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August 18 - August 24, 2020

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 676



**New Castle
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Put Valley,
5-2**
See Sports

Pleasantville Ponders Ordinance Regulating Leaf Blowers

By Abby Luby

Pleasantville is considering a local ordinance regulating the use of leaf blowers to curtail noise and air pollution and limit health impacts, the latest municipality in the county to contemplate such a move.

Last week, the Village Board listened to a presentation from Conservation Advisory Council member Andrew Reinmann detailing the multiple dangers of using the machines.

"Leaf blowers come with all sorts of controversy," Reinmann said. "What we've tried to do is put together a presentation laying out the different environmental and health implications."

The proposed ordinance would allow leaf blowers to be used only in spring for two weeks and for a three-week period in fall. The weeks where they could be used would depend on the weather. Operation would be allowed after 10 a.m. on Saturday and after noon on Sunday. No end time was mentioned during the Aug. 10 presentation.

The ordinance would request users to minimize high-throttle use to lessen noise pollution, require landscapers and lawn care companies to use equipment meeting current EPA standards and encourage use of four-stroke or electric leaf blowers. Procedures for enforcement would be developed.

Reinmann said as a homeowner he has been bothered by the constant noise.

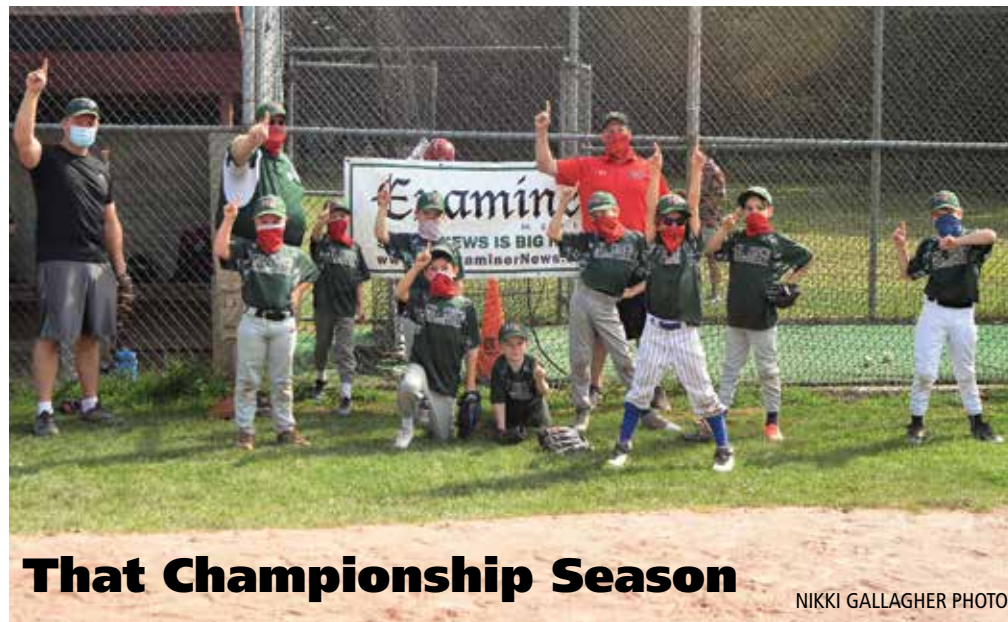
"There's no way to escape it," he said. "I work from home all the time now but before the pandemic (when I'd work at home) I'd find myself going to The Black Cow (coffee shop) to get away from the noise, which permeated inside my house. There's also the level of unpredictability; you don't know when it's going to happen."

Noise pollution and poor air quality caused by leaf blowers used on residential properties are of heightened concern because many people are working from home during the pandemic.

Then there are the health concerns. The presentation cited information from the World Health Organization and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, stating that emission of air pollutants is a danger when using commercial two-stroke gas-powered leaf blowers. Those have no emission control and spew numerous pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter that contains carcinogens. Such pollutants exacerbate respiratory conditions like asthma.

"Up to 12 percent of all U.S. emissions are just from lawn care equipment," Reinmann said. "And they are concentrated in places we live, play and learn."

continued on page 2



That Championship Season

NIKKI GALLAGHER PHOTO

The Examiner-sponsored green team celebrated last Saturday as they captured the Mount Kisco Little League's eight- and nine-year-old AAA division championship with a 9-6 victory against the D'Errico Jewelry squad, delivering the franchise's second title. The Examiner team jumped out to an early five-run lead behind the hitting of Jake Zissu and Brendan Sullivan and the pitching of Dash Cantor en route to its first title since 2016.

Mount Kisco Solar Farm Hearing Postponed, Concern Grows Over Impacts

By Martin Wilbur

Objections over a proposed solar farm on a portion of a 25-acre parcel in Mount Kisco have continued to intensify even as an adjournment of the public hearing was granted last week by the Planning Board.

Sunrise Community Solar of Briarcliff Manor is looking to receive approvals to build a 2.5 million-kilowatt ground-mounted solar array at 180 S. Bedford Rd. near Sables Street. Several days before the meeting, Attorney William Null, representing Sunrise Community Solar, explained in a letter to the Planning Board that his client needs more time to

address issues raised at the July 14 hearing.

The Planning Board granted the request and adjourned the hearing until Sept. 22.

However, there is growing frustration among nearby residents regarding the potential addition of a cell tower to the land by a separate applicant and the clearing of close to 700 trees to accommodate the solar panels. At its Aug. 3 meeting, the Village Board was peppered with comments and concerns from several neighbors.

One of the issues for residents is that when the village passed its solar law in late 2018 to allow for solar arrays in a Conservation

Development District there wasn't adequate environmental review. Now, several are calling for the most extensive review because of a variety of potential impacts, from stormwater runoff to wildlife displacement.

"We need a positive declaration to be agreed upon at this point in time and a full environmental impact be done to make sure that the destruction of 700 trees, the water retention and runoff that will happen, the changes in the environment that we, who purchased our properties, does not impact our lives, our values and the beauty of the community," said Mount Kisco Chase resident

continued on page 2

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Pleasantville Ponders Ordinance Regulating Leaf Blowers

continued from page 1

Typical use of leaf blowers in Pleasantville ranges from 15 to 30 minutes per property equivalent to emissions from driving a pick-up truck 2,000 to 4,000 miles, he said.

Village resident Tom Rooney said he liked the idea of limiting hours of operation for using leaf blowers. Landscaping companies, not individual homeowners, are the main problem, he said.

Helen Meurer, chair of the CAC, said the council is also concerned about landscapers. The ordinance would cover everyone, she said.

Mayor Peter Scherer noted that commercial landscapers would view any leaf blower ordinance "as a threat to their livelihoods."

Superintendent of Recreation & Parks Matt Trainor said the proposed ordinance would be challenging for his department to clear the village's fields and playgrounds.

"Is it possible? Sure," Trainor said. "But the hours and the manpower present challenges."

Trustee Nicole Asquith said she would support legislation.

"But it's a sensitive topic and there are a

lot of different perspectives," Asquith said. "We've been getting a lot of comments on Facebook, particularly about the noise pollution, especially since everybody has been forced to work at home."

Asquith suggested the board create a public forum to encourage comment and feedback.

There have been 18 other communities throughout Westchester that have approved regulations for leaf blower use, including Greenburgh, White Plains, Croton-on-Hudson and Scarsdale.

The New Castle Town Board has been

hosting an ongoing public hearing on its proposed leaf blower legislation, which will continue Sept. 8. It is likely that board will soon approve an ordinance that limits the use of gas-powered blowers on most properties while encouraging the use of electric blowers.

The Pleasantville Village Board plans to discuss its proposed ordinance again at its next meeting on Aug. 24.

"We'd like to hatch a plan for community engagement to talk about it more broadly," Scherer said.

Mt. Kisco Solar Farm Hearing Postponed, Concern Grows Over Impacts

continued from page 1

David Schwartz.

Sarles Street resident John Stockbridge, who is also a board member of the nearby Marsh Sanctuary, urged village officials to find an alternate location for the solar panels because of the large number of trees that must be cleared.

Stockbridge also echoed previous sentiments from neighbors who understand the need for solar but were surprised by the sudden consideration of a cell tower.

"The cell tower is very over the top," he said. "That makes no sense from everybody's point of view."

Residents, some of whom had been leery of the solar farm but showed a willingness

to work with Sunrise Community Solar, have turned suspicious after learning of the possibility of a cell tower a few days before the July 14 hearing. As of last month there had been no formal submission, but a cell tower was referenced in a letter from Null to the Planning Board that appeared online in the packet of materials regarding the solar farm before the last meeting.

Village Attorney Whitney Singleton said that there is still a lengthy review that must be completed before the solar panels can be approved. All of the project's potential impacts will be considered by the Planning Board.

However, the village's updated Comprehensive Plan allows for the panels

under the zoning, he said.

"This is a permitted use on the zoning, it's consistent with the Master Plan, it was called for in the Master Plan and it's a use that the Planning Board has set forth with substantial setbacks and buffer requirements to make sure that the neighboring parties are protected, and it's a very low impact as far as traffic," Singleton said.

Mayor Gina Picinich said that no more than 35 percent of the property can be developed in a Conservation Development zone, which would limit the extent of a project.

When asked by residents for the village to reject considering any cell tower

application, the mayor said that's not permissible.

"The village can't stop applications," Picinich said. "The village, and the Village Board specifically, their role is that applications follow the appropriate processes and procedures and have minimal impact on the environment."

But resident Jerry Ronski said a positive declaration must now be issued for the project because of the potential significant impacts.

"Perhaps they can mitigate them, perhaps they can't, but it certainly should be conducted," he said.

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Public Raises Issues With Westchester Policing at Task Force Forum

By Martin Wilbur

A task force reviewing Westchester County's police policies and procedures last week heard residents call for more effective officer training, the need for respectful interaction with civilians and a greater financial commitment for youth and social services.

In the first public forum held by the Westchester County Police Reform and Reinvention Task Force, some of the more than two dozen speakers during the two-hour virtual event also called for communities to seek greater diversity in law enforcement.

Erica Itzkowitz, a member of the Westchester County Anti-Racist Alliance, said officers too often assume the worst about the people they are hired and sworn to protect.

"They should be compassionate in their actions and they should be guardians," Itzkowitz said. "That's going to be a huge change for Westchester County and for this community, but it needs to be done because the police in my community in New Rochelle, and I work in the community, the children and the families of Black (children) and families of color are fearful of the police."

The task force, comprised of a wide cross-section of community members and law enforcement throughout Westchester, will make recommendations to the Board of Legislators by the end of this year. It was formed in June as part of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's directive for all governments in the state that operate a police force to review their operations with the community.

Mount Pleasant resident Kelsey Padgett was one of a few speakers who said the police are responsible for tasks that should not be part of their job. Their responsibilities are to prevent and solve crimes and protect the public, not answer calls such as assisting those with mental illness, which should be handled by EMS.

Policymakers instead need to focus on more robust social services, which would help communities in need, she said. Police forces should also more closely resemble the people they serve.

"Westchester should take funds from policing and put it toward social services not because you don't support the police but because you do," Padgett said. "If you want to have police that people can trust and feel comfortable calling in an emergency no matter the color of their skin, you have to set up the police to succeed."

Jamaal Gill of New Rochelle said in his community 19 percent of the city's budget goes toward policing but only 0.5 percent is spent on youth services.

"If we want to improve the community, we need to start allocating some more of that money that build them up, gives them some opportunity and things to do," Gill said.

Rita Walton said over the years her interactions, whether it be for a speeding tickets or turning in a lost wallet, have sometimes been met with disrespect and contempt even as a white woman. Training must improve to have interactions.

"We don't need warriors who view civilians as the enemy," Walton said. "We need warriors for justice, warriors for peace, warriors for compassionate action."

There were a couple of comments that were complimentary of local and county police. A

caller who only identified himself as Alex, a Mount Kisco resident, said he is comforted when he sees a patrol car.

In recent years, the county police have also done a good job in reaching out and being involved in his community, he said.

"There are things that go on in the street in the darkness and you see a car drive by and it's a little bit of a relief," Alex said. "I think some people do get that. At the end of the day they're there to help people."

Keith Olson, a 31-year Yonkers police officer and president of its PBA, said he agreed with some of the comments made by the callers. Police unions are supporters of tougher standards to become an officer and improved training, he said.

"We're huge proponents of state guidelines for coming on the job to become a police officer," Olson said. "Nobody wants better cops than police union leaders. Bad cops become our headaches first. We are very much behind that and we've heard quite a few things that people have been speaking about. There is also a lot of misinformation about what police do and how we do it, so as we move forward in these decisions, I'm asking everybody to listen to all sides."

Task force co-chair Mayo Bartlett said the review will look at best police practices across the state, the nation and even internationally to ensure that Westchester has top-notch law enforcement.

"So we have an opportunity right now to

look at how we police, look at how we can improve that model and look how we can bridge that gap between law enforcement and the community," Bartlett said.

The forums continue Tuesday night with in-person attendance at five locations throughout the county, including at the Westchester Board of Elections in White Plains, the Field Library in Peekskill and the Mount Kisco Public Library from 6 to 8 p.m. The forums will also be live-streamed.

To attend in person, register at PoliceReformTF@Westchestergov.com or call 914-995-2921. To ask a question in the virtual forum, call 1-844-621-3956 (access code is 171 747 7718). To view the virtual forum, register at <https://bit.ly/30RE54V>.



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Somers Man Kicks Off 'Front Porch' Campaign for County Executive

By Rick Pezzullo

A Somers Republican announced last Thursday a virtual "front porch" campaign for Westchester County executive in 2021.

Dan Branda, who served as executive director in the state Assembly and state Senate for former legislator Greg Ball and as a policy adviser and communications specialist for former county executive Rob Astorino, will be looking to unseat incumbent Democrat George Latimer next year.

His agenda includes a commitment to reduce property taxes and an open, bipartisan government while investing in county infrastructure and effective constituent service programs.

"I am running for Westchester County Executive because I want to raise my children here," Branda said. "However, Westchester is simply unaffordable for too many – including us. The crushing burdens of property taxes and housing costs are proving to be outright barriers for seniors to remain in their homes, for a young family like mine to stay here and settle into a home of our own, for young professionals looking to live in the county where they grew up or currently work or for anyone simply seeking the opportunities that Westchester offers."

Branda, who earlier this year launched a digital marketing and web development business, Branding Company LLC, said he

plans to reach out to voters by aggressively interacting across multiple media channels.

He said the property tax burden will be his most immediate concern. Westchester County government is heading toward a financial crisis that will unfairly and irreparably harm its residents, Branda added.

"Property taxes are completely disconnected from our ability to pay but can have a devastating impact on families, especially in today's economic climate," Branda said. "We're seeing a combustible mix of high unemployment, economic recession and feckless management of the government's finances that could easily force untenable property tax increases."

"The county is facing an immediate and crushing \$250 million budget deficit, unfunded long-term employment liabilities near \$4 billion and a deep cut to local aid by the governor. People are going to lose their homes or be evicted from their apartments, without a significant bailout from the federal government because George Latimer spent money he never had and now has no better plan."

Latimer, who is currently serving the third year or his first four-year term as county executive, said he knew little about Branda other than reading some of his comments. He said he will make an official decision whether to run for re-election toward the end of the year, likely once work on the 2021 county budget and hopefully



Dan Branda, pictured here with his family, is seeking the Republican nomination next year for county executive and hopes to defeat incumbent George Latimer.

other matters have been completed.

Over the next four months, Latimer said his attention will be squarely focused on a series of difficult issues facing the county, including health-related concerns caused by the pandemic, the budget deficit it has caused, police reform, dealing with

the utilities' lackluster response during Tropical Storm Isaias and the long-term future of Westchester County Airport.

"So, the next four months I'm going to be pretty well busy with all these issues," Latimer said.

Martin Wilbur contributed to this article.



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Gyms to Reopen Next Monday With Compliance of State Guidelines

By Martin Wilbur

Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced Monday morning that gyms and fitness clubs can open as soon as next Monday, Aug. 24 provided operators abide by state guidelines to help ensure health and safety.

Guidelines include limiting capacity to 33 percent, requiring masks be worn at all times while MERV-13 filters must be installed for air handling systems. Cuomo said local municipalities and county health departments have until Sept. 2 to inspect each club to make sure they comply with all of the state's standards. Local authorities will also determine whether a health club may conduct indoor classes.

Asked why the guidelines to reopen gyms took longer than many other types of businesses, Cuomo said there was concern that if it's not done correctly, it could lead to a spike in infections.

"I would say it's not the hardest (industry to reopen) but it's an area of concern," he said. "That's why we went slow on it and that's why we focused on it."

Clubs will also be required to maintain a sheet that all visitors must sign when arriving and leaving to help with contact



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Saw Mill Club President Rick Beusman, shown here last week, said he is gratified that health and fitness centers can start working toward reopening as early as next Monday.

tracing should there be a positive case and six feet of separation must be maintained between all machines and patrons.

Cleaning and disinfection supplies must also be made available. Shared equipment must be cleaned after every use and staff must also be available to clean and disinfect the equipment. Water refilling stations will be permitted but not shared water fountains.

On Monday, Cuomo said daily COVID-19 transmission rates

have been below 1 percent for 10 consecutive days statewide, helping to make the case for health clubs to reopen. On Sunday, it fell to 0.71 percent, the lowest since the start of the crisis.

When reached early Monday afternoon, Rick Beusman, president of the Saw Mill Club and Saw Mill Club East in Mount Kisco, said he wasn't well-versed in all of the specifics of the plan, but was happy he and his fellow operators were now receiving the same

deference as other industries. He did express concern, however, that 33 percent capacity was a low number.

"We're gratified that we're finally getting some direction and some guidelines," Beusman said. "The details will tell us more explicitly about what can happen."

Bill Beck, president of Club Fit in Briarcliff Manor and Jefferson Valley, had joined Beusman and operators from other area fitness centers for a press conference in Mount Kisco last Thursday calling on the state for action. He and other operators had anticipated that they would be able to reopen with the start of Phase 4 in the Mid-Hudson region on July 7.

But Cuomo, citing escalating virus transmission rates in other parts of the United States linked to the operation of gyms, kept them shuttered for five months.

Club Fit and the Saw Mill Club, both part of the New York State Fitness Alliance to press for a reopening, had worked on plans that were submitted to the state outlining reduced attendance and equipment, mandatory face coverings at all times and enhanced cleaning protocols.

Beck said that Club Fit have already implemented or were

about to implement many of the new guidelines.

While other operators across New York launched litigation against the state when prohibited to reopen for Phase 4, Saw Mill Club and Club Fit were among the clubs that joined the newly-formed Fitness Alliance to convince Cuomo and state health officials that protocols could be developed to ensure safety.

Last week, Cuomo also announced that bowling alleys were allowed to operate Monday at up to 50 percent capacity as long as everyone is wearing face coverings, adjoining lanes are not used simultaneously and any food service is by waiter only.

Bowling alley operators will also need to establish protocols detailing cleaning and disinfection, particularly for rented and shared equipment such as shoes and bowling balls before reopening.

The governor said low-risk cultural activities in New York City, such as museums and aquariums, can also start operating on Aug. 24. Museums must limit maximum capacity to less than 25 percent, require ticketed entrance, have staggered entry times and control traffic flows.

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Peekskill, Ossining Men Indicted in Separate Violent Incidents

By Rick Pezzullo

A Peekskill man was indicted last Wednesday for the fatal shooting in May of a Mohegan Lake man.

Michael Jenkins, 21, was charged with four felonies, including two counts of second-degree murder, in connection with the killing of 27-year-old Emmanuel Jordan.

Peekskill police responded May 9 to a call of a man not moving in a car on Paulding Street. Jordan was found with multiple gunshot wounds, according to the Westchester County district attorney's office. It is alleged Jenkins met Jordan the night before where he allegedly robbed and

murdered him. He was arrested by Peekskill police.

Last week, Judge David Zuckerman set bail at \$500,000 cash or bond or a \$5 million partially secured bond. His next scheduled court date is Nov. 4.

Meanwhile, on Aug. 10, District Attorney Anthony Scarpino Jr. announced Robert McCallion of Ossining was indicted by a Westchester grand jury on 14 felony counts for stabbing and trying to kill a female high school student.

On Mar. 13, Ossining police were called to the apartment complex at 217 N. Highland Ave. on a call of a man stabbing a girl. Upon arrival at the scene, police found McCallion,

35, in the parking lot with blood on his hands and clothes. The police took him into custody.

The knife McCallion used to stab the teenaged victim was found at the scene, police said. Authorities located the victim inside the apartment building with her family, where she was injured and bleeding profusely with multiple stab wounds to the face and back.

The teen was taken to the hospital where she underwent surgery for her wounds. McCallion did not know his victim, police said.

McCallion was charged under the hate crime statutes based upon the evidence developed during the investigation. Police located multiple weapons, including two loaded assault weapons, in the defendant's bedroom.

He was remanded into custody and is due to appear in court on Oct. 22.



Robert McCallion was indicted on 14 felony counts last week for trying to kill a teenage girl in March.

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Ambassadors Sought for Support Connection's Virtual Support-A-Walk

Support Connection is seeking community ambassadors for its annual Support-A-Walk on Sunday, Oct. 4.

Proceeds provide funding for year-round breast and ovarian cancer support services, which have helped thousands of people since the organization was founded in 1996.

This year, in lieu of gathering by the

thousands in the park, Support Connection invites people to walk in their own town or city, neighborhood or even on a treadmill at home.

To learn more about the Support-A-Walk or to volunteer, donate or raise funds, visit supportconnection.org/support-a-walk or contact Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or walk@supportconnection.org.

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Officials Demand Accountability as Utilities' Response to Be Scrutinized

By Martin Wilbur

Power and telecommunications service may have been fully restored throughout the region last week but officials at multiple levels of government are demanding answers from utilities on what went wrong and pressing for much-needed changes.

More than a week after Tropical Storm Isaias blew through the area, bringing down trees, poles and wires, local representatives repeatedly pointed to Con Edison's lack of transparency, failure to provide accurate information and its refusal to stage mutual aid crews before the storm when the forecast was severe.

County Executive George Latimer was among the chorus of officials who repeatedly pointed to a lack of staffing on Con Edison's part to adequately respond to the storm. Whether it's for cost-cutting or poor execution, Latimer said calling for out-of-state help after the storm has wrought its damage is inexcusable.

"That has to be built into what is the normal functioning of the business, and if you're not going to staff up for the emergency, you still need to have a plan for when the emergency occurs," he said.

It remains to be seen whether there will be consequences for the utilities for the most recent storm. Last week, it was announced that Con Edison would be fined \$9.5 million by the Public Service Commission for its response following

Riley and Quinn, the back-to-back winter storms in March 2018.

Last week, Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti (D-Pleasantville) called Con Edison's performance in the wake of Tropical Storm Isaias "a management fiasco" and said steps should be taken to replace the utility in Westchester. The day after the storm, Con Edison had only 230 of its own personnel out and 130 mutual aid workers, he said.

"In the short run, we need Con Ed to rearrange its management, to put in place people who will better prioritize, bring in the necessary workers and coordinate with local governments to restore power to our communities," Abinanti said. "In the long run, we need to unplug Con Edison and replace it with a new power provider for Westchester."

It took a full week for some residents in two of the hardest hit communities, New Castle and North Castle, to regain power.

"They certainly do not always respond to our requests for data, for transparency, for information about their working in our community, for information on why restoration is taking longer than it should," New Castle Supervisor Ivy Pool said. "We do not have visibility into their operations; we believe that we should. We believe that we should be able to provide residents of this community with an estimated time of restoration."

New Castle Councilman Jeremy Saland



MADELINE ROSENBERG PHOTO

A street in Chappaqua shortly after Tropical Storm Isaias struck the area.

said Con Edison's horrendous response was highlighted on Aug. 10 when a new pole that was installed on Paulding Drive in Chappaqua was placed in hole in the ground that was too shallow. After 5 p.m. it fell and toppled down a hill onto a neighboring property.

The utility also stopped providing estimated restoration times once 95 percent of customers were back in service countywide, he said. Saland fired off an

e-mail that scolded Con Edison for what he characterized as incompetence.

"This is shameful and gross negligence all around," Saland said. "I promise you that Con Edison will regret their absolute ineptness from their executives to their management and rue the day they demonstrated to this municipality and others that you simply don't care."

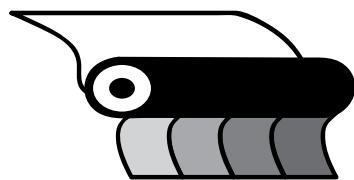
Over the next 30 to 60 days, Latimer said the county will be reviewing the United Westchester report that was created in 2018 following Riley and Quinn. Con Edison's latest performance will be reviewed, including whether the recommendations and metrics that were established in 2018 were followed.

The state legislature is likely to begin hearings on the utilities' performance.

North Castle Supervisor Michael Schiliro said even as restoration was winding down last Tuesday, he was unable to receive an accurate number as to how many outages remained. He was told either 186 or 272 customers remained out of service.

On one of the daily conference calls with utility representatives and municipal county should tell their residents. The response was that Con Edison was working to restore all customers by 11 p.m.

"It shouldn't be this way, but it is. It's unacceptable and I get the anger," Schiliro said. "We are doing everything in our power to expedite restoration, but we cannot do the work ourselves."



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Obituary

Matthew Brennesholtz

Matthew S. Brennesholtz, a genuinely kind human, died at home on Aug. 2 while getting ready for his weekly bike ride through New York City. He was 73.

Brennesholtz is survived by his wife, Libby; his three daughters, Rachel, Eleanor and Margaret; and one grandson, Paul, all of whom loved him dearly.

Matt was a proud Cornell graduate and member of the Seal and Serpent fraternity, finishing his bachelor's degree in engineering physics in 1969 and his masters in 1978. Between his years in Ithaca, he was

a Navy LAMPS helicopter pilot, based in San Diego where he met his wife, Libby.

He was a very devoted father and husband, who happily played along with his family's silliness. If he took you to the zoo (which he always would), he made sure to stop and bark at the sea lions and make monkey noises by the monkey house. He was endlessly willing to pump up bicycle tires, make grilled cheese sandwiches and read books out loud.

Besides his family, Matt loved riding his bike, photography, drawing and writing fiction. He had an extensive portfolio of manhole cover photographs from around the world. He spent almost every Sunday

with even tolerable weather on his bike, photographing the outside of New York City subway stations and the defunct New York, Westchester and Boston Railway. Along with his photography, he also loved to draw. No greeting card or Christmas letter was considered complete until he had doodled a detailed scene with a cat or black or yellow dog in it.

Professionally, he worked as an optical engineer specializing in display technology. He held multiple patents and proprietary awards, and he wrote the book "Projection Displays," which was an Amazon bestseller (in the field of optics textbooks). He held leadership positions in the Society of

Motion Picture and Television Engineers, the International Society for Optics and Photonics and the Society for Information Display.

Many Pleasantville residents may remember seeing him on his evening walks, trailed by a large dog or a very vocal grey and white cat. He hated radishes, mean people and low ceilings.

His memorial service will be held sometime in 2021 when travel and public gatherings are easier.

In lieu of flowers, his family asks that you do something nice for other people, eat some ice cream and be sure to vote.



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Police Blotter

North Castle Police Department

Aug. 7: A complainant reported at 6:16 p.m. that an ice cream truck was blocking his driveway on Clove Road and he cannot get out. The responding officer stated that the truck left prior to his arrival.

Aug. 8: A caller reported at 11:21 p.m. that someone possibly attempted to gain access to his vehicle located in his driveway on Sarles Street. The caller

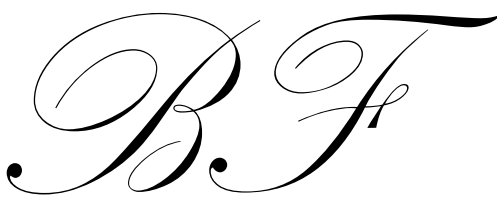
did not see anyone, but his dogs started barking and then the car alarm went off. Officers were dispatched. The responding officer stated that the contents inside the vehicle did not appear to be tampered with and the vehicle did not sustain damage. A canvass of the area checked negative for suspicious activity.

Aug. 9: A Sarles Street resident reported at 1:37 a.m. that at about 12:30 p.m. the previous day, a former friend

followed him from the Rose Hill Shopping Center in Thornwood to his Armonk residence. Information about the incident was gathered over the phone.

Aug. 10: Report of a male party was seen slouched over in the driver's seat of his vehicle in the parking lot on Business Park Drive at 11:46 a.m. The responding officers reported that the individual was transported to Northern Westchester Hospital with an unspecified issue.

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THERE'S A WORD FOR IT
A vocabulary-building quiz By Edward Goralski

Summer Words. The words in this week's quiz come from "8 Halcyon Words of Summer" selected by Word Genius. According to Word Genius "You might be so caught up enjoying summer that you can't come up with the words to describe it." Perhaps you will say hello to some of these words before it is time to say goodbye to summer.

1. sultry (adj.)	A) lazy	B) sweltering	C) cloudy
2. verdant (adj.)	A) green in color	B) ripe	C) sun-drenched
3. ambrosial (adj.)	A) enchanting	B) leisurely	C) enjoyable to smell
4. halcyon (adj.)	A) shaded	B) outside	C) idyllically calm
5. quiescent (adj.)	A) typical	B) marked by inactivity	C) dewy
6. thalassophile (n.)	A) a lover of light	B) a lover of heat	C) a lover of the sea
7. estivate (v.)	A) to spend the summer	B) perspire	C) lie in the sun
8. drupe (n.)	A) a stone fruit	B) a mosquito bite	C) a summer storm

ANSWERS:

1. B. Very hot and humid; sweltering
2. A. Green in tint or color; green with growing plants
3. C. Enjoyable to smell or taste
4. C. Happy or joyful time; idyllically calm and peaceful
5. B. Marked by inactivity or repose; tranquilly at rest
6. C. Someone who loves the sea; a person drawn to the ocean in particular, and bodies of water in general
7. A. To spend the summer, usually at one place; to pass the summer in a state of torpor
8. A. A stone fruit; a fruit with a pit in the center, such as peaches, cherries, etc.

Odell Praises Efforts of Putnam Emergency Responders During Storm

By Rick Pezzullo

Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell praised the coordinated state, county and local response to Tropical Storm Isaias.

"Once again, our county and local first responders made us proud," Odell said.

She said the response from members of the Incident Command Staff and the municipal highway crews and fire and police departments to clear roads and keep residents safe was exemplary. Odell also thanked community volunteers, including organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, Ace Endico and the Paladin Center.

Ken Clair Jr., commissioner of the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Services, said every town in the county had significant damage, with fallen trees blocking roads and bringing down utility poles and transmission lines.

"This storm was comparable to the 2018 tornado in terms of damage," Clair said. "Luckily, we have a really good team in the county. The legislature, senior services, social services, county highway and local highway crews, the police, the fire departments, everyone knows their job in a storm. We push through and we get it done."

Odell declared a state of emergency on

Aug. 5 and requested the New York National Guard, which distributed water and ice to residents in each municipality.

The county executive was less than complimentary, however, to the response of the public utilities to power outages that left most residents in the dark for several days and without cable or internet service.

"I'm totally disappointed in NYSEG and Central Hudson," Odell said. "The utilities were not prepared and that is just not acceptable. Not having access



Putnam County Executive
MaryEllen Odell

to a reliable power source is more than an inconvenience, for many it is a matter of life and death."

At the height of the storm, 90 percent of NYSEG's 39,000 Putnam customers lost power while Central Hudson reported 36,000 households in Putnam County went out. The utilities said that the damage in Putnam was worse than what the county suffered during Superstorm

Sandy in 2012. NYSEG reported 1,300 downed wires and 161 broken poles in the region.

Mount Pleasant Approves Plan to Revitalize Downtown Hawthorne

By Madeline Rosenberg

The Mount Pleasant Town Board is moving forward with steps to promote economic development in downtown Hawthorne.

Last week, the board approved the sale of a portion of an Elwood Avenue property for \$390,000 to the Mount Pleasant Industrial Development Agency, a move that will benefit taxpayers, said Town Attorney Darius Chafizadeh.

The IDA will combine the property at 408 Elwood Ave. with two other parcels that will be developed as part of the Elwood Streetscape Project plan to create a walkable and bikeable bustling downtown commercial and residential center.

Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi said an outside agency priced the Elwood Avenue parcel that the IDA will sell to a developer.

"This whole thing is entirely to the benefit of the taxpayers of Mount Pleasant to recoup the taxes and get this property on the market," Fulgenzi said. "We will combine that piece of property with the two pieces of property that are owned by the IDA. It will all get back on the tax roll to benefit the taxpayers."

The Elwood Avenue property is part of a larger downtown revitalization initiative to transform the hamlet into a center for housing and commerce, developed around the Hawthorne Metro-North station.

The board also approved a special permit for a three-story housing development at

500 Commerce St. near the train station. In February, the Planning Board approved the site plan after extensive public hearings to bring 36,000 square feet of housing, along with new sidewalks and other amenities to the hamlet's downtown.

"You certainly have put together an attractive building for that area," Councilwoman Laurie Smalley told Paulette Dimovski, the principal of the architectural firm that presented the Commerce Street housing plan at Tuesday's meeting.

As the Town Board pushes ahead with both projects, Chafizadeh said residents will benefit from the downtown revitalization. But one resident told the board he worried that wasn't the case.

Ken Noonan of Valhalla said he thought the Elwood Avenue property wasn't priced high enough, hurting town taxpayers. He said he wanted to petition to force a referendum on the sale parcel, urging the board to postpone the move until he can get signatures.

But Fulgenzi and Chafizadeh reiterated that the sale will benefit taxpayers and they'll move forward with it.

"It's going to encourage economic development down by the train station, and this is all in line with your review of the zoning down in the hamlet area," Chafizadeh said. "This is sort of the spark that we're hoping to begin this area being developed, along with the 500 Commerce St. property that was just approved."

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Editorial

It's Time the State Lowers the Curtain on Con Edison

It's so predictable. The forecast for a major storm becomes apparent three, four, five days in advance with the potential for widespread power outages.

The event comes and goes, leaving tens, if not hundreds of thousands of residents in the dark, and then Con Edison moves into action – in slow motion.

That's exactly what happened two weeks ago with Tropical Storm Isaias.

No one is blaming Con Edison for the loss of power in Westchester following

severe weather events. Rather, it's the failure to mobilize most crews ahead of time. But that will cost the utility money. It's almost as if they hope that the weather forecasts are somehow wrong.

But this isn't 100 years ago, or even 50 years ago, when a weather forecast was generally less reliable. Although not a perfect science, the forecasts involving Irene, Sandy, Quinn, Riley and now Isaias accurately predicted a significant level of damage.

Then, once the power is out, good luck getting a straight answer – or any answer at all.

Last week, Con Edison was socked with \$9.5 million in fines by the Public Service Commission for non-performance for Quinn and Riley. The same mistakes and indifference continues to occur.

Con Edison deserves to be penalized this time around. Not just money, but with a revocation of its license to operate in New York State.

Letters to the Editor

Harckham's Policies are Causing Crime to Explode, Ruining New York

In his short time as state senator, Pete Harckham has shown that he cares more about lawbreakers than law enforcers. He voted in favor of bail reform that resulted in dangerous persons being set free to commit more crime. Under Harckham's law, judges are no longer able to set bail for a long list of crimes, including stalking, assault, burglary, drug dealing and even some kinds of arson and robbery.

The result has been an explosion of crime. For example, a Hudson Valley man released without bail after being accused of trying to rape a woman at Nyack Hospital went on

to allegedly stab a library security guard to death.

Unlike most of us, police officers have chosen a profession where they risk their lives simply for doing their jobs. It is not fair, however, to make their work even more dangerous by subjecting them to prosecution for using reasonable force to protect themselves. Bowing to pervasive anti-police rhetoric, Sen. Harckham did just that when he supported anti-police legislation this year.

An amendment was introduced in Albany this year that would have protected police, but Harckham opposed it. Among other

provisions, the bill would have created "a Class D felony of Aggravated Harassment of a Police or Peace Officer if an officer is struck by any substance or object including, but not limited to, bottles, rocks, bodily fluids, spittle, urine, seminal fluid, feces, flammable liquids or other noxious, hazardous or dangerous substances or objects."

I can only conclude that Harckham thinks these vile attacks on our police are acceptable. It is time for a change.

Russell Kamer
Katonah

Black Lives Matter Practices Violence, Revenge, Not Racial Harmony

I just read, with some degree of amusement and a sense of irony, last week's front-page article about the burning of the Quaker Meeting House BLM banner in Chappaqua. Not, of course, regarding the vandalism, which I deplore, but relating to the violent end of a violent banner.

Perhaps I am old-fashioned, but I thought the symbol of racial harmony was two hands clasping, not a Black fist threatening violence. All that is missing from that banner is the white face to which the fist will presumably be

applied. Or perhaps, to avoid any ambiguity, this quote from Hawk Newsome, BLM chapter head, "If this country doesn't give us what we want, then we will burn (it) down..."

I was also amused to read of the Council on Race and Equity members' "outrage" at the vandalism. Are they also outraged at the destruction of statues of Columbus and Jefferson, at the obscene graffiti that blankets the New York Public Library (the Library!) or all the burning and looting (or rather reparations, according to the BLM leadership

in Chicago)?

BLM is not an agent of racial harmony, but rather a toxic brew of violence, extortion and revenge. I will grant that some of the wrongs for which they seek retribution are real, but others are self-inflicted, imaginary or ancient history. No sane person, white or Black, should support them.

Richard Vastola
Pleasantville

Byrne's Record of Achievement in Assembly Speaks for Itself

The letter to the editor by William Stoiber ("Byrne, State Conservative Party's Agenda Hurts Everyone") published last week is utter nonsense. It's just empty rhetoric with the sole purpose of dividing our community. It doesn't appreciate that many of our neighbors consider themselves conservatives and do indeed support the Conservative Party on Election Day because they value freedom, limited government, lower taxes (for everyone), standing up for our military and first responders, protection of life and all our Constitutional rights.

Assemblyman Kevin Byrne has already demonstrated countless times his independence from any one political party or power structure. He's been open, accessible and honest about his views, his votes and his plans to make our state a better, safer, healthier and more affordable place to live.

The reality is Kevin Byrne's record speaks for itself. He makes himself available to all his constituents, has passed numerous pieces of legislation for all his constituents and works to make our state and community better for us and our families.

The growing long list of endorsements for his re-election campaign demonstrates he is the only sensible choice for Assembly this November.

You've likely already read about Kevin or perhaps you've seen him (pre-COVID-19) because he has been everywhere. If you'd like to learn more about him, I would encourage you to visit www.Byrne4NY.com

Marianne Violante
Yorktown Heights

Clearing 700 Trees is Too a High a Price for Proposed Mt. Kisco Solar Farm

Currently pending before the Mount Kisco Planning Board is a proposal for the construction of a solar farm on an approximately 25-acre parcel of pristine forest land, near the intersection of Route 172 and Sarles Street. While the intent of the project is ostensibly to provide clean, renewable energy, which is a laudable goal, the long-range ramifications are significant.

Location, location, location: this mantra of the real estate business is key. The area, which abuts Marsh Sanctuary, a wildlife preserve, is home to over 1,000 "specimen trees" as

defined in the Mount Kisco code. The location abounds in old growth oaks, maples, birch, sassafras, tulips, among other species. Such a rich diversity is unique in the well-developed Mount Kisco-Bedford corridor, according to the noted local ecologist, Jim Nordgren.

To construct the solar farm would require the removal of close to 700 mature trees, which provide soil retention, air and water purification, shade, noise suppression, as well as food and shelter for wildlife. Loss of these natural resources cannot be replaced with saplings, which require many years to

mature.

My humble suggestion to the applicant and developer of the solar farm is to continue searching for an appropriate location (e.g., parking lot or large flat-roof building). The Planning Board should make a bold statement, deny the application and encourage the applicant to find a more suitable location.

James R. Gmelin,
Chairman, Mount Kisco Tree
Preservation Board

P'ville Uncertain of Feasibility of Afterschool Club This Year

By Abby Luby

Pleasantville village officials grappled last week with whether they should open the popular Panther Club because of COVID-19-related health concerns.

The village-run afterschool recreation program for children in grades K-8

operates at Bedford Road School and is licensed by the New York State Family and Child Services. It is open from 3 to 6 p.m. and children are picked up by their parents.

The pandemic has significantly altered school and afterschool schedules, but the issue of childcare is problematic for many families, particularly for parents with elementary school children. The Pleasantville School District model for reopening has students attending school two days a week and working remotely the remainder of the week.

Since the district announced its plan to reopen, the village has received numerous requests about the status of the Panther Club.

"We have parents that are stretched extraordinarily thin because of their incapacity to fulfill their professional obligations because of childcare issues," said Mayor Peter Scherer.

The village has been working closely with the Pleasantville School District about how to run the Panther Club safely in the

fall. Some trustees questioned whether it was realistic to run the program at all.

"The challenge is the public health side," Village Administrator Eric Morrissey said. "The school district is keeping cohorts, or classes, together. Running the Panther Club where children are mixing together goes against that strategy."

The village is exploring whether to operate the club as a largely outdoor recreation program, which would be safer and make it easier to maintain social distancing. An outdoor program would run until the cold weather.

Village Trustee David Vinjamuri suggested creating a two-day-a-week option for smaller cohorts of students.

"This would give parents who have to go somewhere else to earn money, or who are working from home, the ability to have their kids out of the house," he said.

Vinjamuri recommended the village survey parents to see if there was a demand for the service this year, which would help determine if the club's operation was economically feasible. A survey is expected to be sent to parents this week to help determine how many families would be interested in having their children attend the club.

The Panther Club has operated since 2016 by the Pleasantville Recreation & Parks Department. The village recognized

a need for the program after the closure of another popular after-school program in the village.

Since then, the Panther Club has been well-attended. Scherer said the village typically hires about 30 part-time employees, a director and site supervisors to run the club, which is generally filled. It is unclear how much interest there would be and how much staffing would be needed for a modified program this fall.

Monthly costs have ranged from \$336 to \$530 depending on how many days a week a child attends.

Another problem is charging the same enrollment fees for students within the school district but who live outside the

village. Those households don't pay village taxes.

"We're not using taxpayer money to subsidize childcare of any student living outside the village," Scherer said.

Bedford Road School is currently undergoing a significant HVAC system upgrade, and contractors may still be working in the school in September. That may mean that the Panther Club, if it opened, might be delayed until October.

"If we do this at all we need to come up with a model we believe will help us break even," Scherer said. "We have run a great program, it has been well-received and a lifeline to working parents."

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Local Man's Craftsmanship Fuels His Desire for Boat Building

By Dael Ki

Over the course of this chaotic and unprecedented summer, many people have sought serenity through self-isolating.

For some, like Chappaqua resident Jonathan Richer, that can be on a tranquil body of water canoeing, kayaking or boating or finding calm hiking in the woods.

Richer, who was born and raised in Connecticut, has built various watercraft in his home workshop. His interest in boat-building was stimulated during childhood, growing up with parents who loved the outdoors. They regularly took the young Jonathan canoeing and camping, which, in turn, sparked his interest in the outdoors from a young age.

Richer also spent much time fixing and making various objects, fascinated with the art of building, which motivated him to construct his first boat in 2000.

"I always wanted to build a boat," Richer said. "Once I saw wooden boats, I fell in love with them; I absolutely fell in love with Adirondack guide boats years ago in the Adirondacks. So I said, 'I'll build a boat' and built a canoe with my father."

Richer's passion for boat building also comes from using his hands to create beautiful objects.

"Especially in an age where everyone's faces are fixated on phone and computer screens all the time, I think a throwback to craftsmanship really speaks to my values," he said.

That is a value he shares with his students



Jonathan Richer's Adirondack guide boat while it was under construction earlier this year.

at the Yonkers Paddle and Rowing Club, where he teaches classes on how to build traditional skin-on-frame kayaks that are designed to be used on the Hudson River. The classes typically start in September and the boats are built by May.

He also holds private classes at his Chappaqua home workshop and builds watercraft for private clients. Richer is also a sixth-grade math teacher at Ethical Culture Fieldston Middle School, a Bronx private school.

Isolated during the pandemic, Richer spent three months building his latest



Chappaqua's Jonathan Richer, on a lake at the St. Regis Wilderness in the Adirondacks, in the Adirondack guide boat he built at his home workshop this spring.

Adirondack guide boat, a 14-and-a-half-foot long, 40-inch-wide craft that weighs just 28 pounds, roughly half the average weight for a boat its size.

"The number one reason why people don't use boats that they make or own is because the boats are too heavy," he said.

Richer solved that problem using a method called skin-on-frame boat building, which helps him to maintain the light weight while still retaining beauty and function.

"We build the form and the shape out of wood, and instead of covering it with more wood, we sew on a skin and treat them to make it waterproof," Richer explained. "This makes the boat very lightweight. It makes it easy to throw it up on the roof and go."

The guide boat was made with Western red cedar as opposed to modern fiberglass mold construction.

"For me, this [boat] is a solution. It gives me an Adirondack guide boat that I don't need to buy a trailer for; I can just put it on top of my car," Richer said. "It's light, beautiful and you actually get to see the wood."

Richer enjoys using the boat on the lower Hudson River and hopes to sell plenty of other handcrafted boats for others to enjoy.

"I would love to build more Adirondack guide boats and sell them. That is my dream," he said.

For anyone who may be interested in commissioning Richer to build a boat, he may be contacted at jonricher@gmail.com.



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Finale of Putnam Performs Scheduled for Friday

Throughout the summer, Putnam County teens have been competing in a virtual talent contest, Putnam Performs, hosted by the county's libraries.

Beginning with 30 participants in Round 1, the young performers have competed through two more rounds and have now reached the finals, which will culminate with a live event this Friday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m.

The top 10 performers have submitted their final two-minute videos. Participants include Lucius (Lucky) Bell and Johanna George on violin, Kate Parker performing ballet and Chloe Rowe singing an original song, who are all representing the Butterfield/Desmond-Fish Libraries; Mark

and Robert Dusovic of Mahopac perform as a rock band, representing the Kent Library; Max Trippolo plays guitar and sings, Alexis Barto and Ava Verrone sing and Isabella Piacente plays piano and sings for the Patterson Library; and for the Putnam Valley Library Jasmine Gelfer will sing.

The 10 finalists and their families and community members are invited to register for the Putnam Performs live event by visiting <https://bit.ly/PutnamPerforms>.

Attendees will see a reprise of the entries and then the countdown to the third-, second- and first-place winners will commence. The winners will receive cash prizes of \$100, \$200 and \$300, respectively.

Bedford Schools Launch New Mobile App

The Bedford School District has partnered with Blackboard to expand its communications outreach with a mobile app that launched on Monday.

Available on smartphone and mobile devices, the app can be downloaded in the iTunes and Google Play app stores for free. The app features a constantly updated feed for important information like news, calendar events, social media posts, notifications and more. Users will have quick and easy access to a wide range of helpful information including a districtwide directory, a student hub (which includes information such as

grades, attendance and balances), lunch menus and athletics.

The app can also be customized to view the schools and feeds users care about most, all in their native language.

Parents and community members can download the free mobile app to their smart-devices by searching "Bedford Central School District" in the app store or by using the following links: iTunes at <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bedford-central-school-district/id1472616716> or Google Play at <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.blackboard.community.bcsdny>.

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Blood Drive Set for Wednesday Afternoon in P'ville

The Emanuel Lutheran Church of Pleasantville is sponsoring a blood drive this Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 12 to 6 p.m. at the Pleasantville Fire House at 75 Washington Ave.

The fire department has again offered the use of its space because it is large enough to house the drive. Pre-registration is strongly recommended and helps assure optimal distancing

of donors and allocates time for a brief pre-screening prior to entering. However, walk-ins can be taken if they don't present a problem with physical distancing. All donors will be required to wear a face covering.

To pre-register, call 800-933-2566 or visit https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/282183.

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Matriarch Did It Her Way

Rose "Brew" Grunther, 1921-2020

Examiner Publisher Adam Stone's grandmother, Brew Grunther, helped inspire this newspaper's existence with the lifetime of wit and wisdom she imparted to her grandson. In this tribute, Stone tells Grunther's story.



Rose "Brew" Grunther, a fashionable, opinionated matriarch of her beloved family who lived life on her terms, bound by a keen sense of right and wrong, died on Aug. 7. She was 98.

She died following a stroke at her North Hills home, surrounded by family who fortified her with strength just as she fortified them for generations.



Grunther, a graduate of Brooklyn College, was both a trailblazer and a traditionalist. A female college student at a time when that was novel, Grunther happily bypassed a career to raise a family. A skeptic of the cultural revolution who championed civil rights, Grunther proudly and publicly lunched as a young woman with a male Black co-worker friend despite society's objections, even as she cast a doubtful eye at a younger generation looking to upend social norms.

Brooklyn Bred

Brew started in humble beginnings, born in Brooklyn, NY on Dec. 11, 1921 to Russian (Ukraine) and Austrian immigrant parents, Simon and Esther Brustien. When she arrived, adoring big brother Harold was still a month away from his third birthday. As a Jewish girl whose family was hit by the Great Depression when she was just eight-years-old, Grunther's values around politics, manners, religion, frugality, and family were all shaped by the era in which she came of age. A graduate of Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, she disliked her given first name, Rose, and embraced the nickname Brew, a play on her maiden name of Brustien.

But no decision changed the

trajectory of her life more than accepting the marriage proposal of her charismatic, mischievous, profane, irreverent, uproariously funny opposite, fellow Brooklynite Nelson Grunther who met Brew when she was on a date with another young man, who was no match for Nelson's charm. The differences in Brew and Nelson's personalities served as the underpinnings of the intense love they had for one another, with their more than three-decade marriage story commencing in 1944.

Banner Years

As part of his service to the country, Nelson coached a female softball team, a characteristic assignment. The Army private was stationed in San Antonio during World War II, and Brew, remembering her time as a young military wife, recently recounted learning to drive while in Texas, despite Nelson's friendly grumblings.

Although the newlyweds enjoyed some good times in the Lone Star State, Brew was homesick and eager to return east, to be close to her family, especially her mother, of whom she was fiercely committed to honoring. (Esther would later live near Brew and Nelson in Great Neck, and eventually moved into their home in her final years).

The couple eventually made their way back to New York, where Nelson joined the family business, Brooklyn's Banner Candy Manufacturing Corporation, which was born the same year as Brew, in 1921. (A lifetime later, after Nelson died at just 60 of a heart attack in October of 1979, Brew would receive an ownership stake in the company her husband had helped run with his father, Harry Grunther, who founded the business. Although Brew never involved herself with day-to-day operations, she played a pivotal role in helping to navigate a series of thorny disputes among family principals, allowing Banner to thrive and maintain its existence until 2007. Future son-in-law Peter Stone, as the eventual president of the company, assigned enormous credit to Brew for her finesse in helping to break logjams due to the respect she commanded with family partners).

Brew and Nelson — members of what was dubbed the Greatest Generation — had three children: their eldest child was Anne, born in 1946; two years later came Lucy, born in 1948; youngest Sanford, better known as Sandy, was born five summers later, in 1953.

They raised their family in the leafy suburb of Great Neck, NY, as Banner continued to grow and prosper and as the world around them was eventually transformed by Baby Boomers.

The family home was a vivacious place; Anne and Lucy would develop a passion



Brew and her husband, Nelson Grunther, were married for more than three decades. Brew and Nelson's different personalities helped form the basis of their love for each other.

for reading and theater while Sandy shared a love of sports with his father.

Fit and Fabulous

Together, Brew and Nelson cut a dashing, glamorous figure, both possessing movie star good looks and style. For her entire adult life, friends, family and acquaintances alike were awed by Brew's impeccable fashion sense and general panache; she seemed to roll out of bed dressed to the nines, in sleek, perfectly crisp designer outfits, adorned with stately jewelry, all accented by her flawlessly coiffed, jet black hair, courtesy of Manhasset's "nuBest" salon, where she was a longtime legend.

The couple socialized at the North Shore Country Club, in Glen Head, developing lifelong friendships. Brew took up golf in her 40s, to spend more time with Nelson, but grew to thoroughly enjoy the sport in and of itself. She continued playing well beyond Nelson's passing, for more than three decades, all the way into her 90s. She credited regular yoga classes as a contributing factor to her lifetime of good health and ability to easily get down on the floor to play with her cherished great-grandchildren even into all but her very final years.

While the couple enjoyed the company of many friends, they were closest with Harold and his wife Iris. Nelson and Harold became best of friends, delivering Brew profound happiness, seeing her husband forge a close bond with her beloved older brother. Years later, as the family expanded, Brew marveled at Iris's abilities as a hostess during annual family holiday parties at her brother and



Brew is flanked by two of her grandchildren, Examiner Publisher Adam Stone and his sister Associate Publisher Laura Markowski, as well as her son-in-law, CFO Peter Stone, who is Adam and Laura's father.

sister-in-law's home in Bayside, Queens. Brew was devastated in 2006 when Iris died, and she lost Harold just two years later. For the rest of her years, Brew felt a pang of sadness on Sundays, without her brother's weekly weekend visits, a time for the siblings to nosh on bagels, sip coffee, reminisce over old times and just generally savor each other's company.

Despite growing up in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn, Brew somehow developed what her relatives joked was an almost British accent. But, true to form, it spilled naturally from Brew's tongue, sounding sophisticated, not affected. Also, what Brew might have lacked in kitchen skills to entertain, she more than made up for with her social skills, dazzling people at any party she attended with captivating anecdotes, vodka on the rocks usually in hand, all complemented by her distinctly upright, elegant, imposing posture.

Although it would be fair to call Brew a lady who lunched — an old newspaper clipping from the Great Neck Record, for example, salutes her for planning brunches and other events for the Pride of Judea at the Glen Oaks Country Club — she wasn't without additional ambitions, especially after her children were grown. Brew and a fellow "attractive housewife" — the anachronistic phrase used in a

1978 newspaper profile — ran a program packaging and promotion business, Lecture Consultants, for a period of several years.

But family trumped all else. In Lucy, Brew shared a common love of culture and conversation. With Sandy, mother and son enjoyed a playful relationship, and Brew cherished her son's good-natured teasing during their regular phone calls.

Tragedy Strikes

Brew's life was touched by tragedy on multiple occasions but none more devastating than the death of daughter Anne in 1987. Following Anne's untimely passing, Grunther played a crucial role in helping to lend emotional support to her son-in-law Peter, as well as Anne and Peter's children, Laura and Adam. Peter and Brew grew incredibly close over the years, often noting they were not just family, and not just colleagues, but also dear friends. (Laura and Brew's relationship would, in later years, evolve into an almost sisterly connection — best of friends — with grandmother spending nearly every weekend at her granddaughter's family home in Somers for the better part of a decade, as the younger's wicked sense of humor uniquely tickled Brew's funny bone).

Brew cherished the singular relationships she developed with each of her grandchildren. She relished in taking them (and later her great-grandchildren) out to dinner at fine restaurants and accompanying the kids to Broadway shows, supplying culture to the younger members of her clan. Lucy's children, Ned and Jay Greenberg, as well as Sandy's children, Nick, Shawn and Jesse Grunther, and Harold's grandson, Matthew Brustien, were all deeply enriched by Brew's generosity and wit. Like many

Brooklynites scorned by the Dodgers departure to Los Angeles, Brew became a Mets fan when baseball returned to New York in 1962. She accompanied her grandsons to many a Mets game at Shea Stadium, with the boys, in turn, inheriting a lifetime of lessons in love, loss and — occasionally — sweet victory. It wasn't just baseball she passed along. Brew's mastery of the English language helped inspire a passion for journalism held by her grandson Adam, the publisher of The Examiner. In fact, she was this newspaper's very first subscriber when it launched in Sept. of 2007.

Successful Second Act

Renowned for her strength, Brew found love again in 1987 with fellow Long Islander Ivan Stock, who played a grandfatherly role for the grandchildren who were born too late to know Nelson. Brew was incredibly fond of Ivan's straight-talking, unpretentious manner, and the couple enjoyed countless good times together, golfing at North Shore and eating at Julio's, a favorite restaurant where the couple was pampered as VIPs until Ivan died in 1997. Brew stopped dining at Julio's following Ivan's passing, a quiet tribute to their special place but maintained a friendship with Ivan's son Jay, and his wife, Sharon, for the next two dozen years.

Rose was also uncommonly close with her niece, Susan Macgregor-Scott. The two spoke daily, and Susan showered Brew with daughterly adoration, just as Brew supplied her with unconditional love. Brew had a knack for making new members of the family feel at home, and she welcomed Susan's late husband, Peter Macgregor-Scott, in her matchless way, a special joy for Susan.

In her final months, following a fall and subsequent surgery, Brew was cared for by her nearby and doting nephew, Steve Brustien, and his wife, a dedicated nurse, Mary, who also kept a watchful and loving eye on her for several years prior. The exceptional and expert care provided by Steve and Mary allowed Brew to remain in her home till her last breath, an intense desire of Brew's that wouldn't have otherwise been possible. Steve, like his father Harold before him, embraced the protector role. Brew would comment how Steve embodied many of Harold's best qualities, allowing her brother's spirit to live on, even after his passing. Both Steve and Susie revered their father's sister and fondly called their glamorous relative "Auntie Rose." (Brew — with Brew itself being a nickname — earned many additional monickers over the years, such as "Nanny Roo." That name was born when a very young Laura mispronounced "Nanny Brew," a term the adults suggested to her after she requested a nickname for her maternal grandmother.

Laura was worried it would otherwise be too confusing to distinguish Brew from her paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Janosi, known just as "Grandma").

Puzzles, Politics and Passover

Brew was an avid New York Times reader, and reveled in solving the crossword puzzle each day, putting her exceptionally sharp mind and vast knowledge of culture, politics and world events to good use. So assured in her abilities, Brew used ink. She competed unapologetically with her grandchildren at Scrabble, excelled in her regular Bridge game and took no prisoners when betting \$1 or so on the golf course. While outwardly social with an authoritative and inimitable presence at any event she attended, possessing an innate ability to command her will, Brew enjoyed almost nothing more than curling up with a good book, or watching an old movie, content in her own company. She was also a proud FDR liberal, having seen Roosevelt enact the New Deal during her adolescence, and rescue the country from financial ruin. Even though women only secured the right to vote in the United States a year before her birth, Brew was excited to cast her ballot for the first female major party presidential nominee in 2016 but was bruised and worried by the election results and the aftermath.

While not highly religious, Brew's embrace of her Jewish identity and heritage ran incredibly deep, from select customs and food and all the way to her sensibilities around humor. In fact, she was one of the longest standing members of Temple Beth El in Great Neck, having joined in the 1950s.

Inspiring the Next Generation

Throughout her adult life, Brew donated to causes she believed in and volunteered her time. She was a staunch supporter of Israel, civil liberties, and various Democratic Party causes and candidates, including her work on John F. Kennedy's successful bid for president in 1960, when she innovated by using an RV trailer in the parking lot of an area shopping center to run the campaign office. As a board member with Pride of Judea Community Services in Queens, Brew advanced the cause of mental health for people struggling with emotional and social problems.

Brew is also survived by her great-grandchildren, Ariel, Jordan, Maddie, Mia, Eliana, Jake, Vivian and Blair, as well as Matthew and his wife Annetta's daughter Jordie, and many admiring in-laws forever touched by Brew's grace and goodwill. Brew enjoyed a special ability to deliver lavish but genuine compliments to those she loved and admired, and countless people she encountered throughout her life were buoyed by the praise she provided. Laura's husband Paul, Adam's wife Alyson, Ned's wife Leslie, Jay's fiancé Hoan, Nick's wife Julie, Jesse's wife Valentina and Lucy's husband Michael all mourn the great loss.

Due to COVID-19, and various travel limitations, the family will schedule a service for Brew at a later date. Brew's ashes, along with Nelson's, will be placed in The Tower at Nassau Knolls in Port Washington.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Pride of Judea (jewishboard.org) in Brew's name.



Brew, surrounded by family, celebrating her 95th birthday at her granddaughter's home in Somers.

Fall Maintenance Tips Can Protect You From the Unexpected

How well I remember criticism once from someone that at first I took badly, but was later flattered by it.

The comment was, "He thinks he knows everything about everything, but he only knows a little about a lot of things."

I was initially surprised to hear this but considering that my critic was speaking in a political context and happens to be from a far different ideology than mine, I brushed off the comment with amusement.

Certainly, in terms of my role as a realtor for home and commercial sales as well as The Home Guru, the assessment is true, except for the fact that I would never want to pass myself off as a know-it-all. I fully accept and profess my limitations as an expert, especially in the field of home maintenance. The study is just too extensive for anyone to know everything about.

My one saving grace for a guru moniker may be that I know how to source information and service for those chores where I know I need help. That list could fill a book.

Today, I am happy to say that I live in a condo where all I must do is occasionally replace the filter of my HVAC system. But when I formerly lived in a six-bedroom antique colonial home, there was plenty of maintenance to worry about.

Whenever I needed advice, I would first go to my wife, Margaret, who is my chief adviser when looking for direction about how best to allocate my time.

"Gee, honey, how should I prioritize all the maintenance chores that should be done around the house before winter comes?" The answer: "Make a list."

In my search I stumbled upon a list of maintenance tips suggested by Home Farm Insurance. I was bowled over by its thoroughness. It would seem to require a Mr. Fix-It master's degree. Any mortal would break out in a sweat just pondering it.

My suggestion would be to prioritize such a list according to what seems the most important to your situation. That is what I did in the list I include in this column.

Those priorities can change in an instant when the unexpected problem occurs, which happened shortly after Margaret and I had this discussion.

My wife was drying her hair with a blower at her dressing table and suddenly a whole circuit blew that had never blown before. I couldn't fathom how that could have happened. I went downstairs and flipped the circuit breakers assigned to the bedroom, but nothing came back on. I knew that greater expertise than mine was needed.

After calling my electrician, he went to the basement and discovered a problem that I never could have expected would

be on my fall maintenance list – my entire circuit breaker panel needed to be replaced.

How could that be, I thought? It had been installed new less than 20 years before when I upgraded the amps to the house. Didn't panels last longer than that? Not so, it seems. Inside the panel box, the wiring had started to rust from the dampness of the basement, and I was warned that this could present more problems if I didn't install a new panel.

So there went an unexpected, major expense, certainly a priority that could knock some of my other upgrade plans out of the picture.

But as I went down the list from Home Farm, I picked out some fall maintenance tips to prepare for the winter that seemed prudent and had little or no expense. They include:

- Inspect and clean dust from the covers of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Clean the kitchen exhaust hood and air filter.
- Make sure the light bulbs in all fixtures are the right wattage.
- Replace all extension cords that have become brittle or worn.
- Check the roof for damage and all fascia and trim for deterioration.
- Check the shut-off valve at each plumbing

fixture to make sure they function.

- Clean the clothes dryer duct, damper and space under the dryer.
- Replace or clean the furnace filter.
- Have your water heater checked.
- Make sure you have a multipurpose fire extinguisher handy.
- Review your fire evacuation plan with your family.
- Consider installing a lightning protection system for your home.
- Consider protecting your appliances from power surges.
- Have a professional HVAC contractor inspect and maintain your system as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Perhaps most important, disconnect your garden hose from the spigot. Left connected, water inside can freeze, leading to frozen pipes, which I've seen explode and ruin properties.

These tips should keep you busy and safer in your home for the winter and throughout the year.

Bill Primavera is a realtor associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru.com. 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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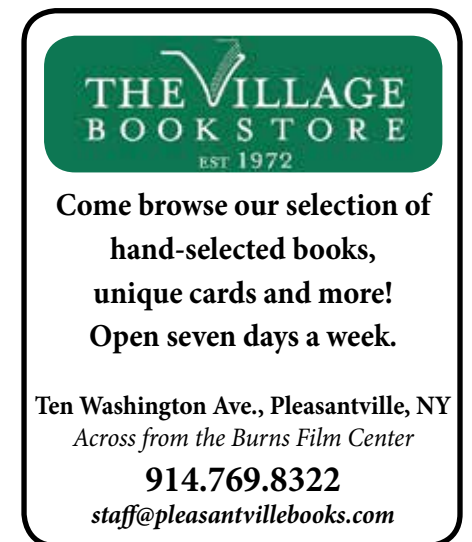
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Middle School Students Find Way to Have Summer Fun With Kids

By Joan Gaylord

Not even a global pandemic could stop two Fox Lane Middle School students from having fun this summer while making some money.

Soon-to-be seventh-graders Emily Sullivan and Jackson Hoffman launched Camp Summer Fun, an online day camp for elementary school-aged children.

Pooling their energy and creativity, along with their recent experience with virtual schooling, they ran the program last week by modifying traditional day camp activities. The campers, ranging from kindergarteners to fourth-graders and each in their own homes but connected via Zoom, enjoyed crafts, storytelling and even a virtual field trip.

"We had camp activities, but we did it similar to virtual school," Hoffman explained.

They said they first considered the idea in June while discussing ways they could make a little money despite the restrictions imposed because of COVID-19. The two, who have been friends since they were toddlers in day care, designed a day camp they would be able to adapt to the online platform.

They then forwarded their plan via e-mail to the parents of about 30 younger children whom they know, mostly from the local community.

Despite "getting a late start," eight campers enrolled for the one-week session

that ran each day from 10 a.m. until noon. Sullivan and Hoffman charged \$15 per camper, paid via Venmo, with a reduced fee for a second child from the same family.

They described the camp as a win-win for families since many parents are working from home and appreciated that Camp Summer Fun provided planned activities for their children.

"Camp is letting kids have fun during these sad times," said eight-year-old Lily Hoffman, one of the campers and Jackson's sister.

One of the most popular activities each day was "Snack and Chat," time scheduled for the campers to visit and socialize with one another, something they have had very little of the last few months.

The campers would enjoy their snacks while conversing with their camp friends on the Zoom call.

"It was kids of different ages connecting," Sullivan said.

Before last week started, Sullivan and Hoffman provided parents with a list of supplies that campers needed for each day, items such as popsicle sticks and glue for making picture frames or building blocks for when they guided the children through construction projects.

Sullivan said she is a huge Lego fan and oversaw that activity. Hoffman was in charge of telling jokes each day during Morning Kickoff.

They asked parents to assist with one activity – a cooking class that included



Fox Lane Middle School seventh-graders Emily Sullivan and Jackson Hoffman hosted the weeklong Camp Summer Fun, a virtual day camp they devised for children stuck at home.

using a hot oven. The rest of the time, Sullivan and Hoffman supervised the campers, including taking them on the virtual field trip via a zoo's live-stream webcam.

They have already begun planning for a second session at some point in the future, most likely next summer. Hoffman, who

hopes to become an entrepreneur when he grows up, intends to invest his share of the profits in the camp by paying for a professionally designed Camp Summer Fun logo. Sullivan, who plans to become an architect, intends to use the money she earned to buy more Legos.

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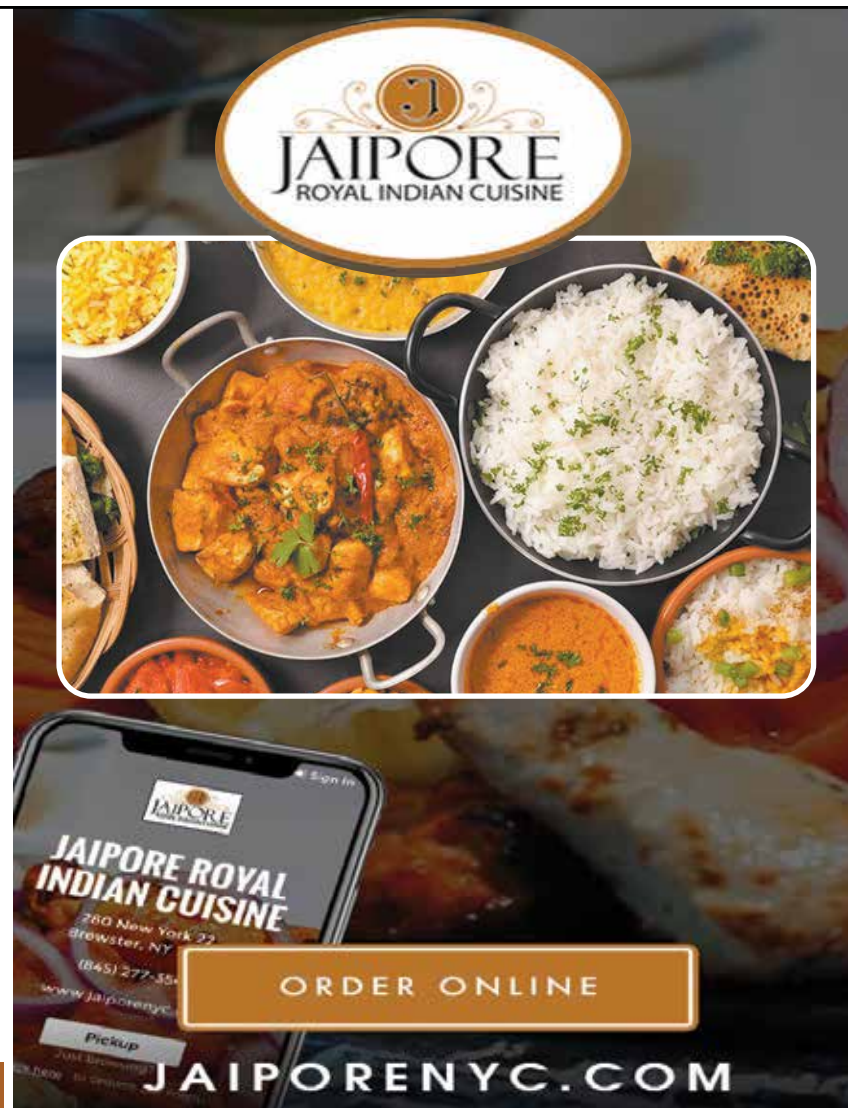
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Time is Essential in Treating Cardiac Emergencies

By Dr. Carl D. Reimers

When every second counts, the brand-new, state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization lab, part of the Seema Boesky Heart Center at Northern Westchester Hospital, will provide advanced lifesaving treatment close to home.

What is a cardiac catheterization lab?

It is a special procedure room in a hospital where cardiac specialists, also called interventional cardiologists, diagnose and treat coronary artery disease, including various types of heart attack. They use tiny flexible tubes called catheters to access the heart and coronary blood vessels and remove the blockages within arteries that usually cause heart problems.

Whenever any portion of the heart lacks adequate blood flow, there is a real danger of cardiac arrest, which is the abrupt loss of heart function leading to death. In the event of a heart attack, opening up an artery to restore blood flow within 90 minutes of first medical contact results in the best outcomes.

What must happen within those 90 minutes?

As digitized moving images are used to diagnose the cardiovascular issue, multiple supports are often provided to the critically ill patient. Then there is the catheterization procedure to eliminate the blockage.

What cardiovascular conditions will be treated?

Primarily coronary artery disease. This spectrum of conditions includes:

- **Chronic stable angina:** You feel a heaviness in the chest when you run.
- **Angina with unstable symptoms:** You experience heart pain at rest or with minimal exertion that continues to get worse.
- **Acute coronary syndrome:** You are about to have a heart attack, and as I often put it, "feel pain from brushing your teeth."
- **Heart attack:** Ranges from a small heart attack caused by blockage or narrowing in a branch of an artery causing chest discomfort to a massive heart attack during which the heart fails to pump blood.
- **Congestive heart failure:** Because your heart can't pump blood well enough, fluid backs up into the lungs. Picture an overflowing sink.

How will these conditions be diagnosed and treated?

A diagnostic procedure provides a "movie" of the heart and coronary arteries that shows any blockages. Treatment usually involves a catheter carrying a tiny balloon that inflates once it's in the blocked area, pushing open the artery. Next, a tiny stainless-steel coil called a stent is placed there as scaffolding to keep the artery open. The balloon is removed but the stent remains in place.

What will distinguish Northern Westchester Hospital's cath lab?

The new lab is an extension of Lenox Hill Hospital's nationally renowned cardiac services program, ranked by Healthgrades among the top 5 percent of hospitals in the nation for overall cardiac services for six consecutive years. This connection means you or your loved ones will receive care from some of the nation's top cardiac physicians, all extensively trained in high-risk cases. The lab is open 24/7, 365 days a year to handle all cardiac emergencies.

Should I be concerned about coronary artery disease?

It is the biggest killer today in the United States, equally present in men and women once they hit 70 years. The frequency

of cases in women rises steadily after menopause.

The care and safety of our community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is Northern Westchester Hospital's top priority. We have put maximum safety measures in place to prevent exposure to the coronavirus for anyone who comes to the hospital for emergency or scheduled care. Learn about what NWH is doing to keep you safe and what to expect if you need care at nwhc.net/covid-19-response.

Dr. Carl D. Reimers is director of Northern Westchester Hospital's new cardiac catheterization lab that is scheduled to open on Sept. 2.

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Indian Point will close soon after operating for nearly 60 years. We don't have to wait another 60 years for it to be dismantled.

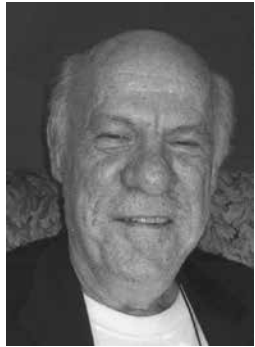
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The illustration above is an artist's depiction of the Indian Point property after the completion of major decommissioning work.

Indian Point Energy Center



New Wegman's Market Has Something for Everyone



By Morris Gut

Westchester's new Wegman's Food Market at 106 Corporate Park Drive in Harrison officially opened Aug. 5 and has been drawing large crowds of shoppers the first two weeks.

Got a first look at the 121,000-square-foot

store late on a Sunday morning. The parking lot was already about three-quarters full. Local police and employees were directing traffic. There was a line wrapped around the building with proper distancing, although it moved quickly. We were in the store within minutes.

One of the highlights at Wegman's has always been its fresh and prepared foods area – and this one did not disappoint. A technicolor cornucopia of consumption. It was lunchtime and shoppers filled the food lines for eat-in or take-out. There is a dining area where you can buy your food and sit down.

Walking through the aisles was a tempting trek. The fruit and produce glistened, the cheeses were piled high and the baked goods were aromatic. The fresh fish looked pristine. The meat department was fully stocked.

You almost forget that half the market is filled with row after row of regular groceries and supplies. My shopper-savvy companion spotted some good buys, while most goods were on par or more expensive than other area food markets.

Check for bargains when you first enter the store lobby, which appear to be the most significant. Wegman's is more about the freshness and the theater. By the way, every register in a long row was manned and operating. Lately, we have found that a difficulty at other markets, pandemic notwithstanding.

We were a bit hungry, so before leaving we pre-ordered a burger and fries from The Burger Bar, one of their concept eateries. You get a buzzer while you wait. It turned out well. The Welcome Burger was a four-ounce grilled patty with lettuce, tomato and red onion served on a classic soft burger bun for \$6. A side of crispy fries was also good for \$3. It reminded me of Shake Shack. It was in that category. There are all kinds of toppings and a variety of burgers to choose from.

A chilled lobster roll and crab cake sandwich are also on the menu. Kids' meals, shakes and soft-serve are available, too. Beverages and a limited beer selection are on hand.

Wegman's is open 6 a.m. to midnight. Info: 914-539-3700 or visit www.wegmans.com



The new Wegman's Food Market in Harrison had its highly anticipated opening on Aug. 5.

and www.wegmansburgerbar.com.

A Return to Lombardo's

It was eight years ago that Lombardo's, a 75-seat contemporized family-style Italian American pizza restaurant opened alongside Corx Wine & Liquors and the surrounding parking area began to fill almost immediately.

The Lombardo family of Long Island, led by Mario Lombardo Sr. and Mario Jr. and partner James Romanelli, had done a playful redesign of the sprawling space. It formerly housed The Sports Page, with industrial barn-like ceilings, exposed vents and metal beams, architectural lighting and windows looking out on Mamaroneck Avenue. There were also comfortable grey leather booths and banquettes, a long white marble topped bar and a battery of glistening pizza ovens and display cases.

The pandemic has brought changes to the dining room. Following COVID-19 guidelines set by the state, seating has been distanced and stools have been removed from the bar. A line of patio seating surrounds the restaurant's exterior along Mamaroneck Avenue. Take your choice, partial indoor or out. Pizza and food pick-up, quite popular here, is ongoing. The line forms outside the primary parking lot. Ordering in advance is suggested.

Patrons are warmly greeted by the Lombardos and their staff. We scored a high-top inside near the window. Two glasses of Pinot Noir soothed us as we scanned the limited menu. We were in the mood for baked clams, and they do a fine job with them here. Six plump clams, flavorful stuffing and a wedge of lemon. The crusty bread came in handy for dipping into the sauce. We followed with their homemade lasagna, which they kindly split for us. A large side of al dente sautéed broccoli in garlic sauce had a delicious crunch. There was enough for a doggie bag.

Big bowls of pasta include Linguine di Mare (shrimp, mussels and baby clams sautéed in your choice of garlic and oil, marinara or Fra Diavolo sauce) and old-fashioned spaghetti with homemade meatballs.

Generously plated entrees include classic platters of meatball, eggplant, sausage, chicken cutlet or veal cutlet parmigiana; grilled Chicken Toscana (chicken breast



Wegman's scrumptious desserts



The produce section at Wegman's.

with broccoli rabe, roasted peppers, fresh mozzarella cheese, drizzled with extra virgin); and fresh Filet of Sole Oregonata, topped with seasoned bread crumbs in a classic garlic and white wine scampi sauce. All entrees come with choice of pasta or small house salad. There are a variety of calzones, rolls and heroes. Blackboard specialties augment the regular menu.

Mario Sr. started in the pizza business some 30 years ago at Gino's in Elmont, L.I. He now owns seven pizzerias, and, of course, his signature pizzas are a mainstay at Lombardo's in White Plains, and at their newest location in Dobbs Ferry. There are varieties to choose from sold by the slice or whole pies. Lombardo's is a friendly, casual place where a customer can have a slice of pizza or a whole meal at the table.

Lombardo's is located at 1203 Mamaroneck Ave. in White Plains. The restaurant is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. Appetizers available from \$5.25; pastas from \$15.50; entrees range from \$24 to \$29.95; heroes and panini from \$9.95. Specialty pizzas are \$12.75 to \$29.75. Take-out and delivery. Major credit cards accepted. Casual dress. Free parking. First-come, first-served policy; larger groups should call ahead. Info: 914-615-9090 or visit www.lombardospizza.com.

'Time to Dine' Through Aug. 30

Spring Hudson Valley Restaurant Week 2020 had to be postponed this year, but all was not lost. As the Hudson Valley reopens, The Valley Table magazine and sponsors have created Time to Dine, a special two-week culinary dine-a-round highlighting the many

restaurants that had planned to participate in Restaurant Week.

The promotion runs through Aug. 30. Participating restaurants throughout the Hudson Valley will be offering specials and promotions for dine-in and/or dine-out. You must check with your restaurant of choice regarding their individual plans. There is no standard prix-fixe offer at lunch and dinner.

For a list of participants, deals and additional info, visit www.valleytable.com/time-to-dine.

Glynwood Fundraiser Set for Sept. 10

Glynwood Center for Regional Foods and Farming in Cold Spring will be holding Glynwood For Good, an online "Un-Gala" fundraiser on Thursday, Sept. 10 at 6 p.m. Glynwood is a food and educational organization based on a 225-acre working farm. Its mission is to promote farming in the Hudson Valley.

The evening will include live music, local speakers and food-box prizes curated by official Glynwood Ambassador Mark Bittman, famed cookbook author and speaker. There will be an opportunity to meet Bittman on the farm.

If you would like to participate, contact Glynwood, P.O. Box 157, 362 Glynwood Rd., Cold Spring, call 845-265-3338 or visit www.glynwood.org.

Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at 914-235-6591 or at gutreactions@optonline.net.

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Civil Disturbance 1860s Style: Two Faces of a People

All immigrant groups are proud of their heritage, few more so than Irish-Americans. It is a heritage to be proud of, with few blemishes.

One that cannot be ignored, however, is the role the Irish played in one of the worst civil disturbances in our country's history, the New York City draft riots of July 1863. What we see today, motivated in the name of justice, pales in comparison.

Just a couple of weeks after the Battle of Gettysburg, Union officials began selecting names for a nationwide draft to replenish the military. Resistance ran high, especially in working class neighborhoods. Nowhere would that match New York City, whose 800,000 inhabitants in 1860 were almost 47 percent foreign-born, with the largest group being the Irish.

Competing for jobs at the bottom of the social ladder, they had no love of the goal the Union had evolved toward in the Civil War, namely the eradication of slavery. Emancipation promised only to unleash another set of competitors for those very basic, unskilled, menial jobs that were the bread and butter of the common Irish

laborer.

They took to the streets of Manhattan on Monday, July 13, 1863, and what began as a "peaceful" demonstration soon degenerated into a full-scale riot. And the target of the rioters became three-fold: the homes of the wealthy, the police and Black Americans, wherever found.

There were hundreds of victims that day, including many people of color. One was a seven-year-old boy named Joseph Reed. Escaping with his widowed mother and others from their East 28th Street home, they were attacked by the mob and he fell

into its clutches.

Beaten with cudgels and paving stones, he surely would have died on the spot save for John McNamara, a brave New York City fireman who singlehandedly faced down the mob and carried the boy off to safety. McNamara succumbed to his injuries a few days later.

When the riots were finally quelled, 119 New Yorkers lay dead, according to the official accounting. Unofficially, some 1,200 people are thought to have died. Many of these were African-American, killed because of the color of their skin.

Prominent Irish-Americans held key roles in suppressing the riots, including Police Superintendent John Kennedy, who almost lost his life, and Col. Robert Nugent, who had commanded the fabled 69th Infantry Regiment. More than a few Irish offered refuge to fleeing victims, regardless of color. But the damage was done. African-Americans left the city in droves, many never to return.

That same day, outside of Charleston, S.C., the 54th Massachusetts Regiment launched a heroic assault on Confederate stronghold Fort Wagner. What made the 54th unique was that they were comprised almost exclusively of African Americans, led by a white officer, Col. Robert Gould Shaw.

In the ranks that day was Bermuda-born Sgt. Robert John Simmons. Wounded and captured, he died a few weeks later following the amputation of an arm. Less than half the 54th returned from the assault. Shaw also died and was buried by the Confederates with his men in a mass grave.

"We buried him with his n-----," they reported, while other white officers of the 54th were buried in separate graves.

How are these two deaths entwined?



By Brian McGowan

Young Joseph Reed's mother, Susan, a widow, was Robert John Simmons's sister. Young Joseph was Robert Simmons's nephew. Simmons was the boy's uncle.

There is little mention of the riots in the litany of Irish-American accomplishments. It wasn't a moment to be proud of. But to paraphrase the philosopher George Santayana (1863-1952), if we do not remember the

past, we are doomed to repeat it.

In the current discussion about racial injustice and the impropriety of statues and other honoraria venerating Confederate rebels, wouldn't it be fitting for a seven-year-old boy and his uncle to be so honored, who both gave their lives, the boy on account of his race, the man for his adopted country?

Pleasantville resident Brian McGowan was born and raised in the Bronx and is a second-, third- and

Irish Eclectic

fifth-generation Irish-American/Canadian, as his immigrant ancestors followed several paths to the New World. Reach him at brian.m.mcgowan1952@gmail.com or on Twitter (@Bmcgowan52M). He is the author of two books, "Thunder at Noon," about the battle of Waterloo, and "Love, Son John," about World War II. Both are available at Amazon.com.

Legal Notice

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

In the Matter of a Proceeding Under Article 10 of the Family Court Act
BABY BOY SMITH (CIN#) Docket No. NN-1568-20 F/U No. 130968

**A Child Under Eighteen Years of Age Alleged
To be Neglected by LISA SMITH,(Child Neglect Case) Respondent.**

NOTICE: PLACEMENT OF YOUR CHILD(REN) IN FOSTER CARE MAY RESULT IN YOUR LOSS OF YOUR RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD(REN). IF YOUR CHILD(REN) STAYS IN FOSTER CARE FOR 15 OF THE MOST RECENT 22 MONTHS, THE AGENCY MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO FILE A PETITION(S) TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO COMMIT GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY OF YOUR CHILD(REN) TO THE AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADOPTION. IN SOME CASES, THE AGENCY MAY FILE BEFORE THE END OF THE 15-MONTH PERIOD. IF SEVERE OR REPEATED CHILD ABUSE IS PROVEN BY CLEAR AND CONVINCING EVIDENCE, THIS FINDING MAY CONSTITUTE THE BASIS TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO COMMIT GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY OF YOUR CHILD(REN) TO THE AGENCY FOR THE PURPOSES OF

ADOPTION. UPON GOOD CAUSE, THE COURT MAY ORDER AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE NON-RESPONDENT PARENT(S) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A RESPONDENT; IF THE COURT DETERMINES THE CHILD(REN) SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM HIS/HER HOME, THE COURT MAY ORDER AN INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE NON-RESPONDENT PARENT(S) SHOULD BE SUITABLE CUSTODIANS FOR THE CHILD(REN); IF THE CHILD(REN) IS PLACED AND REMAINS IN FOSTER CARE FOR FIFTEEN OF THE MOST RECENT TWENTY-TWO MONTHS, THE AGENCY MAY BE REQUIRED TO FILE A PETITION(S) FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PARENT(S) AND COMMITMENT OF GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY OF THE CHILD(REN) FOR THE PURPOSES OF ADOPTION,

EVEN IF THE PARENT(S) WERE NOT NAMED AS RESPONDENTS IN THE CHILD NEGLECT OR ABUSE PROCEEDING. A NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REQUEST TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT CUSTODY OF THE CHILD(REN) AND TO SEEK ENFORCEMENT OF VISITATION RIGHTS WITH THE CHILD(REN).

BY ORDER OF THE FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT(S) WHO RESIDE(S) OR IS FOUND AT [specify address(es)]:

LISA SMITH (Mother)
Last Known Address:
128 South 12th Avenue, Apartment 2
Mount Vernon, New York 10550

A Petition under Article 10 of the Family Court Act having been filed with this Court, and annexed hereto

YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear virtually before this Court at 131 Warburton Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10701, on SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 at 9:30 o'clock in the morning afternoon of that day to answer the petition and to be dealt with in accordance with Article 10 of the Family Court Act.

Upon your failure to appear as herein directed, a warrant may be issued for your arrest and/or the Court may proceed to Inquest and hearing and determine the petition as provided by law.

Dated: July 24, 2020

_____/s/_____
Clerk of Court

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continued from page 24

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An Update on the Ancient Art and Science of Wine Preservation



By Nick Antonaccio

During human history, wine has played an integral role in enhancing the social fabric of numerous cultures and civilizations. At one time wine was consumed as soon as it was fermented into juice and alcohol. As mankind evolved, so

too did winemaking – and wine preservation.

The ability to age wines for future consumption was enhanced by the advancements made in storing wines, creating ideal conditions conducive to natural preservation and transporting wines over long distances.

The art and science of wine preservation has been primarily centered on two aspects of the life cycle of wine: stabilized temperature and oxidation prevention.

Many techniques have been employed over the centuries.

Early winemaking, which some believe goes back as far as Neolithic times, emerged on an ad hoc basis: grow native grapes in open fields, induce fermentation by crushing them and, at the ideal moment when fruit, acid and alcohol were achieved, consume them (quickly) before oxygen and bacteria rendered them unpalatable and possibly

dangerous. Early man also realized that wine was as much a social lubricant as a healthy source of liquid nourishment.

In 2007 a team of archeologists found the remnants of a basic winery in a cave in Armenia. They determined that the winery and traces of wine unearthed were over 6,000 years old. Among their key findings were a wine press, wine cups, fragments of grapes – and clay storage vessels buried in the cave.

Through trial and error, the ancient winemakers determined that this storage method provided the optimum temperature, humidity and darkness for sustaining the viability of their wine. Six millennia later, despite significant technological advances, winemakers store and age their wine in caves, at similar temperatures and humidity levels as the ancients.

These clay storage jugs and storage practices were used extensively by the ancient Romans and Greeks. Archived shipping documents refer to these vessels as amphorae. Composed of available local clay, amphorae were

the preferred shipping containers for many perishable food products stored on ancient ships undertaking the long sea voyages between Greece and mainland Western Europe. Watertight amphorae have been discovered on ancient sunken ships near Sicily containing wine, oils and various spices, several of which were still preserved

after centuries under water.

The Romans further perfected wine storage when they conquered northeast France and planted grapes there. They discovered that the limestone caves in the region designated as Champagne were ideal for storing wines. The design of the extensive caves they excavated is in use today around the world and continues to be considered a preferred storage method.

Fast forward to modern times. Cave and cellar storage continue to proliferate. Even

with the advent of mechanical cooling, many winemakers – and their cost accountants – prefer natural caves, for their temperature consistency and cost efficiency.

In the last century, as coal mining began waning on the East Coast of the United States, coal mining entrepreneurs transported their boring equipment to California wine country, digging out hillsides to form natural caves. Their scientifically validated criteria for creating the ideal cellars? The ancient natural caves of the Romans and Greeks in both Eastern and Western Europe.

Another, unintended influence of the ancients: at least one American and several European winemakers are experimenting

with aging wine underwater. Encouraged by still-viable wines found on both ancient and modern sunken ships, these winemakers feel that the ocean offers the ideal temperature, pressure, darkness and swaying motion to age wine.



Here in the 21st century, restaurants and in-home wine cellars follow similar principles for ideal storage conditions. The ideal temperature for most wines? 55 to 59 degrees for both reds and whites. Humidity levels for all wines? 60 to 68 percent.

Optimum level of light? Zero, which prevents damaging UV rays from penetrating a bottle.

Not coincidentally, these are generally the same specifications found in the ancient caves of early civilizations. To quote the familiar refrain: everything old is new again.

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

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Examiner Sports

Putnam Valley Miners Earn No.1 Seed in GHVBL 10U A-Division

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor@Directrays

A couple of hard-nosed 10U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League teams got after each other last week when the host Putnam Valley Miners (11-4) avenged a previous loss to the mighty New Castle Mustangs (13-6) by posting a 5-2 victory at Rotary Field.

The future appears bright in both neighborhoods as the two A-League teams -- PV and New Castle -- looked to secure the No.1 and No.3 seeds, respectively, in the upcoming GHVBL playoffs, which are slated to begin this week and conclude on August 23rd.

Braden McCarty, Chris Constantino, Logan Moriarty, Nicholas Martinelli and Jack Marinelli each knocked in a run for the Miners, who got a solid starting effort from P Roman Catalano (6 Ks over three frames). The Miners followed up that win with a 14-8 triumph over the Beacon Bulldogs. Nick DeFico and Moriarty both doubled, singled and scored two runs for the winners.

"I couldn't be more proud of these kids, the parents and the coaches," Manager Billy Benedetto exclaimed. "This is unreal!"

The Yorktown Huskers 8U team has torn up the A-Division, going 12-3-1 to lock down the No.1 seed. They are the team to beat.

The Yorktown Heat are 11-6 in the 9U A-Division and stand a good chance to advance deep into the playoffs after an 8-1 win over Somers Red Storm (9-8-1) last Thursday. Nick Marcello and Cameron Carrillo each drove home two runs for the winners. Franke Pirrone (2 runs) and Logan Kaplan each had two hits and an RBI for the Heat, who saw pitchers JoJo Valle, Pirrone and Kyle Nelson combine on a gem.

"The team has been improving over the course of the season," Yorktown Coach Caroleo said. "Our hitting has been strong this year. It is a great group of boys who work hard and are happy to be out on the field playing this year."

The Cortlandt Americans (11-8) and New Castle Labradors (9-2) are right on their tails in the A-Division. The 9U B-Division features Somers, Putnam Valley Miners (9-4), Shrub Oak Storm (8-8) and the Cortland Nationals (8-4). *continued on next page*



NIKKI GALLAGHER/RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Yorktown P Frank Pirrone fires pitch in Heat's 8-1 win over Somers Red Storm Thursday.



Yorktown's Cameron Depaola takes rip in the Heat's 8-1 win over host Somers last Thursday.



Putnam Valley IF Evan Smyth slides in safely against Mahopac Wolves 3B Tommy Vitello in PV's 6-4 GHVBL loss to host Mahopac Wednesday.



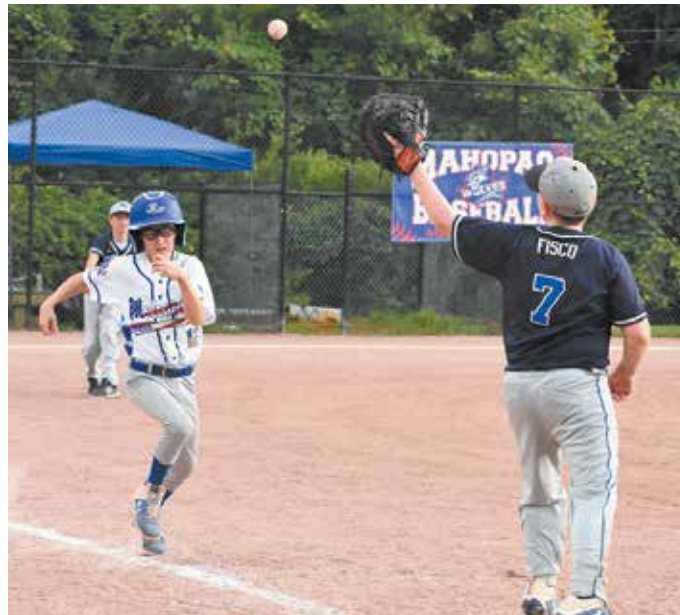
Put Valley Miner P Roman Catalano fires pitch in 5-2 win over visiting New Castle.

Sports

continued from previous page



Mahopac's Lorenzo Echandy left behind a cloud of dust wherever he went in the Wolves' 6-4 win over visiting Putnam Valley Wednesday in 11U GHVBL action.



Put Valley 1B Parker Fisco readies to put-out Mahopac's Antony Blanc in PV's 6-4 loss to host Wolves Wednesday at Sycamore Park.



Yorktown IF Kyle Nelson awaits throw as Somers' Colin Biolsi slides in safely in Heat's 8-1 win over Red Storm Thursday.

The 10U divisions are closely contested and the Armonk Bobcats (10-7), Ossining Pride (8-3), Briarcliff Bears (11-6) and Carmel Cubs (11-1) are right in the mix of the B-Division.

The 11U divisions are crazy, with nearly 50 teams challenging for titles. In the A-Division, the Brewster Crush Orange (8-6-1) and Yorktown Crusaders (6-5) are legit. The B-Division sees three Dutchess County teams among the top five, but the Mahopac Wolves (13-2) are solid contenders as a potential No.2 seed. The Somers Red Storm (14-6) and Putnam Valley Pride Blue (10-3) should not be slept on.

The Yorktown Lightning (10-4) lead the 12U A-Division while the Briarcliff Bears (12-2) and East Coast Mavs (12-1) are battling for second place in the B-Division.

The 13U B-Division has seen both the Patterson Pirates (13-2) and Putnam Valley Wild (11-3) putting forth sensational efforts, with 9er Baseball checking in at 10-9.

The Cortlandt Nationals (7-3-1) have had a steady season in the 14U A-Division while the Hit-&-Run Academy of White Plains is 5-0-1. The Somers Red Storm (11-3), Hit-&-Run (8-3-1), Brewster Brigade (9-3) and Bedford Hills (8-7) are soaring up the B-Division rankings.

The Patterson Pirates (7-2) are making strong move in the 15U B-Division. The Yorktown Rebels (11-0) have yet to be beaten in the 16U A-Division and appear poised to make a deep playoff run while Mahopac (7-4-1) has been a steady contender in the B-Division.



New Castle SS Christian Weynand awaits tag on Put Valley's Chris Constantino in 5-2 loss to host PV in 10U GHVBL action.



Mahopac 3B Anthony Genovese is just a tad late with tag in Wolves 8U 3-2 loss to visiting North Rockland Thursday.



Putnam Valley Miner C Lucas Goldman tripled and slides in safely under tag from New Castle 3B Alex Weissman in PV's 5-2 win in 10U GHVBL action.



Mahopac Wolves IF Tommy Vitello takes cut in 6-4 win over Putnam Valley Pride White Wednesday.



New Castle LF Spencer Acard makes running catch in 5-2 loss to host Putnam Valley in 10U GHVBL action.

Sports

Gov. Cuomo, Just Give us THE PLAN, Please



By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports
Editor@Directrays

I cannot imagine a world without high school football, without Friday Night Lights at Somers and Yorktown High, without Putnam County bigwigs Carmel and Mahopac packing the stands, without a Saturday afternoon at Parkway Field on Marble Avenue in Pleasantville. But I'm starting to realize that I may have to.

In a normal year, this would be the week where sports editors and writers would be-

gin to go full throttle at the 2020 high school football campaign with previews and opinions. Surely, Somers All-NYS RB/LB Jack Kaiser would adorn the cover of our Northern Westchester edition this week.

Instead, I'm sitting here on a rainy Sunday afternoon watching another woeful Mets game wondering about the potential of having the high school football season postponed until the spring of 2021. That's actually on the table.

The California Interscholastic Federation recently announced the start of its high school football season will be delayed until December or January, so it's just a matter of time before King Andrew Cuomo announces a similar plan for New York State. We need an actual plan moving forward.

I get it, Cuomo is flying without radar here, as we all are under the COVID-19 restrictions. But sports is such a big part of our student-athletes' lives, and the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) can't formulate a plan without his say-so.

Any decision against having a high school football season – plus soccer, field hockey, volleyball and cross country – will kill the morale of every school district in the state.

That's what's at stake here.

You would think that New York's low infection rate, which has remained below 1 percent for 10 consecutive days through Sunday, would allow high school sports a chance to start, considering the fact that club, travel and recreational sports have advanced and succeeded without spiking cases. The results and progress we've made in New York should force some changes and adjustments to the fall sports season.

If we follow data, common sense and science, we would likely have a 100 percent chance of having a delayed high school sports season this fall, but since this virus has become politicized some local leaders seem to favor politics, agenda and hysteria, which leaves us with a 50-50 chance for high school sports this fall.

"One thing I've learned over the course of the last five or six months is don't try to predict," said NYSPHSAA Executive Director Robert Zayas. "Every sport has its challenges. Gov. Cuomo announced schools can reopen in the fall. No final decision has been made on interscholastic athletics. We look forward to continuing our discussions with state officials and advocating for the safe re-

turn of high school sports."

My gut tells me we won't see a fall season, which would be an absolute travesty and totally unjust. I pray I'm wrong because the mental and physical health of our student-athletes is every bit as important as the precautions against the coronavirus. The case numbers between the time schools open in early September and Sept. 21 – the date the NYSPHSAA has circled as the first day of practice for the fall season – could determine whether or not we have an ounce of hope for the fall sports campaign.

"We're trying to stay hopeful, but each passing day makes it more difficult," Lakeland field hockey Coach Sharon Sarsen admitted.

The NYSPHSAA has already canceled all fall championships, concerned about exposing athletes, officials and fans to people from all parts of the state before they return to potentially infect their home region. I get all that. It's necessary, but we can't afford to tell our student-athletes that they need to wait until 2021 to get back in the groove, especially the non-contact sports like cross country, tennis and field hockey.

No matter the outcome, there are about 562,000 student-athletes in New York State who deserve some direction from Cuomo. Throw these kids a bone.

"We're trying to stay hopeful, but each passing day makes it more difficult,"

Lakeland field hockey Coach

Sharon Sarsen on the start of the 2020 Fall sports campaign."

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Lone Wolf!

**Put Valley Miners Strike
it Rich in 5-2 GHVBL
10U Win over New Castle**



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

New Castle Mustang catcher Drew Wolfson slaps a tag on hurdling Putnam Valley Miner Evan Peterson in the Miners' 5-2 Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League 10U victory over the visiting Mustangs last Tuesday at Rotary Field in PV. The Miners (11-4) went on to lock down the No.1 seed in the GHVBL A-Division while the Mustangs (14-6) hoped to lock down the three-seed... see Sports