that happens to all of us. But if you get in your car and get lost coming home – that's not normal.”

Alzheimer's is a fatal progressive disease that attacks the brain, killing nerve cells and tissue, affecting an individual's ability to remember, think, plan and ultimately function. Today, more than five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. By 2050, that number is projected to skyrocket to nearly 14 million.

To help families identify signs early on, the Alzheimer's Association offers 10 Warning Signs and Symptoms, a list of some common signs that can be early symptoms of Alzheimer's or other dementias.

1. Disruptive memory loss. Forgetting recently learned information, asking the same questions over and over and increasingly relying on memory aids.
2. Challenges in solving problems. Changes in one's ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers, such as having trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills.
3. Difficulty completing familiar tasks. Difficulty completing daily tasks, such as organizing a grocery list or remembering the rules of a favorite game.
4. Confusion with time or place. Losing track of dates, seasons and the passage of time.
5. Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships. Vision problems, which may lead to difficulty with balance or trouble reading.
6. New problems with words in speaking or writing. Trouble following or joining a conversation or a struggle with vocabulary. For example, calling a “watch” a “hand-clock.”
7. Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps. Putting things in unusual places and being unable to go back over one's steps to find them again.
8. Decreased or poor judgment. Changes in judgment or decision-making when dealing with such matters as money and grooming.
9. Withdrawal from work or social activities. Changes in the ability to hold or follow a conversation can result in a withdrawal from hobbies or social activities.
10. Changes in mood and personality. Mood and personality changes, such as confusion, suspicion, depression, fearfulness and anxiety.

To learn more about Alzheimer's disease and to find resources, visit [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org), the website of the Alzheimer's Association or call its 24/7, free helpline at 800-272-3900.

It's important to note that exhibiting one or more of these 10 warning signs does not mean someone has Alzheimer's. In fact, these signs may signal other – even treatable – conditions. However, it's important to talk to your doctor to understand what is driving cognitive changes so you can better manage the condition – whatever the diagnosis.

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## Letter to the Editor

### County Has Critical Resources to Help Those at Risk of Suicide

I am writing this letter in response to the important editorial published in the Sept. 3-9 edition of The Examiner titled “Know Where to Turn If Someone Close to You Needs Help.”

September is National Suicide Awareness and Prevention month and Westchester County is sending out public service announcements about mental health. The web addresses to three of them are: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJOB8d0oAyI&feature=youtu.be> (geared toward veterans); <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CilumXcTLhM&feature=youtu.be> (children and adolescents); and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifjH8Rko0vg&feature=youtu.be> (seniors) with others to be rolled out throughout the month.

On Sept. 10, 2019, I chaired the County Board of Legislators' Committee on Social Services meeting where the county's Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) outlined a new mapping of all of the mental health services offered in the

county that have been vetted by the county. This is where you can view the meeting ([http://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=1&clip\\_id=35](http://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=35)) and the mapping (<https://dcmhservices.westchestergov.com/DCMHservices/index.jsp>).

Additionally, DCMH has been actively reviewing suicides in Westchester County to determine who might be at risk, recognize symptoms of mental health issues and what tools the public and concerned family members

can use to help someone in crisis.

If you or a loved one is in need of help, call the National Suicide Prevention Helpline at 1-800-273-TALK or text 741741; the Westchester County Crisis Prevention and Response Team at 914-925-5959; or visit <http://westchestersuicidesafety.org> to see resources that are available.

**Kitley S. Covill**  
County Legislator, District 2

### County to Hold Job Fair for Mental Health, Social Services Providers

Recognizing that vacant staff positions impede the mission of Westchester County's nonprofit service providers, the county executive's office, the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) are holding a job fair on Thursday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the County Center in White Plains.

In delivering a broad array of programs to residents, more than 75 nonprofits contract with Westchester County, through DSS and/or DCMH, to provide community-based services to thousands of people across Westchester. More than 20 different potential employers, with over 400 open positions, will be participating.

To bring together the nonprofit

service providers with prospective employees, DSS and DCMH reached out to not only the contract provider agencies that work with the departments, but schools, colleges and universities across the county as well as Not-For-Profit Westchester, other employment focused organizations and members of the advocacy and faith-based communities.

“Not-for-profits are our partners in meeting the mental health and substance use needs of Westchester's adults, children and families,” said DCMH Commissioner Michael Orth. “Getting their job done means they need quality staff working day in and day out. By connecting these employers with prospective employees, we hope to help them better fulfill this mission.”



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# Mount Pleasant, Phelps Partner to Help Keep Local Seniors Active

By Martin Wilbur

It is well-known that it's critically important for seniors to remain active and engaged once they've retired in hopes of remaining as independent as possible for as long as possible.

Programs offered through the Town of Mount Pleasant and Phelps Hospital have offered programs to the town's residents and to others from around the area at the hospital to help toward that goal.

Last Saturday, the town and the hospital partnered for the fourth annual Autumn Games at the Mount Pleasant Community Center in Valhalla. The nearly day-long event for older adults 55 years old and up was full of activities that focused the participants on physical exercise, socialization and preserving their cognitive skills.

"In some of these programs they try to build confidence because as seniors age and they feel they can't move, they don't move and then you know what happens," said Ellen Woods, the senior program manager for vitality at Phelps Hospital.

"So this is to get them to be part of these programs so they can have confidence and they know they can have exercises they can practice and they know what to do in things around the home, to make changes and things they can do in the community to make changes."

Seniors who attended Autumn Games could choose to play pickleball, navigate an obstacle course, take a line dancing, yoga or Zumba Gold class or try their hand at Name



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTOS

Older adults play a game of pickleball at the Mount Pleasant Community Center last Saturday during the annual Autumn Games presented by the town and Phelps Hospital.

That Tune, where the opening portion of various songs was played and contestants tried to be the first to give the correct name of the song.

Kellie Rizzi, Mount Pleasant's superintendent of recreation and parks, said all of the activities that are offered throughout the year for seniors are geared toward helping the older adult stay active. Whether it's offering a nutrition program, going to Broadway shows or other special events, it's with the idea in mind to help them stay active, and not only through more traditional exercise classes.

"We try and engage them to not only see

them have a healthy diet but also socialize," Rizzi said. "Socialization is probably the most important thing. It's very hard to engage seniors. They don't feel they need the service. It's a tough generation. They're not used to being cared for and they're used to caring for others."

Activities for seniors at Phelps, which is open to the general public regardless of town or residence, pays special attention to cognitive health, Woods said. That is something that's not just determined by remaining engaged but also through proper diet, exercise and staying away from the same routine every day, she said. For



Seniors gather for a round of Name That Tune during last Saturday's Autumn Games at the Mount Pleasant Community Center. The event was geared to help keep the town's seniors active and engaged.

example, steps as simple as finding different ways to drive home or brushing your teeth with the weaker hand forces the brain to remain active.

Woods said there are many components to memory.

"When you do something different such as brushing your teeth with the wrong hand, the opposite hand, your brain has to think about that to fire up the neurons," Woods said.

For more information about the senior programs available at Phelps Hospital, call 914-366-3937 or e-mail [Vitality@northwell.edu](mailto:Vitality@northwell.edu). For information about the Town of Mount Pleasant recreational programs, including those for seniors, call 914-742-2335 or visit [www.mtpleasantny.com/rec](http://www.mtpleasantny.com/rec).

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# Walk to End Alzheimer's Comes to Westchester This Sunday

By Martin Wilbur

When Sarah Armisto heads to SUNY Purchase this Sunday morning for the Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's it will be with a heavy heart.

In June, Armisto lost her father, John, to the disease. While it came a few years after he was officially diagnosed, there were warning signs for more than a year before that. He was 72 years old at the time of his death.

Armisto, a Harrison resident, has participated in the past three walks at Purchase, but for the first time she will traverse the campus in his memory.

"It's definitely going to be different, just knowing that he's not here," she said. "For the past five years I've watched him deteriorate in front of me. He's always been physically here, and unfortunately, he lost his battle. But he's not suffering anymore, there's no more pain, so it'll be different because there are no more next steps to the disease."

On Sunday, Armisto will be one of about 1,500 participants in the second of five walks this fall organized by the Hudson Valley chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. For the third consecutive year she is a volunteer closely involved in the planning of the walk as well as other initiatives for the organization throughout the year.

David Sobel, the president and CEO of the Alzheimer's Association's Hudson Valley chapter, said that the larger organization



About 1,500 participants are expected to participate in this Sunday morning's Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's on the campus of SUNY Purchase.

with the help of its legions of supporters who come out in force has helped make it the third-leading fundraising outfit in the world for Alzheimer's research. It is exceeded only by government funding from the United States and China, he said.

The United States plans to increase funding for Alzheimer's research in Fiscal Year 2020, providing an additional \$350 million that will push next year's total funding to about \$2.8 billion, Sobel said.

With that type of success, Sobel is optimistic that treatments and a cure for the dreaded disease is closer than ever before.

"We have a tremendous group of advocates who continue to lobby governments to provide us with enough funding so we can find a cure, find the cure for Alzheimer's," Sobel said.

Armisto said she, too, is extremely bullish on researchers finding a cure in her lifetime.

"I know we're going to have a cure," she

said. "So it makes me so happy to know that when I get to that age, the age of my father when he was first diagnosed, that this isn't going to be something that I'm going to have to worry about. It's something that can be treated."

Sobel said more is being learned on a regular basis, including how lifestyle choices could improve your chances of avoiding Alzheimer's. A healthy diet, exercise, avoiding smoking, refraining from drinking too much alcohol and getting about seven hours sleep a night all help, he said.

For Armisto, having so many people rally around a common issue this Sunday is inspiring.

"At a time when everyone is so divided, this is one of the few issues that can really bring people together no matter what you believe in," Armisto said.

Last year, the five walks in the Hudson Valley raised just over \$1 million, according to Sobel. Last Saturday was the first event, the Putnam County walk. For those who can't make this Sunday at Purchase, there will also be the Orange/Sullivan walk on Oct. 5, the Dutchess/Ulster Walk on Oct. 19 and the Oct. 20 event in Rockland.

For more information on all of those events, visit <https://www.alz.org/hudsonvalley>. To register for Sunday's walk at Purchase, visit [www.WestchesterWalk.org](http://www.WestchesterWalk.org). Same-day registration begins at 8:30 a.m. A ceremony commences at 10 a.m. with the walk stepping off at 10:20 a.m.





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## Fixtures: Getting Weird About What Stays and What Goes

As a realtor, I find that some home sales can be particularly interesting, as much for the small details as well as the big issues. A case in point is the subject of fixtures in a house for sale: What stays and what goes?

Buyers and sellers who seem perfectly nice and normal throughout the sales transaction can suddenly lose their cool when the seller asks at the last minute that a modest chandelier over a kitchen table be excluded among the fixtures included in the sale.

"Oh no, you don't," the buyer might say, "it wasn't excluded in the listing!" And the fight begins.

This scenario happened to me a while back. The seller had forgotten to discuss the chandelier's exclusion with his listing agent. It was a very ordinary fixture, surely one not worth fighting about.

"But we bought it early on in our marriage," the seller protested to his agent. "Our family gathered under it every morning at breakfast, every night at dinner."

But my buyer didn't relent. I appealed to his better judgment.

"That chandelier is an inexpensive Tiffany reproduction," I argued, "and couldn't have cost more than \$100. I'll buy one that's more than twice its quality as a closing gift for you."



By Bill Primavera

"No, I want that one," he said.

Just prior to this incident I had heard a story about how the sale of a home was lost because the seller had changed her mind about leaving her washer and dryer with a house because those particular models, with which she had fallen in love, had been discontinued. She didn't want to risk her emotional health with trying another brand.

With this sale, it looked as though it was going to come to a showdown. Oh, my goodness, I declared, you're going to risk losing a house over a cheap kitchen chandelier? See reason here, I admonished the buyer.

Sanity finally prevailed and the seller was allowed to keep the fixture to which he was so strongly attached.

Shortly after that experience, I was involved with another dispute – and you guessed it – it also involved lighting fixtures. This time it was in a gorgeous historic home. The seller had affixed the highest-grade wall sconces and chandeliers you could imagine in every room, all quite appropriate to their 18th century surroundings. There were oohs and aahs over every one of them in every room. Only after an offer was made following the first showing, did I make the inquiry of the seller's agent about exclusions. Sure enough, the lighting fixtures were

"available for sale." My buyers were not happy and neither was I.

Give yourself a test. Which of the following items wouldn't normally be included as fixtures in the sale of a home: built-in stereo system; electric garage door opener; wall-to-wall carpet; built-in microwave oven; water heater; dishwasher; built-in stove; drapes; refrigerator; and washer and dryer?

You are correct if you answered that the last four items are not included. All the others are automatically included since they are attached and have become fixtures.

The literature on the subject is somewhat simplistic. For instance, lumber sitting by the side of a house is personal property because it is not permanently attached to the structure or the land. Therefore, it is not included in a home's sale price; however, when that lumber is nailed or bolted together to become a fence, the wood fence is a fixture attached to the land and is included in the sale.

Oddly, while the examples I gave about chandeliers would identify them as fixtures, their light bulbs are not permanently attached to the structure so

they remain personal property. Very few sellers remove their light bulbs from the light fixtures (as they are entitled to do) unless it's a particularly contentious sale. (When I sold my first home, I ended up hating my buyer so much that I removed every light bulb from the house and every roll of toilet paper from the bathrooms. Hopefully, I've matured since then.)

If a home seller wants to exclude a fixture from the sale, it must be specifically itemized and excluded in the sales contract.

When a dispute arises, whether or not an item is included in a home sale, it is accepted practice that courts favor the buyer over the seller, the tenant over the landlord and the

lender over the borrower.

Well, I guess we all know where we stand in such battles.

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



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# County Approves Two Vendors to Focus on Airport Master Plan

Two vendors were approved last week to focus on the Westchester County Airport (HPN) Master Plan supplement and its related airport community engagement program – Merchant Aviation and Arch Street Communications.

For the supplement, Merchant Aviation will provide a thorough and comprehensive picture of the economic value and environmental impacts of the airport both on- and off-site and a new vision for the airport as a transportation resource.

For the Community Engagement Program, the contract was awarded to Arch Street Communications. They will be involved in educating the public in the supplemental planning process.

In May, when the business community, environmentalists and the general public contributed comments, the Westchester County Department of Planning issued a request for proposals (RFP) to supplement the airport's Master Plan and associated environmental impact study. The RFP incorporated public recommendations and focused on economic issues, environmental concerns and overall safety at the airport.

"The airport is an important part of our county. We must have a plan for this unique transportation resource," said County Executive George Latimer. "My administration made a commitment to complete a supplemental Master Plan to address the full scope of activities at the airport, ensure we have a full environmental review and Board of Legislators approval of the final document. Our goal is to help

businesses and area residents, while also protecting the environment – a balance I am confident we can strike."

Latimer made a commitment to look at the airport operations and its impacts and develop a new vision for the airport based on greater participation from the public. The supplement will add to the Master Plan with additional analysis of the airport, particularly with respect to the physical conditions of the property, buildings and infrastructure, additional analysis of noise and its local and regional economic impact.

The supplement will also explore additional alternatives for improved safety and performance and reduced environmental impacts. However, there

will be no expansion of airport operations.

Arch Street Communications is certified with the state and the federal government as a Women Business Enterprise (WBE). Arch Street will also be contracting with Morales Communications, a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), and Front Line Communications, an MBE and Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business (SDVOB).

Going forward, the tasks to be completed include:

Evaluating the airport as a unique resource and economic generator for the county and region;

Developing and evaluating alternatives to improve operational safety and

efficiency of the airport, including facility modifications and modernizations as necessary;

Evaluating and developing alternatives to continue to improve environmental performance at the airport;

Implementing a robust public engagement program throughout the planning process to utilize a wide variety of methods to engage the public;

Preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed actions as appropriate under the state Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations (SEQR) and updating the Airport Layout Plan at the end of this analysis, after review with the county.

**Lottery  
Application Deadline:  
October 9, 2019**



**Lottery  
Date:  
October 16, 2019**

## Quick Facts: Westchester County Airport

- 697 acres
- Dedicated February 13, 1945
- 20 aircraft hangars
- 188 based single engine & light twin engine aircraft
- 94 based corporate jets
- 442 average landings/takeoffs per day
- 161,146 total airport operations (2017)
- 1485 full time employees, 440 Part Time, 9 Temporary
- \$735 million in economic activity generated (2012 Study)
- 6,328 jobs +/- are directly or indirectly related to the Airport

(2012 Study)

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# The Travelers: Who Are They and When Did They Take to the Road?

British songwriter Ewan MacColl captured the Travelers best in his 1964 song, "Freeborn Man of the Traveling People," the opening lines of which evoke what was then, and more so now, a disappearing lifestyle.

*I'm a freeborn man of the traveling people.  
Got no fixed abode, with nomads I have wandered.  
Country lanes and by ways were always my ways.  
I never fancied being lumbered.*

Tinkers, Pikeys, Gypsies, Knackers – no lack of terms, most of them pejorative – are used to describe this group of Irish men, women and children who today number little



A Traveler family en route to a horse fair in Buttevant, Ireland during the 1950s.

more than one-half of 1 percent of the Irish population. Romanticized by some, reviled by many, they call themselves Minkiers, a term from their distinct language called Shelta.

A more common term used today wherever they are found – predominantly in Ireland, but with populations also in the United Kingdom and even here in America – is the Travelers or the Traveling People.

And it is this transient nature that distinguishes them from the rest of Ireland's "settled people," those who dwell in homes and towns and function within mainstream society.

The Travelers are a mobile group, living out of brightly colored caravans, many still horse-drawn, that roam the countryside, making their living from a variety of trades – traditionally tinsmithing, from whence the term "tinker" derives, or paving or general repair work around the home or farm.

They keep to themselves, largely avoiding the established institutions of education and health care, with sadly detrimental effect. But they are free to come and go as they please, and it is this freedom that keeps them clinging to old ways that conflict with the more modern Irish lifestyles that have evolved around them.

Recently granted recognition by the Irish government as a distinct ethnic group, the 40,000 Travelers in Ireland today are at a crossroads. With quality-of-life statistics dismally below the main population, many present-day Travelers seem more willing than generations past to trade the freedom

of the road for an improved lifestyle.

As recently as 2007, half of all Travelers did not live past 39 years old; 10 percent of the children did not see a second birthday; male unemployment was 73 percent; and illiteracy was rampant, in a country with one of the highest literacy rates in the world.

Where did they originate? Two long-held beliefs have recently been debunked. The first is that they are part of the Romani of mainland Europe, commonly called Gypsies. They are not with a genetic background distinctly Irish. The other is that they originated with people displaced during the Great Famine of 1845 to 1852. This, too, has recently been proven wrong.

Genetic testing of current Traveler communities, as The Irish Times reported in 2017, reveals that separation from the general Irish population took place about 12 generations ago, between the late 1500s and mid-1600s. From that point forward the group married solely within their own communities, developing a distinct genetic imprint. This was an era in Irish history of intense turmoil, with widescale disruption through war, famine, oppression and outright genocide by Oliver Cromwell. Whole communities took to the road to escape, some never to return to



By Brian McGowan

a "settled" life again. And from these desperate souls, many believe, the Travelers emerged.

I saw a Traveler caravan on a trip to Ireland many years ago, on the road to Dingle, and the memory of it lingers still. Red-painted wagons pulled by nimble horses; an old woman leaning out a half-door smoking her pipe; a gentle curve in the road and then they were gone from sight. The romance coexists yet with the harsh reality of a life on the road. The song captures the magic.

*Now I've known life hard and I've known life easy,  
And I've cursed the life when winter days were dawning,  
But I've laughed and sung through the whole night long,  
To see the summer sunrise in the morning.*  
- Ewan MacColl

## Irish Eclectic

Pleasantville resident Brian McGowan was born and raised in the Bronx and is a second-, third- and fifth-generation Irish-American/Canadian, as his immigrant ancestors followed several paths to the New World. Reach him at [brian.m.mcgowan1952@gmail.com](mailto:brian.m.mcgowan1952@gmail.com) or on Twitter (@Bmcgowan52M). To see more of his writing on "things Irish," follow his blog "Rethinking Irish" at [www.rethinkingirish.com](http://www.rethinkingirish.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, Sept. 24

**Meet Mark Siegel.** Meet Siegel and learn about the creation of his "5 Worlds" series as well as his other books such as "This One Summer." In honor of Banned Books Week, Siegel will share his experiences writing graphic novels and present some behind-the-scenes animation. Books will be available for sale and autograph. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Reading With Tobie and Karen.** For school age children. First-come, first-served. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 4 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**A Reading and Conversation With Brenda Shaughnessy.** The acclaimed poet will launch the new season of Durst Distinguished Lectures. Shaughnessy is the author of five highly regarded poetry collections, including "The Octopus Museum," "So Much Synth" and "Our Andromeda," which was a finalist for the Kingsley Tufts Award, the International Griffin Prize and the PEN Open Book Award. Her writing has appeared in "Best American Poetry," "The New Yorker," "Poetry Magazine," "Paris Review," "O Magazine" and other prestigious publications. Purchase College Music Building Recital Hall, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 4:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-251-6550 or visit [www.purchase.edu/academics/school-of-humanities/lectures/durst-distinguished-lectures](http://www.purchase.edu/academics/school-of-humanities/lectures/durst-distinguished-lectures).

**DIY Birdfeeder for Wildlife Day.** Take home your own birdfeeder created from a milk carton to hang in your yard or window. For children of all ages. (Children under five years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

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

**Pajama Storytime.** Join Miss Debbie for an evening that includes stories, songs and fun. Pajamas and stuffed animals are welcome. For children two to five years old and their families. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 6:30 to 7 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday (except Oct. 8). Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

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

## Wednesday, Sept. 25

**Baby Time.** A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday (except Oct. 14). Info: 914-769-0548 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

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

**Toddler Storytime.** Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except Oct. 14). 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 (except Oct. 14). 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. The session incorporates picture books that focus on colors, shapes, letters and more. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Women's Health and Fitness Day.** Join in the fun and exercise, including line dancing and Zumba Gold. Mount Pleasant Community Center, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Ellen Woods at 914-366-3937 or [vitality@northwell.edu](mailto:vitality@northwell.edu).

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

**"Yto Barrada: The Dye Garden."** Barrada, an internationally-acclaimed Moroccan-French, multimedia artist and winner of the 2019 Roy R. Neuberger Prize, will present his works. This will be the first time that the exhibit, which originated at the American Academy in Rome, will be seen in the United States. It includes film, video, photography, sculpture and hand-dyed textiles that are inspired by the artist's family history, Islamic tradition and the legacy of Western colonialism. Neuberger Museum of Art, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 12 to 5 p.m. \$5. Seniors (62 and up): \$3. Children (under 12), museum members, Purchase

students, faculty and staff and the first Saturday of each month for all: Free. Exhibit continues through Dec. 22. Exhibit hours are Wednesday through Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. and until 8 p.m. during school. Info: 914-251-6100 or visit [www.neuberger.org](http://www.neuberger.org).

**Senior Movie Matinees: "Moscow on the Hudson."** For seniors from retirement communities and senior citizen centers. Starring Robin Williams and Maria Conchita Alonso. Refreshments served following the screening. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 p.m. \$10. Advance reservations required. Info and reservations: Contact Abby Popper at 914-773-7663 ext. 424.

**Pelvic Floor Health: Beyond Kegels in the Chair.** Educational and experiential, this workshop will empower women with a new awareness of their pelvic floor. Come learn the anatomy and physiology, the weakness, dysfunctions and techniques to relax, strengthen, balance and maintain optimal health. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 to 1:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

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

**Author Presentation.** Dr. Marc Brackett, director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, will present his new book "Permission to Feel," his personal and professional journey to discovering how emotions drive learning, decision making, creativity, relationships and health. Attendees will receive a signed copy of the book. Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES School Services Building, 200 BOCES Drive, Yorktown Heights. 3:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit [www.pnwbores.org/catalog](http://www.pnwbores.org/catalog).

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

**Knitting at the Library.** Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels. For ages 10 and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-864-8041 or [www.mountkiscoblibrary.org](http://www.mountkiscoblibrary.org).

**Meditation.** A session that helps to remove stress and replace it with a dose of inner peace. It's one of the best tools to balance emotions, deal with physical and psychological distress and promote the peace of the present moment. Phelps Hospital, fourth floor, 755 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Info: 914-366-3937 or e-mail [Vitality@northwell.edu](mailto:Vitality@northwell.edu).

**"Paris to Pittsburgh."** Films on Purpose, in partnership with area Audubon chapters and Federated Conservationists of Westchester County, will host a free screening of this documentary. The film offers a hopeful message about the actions of ordinary Americans and their elected representatives to address the catastrophic

effects of global climate change. Following the film, a panel of environmental professionals will discuss the Westchester Climate Action Plan currently in development by the Westchester County Climate Crisis Task Force. Preceded by a reception with light food and drink. Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. Reception at 6:30 p.m. Screening at 7 p.m. Free (A \$5 contribution is recommended at the door.) Info and tickets: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/film-screening-paris-to-pittsburgh-tickets-67787844267>.

**Great Books.** Selections from "The Theory of Moral Sentiments" by Adam Smith will be discussed. Led by Martha Alcott and Sally Scudo. New Castle Town Hall Conference Room A, 200 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).

**Art Series: Sotheby's and the Great Auction Houses, Part II.** 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. The major international auction houses and galleries that exert influence on the world's art market will be discussed. 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).

**"Tel Aviv on Fire."** In this comedic take on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Salam, an inexperienced and charming young Palestinian man, works on a popular soap opera produced in Ramallah. After "getting to know" an Israeli soldier and using his insights to help make the show a success, he is caught in the middle when the soldier and the show's financial backers disagree about how it should end. Followed by a Q&A with filmmaker Sameh Zoabi. Part of the Contemporary Arab Cinema series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:35 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Thursday, Sept. 26

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

*continued on page 24*



# The Flexibility of Using a Medicaid Trust Without Losing Control

Over the years, I have found that one of the biggest obstacles preventing clients from pulling the trigger on a Medicaid trust is the perception that all control is lost over the assets being transferred to the trust.

While it is true that legal title to the assets must be transferred to the trustee, a well-drafted document can provide several mechanisms, allowing the trust's creator to maintain a certain degree of control.

The following are some techniques I use in Medicaid trusts to calm a client's fears of losing control.

## Removing, Replacing a Trustee

Every trust has a trustee. The problem may lie in who you choose to be the initial trustee and, if circumstances were to change, how to replace that trustee. Even the closest and most reliable family members may face their own difficult circumstances that may not make them the most ideal trustee years after their initial



By Salvatore M. Di Costanzo, Esq.

appointment.

For example, assume that you have a trust naming your only child as trustee. By some misfortune, you and your child become estranged. You have grown worrisome trusting that child to act responsibly. Since the trusts I draft give the power to remove and replace the trustee, you can easily appoint another family member or close friend.

## Changing Beneficiaries

Just as every trust needs a trustee, every trust needs a beneficiary. In most cases, children or other family members are the beneficiaries upon termination of the trust. However, once again, circumstances may arise that could warrant a change in beneficiaries.

Assume that you have two sons, each of whom are named as beneficiaries. Unfortunately, one of your sons has just been served divorce papers. You fear that if you die and the trust terminates, his wife might be entitled to a portion of his

inheritance. The Medicaid trusts that I prepare include a limited power to change the beneficiaries among certain classes of individuals, such as your other children, thus eliminating your fears.

## Power to Distribute Principal, Income

Most clients will fund a Medicaid trust with their home and some of their other non-retirement assets. It is usually recommended that the non-retirement assets earmarked for the trust be assets that the client never intends to use. However, there may be unforeseen circumstances where the money is needed, such as for uncovered medical costs.

Although you do not have access to the principal, our trusts provide the possibility of distributions to your children or any other defined class of individuals. Once the distribution is made from the trust, the children can use those assets for your benefit.

## Revoking the Trust

Ultimately, under New York law, you can revoke an irrevocable trust with the consent of the beneficiaries.

Notwithstanding clients' fears of losing control, very rarely do you see revocation for this reason. However, this is an option, so this irrevocable arrangement can be reversed.

All of the above mechanisms are sophisticated and not found in boilerplate documents. It is important to work with a seasoned elder law attorney with proper drafting experience.

Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with Maker, Fragale & Di Costanzo, LLP in Rye and Yorktown Heights. He is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law and special needs



planning. Di Costanzo can be reached at 914-925-1010 or at [smd@mfd-law.com](mailto:smd@mfd-law.com). For more information, visit [www.plantodayfortomorrow.com](http://www.plantodayfortomorrow.com).

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# Happenings

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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. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or [www.mountpleasantlibrary.org](http://www.mountpleasantlibrary.org).

**Storytime.** This interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive. Valhalla. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday. Info: 914-769-0548 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 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Thursday. 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. Every Thursday. 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).

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

**Construct Your Own Building.** Try your hand at creating a building using glue and colorful wooden sticks. For children five to 11 years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

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

**Borderline Personality Disorder Presentation.** Come for a presentation on

borderline personality disorder, a much-stigmatized psychiatric illness. Andrea Rosenhaft, who has the unique perspective of a former psychiatric patient and a clinician, presents an interactive talk on the subject. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**"Angst."** Cognitive and Behavioral Consultants (CBC), a leading Westchester and Manhattan-based clinical and wellness center, and Fusion Westchester, are presenting a screening of this 56-minute film and virtual reality experience exploring how anxiety impacts lives. Preceded by refreshments followed by the screening and a Q&A and panel discussion by CBC co-founders Dr. Lata McGinn and Dr. Alec Miller. CBC Schwartzberg Training Center, Suite 704, 1 N. Broadway, White Plains. Refreshments at 6 p.m. Screening at 6:30 p.m. Free. RSVP required. Info and RSVP: Contact Elizabeth Sorensen at 914-285-9036 or e-mail [esorensen@fusionacademy.com](mailto:esorensen@fusionacademy.com).

**C2 Education FAFSA Info Session.** Financing a college education can be just as overwhelming as the admissions process. An informative event that can help families finance a college education. What are the best resources? What is required? Where do you start? Teens and parents welcome. North Castle Public Library's Young Adults Room, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**"All of Me."** An intimate insight into the Patronas, a group of Mexican women who, every day since 1995, make food and toss it while still warm to the migrants who travel atop the freight train "The Beast" as it makes its way to the U.S. This documentary is a personal diary that draws a border between the life they were given and the life they chose. A brave and remarkable example of love and solidarity that contrasts with the violence of one of the cruelest stretches in the world for undocumented travelers. Followed by a Q&A with artists-in-residence Iliana Sosa 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).

**New York Health Act Public Forum.** Hear from experts on the New York Health Act and extending healthcare coverage for all. Panelists are state Sen. Gustavo Rivera, sponsor of the NY Health Act; Dr. Peter Arno, healthcare economist; and Katie Robbins, director for the Campaign for New York Health. Hosted by CCoHope Indivisible. Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave., Croton-on-Hudson. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: Visit [www.nyhcampaing.org](http://www.nyhcampaing.org).

## Friday, Sept. 27

**Attracting and Supporting Pollinators.** Learn how to accommodate pollinators in the ways you maintain your gardens and landscapes in a three-class special event. Experienced instructors Barbara Fischer, co-founder of Go Native U; Kim Eierman, founder of EcoBeneficial; and Sarah Kornbluth, the bee database project

researcher for the American Museum of Natural History, will talk about the native plants that sustain bees and other pollinators; how to create valuable habitats; and how to recognize different bee species and their nesting habits. Landscape architects can earn up to six credits. Westchester Community College's Classroom Building, Room 100 (use parking lot #4), 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$55 for each class. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-606-6830 ext. 1.

**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).

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

**Friday Night Film Series: "Nothing Left Unsaid."** Anderson Cooper explores the life and legacy of his famous, complex and headstrong mother, heiress Gloria Vanderbilt. 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: Photo Competition 1B.** Members compete in digital competitions in color and "open mind." Critiqued by a professional judge. Must be at least 18 years old to attend. 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).

**"Date Night."** The Armonk Players presents this lovefest of one-act comedies, including "Sure Thing" and "English Made Simple" by David Ives, "National Love Championships" by Joy Arzaga, "A Chance Meeting" by Frederick Stoppel and "Check Please" by Jonathan Rand. Conceived and directed by Joy Arzaga. Whipoorwill Hall, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 8 p.m. Adults: \$20. Students (18 and under): \$10. Also Sept. 28 and Oct. 3, 4 and 5 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: Visit [www.armonkplayers.org](http://www.armonkplayers.org).

**Lucie Arnaz's "I Got the Job!"** Songs From My Musical Past. The beloved daughter of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, Lucie Arnaz relives her musical theater past, which includes the Broadway productions of "They're Playing Our Song," "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" and "Pippin." White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$37. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit [www.wppac.com](http://www.wppac.com).

**"Hedwig and the Angry Inch."** The Next Stage of Arc Stages presents this unique musical starring Will Taylor and Lauren Singerman and directed by Ann-Ngaire

Martin. Based on the book by John Cameron Mitchell with music and lyrics by Stephen Trask. Musical direction by Adam Spiegel. Arc Stages, 147 Wheeler Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$28 and \$36. Also Sept. 28 and Oct. 4, 5, 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: Visit [www.arcstages.org](http://www.arcstages.org).

## Saturday, Sept. 28

**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, there will be information about different oils and vinegars and when to use them in cooking. There will be one or two recipes to taste. Vendors to support include Demi Olive Oil and Dancing Spirit Herbs. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rain or shine. Please note the market is a dog-free environment. Saturdays through Nov. 23. Info: Visit [www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org](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).

**CarFit for Older Driver Safety.** An individualized 20-minute interactive and educational program designed to improve older driver safety and enable older adults to continue driving for as long as possible. The trained CarFit team, members of Phelps' Occupational Therapy Department, work with participants to ensure the safest "fit" for drivers and their vehicles. This includes having a clear line of sight over the steering wheel, a properly fitted seat belt and correctly positioned mirrors to minimize blind spots. Rain or shine. Phelps Hospital parking garage, third floor, 701 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow 9 to 11 a.m. (Last appointment is at 11 a.m.) Free. Appointments required. Info and appointments. 914-366-3705.

**Fall Flea Market.** Shop for new, used and vintage items and games for the kids. United Methodist Church of Mount Kisco, 300 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendor spaces available for \$35. Info: 914-666-5014.

**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.

**Coffee and Conversation.** County Legislator Kitley Covill and Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich invites the community for a casual conversation over coffee. Come meet the elected officials, ask questions, learn about early voting and discuss county issues. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. Free. Info: 914-995-2804.

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# Public Invited to Pace Communiversi Day on Sept. 28

For the first time, Pace University will hold Communiversi Day, a daylong celebration to thank residents of Pleasantville, Mount Pleasant and neighboring communities and welcome them to the 200-acre campus and experience all Pace has to offer.

The inaugural event, on Saturday, Sept. 28, will be a day of fun and discovery for all ages with activities that include a charity walk, football and soccer games, drone and robotic demonstrations and workshops, Environmental Center tours featuring Pace's resident animals, a birds of prey demonstration, children's activities, music, food trucks, giveaways and more.

"Pace University is a big part of Westchester, and we want to make sure our neighbors know it," said Pace President Marvin Krislov. "There are classes, concerts, sports and activities going on here every day. We want Westchester to experience all of that – and keep coming back to visit us."

In 2017, Pace University completed a five-year, \$100 million transformation of its Pleasantville campus that included new residence halls, a new Environmental Center complex, expansion of its Jeanette and Morris Kessel Student Center, a 14,000-square-foot athletics



A demonstration of birds of prey will be one of a variety of activities for the local community to enjoy at Pace's inaugural Communiversi Day this Saturday.

fieldhouse, new softball and baseball fields and a new multipurpose field. There are more than 3,400 students enrolled on campus and Pace employs more than 2,000 people full- and part-time and attracts 78,000 visitors to the area. It's estimated that in 2017 Pace contributed \$278.5 million in spending to the regional economy.

The day will start at 10 a.m. with the second annual Harris Project CODA (Co-Occurring Disorders) Walk, which will bring together hundreds of community members and sports teams from across the region for a two-mile walk to raise money and awareness to promote

better treatment for people with mental health and substance abuse issues. DJ Mike Allan of NEW 102.7 will emcee the walk.

That will be followed by a day of activities which include:

- Family Fun Activities in the Alumni Quad, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Family-friendly fun with Pace's student organizations and clubs hosting a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, carnival booths, photo opportunities and games. Food trucks, including Crafty 'Cue BBQ, Waffle Box and Westchester Burger, will be available along Shirley Beth's Way.

- Drone and Flight Experience, 12 to 2 p.m. Learn how to operate a mini-quadcopter. Participants will be given hands-on drone flight training prior to experiencing the joy of a successful indoor flight.
- Pace University Football vs. Saint Anselm at Pace Stadium, 12 to 3 p.m. Catch the Setters as they take on rival St. Anselm in a key Northeast-10 game. Be one of the first 100 to register for Communiversi Day and get a free ticket. Don't forget to wear your blue and gold.
- Birds of Prey at the Environmental Center, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Join James Eyring, assistant director of the Dyson College Nature Center and master falconer, for an unforgettable demonstration with hawks, owls and falcons. Meet our gyrfalcon, Elvis, and learn about the role these predators play in a healthy natural community and the nature center's work with birds of prey. Be prepared as several of these raptors zoom past you in free flight!
- Meet the Animals at the Environmental Center, 3:30 to 5 p.m. Come visit the animals who call the Dyson

College Environmental Center home. A student-guided visit will introduce you to the Environmental Center and the places you can go to visit the animals. Our farm animals and birds are popular with the entire Pace community giving smiles, helping to relieve stress and in some cases providing substitutes for pets left at home.

- Organic Vegetable Gardening at the Environmental Center, 3 to 5 p.m. Walk through the organic vegetable garden and talk to the students and staff who care for it. Learn about some of the techniques and methods used to grow vegetables without synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. Perfect for the beginner who wants to grow vegetables at home next spring. The program is ongoing so you can come and arrive anytime between 3:30 and 5 p.m.
- Pace University Women's Soccer vs. Assumption at Pace Stadium, 6 p.m. Cap off your day by watching Pace women's soccer battle with Northeast-10 conference foe Assumption at Pace Stadium. Admission is free! Registration and information are available by visiting [www.pace.edu/communiversi](http://www.pace.edu/communiversi).

## Happenings

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**Affordable Care Act Navigator.** A trained navigator provided by the county Department of Health will be available to help people with choosing and signing up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act and the state health marketplace. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free. Every Saturday. Also Wednesdays from 2:30 to 7 p.m. (except Oct. 2) and Thursdays from 1 to 6 p.m. Appointment required. English only on Wednesdays. Appointments available in Spanish on Thursdays and Saturdays. Info and Wednesday appointments: 914-336-6026. Info and Thursday and Saturday appointments: 914-336-6935.

**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).

**Mindfulness Training.** Mindfulness has become a common term in everyday life, but what does it mean? What are the effects? How can I implement it into my life? This 90-minute workshop will provide a glimpse into these questions. Learn different breathing skills that supports our daily

obligations and hassles, listening activities to improve our relationships with others and ourselves and hopefully you acquire a better sense of what makes you happy. Presented by Raditia Lasry. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Registration requested. Info and registration: E-mail Raditia Lasry at [bodymindsoul@nyc@gmail.com](mailto:bodymindsoul@nyc@gmail.com).

**Death Café Westchester.** Facilitated by local volunteers, this forum offers an opportunity to come to a nonjudgmental, friendly gathering to discuss end of life. Group founder and moderator Barbara Sarah, an oncology social worker and Goldens Bridge resident, has organized dozens of death cafés in Westchester and Ulster counties. Death Café Westchester is part of the international Death Café movement, designed to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their finite lives. This is a discussion group, not counseling session for those actively grieving. Coffee and snacks provided. Katonah Village Library, 26 Bedford Rd., Katonah. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: Visit 914-232-3508 or visit [www.DeathCafe.com](http://www.DeathCafe.com).

**Wolves of North America.** Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they celebrate the birth of pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr

and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves as well. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also Oct. 5 at 1 p.m. Oct. 12 and 19 at 11 a.m. Oct. 13 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Bethel Springvale Inn Open House.** Find out how affordable assisted living can be. Discover the tremendous value of wonderful retirement living, services and amenities. Bring your questions and join the discussion. Learn about quality assisted living at a great value, including the lowest monthly rates; spacious apartments; 24/7 nursing services; three meals a day; housekeeping; 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.

**Spend a Day With Sloan Wainwright: Singing With Your Heart, Soul and Body.** A workshop that encourages joy and freedom through song. This class is for singers and non-singers alike. The Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. \$45. Info and tickets: 914-277-8477 or visit [www.schoolhousetheater.org](http://www.schoolhousetheater.org).

**Maryknoll Sisters Host Annual Fall Festival.** Includes music, vendors, food trucks, bubble show, exotic animal presentation, international crafts, homemade fall baked goods and a live raffle drawing for \$5,000 case prize. All proceeds will benefit the

elderly Maryknoll Sisters living at the center in Ossining. Some of the sisters continue to volunteer around the community, but many are getting older and require medical and spiritual care. Maryknoll Sisters Center, 10 Pinesbridge Rd., Ossining. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. Rain date is Sept. 29. Info: 866-662-9900 or visit [www.maryknollsisters.org/featured-stories/fallfestival-19](http://www.maryknollsisters.org/featured-stories/fallfestival-19).

**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.

**"Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."** Harry's wishes for an uneventful school year are shattered when he is unexpectedly chosen to compete in the Tri-Wizard Tournament, a risky contest in which he must compete against older, more skilled students, including fellow Hogwarts student Cedric Diggory (Robert Pattinson). What Harry doesn't realize is that the most feared wizard in the world, Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes), is anticipating the tournament as well. Part of the JBFC Potter-thon. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. Noon. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$13.50. Children (13 and under): \$7.25. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Animal Evidence.** There are many ways to study animals without physically seeing them. Animals leave all sorts of evidence  
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# Happenings

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behind to let us know that they were there. Come put your scientist skills to the test by joining a naturalist on a search for animal evidence and meeting some of our animal collection. 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).

**Drop in for Tech Help.** Receive assistance with any of your technology devices. PC, Google, Microsoft savvy volunteers help with troubleshooting, downloading, Overdrive, Freegal, Hoopla or any other online service. First-come, first-served. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Saturdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Tuesdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**BOOK IT: The Non-Traditional World of Artists' Books.** Booklovers think of books as being a stack of pages bound together between covers. But artists' books are different. They are unique, handmade works of art that push the boundaries of the traditional book form, created with nontraditional materials, distinctive shapes and unusual bindings. In this presentation, see imaginative books made with such unorthodox objects as sneaker innersoles, teabags, dominoes and slices of fruit. Includes digital slides of several hundred of these amazing books that delight the eye and intrigue the imagination. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 2 to 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Rescue Rumble.** A fundraiser adoption event that includes a day of food, fun, wellness and healthy competition to benefit the Bond Hospital, the VCA Mount Kisco Veterinary Clinic and the Katonah Bedford Veterinary Center. CrossFit Mount Kisco, 25 Hubbels Drive, Mount Kisco. 2 to 5 p.m. Donation fee: \$20. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit [www.crossfitmountkisco.com](http://www.crossfitmountkisco.com).

**Opening Reception for "The Chair Show."** An exhibit that explores the creativity, forms and art of seating. Chairs give shape to the ways in which we rest and recreate ourselves in private or inhabit "seats of power" in public. As supporting players of day-to-day existence, focal points of ceremonies or revered objects of spiritual and sacred spaces, chairs are invested with diverse meanings and purposes. Includes sculptural, conceptual, functional and dysfunctional forms of seating, as well as paintings and installations inspired by chairs. Meet and greet the artists and light bites and beverages. ArtsWestchester, 31 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains. 3 to 5 p.m. Free; donations welcome. RSVP encouraged. Info: Visit [www.artswestchester.org](http://www.artswestchester.org). RSVP: E-mail [lhaley@artswestchester.org](mailto:lhaley@artswestchester.org).

**"Mountains May Depart."** The Jia Zhangke, the director of this 2015 Chinese drama, tells the story of two generations of a family and a changing country that begins jubilantly and ends on a bittersweet note. It's the exhilarating work of a master trying to make a new kind of cinema. Part of the Jonathan Demme's Rarely Seen Cinema series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364

Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 5 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Sloan Wainwright and Trina Hamlin.** Join Wainwright and Trina Hamlin (song composer for "Dawson's Creek," "Tale Lights" and MTV's "Real World") for an evening of pop, rock, jazz and blues. If the name Wainwright rings a bell, it should. Sloan's family tree includes Loudon, Rufus, Marth and Lucy. The Schoolhouse Theater, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 7 p.m. \$25. Info and tickets: 914-277-8477 or visit [www.schoolhousetheater.org](http://www.schoolhousetheater.org).

**Lucy's Laugh Lounge: Dave Landau.** Cutting his comedic teeth as a teenager in Detroit in the Second City's Conservatory, Landau has risen to become one of the most in demand headliners working today. He's appeared five times on Comedy Central's and AXS.TV's "Live at Gotham" and was a finalist on Season 8 of "Last Comic Standing" on NBC. He became a regular on the extremely popular "The Artie Lange and Anthony Cumia Radio Show" and was honored to be brought in full time as third mic. When Artie left the program, it became "The Anthony Cumia Show With Dave Landau" and continues to gain popularity and new subscribers daily. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. \$20. Info and tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughlounge.com](http://www.lucyslaughlounge.com).

**Delbert McClinton in Concert.** McClinton has been a leading Americana artist since before the genre was established. He has won two Grammy Awards in the blues category for best contemporary blues album and one in the rock category, best rock performance by a duo or group with Bonnie Raitt. He's at the top of his game with his 19th studio album, "Prick of the Litter." The new offering captures the balance of soulful energy and restraint that the legendary performer has been delivering in his live performances for decades all over the world. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$42, \$55 and \$65. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

**Hiplet Ballerinas.** The first featured event in the Smart Arts Program's NuWave Dance series. Hiplet™ (pronounced hip-lay) is an innovative dance form. Evolution meets revolution as traditional ballet classical pointe techniques are infused with African, Latin, hip-hop and urban movements. Performances combine the rhythms of African drums with Tchaikovsky, arabesques and beat-boxing and even Tango en pointe – all while showcasing Hiplet's trademark sass, hip movements and struts. Audiences will recognize the popular music from Black Violin to Beyoncé and Prince. Hiplet founder Homer Hans Bryant has trained a wide range of internationally known figures from Lady Gaga to the Obamas. Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Theatre, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 8 p.m. \$28. Students: \$26. Children (under 13): \$18. Info and tickets: 914-606-6262 or visit [www.sunywcc.edu/smartarts](http://www.sunywcc.edu/smartarts). Tickets may also be purchased at the box office 30 minutes before showtime.

## Sunday, Sept. 29

**Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's.** Join the fight for the first Alzheimer's

survivor. SUNY Purchase's West Lawn, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. Registration at 8:30 a.m. Ceremony at 10 a.m. Walk at 10:20 a.m. Info and registration: Visit [www.westchesterwalk.org](http://www.westchesterwalk.org).

**Ronald McDonald House Hosts Walk & Family Fun Day.** Ronald McDonald House of the Greater Hudson Valley will host the 5th annual Dylan J. Hoffman Memorial Walk & Family Fun Day to benefit critically ill children and their families. After the walk, families and friends can enjoy activities including wacky inflatable bounce houses, the Bubble Bus, BASF Kids Slime Lab, music by DJ Johnny G, Bookmark Buddies, face painting, pet therapy dogs, Lego Mania, a barbecue by the Yonkers Fire Department and much more. Crawford Park, 122 N. Ridge St., Re Brook. Registration and warm up at 10 a.m. Walk at 10:30 a.m. \$30 donation per family. Info and advance registration: 914-493-6455 or visit [www.rmh-ghv.org](http://www.rmh-ghv.org).

**Pack Chat for Kids.** This is the best introduction to wolves for families with young children. Kids will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves as they are out searching for prey as they prepare for the birth of this year's pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also Oct. 6, 12 and 19 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-763-2373 or visit [www.nywolf.org](http://www.nywolf.org).

**Researching Your Genealogy.** The final part of a three-part series on helpful genealogy topics presented by Toni McKeen, who has been teaching genealogy classes and lecturing in the tri-state area for the last 15 years. Learn how to take a close look at all the information important records can provide and what information is needed to locate manifests, and how to use Ancestry.com to do this. McKeen will also explain the markings on the manifests to show which immigrants were detained and why, who they left behind, the address where they were headed and who they were coming to see. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 2 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-273-3887 ext. 3.

**Gold Star Mothers' Day.** A day of recognition to honor those who have lost a son or daughter while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. 3 to 5 p.m. Free. Info: 914-231-4033.

**The Energy of the Holidays: A Secular Approach.** Rabbi Frank Tamburello leads the exploration of Rosh Hashana on this topic. Sponsored by the Westchester Community for Humanistic Judaism (WCHJ), the event will include music with the WCHJ chorus plus two noted singers, Ellen Mittenenthal and Michael Iannucci, accompanied by Professor Ruth Levy-Shudroff. Followed by refreshments and socialization. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 6 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Info: Contact Dmitry at 914-713-8828 or e-mail visit [info@wchj.org](mailto:info@wchj.org).

## Monday, Sept. 30

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

**Here We Are Together: Story Time for Children.** Story time for children of all ages, from newborns to school age children; with a parent or caregiver. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Monday (except Oct. 14). Info: 914-666-8041 or [www.mountkisco.library.org](http://www.mountkisco.library.org).

**Design Your Own Library Card.** September is library card signup month, so celebrate by designing your own library card. Cards will be on display for all to see. 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.

**"Jim Allison: Breakthrough."** The astounding true story of one warm-hearted, stubborn man's visionary quest to find a cure for cancer, the disease that killed his mother. Today, Allison is a name to be reckoned with throughout the scientific world, a 2018 Nobel Prize winner for discovering the immune system's role in defeating cancer. But for decades, he waged a lonely struggle against the skepticism of the medical establishment and the resistance of Big Pharma. Narrated by Woody Harrelson and featuring music by Allison's fellow Texan and friend Willie Nelson, with a powerful score by Mark Orton, this story takes us into the inspiring world of cutting-edge medicine and into the heart of a true scientific pioneer. Followed by a Q&A with Allison and filmmaker Bill Haney with Programming Director Brian Ackerman. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$15. Non-members: \$20. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

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

## Tuesday, Oct. 1

**Foreign Policy Discussion Group: Saudi Arabia's Mideast Role.** The guest speaker (via Skype) will be Dennis Horak, former Canadian ambassador to Saudi Arabia. Facilitated by Don Shields. Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 10 a.m. Free. Info: 914-238-4779 or [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org).



# A Challenge: Grapes You May Not Have Experienced Before



By Nick Antonaccio

Throughout the winemaking world many indigenous grapes have been marketed and consumed strictly in-country and have only recently reached our shores. Let's go exploring.

First, the backdrop. There are literally thousands of grape varieties cultivated around the world. Italy claims nearly 2,000 and Spain over 600. This glorious proliferation is unnecessarily confusing to those of us already intimidated when confronted with multiple choices at our favorite wine shop. (Gewürztraminer and Grüner Veltliner? How can I appreciate a wine I can't even pronounce?)

I've distilled my examples to a select few, with no criteria other than personal preferences. And I'm going to focus on two countries – Italy and Spain.

In Italy, Tuscany reigns supreme in the minds of Americans, and Sangiovese is still the benchmark for most American consumers. However, wines from other regions are developing a devout following. Let's explore three grape varieties.

*'When you're putting together your life-list of things to experience, add Grapes I've Never Heard Of.'*

First, in the southeast region of Campania there has been a resurgence in winemaking. The grape variety that has gained significant attention in the United States is the Aglianico (ah-LYAH-nee-koh). These lusty, rustic red wines exhibit great balance with subtle plum flavors and earthy, chocolaty characteristics. I will be traveling to this region shortly.

The second grape is also from Campania, a white grape that merits your attention. The Fiano grape produces a gold-hued wine, with appealing aromas of apples and pears. Full-bodied but crisply acidic, there is real personality here in a well-balanced table wine that drinks well on its own or with light pork or poultry

dishes.

There are two other notable Campanian white grapes gaining prominence in wine circles: Falanghina (FA-lan-GHEE-nah) and

Greco di Tufo.

I have a personal attachment, both historically and financially, to the Irpinia area and will be travelling there this week. When I return, I'll report on my vineyard, winery and tasting experiences in Irpinia and a local winery, Cantine Ciani.

Third, the Lagrein grape (lah-GRINE). It is produced in the Trentino-Alto Adige region in the extreme northeastern foothills of the Alps – so extreme that the locals still speak German, a testament to the fact that until 1919, this area was part of Germany. The wines are a voluptuous dark ruby red with a nose of blackberries and plums and well-balanced acidity. These wines pair well with simple red meat dishes.

On to Spain. There are about 20 primary varieties grown in Spain's numerous regions. The red grape that is most familiar to the American consumer is the Tempranillo, but it is being challenged by the growing popularity of other red grapes, notably Monastrell and Garnacha varieties.

Monastrell, grown in the southeast regions, of which the primary local area is Jumilla, produces wines with aromas of black cherry and blackberry and soft, chewy tannins. These wines are robust, ready to drink upon release and are well-priced in the \$10 to \$15 range.

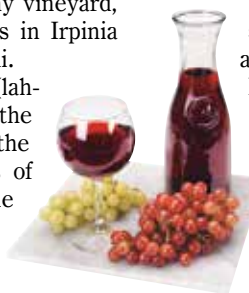
Garnacha (a cousin of the French Grenache grown in the Rhone Valley) is

deeply colored with velvety textures and flavors suggestive of raspberries, with a distinctively peppery impact. A real fruit bomb, yet with a subtle balance.

There are a number of exotic-sounding Spanish white wines as well. My candidate is the Hondarrabi Zuri grape. This grape is grown in the northern Basque region of Spain. The local wine produced from this grape (in a blend) is called Txakoli. This is a wine that will make your taste buds stand at attention and then leave you salivating for more. Fresh and young, refreshing in body and balance, with aromas of tropical fruit and citrus, this white wine pairs well with most fish dishes.

So there you have it. When you're putting together your life-list of things to experience, add "Grapes I've Never Heard Of." And then update your bucket-list of "Places to Visit Before I Die" with the locales we've explored today.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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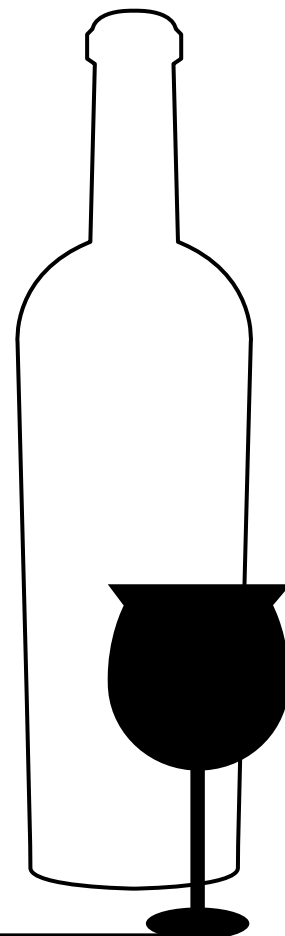
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# Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze Back for Record 49 Nights in Croton

By Rick Pezzullo

Halloween is just around the corner, and for the last 15 years The Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson has wowed hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Presented by Historic Hudson Valley (HHV), the largest non-profit cultural organization in Westchester County, the Blaze, which features more than 7,000 illuminated jack o'lanterns – all designed and hand-carved on site by a team of artisans – will make memories for a record 49 nights.

The electrifying fun began last Friday, Sept. 20 and will continue until Nov. 30, utilizing more than 200,000 pounds of pumpkins.

Attendance at the Blaze, widely acclaimed as one of the nation's best fall extravaganzas, has increased 870 percent since it debuted in 2005. Last year, more than 180,000 visitors walked the carefully crafted path. This year, more than 250,000 people are expected to enjoy the Halloween season at the Blaze and other events in the area.

Creative Director Michael Natiello leads a small team of Historic Hudson Valley staff and local artists who carve. In addition, more than 1,000 volunteers help scoop and light the pumpkins.

New creations this year on the grounds include the Sleepy Hollow Headless Horseman Bridge and a Museum of Pumpkin Art. Returning favorites include the Pumpkin Zee Bridge, Pumpkin Carousel, Statue of Liberty, aquatic creatures, medieval castle and



signs of the zodiac.

The leisurely walk is accompanied by a spooky soundtrack created by musician, radio personality and Halloween fanatic Richard Christy. The new tracks, plus soundtracks from "Blaze: The Soundtrack Volume I & II," are available as digital downloads and streams from iTunes, Amazon and Google Play.

The Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze Shop offers a full array of Blaze-specific merchandise such as candles, hats, T-shirts, magnets, caps, mugs and jewelry.

In addition, Café Blaze, by Geordane's of

Irvington, offers culinary treats, including soup, veggie chili, muffins, pumpkin cookies and cider. Adult beverages available are wine by the glass, hard cider from 1911 and beer from the Elmsford-based Captain Lawrence Brewing Company.

Timed tickets to the Blaze can only be purchased online at [www.hudsonvalley.org](http://www.hudsonvalley.org). Tickets start at \$23 for adults and \$17 for children (ages 3-17). Tickets for children two and under and Historic Hudson Valley members are free. For more information, call 914-366-6900.

Historic Hudson Valley also has other Halloween-themed shows in the area. Horseman's Hollow, back for a 10th year, transforms historic Philipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow into an 18th century village driven mad by The Headless Horseman. Award-winning makeup and costume designers and a 40-member cast of actors put on an interactive, terrifying experience with state-of-the-art special effects.

Horseman's Hollow is held for 16 nights (Fridays through Sundays from Oct. 4 through Nov. 3, plus Oct. 31) Online tickets are \$22 (\$28 on Saturdays).

"The Unsilent Picture," based on the Washington Irving story "The Adventure of the Mysterious Picture," was shot on location at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson. The theater experience is held at Philipsburg Manor throughout October. Online tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

Other events are The Sleepy Hollow Experience, an interactive performance at Washington Irving's Sunnyside which features professional musicians and singers; "Home of the 'Legend,'" a family-friendly daytime event at Sunnyside that includes a spooky tour of Irving's home, a scavenger hunt, storytellers and other games; and Irving's "Legend," where master storytellers Jonathan Kruk and Jim Keyes offer dramatic readings of Irving's classic tale, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."

For tickets and more information on all Historic Hudson Valley events, visit [www.hudsonvalley.org](http://www.hudsonvalley.org).

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### LEGALS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 2 at 5:00 pm. to hear comments on a proposed Local Law for the use of Bubbler/Aeration Systems

in Putnam Valley Lakes: **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing to hear comments on a proposed Local Law re: the Septic Tank Pump Out for Protection of Impaired and other Water Bodies Proposal to amend Section 90.1 **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will be conducting the regular monthly Work Session meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD Sherry Howard, Town Clerk Dated: 09-18-2019**

**MEETING NOTICE FOR THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, that the Town Board of the Town of Putnam Valley will hold their Town Board Work Session Meeting on October 2, 2019 at 5:00 PM. The Regular Town Board Meeting will be held on October 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM. There will be no meeting held on either October 9th or October 23rd, 2019 unless necessary. **Sherry Howard, Town Clerk Dated: 09-19-2019**

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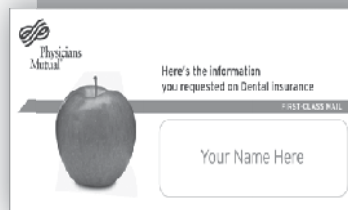
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## WCC's Great Chef Culinary and Wine Series Begins Oct. 7

The Westchester Community College Foundation is presenting its annual Great Chefs Series of wine tastings, cooking demonstrations and three-course dinners on four Monday evenings starting Oct. 7.

These tantalizing events, co-sponsored by DeCicco & Sons and Wine Enthusiast, will be held in the college's state-of-the-art instructional kitchens and Culinary Dining Room on the Valhalla campus. All of the funds raised from the series will benefit the foundation's scholarship fund and the college's on-campus food pantry.

Host Chef Philip McGrath, curriculum chair of the college's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Program and former chef and owner of the Iron Horse Grill in Pleasantville, has assembled a stellar cast of local culinary celebrities who will create epicurean delights and enable visitors to dazzle future dinner guests. The chefs will be assisted by the college's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management students.

The evenings begin with an exclusive wine tasting reception with specialists from Wine Enthusiast. Chefs will then demonstrate the how-to's of each meal. Guests will enjoy the chefs' creations paired with an accompanying wine, beer or cocktail. Each guest will leave with

a goodie bag, recipes for dinner and beverage pairing information.

**Monday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m., Sonora (Port Chester).** Restaurateur and author Chef Rafael Palomino is keenly aware of flavors people love and crave. Drawing from his childhood in Bogotá and many years in New York City and France, Palomino will share techniques and recipes for cooking mouth-watering Latin-inspired dishes. Beverage pairing provided by StilltheOne Distillery Two and Wine Enthusiast.

**Monday, Oct. 21, 6 p.m., Farmer and the Fish (Purdys, Sleepy Hollow, New York City).** Chef, owner and farmer Michael Kaphan raised the bar on "farm-to-table" dining by sourcing their restaurants with produce from his five-acre farm in North Salem. Kaphan will show why using fresh and local has been one of the main ingredients for their success. Beverage pairing provided by the Croton Tapsmith and Wine Enthusiast.

**Monday, Oct. 28, 6 p.m., The Cookery**

**(Dobbs Ferry) and Eugene's Diner and Bar (Port Chester).** Known for his boundary-pushing style and thoughtfully creative dishes, Chef David DiBari will showcase courses from his various restaurants. Joining DiBari will be Sajin Renae of The Cookery and Chef Iulia Mahu of Eugene's Diner and Bar who are the core strength behind the creativity, passion and kitchen operations at each restaurant. Beverage pairing provided by DeCicco & Sons and Wine Enthusiast.

**Monday, Nov. 4, 6 p.m., X20 Xavier's on the Hudson (Yonkers).** Join Chef Peter Kelly of the Xaviers Restaurant Group as he prepares a menu and cooking demonstration you can prepare at home for your next extravagant dinner party for family and friends. Beverage pairing provided by Midway Wine & Liquors and Wine Enthusiast.

Tickets for each event are \$150. For details, visit [www.sunywcc.edu/greatchefs](http://www.sunywcc.edu/greatchefs) or contact Sue Mackey at 914-606-6558 or at [sue.mackey@sunywcc.edu](mailto:sue.mackey@sunywcc.edu)

[sunywcc.edu](http://sunywcc.edu).

The series will help support student scholarships and special programs that provide students with critical services. The foundation raises resources to meet student and college needs not met by public funds, awarding more than \$25 million in scholarships to over 18,500 students since 1969.

Support for tuition alone is not enough to help some students; their everyday needs are not being met as they deal with food insecurity issues. The college's food pantry was established in 2014 and provides meals and non-perishable food items for more than 1,000 students and their families. In 2018, the Great Chefs Series raised funds to distribute 250 Thanksgiving dinners to students in need.

The Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management curriculum leads students to careers, not only in restaurants but also in commercial, on-site and institutional establishments. Course work includes culinary arts, business management, work experience and a basic liberal arts core. Culinary Arts and Management graduates move into positions in the field or transfer to four-year colleges to continue their studies.



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