



The WHITE PLAINS Examiner



Covering White Plains, Greenburgh and Harrison

April 22- April 28, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 4, Issue 139

Rye Playland's Fate Is Unsustainable for Now

By Jon Craig

If you've ever sat dangling at the top of a stalled double Ferris wheel, that's where plans for a revived, profitable Playland Park are resting at the moment; precariously in indefinite limbo.

Last week's rhetoric from public officials and those hoping to eventually make a buck off of a shorefront mix of fall, winter, spring and summer facilities did not clarify anything. They sounded more like the amusement game pitchmen than problem-solvers.

"Some legislators are hopping mad," said county Board of Legislators Chairman Mike Kaplowitz. "They should be sending (us) flowers and candy."

Kaplowitz was referring to the once-favored redevelopment frontrunner, Sustainable Playland Inc. or SPI, which signed agreements July 2013 to take over management of the losing operation from the county pending approval by



Sustainable Playland take-over of the Westchester County owned and run summer amusement facility is currently off the table.

the county Board of Legislators. But, at least from SPI's point of view, the Board is coming up with more questions than solutions.

SPI's most recent correspondence expressed frustration about the county review process, and left legislators flabbergasted during the holidays.

As individual legislators toss out new questions, or seek new revenue and parking estimates based on larger turnouts or longer seasons, it looks more and more like any approach to operating the historic park will remain a losing proposition.

SPI spokesman Geoff Thompson said developers envisioned a year-round plan that adds a sports field house, using realistic attendance figures, not pie-in-the-sky projected growth, which is neither realistic nor profitable.

"Whose vision are we talking about?" Thompson asked. "Every time you (re)study this, the cash register rings again with all new numbers. . . With every passing week, it gets more difficult. The years are slipping by. Every member of the legislature is coming up with their own vision. It becomes difficult to raise money when you have lawsuits hanging over the thing. Every meeting, it's more questions."

Kaplowitz disagreed with Thompson's *continued on page 5*

Lights Illuminate and Newly Planted Trees Line Springy Kensico Dam Park

By Jon Craig

Dog walkers have been grumbling and runners have been rumbling around a "no trespassing zone" that sealed off most of Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla this winter.

While a Harrison woman walking her dog assumed the park was to reopen in November after \$3.2 million in electric lighting upgrades, a county Parks, Recreation & Conservation sign clearly states a "spring 2014" opening is planned. Lights and poles were replaced throughout Kensico Park. Security cameras also were to be mounted on the dam as part of the

project. New York City owns the dam and the bridge. The plaza, park and pathways straddle the towns of Mount Pleasant and North Castle.

Peter Tartaglia, deputy commissioner of the county parks department, said the electrical project is only slightly behind schedule due to "one of the worst winters in a long time."

"People are anxious," Tartaglia said on Monday. "I don't blame them. But people will be happy with the results."

When Kensico Dam Plaza reopens in late May, Tartaglia said joggers, bicyclists and other park-goers will be pleased to

continued on page 5

White Plains Teachers, Students Acknowledged at Essay Contest Ceremony

By Pat Casey

White Plains teachers and students were acknowledged April 16 during the Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher" contest awards ceremony at the retail store on Main Street, White Plains.

Students were asked to write an essay, poem or thank you letter about their favorite teacher, nominating them for the "My Favorite Teacher" award. The written submission was required to explain how the teacher had influenced the student's life and why they appreciated and admired that particular teacher.

Entries were judged on the compelling

nature of the teacher's qualities, the sincerity of the student's appreciation and the quality of expression of writing.

Staff at Barnes & Noble City Center along with educators from the White Plains City School District acted as judges.

During the ceremony, Scott Persampieri, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, White Plains Public Schools, acted as master of ceremonies.

Quoting famous author John Steinbeck, Persampieri said: "A great teacher is a great artist. The medium is the human mind and spirit."

Cynthia Evans, Ridgeway Elementary

continued on page 4



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Now - April 27

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White Plains Youth Bureau, 11 Amherst Place

White Plains City Hall, 255 Main Street

White Plains Recycling: Take it or Leave it Shed, 87 Gedney Way

White Plains Recreation and Parks, 85 Gedney Way

All Public City Schools, except Ridgeway Elementary School

Ebersole Skating Rink* at Delfino Park, 110 Lake Street.

*Final collection takes place here on Sunday, April 27.

Tuesday, April 22

Press Conference: Earth Day Kick-off City Hall Steps at 4 pm

Join Mayor Thomas M. Roach on Earth Day as he announces our 4th annual Earth Week *Sustain White Plains* event.

April 23 - April 26

- Open to the public at **Reckson Metro Center, 360 Hamilton Avenue**, internationally renowned **3D chalk artist Anthony Cappetto** will be creating a work focused on the appreciation for our natural resources (M-F: business hours).
- Shop at the **Rising Star Sidewalk Sale** where downtown businesses offer their products and services at discounted prices.

Our Biggest Event of Earth Week!

Saturday, April 26 - Sustain White Plains Mamaroneck Avenue and Main Street

10 am - Free film screening of **DisneyNature's Bears** at City Center 15: Cinema De Lux, 19 Mamaroneck Ave. *Limited seating is available. Please arrive early to ensure entry.*

Noon until 4 pm - Just steps outside of the movie theater, **Sustain White Plains is a large street fair** featuring environmentally conscious exhibitors, fun activities for children, electric vehicles, animals for adoption and much more.

Other exciting happenings at the event include:

- **3D chalk art unveiling** - *Bring your cameras!*
- **Sustainable food from local vendors, including Starbucks** - *Bring your own tumbler!*
 - **Live music and entertainment**
 - **A fashion show using recycled materials**
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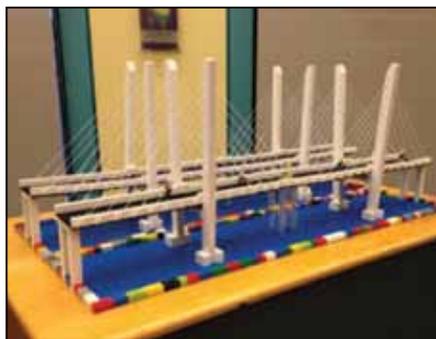
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Anthony Cappetto web site:
www.artforafterhours.com

The New NY Bridge to Replace the Tappan Zee Constructed Lego Style

The New NY Bridge to replace the Tappan Zee Bridge will be under construction until 2018, but if you come into The Trove at The White Plains Public Library, you will be treated to a sneak preview of the completed bridge. Members of the Trove's Lego Club have built a model of the new bridge, all out of Lego blocks, and proudly invite the public to view the completed project.



Each month, members of The Trove's Lego Club meet to design and build their own structures using The Trove's Lego set. This past winter, the theme was bridges.

As part of the theme, children in grades 2 through 6 were invited to take on the

challenge of building a model of the New NY Bridge out of Lego blocks. Those who signed up met at special times to work on the project. The design for the model was done by The Lego Store at The Westchester Mall. The Lego blocks were purchased by the Westchester Community Outreach Center for The New NY Bridge. Many of the blocks used in the model were ordered directly from the Lego Company in Denmark.

Over a period of two months, the Lego Club members learned a little about bridge construction, a lot about how

shapes fit together to build a structure, and even more about working together as a team with a goal in mind. As they received their certificates of participation from the Westchester Community Outreach Center for The New NY Bridge, the members were excited to be a part of the history of this area of New York State and knew that they had done it with Lego! The Lego blocks were purchased by TZC (Tappan Zee Constructors) and the project coordinated with assistance from the New York Bridge Community Outreach team.

Former Legislator with White Plains Artist Present Painting to New Orleans School

Greenburgh resident and former Westchester County Legislator, as well as BOL chair, Lois Bronz was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her humble beginnings and future rise to public fame in a New York City suburb are filled with many an adventurous tale.



Reflecting back on her roots, Bronz began work on an autobiographical novel with her long time friend, White Plains resident and painter Mary Ann Berry.

The stories Bronz told her friend portrayed a life that was not easy. One story in particular was quite startling and so moved Berry that she felt compelled to illustrate it with a painting.

As a young girl Bronz attended Saint Mary's Academy in the French Quarter

of New Orleans. Living and working with little means, it was necessary for the Sisters of the Holy Family who ran the school to beg in the streets. Thinking that the presence of a young girl accompanying them would be most appealing, the sisters

would take a student out with them to solicit funds.

Bronz was designated Sr. Celestine's appointed child and every day, after school, she would accompany the sister to collect money for the nuns and the school. Bronz's sisters teased her and called her "Sister Celestine's little beggar girl." Bronz was only nine years old at the time.

Berry painted a small piece for Bronz, depicting the nun and her student companion. The piece was titled "Sr. Celestine's Beggar."

As Bronz, gratefully accepted Berry's gift, she became aware that Sister Henriette Delille, founder of Sisters of the Holy Family in 1842, is a candidate for sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church.

Bronz commissioned Berry to do another painting of Sister Celestine's Beggar to present to the Sisters of the Holy Family, in honor of Sister Henriette's prayerfully, forthcoming sainthood.

The two women, along with Bronz's daughter, Francine Taplin Shorts, recently visited the convent in New Orleans, now an expansive campus, to present the painting. They were welcomed by nuns who remembered Sr. Celestine. The painting now adorns a convent wall and Bronz's presence there so many years ago, has become a permanent part of the order's history.

Pictured are Louis Bronz (left) with Mary Ann Berry flanking "Sister Celestine's Beggar" at the presentation.



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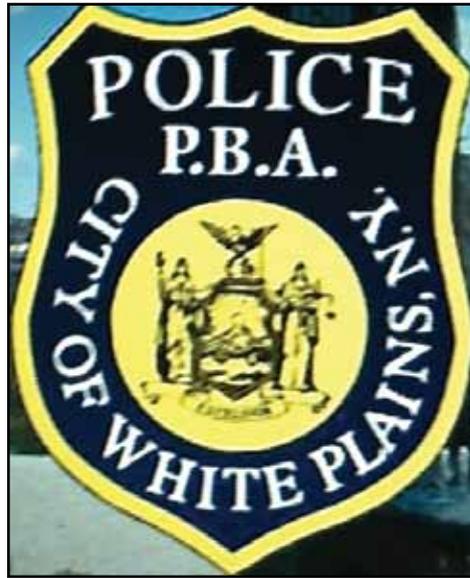
Heart Walk

White Plains Dept. of Public Safety Youth Citizen's Academy is Looking for Candidates

The White Plains Department of Public Safety offers the Public Safety Citizen's Academy for White Plains residents in 9th through 12th grade who are in good standing at their respective schools.

The nine-week program is offered at no cost and provides hands-on, interactive, behind-the-scenes training by experienced police officers and firefighters. This year's Youth Citizen's Academy will include an opportunity for a two hour ride along with experienced police officers while on patrol. After the class has been completed, a graduation ceremony is held to recognize each participant. Graduation will take place on August 5 at the White Plains National Night Out Event.

During the program, students will see



exactly what public safety personnel do and how they do it. As a result, graduates are better equipped to assess safety issues, and share with others their knowledge of law enforcement practices and policies. It is the White Plains Public Safety department's hope that graduates will find the Public Safety professions as a possible career choice and contemplate joining the ranks of the White Plains Public Safety Department.

Classes will be held every Tuesday evening from 7 to 9 p.m.

Topics covered in the two-hour classes will include: History of Law Enforcement - Penal Law - Criminal Procedure Law - V&T; CID - Criminal Investigation Division; The Traffic Division; The Patrol Division; The Community Advocacy

Strategic Initiatives Division; Ambulance - Life Support Services; The Driving While Under the Influence Arrest; Criminal Law - Penal Law and Criminal Procedure Law; The Fire Department; COMPSTAT; Tour of Firing Range; and Ride-a-long with patrol officer.

Interested students are encouraged to email Lieutenant Kevin Christopher at kchristopher@whiteplainsny.gov for further information.

Applications can be sent to Lt. Kevin Christopher, White Plains Police Department, 77 South Lexington Ave., White Plains, New York, 10601 or dropped off in person to Lt. Christopher. All correspondence with students will be "copied" via email to parents, including records check.

White Plains Teachers, Students Acknowledged at Essay Contest Ceremony

continued from page 1

School, was the winning teacher, nominated by Lauren Elmer, currently a student in the 6th grade at Eastview Middle School.

Elmer's essay explained how when during the 3rd grade, as a student in Ms. Evans' class, she was challenged, encouraged and supported and therefore able to overcome physical difficulties brought on by a serious health condition.

In accepting her award, Evans thanked Elmer and noted that the relationship between student and teacher is a two-way



Student winner, Lauren Elmer, reads her essay.

street. "I learned a lot from you as well, she said. "You challenged me."

Evans also said: "This is the unscorable impact teachers make on students' lives."

Honorable mention was given to Lisa Messina, a teacher at Eastview Middle School. Messina's nomination was made by Shannon Rogers, a 6th grade student



Allison Jasne reads her essay, which received an honorable mention. Jasne writes the Teen Scene column for The White Plains Examiner.



Cynthia Evans talks about how the relationship between teachers and student is a two-way street during the Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher" contest awards ceremony.

at Eastview.

Denise Tomici, a physical education teacher at White Plains High School also received honorable mention. Eleventh grade White Plains High School student Allison Jasne submitted an essay about the positive encouragement she had received from Tomici and how it had impacted her physical and emotional well-being and had allowed her to develop trust.

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Rye Playland's Fate is Unsustainable for Now

continued from page 1

assessment. He insists county legislators have always expected to hear low-, mid- and best-case scenarios from SPI about attendance, revenue and parking.

"Frankly, this letter of theirs (SPI) has created a lot of confusion," said Ned McCormack, spokesman for County Executive Rob Astorino. "It's such a great iconic attraction. The status quo is not an option. We don't think litigation, whether it's with Rye or anyone else, is the answer."

"We're talking to Sustainable Playland and the Board," McCormack said. "We're committed to moving the process forward." The county executive's office is in the role of "talking to everybody," he said.

So when Playland opens on May 10, it's more of the status quo. The county still owns Playland. It is destined to lose at least \$5 million-a-year. Visitors will flock there from well beyond Rye. But attendance has been falling for the past 30 years and the facility needs at least \$30 million in infrastructure repairs.

Meanwhile, Rye being Rye, its leaders are attempting an 11th hour power grab for more control over decisions about the fate of county-owned property.

Friends of Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary wrote SPI President Kim Morque last week saying they could not support use of the shore zone between the Sound and Manursing Lake for overflow parking every weekend in July and August.

Lights Illuminate and Newly Planted Trees Line Springy Kensico Dam Park

continued from page 1

find a new network of bright, energy-efficient lights, which will allow them to use the area until 10 p.m. Kensico Park previously closed at dusk unless a special event was taking place.

The "red brick" pathway to the top of Kensico Dam remains open, but the stairwells at either end of the dam



The No Trespassing Zone at Kensico Park is expected to reopen in May.

are closed, and the park is fenced off and marked with yellow caution tape with warnings that trespassers will be prosecuted.

An earlier phase of the project involved removal of diseased trees. Tartaglia said dozens of new trees were planted in their place.



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People also still have access to a 10-station fitness course next to the Kensico Plaza entrance built with a \$25,000 grant from the Leon Lowenstein Foundation. The Bronx River pathway to the south also remains open. There is limited parking just across from the closed park gates marked by signs and caution tape.

Tartaglia said the county also recently reopened the main boardwalk at Rye Playland – a county-owned park, which was destroyed during Hurricane Sandy. That work, which included installing ipe wood planks that last 30 years, was partially funded with federal storm relief money.



JON CRAIG PHOTO

The "red brick" walking and biking trail that goes to the top of the Kensico Dam, escaped the "no trespassing zone."

St. Bart's Soup Kitchen and The Lord's Pantry to Host Hunger Concert

By Pat Casey The community is coming together on Sunday, April 27 to support two important hunger-fighting initiatives in White Plains – The Lord's Pantry and St. Bart's Soup Kitchen. Both are housed at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church on Prospect Street in the Highlands.

Fr. Gawain de Leeuw, pastor at St. Bart's has been involved in many justice-making projects in the neighborhood over the years, working with like-minded congregants and friends who have been coming together in increasing numbers recently to roll up their sleeves and set to the task of trying to make as big a dent as possible in the growing problem of hunger in the region.

Former White Plains Councilman Dennis Power, co-founder of the Friendly Gathering fund-raising event held in March around St. Patrick's Day and a participant in the upcoming hunger concert said: "We wanted to pull people together around a humble cause. Hunger continues to show its ugly face in our region. It's a big issue. We need to raise awareness and find a way to contribute, even if it is in a small way."

Because St. Bart's houses its own soup kitchen as well as the Lord's Pantry, Power said it was a logical place to begin, and that the work being done there is reminiscent of the work done by local hunger warriors during the 1980s.



Fr. Gawain de Leeuw, Pastor, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church.

White Plains was prominent during the 1980s for grassroots efforts like SHORE (Sheltering the Homeless is Our responsibility) and efforts by Grace Episcopal Church to combat homelessness and hunger.

Yet, while Power said a similar energy was causing restlessness among people wanting to get involved in social justice causes, he said things are different now. "In some ways it's even harder to get your hands around it. There is a significant amount of change and it is distressing," he explained.

Fr. Gawain has seen a recent increase in the number of people coming to St.



Former White Plains Councilman Dennis Power is an organizer and performer of the upcoming Hunger Concert.

Bart's. Not stating specifically that they are unhappy with their own churches, Gawain said a large percentage of people wanting to be involved in the programs he offers come from the Catholic churches, and he welcomes them.

"We need to be more effective as advocates," he said. "Food scarcity is a major problem, even in Westchester. We must have more of a voice, raise awareness and take action to another, higher level."

Looking at the hunger issue and socioeconomic disparity in the United States from a philosophical perspective, Gawain explains that: "We already have so much in the United States. The truly prosperous cannot comprehend scarcity. But if you look around, there are people who have everything, but they no longer want to play

by people who have volunteered their time and resources. It is heated up and served at the church. Anyone wanting to prepare a tray of chicken or pasta is welcome to call the church and offer help.

In addition to the Sunday meal, Gawain is looking to add a food pantry to the services offered to needy families.

The other food service operating out of St. Bart's, using the same facilities, is The Lord's Pantry, currently under the supervision of Phil McGovern, who picked up the responsibility when his mother Joan McGovern died three years ago.

McGovern moved The Lord's Pantry to St. Bart's two years ago, where he pays a modest and reduced rent.

The Lord's Pantry serves homebound patients suffering from AIDs and HIV and their families. The program was started about 25 years ago by three mothers who had adult children suffering from AIDs. Their intention was to help "feed the body" while others tended to the health and spiritual needs of these patients who were too sick to care for themselves.

A fully cooked dinner, bag lunch for the next day and some breakfast food is delivered by volunteers four days a week. Anywhere from 60 to 75 people are served each week.

McGovern explained that he gets calls from Social Services hoping to add clients to his program who are not eligible for government services.

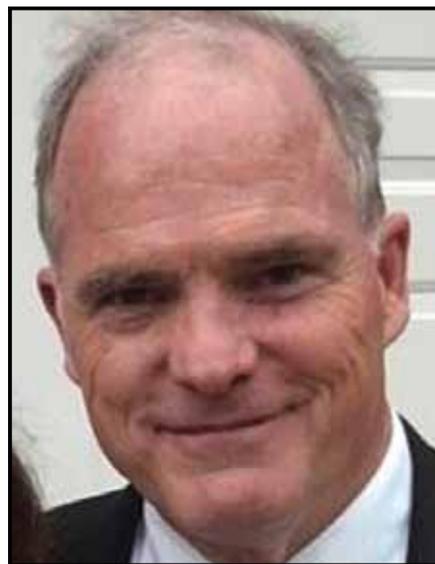
"We also lost major funding, when it was determined that our model of delivering fully prepared meals, rather than providing a pick-up point for people to travel to, was not what they wanted." McGovern further explained that all the food purchasing and preparation is done by volunteers. "We go to the Food Bank and Pacha Mama Farms run by the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in Ossining," he said. "Depending on what's available, we prepare a meal. During the summer season, we can get from 250 to 300 pounds of produce."

McGovern also mentioned that Patricia Lanza, the benefactor who had supported many local causes and died this month, would be missed because many times when the money was becoming very scarce, she was always there with an unsolicited donation.

The Hunger Concert will take place at St. Bartholomew's Church, 82 Prospect St., White Plains, Sunday, April 27 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Music from folk to jazz to Irish to rock, with Celtic dancing and sing-a-long will feature performances by Mark Douglas, Ricardo Gautreau, Fr. Gawain de Leeuw, Dennis Power and Vinnie McLaughlin, and The O'Rourke Irish Dancers. Tickets are \$50 for a family, \$35 adults, \$30 seniors, and \$15 students.

The money raised will purchase new kitchen equipment for use by both organizations.

More information can be obtained by calling St. Bart's at 914-949-5577.



Phil McGovern took over responsibility for The Lord's Pantry three years ago. He delivers a hot meal four days each week to over 60 clients.

the role of the winner takes all"

Gawain gives credit for the two hunger-alleviating programs at his church to Arthur Bonagura, who runs the Sunday Soup Kitchen at St. Bart's and has been active in feeding programs in the region for over 20 years.

The Soup Kitchen feeds about 50 people every week. The food is prepared off-site

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New Hobby Shop on Harrison Avenue: Awesome Items at the Collectors Station

By Jon Craig

Joe Mazzullo has been a combat helicopter crew chief, volunteer fire chief, police traffic coordinator, brass musician and model train enthusiast. Add hobby shop owner to that lifetime bucket list. He opened his store earlier this month as Awesome Items at the Collectors Station.

Mazzullo, 63, of Mamaroneck is known by nearly everyone in Harrison as director of the Westchester Brassman Drum & Bugle Corps, American Legion Post commander and more than three decades of service with the Harrison Fire Department and Police Department,

where he recently retired as an employee of the traffic division.

Mazzullo seized on the opportunity of more spare time, and open retail space a block away from the Harrison Train Station, to move his workshop and massive collection of trains, sports and military memorabilia, amplifiers, guitars and rare snare drum sets, among other "awesome items," from his home to 229 Harrison Ave. "I had everything in closets and I couldn't remember what I had," he said.

In addition to train sets and musical instruments, which line about two-thirds of the store's shelves and floor space, the collector is selling German helmets, a helmet signed by the Giants' Frank Gifford, a not-as-rare series of toy Hess gas trucks/vehicles and other time-tested collectibles.

Individual model train cars and engines range in value from \$25 to \$500. A full train set might sell for \$3,000. An original cardboard box for each train car, if in good condition, may sell for \$100. Mazzullo sometimes can

buy a box alone to package one of his unused cars. He encourages people with trains in their attics to come get estimated values at his shop, since he's got plenty of up-to-date catalogs with competitive prices.

Last week, Mazzullo was buying as many unique engines as he was selling as word spread among train enthusiasts that his store had opened. "I'm always looking for something that's elusive,"

he said as customers strolled through the store to marvel at chandeliers and a football signed by Dan Marino of the Miami Dolphins.

The bulk of Mazzullo's business has been on eBay, which he continues to use for out-of-town collectors and finding parts he needs to fix trains, transformers and other gadgets in his workshop.

Mazzullo said he became a serious collector of trains and other memorabilia about 15 years ago. "I was always good with my hands," he said, dating back to his military service as a helicopter crew chief during the Vietnam War.



Joe Mazzullo just opened a new hobby shop in Harrison called Awesome Items at the Collectors Station.



Toy trains are a big feature at Awesome Items at the Collectors Station at 229 Harrison Avenue.

He's played with various drum and bugle corps for 55 years, volunteered as a firefighter for 43 years and retired from the Harrison Police Department after working for its traffic division for 31 years. So he has a long track record, pun intended, of sticking with projects.

For now, Mazzullo prefers to meet with customers by appointment only, but the store is open anytime he's in his Harrison Avenue workshop. "I'll be here until 9 o'clock," he said last week.

For details, call 914-439-6662, or email wbrassman@optimum.net

Pleasantville Community TV Fundraiser Gala

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ATTORNEY ADVERTISING

Harrison and Purchase Fire Departments Seek Volunteers, and Votes; Greenburgh Dedicates Playground, Proposes Major Park Projects

By Jon Craig

Residents of the Purchase Fire District were asked Tuesday (April 22) to approve borrowing up to \$175,000 to help buy about one-third of an acre of land next to the Purchase firehouse at 614 Anderson Hill Road.

With the adjoining property at 610 Anderson Hill Road currently available for sale, and worth an estimated \$400,000, fire officials said they want to buy it in anticipation of any future expansion of the firehouse. They said there is about \$425,000 in the department's capital reserve fund, requiring the balance to be paid by bonding.

There are about 4,000 residents in the Purchase Fire District, a department that includes about 54 volunteers within the Town of Harrison. Tuesday's vote, seeking permission to borrow up to \$175,000 if needed, was scheduled to take place at the firehouse.

Harrison Fire Department, meanwhile, plans an open house Saturday April 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., so area residents can learn what it's like to be a volunteer firefighter, and even sign up to become one. It's part of the fourth annual RecruitNY initiative to recruit and retain volunteers at firehouses across New York State.

Harrison's fire headquarters are located at 206 Harrison Ave. in the village of Harrison. Parking is on Colonial Place at Emilio's Restaurant. Serve Pro of Harrison is a major sponsor of the event, which is part of National Volunteer Week. The rain date is Sunday April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Greenburgh Park Projects to be Discussed May 7

A proposal to spend \$730,000 on three park projects in the Town of Greenburgh is set to be considered by the town Planning Board on May 7 at 8 p.m.

On April 2, the Greenburgh Parks and Recreation Advisory Board passed a resolution recommending that \$730,000 in Trust and Agency Parklands Funds be used. There is about \$1.65 million in that town account. Tennis court renovations are proposed for three tennis courts at A.F. Veteran Park and one tennis court at Massaro Park. The work would include applying a cushioned surface over existing courts and apply an acrylic resurfacer, filler and finish at a cost of \$184,000. The project has a 25-year warranty.

A second project, costing \$254,000, entails building two pavilions. One would be built at AFV Park Pool and the other at Secor Woods Park. Each pavilion would have a concrete pad, span 30 by 60 feet

and be compliant with disability access requirements. Cabanas on the far west end of AFV Park would be demolished and replaced by a pavilion.

Finally, a splash pad similar to one at Yosemite Park would be installed at Massaro Park. Town officials said the existing kiddie pool is no longer functional at Massaro Park, so will have to be demolished before installing the new splash pad at a cost of \$300,000.

If approved by the Planning Board, all the projects must be approved by the Greenburgh Town Board.

Greenburgh Dedicates New Playground

The Town of Greenburgh planned to celebrate Earth Day Tuesday by dedicating a new playground at Yosemite Park. Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner said, "We were able to take the two sites and combine it into one large playground and use the other area for a picnic grove for the residents and summer camp program." Yosemite Park is near I-287 and behind the Theodore D. Young Community Center on Manhattan Avenue in Fairview.

An Earth Day celebration was set for noon on Tuesday, and Greenburgh Town Board members were invited to tour the new playground after their regular morning work session. Feiner thanked the Greenburgh Parks Department, TDYCC

and Department of Public Works "for working together to make this project successful. Projects like these are why we love community service."

Spring Brings Annual Runs & Walks

This weekend features the first of a string of popular runs and walks in the Harrison/Rye region. Check-in for the Rye Derby/Healthy Kids Day begins at 8 a.m. Sunday April 27 in downtown Rye. There is a one-mile healthy fun run/walk at 12:15 p.m. and five-mile or 5K runs starting at 10:15 a.m., with t-shirts and medals. Proceeds go to the Rye YMCA. Live music, a barbecue, games and a jumping castle will be offered outside the Rye Y at 21 Locust Ave. For more details, go to www.ryeymca.org on the Internet.

It marks the 26th annual Rye Derby, part of the Rye YMCA's centennial celebration.

Across town at Rye Town Park/Oakland Beach, registration for the Westchester Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk begins at 8 a.m. For details, go to www.lustgarten.org on the Internet.

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MEDIA

From the Harrison Mayor and Town Hall, April 21, 2014



Ron Belmont,
Supervisor/Mayor of
Harrison

I always enjoy seeing our young residents in action. Last week I had the pleasure of observing the West Harrison Junior Firefighters drill. I was very

impressed by the skill and competence of our young volunteers as they practiced strategy and tactics necessary to combat fires. We are very fortunate to have the Jr. Firefighter Program, as it gives these volunteers first hand experience in what it is like to be a member of the Fire Department. Congratulations to all who participated.

In last week's Column I cited statistics, found in the on-line magazine, Business Insider, on the wealthiest neighborhoods in the NY metropolitan suburbs, specifically mentioning Sunny Ridge. Several other Harrison neighborhoods were also mentioned: Westchester Country Club, Sterling Ridge and Purchase. For more information on the rankings, visit www.businessinsider.com/richest-neighborhoods-around-

[new-york-city-2014](http://www.new-york-city-2014)

As a reminder, the Stonewall Circle Fun Run/Walk, to benefit pancreatic cancer, is taking place on Sunday, April 27th at 9 a.m. Participants will gather at the Park Lane Clubhouse and parking will be at the West Harrison Pool parking lot. To register or donate, please visit www.stonewallcircle5k.com. On a related note, the Westchester Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk, held at Rye Town Park, will also take place on April 27th. Registration opens at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.lustgarten.org or call 866-789-1000.

Recently, I had the pleasure of attending this year's ArtsWestchester breakfast reception and awards presentation. Grants were awarded to local artists and arts organizations, and to our Library Director, Galina Chernykh, for library programs and workshops on Japanese music. This event recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of many talented Westchester residents and I was honored to be in attendance.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Al and Dee Delbello,

Thalle Industries, Pace University, and Club Fit for receiving the Annual Best Friends Award given by Friends of Westchester County Parks. It was an honor to attend the awards reception and to recognize industry professionals who support the County's park system by consistently contributing environmentally sound business practices to Westchester County green space.

It's never too early to plan for the Westchester County Mobile Shredder. Residents may bring confidential, personal papers for shredding to the MTA Lot (corner of Harrison and Halstead Avenue) on Saturday June 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residents can bring up to 4 file size (10x12x15) boxes of confidential papers per household. Please remove all large binder clips and covers. Papers from businesses, institutions or commercial enterprises are not acceptable and will be rejected, as will any junk mail or newspapers. In extreme weather, events may be cancelled or terminated early. Please call the county's Recycling Helpline at 914-813-5425 to check on a cancellation or early closure.

In closing, I hope you all had a peaceful and joyous holiday. The next "Lunch with the Mayor" is on May 2nd and I will be at the new Halstead's Bar and Grill (Formerly Trinity's) located at 7 Purdy Street in downtown Harrison. I will be at this location from 12:30 to 1:30 and look forward to meeting with residents and talking about issues facing our community.

Guest Column

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Sustainable Playland Inc. Needs to Get Back to the Table Quickly

It seems the approval for Sustainable Playland Inc.'s (SPI) plan to reorganize the amusement park and beach facility in Rye has hit a stalemate. More often than not these days it also appears that this is the more common course of action when government tries to become partners with corporate enterprise or vice versa.

Once in the partnership, however, the corporate enterprise has to understand that it is government's job to protect and serve its people. With an entity like Playland, the issue of public importance is the protection of beautiful, valuable, natural and historic waterfront property that is open and accessible at reasonable cost to that very same public the

government is serving.

It's not fair to throw up one's hands in frustration, stepping back to put such a valuable public asset in jeopardy.

SPI has to understand that it is not negotiating within the corporate arena. It has stepped out, joined hands with a completely different type of animal and must realize that it is also working hand in hand with the same public it wants to make a profit from.

Any such public/corporate partnership has to be thoroughly worked through – that takes time and patience – because in the end, if there is to be a win, win, the corporation must accept the responsibility of the public's interest.

Obituaries

Pasqualina Ciambriello

Pasqualina Ciambriello a White Plains resident passed away on April 18. She was 78. Pasqualina was born on March 1, 1936 in Bucciano Benevento Italy to Giuseppe and Rosina (Perillo) Paola. She married Domenico Ciambriello on July 15, 1961 in Pastorano Italy. Pasqualina worked for AT & T for more than 20 years until her retirement.

Pasqualina is survived by her husband Domenico, two loving children, Tino (Lisa) Ciambriello, Dolores (Reggie) Zamora, one sister Rafaela Ragusa, and four grandchildren Christopher, Victoria, Rhianna, and Brendan. Predeceased by one brother Tommaso Paola

Doug Bradley

Doug Scott Bradley of Scarsdale, age 54, was born in Phoenix, Arizona on November 25, 1959, and died on April 15, 2014. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Karen, and his three children, Kyra, Melise and Zachary, of Scarsdale. Doug has worked for Campus Crusade for Christ for 32 years and served in Berkeley, Paris and across the Middle East, Turkey and Central Asia. Doug had a warm, humble and gracious heart and loved serving the Lord and His people. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at McMahan, Lyon & Hartnett Funeral Home at 491 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY. Funeral services to be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, 6 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY. Reception immediately following in the fellowship hall at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Doug's memory may be sent to the Bradley Children Education Fund by visiting <https://give.cru.org/0254283>.

Albert Gottlieb

Albert J. Gottlieb, age 82, passed away on April 14 in White Plains. Husband of Anne for 37 years, father of David, Jeffrey and Adam Gottlieb, Carey Ramos and Amy Mesirow, and step-father of Jenni Ryan, Sue Tsokris, and Greg Nathan. Grandpa of Seth, Lev, Shira, Natalie, David, Ben, Robin, Alex, Rebecca, Kelsey, Samantha, Jack and Bailey. Well known for his mischievous sense of humor, he will be greatly missed by all. He was a graduate of Yale and Harvard Business School. As a commercial real estate broker, he created The Bank Services Group at Newmark Knight Frank where he was a senior vice president until his retirement. His passion for family extended to children everywhere and he supported Save the Children and Teach for America. His funeral was held on Thursday, April 17th at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester in Rye. In lieu of flowers, a donation in his memory may be made to The Alzheimer's Assn., 2900 Westchester Ave, Purchase, NY 10577 or Hospice and Palliative Care of Westchester, 311 North St #204, White Plains, NY 10605.

George Kanof

George Kanof of White Plains passed away April 14. He was 82. George was born on February 2, 1932 in New York, NY to Isidore and Esther Kanof. He was predeceased by his sister Libby Stein and later, by his sister Many Gussack.

George is survived by his wife of 53 years, Beverly Coombs Kanof; his son, Steven Ian Kanof and his wife Lisa; his daughter, Laura Brette Coyle and her husband Timothy. He had two grandchildren, Sydney Marie and Grady James Coyle. He was Uncle George to Amy and Kermit, Lisa, Faith, Nina and Allan, David and Snow and all of their children: Adam, Sophie, Jonathan, Rebecca, Benjamin, Daniel, Natasha, Linda and Jessica. Aunt Belle was like a sister to him.

Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!



Adam and Alyson Stone welcomed Mia Elizabeth into their family on April 16th at Northern Westchester Hospital. Adam Stone, publisher at Examiner Media, and Alyson Stone, an elementary school teacher, are also the proud parents of seven-year-old Madeleine Grace. Mia Elizabeth weighed in at seven pounds, two ounces and was measured at 20 inches.

George served in the Army during the Korean War under his birth name, Joseph Kanof. He was stationed in Poitiers, France and was the Communications Specialist. He enjoyed sharing his good humor and talent as he participated in entertaining the troops.

His work in the ball bearing industry as Vice President of International Relations and Director of the Micro Ball Bearing Division at General Bearing Corporation sent him traveling around the world. On 8/8/88, George fulfilled his lifelong dream of starting his own business and lived the rest of his years as the President of Prime Bearing, Inc., where he worked diligently and happily.

George enjoyed tennis, golf, and boating. He was an avid photographer, who marveled at Cape Cod's landscapes, its waters, and its extraordinary sunsets for nearly 60 years. He appreciated history, theater, movies, college sports, music of all kinds, and reading.

The memorial service was held at Ballard-Durand Funeral Home. George was laid to rest in the Garden of the Maples at Kensico Cemetery.

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks.

Email letters to pcasey@theexaminernews.com.

The White Plains Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.



Police Blotter

County Courthouse, White Plains

Manslaughter: A 25-year-old Elmsford man entered a not guilty plea before state Supreme Court Justice Robert Neary last week on charges of second-degree



Megan Bookstaver

manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide. Eric Gaulin faces five to 15 years in prison if convicted. Released on \$50,000 bail, Gaulin is due back in court in May.

The felony charges against Gaulin stem from the Labor Day shooting death of Gaulin's 23-year-old girlfriend Megan Bookstaver, of Hicksville, Long Island. Bookstaver, a student at Mercy College at the time of her death, and Gaulin, who now works in Rye Brook, were gun enthusiasts who dated for about four years when the fatality occurred at Gaulin's Tarrytown townhouse. Prosecutors must now prove that Gaulin, the son of a prominent entertainment lawyer, recklessly caused Bookstaver's death. The charges were contained in an indictment that was unsealed April 15, according to county District Attorney Janet DiFiore. Gaulin told police he was cleaning his rifle, and that the shooting was an accident.

DiFiore said that on Sept. 2, 2013, Gaulin, Bookstaver and a mutual friend were shopping together at Palisades Center Mall in Rockland County. They went to Dick's Sporting Goods store where they purchased a Savage Arms Axis .243-caliber rifle for the victim in a pink and black camouflage color, along with a box of ammunition for a .308-caliber Winchester rifle owned by Gaulin. They all then went to Gaulin's Tarrytown townhouse on West Main Street. Gaulin took out several other rifles that he had in his possession at the house.

At about 4:20 p.m., a shot rang out and the victim was struck in the face by a projectile from one of the rifles. Family members in the house called 911.

Tarrytown police and EMS responded but the victim was pronounced dead at the scene. Assistant District Attorney

Perry Perrone Chief of the Homicide Bureau and Assistant District Attorney Kristina Dushaj of the Investigations Division are prosecuting the case.

Greenburgh Police Department

Driving under the influence: On April 6, police responded to a report of an accident involving one car. Prior to the crash, the car was headed westbound on Ardsley Road. Police arrived to find Charles Bludeau, the driver, standing about 10 feet from a telephone pole that had been sheared in half upon impact. No age or address was listed for Bludeau, who admitted to police that he was the driver of the vehicle and had its keys. According to police reports, the officer noted that Bludeau had slurred speech, blood-shot glassy eyes and that his breath smelled strongly of alcohol. Bludeau reportedly told police that he had one drink in White Plains earlier that day. Police administered a series of roadside sobriety tests, all of which the driver failed. In the course of testing, Bludeau told police that he was unhurt in the accident. A roadside Blood Alcohol Content test showed that he had a BAC of 0.08 percent, the minimum level to be charged with Driving Under the Influence or DUI. Bludeau was issued a summons and released to his father, Todd Bludeau. He was due to appear in court on April 10.

Driving with a suspended license: On April 6, police stopped a car traveling south on Saw Mill River Road on a charge of obstructed driver's view due to tinted windows. A traffic check of the driver, Daren D. Turman, no address listed, showed that he was driving with a suspended license due to his failure to answer a summons issued from Bronxville. Turman was due to appear in court on April 17.

Stolen cell phone: A 44-year-old woman reported the theft of her daughter's cell phone from a backpack at Ardsley Middle School. The mother, Carine Coca, of 700 Ashford Ave., Ardsley, told police that her daughter's iPhone 5 had been taken from her backpack while it was on the floor of the girls' locker room at the middle school. The daughter had left the backpack on the floor for an hour while attending softball team tryouts. She told police that many girls had access to the locker room and that she had no idea who might have taken it. An attempt to contact the phone using its Locate App failed because the phone had apparently been turned off. Service from the phone provider was cancelled.

Failure to Answer Summons: On April 6, police stopped a 2008 Mazda at 300 Tarrytown Road and Knollwood Road in Elmsford due to an expired inspection sticker. After running his plates, police found that the driver, Frank S. Recine, 25,

no address listed, had a suspended license due to failure to answer two summonses: one issued by the City of Beacon on Sept. 7, 2013, and the other from Glen Cove, N.Y., on Dec. 29, 2013. Recine was arrested and taken to Greenburgh Police Headquarters for processing. His vehicle was towed to the impound lot. He was issued three summonses and was due to appear in court on April 10.

Grand larceny: On April 7, Gregory Solorzano, 61, of 61 Riverdale Ave., White Plains reported to police that his car had been stolen sometime between 5:35 a.m. and 5:50 a.m. According to the report, at 5:35 a.m. Solorzano went out to his driveway and started his vehicle to warm it up. He left the car unlocked and went back inside his house. He came back outside to find that his vehicle had been stolen. He told police that he had seen nothing and did not know of anyone who might steal his vehicle. The driveway is right next to his house. Solorzano was advised to call his insurance company. Police entered the car into the NYSPIN database.

Child endangerment: Kandi Royster of White Plains, the mother of a 16-year-old reported to police that her son had been attacked outside the doorway of their sixth-floor apartment. The boy suffered minor lacerations to his neck, back and arm. The victim described the attacker in detail including his race, height and clothing, which included grey sweatpants and a black New York Knicks cap. The boy also told police that his attacker lived at 2 Oak St., White Plains. After the interview, police canvassed the neighborhood and found a suspect matching the description given by the attacker at a playground behind Beach Street Park. After a positive identification by the victim, police arrested Stephaun Briggs, 21, and took him to Greenburgh Police Headquarters to be booked. Photos of the victim's injuries were taken at headquarters.

Burglary: On April 8, Matthew D. Callahan, of 160 Old Tarrytown Road, White Plains, reported that his apartment had been ransacked sometime during the day. He told police that he left his residence at 8:30 a.m. and returned home at about 3:35 p.m. According to the report, when Callahan walked into his apartment he saw that his living room and bedroom had been disturbed. He walked to the kitchen and saw that the back door was open and so was his basement door. Both doors had been locked when he left home that morning. Callahan told police that he watched his home security camera, and on it, footage showed a contractor walking through his backyard. Callahan told police he had contacted the contractor a month earlier to get an estimate for a building project, but had never received a return call. Callahan said

he could provide police with a detailed list of the items stolen during the suspected break-in at a later date.

Possession of narcotics: On April 9, police stopped a vehicle for failure to maintain a lane. The driver, Peter Kiesbye, was observed stashing a clear plastic bag containing what was believed to be narcotics into the waistband of his pants. The envelope was retrieved by police when it fell out of the bottom of his right pants leg. Upon inspection, the bag was found to hold 20 glassine envelopes with heroin and one aluminum packet of cocaine. Kiesbye was arrested and transported to police headquarters. His vehicle was impounded. A later inventory of the vehicle turned up two open glassine envelopes containing heroin residue, three hypodermic needles and one clear plastic bag of marijuana, according to the report. Kiesbye was held pending his court arraignment.

Disorderly conduct: Police were called to Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Road, Elmsford, about 4:30 p.m. on April 9 after a complaint of a possibly intoxicated male, age unknown. The man reportedly was passed out at a library table occupied by numerous patrons. Attempts to wake him were met with agitation and hostility. A police sergeant and paramedic from the Fairview Fire Department responded. A strong odor of alcohol was detected on the man's breath. When one patron tried to get up to allow police and Emergency Medical Services personnel near, the man apparently yelled, "Sit the f... down," according to the report. He began cursing and screaming at the officers at the scene. Due to his hostile and aggressive nature, police said they placed the man into handcuffs and led him outside. He was charged with disorderly conduct.

He was issued a ticket to appear in town court on April 18. He was taken to his mother's home in Valhalla, and left in her custody.

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Joys of a Realtor's Life, from Babies to Restaurant Reviews

At a rough period in my life as a publicist, my regular line of work, I got involved in real estate. It turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to me.

You see, realtors don't just sell houses and commercial properties made of wood, steel, plaster and brick. We are in the business of serving people's basic needs while helping them realize their dreams. All kinds of unexpected things can spring from that.

Last year I sold a commercial property on busy Route 202 on the Yorktown-Cortlandt border. It had housed a furniture store for babies and young kids and, interestingly enough, I had written a column about child safety around the house, relying on the expertise of the store owner. He and I hit it off, and a while later, he decided to sell his building and gave me the listing.

The purchaser was a well-established restaurant family in the region, Gina and Paul DiPaterio and their son, Paul, Jr., much beloved for their Italian restaurants, Little Sorrento in Yorktown Heights and Piazza Roma in Cortlandt Manor. Their new venture was a quizzical surprise to everyone when we first heard the plan: a restaurant to be called Savannah Southern House.

I'm a Southern boy who grew up in Virginia and as a publicist have had the pleasure of representing some of the South's great restaurants, including Commander's Palace in New Orleans.

But where did the DiPaterios get such

a notion, I wondered? When asked, Paul, Jr., said the inspiration came from a southern-themed restaurant they frequented for many years on vacation in Mount Pleasant, N.J.

So, here's a first: A real estate columnist writing a restaurant review. Why not? I spent most of my professional life promoting restaurants, including those at the Culinary Institute where I was once director of public relations. So as a public service to anyone who loves food as much as their homes, The Home Guru advises:

Run, don't walk, to Savannah Southern House.

From the moment you walk in the door you'll be embraced by hospitality you haven't experienced since that time you whistled Dixie someplace in the deep South. And if you're one who loves the camaraderie found at a great bar, you'll find it here. But get yourself to that dining room table to experience the talent of Chef Sean Lyons, transported from North Carolina for his turn here.

From what I understand, the mainstay fried chicken had a rough first few days when using a gluten free flour that tended

to burn too quickly, but rebounded with a crust that is now as finger licking good as any I've ever tasted for both crispiness and flavor. Colonel Sanders move over. The chicken itself was perfection for moistness and tenderness.

The second entrée we tried was the pulled pork with bacon bourbon sauce, the sweeter variety that you'd find in the Carolinas, by far my preference. I'm dashing back soon to try those particular dishes that called my name: chicken biscuit pie, baby back ribs, shrimp and grits (with parm, if you please) and the chicken biscuit pie.

The two side dishes that made me want to "slap my grandma" (yes, that's what we say down south) were the sweet potato casserole and the collard greens with ham. Normally, I hate collard greens.

There are those little southern oddities that any Yankee should try for the fun of it like the fried green tomatoes and the fried pickles that you probably won't want more than one of, so share.

For dessert, choose the apple pie in a jar, which is better than you know, from the crust to just the right gooeyness inside. When the check arrived we were surprised to find that, indulgent as we



By Bill Primavera



Bill Primavera with Savannah Southern House co-owner Gina DiPaterio and Manager Paul DiPaterio, Jr.

were, we spent only \$30 each.

You may think I'm crazy, but as the realtor who listed this property, I feel that I have some connection with every customer who enjoys this special restaurant, so can you understand why I enjoy being a realtor so much?

If any reader is thinking about a change of career to real estate, give me a call about joining The Home Guru Team. And if you're thinking about a great meal with a deep southern accent, Savannah Southern House is located at 3901 Crompond Rd. (Route 202), near the corner of Lexington Avenue. It can be reached at 914-736-1203. No reservations are accepted, so just go.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester www.PrimaveraPR.com, specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com

Even When it Comes to Wine, Closure Can Be Comforting



By Nick Antonaccio

In my previous 343 consecutive weekly columns, I've touched on many wine-related topics. Often times educational while on other occasions tracking unfolding news events, I've enjoyed the research and resulting reports presented to readers.

A number of news events are opened as I report on them. I periodically hear from readers inquiring if closure has been achieved on a particular wine report. This week I've decided to follow through on two reader inquiries.

When Wine Merchants Flaunt Regulations and Regulators

The wall between wine producers, wholesale distributors and retailers has been in place since the end of Prohibition. Regulations have been meted out at the federal and state levels by regulators who have a spotty track record. On various occasions and in certain jurisdictions these regulators have zealously zeroed in on apparent violators, while at other times certain regulators have taken a laissez faire approach of loose and inconsistent enforcement.

So it came as a surprise to me that Mario Batali, Joe Bastianich and his mother Lidia—all celebrity restaurateurs, TV personalities and highly successful entrepreneurs--were investigated by the New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) last month for disregarding aspects of the Chinese wall. The Bastianichs have an ownership interest in a winery in Italy and the retail wine shop at Eataly, the Manhattan food emporium. This was thought to be a clear violation of state regulations but regulators seemed to be "looking the other way."

Until last month. The SLA held a hearing to determine if violations had occurred and, if so, to decide how to proceed against the violators. The decision: the SLA determined that a violation had in fact occurred and proceeded to levy severe penalties on Batali and the Bastianichs. A \$500,000 fine was assessed against the pair, the Eataly wine shop was ordered to close for six months and Lidia Bastianich was required to relinquish her interest in the wine shop. Shutting down any business for an extended period of time is significant, but not as catastrophic

as temporarily shutting down any of the 10 mutually owned, highly regarded restaurants.

Some felt this settlement was in order for the flagrant disregard of regulations, while others felt this was a witch hunt of

highly visible personalities by bureaucratic headline seekers. In either case the SLA now has the industry's attention.

Accepting the Consequences of Our Actions, Even if They Are Unintended

Last month an organic winemaker in Burgundy, France was prosecuted for not spraying his vineyard with a chemical pesticide. It seems counterintuitive that a winemaker who consciously decides to practice "safe farming" should be fined for avoiding chemical pesticides. But there is a bureaucratic logic behind this decision to penalize Emmanuel Giboulot, who has been growing and harvesting grapes for the past 30 years.

The French government has made a commitment to reduce the use of pesticides by 50 percent by 2018. So why the seemingly contradictory actions by the French government? The answer: Flavescence dorée disease, inflicted by

a leaf-hopper insect that is spreading throughout France, threatening to wipe out vast stretches of vineyards.

So concerned are the authorities that Flavescence dorée could have a devastating effect on the French wine industry that they have compromised their noble edict to reduce the use of pesticides.

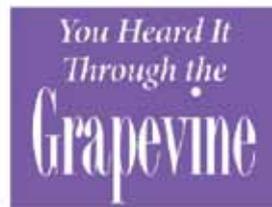
This doesn't help Giboulot's noble effort, who was complying with the government's efforts to reduce chemical pesticides—before they decided to revert to an industrial-age solution.

The potential fine--and its unintended consequences--was significant: up to six months in jail and a fine of 30,000 Euros.

Last week, after a half million French signed an online petition protesting the fines, a judge fined Giboulot 1,000 Euros (suspending half of it) and no jail time.

Mr. Giboulot intends to appeal.

Nick Antonaccio is a 35-year Pleasantville resident. For over 15 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



Trattoria 632, Purchase, Offers New Spring Specialties



By Morris Gut

The creative team behind Trattoria 632 in Purchase, is offering a variety of new seasonal specialties this spring heralding the third anniversary since they

renovated the premises due to a fire back in 2010. The homey, casual spot bustles daily at lunch and dinner with an extra-added dose of nightlife and networking throughout the week.

Special Hint: According to Chef Nazareno Danielle, the spring bill-of-fare will include a Tuesday Lobster Night with fresh house salad, vegetables and all the trimmings for \$25.99. A Wednesday Night Clam Bake is sure to please all New England shore lovers.

Chef Danielle is a veteran, whose quality sourcing and preparation of seasonal ingredients excites the palate. There are dishes old and new from the Italian culinary repertoire on his dynamic menu. Great starters include: Classic Caprese, fresh mozzarella, tomato, basil with extra virgin olive oil; and flavorful Roasted Beets, goat cheese mousse, Sicilian pistachios and micro greens.

Outstanding fresh Pastas which can be ordered in half or full portions include: seasonal house made ravioli; Chittara, house made with veal polpettine and shaved ricotta salata; Squid Ink Pasta, with shrimp, bay scallops, chilies and arugula; classic Cavatelli Broccoli Di Rabe, sweet and spicy sausage, garlic and extra virgin; Linguine alle Vongole, with roasted grape tomatoes, cockles and Italian parsley; Gnocchi in truffle cream sauce with imported speck, wild mushrooms and sweet peas; and Schiaffoni, with roasted eggplant, smoked mozzarella and shaved parmigiana. Gluten free choices are also available.



Trattoria 632, Purchase is located at 632 Anderson Hill Road.

Beautifully plated Main Courses include such old-fashioned favorites as Chicken, Veal or Shrimp Parmigiana; aged New York Strip Steak, served with shitake mushrooms and house made fries; Organic Chicken with balsamic glaze and

parmesan crusted, artichoke hearts and asparagus. Daily specialties augment the regular menu.

Head 'Pizzaiolo' is talented Leo Hajdari, who we first encountered at the popular Pelham Pizza in Pelham. He knows how to

prepare delicious pies in a variety of styles using a traditional stone oven. Sit around the pizza counter if you wish and consider such tasty options as: whole pizza with choice of toppings and such 'Pizzette' as: classic Margherita with plum tomato, fresh mozzarella and fresh basil; Quattro Stagione, a four seasons pie topped with prosciutto, artichoke hearts, mushrooms and



The dining room at Trattoria 632, Purchase.

grilled Treviso radicchio; Wild Striped Bass Mediterraneo, with capers, olives and cherry tomatoes; Day Boat Scallops, pan-seared with baby arugula risotto, sun-dried tomato and roasted pepper gremolata; and Veal Scallopine Martini,

zucchini; Polpettine, with veal meatballs, fresh mozzarella, gran padano and fresh basil; and Salsiccia, homemade sausage, caramelized onions and bell peppers. Gluten free choices also available. At lunch there are also a variety of wedges

and salads available.

Save room for such desserts as: Nutella Pizzette, Homemade Jumbo Cannoli, Tiramisu and Apple Crisp with vanilla gelato.

Special Hint: Live entertainment has become a popular attraction on Thursday evenings starting at 8 p.m. Live piano accompanies dinner on Saturday nights.

The restaurant is just down the street from the Neuberger Museum of Art and the Performing Arts Center at SUNY Purchase. From Anderson Hill Road you literally drive thru and under the two attached houses that are Trattoria 632 into the parking area. From the rear entrance you are guided to the bar/lounge surrounded by wooden tables. The pizza bar is at the front entrance. There is a separated countrified 70-seat dining room as well, and a private party room upstairs for up to 40 guests. Between the warmth of the country décor that runs through the multi-sectioned restaurant and the friendly staff, customers can feel quite at home here.

Trattoria 632 is located at 632 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week. Main courses at lunch and dinner: \$6.25 to \$32. Whole pizzas from \$11. Wedges and Calzones: from \$5.50. Kid's menu: \$8. Bar/lounge. Live entertainment Thursday and Saturday evenings. Catering and private party facilities. Express take out and free delivery. Major credit cards. Proper casual dress. Ample free parking. Reservations accepted. Phone: 914-481-5811. www.trattoria632.com

Morris Gut is a restaurant consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for over 25 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. E-mail: gutreactions@optonline.net

Children's Rehab Center Patient and Coleman School Student Blessed by Pope

Gia Rodriguez is a 3-year-old girl from Elmsford. She has been diagnosed with multiple genetic disorders and has very weak muscle strength that necessitates the use of a brace. Gia requires a gastrostomy tube for feeding and she also has difficulty communicating. Since birth, Gia has had to undergo multiple surgeries and, as a result, Gia has not been able to visit Italy where the majority of her family lives. But on Gia's third birthday, her mom, Valentina, decided that they would finally make the trip.

Once they arrived, Gia and her parents visited Rome to attend a mass being held by Pope Francis. According to Valentina, there were over 140,000 people in attendance waiting to see the Pope. "We got into a corner and waited," said Valentina. "Of course, when people saw that I had to G-tube Gia a few feeds, they



started asking questions and even one of the guards that was walking around starting talking to us ... he said he was going to try to do his best to have [the Pope's security] see Gia and hopefully have her chosen [to be brought up to Pope

Francis]."

Gia's mom said that she had a feeling that her daughter would get picked to receive a blessing from Pope Francis and the next thing she knew, one of the Pope's guards lifted Gia from her father's arms and brought her to the Pope. "When the Pope grabbed and kissed my little Gia, I was filled with so much joy; my whole family was crying, everyone around us was crying and hugging us," Valentina said.

And not only did Gia get picked up to receive a blessing from the Pope once, but twice.

"It's already a miracle on its own, but twice?!" Valentina said. "I felt like God was right next to my shoulder that day and literally touched my soul and for a moment gave me peace and reassurance

that my Gia was going to be okay and better yet, that she was here for a reason. She has a purpose and she is a true miracle."

Gia began attending the White Plains campus of the John A. Coleman School for early intervention services in the summer of 2013. She then transitioned into the pre-kindergarten program this past fall, where she presently receives a comprehensive program of special education, physical, occupational and speech therapy. At the Children's Rehabilitation Center, Gia receives aquatic therapy in the state-of-the-art therapeutic pool.

According to Dr. Maria A. Pici, the Children's Rehabilitation Center's medical Director, "I believe we are going to make her walk one day and even remove her gastrostomy tube. I don't doubt that will happen.



WHITE PLAINS AFTER DARK


HAPPY HOUR

- Beechmont Tavern** – 3-7PM, Weekdays ½ appetizer specials, drink specials, WINGS!
- Black Bear Saloon** – 4-7PM, Weekdays All drink ½ off, \$5 appetizers
- Bob Hyland's Sports Page Pub** – 4-7PM, Weekdays \$1 off all drinks
- City Limits** – 9PM, Daily \$4 wines and draft beers, \$7 cocktails, 25% off appetizers!
- Brazen Fox** – 4-8PM, Weekdays \$4 drafts, \$5 martinis, \$5 cocktails, \$5 wines, \$15 samplers
- Elements** – 4-8PM, Daily \$3 and \$4 drafts, \$5 wine and well drinks, \$6 select martinis, \$8 mojitos
- Executive Billiards** – Happy Hour, 3-7PM, Mon-Thurs \$10 per hour per table, \$3 beers
- Lazy Boy Saloon** – 4-7PM, Weekdays Beer and drink discounts
- Porter House** – 12-8PM, Mon-Sat \$3 and \$4 drafts, \$5 martinis and cocktails, ½ off appetizers at the bar
- Ron Black's Beer Hall** – 4-8PM, Weekdays \$4 and \$6 beers pints, \$5 wines, appetizer specials
- Sam's of Gedney Way** – 4 to 8PM Weekdays \$4 drafts, \$5 select wines, \$6 select cocktails, Half off appetizer menu at the bar.

Wicked Wolf Tavern – 4-7 PM, Weekdays ½ off all drinks, \$5 appetizers

Vintage – 11AM-7PM Live bands, \$4 drink specials

TUESDAY, April 22

Beechmont Tap Room & Grill Country Night with \$3 signature whiskey cocktails

The Brazen Fox 10-11PM Bonus Night

Black Bear Saloon Tijuana Tuesdays & Karaoke \$2 Coronas and Tequila shots

Elements Jazz Tuesdays – Richie G. & Lois Colombo; 6:30-9:30PM

Lazy Lounge Bar Trivia – 9PM

Ron Black's Beer Hall Battle of the Brains Trivia – 8PM \$100 for the winner!

Wicked Wolf Tavern Tijuana Tuesdays - \$2 Coronas, \$2 Tequila Shots, \$2 Tacos

WEDNESDAY, April 23

Black Bear Saloon Trivia starts at 8:30PM; \$5 Bomb shots, \$4 Pinnacle Drinks, \$3 Domestic Drafts, \$2 SoCo Lime shots, \$1 tacos

Bob Hyland's Sports Page Pub Trivia Night – 7:30PM sign up, 8PM start

Brazen Fox Ladies Night 5-11PM. A portion of all proceeds is donated to the Breast Cancer Foundation.

Dunne's Pub Music Seisun – 7:30-10:30PM Traditional Irish music with Brian Conway and friends!
Executive Billiards Ladies' Night \$10 Ladies play all night, \$4 tropical ball drinks

Lazy Lounge JAM SESSION 9PM-1AM Featuring: Curtis Winchester, Gil Parris & Special Guests! Great Beer, Wine and Food Specials all night!

Ron Black's Beer Hall Beer-BQ 4– 10PM; featuring special beer of the night.

Wicked Wolf Tavern Acoustic Wednesdays featuring Dan Barrios 9PM

Vintage Team Trivia – 7:30PM with Quiz Master Dan Doherty

THURSDAY, April 24

Black Bear Saloon Relapse Thursdays; \$2 Bud Lights and \$2 Fireball shots all night long!

Brazen Fox Suds for Scrubs – 9PM Show your Medical ID for \$5 drafts!

Dunne's Pub Oktoberfest every third Thursday
Ron Black's Beer Hall
DJ Bingo 7:30PM

**FRIDAY, April 25**

Beechmont Tap Room & Grill Live Music

The Brazen Fox DJ party After 11 PM

Lazy Boy Saloon BOB & NORM - New York's #1 Classic Rock Band!

Porter House Live DJ – 11PM

SATURDAY, April 26

Beechmont Tap Room & Grill DJ Party

The Brazen Fox DJ Party After 11 PM

Lazy Lounge Live DJ!

Porter House Live DJ – 11PM

SUNDAY, April 27

Elements Paint Nite 5-7PM; Fernando will teach you how to create a masterpiece; food and drink specials

Lazy Lounge Live DJ!

Wicked Wolf Tavern Sunday Funday \$3 drinks every weekend.

MONDAY, April 28

Wicked Wolf Tavern Flip n Sip Mondays – flip a coin for a free drink

Black Bear Saloon Monday One Day \$1 Menu; starts 8:30PM



Know the perfect place to go for a night out this week? Submit event to pcasey@theexaminernews.com

WESPAC to Host Roundtable Discussion on Community Supported Agriculture

] WESPAC Foundation, a social justice organization based in White Plains, will host a roundtable discussion about farms that sell their produce directly to community members. Known as CSA (Community Supported Agriculture), this arrangement connects local residents to regional farms for weekly deliveries of freshly harvested, organic produce.

CSA members commit to a season of 20 weeks, paying in advance so that farmers have the resources to produce the best crops possible, depending on growing conditions. A bumper crop widens

the variety and quantities of produce delivered to local communities. In difficult growing conditions, deliveries are smaller, but the farms are assured the means to recover and deliver again in the following season.

There are currently at least four CSAs serving the White Plains area. As the Spring season approaches, local farms are looking to fill their CSAs to make sure the fresh produce reach our tables as efficiently as possible. This event provides an excellent opportunity to get questions about CSAs answered and will help people who want to join a CSA sign

up that evening.

WESPAC will be particularly focusing on how CSAs can become more accessible to lower income communities of color. One of the farmers who will be present that evening is Jalal Sabur, one of the few African American farmers in New York State. He has started the Sweet Freedom Farm CSA in Germantown, New York.

Participants will include CSA Coordinators as well as Farmers and CSA members, all of which will share their experiences with CSAs followed by a question and answer period.

The event includes a Pot Luck Dinner at 6 p.m. followed by the roundtable discussion with CSA coordinators at 6:45 p.m. featuring the Stoneledge CSA, Hazon CSA, Lineage Farm and Sweet Freedom Farm CSAs. Mapleton Conference Center, 52 North Broadway, White Plains.





Happenings



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

Tuesday, April 22

Small Business Forum. Presented by NYS Assemblyman David Buchwald; 8:30 to 10 a.m., Fordham University, Westchester Campus, Room 228, 400 Westchester Ave., West Harrison. RSVP 914-244-4450.

Tuesdays at Dorry's. New York State Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer, born and raised in Yonkers, has served the city's 90th Assembly district since 2012. She is Chair of the Subcommittee on Students with Special Needs and a member of the Committees on Labor, Social Services, Health, and Cities, among others. As a member of the Yonkers NAACP, Yonkers YWCA, Westchester Women's Bar Association, and Westchester Women's Agenda, she will talk about the issues she believes are most pressing. Tuesdays@Dorry's is an informal gathering of people who share dinner while listening to and discussing issues of importance. No reservations are required. The public is welcome. Food ordering begins at 5:30 p.m. and the presentations are from 6 to 7 p.m. Dorry's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains. Call 914-682-0005 for more information.

Wednesday, April 23

Noonday Getaway Concert. Downtown Music is excited to welcome the return of clarinetist Pavel Vinnitsky. Vinnitsky appears regularly with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, the American Symphony, and the Orchestra of St. Luke's. He is joined at the piano by his wife, Anna Vinnitsky who has appeared as a recitalist and collaborative artist at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Orchestra Hall in Chicago, and Merkin Hall in New York. Together they will offer an Opera Matinee featuring music of Rossini, Gounod and Gershwin 12:10 p.m. Free Admission. Grace Episcopal Church at the intersection of Mamaroneck Avenue and Main Street in White Plains.

"Jewish-Owned Art & The Nazis." Art looted by the Nazis often makes headlines and even features in popular culture. Art expert Victoria Reed, curator for Provenance at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston will talk about her experiences as an "art detective" for

Nazi-looted art that has made its way into major art collections. Purchase College's Student Services Building, Red Room, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: visit www.purchase.edu.

Thursday, April 24

Sustainable Development and Construction Financing Conference. Pace University and the Urban Land Institute Westchester/Fairfield will hold this event, which will focus on the university's Master Plan and the latest trends in sustainable development and financing of major construction projects. Pace University's Kessel Student Center, Gottesman Room, 861 Bedford Rd., (Entrance 1), Pleasantville. 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. ULI Members: \$30. Non-members: \$40. ULI Young Leaders Group Members and Public Members: \$25. Info and registration: Visit www.west-fair.uli.org.

Saturday, April 26

Neighborhood Health Fair. Free health and dental screenings, health information, exhibits, entertainment and food. Thomas H. Slater Center, 2 Fisher Court, White Plains. Registration 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Program begins 9 a.m. screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Presented by White Plains Hospital, Calvary Baptist Church, El Centro Hispano Inc., Thomas H. Slater Center. Corporate sponsor - Pepsico.

Free Film Screening. Disney Nature's Bears free screening for 400 moviegoers; 10 a.m., City Center Deluxe, White Plains.

Earth Week Street Fair. "Sustain White Plains; noon to 4 p.m. on Mamaroneck Avenue between Martine Avenue and Main Street in Downtown White Plains. Interactive vendors, exciting entertainment, the unveiling of a spectacular work by international 3D chalk artist Anthony Cappetto that will capture the essence of sustainability, great food, and more.

Pitch In for Parks. Volunteers are welcome to "Pitch In" for an hour or two, or the whole day (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and should dress appropriately for outdoor work. Work gloves, cleaning tools and supplies will be provided for volunteers who sign up in advance. Volunteers in this annual program play an active role in the stewardship of the more than 18,000 acres of Westchester County parks, trails and nature centers. They can choose a favorite park and help with such tasks as trail clearing and pruning, flowerbed preparation, debris removal, painting,

sweeping and cleaning. Businesses can also join the effort by donating snacks and beverages. Rain date is Saturday, May 3. For more information, visit <http://parks.westchestergov.com/>, or to sign up for a specific project call 914-864-7318.

4th Annual Greenburgh Taste Off,

a local fundraising event hosted by the Woodlands Falcons Nest Booster Club and Woodlands Middle and High School Parent Teacher Associations of the Greenburgh Central School District; 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Woodlands High School Gymnasiums at 475 W. Hartsdale Avenue in Hartsdale. This fundraising event brings local restaurants and caterers together to boast their favorite dishes. Attendees participate by tasting dishes and voting on their favorite dish in specific food categories. A silent auction and a penny social will also take place. In addition, the event pays tribute to Greenburgh Central School District staff members for their service and commitment to the district. This year's honorees include: Denise Acham-Taylor, Highview School, Rosemary Kamholz, Lee F. Jackson School, Helena Sayles, Richard J. Bailey School, Joanne Iamónico, Lee F. Jackson School, Barbara Pridgen, Woodlands High School, and Mark Worthy, Woodlands Middle School. Net proceeds benefit Woodlands Middle and High School students. Five percent will be donated to Friends of the Greenburgh Library and 5 percent to Shirley Schwarz Memorial Fund at the Lois Bronz Children's Center. For information and to purchase entry tickets visit www.eventbrite.com or call (914) 703-2615.

Potluck Dinner and Discussion. Join a gathering of people from different faith traditions to explore what it means to be spiritual partners with each other and the Earth. Share the ways in which the teachings of Hinduism, Christianity, Jainism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, etc. can help us to live lightly on the Earth through: DIY workshops on food preparation and preserving; reimagining community beyond anthropocentric lines; growing community garden space; and brainstorming; 5 p.m. White Plains Presbyterian Church, 39 North Broadway. Enter through rear of building, door marked "Church Office." Future gatherings will be in various settings in southern Westchester at times to be decided by the group. Bring some food to share if you are able and bring your own plate and utensils. RSVP 914-693-7389.



Sunday, April 27

City of White Plains Cherry Blossom Festival 2014. Entertainment, vendors, food; 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Turnure Park, 20 Lake Street, White Plains. Rain location Eastview Middle School, 350 Main Street, White Plains.

Springtime Hunger Concert. From folk to jazz to Irish to rock with Celtic dancing and sing-a-long to benefit The Lord's Pantry and St. Bart's Soup Kitchen. Featuring performances by Padraig Allen, Mark Douglas, Ricardo Gautreau, Fr. Gawain de Leeuw, Dennis Power & Vinnie McLaughlin, The O'Rourke Irish Dancers; 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. St. Bartholomew's Church, 82 Prospect St., White Plains. Purchase tickets in advance or at the door: Family \$60, Adult \$35, Senior \$30, Student \$15. For more information call: (914) 949-5577 or visit stbartswp.org.

Monday, April 28

CSA Roundtable Discussion. Community Supported Agriculture - Farm to table pot luck dinner and discussion hosted by WESPAC; 6 p.m. potluck dinner; 6:45 p.m. roundtable discussion with CSA coordinators and farmers, featuring the Stoneledge CSA, Hazon CSA, Lineage Farm and Sweet Freedom Farm CSAs; The Mapleton Conference Center, 52 North Broadway, White Plains.

Wednesday, April 30

Noonday Getaway Concert. Downtown Music is delighted to welcome the return of Jörg-Michael Schwartz, Karen Marie Marmer, and John Moran, principals of the internationally acclaimed REBEL Ensemble for Baroque Music. They will play works of J.S. Bach, Giuseppe Torelli and W.A. Mozart; 12:10 p.m. Free Admission. Grace Episcopal Church at the intersection of Mamaroneck Avenue and Main Street in White Plains.

Thursday, May 1

Concert and Spaghetti Dinner. 5:30 to 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church in White Plains featuring SUNY Purchase opera majors singing excerpts from Hansel and Gretel and Elijah Wolf-Christianson performing new music from his CDs: As Tall As the Sun and The Lonesome World Among the Trees. This family friendly event will provide dinner and great entertainment for all ages. Tickets are a suggested donation of \$10 at the door. St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church 82 Prospect Street, White Plains. Call 914-949-5577 for more information.

**Classified Ad Deadline
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LIVE AUCTIONS - States of MA and VT Surplus MA - Sat, April 26th - 289 Lyman Rd, Westborough, MA VT - Sat, May 10th - 1744 US Rt. 302, Berlin, VT Cars-Trucks- Equipment CALL: 1-800-536-1401 www.auctionsInternational.com Lic# AU2740

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.....WHITE PLAINS EXAMINER SPORTS.....

Stepinac Signing Day Distinguishes Nine Student/Athletes

By Albert Coqueran

On Tuesday, April 15, nine student/athletes from Stepinac High School accepted offers to attend colleges and signed Letters of Intent to attend their respective schools on National Letter of Intent Day.

The Stepinac gymnasium was graced with excited parents and proud coaches of the student/athletes, as they ushered the soon to be Stepinac graduates to the next level of their educational careers.

Brian Harris, the Captain on last season's Crusaders football team will pursue a career in the military, while playing football for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, in Kings Point, New York.

Harris, a Golden Dozen Award Honoree this year, expects to make an immediate impact on the Division III Mariners next season. "I am more than happy with my selection. I am ecstatic! I am definitely hoping to make an immediate impact on the Mariners football team next season," said Harris.

Brandon Campos, the catcher for the Crusaders baseball team will take his talents to Villanova University, while accepting a four-year athletic scholarship to play for the Division One Wildcats. "Stepinac helped me mentally, while giving me challenges to overcome and with my time management and that is something I will definitely need next year," said Campos.

Also representing this season's Crusaders baseball team, first baseman/pitcher Joseph Signore accepted a four-year scholarship to attend St. Thomas Aquinas College, in Sparkill, N.Y. Signore will try to assist the Division II Spartans baseball team next season. "Yes, it is nice



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTO

Stepinac: Nine student/athletes participated in National Letter of Intent Day at Stepinac High School on Tuesday, April 15. Pictured wearing caps indicating their college selection with respective coaches are: (l-r front) Eric Terminello—Naval Academy-Golf, Angelos Paradisis, Edinboro University-Wrestling, Sheldon Salmon, SUNY Brockport-Football, Bandon Campos, Villanova University-Baseball. (Back row l-r) Liam O'Donnell, Catholic University-Lacrosse, Joseph Somereve, Castleton State-Football, Brain Harris-Merchant Marine Academy-Football and Joe Signore, St. Thomas Aquinas-Baseball.

to be going to college close to home, so my family can come see me play. I am hoping to get some playing time quickly but I am just happy to get a scholarship from a team," commented Signore.

Crusaders Head Baseball Coach Pat Duffy attended the festivities to acknowledge the hard work and achievements of his players Campos and Signore and congratulate all the college bound student/athletes.

This year upon graduation Stepinac will also be represented at the United States Naval Academy, in Annapolis, Maryland. Eric Terminello signed a Letter of Intent accepting an appointment to play on the Midshipmen's Golf Team next season. "The entire faculty supported me through the process, especially my Guidance

Counselor. They helped me through the tough times and now I am going to play at Navy," smiled Terminello, while proudly wearing his Naval Academy cap.

Stepinac will also have the first student/athlete from their Wrestling Team graduating and going on to college. Angelos Paradisis will be a preferred walk-on to the Wrestling Team at Edinboro University next season.

Paradisis will join the Division 1 Fighting Scots who finished in third place in the 141-Pound weight category and fourth place in the 133 and 149-Pound weight divisions, at the NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships this season.

"The wrestling team started four years ago when I was a freshman. It feels good to make strides like this to get from that

point to this point," stated Paradisis, who will major in Computer Science at Edinboro.

In 2010, Head Wrestling Coach Rick Lee started the wrestling program at Stepinac with eight wrestlers and presently has about 35 student/athletes coming out for the team.

Assistant Wrestling Coach Tom Gwin took off from work to honor the achievement of Paradisis and pay tribute to the progress of the Stepinac wrestling program over the past four years. "It feels great. When we started the program we did not expect this, we just wanted students to wrestle. In four years for Paradisis to become such a great wrestler is a huge accomplishment," stated Gwin.

Other Crusader student/athletes being recognized on National Letter of Intent Signing Day at Stepinac included, Sheldon Salmon, who accepted a four-year scholarship to SUNY Brockport for football, Joseph Somereve, who will attend Castleton State College, in Vermont for football and Liam O'Donnell, who will follow in his brother Conor's footsteps, while attending Catholic University for Lacrosse. Liam is also the son of Stepinac Head Football Coach and Athletic Director Mike O'Donnell.

"We are very proud of all our student/athletes accomplishments. Our most important job here at Stepinac is to help the students go on to college and become successful," proudly recognized O'Donnell. "Winning football games or lacrosse matches and everything else is secondary to helping them grow to become successful young men," O'Donnell, the longtime Head Football Coach and Athletic Director at Stepinac, added.

What is Transpiring in Some High School's in 2014?

By Albert Coqueran

While some student/athletes at Stepinac High School put their moral fortitude and academic and athletic prowess on display, while achieving college scholarships and acceptance into colleges, other students from some high schools were wasting their time displaying their ignorance and insensitivity concerning racial injustices.

In wake of the incident at the Westchester County Center this year, where Mahopac High School students sent racially offensive tweets to the Mt. Vernon basketball team, after the Knights beat the Indians in the Semifinals of the Section 1 Basketball Tournament, two more despicable racially offensive incidents have occurred at the prestigious St. Anthony's High School, in South Huntington, New York.

Two students at St. Anthony's were

expelled for walking into a sporting event in their gym carrying a Confederate flag. Then, two more students from the well-known Catholic high school were expelled for posting a picture of them wearing blackface on social media. "I find it just very hard to even imagine why any student in 2014 would even consider or think that a Confederate flag would be anything other than a symbol of hate," stated Brother Gary Cregan, the Principal at St. Anthony's High School.

St. Anthony's football team has been renowned as a powerhouse in the Catholic High School Football League (CHSFL) for many years. Stepinac High School Head Coach Mike O'Donnell leads his Crusaders against the Friars each year. O'Donnell is also Vice President of the CHSFL Executive Committee.

"St Anthony's is a great school. I am

sure they are dealing with these issues very seriously. We try to be proactive with our students about so many of the decisions they make. Making smart choices is very important for all of them to be successful.

I just read that all the students involved have been expelled. It is very hard to believe in this day and age that children would think that this racially insensitive behavior is acceptable," said O'Donnell.

In the same week that Major League Baseball honors Jackie Robinson, the first Afro-American to play in the majors with Jackie Robinson Day, on April 15, four students from St. Anthony's decide to inflict racially offensive behavior upon fellow human beings.

Also, in the same week that the NY Yankees dedicated a plaque in Monument Park at Yankee Stadium, to pay tribute

to former South African President Nelson Mandela for his dedication to overthrowing the segregated practice of apartheid; all these students from St. Anthony's could understand was to wave a Confederate flag at the school and don blackface to display their ignorance.

Cregan wrote a letter to parents of students attending St. Anthony's which read: "The use of symbols designed to revive past injustices or to inflame discrimination or racial intolerance, is completely unacceptable and profoundly offensive."

Why are these racially disgusting episodes occurring in our high schools these days? I would sure like to hear from the parents of these racially insensitive students to understand their interpretation concerning these racially offensive incidents.

.....WHITE PLAINS EXAMINER SPORTS.....

Harrison Laxmen Run Past New Rochelle, Fall to Tough Queensbury

By Skip Pearlman

The Harrison High lacrosse team suffered an 8-5 loss to nationally-ranked Queensbury last Thursday on the road, after taking down New Rochelle, 14-7, in a game played at Harrison High School one day earlier.

Thursday against Queensbury (4-3), the Huskies got off to a rough start, falling behind 6-1 halfway through the first quarter. Harrison trailed 7-4 at halftime, but the team took another hit when leading scorer Jake Marino left the game after sustaining a slight concussion, and a cut on his chin that required four stitches. Marino is hoping to be cleared to play in about one week.

Marino had three goals in the second quarter of Thursday's game before sustaining the injury, and Huskies coach Jay Rabinowitz felt his team was gaining momentum at the time – despite digging themselves a deep hole in the first six minutes of the game.

“Our guys just didn’t get off the bus,” Rabinowitz said flatly of the slow start. “There was no sense of urgency early on. (And in the second quarter) Jake was about to take over the game, so that was a big loss.”

Jake Davidoff and Matt McLaughlin each had a goal, and keeper Steven Forest had 11 saves for Harrison, which fell to 5-4

SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTO



Harrison freshman Matt McLaughlin had four goals and two assists in a win over New Ro last week.

with the loss.

One day earlier against New Rochelle (4-5), the Huskies led 2-1 after one, and 3-1 at halftime, before erupting for a 10-goal third that broke the game open.

“I’m usually very calm, usually don’t like to yell much, but they needed a wakeup call,” Rabinowitz said of his halftime talk. “I talked to the captains, and they got the team ready to play in the second half. It was good to see them respond.”

Marino had a season-high six goals and added one assist, McLaughlin, a freshman, had four goals and two assists, Charlie Van Tongeren and Kyle Davidoff each delivered two goals, and JJ Tenner had an assist.

Forest had 14 saves in net for Harrison. “I was happy with our second half,” Rabinowitz said. “We were definitely the better team, but in the first half we really played down a bit... In the second half we ran our offense and pressed on defense.”

Harrison has a break in the schedule, which gives the team a nine-day break before its next game – on April 29 at Byram Hills. (4:30 p.m.).

“Overall, we’re playing a bit inconsistent, but we are seeing good signs,” Rabinowitz said. “We’ll have our entire starting defense in the next four games – for the first time all season. So we get healthy, and I like that. And we’ll be up for the next round of games.”

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When Battling Back Pain, it's Often Best to See a Neurosurgeon

By Dr. John Abrahams

Your spine is essentially the most complex joint in your body. It's composed of 33 vertebrae stacked one on top of each other (with soft discs between each for cushioning) and linked together by ligaments.

This precarious structure happens to support and surround a bundle of vital nerves that run the length of your back to your brain. All those delicate nerves help explain why, when you're battling persistent or chronic back pain, you'll often be referred to a spine specialist with in-depth understanding of the nervous system: a neurosurgeon. This is the one misconception I run into when people learn of my specialty. They think neurosurgeons focus on the brain and only orthopedic surgeons work on the spine.

In fact, I'm a spine specialist. Most commonly, I see patients who have a pinched nerve in their neck or back that's causing arm or leg pain. The pain can result from an accident or from heavy lifting. Some patients have arthritis in the back — called stenosis — which can lead to thickening of ligaments that link together the vertebrae, bone spurs and eventually a narrowing of the spinal canal creating pressure on nerves.

Other patients may be suffering from the breakdown of the soft discs between

the vertebrae, a condition known as spondylolysis. Fractures and tumors can also cause spinal pain. And then there are patients whose pain doesn't have a definite cause.

Patients will end up being referred to a spine specialist such as myself after standard treatments, such as rest, physical therapy, pain killers and steroid injections have failed. I'll use imaging such as MRIs to try and reach a definite diagnosis. In the case of spondylolysis, I can remove the disc and possibly insert an artificial disc to help maintain the spine's mobility. For stenosis, I might recommend a laminectomy to remove some of the bone on the vertebrae that is pressing on the spinal nerves. Some patients benefit from fusing vertebrae together to help stabilize the spine.

Despite the delicacy and complexity of these operations, many can be done as outpatient surgery because the tools and techniques have improved so much. One technology that has helped spinal surgeons immensely and helps improve surgical outcomes is the O-Arm. The excellent views offered by the O-Arm allow surgeons to operate with increased precision and patient safety, and that's incredibly important when performing complex neurosurgery and spine surgery. The O-Arm lowers the risk of spinal nerve

damage. What's more, when the O-Arm is used for implants or fusing vertebrae, it helps reduce the chance that a screw or pin will be placed in a poor position — a situation that can require further surgery.

The Orthopedic & Spine Institute at Northern Westchester Hospital

My colleagues and I treat patients in White Plains and Yorktown. When surgery is indicated I will schedule procedures at Northern Westchester Hospital. The Orthopedic and Spine Institute was developed as a way to further expand the multidisciplinary approach we take to medicine at NWH. The Institute integrates neurosurgery, orthopedics, pain management, and physical therapy, making the offices and Institute a one-stop care center for spine patients. We treat numerous spinal disorders, such as disc herniation and degeneration, vertebral fractures, stenosis, scoliosis, and spinal tumors. For more information, visit the Institute's web site at www.nwhorthoandspine.org

A bit about John Abrahams, MD, FAANS

Dr. John Abrahams is a member of Brain and Spine Surgeons of New York, Co-Director of Spine Surgery at The Orthopedic and Spine Institute, and Chief of Neurosurgery at Northern Westchester Hospital. He graduated from Le Moyne

College with a degree in Physics and Chemistry and completed a Master's Degree in Biomedical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Dr. Abrahams received his medical degree from New York Medical College and completed his surgical internship at New York University Medical Center. He completed his residency in neurological surgery at the University of Pennsylvania and finished a spine fellowship and a research fellowship at the Institute for Medicine and Engineering at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Abrahams' practice focuses significantly on complex spine and brain disorders. He is the author of numerous patents, has authored over 30 publications in peer-reviewed journals and textbooks, and given lectures at many national and local meetings. Dr. Abrahams has founded two biomedical device companies to develop new treatments for specific aspects of both brain and spine surgery. In 2009, he founded the Westchester Neuroscience Research Foundation in an effort to improve awareness to spinal cord and brain injury, malignant brain tumors, and neuromodulation.

Dr. John Abrahams is chief of neurosurgery at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco and co-director of spine surgery at the Orthopedic and Spine Institute at NWH.

Guest Column

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