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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 15, Issue 725

## Full Programming for Isolated Seniors Can't Return Soon Enough

By Abby Luby

After the pandemic forced senior centers and programs throughout the county to close or drastically limit their offerings, most are trying to slowly return to normal.

During the past year the most pressing concern has been for older seniors living alone who, without social interaction, have been at risk for depression and dependency.

"It was important to keep in contact with our seniors who were isolated," said Laurie Gonzalez, director of the Office of Elder Americans in Mount Pleasant. "We delivered meals three times a week to those experiencing social isolation. A meal was left at the doorway by someone who would knock on the door, step away at a

safe distance, and when the door opened, there would be a nice face to say hello to."

Gonzalez said its nutrition program served about 125 Mount Pleasant seniors, delivering over 22,000 meals over the past year. The program provided not only a meal but a person to chat with for a few minutes.

"For some, the in-person encounter was the highlight of their day and they would dress up to look their best," she said.

The town's Nutrition Program is scheduled to return in-person on Sept. 8 for all those 60 and over at the Community Center in Valhalla on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is no date for the Tuesday and Thursday lunch program to return at the Bradhurst Center

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## Mt. Kisco Pays Tribute to Late Environmental Advocate

By Martin Wilbur

During his 80 years, most of it spent in Mount Kisco, Jim Gmelin touched the lives of countless people with his unbridled passion for the environment.

Last Saturday, many of his friends and the people he worked with to make the village a better place gathered by Wallace Pond at Leonard Park to remember Gmelin's tireless advocacy for the natural world and to honor the longtime volunteer through poignant and humorous tributes.

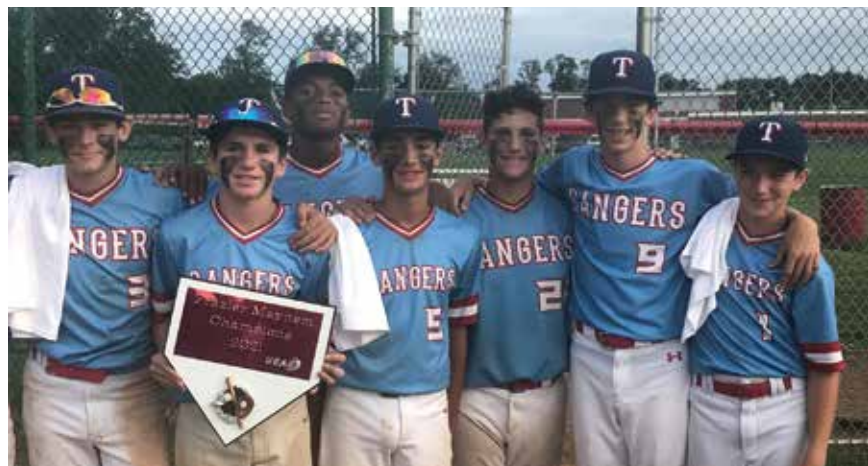
Gmelin died in March, but he left a lasting legacy that will be emulated for years.

"His strong advocacy for environmental preservation educated the village, the (Village) Board, the DPW, the Recreation Department, etc., on the benefits of preserving the natural environment and

*continued on page 2*



Jim Gmelin, who fought to preserve the environment in Mount Kisco, was honored last Saturday morning at Leonard Park. He died in March at 80 years old.



### Mayhem at the Shore

The Town of Mount Pleasant and Sherman Park Little League were well represented on July 17 and 18 at the Frazier Mayhem 13U Tournament in Toms River, N.J. The tournament was named after longtime Major Leaguer and Team USA player Todd Frazier, who at the age of 12 was a member of the 1998 Toms River Little League World Series championship team. Pictured holding the tourney trophy is Mount Pleasant resident and Sherman Park alum Declan Bruder, flanked by fellow town residents and Sherman Park alums Keith Haecker, left, and Nolan Gurney, right, along with other Ranger teammates. The 13U Rangers defeated the Hudson Valley Select Black 13U Team 10-0 to clinch the tournament win.

## North Castle Approves Easement, Expenditure in Land Trust Acquisition

By Martin Wilbur

The North Castle Town Board approved accepting a conservation easement from the Westchester Land Trust earlier this month to preserve an environmentally sensitive 63-acre parcel on Byram Lake Road as open space in perpetuity.

Early last year, the Land Trust obtained a \$1,062,000 state grant that will enable it to buy the property from owner Vito Errico. The town will be pitching in \$250,000 to complete the transaction.

Supervisor Michael Schiliro said prior to the vote that he had been eying the land since he was first elected to the board as a councilman in 2007. Schiliro said after a few different development proposals from Errico stalled, it provided the opening to acquire the land.

"I just really appreciate his efforts to



A photo of a piece of the 63-acre parcel in Armonk that will be preserved as open space on Byram Lake Road.

make this happen and always checking back in with the town and with me on the status of his property, which did not end up getting developed and it could have been developed with several homes," he said.

The town's Open Space Committee

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# Full Programming for Isolated Seniors Can't Return Soon Enough

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in Hawthorne.

Some centers have been slower to return to in-person programming. At Pleasantville's Clinton Street Senior Center, older residents recently voiced frustration to the Village Board that services have remained shuttered or limited since last year. The primary concern was for seniors in their 80s and 90s who are struggling with being alone.

"They're the ones who have suffered with nothing to do," said Sylvia Nomikof, a Clinton Street resident. "They are getting depressed and frustrated because they have no place to go. They don't drive and depend on the center."

Nomikof was among a group of Pleasantville seniors who voiced their concern about the lack of transportation for grocery shopping, few social events and reduced indoor dining at the July 12 Village Board meeting. The popular lunch hours have been replaced with boxed

meals that are picked up between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"We are looking to reopen meals in-house by mid-August, depending on staff schedules," said Joni Ehrlich, director of senior services at the Clinton Street Center. "Seniors will be offered one meal a week in the building. We will gradually build up to offering more."

Shopping trips have been slow to resume, Ehrlich acknowledged, because their small bus makes it difficult to adhere to COVID guidelines for social distancing from the Centers for Disease Control. Another challenge is finding an experienced part-time driver after the last driver retired.

Ehrlich said the center initially set up programs last June through Zoom and the local access cable station PCTV. In-person programs were run outside, where participants could be socially distanced easily.

"That way we made sure we were seeing the ones that were most vulnerable," Ehrlich said.

Isolation was also a concern for Christine Grey, assistant superintendent for New Castle's Recreation & Parks Department.

"People did suffer because we kept the center closed," Grey said of senior programs at the center in Chappaqua. "Our social worker reached out to our seniors and offered a discussion group twice a week on how to come out of isolation. She's always in touch with the seniors."

Grey said at the height of the pandemic, they received several calls from children of elderly parents concerned about the absence of programs. Grey increased the number of meals to be delivered on a daily basis to with those living alone. She also said community volunteers checked in on the housebound to keep them connected.

As more seniors got vaccinated and COVID cases declined, in-person programs



The Mount Pleasant Community Center in Valhalla where some of the town's senior programs are held.

have slowly increased. Depending on staff availability and space, shopping and theater trips are being planned and centers are offering board games and exercise classes. Most are limited and require reservations, masks and social distancing.

"We are so intent on keeping our seniors safe and make sure the environment is safe," said Liz Dieter, recreation supervisor for senior citizens in Mount Kisco. "We are going slowly and listening to the science."

The Clinton Street Center plans on offering bingo after lunch in August, adding another dining day in September and in-person classes in October.

In Mount Pleasant, trips to casinos have resumed, along with senior games and exercise classes. Mount Kisco's Fox Senior Center is offering tai chi, line dancing, crafts, bridge and bingo. New Castle is holding regular exercise and craft classes.

With COVID numbers increasing, providing safe environments for seniors remains the big challenge for those in charge. They are cautiously moving ahead.

Ehrlich is concerned that many retired people still take care of grandchildren who are too young to get vaccinated.

"Older caregivers are getting kids off the bus in the summer or after school," she said. "With the Delta variant looming, there are constantly moving parts while we are managing to keep seniors and staff safe."

## Mt. Kisco Pays Tribute to Late Environmental Advocate

*continued from page 1*

also how to do it," said Mount Kisco Village Historian Harry McCartney.

In recognition of his work, a serviceberry was planted just behind the village's Wall of Honor at Leonard Park. He is one of four people to be enshrined on the wall since it was unveiled a few years ago.

As part of his many contributions, Gmelin had pressed and convinced village officials to hire a professional naturalist to create a natural resource inventory so educated policy decisions could be made on environmental issues, McCartney said.

At various times he served on the Mount Kisco Conservation Advisory Council and Byram Lake Committee. He volunteered to serve on the board of Marsh Sanctuary and worked on the village's historic nature trails. He also donated his time as a docent for the New York Botanical Gardens and enjoyed working with local students.

Fox Lane Middle School science teacher Christine Ledrich recalled that Gmelin years ago had reached out to the school to see if he could get teachers and students involved in annually restocking the Kisco River with brown trout, cleaning the water of debris and other projects. Ledrich said he was delighted to introduce the importance of environmental work to many of the youngsters.

On their last field trip in the spring of 2019, more than 300 trout were released into the river over three days. Last year, Ledrich said because schools were shutting down in March due to the pandemic, she was forced to bring the fish to the river alone.

"He worked with thousands of students and inspired them to care for the environment in our backyard," she said. "He coordinated a clean-up of the Kisco River where students from my school volunteered on many Saturday mornings hauling 10 pounds of trash out of the water and nearby waterways where we release our trout."

Gmelin's love for the environment was his passion but not his vocation. Born in



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

The serviceberry that was planted at Leonard Park in Mount Kisco in honor of environmental advocate Jim Gmelin.

Mount Kisco, Gmelin, a devout Catholic who attended daily Mass and served as a lector at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Mount Kisco, attended St. Francis Elementary School, then Archbishop Stepinac High School before going on to Notre Dame. He also served in the Marines.

He would go to law school and started out as an assistant district attorney in Colorado, before returning to Westchester to briefly start his own law practice. He spent most of his career working in Surrogates Court in White Plains.

Former mayor Patricia Reilly wondered what Gmelin was doing working in courtrooms and offices for so long.

"How did a man that liked the environment so much sit on his rear end so much as a lawyer when his real love was to be out in the environment?" she asked.

Dan Gmelin, one of his two sons, and others told stories of how he kept his own beehive and would brush off multiple bee stings while caring for his collection.

Local attorney Dan Hollis said Gmelin

was a tribute to his faith, family, community and country and never lacked energy.

"To me, Jim amazed me with his knowledge of local flora and fauna, and was someone who grew up in Mount Kisco with the historic information that he shared with us," Hollis said in remarks that were read at Saturday's tribute. "From the Botanical Garden to helping children raise and release trout, and the trail building and clearing as well as hiking with us, Jim was a giving presence. He knew so much, the fish and where to find them. He had lots of friends and he enjoyed gardening. What a guy."

With Gmelin gone, whenever it comes to the local environment, the sentiment now among those who share the same concerns and passion is what would Jim do, said Planning Board member Ralph Vigliotti.

"I think it's so much to Jim's legacy that we think along that line," Vigliotti said. "I thank Jim for all that he gave me."

"We all miss Jim," Reilly added. "We were better for knowing him."

## No. Castle Approves Easement, Expenditure in Land Trust Acquisition

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identified the property as a top priority for preservation as early as 2003.

When the state Department of Environmental Conservation's Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) program grant was announced in January 2020, it was stated that the Land Trust will share management of the property as a nature preserve. It is anticipated that there will be public access to the property, including a hiking trail that will be built.

The land is bordered by I-684, Byram Lake Reservoir, the Meyer Preserve and the Butler Memorial Sanctuary. It is part of a 700-acre corridor that contains highly varied species of plants and animals as well as high-quality sand and gravel aquifers that produce large volumes of water.



# Westchester Mulls Reinstating Mask Wearing at County Facilities

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County is considering tightening its mask policy for people entering county-owned facilities to try and slow down the accelerating number of COVID-19 cases.

County Executive George Latimer said Monday that sometime this week there may be new guidelines for wearing masks in county office buildings and going to Westchester parks, including county beaches, pools and Playland.

Latimer said whatever the decision may be will not be made lightly by his office and Westchester health officials.

"When we look at having to impose restrictions requiring masks, which we had last year, which we would re-impose now, we're doing it because the numbers are pointing us in that direction," he said.

County officials also need time to speak to and arrive at a consensus with the nine unions that make up its workforce before any decision is announced, Latimer added.

The number of active COVID-19 cases continues to surge in the county, as it is doing in most areas of the state and the nation. On Monday, Latimer reported that there were 745 active cases in the county, up from 460 cases a week earlier and 175 from a month ago.

Despite the sharp increase, the number of hospitalizations has remained low, standing at 21 through the weekend. On June 28, the county had just seven COVID-19-related hospitalizations, the lowest since shortly after the start of the pandemic.

Furthermore, in that same four-week time frame, there have been two county residents to die from the virus.

The numbers suggest that some of the people testing positive include vaccinated people but few people in that category are getting sick enough to require serious medical attention.

"What we want to make sure that everybody understands is that the process of vaccination is the critical tool to fight this disease," Latimer said. "It is the institution of vaccination in January that has made the difference, we think, in the numbers that we had in January and the general numbers we have today."

Westchester is now up to 79.1 percent of adults at least 18 years old who have had at least one shot of one of the vaccines. The 645,805 vaccinations represent two-thirds of the estimated 967,662 total population of the county, although children under 12 years old are still not eligible to receive a shot.

Latimer said a key will be the infection rate, hospitalizations and fatalities over the next one to three months. The next 30 days will complete most of the balance of summer, 60 days will take in the reopening of schools and three months will include the onset of cooler weather and more people starting to congregate inside.

While the county executive floated the likelihood of some sort of mask requirement on county property, he hedged some by wanting to get others involved in the discussion.

"To mandate anything becomes an important step, a major step and one that

is very controversial, let's be candid, so I think we want to have community dialogue before we do anything like that," Latimer said.

Dr. Dial Hewlett, head of the Division of Disease Control for the Westchester County Department of Health, said he did not have statistics regarding what percentage of the recent infections in the county are a result of the Delta variant, the more highly communicable strain of COVID-19. Statistics have been cited that at least 83 percent of the new cases are a result of the variant across the United States, he said.



## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

However, thus far, the vaccinations have been quite successful in protecting those who are fully inoculated.

"The best way to defend ourselves against all the variants is to become vaccinated," Hewlett said.

Only the state can issue wide-ranging across the state. The lower rungs of government can only mandate mask wearing on their own property.

New York State continues to require commuters to wear masks on public transportation and health care facilities and correctional facilities.

According to the state's COVID-19 tracker, all 10 regions in the state clocked in with infection rates of 2 percent on Sunday except for Central New York (1.8 percent) and the Southern Tier (1.5 percent).

The Mid Hudson region, which includes Westchester and Putnam counties, was at 2 percent on Sunday and at 1.6 percent on the rolling seven-day average.

On a county-by-county basis, Westchester had 68 new cases on Sunday from 3,552 tests for a 1.9 percent positivity rate. It also had 74 new cases on Saturday. It stood at 1.5 percent on the rolling average. Putnam had seven positives out of 290 tests on Sunday.

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# Virtual Program to Be Held to Honor President Clinton for 75th Birthday

By Martin Wilbur

Next Tuesday, members of the public will be able to watch a birthday commemoration for a former president and Chappaqua's best-known resident.

The Chappaqua Public Library will be hosting a virtual celebration on Aug. 3 at 7 p.m. of President Bill Clinton's 75th birthday, which arrives later next month on Aug. 19.

Library Program Coordinator Joan Kuhn said it was mentioned by the president of the Board of Trustees, Ronni Diamondstein, that next month Clinton will be reaching the milestone.

She then thought a virtual celebration would be an appropriate forum to recognize the former president's special day by the community that he has called home since leaving the White House 20 years ago.

"We wanted to have it inclusive to everybody in town because he's been a very visible and helpful neighbor," Kuhn said. "He's just been visible and helpful."



The Chappaqua Public Library has organized an Aug. 3 virtual program that will recognize former President Bill Clinton's milestone birthday.

She said that about 25 town organizations will each be presenting a one- to two-minute video clip as part of the program. On Monday, Kuhn said she is hopeful, but not yet certain, whether Clinton will be participating that evening.

"I'm not sure if he's going to be joining us in person or if we will get a recorded video," Kuhn said. "It will depend on his schedule."

During the past two decades, sightings of the former president have been relatively common in town, including at some of the stores in downtown Chappaqua. He has also been a fixture at the Town of New Castle's annual Memorial Day parade, which he and Hillary Clinton march in whenever the event is held.

Anyone from the public can register to attend the anticipated one-hour birthday celebration event by visiting the Chappaqua Public Library website at [www.chappaqualibrary.org](http://www.chappaqualibrary.org). To find out how to register, click on Events then scroll down to and click on the Aug. 3 entry.



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# Behind on Rent Due to COVID? Program Helps Tenants Avoid Eviction

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County is working to reach tenants who have been unable to pay their rent as well as landlords who did not receive their monthly rent payments because of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The county is partnering with 13 local nonprofit organizations to spread the word and help eligible tenants and landlords apply to the state's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). Eligible tenants must show they fell behind on rent or utility bills since Mar. 13, 2020, and not exceed 80 percent of Average Median Income.

Each tenant would be eligible to have up to 12 months of back payments made on their behalf.

Westchester received \$22.7 million through the Treasury Department earlier this year to pay for the program, of which \$20 million will be paid directly to landlords who have had tenants fall behind on rent, said Blanca Lopez, assistant director of operations for the county.

While there is no deadline, households who may be eligible are encouraged to do so as soon as possible because the funds are finite, Lopez said.

"What the county would do is to promote and market this program to its fullest potential because we want to make sure that every Westchester household who has been impacted by COVID and is behind on their rent or utility bills can apply for this program," Lopez said.

As part of that outreach, the nonprofit

organizations are offering assistance to people in communities throughout Westchester. Lopez said very often it is the local organizations that have the respect and trust of their community members rather than government agencies.

Carola Bracco, executive director of Neighbors Link, which works with the immigrant community throughout the county and is one of the participating nonprofits, said for each household that applies for the relief, the tenant must fill out one portion of the application and the landlord is obligated to fill out another.

Bracco said in certain communities, particularly common among immigrants who have worked in the service industries, the loss of income and threat of eviction has been real despite the state having invoked a moratorium on rent and evictions. The rent moratorium is set to expire on Aug. 31.

"We know for a fact that in spite of a rent moratorium, people were still evicted or kicked out through informal processes as opposed to being legally evicted," Bracco said. "People were forced out of their living arrangements and their apartments. There were many people, and we find out about it either after the fact or from what happened from one day to the next."

The demand for assistance through ERAP has been great, said Esmeralda Hoscoy, regional director of Westchester County for Catholic Charities in its Peekskill office. There were 357 phone calls and 124 e-mails received by the organization just in the



Blanca Lopez, assistant director of operations for Westchester County, whose office is helping to administer the Emergency Rental Assistance Program for the county.

southern half of Westchester during the first 47 days since the program's June 1 launch. Those figures don't include the City of Yonkers, which is administering the program on its own.

For those who may not be proficient in English or technology, the process of making sure the application is properly filled out can be laborious, Hoscoy said. In some cases, her office has had to refer applicants to one of the other participating non-profits.

"A lot of people trust Catholic Charities, have had interaction with Catholic Charities in some form," she said. "Whether that was from our SNAP program or immigration department, which is quite large, or any of our other referral services, I think I do have quite a high volume because we're very well-known and individuals trust us."

Bracco said the county reached out to Neighbors Link and the other organizations because they have had a proven track record in administering programs in the past. During the pandemic, for example, Neighbors Link received an anonymous \$1 million donation to be used for direct payments to families. It distributed \$1,000 each to 1,000 families, she said.

However, spreading awareness about ERAP has its challenges. She stressed that one's immigration status has no bearing on eligibility and that the organization will work with municipal governments and school districts throughout the county to identify those in need.

"It is very important that the county and Neighbors Link give consistent messaging that it is safe to apply for these funds, and I think the community knows that we will work with the county to ensure that it is safe, and they trust us to do that," Bracco said.

For more information about the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, visit <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance>. For a full list of nonprofits that are assisting applicants, visit <https://homes.westchestergov.com/housing-help>.



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# Federal Grant to Help Westchester Improve Health of Poorer Communities

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County has been awarded a \$3.76 million federal grant to increase health literacy to help underserved communities within the county combat COVID-19 more effectively.

The Department of Health and Human Services through its Office of Minority Health approved the two-year funding to Westchester to increase vaccination rates in areas where people are more at risk for the virus, said County Executive George Latimer. It is one of only three areas of the state, along with New York City and Orange County, and 73 entities across the nation to receive the funding, he said.

Dr. Dial Hewlett, who leads the county's Division of Disease Control, said Westchester will partner with Mercy College along with community organizations and houses of worship to help reduce health disparities in the 10 most susceptible areas. The county will rely on census tracks to identify the predominantly urban areas where various factors may inhibit vaccine access and acceptance.

Areas that have low socioeconomic status and a higher proportion of people of color and those with limited English proficiency will be targeted in the program, he said.

"The specific goal of this grant is to demonstrate the effectiveness of local government implementation of evidence-

based health literacy strategies that are culturally appropriate for the purpose of enhancing COVID vaccination rates, enhancing COVID testing, enhancing contact tracing and also many other mitigating measures in areas of racial and ethnic minority populations and also among other socially vulnerable populations, including these racial and ethnic minority communities," Hewlett said.

Communities that will benefit from the Advancing Health Literacy to Enhance Equitable Community Response to COVID-19 initiative, as it is called, are Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Peekskill, Port Chester, White Plains, Yonkers, Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow, Montrose and

Croton-on-Hudson.

Miriam Ford, associate dean of nursing at Mercy College, said the school and the other participants in the program share the county Health Department's commitment to serving the most vulnerable.

"In this time of COVID, with the numbers rising again, the work of getting out accessible information regarding COVID-19 is vital and we are incredibly proud to be part of this," Ford said.

Each of the participating community organizations will identify 160 community members to share the lessons with hundreds of other residents. The community members will help residents learn how to identify reliable sources of health information and how to improve their confidence in navigating the health system.

The Health Department also will team up with the county Department of Corrections to train corrections staff members to provide similar outreach and education.

Hewlett said having Westchester granted the money is a significant achievement for the county.

"This grant is truly the highest form of recognition for our department and I am honored to be the principal investigator for this project," he said. "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to work together to improve the health of everyone in our county."

## Outdoor Exercise Equipment for Seniors Approved for Westchester Parks

Westchester County seniors will soon have a new reason to get outdoors and get some exercise in Westchester.

The Board of Legislators approved \$1 million in funding for a program to bring outdoor fitness equipment and workout stations for seniors to Westchester County parks in a unanimous vote on July 12.

Legislator Ruth Walter (D-Bronxville), chair of the board's Environment & Health Committee, requested the equipment.

"Keeping active and getting outdoors is important to physical and mental health," Walter said. "That's especially true for people as they get older. Older residents also might be less likely to have access to places and spaces to exercise. Having this equipment in our parks will help local seniors maintain their health and serve as a place where people can meet up and socialize while staying active."

Public Works and Transportation Chair Vedat Gashi (D-Yorktown) said the county

parks system is one of Westchester's best attractions, which should be true for seniors as well.

"I think it's wonderful that we're investing in something that's a fun, healthy benefit, especially for them," Gashi said.

With the passage of the measure, the Parks Department will begin to identify potential locations and work with consultants to determine the equipment that fits the needs of park users.



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# Petition Over Diversity Curriculum Triggers Raucous Lakeland Meeting

By Samuel Rowland

Tensions exploded last Thursday in the Lakeland School District over whether the Board of Education should accept a petition calling for an emergency meeting to address perceived pro-Critical Race Theory bias in the district.

"I have a speech I wrote but after hearing what's gone on so far, I only have two comments to make," said parent Kat Symington at the July 22 board meeting. "What is going on in this district? I don't remember all this divisiveness, all this hostility, all this outward aggression...and it's on both sides."

Community member Joseph Perlman said the purpose of an emergency Town Hall-style meeting would be to review the board's decision to introduce the optional state Culturally Responsive-Sustaining framework that recommends curriculum changes and to examine the formation of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) team to manage the initiative.

It would also address assertions that accuse the entire Lakeland community of systemic racism which defames the community, he said. Furthermore, it would ensure the DEI team represents the will of the electorate by replacing the two candidates in last spring's Lakeland Board of Education election who collected the fewest votes.

The members of the DEI team were appointed by the board based on experience and credentials, officials have said.



SAMUEL ROWLAND PHOTO

Speakers from the community contributed to a tense Lakeland Board of Education meeting last Thursday when parents and residents introduced a petition calling for an emergency meeting over issues related to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the district.

The Board of Education has said that they have not decided whether to implement the Culturally Responsive-Sustaining framework.

Several speakers that supported calls for the emergency meeting are associated with the Lakeland Chapter of Save Our Schools for Westchester Children. Others were wearing local chapter t-shirts with the slogan "Education, not Indoctrination." Before the meeting, one woman was selling

the t-shirts outside for \$20.

Many of the Save Our School speakers argued the petition is a legitimate answer to the district's Demand Letter that had been sent to the board last year calling for more active, anti-racist activities and policies to be implemented.

Community members Maureen Schulman said the emergency Town Hall petition is more legitimate because close to 1,300 signatures were collected from people who

normally vote in Lakeland elections.

During the meeting, speakers representing each side of the issue heckled residents they opposed. Board members were also yelled at for allowing speakers to continue past their allotted time and for cutting microphones. Microphones were shut off when DEI supporter Joe Ascanio and Save Our Schools member Judy McLaughlin were speaking.

McLaughlin was the parent who had originally introduced the emergency Town Hall petition to the board on July 8, with 550 signatures at the time.

Each side tried to use the time reserved for discussion on the district's School Safety Plan to offer their comments on the swelling controversy.

Jenny Sunshine, a parent of an LGBTQ child, was interrupted at one point by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Brendan Lyons for speaking off-topic.

"No child can learn unless they feel absolutely safe in school," Sunshine said. "Children need educational surroundings where they feel accepted and part of the group, which is why the Diversity Equity and Inclusion initiatives are so important because if every child can be included and accepted by students, teachers and faculty, then they will be able to learn."

"I'm very afraid we soon will have our SRO officers taken away from us," McLaughlin responded during the meeting. "Having the (Culturally Responsive-Sustaining) framework will affect the safety of our

*continued on page 12*

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## Proposed Indian Point PSDAR Meeting Announcement

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a public meeting on July 29 in Tarrytown, NY, to discuss the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, or PSDAR, for the Indian Point Nuclear Generating, Unit Nos. 1, 2, and 3 (IPEC). The PSDAR, which includes the site-specific decommissioning cost estimate (DCE), provides an overview of Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC's (HDI) planned activities, schedule, projected costs, and environmental impacts for the decommissioning of the IPEC. The public will have an opportunity to offer comments at the meeting.

The meeting will be held from 6-9 p.m. at the Sleepy Hollow Hotel and Conference Center (previously the DoubleTree Hotel), located at 455 South Broadway, in Tarrytown, NY. IPEC consists of three pressurized-water reactors located in Buchanan, NY, in Westchester County, all of which are permanently shut down.

HDI submitted on Dec. 19, 2019, its PSDAR, which had been contingent upon the transfer of the plant licenses to HDI. The IPEC license transfer transaction closed on May 28, 2021. Accordingly, the NRC is holding a public meeting in the vicinity of the IPEC to discuss the PSDAR's content and receive comments. Written comments on the report can be submitted using Docket ID NRC-2019-0142 on the Regulations.gov website. Comments can also be submitted, using the Docket ID, via mail to: Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff.

*The deadline for submitting comments  
on the report is Oct. 22, 2021.*



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## Obituaries

### Catherine Devlin

Catherine Flynn Devlin Jr., a longtime Mount Kisco resident, died Jan. 28 after a long illness. She was 79.

Affectionately known as "Cappy," she was born on Nov. 6, 1941 in the Bronx to Robert H. Devlin Sr. and Catherine Flynn Devlin. Cappy graduated from Manhattanville College with a bachelor's in economics, where she continued to be an active alumna.

Following her graduation, she held various positions in public relations and journalism at Reader's Digest and Ticketron. A three-month trip to Europe inspired her to establish Cappy's Travel and Cappy Devlin International, Inc. in Mount Kisco and Manhattan in 1973. Her motto and passion was "The world is open to you. Experience it." She was well known for her entrepreneurial skills, which enabled her to operate her travel business for over 40 years while navigating a changing industry – including developing a patented travel kiosk, building an online travel business and hosting a live travel radio show in her 70s. She relished bringing the joy of travel to clients.

In 1973, she co-founded Friendship Ambassadors Foundation, a pioneering international travel and exchange program for youth, which is still in operation today. Highlights include gaining admission to communist China with Brown University



Catherine Devlin

choral students and meeting Mother Teresa in India, who remained a lifelong inspiration for her.

Cappy enjoyed spending time with friends and family. Although self-described as "shy," she was always the life of the party with a love for music, dancing and champagne.

She was predeceased by her parents, her sister, Loretta (Robin), and her brother, Robert (Rick). She is survived by her brother, Dennis, many nieces and nephews, friends and former colleagues.

A memorial funeral Mass will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Mount Kisco on Saturday, Aug. 14 at 11:30 a.m.

### William Heckett Sr.

William A. Heckett Sr. of Mahopac and formerly of Mount Vernon, sadly passed away on July 16 at the age of 88.

He was born on Oct. 21, 1932, to the late Hector J. and Marion (née Burke) Heckett.

William graduated from Edison High School in Mount Vernon and went on to serve his country in the National Guard protecting our northern borders and earned the rank of sergeant. William joined the Mount Vernon Fire Department in 1956, rising up through the ranks to lieutenant during his 38-year career.

William married the love of his life, Margaret "Peggy" P. Herbert, in 1953 at St. Peter & Paul Church in Mount Vernon. He had always been active in his community, so after their move to Mahopac, Bill joined the Mahopac Falls Volunteer Fire Department

and held many positions including the fire police and board of directors.

Bill is survived by his son, John, and his wife, Noli, of Gaithersburg, Md.; daughter-in-law Carolyn of West Haverstraw; his brother, Robert, of Mahopac; grandsons William III and Phillip; great-grandchildren Dominick and Charlotte; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his loving wife, Margaret, son William Jr., grandson Stephen and his brothers, John, Thomas, Richard and James.

The family received visitors on July 21 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home in Mahopac. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 22 at St. John the Evangelist Church, also in Mahopac. Interment followed at Kensico Cemetery in Valhalla.

## Police Blotter

### Croton-on-Hudson Police Department

**July 12:** Patrols responded to a Half Moon Bay Drive residence at 2:57 p.m. for a domestic dispute between family members. The parties were interviewed and a report will be filed.

**July 13:** Patrol responded to an area on North Highland Place at 9:10 p.m. on a report of an unknown animal sounding distressed. Patrol canvassed the area with negative results.

**July 14:** Report of a party having urinated in public view at a commercial location on Benedict Boulevard at 9:27 a.m. The subject is now lying down and sleeping in front of the location. Patrols interviewed the party who was warned. The party refused medical assistance and was given a courtesy ride to another location.

**July 14:** Report of a subject who is panhandling and cursing at people in a commercial area on Maple Street at 4:16 p.m. The area was canvassed with negative results.

**July 16:** Patrols responded to an area on Church Street at 10:23 a.m. for a report of a landlord-tenant dispute. The parties were interviewed, but the matter was determined to be civil in nature and was referred to court.

**July 16:** Patrols performed a welfare check at an area on Albany Post Road at 2:43 p.m. for a party who was walking on the roadway in the heat. The party stated she was walking to former President Clinton's residence because they were soulmates. The U.S. Secret Service was notified and the party was known to their agency.

**July 18:** Patrol responded to North Riverside Avenue for a landlord-tenant dispute regarding parking spaces at 5:37 p.m. The parties were interviewed and the matter was considered civil in nature.

### North Castle Police Department

**July 16:** A female caller reported at 4:32 p.m. that there is a male party with a finger laceration from a chainsaw on Maryland Avenue. The call was forwarded to 60 Control for EMS dispatch. The responding officer reported that the party was taken to Northern Westchester Hospital.

**July 17:** Armonk Fire Department ambulance was dispatched at 7:07 p.m. on a report of an accident with multiple cars, including a rollover, on northbound I-684 at mile marker 8. Officers responded to assist and state police was advised.

**July 18:** A driver was arrested on Route 22 at 12:37 a.m. and charged with DWI following a traffic stop. The vehicle was impounded.

**July 19:** A caller reported at 9:13 p.m. that Con Edison knocked wires off of his house on Spruce Hollow and the wires are actively on fire under his car. Authorities notified 60 Control. The responding officer reported a fallen primary wire has caused a small fire in the driveway. Armonk Fire Department responded and Con Edison was notified.

### Yorktown Police Department

**July 22:** Frank Spina, 63, of Yorktown, was served with a criminal summons at 10:45 a.m. regarding a June 29 incident during which he allegedly punched a victim twice in the face at Underhill Plaza on Commerce Street.



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# SPCA, Cat Advocate Group at Odds Over Handling of Injured Feline

By Martin Wilbur

An accident involving an Ossining resident's cat in April has pitted a local group of animal advocates against the SPCA of Westchester.

On Apr. 16, Drisy Nunez's three-year-old gray tortie mix named Betty somehow pushed out the screen of the open window in her seventh-floor apartment, lost her balance and fell to the pavement below.

Nunez, who adopted the cat in 2019 from her original owner who was dying, raced downstairs expecting to find Betty. Instead, as she later learned, the cat made its way to a nearby laundromat severely injured. A good Samaritan first brought Betty to PetSmart, but was told to take her to the SPCA.

Nunez said she learned of Betty's whereabouts after posting on Facebook, and visited the SPCA's facilities on Sunday, Apr. 18. But Nunez said that once she arrived, she was unable to see Betty and was forced to sign over custody to the cat because she didn't know how much medical treatments, that had already been initiated by the SPCA, would cost.

"That was on Sunday," Nunez said. "On a Monday night, they said you have to sign her off to us, you can't take her right now. You have to sign her off to us. They told me you have to start calling vets. I only had \$5,000 to pay for medical bills."

Since then, Nunez contacted The Cat Squad, a local cat rescue and animal rights group based in Briarcliff Manor. They staged



a protest last Saturday on North State Road on Nunez's and Betty's behalf with about a dozen demonstrators near the SPCA's property.

They hope the publicity will put pressure on the SPCA to allow Nunez to visit Betty and eventually allow her to take her home.

"Any other good shelter would have worked with her to help this cat," said Virginia Leary, who identified herself as The Cat Squad's director.

However, SPCA Director of Development Lisa Bonanno-Spence said many of the circumstances that Nunez and The Cat Squad have been relating on social media and to others is inaccurate. Betty was taken for emergency veterinary treatment after



The Cat Squad organized a protest outside the SPCA's Briarcliff Manor campus last weekend decrying the organization's handling of Betty, left an injured cat, which they say should eventually be returned to her rightful owner.

being brought to the SPCA. She suffered at least two broken toes and a fractured spine.

Nunez's son, who came to the facility, was not allowed to see the cat on Apr. 18 because Betty was still recovering from her treatments, Bonanno-Spence said, but when Nunez and a friend returned the following day, they spent much of the day with her.

"She was at the SPCA from about 9:30 till about 4:30, and she and her friend that came with her the were with Betty for hours in the back of our clinic," Bonanno-Spence said. "She even went home and brought her some food and she spent hours with her. The only time anyone was denied seeing Betty was that initial day when she just came back."

Bonanno-Spence said on Apr. 19, the SPCA did ask Nunez what she wanted to do

because the organization needed to know whether Betty would continue care with them or if Nunez wanted to reclaim her.

The SPCA explained to her that if she did claim Betty the average cost of medical care with several veterinarians and animal hospitals would run \$1,000 to \$1,200 a day, and it was unclear how long that would last.

Bonanno-Spence said Nunez initialed the form to surrender Betty because of the cost. Since then, a foster home has been found with an SPCA volunteer who is experienced in caring for injured cats. Since the current caretaker works from home, the individual has the time and the expertise to perform physical therapy four times a day.

"We have absolutely no doubt that Drisy

*continued on page 12*

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Letters to the Editor

Infrastructure, Capital Projects a Hallmark of Cortlandt Improvements

A big part of being a town supervisor is planning to repair, improve and construct new infrastructure throughout the community. Water storage tanks, traffic signals, replacement of water lines, drainage projects and road improvements, including paving a number of roads each year, are some of those projects. (The Town of Cortlandt averages \$2 million in infrastructure projects each year.)

We seek grants to assist us with traffic calming measures, new sidewalks, improved traffic signals, roundabouts, sewers and more.

The town, during my administration, passed a local law to annually adopt a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). A staff

committee and I put together this five-year plan each year and list of needed projects, each more than \$50,000 for the Town Board to consider. That's millions of dollars each year, and some of these projects are phased in over a couple of years.

It's a very good way to plan for necessary infrastructure and capital projects to address the needs of a community. This CIP has included large vehicles such as snowplows, playgrounds, ball fields, water tanks, paving, expansion of our senior community center, a new bathhouse and snack bar this year at our town pool and many more.

The plan also helps me as supervisor

and our comptroller to budget for these expenses each year. A percentage of the costs of these projects come either from our town's fund balance or bonding and are also offset from state or federal grants.

Sharing services with other municipalities is another way to help pay for these major projects, especially for unfunded mandates. For example, when we received a mandate from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to filter our town's water in the 1990s, we formed the Northern Westchester Joint Waterworks with two other towns and a smaller water district to share in the costs of building a new filtration plant. This waterworks continues to this day. (I

serve on the executive board.) The Town of Cortlandt saved \$8 million by sharing this cost with our partners.

One of my first major projects I worked on was to lobby the MTA to build a new, larger Metro-North train station in Cortlandt and they did. It serves many of our commuters and those wanting to take an occasional trip into the city.

I'm very proud of all of these major improvements and of the new funding plans we developed to benefit our community.

Supervisor Linda Puglisi  
Cortlandt Supervisor

Some Putnam Parents Deceived By Anti-Critical Race Theory Zealots

By now, almost everyone has heard of Critical Race Theory (CRT), and most have at least a vague understanding that it has become the latest political divider, like immigration and police brutality and election fraud before it. But not as many have delved very far into the national origins of the debate or the local people driving it here in Putnam County.

As someone who does not have children and concerned about the issue on a more macro level, I think it's important that we consider these questions. This is not just something for parents, students, teachers and candidates for local office to be keyed into; every voter, every member of the human race, should be worried when a plot that was transparently concocted out of thin air by an uncredentialed filmmaker and failed local politician (Christopher Rufo), and then harnessed and disseminated by a proud member of a Nazi sympathizer group (Sebastian Gorka, who publicly

boasts his ties to the Nazi-linked group the Vitezi Rend, and who made our local "anti-CRT hero" famous by retweeting her), is so easily and enthusiastically embraced by parents and local elected officials.

The proud local leader of the anti-CRT movement, Tatiana Ibrahim, long before any debates existed, stood in front of the courthouse in Carmel baselessly calling Democrats "communists," accusing them of violence and vowing to act as Trump's army if necessary, while the chair of the Putnam County Legislature, Toni Addonizio, emphatically cheered.

We have Assemblyman Kevin Byrne, who recently was shown smiling for a group photo in a post for Save Our Schools for Westchester Children - Lakeland Chapter, which is seemingly a branch of the shadowy national movement behind the CRT debacle, Save Our Schools. It does not explain on its website who founded it or runs it. Instead, it features

only the following floating quote by Black conservative Thomas Sowell: "Not since the days of the Hitler Youth have young people been subjected to more propaganda on more politically correct issues."

Score one for gaslighting when a movement being propelled by documented anti-Semites like Gorka calls people who favor diversity and inclusion curricula in schools "the Hitler Youth."

These are the laughable and inane ideas to which hoodwinked suburban parents now cling to at our local Board of Education meetings. Our Republican elected leaders, rather than researching and educating themselves and their constituents, are falling for it hook, line and sinker in hopes it will win them votes. No matter that it's at the expense of intelligent life everywhere.

Eileen McDermott  
Brewster

Officials Must Protect County Park From Development

As a Mount Pleasant resident, I was shocked to learn that a developer is proposing a 31-home subdivision on the shores of Pocantico Lake. This is a county park enjoyed by residents throughout Westchester, and our Mount Pleasant community has an obligation to protect this open space for all.

I was grateful to see last week's article that cogently outlined the serious issues to be considered.

Our elected officials at all levels of government should be working to preserve and maintain Pocantico Lake Park, not enable the degradation of an area that is enjoyed by so many, and helps this county to be so admired.

Christine Stavropoulos  
Mount Pleasant

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## Guest Column

### Why Do So Many of Us Continue to Outsource Our Life: 'Goethe' Figure?

*"A person hears only what they understand."*

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Life may seem to be a contraction at times. To quote Dickens, "it was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

This seems to hold true in our current time as we attempt to find our essence and peace amidst the adversity and uncertainties of life, as we often feel helpless and threatened by life itself. This is evident by the number of self-help books that flood the market today.

We are living in contradictory times where wisdom and foolishness coexist as a cohort, along with hope and despair, and where spring and winter blend into a season of doubt and reflection.

To achieve our essence, we may need to ask ourselves, who is our true self? And, to free ourselves from the herd mentality that expects us to be a reflection of who they are, along with their wants and needs. We outsource our life to the herd that often tramples upon our true self

and essence. That denies one the strength to live and challenge life to find ourselves as we should be.

In troubled times, we often opt to find our strength in escapism, by projecting our insecurities and fantasies into movie superheroes, rock stars or uber athletes to make them an extension of ourselves to outsource our life. This wannabe syndrome is a quick and quiet denial of reality sought out as an imaginary sanctuary of sorts whose reverie is broken with the first thoughts of reality.

To place this in perspective, we can use Goethe's old professor Faust as an example, who had come to the point of suicide as the result of creating an unlivable life. Faust sells his soul to Mephistopheles, appearing as his lordship, the devil, the personification of his own incomplete and doubting shadow.

Unlike Faust, we need not resort to selling our soul by outsourcing our life to surrogate or consolation life choices imposed on us. Quoting the philosopher Epictetus, who asks the question, "we would never allow anyone

to own our body, though we easily hand over our minds to other people."

This is a good example where philosophy can help to build one's limits and measure oneself against our higher inner standards, as opposed to outsourcing it to the lower singular mind of the crowd.

*"You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him."*

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

For instance, it is one thing to root and cheer for your favorite pro quarterback when he throws the winning touchdown. It's another when you outsource your own life's touchdowns by projecting yourself into your hero, for reality is the realization that it's the



By Richard Cirulli

pro who receives the crowd's applause in the arena, as the viewer is left unknown, sidelined from his or her true potential. To be clear, this is not a criticism of sports, but rather how we frame the sport to improve our lives.

Dickens' view of humanity as just existing to toil may sound a bit incredulous. The thought of selling one's soul just to outsource your achievements should scare the dickens out of you.

Be well. Be safe. Be happy. Be nice. Amor fati!

*Dr. Richard Cirulli is a published author, playwright and retired professor. His body of works can be viewed at [www.demitasseplayers.com](http://www.demitasseplayers.com). He looks forward to your comments, and can be reached at [profrcirulli@optonline.net](mailto:profrcirulli@optonline.net).*

### Existentially Speaking

## Letter to the Editor

### Putnam Dem Chair's Attacks Shouldn't Have Been Allowed to Be Published

While we do not ordinarily waste time responding to partisan political attacks, we, the undersigned members of the Putnam County Legislature, cannot let go unchallenged the contemptible and false statements made in a letter from Putnam County Democrats Chairman Scott Reing in the July 13 edition ("Most Putnam County Legislators Afraid to Stand Up to One of Their Own.")

Reing claimed that Legislator Neal Sullivan's comments at the July meeting of the full legislature were somehow disrespectful to his legislative colleagues and other elected officials. This is completely untrue.

Reing launched his personal attack because Legislator Sullivan methodically dismantled the deeply flawed arguments made by Reing's fellow Democrat, Sheriff Langley, about proposed amendments to the county charter. When Reing spoke at the meeting, even he couldn't defend the sheriff's position, so instead, Reing berated Legislator Sullivan, just as he did in his letter.

Reing's letter also falsely claimed that

two Republican legislators spoke privately with him to express their agreement with his personal attacks on Legislator Sullivan. No such conversations ever happened.

But the most outrageous part of Reing's letter was his scurrilous attack on the legislature that implied – without a shred of evidence – that one or more legislators have committed crimes that have gone unreported because of some vague "fear of retribution." Such baseless accusations are improper and unbecoming of a party chairman and candidate for office in Putnam County. And as a lawyer, Reing should know that such false accusations are considered misconduct under the New York Rules of Professional Conduct, which prohibit a lawyer from engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

While the Putnam Examiner chose to print this libelous part of Reing's screed, at least one other Putnam County newspaper showed better editorial discretion in choosing not to do so.

**Toni Addonizio, Legislator, District 3, Chairwoman**

**Neal L. Sullivan, Legislator, District 9, Deputy Chairman**

**William Gouldman, Legislator, District 2**

**Ginny Nacerino Legislator, District 4**

**Carl L. Albano, Legislator, District 5**

**Paul Jonke, Legislator, District 6**

**Joseph Castellano, Legislator, District 7**

**Amy Sayegh, Legislator, District 8**

## Correction

In last week's photo caption about the recent grand opening of Hudson Valley Beta Kitchen in Croton-on-Hudson, Kimberly Ragazzo was incorrectly identified as a Cortlandt Town Board member. Ragazzo is Cortlandt Town Justice. The Examiner regrets the error.

### How Biofuels Help Save Money and Lower Carbon Emissions

By Miriam Gold

Westchester home and business owners can save money by buying heating oil mixed with biofuel and lower their carbon footprint at the same time.

New York State offers a tax credit as an incentive to use biofuel.

"The credit is equal to one cent for each percent of biodiesel per gallon of bio heating fuel purchased before January 1, 2023," states the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance website.

For instance, buyers purchasing 1,000 gallons of B20 biofuel (heating oil with 20 percent biofuel) will save \$200, according to the Empire State Energy Association.

Biofuels are comprised of a blend of oils from organic matter such as soybeans and corn.

These crops are replenished regularly, unlike fossil fuels – coal, oil and natural gas. Using biofuels lowers your carbon emissions by 86 percent, according to the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) website [www.biodiesel.org](http://www.biodiesel.org).

The NBB explains that biofuels function well at any temperature, contrary to popular belief that biofuels cannot be used during cold weather.

Manufacturing biofuels creates American jobs, another reason to use them.

About 60,000 Americans work in the biofuels industry.

"For every 100 million gallons of biodiesel and renewable diesel that is produced – the industry creates 3,200 jobs. So, as these fuels grow – so does its job-creating ability," the NBB states.

Since biofuels are composed of a wide variety of organic materials, all industries, including manufacturing, agriculture and transportation, that assist in growing and harvesting these materials benefit economically. The biodiesel industry has added more than \$12 billion to the

American economy since the energy source has been introduced, the NBB stated.

In addition to benefiting the environment and creating new jobs, using heating oil that contains biofuels helps soybean farmers.

"Biofuels burn more cleanly," said Dan Singer, CEO of Robison Oil, which services Westchester and Putnam counties and is based in Port Chester.

Singer, who drives an electric car, said that biofuel contains, "lower sulfur content."

Using biodiesel leads to "better air quality" and "lowers your carbon footprint," Singer explained.

Robison's heating oil is 10 percent biofuel. The company is working on increasing its biofuel content to 20 percent within the next two years. Westchester County mandates that all heating oil must contain at least 5 percent biodiesel.

The biofuel used by Robison is made entirely from soybeans farmed in the United States.

The quality of heating oil with biofuel is the same as heating oil that contains fuels. When Robison began adding biofuel to heating oil, the company ensured that customers' heating oil equipment would function equally well with biofuels and that customers would not face additional costs.

"Using biofuel also helps America reduce its dependence on oil suppliers from foreign countries that may or may not be friendly with the U.S.," Singer said.

Singer is committed to helping reduce damage to the climate and wants "to make sure we do our part to lower our carbon footprint and help our customers do the same."

"At the end of the day, we live on this planet too," he said.

*Miriam Gold is a rising sophomore at Pleasantville High School.*

*Michael Gold provided research assistance for this article.*



# Petition Over Diversity Curriculum Triggers Raucous Lakeland Meeting

*continued from page 7*

school. It is being pushed by people that are not for police officers."

When the non-agenda item public comment period began, the rowdiness continued with some petition supporters calling for Lyons' resignation. As the meeting wore on, speakers on both sides began to express disgust and exhaustion.

"This is not how civil adults on both sides should act," said Marcel Delgado. "Just imagine, if this is tonight's behavior here, what goes on in your home? I challenge you all to go to church because we

all need Jesus."

Speakers from both sides acknowledged confusion over what DEI and the Culturally-Responsive-Sustaining framework entailed and how the district might implement it.

"I want my kids taught accurate history. I don't want them to find out about historical events, like the Tulsa race riots, as I did, from a TV show about superheroes," said parent Chuck Monsento. "I don't want (my kids) to blame any particular race for the horrific damages caused by...Jim Crow, redlining and segregation. The only people responsible are those who created those

laws and knowingly benefited from them."

Ilene Caizzio, who has mixed emotions about DEI, described going to brunch with a Lakeland community member who strongly supports Critical Race Theory.

"So we proposed, why not have a cultural day, a day where the community could get together and spend time together and actually meet each other," Caizzio said. "I think that if we ate and actually spent time together, we'd recognize that we do have more in common than we don't."

# SPCA, Cat Advocate Group at Odds Over Handling of Injured Feline

*continued from page 7*

and her family have a loving home; however, the type of care that Betty needs is very special and she really needs to be in a particular home and in a quiet one, and the medical expenses for the rest of her life might be an unknown," Bonanno-Spence said.

Deborah Pangle, the president of The Cat Squad, echoed other claims at last Saturday's demonstration and online that Betty may no longer be alive, accusing the SPCA of covering its tracks.

The SPCA provided a photo of Betty, that is reprinted with this story, that it says was taken within the past week.

"This may be a small thing but it's a microcosm of other things that go on there," Pangle said of the SPCA, "and this was very personal."

Nunez said she's not convinced Betty is still alive, but if she is she would like to see her and get her back.

"When you bury a family member, it brings closure," she said. "When they disappear, you don't know if they're out there or not, so every day, you think about it."

## Get Your Vaccine!

The Albert A. Capellini Community Center in Yorktown Heights will host a pop-up COVID-19 vaccine clinic this Wednesday, July 28. Vaccines will be administered starting at 4 p.m. to residents 12 years old and up, at 1974 Commerce St. The event is a public-private partnership with Save Mor Pharmacy in Croton-on-Hudson. Anyone interested in receiving a vaccine can visit <https://www.yorktownny.org/covid-19-vaccine-clinic-july-28th-2021>. Appointments are made on a first-come, first-served basis.



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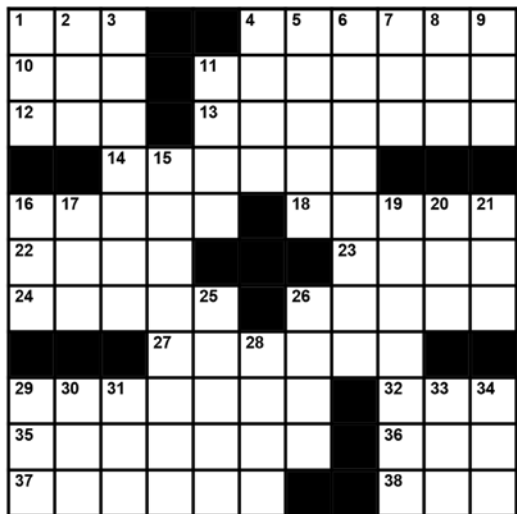
## Crossword

### Across

- Before, to Byron
- An exciting learning adventure for tech-loving kids in Mt. Kisco - Code
- Antelope with tufted tail
- Rum brand
- Long-snouted fish
- Rock music's \_\_, Lake & Palmer
- Relating to a breathing problem
- Cover anew, as a plot
- Jottings
- Cut short
- Trillion: Prefix
- Aggregate
- Old Apple computers
- Mite or louse
- A small flute or Mahopac bakery, Cafe

### Down

- Chocolate in oval shape
- Part of a cell nucleus
- Continental combination
- ID item
- Strand, in a way
- Sleep-producing as a drug
- Not seniors, abbr.
- Play title word
- Violation of morals
- Modify temporarily



- Frozen treat
- NYC building
- Shady tree
- Having a will
- Cambrian, for one
- British special forces, for short
- High-hatter
- Durocher and Tolstoy
- Some cameras, for short
- Pressure measurement (abbr.)
- Holm who played Bilbo Baggins
- U.S.S.R. successor
- Biz \_\_
- CSI stuff

Answers on page 22

Buy Myles Mellor's easy, super easy, medium crosswords, family puzzle books, word searches and cryptograms at [www.ilovecrosswords.com](http://www.ilovecrosswords.com)

# The Summit Club Opens New Era With Redesigned Golf Course

By Martin Wilbur

The Summit Club at Armonk celebrated the full opening of all 18 holes of its redesigned golf course last Saturday, holding a grand opening and an inaugural tournament for its members and guests.

The 6,700-yard, par 71 course was renovated by noted golf course architect Rees Jones on the 156-acre site. It features a renovation of all of the holes, including three new holes on the back nine, and the rebuilding of all fairway and greenside bunkers along with the adjustment of some bunker locations to give players additional shot options.

Several greens complexes were added to provide new greenside chipping areas, and a number of landing zones were created on a few holes to improve their playability. The golf range and practice facilities were also upgraded.

Managing partner Jeffrey Mendell said all 18 holes were opened to golfers during the July 4 weekend. Starting in April until then, golfers had to play the front nine twice to complete a full round.

"It's taken a long time to get to this point, but we're all very pleased that we're here today," Mendell said during a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony near the first hole. "The golf course is in top shape. It is the first phase of the renovation of the golf course, so there is more to come for the next couple of years."

The full opening of the course is the first major step at the property. There will be development of a new, modern clubhouse



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Last Saturday, The Summit Club at Armonk celebrated its recent opening of all 18 holes of its new redesigned golf course. Cutting the ribbon were, from left, Bryce Watson, representing course architect Rees Jones, and managing partners Jeffrey Mendell and Chris Schiavone.

with amenities and a new pool facility, said co-managing partner Chris Schiavone. The property owners are also before the town, which is reviewing its application for 73 luxury condominiums on a portion of the site.

Schiavone said considering the amount of work that had to be done following a cold winter with plenty of snow and then by rain in spring, makes reopening of the course a special achievement.

"It's always great when you can finally

open 18 holes of golf," Schiavone said. "It's been four years dormant and there's a lot of work that went into bringing it back, not just Rees Jones redesign work, but our great superintendent and his team (brought) things back to the level where I'm really amazed how nice it looks so quickly."

He said the course plays fair, challenging enough for seasoned golfers but won't be out of reach for less experienced players.

A key objective is to make the club a more

casual, family-friendly facility that is more affordable than many private clubs in the region, Schiavone said. The current initiation fee is \$25,000, although that is expected to double once the clubhouse and other amenities are built, he said.

"I think that's going to make us unique in the market and that's one of the things that makes it exciting," Schiavone said.

Currently, there are between 30 and 40 members, according to Mendell. Once the project is built out, it is anticipated there will be about 300 members, he said. The owners of the 73 condominiums will automatically become members under the terms of ownership.

While there is still work to be done on the other phases of the project, last Saturday was about golf. Whether players had played the course previously or not, Mendell said golfers will like what they see.

"I think you'll see a lot of changes for those who have played the golf course in the past, and for those who haven't, I hope you stay out of the rough," he joked.

Last year, the partners and their team changed the name of the project to The Summit Club from Brynwood Golf & Country Club as part of a rebranding strategy. The property has been used as a golf course since the 1960s when it operated as the Canyon Club until it was sold a little more than a decade ago.

For more information about The Summit Club at Armonk, call 914-273-9300 or visit [www.thesummitclub.net](http://www.thesummitclub.net).



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## Bill Allows Carmel Schools to Establish Insurance Reserve Fund

Legislation introduced by state Sen. Peter Harchuk (D-Lewisboro) was signed into law last week, allowing the Carmel Central School District to establish an insurance reserve fund and maintain self-insurance for staff, administration and retiree health care.

The legislation amends the state's General Municipal Law, and it became enacted immediately after Gov. Andrew Cuomo gave it his approval.

"This legislation will give the Carmel district flexibility in funding basic services and responding to unforeseen expenditures," Harchuk said. "I applaud efforts like this that help local taxpayers, and am pleased to have been able to partner with the district in this regard."

The health insurance reserve would aid the district in planning its annual budget and weather increases or decreases in health insurance expenditures, Harchuk added.

"As someone who graduated from the Carmel School District nearly 20 years ago, it's a pleasure to support common-sense legislation that helps give the school district more flexibility to provide for its faculty, students, and protect taxpayers," said Assemblyman

Kevin Byrne (R-Mahopac). "I thank my colleagues Assemblymember Sandy Galef for introducing the legislation in the Assembly and Sen. Harchuk in the Senate, and was happy to show my support as cosponsor."

All municipal corporations around the state and a number of school districts, including the Scarsdale Union Free School District, the Mamaroneck Union Free School District and the Minisink Valley Central School District, have already established an insurance reserve fund under current law.

Now enacted, the new legislation gives the Carmel School District leeway to make more cost-effective use of savings and then spend from this reserve fund for any loss, claim, action or judgment directly related to the district's self-insured plan.

The Carmel School District has self-insured their employees' health benefit plans for over a decade and saved several million dollars by identifying the most cost-efficient health care plans and pharmaceutical contracts. Savings have helped maintain the school's workforce and supported programs and services for students.

## NRC, Indian Point Decommissioning Report Meeting This Thursday

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff will conduct a public meeting this Thursday, July 29 at 6 p.m. in Tarrytown to discuss and receive comments regarding a decommissioning roadmap report for the Indian Point nuclear power plant.

The meeting will be held at the Sleepy Hollow Hotel and Conference Center (formerly the DoubleTree Hotel), at 455 S. Broadway in Tarrytown. COVID-19 safety protocols will be in effect at the venue. Members of the public will also have the ability to listen to the meeting via phone by calling 888-950-9563, passcode 7254623.

During the meeting, NRC staff will present information on regulatory reviews and oversight of the plant during decommissioning. Doors will open to the public beginning at 5:30 p.m., with sign-ups available for those interested in offering comments and/or to receive a transcript of the meeting afterwards. Public comment on the

report will be accepted until Oct. 22.

A federal register notice with information on how to submit comments in writing was published on June 24.

Holtec, which owns the Buchanan facility, submitted a Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report for Indian Point on Dec. 19, 2019. The NRC staff began a formal review of the plan when Holtec officially acquired the plant from Entergy in May. Among other things, it describes the company's plans to use the immediate dismantlement approach and complete the radiological decommissioning of the site within about 15 years. A copy of the report is available in the NRC's electronic documents website, ADAMS, using the access number ML19354A698.

Indian Point 3 permanently ceased operations on Apr. 30, while Indian Point 2 was shut down a year earlier. Indian Point 1, an earlier-generation plant, was removed from service in the 1970s.

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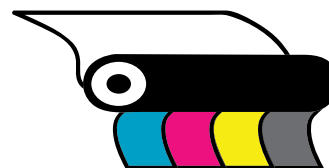
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# State Falling Short in Helping People With Disabilities Find Work

Some New Yorkers with disabilities are missing out on employment opportunities and other benefits because the state Office of Mental Health (OMH) failed to include key features in its web-based advisement system, according to an audit released last Thursday by state Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli.

"New Yorkers with disabilities suffer much higher rates of unemployment and poverty than the general public, and the Office of Mental Health hasn't done enough to fix those problems," DiNapoli said. "While the state has made some efforts to address these issues, much more can and should be done. I urge OMH to work with other state agencies and make sure New Yorkers with disabilities have every chance possible to find fulfilling employment and the benefits they're entitled to."

In 2018, there were about one million working-age adults with disabilities in New York. The employment rate of working-age people with disabilities was about 33 percent compared to about 75 percent for people without disabilities. Census data shows that New Yorkers with disabilities are more than twice as likely to live in poverty.

In June, DiNapoli's office released an analysis finding that unemployment rates for New Yorkers who face challenges due to a disability increased more quickly and have remained high during the COVID-19 pandemic. Between April 2020 and March 2021, unemployment rates for people with disabilities averaged 16.2 percent, an increase of 8.9 percent over the prior year. The

monthly average unemployment rate for all New Yorkers between April 2020 and March 2021 was 11.3 percent.

The state Employment First Commission, established by executive order and comprised of representatives from several state agencies, issued a report in March 2015 with the goal of increasing the employment rate of people with disabilities and decreasing their poverty rate. The report recommended improving online benefits advisement services to help those with disabilities make decisions about going to work.

DiNapoli's auditors found that OMH, which designed and launched the web-based system, failed to fully address a range of aspects of the commission report's recommendations to inform people of their benefits and provide critical assistance.

They found OMH's benefits advisement system, known as the Work Incentives Navigator and Reports (WINR) application, does not contain certain recommended components including an interactive benefits calculator, automated life coaching communications, and information regarding benefits such as nutrition and housing assistance.

The commission report had suggested implementing a specific platform – DB101 – to provide features such as an interactive benefits calculator that would allow individuals with disabilities to better assess how employment will impact their income, health coverage, and other publicly funded benefits. OMH officials said that platform

did not meet their minimum internal security requirements, but were unable to provide any documentation to show this, nor could they provide documentation for the rationale they used to support their decision that WINR would be sufficient to meet the report's recommendation.

WINR also does not provide information on all of the benefits that the commission report recommended, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Social Security Disability Insurance, Supplemental Security Income and housing assistance, because, according to OMH, it does not currently have access to the necessary data sources from other entities and has not attempted to obtain them. Without this additional information, OMH can provide only limited benefits information to customers.

OMH is also unable to determine with certainty whether an individual is actually eligible for the benefits for which they provide notifications.

DiNapoli's auditors found that many individuals with disabilities who would likely benefit from WINR services do not have access to the application because WINR is only available to individuals working with an employment services provider. Given that only approximately 40,000 of the estimated one million New Yorkers with disabilities are using WINR, many state residents are missing out on valuable benefits information that could result in greater employment opportunities.

OMH officials acknowledged that they have not assessed whether they are meeting the commission report's goals for improving employment opportunities and that there are many individuals with disabilities who may not be able to benefit from WINR's services due to its eligibility requirements.

Auditors also found system customers may not be receiving notifications on important benefits for which they may be eligible, as notifications are delivered only via email and less than half of the 40,000 WINR customers were found to have a valid e-mail address in the application.

DiNapoli recommended OMH, working with other state agencies, should:

- Formally assess WINR and make improvements, where possible, to address the commission report's recommendation;
- Consider implementing key system features recommended in the commission's report;
- Develop a network of professional life coaches who are educated in public benefits and work incentives for individuals with disabilities and collaborate with other state agencies as necessary;
- Expand WINR to include all individuals with disabilities, including those who are not currently working with an employment services provider; and
- Analyze the effectiveness of WINR notifications and make improvements to the notifications process as applicable.

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# Blythedale Commemorates Americans With Disabilities Act Anniversary

On July 20, Blythedale Children's Hospital commemorated this week's 31st anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act with clinicians, patients and special guests.

The hospital's Speech Pathology & Audiology Department, "Blythedale Bookworms," coordinated through the Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy program, and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Task Force to identify books with diverse protagonists and get them into the hands and homes of patients as part of a literacy outreach campaign for children with varying abilities.

"Inspired by the Americans with Disabilities Act movement, we are also adapting some of the books at Blythedale to increase access for all kids who may have physical, cognitive or verbal differences that make a standard book inaccessible," said Abigail Crane, a Blythedale speech-language pathologist. "We physically dissect the actual book, which increases the child's ability to have communicative impact while also making stories come alive in a new way."

Some examples include page turners or cotton balls used to make it easier for children with physical limitations to manually turn the page, Velcro tabs attached to pages with removable laminated core words and texture added for tactile



A speech therapist at Blythedale Children's Hospital creates an adapted book for use by patients.

feedback.

The latest adaptive project involves a new children's picture book about sensory differences called "Wiggles, Stomps, and Squeezes Calm My Jitters Down" written by neurodiverse author Lindsey Rowe Parker, with Rebecca Burgess, an autistic illustrator.

The brightly illustrated story follows a young girl with heightened sensory experiences through her day with fun, interactive sounds and motions.

"I feel so fortunate that the team at Blythedale adapted this book for the kids and families served in their programs," Parker said. "We are proud to offer support in our own small way in celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act



The book "Wiggles, Stomps and Squeezes Calm My Jitters Down" by Lindsey Rowe Parker. Parker was at Blythedale Children's Hospital last week reading an adapted version of her book in advance of this week's 31st anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

anniversary this month, ensuring all people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else."

Blythedale's onsite public school district, the Mount Pleasant Blythedale Union Free School District, is also marking the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act with a capstone project completed by some of its high school students (who are also day hospital patients at Blythedale).

Meghan Lyles, 16, of Wappingers Falls, Dutchess County, researched and presented to her 12th-grade



A Blythedale Children's Hospital patient reading an adapted book.

class about the significance and impact of the landmark 1990 civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability. Lyles was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and has undergone numerous surgeries for scoliosis.

"This project is about how we can all help people with disabilities, like myself, to achieve their dreams and reach their full potential," she said. "The Americans with Disabilities Act is important to me because I know I wouldn't want to be treated differently just because I have a disability, so why would anyone

else?"

Parker read her book to day hospital patients attending the Mount Pleasant Blythedale school in grades K-6. Immediately following, Blythedale speech therapists presented their adapted version of the same book.

Parker also read her book to patients, in-person and remotely, then distributed signed copies provided by Blythedale Bookworms. Blythedale speech therapists presented their adapted version of the same book.

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# Teacher Expands School Bringing Joy of Music to New Community

By Michael Gold

A new school in Pleasantville is alive with the sound of music.

The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts is currently teaching students at a new location in the village, at 29 Marble Ave.

Students can receive lessons in voice, piano, guitar (both acoustic and electric), bass, string instruments, from violin to cello, and all band instruments in private lessons, said Carol Arrucci, its owner and director.

All levels are welcome, from beginners to pre-professional. The school also offers instrument rentals online.

The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts will hold an open house to welcome prospective students on Sunday, Sept. 12, from 3 to 5 p.m. and formally open the next day, but Arrucci said her teaching staff is working with students now. The school will be open Monday through Friday, after school into the evening, and also on Saturday.

Every member of the staff is either a professional musician or a certified K-12 music teacher, including Arrucci. She explained her motivation for working with children.

"I've dedicated my whole life to that," Arrucci said. "I like watching them grow. I've had great musical role models in my life, and I'd like to do the same."

The Pleasantville branch is the third location of The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts, which also has schools in Croton-on-Hudson and Mohegan Lake.

Arrucci, who grew up in Pleasantville, is the



Teacher Dave DiLeo giving a lesson to a student at The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts.

president of the Pleasantville Music Theatre and music director for the First Presbyterian Church in Ossining. She taught chorus and musical theater for 25 years at Blue Mountain Middle School in the Hendrick Hudson School District. Arrucci is a former music coordinator at Holy Innocents Church in Pleasantville.

She was the musical director for the children's chorus for the Broadway show "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," which featured several Pleasantville youngsters.



A portion of the interior of the new Pleasantville location of The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts.

Arrucci handpicked the children to perform in the chorus, all from Westchester schools. They won their place in the show over about 70 other choral groups.

"I like teaching and sharing with kids," Arrucci said. "I keep track of their progress. I'll ask, 'What did you learn today?' I help them how to make a schedule to practice. I tell them, 'See what practice can do? You're getting good.' I teach the parents how to encourage their kids."

Arrucci also helps high school students who enroll in college music programs with preparation in making their applications.

For Arrucci, making music fun has always been the goal, from when she taught in middle school.

"We always had a great time in my classroom," she said. "The kids were fun and joyful. When they came into my room, the kids

knew it was time to let go of the tension of math and social studies. I felt I could connect with them to enjoy music."

One of the 13 teachers at the Pleasantville location will be voice instructor Jill Paice, who has performed on Broadway, in "Matilda the Musical" as Miss Honey and in "An American in Paris" as Milo Davenport. She has also worked in shows in London's West End theatre district, including "The Woman in White."

Arrucci's husband, Ray, is the school's business manager. He has played Max Bialystock in "The Producers" and Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof" in regional theaters. He also plays acoustic guitar and performs in a band. The Arruccis have three adult sons and one grandchild.

Arrucci's Uncle Angelo was her music teacher from the age of four – and her inspiration.

"He was a pianist. He played piano at (the) Kittle House in Chappaqua," she said.

"He taught me how to put emotion into my playing, so I wasn't just banging on the keys."

With all the skills she's acquired over the years, Arrucci plans to use The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts' Pleasantville location as a platform to "teach kids how to love music."

The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts also operates at 24 Old Albany Post Rd. in Croton-on-Hudson and 1950 E. Main St. (Route 6) in Mohegan Lake. For more information, call 914-420-8966 or visit [www.CortArts.com](http://www.CortArts.com).

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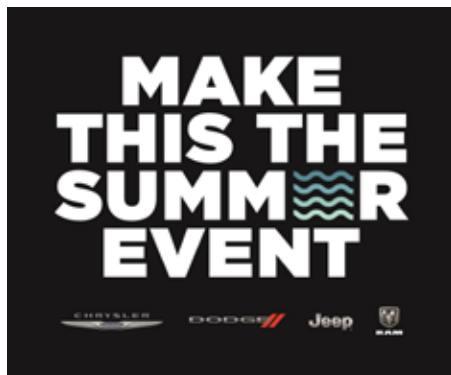
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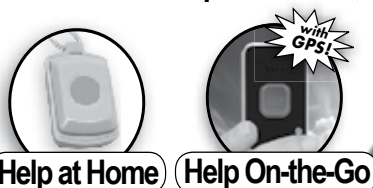
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# Living With Noise: There Are Limited Options, or Just Accept it

Perhaps I've always been a bit too sensitive about noise in and around my home environment.

I was first made aware of this when I moved into my first apartment in New York in a brand-new building, where the walls were paper thin and there seemed to be no noise insulation from the apartment above me.

There was a single mother living there with a five- or six-year-old child and between her high heels clicking across the floor and the running around of her child, I was in noise hell.

In those days people were likely to be listed in telephone books. I looked up her name and number and would call whenever the noise from above was too disturbing. I would also complain to management. It became an intense situation and escalated to the point where her boyfriend came pounding on my door one day, threatening to beat me up.

To seek some peace of mind, I had no choice but to move, and this time it was to an apartment where there was no one above me. To this day, when I live in a spanking new condo, that has been my first requirement for a home; that no one live above me.

Most of us who live in Westchester or



By Bill Primavera

Putnam counties have some kind of proximity to a neighbor who is subject to noise we make as we share property lines or walls of apartments or condominiums, and that can create problems, sometimes big ones.

When my wife and I married and shared our first apartment in another new building, there was an older gentleman who lived in the apartment right off the lobby who loved to share his life with all the residents of the building. He must have been involved with entertainment in the 1950s, because he would leave his door open and sing songs of that period without

accompaniment. Only in New York, right? His favorite was "A White Sports Coat and a Pink Carnation."

Whenever my wife and I want to refer to the intrusion of one person's lifestyle, aka "noise," into another's, all we have to do is sing that song as code and it speaks volumes.

When we moved to the country, the vagaries of close proximity were lessened for sensitive ears and far different. Here in the wide-open spaces, we have lawn mowers, leaf blowers and the biggest offender about which most of us complain, barking dogs. That is, if they bark too long unabated.



Most towns have in their codes the acceptable length of time an owner can have a dog bark before a neighbor can ask that a warning be issued by the code enforcement officer.

For those of us who share walls in condos or apartments, we have the same issues that those of us in the city would have. Recently I had a conversation about this subject with a gentleman who lives in a Westchester condo with other retired people sharing walls with his unit.

"I know most things about their lifestyles, like when the nice woman on one side of

me can't sleep and I hear her TV go on in the middle of the night," he said. "We just adjust."

And, failing all else, there are always old-fashioned earplugs.

*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). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.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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# The Rising Recognition of Talented Women Winemakers



By Nick Antonaccio

The profile and style of the most popular wines have been similar for centuries: a certain balance of fruit and acidity, a mild tannic backbone and an ethereal olfactory impression.

However, in the last few decades that profile has seen subtle, sometimes even radical, refinements in the hands of the world's winemakers.

In America, where the history of today's popular wineries is counted in decades rather than the centuries-old tradition of Western Europe, wine styles are still being established. The wine business in the United States is big business, dictated by marketing consultants and focus groups, not family heritage. Smaller wineries, anxious to generate a profit, often seek to satisfy the tastes of consumers rather than their own personal style. But in spite of these influences, nuanced changes are occurring.

Most of today's American wineries date back to the mid-20th century. They tend to be dominated by first- or second-generation winemakers, a far cry from their European brethren.

*'a respect for women winemakers' ability to understand the intrinsic beauty and complexity of crafting a fine wine.'*

It seems that the leading edge of this recent change in style, whether in the family cellars of French wineries or the man-built caves of California wineries, is coming from a hitherto unheralded industry demographic: women winemakers (or more appropriately, winemakers who happen to be women).

In the 21st century, women have made immense strides in many walks of life. This is apparent in nearly all industries, including the traditionally male-dominated wine industry. Increasingly, wine-related

careers are being sought, and successfully plied, by women. In the last 25 years, several women winemakers have attained worldwide respect for producing many of the most highly regarded – and expensive – wines in the world.

Why is this? Is it DNA-based? Is it simply

that women may be better suited to produce certain wines?

It is generally believed that women have more sensitive olfactory senses than men, that women are supertasters, possessing more acute taste buds and cerebral sensors than men. In addition, certain women winemakers have proven themselves to be equal – and at times superior – to male winemakers in talent, focus and tenacity. Each of these attributes has contributed to a respect for women winemakers' ability to understand the intrinsic beauty and complexity of crafting a fine wine.

Let's scan the international wine industry for women's influence in today's vineyards and wineries. I'll focus on the growing population of women winemakers in the United States. In future columns I'll highlight their counterparts in other wine-producing regions.

Cult wines represent the epitome of fine wine in the United States, commanding the highest honors, and prices, in the marketplace. The number of cult wines produced by women winemakers is disproportionate to the number of women winemakers in the wine industry. Many of the premier wines in the United States, some commanding prices in excess of \$200 per bottle, are crafted and/or influenced by women winemakers. The praise and price of these wines rival the best that French and Italian winemakers offer each year.

The women behind these wines have

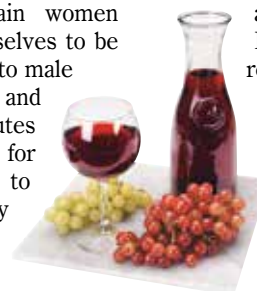
become cultural icons: Helen Turley (Colgin, Bryant Family), Heidi Barrett (Screaming Eagle, Dalla Valle), Merry Edwards (eponymous label), Helen Keplinger (Bryant Family), Genevieve Janssens (Opus One), Nicki Pruss (Stag's Leap) and Ashley Hepworth (Joseph Phelps Insignia). These are truly remarkable achievements.

The unsettling anomaly is that in spite of the success of this elite group, women winemakers represent only 10 percent of the 1,200 wineries in California. The glass ceiling in the male-dominated American wine industry has relegated many educated and experienced women to the roles of laboratory enologists and assistant winemakers.

The role of women winemakers is dramatically different today than it was a quarter century ago. While the opportunity to succeed is advancing in the United States, western Europe is more daunting.

Next up, western Europe: glass ceiling or padlocked oak cellar door?

Nick Antonaccio is a 45-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](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.



**You Heard It Through the Grapevine**

## Travel Back 50 Years in Three Hours at Shelter Island

Taking the 10-minute ferry to Shelter Island from Greenport or Sag Harbor is like boarding a time machine.

When you drive off the ferry, you've arrived in a magical, storybook island covered with gingerbread houses, windswept picturesque beaches, colorful harbors, 100-year-old trees, wildflowers, captivating vegetation, deer, pheasant and magnificent osprey on their huge nests on top of telephone poles keeping their eggs warm until they hatch.

This 8,000-acre island nestled between the North and South Forks of eastern Long Island, is one-of-a-kind island Darwin would have applauded. The place to stay, if you're lucky enough to score a reservation, is the luxurious, old world Ram's Head Inn. First opened in 1929, this magnificent hotel has been attracting a well-heeled, sophisticated crowd who have appreciated its privacy and unbridled elegance.

There's only 22 rooms and they book up quickly by knowledgeable travelers.

The hotel's new owner, the elegant and visionary Andrea Carter, has taken this gem and added spectacular new touches. Its restaurant is one of the best on the island. The gorgeous veggies from Carter's organic garden are part of her farm-to-table sustainable food sourcing that go into her chef's mouthwatering dishes.

She's added a fabulous oyster tasting every Thursday at 5 p.m. where a diner can devour three

different varieties of local oysters, and an "oyster shot," where an oyster and its liquid is dropped into a shot glass and covered with a splash of Bloody Mary. It's a decadent experience.

For dinner, start with their outrageous confit of duck spring rolls, then try to-die-for entrees including pan-roasted striped bass on sautéed spinach, seared scallops or herb crusted halibut and delicious mini crab cakes.

Ram's Head Inn has its own lovely private beach, tennis court and you can even play on a full-size bocce court.

If recreation is your thing, there's a world class golf course that easy to get on and miniature golf for the kids. There's the Mashomack Preserve, more than

2,300 acres protected by The Nature Conservancy, for cycling or hiking. It's perfect for bird watching and to view magnificent ospreys, herons and egrets.

Explore the twisting winding roads and discover little coves embracing the sea, decorative houses and mansions.

At Crescent Beach, stop for a drink at the Sunset Beach Hotel with its "Sex and the City" crowd. There are some lovely restaurants on Shelter Island, but none come close to the outstanding food you'll find at the Ram's Head Inn.



By Richard Levy

The island also has quaint shops filled with all sorts of merchandise.

Marie Eiffel Market in town is like a food market in Paris. They'll make you gourmet sandwiches to devour on their deck in back of their shop with astounding views of the harbor.

For the best home-made corned beef hash and eggs ever, visit Crazy Beans in Greenport.

On the way home on the North Fork, stop off at a Long Island winery for a free wine tasting. Don't wait. The post-COVID-19 explosion of folks desperate for a getaway is real, and every place is booking up quickly, including the Ram's Head Inn.

Get out before it's all booked up through Labor Day weekend, or better yet, book a week or long weekend in September or October. That's my very favorite time to be on magical Shelter Island.

When you depart this endearing island, you'll be relaxed and relieved of your stress.

Hastings-on-Hudson resident Richard Levy is a former advertising "Mad Man" creative director and now a travel writer. He's also an inventor of innovative new products and is writing and illustrating a new children's book. You can contact him at [RichardLevyTravelWriter@gmail.com](mailto:RichardLevyTravelWriter@gmail.com).

**The Travel Maven**



# Fox Lane Fashion Students Showcase Work at Pop-up Exhibit

Twenty-three Fox Lane High School fashion students recently showcased their work in a special pop-up exhibit sponsored by the Mount Kisco Arts Council.

A testament to their love of the fashion program, students participated solely to display the pieces they had created.

"This had nothing to do with school," fashion teacher Lindsay Lappin-Burke said to students while addressing the crowd during the reception. "You're not getting a grade. There is no extra credit – except in my heart, there's lots of that. This is in celebration of you."

From a crocheted top to a "trashion" button-down shirt made from plastic shopping bags and soda can tabs, the pieces displayed were as diverse as they were interesting. Community members could be seen inspecting seams and taking photos while marveling at the creations.

Students in Fox Lane's fashion program have never had the opportunity to exhibit their work, as the two-year-old program has only existed during the pandemic. The exhibit – the first all-student show the arts council has held – was their first chance to demonstrate what they have learned to the larger community.

Prior to teaching the program, Lappin-Burke did not even know how to sew. With no background in fashion, she built the program with help from the Gerbino family, whose son Phillip is a Fox Lane alum and went on to attend The Fashion Institute of Technology.



Some of the designs created by Fox Lane High School fashion students at a recent pop-up exhibit presented by the Mount Kisco Arts Council.

"When my Fashion II students started, I flat out said to them 'I have no idea what I'm doing. You are the pioneers. That means that you are going to develop this course with me. You are going to own it. This is going to be whatever you want it to be,'" Lappin-Burke said. "Two years later, we're here because we did it together."

Many of the fashion students entered the program because it sounded like it would be fun. Along the way, however, it turned into something more, with some students



now considering a career in fashion.

"I had been on a computer-science pathway for most of my middle-high school career, and I came to grips with the fact that it wouldn't create the lasting happiness and self-understanding that I was craving, so I began actively creating again," said rising senior Calder Worlock. "As it stands, creating clothes is my favorite way to express my ideas, and plays one major role in my creative process. I'm certainly going to study design in university, and

I want to use fashion as a springboard to be able to create anything and everything, and have even just a few people love and use my creations."

The passion Lappin-Burke and her students have for the program was clear throughout the evening.

"It's really a discipline that just grips you," Lappin-Burke said. "Once you start making your designs and seeing them come to life, it's something you don't want to walk away from."

## Hammond Museum to Present 'Emotion & Creativity' Artists' Panel

The Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden in North Salem will present on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 1 at 2 p.m. a special live panel discussion that examines the intersection between artists' emotions and creativity.

The participants are the artists whose works comprise the current group show on view at the Hammond Museum, "Voices: I Remember," which draws inspiration from the artists' memories and the power and emotions behind them. Each artist – Eleni Smolen, George-Ann Gowan, Jill Parry, Kiyoko Sakai, Mimi Czajka Graminski, Tanya Kukucka and Tilly Strauss – will discuss her works on view.

Pam Smilow, an internationally-exhibited artist and author of the weekly blog "Things We Love," will moderate the discussion.

Attending the discussion is free

with general admission and does not require an advance reservation.

Earlier that afternoon at 1 p.m., the exhibition "Bloom II" opens. Featured are outdoor sculptures created by 14 Sculptors, Inc., which includes Allan Cyprys, Carl Rattner, Chuck von Schmidt, Dan Bergman, Esther Grillo, Herb Rosenberg, Niki Ketchman and Siena Gillann Porta. These artworks will be situated around the grounds of the Hammond Museum and add an engaging dimension to a visit to the garden.

While strolling the museum and grounds on Sunday, visitors can also enjoy the thought-provoking exhibition "Broad Powers" by Carla Rae Johnson, Mary McFerran and Marcy B. Freedman, who together make up the collaborative In Question, the skillful and whimsical "Becoming a Bird" by Sarah Haviland and the imaginative

"Places of Offering" by Ceci Cole McInturff.

On the Hammond Museum's website, a series of 12 virtual exhibitions comprised of artworks in various media by the Hammond's artist members can be found. All exhibits at the Hammond have been curated by Bibiana Huang Matheis and are on view through mid-autumn.

Visitors planning to attend the panel discussion are invited to enjoy the Japanese Stroll Garden and to bring a picnic lunch and a blanket and choose a peaceful corner of the garden for a relaxing gathering of family and friends.

For complete details on upcoming exhibits, performances, programs and classes, visit [www.hammondmuseum.org](http://www.hammondmuseum.org) or call 914-669-5033 with your questions.

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## Crossword Answers

1	E	R	E			4	N	I	N	J	A	S
10	G	N	U			11	B	A	C	A	R	D
12	G	A	R			13	E	M	E	R	S	O
				14	P	N	E	I	C			
16	R	E	S	O	D		18	N	O	T	E	S
22	C	L	I	P			23	T	E	R	A	
24	A	M	A	S	S		26	L	I	S	A	S
						27	I	N	S	E	C	T
29	P	I	C	C	O	L	O		32	A	D	D
35	S	A	I	L	O	R	S		36	T	E	N
37	I	N	S	E	T	S			38	E	V	A

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STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Index No. 2754/2014

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2013

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule “A” of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

**Effect of filing:** All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition are hereby notified that the filing of this Petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.

**Nature of proceeding:** This proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in this Petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.

**Persons affected:** This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of this Petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.

**Right of redemption:** Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may on or before said date redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereof, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to the Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle, 200 South Greely Avenue, Chappaqua, New York 10514. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.

**Last day of redemption:** The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the **29th day of October, 2021.**

**Service of answer:** Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in this Petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the Office of the County Clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.

**Failure to Redeem or answer:** In the event of a failure to redeem or answer by any person having a right to redeem or answer, such person shall be forever barred and foreclosed of all his or her right, title and interest and equity of redemption in and to the parcel described in this petition and a judgment in foreclosure may be taken in default.

Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:  
\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE  
SCHEDULE “A”

Index No. 2754/2014

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2013

LIEN NO.	OWNER OF RECORD	ASSESSED TO, IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER OF RECORD	SECTION /BLOCK/LOT	LOCATION	AMOUNT DUE*
26	Luciano Velardo, Inc.	Velardo Luciano Inc.	80.19-1-31	Apple Farm Road	\$15,543.07
36	Petrillo, Kathryn M.		81.19-2-25	Lawrence Farms Crossway	\$6,021.58

\* Amount due as of August 14, 2014. Such amount does not include any subsequent years’ taxes, interest or fees.



STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

Index No. 3006/2015

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2014

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule “A” of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

**Effect of filing:** All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition are hereby notified that the filing of this Petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.

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**Last day of redemption:** The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the **29th day of October, 2021**.

**Service of answer:** Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in this Petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the Office of the County Clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.

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Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:  
\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE  
SCHEDULE “A”

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

Index No. 3006/2015

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2014

LIEN NO.	OWNER OF RECORD	ASSESSED TO, IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER OF RECORD	SECTION /BLOCK/LOT	LOCATION	AMOUNT DUE*
21	Luciano Velardo, Inc.	Velardo, Luciano & Maria	80.19-1-31	Apple Farm Road	\$15,533.59
32	Petrillo, Kathryn M.		81.19-2-25	Lawrence Farms Crossway	\$8,115.72
61	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.13-3-8.1	48 Hights Cross Road	\$323,953.91
62	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.13-8-2	Hights Cross Road	\$27,780.38
63	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.17-1-35.1	King Street	\$5,433.40
64	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.17-1-37.1	King Street	\$549.45
65	Dauman, Stewart & Debra	Dauman, Stewart	108.5-1-3.31	King Street	\$1,633.50

\* Amount due as of September 9, 2015. Such amount does not include any subsequent years’ taxes, interest or fees.

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Index No. 2508/2016

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2015

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule “A” of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

**Effect of filing:** All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition are hereby notified that the filing of this Petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.

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Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:  
\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE  
SCHEDULE “A”

Index No. 2508/2016

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2015

LIEN NO.	OWNER OF RECORD	ASSESSED TO, IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER OF RECORD	SECTION /BLOCK/LOT	LOCATION	AMOUNT DUE*
5	Porteus & Sons Builders		80.15-1-4.1	Hoag Cross Road	\$5,249.90
9	Luciano Velardo, Inc.	Velardo Luciano Inc.	80.19-1-31	Apple Farm Road	\$15,439.21
14	Petrillo, Kathryn M.		81.19-2-25	Lawrence Farms Crossway	\$8,190.52
18	Antonio Velardo Inc.		82.10-1-1.10	Cyntia Court	\$69.45
36	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.13-3-8.1	48 Hights Cross Road	\$326,804.82
37	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.13-3-8.2	Hights Cross Road	\$28,036.21
39	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.17-1-35.1	King Street	\$5,550.13
40	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.17-1-37.1	King Street	\$561.10
41	Dauman, Stewart		108.5-1-3.31	King Street	\$1,668.48

\* Amount due as of July 29, 2016. Such amount does not include any subsequent years’ taxes, interest or fees.



PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

Index No. 2348/2017

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2016

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Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:  
\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE  
SCHEDULE “A”

Index No. 2348/2017

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

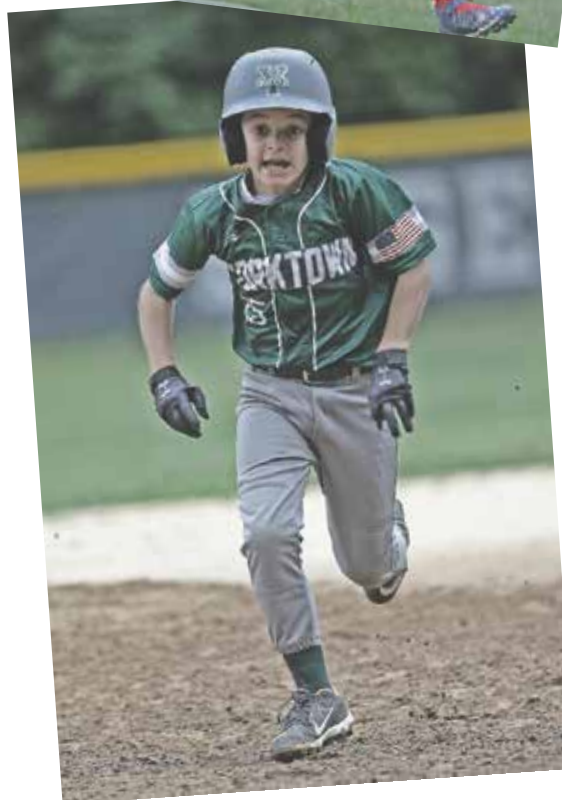
THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2016

LIEN NO.	OWNER OF RECORD	ASSESSED TO, IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER OF RECORD	SECTION /BLOCK/LOT	LOCATION	AMOUNT DUE*
3	Mt. Kisco Club		71.17-1-22.1	Cherry Street	\$333.87
8	Porteus & Sons Builders		80.15-1-4.1	Hoag Cross Road	\$6,991.58
9	Luciano Velardo, Inc.	Velardo Luciano Inc.	80.19-1-31	Apple Farm Road	\$15,971.09
14	Petrillo, Kathryn M.		81.19-2-25	Lawrence Farms Crossway	\$8,234.89
20	Antonio Velardo Inc.		82.10-1-1.10	Cyntia Court	\$28.02
48	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.13-3-8.1	48 Hights Cross Road	\$330,303.08
49	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.13-3-8.2	Hights Cross Road	\$28,188.29
51	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.17-1-35.1	King Street	\$5,605.10
52	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		101.17-1-37.1	King Street	\$566.63
53	Dauman, Stewart & Debra		108.5-1-3.31	King Street	\$1,684.95

\* Amount due as of July 28, 2017. Such amount does not include any subsequent years’ taxes, interest or fees.

# ExaminerSports

## PLAYOFF READY



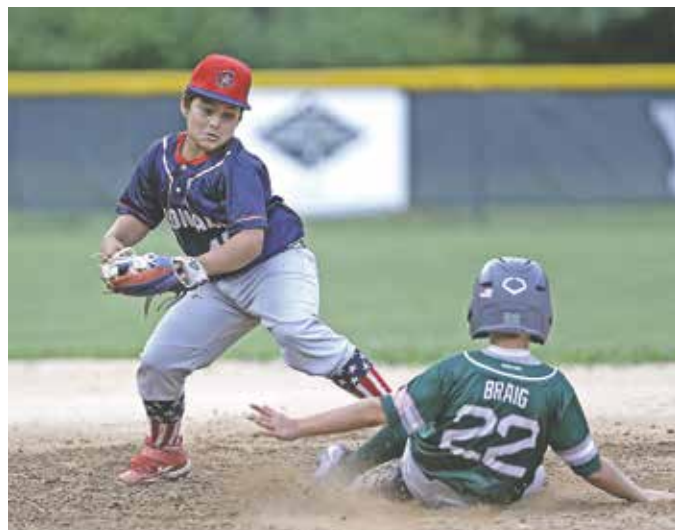
ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS

The last week of the regular season in the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League had local players gearing up for the approaching playoffs, including clockwise from top left: Armonk first baseman Eli Johnson celebrating after completing a double play; Mahopac's Zack Langtry getting a putout at first just in time to nip Somers' Dean Klatsky; Somers infielder Connor Gilbert awaiting a throw as Mahopac's LJ Gangemi steals second base; White Plains third baseman John Gonzalez fielding a throw as rival Highlander Brooks Farley slides safely into the bag; Vincenzo Zuzolo of the White Plains 10U Highlanders running the bases; New Castle 9U player Bradley Martin smacking a fly to right field; Joey Sciuto of Yorktown 9U racing toward third; and Mt. Pleasant Colonial pitcher Kayden Gil firing a fastball.



# Sports

# GHVBL



Mt. Pleasant infielder Avery Rossi tries to make the tag as Yorktown's Tommy Braig steals second base.



Tommy Braig of Yorktown tries to field a throw to second base as Mt. Pleasant's John Petrozza gets set to slide into the bag in last Wednesday's game.



Gianluca Gentile of the Mt. Pleasant Colonials keeps his eyes on the ball as he bats during a 9U Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League game vs. Yorktown.



Nino Merritt of the Mt. Pleasant Colonials sends the ball down the right-field line during last week's 9U game at Yorktown.



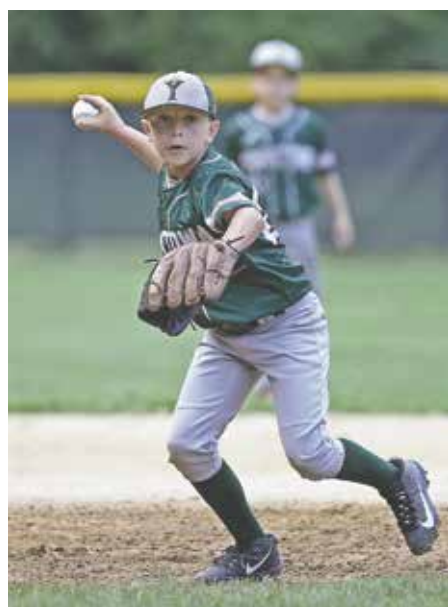
Liam Hannon of the Mt. Pleasant 9U team waits for a chance to field the ball last Wednesday vs. host Yorktown.



Lefty hurler Justin Giglio fires a pitch in the Yorktown Huskers' 8-2 victory over Mt. Pleasant on Wednesday.



The Huskers' Ryan Ciamei runs to third base in the 8-2 win over Mt. Pleasant.



Yorktown infielder Tommy Braig throws to first base for an out in the Huskers' 9U home win over Mt. Pleasant.



Yorktown first baseman William Wolfson stays ready to make a play in last Wednesday's showdown with Mt. Pleasant.



Mt. Pleasant pitcher Nick Vessa reaches back for a little extra as he faces host Yorktown in a battle of top 9U teams last week.



Nick Hobson of Yorktown smacks a pitch to left field during the Huskers' victory over Mt. Pleasant in a battle of the top two teams in the GHVBL's 9U D2 standings.

ANDY JACOBS PHOTOS



Sports



Somers catcher Cooper Fox is unable to make the tag as Mahopac’s Anthony Genovese scores an early run in last Thursday’s 9U GHVBL game up at Dutchess Stadium.



Mahopac shortstop Dylan O’Keefe backhands the ball before racing to third base for a force play in the Wolves’ 12-5 victory over Somers at Dutchess Stadium.



Somers southpaw Luc Conti pitches in relief during the Red Storm’s game vs. Mahopac on the turf at Dutchess Stadium last Thursday evening.



Dean Klatsky of Somers delivers a pitch in the first inning of the Red Storm’s game vs. Mahopac at Dutchess Stadium.



Mahopac’s Tyler Marino heads for third base in the Wolves’ 12-5 win over Somers.



Colin Evers of the Somers Red Storm 9U team waits his turn to bat vs. Mahopac.



Anthony Genovese of Mahopac turns on the speed after rounding third base in last Thursday’s win at Dutchess Stadium.



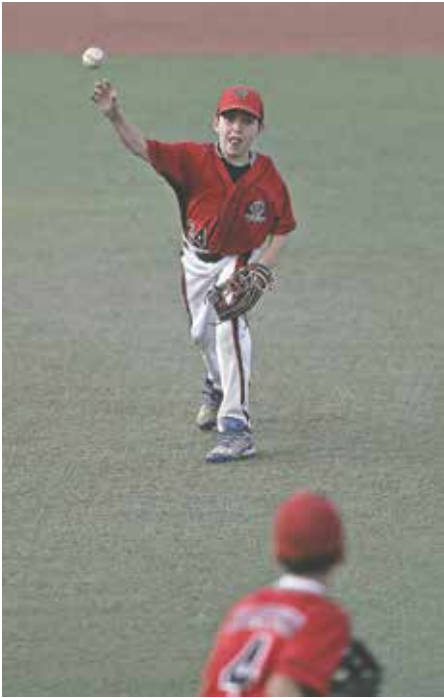
Antonio Martinez belted a homer and triple in Mahopac’s 9U win over Somers last Thursday.



Zack Langtry of the Mahopac Wolves follows the flight of the ball off his bat at Dutchess Stadium last Thursday evening.



Mahopac’s Tommy Stern awaits a pitch as he bats vs. Somers at Dutchess Stadium last week.



Somers second baseman Billy Sager throws over to first base for an out during last week’s game against the Mahopac Wolves.



# Sports



Armonk batter Jackson Mauney takes a big swing in last Monday evening's home game.

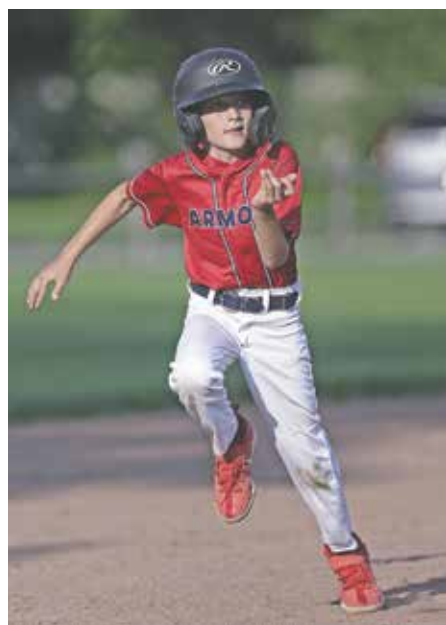
# GHVBL



Armonk third baseman Dylan Mannix reaches for a wide throw while New Castle's Sean Tunstall slides safely into the bag during last Monday's 9U game.



New Castle's Tyler Herman pitches in last Monday evening's 5-4 Blue 9U victory against host Armonk.



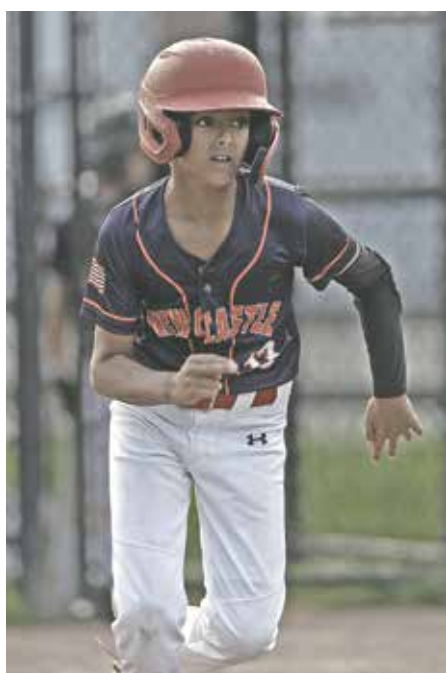
Jackson Kanfer of the Armonk Bobcats runs to third base during last week's home game at Town Hall.



Armonk 9U pitcher Dax Fairbanks fires to the plate in his team's home game last Monday evening against New Castle.



Rohan Manjanath pitches in relief during New Castle's 5-4 victory over Armonk last Monday evening in a 9U GHVBL game.



New Castle's Logan Blatt hustles down the first-base line in the 5-4 win at Armonk last Monday.



Jackson Kent of Armonk blasts a pitch toward center field in the 9U Bobcats' 5-4 loss to visiting New Castle.



Will Forrest of New Castle's 9U team watches the ball jump off his bat vs. the host Armonk Bobcats at Town Hall.



Alex Burgess of the New Castle Blue 9U team hits the ball to the opposite field vs. Armonk.



# Sports

## *focus on* HUDSON VALLEY RENEGADES



Renegades second baseman Josh Smith, batting .333 with 17 stolen bases, races toward third base in a win over the Brooklyn Cyclones.



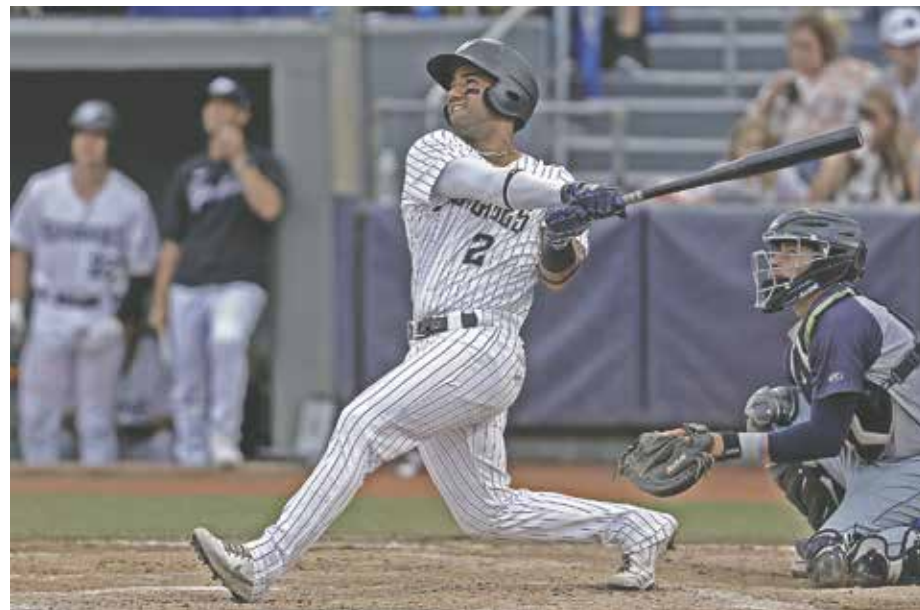
Power-hitting catcher Josh Breaux leads the Renegades with 15 homers, three of them coming in one game during the team's home stand earlier this month.



Switch-hitting catcher Anthony Seigler, the New York Yankees' first-round draft pick in 2018, swings the bat during a game at Dutchess Stadium.



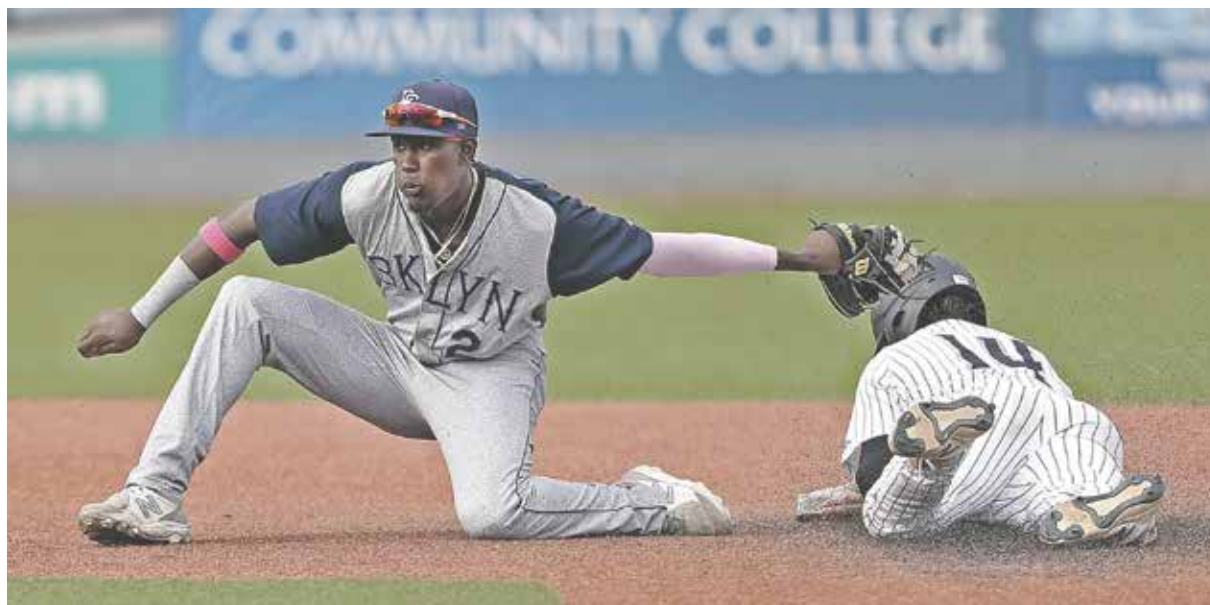
Chad Bell, a lefty-hitting third baseman, homered in four consecutive games on the Renegades' recent road trip.



Batting .290 right now, infielder Ezequiel Duran leads the Renegades in hits, doubles, triples, runs batted in and is second with 12 home runs.



Mitch Spence has started 10 games for the Renegades this season and currently has 62 strikeouts in 52 innings of work.



The Renegades' Elijah Dunham slides safely into second base as Ronny Mauricio of the Brooklyn Cyclones applies a late swipe tag earlier this month at Dutchess Stadium.



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