



The White Plains Examiner



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Covering White Plains, Greenburgh and Harrison

September 30- October 6, 2014

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 4, Issue 163

Wings of Freedom WWII Aircraft Fly Into Westchester Airport



PAUL CARDI PHOTOS

Celebrating WWII veterans the Collings Foundation's Wings of Freedom Tour made a stop at Westchester County Airport, Sept. 24 to 28. Visitors from around the region came to visit, explore and learn about aviation history. Special flights were also offered to aviation enthusiasts. Pictured is the Consolidated B-24 Liberator "Witchcraft" Heavy Bomber. In the inset photo is the P-51 Mustang fighter.

Two Hunger Fighting Giants Join Forces

By Pat Casey

Two giants in the Westchester fight against hunger announced plans Monday to join forces to improve services and expand their unified reach.

Already approved by their respective boards The Food Bank for Westchester and Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless will merge their efforts when they receive state approval, expected in 2015.

Under the agreement, the operations of the White Plains-based Coalition will be incorporated into the Food Bank, which is based in Elmsford where it operates a 36,000-square-foot distribution warehouse.

Working together, the two organizations will be able to strengthen their respective missions by operating more efficiently and eliminating redundancies. Together, the Food Bank

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Westchester/Connecticut Conservation Initiative Will Protect Watersheds

By Pat Casey

Bedford Hills-based Westchester Land Trust announced the formation of the Hudson to Housatonic Conservation (H2H) Initiative last week to protect rivers, water supplies and wildlife habitats in the greater cross-boundary region of southern Westchester and lower Connecticut as they empty into Long Island Sound.

Recognizing the fast pace of development in lower Westchester and Fairfield Counties, WLT funded by a two-year US Forest Service grant, will be joined by Highstead Foundation (on behalf of

Fairfield County Regional Conservation Partnership), Mianus River Gorge, and Housatonic Valley Association in the H2H Initiative.

The initiative recognizes the greater northeast watershed, including the Housatonic River, which travels approximately 139 miles in western Massachusetts and western Connecticut. It flows south to southeast, and drains about 1,950 square miles of southwestern Connecticut into Long Island Sound. Its watershed is just to the west of the watershed of the lower Connecticut River.

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Stepinac Staggers St. Francis Prep, 56-0, for 4-0 Start

By Albert Coqueran

There was so much scoring in the first half of the Stepinac, 56-0, thrashing of St. Francis Prep, on Friday, at Mitchel Field that keeping notes was a task.

The Crusaders have started the 2014 season, 4-0 and seemingly have become a force in the CHSFL AAA-AA. Of course, the next five games will certainly determine their status, as they play rival Iona Prep, on Saturday, Oct. 4, in New Rochelle, then Holy Trinity at home, in the Joseph Riverso Memorial Game, on Saturday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m., while visiting powerhouses St. Anthony's and Chaminade, on Oct. 17 and Oct. 25,

respectively, before concluding their regular season against Monsignor Farrell, at home, on Saturday, Nov. 1.

Nonetheless, after the, 56-0, shellacking they put on St. Francis Prep, all signs show that the Stepinac Football Program has progressed to become a consistent competitor in the CHSFL AAA. "It demonstrates that our program has come a long way. Our first year in AAA in 2008, we struggled a little and now we think we are one of the better teams in AAA," stated Crusaders Head Coach Mike O'Donnell.

The Terriers did not know what hit

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Westchester/Connecticut Conservation Initiative Will Protect Watersheds

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The convergence of water flow and supply in the lower Westchester and Connecticut regions is obvious as Westchester's Mamaroneck, Sheldrake and Byram Rivers also flow into the Sound as part of the same regional watershed.

The main purpose of the H2H initiative will be to identify and collaborate with landowners identified as pivotal in 13 focus areas that straddle town or state lines and contain land with streams that drain into reservoirs or habitats that are likely to adapt to climate change in the future.

"H2H furthers landscape scale conservation by fostering collaboration across town and state boundaries. By drawing together a robust group of partner organizations and agencies under a single

marquee, we can not only collectively share resources offered across the northeast community but we can better engage landowners and communities about the conservation values of their properties," said Lori Ensinger Westchester Land Trust President in announcing the new program. "Through conversations and activities with peers and specialists, landowners will learn about their land and gain a better understanding of their vital role in sustaining the critical natural resources that support people and wildlife."

Roderick Christie, Executive Director of Mianus River Gorge added: "We know that wooded landscapes are essential in ensuring clean drinking water and resilient habitat in the face of climate

change and increasing development pressure. In our region, private property owners hold the majority of forested land. The key to connecting and conserving our region's woodlands is in successful landowner outreach and engagement."

The activities funded by the H2H grant are designed to appeal to land owners eager to act, leading to both long- and short-term tangible conservation and stewardship gains. The partner organizations will evaluate the results and effectiveness of the outreach to gain insight about how to best meet the challenges of sustaining regional conservation resources going forward.

According to its website, Westchester Land Trust has protected land in 28 communities with 4,872 acres on

179 conservation easements; 641 acres on 26 preserves it owns; and over 2,000 acres protected in cooperation with other organizations and municipalities.

Conservation Partners for H2H in New York State are: Bedford Audubon Society, Bedford 2020, Friends of the Great Swamp, Lewisboro Land Trust, Mianus River Gorge, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, North Salem Open Land Foundation, Pound Ridge Land Conservancy, Putnam County Land Trust, Somers Land Trust, Teatown Lake Reservation, The Invasives Project - Pound Ridge, Yorktown Advisory Committee on Open Space, Yorktown Land Trust, Watershed Agricultural Council, Westchester County, Westchester Land Trust.

Two Hunger Fighting Giants Join Forces

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and the Coalition are the largest providers of service agencies addressing hunger-related issues in Westchester County.

"This merger capitalizes on the strengths of two vital organizations while eliminating overlapping services," Ellen Lynch, Executive Director of the Food Bank said in a media statement. "The demand for our services is not being met. It is incumbent upon us to implement new distribution models, develop new food and funding sources, and strengthen the distribution network through enhanced

volunteer engagement. The merger will enable us to utilize our collective resources more effectively to reach all these goals and to raise awareness of the overwhelming need in our county."

Jeanne Blum, the Coalition's Executive Director, will become Director of Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy for the Food Bank.

Both organizations were founded in 1988 and have historically operated on parallel, yet different, tracks.

The Food Bank for Westchester is one

of eight regional food banks in New York State and distributes more than 7.4 million pounds of food annually to an estimated 200,000 Westchester residents. It solicits, acquires, warehouses and distributes food to over 265 front-line hunger-relief programs including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and adult, child-care and treatment centers. As the core of the county's food collection and emergency distribution network, the Food Bank provides over 95 percent of all the food for these programs. Its distribution center

includes the largest freezer in Westchester.

The Coalition advocates for hunger relief, provides financial and technical support to hunger-relief agencies, and is a resource for those seeking help or information regarding poverty issues in Westchester County. It works with autonomous food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and service organizations, and raises money for organizations to build capacity and to purchase food and equipment for their programs.

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- Julius Michael of Scarsdale Showcasing His "Pink Hair Extensions"
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Harrison Prepares to Continue Water Storage Clean-up and Rehab Program

By Pat Casey

In a presentation to the Harrison Town Board at its Sept. 18 meeting, Westchester Joint Water Works Manager Anthony Conetta laid out next steps for the ongoing cleaning and rehabilitation of water towers and storage tanks in Harrison.

With six of the joint water works seven tanks located in Harrison, the burden of upkeep and security remains within the town, although WJWW operates in conjunction with parts of the City of New Rochelle and City of Rye.

According to the 2000 Hazard mitigation plan prepared by Dolph Rotfield Engineering of Tarrytown, approximately 6,000 domestic customers (that number has most likely increased) are served in Harrison, primarily in downtown Harrison, Purchase and Silver Lake.

WJWW also provides service to the fire fighting facilities of the Town's four fire districts. The water is purchased from the

New York City water supply system and pumped from the Kensico Reservoir.

According to Conetta in his presentation to the Board, Harrison initiated a plan for the rehabilitation, improvement and repair of the 20-year old tanks in the town two years ago.

"When these tanks reach 15 to 20 years, it's time to make improvements," Conetta said.

While the County had made the Woodside tank its highest priority for rehab, the Park Lane #1 tank was put to the top of the list and that tank was emptied, cleaned in May 2014 and put back online for summer peak use. That tank has a capacity of 815,000 gallons.

Taken offline again just after Labor Day, work is ongoing on the tank to refurbish and make repairs to the outside.

Conetta explained that the tanks must be empty even when work is being done to the outside. "The work being done now is to bring ladders, security rails, paint and

other elements up to OSHA standards," Conetta explained.

The cost of the Park Lane 1 tank upgrade is about \$1.4 to \$1.5 million.

Conetta further told the Board that the maintenance building near the Park Lane tank also required work including the addition of a pre-fabricated booster pump that would increase water pressure for better service during the summer months as well as to make it easier to accept any development subdivisions.

"The pump would also allow the municipality to give water service to residents on the west side of Old Orchard Street that are now relying on wells," Conetta explained.

He further said the work on the Park Lane Tank should be done by Thanksgiving before the winter weather sets in.

In addition to giving a progress report on the Park Lane tank, Conetta asked the Board to approve plans for upgrades to

the Woodside tank, which he said would cost from \$1.6 to \$1.7 million, and which he would like to see underway by March 2015.

The added cost was related to the location of the tank in a residential development, the smaller size of the area around it and the height of the tank, which is 40-feet higher than the one at Park Lane.

The Woodside tank also has a capacity of 815,000 gallons and is about the same as the Park Lane tanks.

The Board agreed to approve the project to allow WJWW to make a call for bids on the project, but the Board would not consider a bond or other payment scenario until they had more specific details on the project costs.

Conetta indicated that future work would include the addition of more security at the water storage sites including the installation of cameras that were motion activated.

Hispanic Heritage Month Student Essay Contest

For the seventh consecutive year, Cablevision's Optimum Community and Olympusat, Inc. will sponsor the "Hispanic Heritage Month" essay contest open to middle-school (grades 6 through 8) and high-school (grades 9 through 12) students, the 2014 contest asks students to "Name a Latino, past or

present, with whom you would choose to spend a day and explain why."

All essays must be submitted in English either through the Optimum Community web site www.optimum.net/community, emailed to edinfo@cablevision.com, or mailed to Cablevision: Attention Optimum

Community, 1111 Stewart Avenue, Bethpage, NY. Entries will be accepted through November 1 and cannot exceed 500 words.

Four winners in both the middle- and high-school categories will be selected and announced in December 2014.

Prizes include a \$2500 cash

scholarship (Grand Prize), an Apple iPad (First Prize), a laptop computer (Second Prize) and a Kindle Fire (Third Prize).

Olympusat, Inc. is the provider of such Spanish-language channels as CubaPlay and TV Chile, all available on Optimum TV en Español programming service.

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State Endorses \$1M Park Acquisition, Greenburgh Promotes Energy Efficiency

The Greenburgh Town Board is expected to vote Tuesday (tonight) and approve the \$1 million donation for 28.7 acres of additional parkland near the Taxter Ridge Park in Tarrytown.

Linda Cooper, Regional Director of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, wrote to Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner on September 26, letting him know that she endorsed acceptance of the donation and that the park, if acquired, would not be an addition to Taxter Ridge. Rather, it would be a separate park maintained by the Village of Tarrytown.

In the correspondence, which Feiner shared via email, Cooper said: "I am writing to express the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's support for the addition 28.7 acres to Taxter Ridge Park as part of the subdivision by the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity and through the acquisition of this property by the Town of Greenburgh and the East Irvington Civic Association and utilizing funds set aside for open space from the Avalon Bay development. The additional open space in this highly developed corridor



Map shows the nearly 29 acres of open space, marked in red that Avalon Green Developers have agreed to donate to Greenburgh. The land is valued at \$1 million.

will be an asset to residents in and visitors to the vicinity. It is my understanding after speaking with the Village of Tarrytown officials the village will accept the additional parklands and maintain them. It is also my understanding after speaking with the Planning Department in Greenburgh that the town is desirous of this parkland acquisition. The state is a partner in the original Taxter Ridge Park creation and sees no adverse impact from the proposed addition to the park."

Greenburgh Businesses Asked to Conserve Energy.

The town of Greenburgh is about to launch a major effort to encourage businesses located in the town to become more energy efficient. The first Town of Greenburgh Business Roundtable will take place on Oct. 23 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Greenburgh Town Hall.

In the meantime, Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner says the town will reach out to local businesses and encourage them to take advantage of

the Energize NY options that could save businesses money.

"We want our local businesses to be successful, to make more money so that we can have healthy business districts; something very important to our town," Feiner said.

Feiner suggests businesses begin managing their energy costs immediately, by integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy options into building

and business operations.

Greenburgh's recent membership in the Energy Improvement Corporation (EIC) means that commercial property owners can easily finance clean energy projects with little or no money down. With Energize NY Finance, commercial building owners in Greenburgh now have a great option to pay for qualified energy improvements, and take advantage of long terms, low rates and big savings.

Westchester County has also teamed up with Energize NY to provide extra-low cost financing for affordable multifamily housing and not-for-profit owned buildings. The county is using its federally allocated Qualified Energy Conservation Bond (QECB) authority to align with Energize NY's goal to promote clean energy projects. QECBs provide extra-low cost capital to undertake a range of clean energy projects including solar, oil and electric to gas conversion, insulation and air sealing and upgraded mechanical systems. More information can be found at <http://commercial.energizeny.org>.

Saks 5th Avenue Outlet Coming to Greenburgh.

Town Supervisor Paul Feiner has let the word out: Saks 5th Avenue has taken out a demolition permit for an outlet at the Route 119 address of the former Loehmann's department store. An opening date has not been set.

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Astorino Produces 2013 Tax Returns; Accusations Over Transparency Fly

By Martin Wilbur

Westchester County Executive and Republican gubernatorial candidate Rob Astorino released his 2013 tax returns last week while his campaign stepped up criticisms of Gov. Andrew Cuomo for a lack of transparency regarding improvements on his New Castle home.

For a four-hour period on Sept. 23, Astorino's state and federal returns from last year were made available to the media to review at the long shot candidate's campaign headquarters in White Plains.

The documents showed Astorino's gross income was \$193,720, the vast majority of which was his \$157,010 salary as county executive. He also earned \$31,800 through outside broadcasting consultant work and several fill-in radio gigs, said campaign spokesman William O'Reilly.

Westchester Democrats have hammered Astorino for failing to be a full-time county executive since shortly after announcing his candidacy earlier this year, pointing to his extensive campaigning around the state and moonlighting in the broadcasting field. He has also been sharply criticized for refusing to furnish five years of tax returns.

However, O'Reilly said the Astorinos' finances are straightforward. He has earned about \$30,000 a year from Townsquare Media in Greenwich, Conn. for consultant's duties since before



Westchester County Executive Robert Astorino

becoming county executive in 2010, O'Reilly said. The additional \$1,800 last year is for substituting on the John Gambling Show on WOR radio, which pays him \$300 for each appearance.

Astorino's returns also listed \$4,129 in dividend income, \$301 in capital gains, \$235 in taxable refunds, \$161 in taxable interest and \$84 in miscellaneous income.

He owed and paid \$3,267 in federal taxes before the filing deadline and \$10,413 in state taxes.

After media members inspected the returns, O'Reilly went on the offensive against Cuomo for shortchanging the Town of New Castle out of at least \$30,000

in property taxes since he and his girlfriend, Sandra Lee, made improvements on their Bittersweet Lane home.

He said that Cuomo has refused to produce building permits following extensive renovations made on the house since before they moved in and prevented the town's assessor from completing a thorough interior inspection. As a result, the assessor's office has had to estimate an assessment increase based solely on observations from the outside, O'Reilly said.

That estimated increase in assessment, which Cuomo hasn't contested, wasn't completed for several years after the renovations were done, costing the town possibly as much as \$30,000.

"We've been transparent," O'Reilly said. "When is he going to do the same?"

But Cuomo supporters throughout the state had characterized Astorino's hesitancy to release any returns and his continued refusal to produce five years of tax information as having something

to hide. Hank Sheinkopf, a consultant working for the New York State Democratic Party, bashed Astorino for failing to adhere to standard practice.

"He probably has something to hide and that's why he's not doing it," Sheinkopf was quoted in capitalnewyork.com on Sept. 15. "The public has a right to know. You want to be governor? Tell us about your finances. Release your taxes."

In 2013, Cuomo had adjusted gross income of \$358,448, including \$188,000 in advance payments on his yet-to-be-released book.

Cuomo Proposes Debates

Two debates have been proposed by Gov. Cuomo sometime in October, it was announced on Saturday.

Exact dates for the debates were not mentioned, but one would occur in a downstate location and be broadcast of WNYC radio, while the other would be televised in the Buffalo area and include the two minor party candidates.

Astorino has wanted at least one televised debate without the minor party candidates. According to the Astorino campaign, there have been no negotiations.

"This is more games from Andrew Cuomo," Astorino spokeswoman Jessica Proud said in statement. "It is clear Gov. Cuomo is terrified to go one-on-one with County Executive Astorino on television."

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White Plains TILI Shed Has Halloween Costumes



The White Plains TILI Shed has Halloween Costumes.

The Take It or Leave It (TILI) Shed at the Gedney Recycling Yard in White Plains has good condition children's Halloween costumes for the taking.

There is no charge when you come to the TILI Shed, everything is free and you can take items you need as well as leave items no longer useful to you.

Acceptable items for drop-off are functioning, clean and gently used and

can include small, appliances, cookware, kitchenware, dishes and glassware (in excellent condition), sports equipment, bicycles, toys, games, baby equipment, children's picture books, ornaments, home repair tools, and gardening tools.

The White Plains TILI Shed is a collaborative effort between the Department of Public Works and Econeighbors, a group of White Plains residents interested

in promoting recycling and a healthy living environment in the city. The DPW provides the venue and Econeighbors organizes the volunteers who operate the facility.

The TILI Shed, located at the Gedney Recycling Yard, 87 Gedney Way, White Plains, is open Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. and Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Webster Bank Makes Donation to Women Entrepreneurs in White Plains



Webster Bank recently made a \$3,500 investment in the Women's Enterprise Development Center (WEDC) in White Plains. The grant money is intended for programs to support businesswomen in the form of educational seminars, webinars, and meetings with staff members at the center. WEDC, formed in 1997 through the collaborative efforts of the Westchester County Association, Westchester Community College, New York State Division for Women (Lower Hudson Valley Advisory Council), and Westchester Association of Women Business Owners is a hub for women entrepreneurs in Westchester County and the Lower and Mid-Hudson Valley. By providing training, advisory services, and access to capital, WEDC supports and empowers women to build successful businesses and contribute to the local economy. Pictured (l-r): Barbara Venturi, chief operating officer of WEDC, Anne Janiak, chief executive officer WEDC, Nick Marra, senior vice president, regional manager at Webster, and Nick Parisi, vice president, relationship manager, at Webster.

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From the Harrison Mayor and Town Hall, September 29, 2014



Ron Belmont,
Supervisor/Mayor of
Harrison

I am happy to report that the Town/Village of Harrison has recently entered into an agreement with the MTA and developer, Avalon Bay for the development of an expanded parking area, additional residential

apartments, retail space and two pedestrian plazas at the downtown Metro-North Railroad station in Harrison. I'm very excited about the changes proposed for Harrison's Downtown Business District and am eager to work with MTA and Avalon Bay on a shared vision that will support the different needs of our community. These improvements will undoubtedly help merchants and property owners strengthen Harrison's business climate while providing a variety of retail options for our residents. I look forward to seeing the transformative process and watching as Harrison becomes an even better place to live and work. We are currently in the preliminary phase and, before any construction begins, the plans must go through a public review process through the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), the Town and Village of Harrison's land use review

process, and rezoning proceedings.

Recently, I joined Deputy County Executive, Kevin Plunkett at the Gold Star Mother's Memorial Tribute at Kensico Plaza. It was a privilege to be there as Gold Star Mothers, who lost a son or daughter in service to our country, were recognized for their child's ultimate sacrifice. These women serve as a solid support system, for all those who have suffered similar losses, and it was not only an honor to witness their courage and generosity, but an opportunity to celebrate the lives that were lost.

I would like to bring your attention to the Collegiate Marching Band Festival. This event allows college bands to perform for one another, for their fans and for high school band members who are trying to decide if college band is something for them. This year, the festival was held in Allentown, Pa. and the band from UMass stopped at Port Chester High School to practice for the event. Two former Harrison High School students, Sandy Hirsch and Rachel Oestreich, attend UMass and are part of their marching band. It's gratifying to know that two of our own participated in this wonderful annual event.

Is that time of year again and our community is eagerly awaiting the annual

It's Great to Live in Harrison/Columbus Day celebration. This year's events are as follows: Saturday, October 11th there will be fireworks at 7 p.m. at the West Harrison Fire Department (rain date is Sunday, Oct. 12). There will also be an Open House from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Harrison Police Headquarters. On Sunday, Oct. 12, the P.B.A. Car Show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the West Harrison Business District. On Monday, Oct. 13, the annual parade will begin at 10 a.m. on the corner of Halstead and Thatcher, with a festival to follow

at Ma Riis Park across from Town Hall. I hope to see many friends and familiar faces at these wonderful events.

In closing, the Harrison Fire Department inspection and dinner was held last weekend and I am happy to report that the condition of the Department's apparatus is first rate. The entire Department should be commended for their hard work and commitment. This year, the Department and the Town recognized Department President Anthony Valentino for his 50 years of unwavering dedication to our community. It was truly a memorable evening and an honor to be included.

Guest Column

Your Daily Examiner Fix



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An Open Letter to the White Plains Common Council from Neighborhood Associations

Our associations represent the majority of residents that live in the south end of White Plains in the vicinity of the former Ridgeway Country Club. Our neighborhoods would be most affected by the FASNY proposed regional school. In recent weeks a number of things have occurred that have made it even more evident that the FASNY project cannot go forward including:

The White Plains School Board, in a letter dated September 15, 2014, unanimously said "(i) the traffic congestion which will be caused by the location of the main entrance to FASNY on North Street or on Bryant Avenue would have a profoundly negative and disruptive effect on the operations of White Plains high School and the safety and welfare of our students, their families and our staff, and (ii) FASNY's traffic mitigation proposals not only fail to remedy the flaws in their plans, certain suggested mitigation efforts create much larger, more untenable problems for the White Plains Schools."

The White Plains Planning Board in a letter dated August 25, 2014 unanimously questioned the closure of a portion of Hathaway Lane and stated that "new significant concerns have arisen particularly with regard to traffic and circulation."

On September 8th and 10th two Public Hearings were held at White Plains High School that were attended by over 600 persons. The overwhelming majority of residents and taxpayers voiced strong opposition to issuance of a Special Permit for FASNY.

Property values have been adversely impacted by the FASNY proposal.

Serious hydrology questions have been raised by the Village of Mamaroneck and others that have induced the US Army Corps of Engineers to pursue further analysis.

Earlier in the process The Council in its Environmental Findings rejected use of Ridgeway as an entrance to the proposed school stating "The Ridgeway access to the Project Site will bring large numbers

of vehicles to Ridgeway in a manner that is inconsistent with the stated role of Ridgeway in the Comprehensive Plan as a Collector Street rather than an arterial roadway".

Therefore, none of the proposed access points are feasible and all have been deemed unacceptable. It is now time for the FASNY discussion to end. The City's zoning and master plan provide the requisite criteria to consider other alternatives for the property that will maximize preservation of the property's open space while being compatible with the neighborhood in which it is located.

Gedney Association
North Street Area Civic Association
Havilands Manor Neighborhood Association
Rosedale Residential Association
Club Pointe Association
Glenbrooke Association
Wyndham Close Association
Maple Moor Lake Association

Mayor's Youth Council Seeking New Members

The City of White Plains Youth Bureau is now accepting applications for the Mayor's Youth Council. The Youth Council is open to White Plains residents in grades 9 to 12. The Council is a group of youth leaders who meet on a bi-weekly basis to discuss issues and concerns of the youth in the City of White Plains. The Youth Council

also meets with the Mayor on a quarterly basis to discuss their concerns and come up with solutions to these issues. Meetings are held on Monday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. The Youth Council also performs community service projects throughout the year which have included, working with seniors, holiday food and toy

drives, participation in various walks for causes such as Alzheimer's Association, and Breast Cancer Awareness. The first meeting was held on Monday, Sept. 29, at the White Plains Youth Bureau, 11 Amherst Place, White Plains, in the Teen Lounge. Call 914-422-1378 for more information.

Seeking Nominations for White Plains 2014 Youth of the Year Award

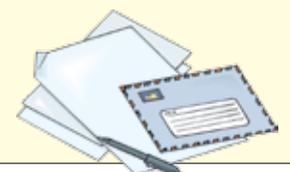
The White Plains Youth Bureau is now accepting applications for its Annual Youth of the Year Award. The Award is given annually to a graduating high school senior, from either a public or private school. The award recognizes outstanding volunteer service, leadership and contributions to making a difference in the City of White Plains. The award

recipient must be a City of White Plains resident. Service activities may include tutoring, helping the elderly, conducting food and clothing drives, fund raising for charitable programs, organizing community events, mentoring and coaching, etc. The deadline for nominations is Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014. Nomination forms may be obtained

at the Youth Bureau, 11 Amherst Place, White Plains or call 914-422-1378.

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.



USTA "Compete in the Parks" Fall Tennis Tournament Winners

White Plains Recreation and Parks Department hosted its fourth annual USTA "Compete in the Parks" tennis tournament at the city's Gillie tennis courts Sept. 20 and 21. The "Compete in the Park Series" is a USTA program designed to promote recreational tennis for players of all levels and exposed many to tournament tennis play for the first time.

More than 45 individuals competed in tournament play. Matches included various men and women singles and doubles. After two days of high level play and friendly sportsmanship, the winners

were crowned and awarded medals for their accomplishments.

The winners are: Men's singles, Andrew McGoey; Men's 45 and over singles, Wojcieck Rymarrwicz; Men's 60 and over singles, Stephen Kleinman; Men's 45 and over Doubles, Mike Quinn and Joseph Pinkas; Women's 45 and over Doubles, Maria Elena Fernandez-Ber and Gina Dempsey; Mixed Doubles, Joanie Brown and Dominick Bonifate; Men's 60 and over Doubles, David Levine and Dominick Bonifate; Men's 70 and over Doubles, Don Barker and Don Moskowit.

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Balancing Academics and Extracurriculars

Finding a balance between academics and extracurricular activities is challenging, but it is key to helping children succeed in school and beyond. There is a lot of pressure out there, not only to get good grades but also to be involved in sports, art, school politics, or all of the above. Academics and extracurriculars are both important and require commitment. Here are some tips for helping you and your family achieve some balance and hopefully some sanity too.

“There are plenty of activities out there that keep children physically and mentally active.”

Talk openly with your children. Don't sign your children up for activities without discussing it with them first. Find out what they are interested in and be honest about your reservations. Let your children know if you are concerned that too many extracurriculars will interfere

with academics. It's OK to let them know that a certain activity will look good on a college application, but try not to make that your only focus. It's also OK to share with them financial concerns. Some activities are costly, and it might not be realistic for children to do everything every year.

Be creative. Not all kids want to play football or become a cheerleader or run for student council. Some very passionate and intelligent kids just don't thrive in the public eye or in a competitive environment. Be creative. If your child loves animals, consider having him volunteer at an animal shelter after school or do a summer internship at the zoo. If photography is her thing, look in to mentorship programs that connect students with young adults who will explore the world and take pictures with her. There are plenty of activities out there that keep children physically and mentally active.



By Dr. Jaime Fleckner Black

Schedule breaks. Burnout is real for children as well as adults. Some children can't handle playing a sport every season. Most kids can't mentally handle studying for hours straight, no matter how important an upcoming exam is. Teach and encourage time management skills throughout the year so your child isn't pulling an all-nighter before exams. Studying in 45 to 60 minute segments can be ideal for many children. Walking and stretching in between segments can help them recharge.

Find a balance between competitive and non-competitive activities. Competition is real, and it's beneficial for children to be exposed to friendly competition even at a young age. That doesn't mean, however, that every activity should be about winning and losing. Activities like biking or jogging can be good for kids who enjoy exercise without competition, and they can continue to be enjoyed even after the season is out. Classes like painting or ceramics provide a good opportunity for children to meet

like-minded individuals with varying levels of skill. Some activities can be done just for the sake of fun.

Don't underestimate the importance of sleep. “Parents spend so much time and money optimizing their children's success yet the one thing they are not doing is making sure their kids get enough sleep,” says Judith Owens, M.D., past chair of the Pediatric Section for the American Academy of Sleep Medicine. Most teenagers get only seven hours of sleep each night while research at Brown University has shown that they actually need nine. Children who get the recommended amount of sleep are more likely to do better in school and less likely to develop disorders such as depression and anxiety.

Be a role model. Make time for your family and for yourself. If you don't practice what you preach and maintain some balance in your own life, you can't expect your children to do so either.

Dr. Jaime Black is a licensed psychologist practicing in Westchester and New York City. Jaime works with high-functioning individuals on the autism spectrum, doing psychotherapy, conducting evaluations, and facilitating various socialization groups including an improv social skills group. Visit www.spectrumservicesnyc.com, e-mail JaimeBlackPsyD@gmail.com or call 914-712-8208.



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Elder Law: Protect Your Assets with Power of Attorney and Statutory Gifts Rider



By Salvatore
Di Costanzo

The Power of Attorney (POA) and Statutory Gifts Rider (SGR) are two of the most important documents drafted by an elder law attorney. The absence or deficiency of these documents increases the likelihood of a costly guardianship proceeding to have someone appointed by the courts to handle your financial affairs. Moreover, the ability to implement some of the most common elder law planning techniques necessary to preserve your assets is practically eliminated. Boilerplate POAs and SGR off the internet or prepared by non-elder law attorneys do not include the provisions necessary to preserve your assets and this is usually a surprise to clients. The following is an overview of the POA and SGR together with some illustrations of the common defects I see in improperly prepared POAs and SGRs.

The Purpose of the POA and SGR. In 2009 and again in 2010, the statute that governs the POA was entirely revamped. While there are too many revisions to discuss in this article, the most recognizable changes to you would be the appearance of the POA form and

the addition of the SGR.

The purpose of a POA is to give another person (an "agent") the authority to handle your financial affairs. For instance, you might prepare a POA appointing your spouse or child. The POA is effective immediately upon signing. Thus, if you appoint a child to act as your agent, he/she does not have to wait until you become incapacitated to act; rather their authority and ability to act is immediate. The powers found in a POA are largely administrative powers (i.e. the power to pay your bills, the power to represent you at a real estate closing, the power to open a bank account in your name, etc.).

The purpose of the SGR is to authorize your agent to enter into transactions that are considered "changes in beneficial interest" (i.e. the power to make gifts in excess of \$500, the power to transfer assets to trusts, and the power to change beneficiary designations.) A SGR is a completely separate document that needs to be signed at the same time as the POA. Many clients are unaware that a SGR exists.

The key to a properly drafted POA and SGR lies in the modifications added by an elder law attorney. Reliance on the

statutory form is improper, as it does not contain modifications. Here are some examples.

Modifications to the POA. A POA should include the power to create, amend, revoke, or terminate revocable or irrevocable inter vivos trusts. This

power becomes imperative where an elder law attorney seeks to preserve the value of a client's home who is receiving community Medicaid. Another power the POA should include

is the power to enroll you in a pooled income trust. When a community Medicaid application is filed, the income of the Medicaid recipient can be preserved by enrolling the applicant in a special type of trust called a pooled income trust and transferring the Medicaid applicant's surplus income to that trust. Many of you may have heard of the NYSARC trust.

Modifications to the SGR. It is important to reiterate that the single most common oversight is the failure to prepare a SGR. With that being said, the most common oversight in preparing a SGR is the failure to add modifications allowing the agent to (i) transfer assets to himself/herself and (ii) transfer your assets in unlimited amounts.

Both of the above modifications enable the elder law attorney to implement many techniques that create Medicaid eligibility. The fundamental concept of Medicaid planning is that assets need to be strategically removed from your name. If you lose your capacity and the SGR does not allow the agent to transfer all of your assets, the SGR is relatively useless. Moreover, since your agent is usually the person that would be the recipient of the transfer (i.e. a spouse), not having the power to make transfers to himself/herself might necessitate using another family member or non-relative to receive your assets.

Salvatore M. Di Costanzo is a partner with the firm of McMillan, Constabile, Maker & Perone, LLP located in Larchmont and Yorktown Heights. Di Costanzo is an attorney and accountant whose main area of practice is elder law which consists of wills, trusts, probate and administration of estates, medicaid planning, asset preservation, nursing home and home care planning and planning for individuals with special needs. He can be reached at 914-834-3500 or via e-mail at smd@mcmplaw.com or smd@plantodayfortomorrow.com.

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When Homes Came in a Big Box From Sears, Ready to Assemble

When I received a call from a 92-year-old gentleman telling me that he had read every one of my articles since I started writing as The Home Guru, I was quite flattered. And, when he told me that he wouldn't consider having anyone else sell the house that he had lived in since he was married, I was delighted.

But when he told me it was a Sears-Roebuck house, built from a kit, I was thrilled. I couldn't wait to see it.

My enthusiasm dampened a bit when he added, "But I warn you, to reach my home you must climb exactly 50 steps up from the street."

Okay, I'm game, I thought. If this 92-year-old can cut it, certainly I can, too. When I arrived at the home in the "quarry" neighborhood in North White Plains with my real estate partner Michael Pierce, we ventured the climb to the flat plateau in the sky where the charming home is perched, almost exactly as it was constructed in 1930.

Our host let us into the house and the first room we entered was the kitchen.



BILL PRIMAVERA PHOTO

A Sears home, assembled from a kit in 1930, located in North White Plains, available for sale from The Home Guru.

Having been married to his first wife for more than 60 years, before being left a widower, he had just remarried and was retiring to New England. The home he is leaving behind for another generation of home adventurers is also delightful as a piece of Americana.

Sears, Roebuck and Co. first conceived of selling ready-to-assemble homes by

mail order in 1906 in response to a financial dilemma. High inventory costs threatened to close the company's building supplies department, until a new manager, Frank W. Kushel, had the idea of letting the factories ship supplies directly to buyers in the form of complete home kits.

The trustworthiness of the Sears catalog already helped the public become comfortable with the idea of buying items sight unseen. By the time the first Book of Modern Homes and Building Plans was printed in 1908, customers were ready to trust Sears with what was likely to be the biggest purchase they would ever make.

Kits weighed 25 tons and were shipped by a combination of railroad boxcar and sometimes truck. Similar to Ikea today, the innovations and efficiencies Sears brought to its home kits made homeownership affordable to families who previously could only dream of having a place of their own.

The innovative "balloon style" framing helped reduce the hours needed to assemble a house by 40 percent compared to standard methods of construction. In fact, the process of assembling the homes from kits was simple enough that neighbors sometimes pitched in to do the job themselves, barn-raising style. All the major pieces were numbered, every beam, shingle and clapboard, and there was just the right amount of nails so there would never be any guesswork for the novice builder.

Today that attention to detail helps owners identify their houses as being authentic Sears Modern Homes, as the numbers are still visible on many of the untreated pieces.

Modern Homes incorporated the newest technologies for comfortable



By Bill Primavera

living, gradually adding central heating, indoor plumbing and electricity to most of its designs. The newly invented drywall and asphalt shingles, which were lightweight, easy to install and fire resistant, were also utilized.

From 1908 to 1940, about 75,000 homes were sold through the mail-order Modern Homes program. Over 447 different housing styles were available, eventually branching into three distinct lines: Honor Bilt, the most expensive line with the highest grade materials; Standard

Built, recommended for warmer climates; and Simplex Sectional, the smallest and simplest designs.

Not only did prospective homeowners have many designs to choose from, but these designs allowed for great customization. Floor plans could be reversed, breakfast nooks and ironing board cabinets added and trim customized. Sears even assembled home kits based on any other home design.

Sears offered mortgage financing for a

few years, but the Great Depression caused many loans to go into default, ending that service soon thereafter.

It's not always easy to identify a Sears home, especially as homeowners were given great freedom in customizing the designs. To determine if a home is from Sears, check to see if it was built between 1908 and 1940 (keeping in mind that a few old kits were sold through 1942). See if there are any shipping labels or the aforementioned printed numbers in the home framework. Another good sign of a Sears Modern Home is a record of a mortgage issued by Sears.

After all these years, Sears homes are still prized by collectors and are known for being of high quality in even their most humble variations.

For more information about this particular home in North White Plains, call The Home Guru at 914-522-2076.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. His real estate site is: www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com and his blog is: www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

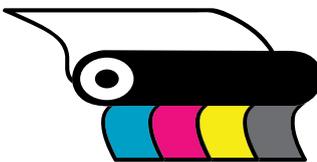


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Justin Veatch Fund Concert Pleases and Teaches Fans

Saturday was 2014's last Saturday evening of the summer and the best of the year for The Justin Veatch Fund as Livingston Taylor headlined its fundraising concert at Yorktown Stage. Earlier in the day Taylor spent more than two hours with area performers who signed up for his condensed master class on stage performance. The performers included members of The Justin Veatch Fund All Stars who would be the opening act for Livingston that night.

The concert drew 350, a good night for Yorktown Stage, but not as good as The Fund had hoped for. "Those who came went away very happy," said Jeffrey Veatch, President of The Fund and father of the late Justin Veatch. "We had people from all over the area outside of Yorktown including fans from New York City, New Jersey, Massachusetts and even a couple who flew in from Houston, Texas. And Livingston surprised the crowd with an early walk-on as he joined the All Stars in 'Wagon Wheel', the last song in their opening act."

"The vibes were fantastic, said Christine Errol who sang and played guitar and banjo for the concert. "People really came together for the music and it was really refreshing." Esteban Rivera,



Livingston Taylor performed for the Justin Veatch Foundation.

DAVID MILLER PHOTO

front man for Last Exit in New York who sang and played guitar as part of the All Stars agreed. "The whole experience felt like an all-star experience," Rivera said. "I truly appreciate it and I'll remember

that show for a very long time. The Justin Veatch Fund does great things."

Many who attended left with more than just a fond memory of a night of great music. They brought home some great mementos, like two guitars signed by Livingston donated by Guitar Center and Taylor Guitars as well as other music memorabilia made available especially for the concert. People attending the meet-and-greet reception after the show went home with pictures posed with

Livingston, signed CDs and books as well as personally signed posters that had advertised the concert.

In one of the highlights of the evening, four of the Justin Veatch Fund All Stars were invited back on stage for Livingston's encore of Somewhere Over the Rainbow, a song that has been one of his favorite closers.

"As a concert, rare for Yorktown, it was a great event," said Veatch. "To upgrade Yorktown Stage's sound we hired Audio Production Services, Inc. from White Plains. The room sounded great and even got a compliment from Livingston during the show. Guitar Center provided a piano and other stage equipment as rental donations. I consider the event a huge success bringing a fine headliner to Yorktown and giving young local performers an experience they won't soon forget."

The Justin Veatch Fund is a 501(c) 3 organization founded by the Veatch family after the death of 17-year-old Justin Veatch from an accidental drug overdose in 2008. The Fund provides annual scholarships to graduating high school seniors planning further study of music as well as programs for musically talented teens. Jeffrey Veatch has also travels to schools in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to present his multi media talk "A Message from Justin" which tells Justin's story with the goal of creating a healthier teen culture to deal with the drug problem that has plagued most communities.

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Nutcracker Auditions at the Paramount Hudson Valley Theatre

Red House Entertainment and Dance Theater in Westchester will hold an open audition for "The Colonial Nutcracker" on Sunday, Oct. 5, at The Paramount Hudson Valley Theater. The performance returns to the Paramount Hudson Valley Theater on December 20.

Audition times are 12 to 12:30 p.m. for ages 8 to 11 (please no one over 5 feet); 12:30 to 1p.m. for ages 11 to 13 (please no one over 5 feet; bring pointe shoes); 1 to 1:30 p.m. for ages 13 and older (no one over 5'7"; strong on pointe; bring pointe shoes). For information please call: 914-245-2940.

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The Restaurant Examiner



Delicious Dining Big Part of Westchester Broadway Experience 'South Pacific' Opens Run at WBT

By Jerry Eimbinder

"South Pacific," a revival of the celebrated Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway musical that won 10 Tony awards in 1949, has opened at the Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford. A three-course meal (salad, entrée and dessert) accompanies all performances.

A movie adaptation of the play was released in 1958 and was a major box-office success despite tepid reviews from critics. The critics were disappointed by the cast choices and the application of a special color-altering filtering technique during the post-production process. The film received only one Academy Award—for sound.

After the Nov. 30 performance, the show's run will be interrupted by the annual winter holiday show. The musical returns on New Year's Eve 2014 and closes on Jan. 25.

Dinner service begins with a garden salad and basket of soft rolls and corn bread.

Baked ham is debuting on the menu. Entrées vary but usually include boneless prime rib of beef with a baked potato and vegetables, and fish, chicken and a vegetarian selection. Tilapia or sole, with a baked potato and vegetables, alternate on the menu and eggplant parmigiana—the current vegetarian dish—is accompanied



Broadway Theatre is located at 1 Broadway Plaza (175 Clearbrook Rd.) Elmsford.

by pasta and vegetables.

The prime rib is, hands down, my favorite—tender and deeply satisfying, especially considering that the kitchen cooks up to 500 meals in 90 minutes.

Peach melba is served for dessert. Regular or decaffeinated coffee and tea are included in the price.

Appetizers and starters are available at an additional cost and include shrimp cocktail, French onion soup, fried calamari and mozzarella with basil

and tomatoes.

Luxury desserts are available at an additional cost and include chocolate molten lava cake, turtle chocolate cake (with fudge, graham-cracker crust, caramel and pecans) and the Hot Fudge Delight (brownie with ice cream and apple crisp).

Ticket prices include the meal and range from \$54 to \$80, plus tax, depending on the day and the time of the performance. Beverage service and tips



are not included in the price. Discounts are offered for children, students and senior citizens at selected performances. The show times are:

Some Wednesday, Thursday and Friday matinees: Lunch at 11:30 a.m. and show at 1 p.m.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings: Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and show at 8 p.m.

Sunday matinees: Lunch at noon and show at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday evenings: Dinner at 5:30 p.m. and show at 7 p.m.

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Ben's Deli on Schedule to Open in Scarsdale in November

By Jerry Eimbinder

Renovation at Ben's Deli in Scarsdale is expected to be completed in time to open the organization's seventh kosher delicatessen in early November.

"Crews are working feverishly to finish so we can begin slicing hot corned beef and pastrami," said Scott W. Singer, president of Ben's Restaurant Group.

It had been hoped that the construction would be completed earlier this year.

"Ronnie (Ben's Deli founder Ronnie Dragoon) likes to say we knew a lot about cold cuts but nothing about shortcuts," Singer remarked.

The new eatery will be located at 718 Central Park Ave. where the Italian restaurant Spiga Ristorante was located.

"As we peeled back the aging layers of the old building," Singer said, "we kept finding more things to do, fix or replace. The building had nothing left to give so we had to devote considerably extra time and money to make it a place where people could gather in comfort."



The new eatery will be located at 718 Central Park Ave. where the Italian restaurant Spiga Ristorante was previously located.

"The building has a new full basement and completely new mechanical, plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling systems," he continued.

"We added a 108-panel photovoltaic array on the upper roofs," Singer said.

"The roofs are new as is every window and door. Drainage has been redone and underground tanks have been added in four different locations."

"The restaurant has two dining levels, a high-ceiling dining area, and is equipped

for business meetings, baby showers and bar mitzvahs or for just watching football on a 65-inch television screen," Singer said.

"We grind our own fresh kosher beef on the premises and offer fresh fish to complement our popular rib eye and hangar steaks, short ribs and fresh kosher chicken and turkey dishes."

Singer was raised in New Rochelle and has lived as an adult in Scarsdale co-op complexes on both Garth Road and East Hartsdale Avenue.

Dragoon opened his first deli in Baldwin, L.I. (now closed) in 1972 at the age of 23. The restaurants are named after his father.

The organization's other restaurants, except for one in Boca Raton, Fla., are in Manhattan, Queens and Long Island.

The building is diagonally across the street from the Greenburgh Fire Department stationhouse.

For more information about Ben's Deli, visit www.bensdeli.net.

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Happenings



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Tuesday, Sept. 30

WCC Film Series: "Budrus." Kicking off Westchester Community College's new film series is this film about nonviolent demonstrations conducted by residents of Budrus, a Palestinian town in the Ramallah and al-Bireh Governorate, during the early 2000s to protest against the building of the Israeli West Bank barrier inside the village. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Davis Auditorium, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-606-5616.

Diversity Dialogues. The Manhattanville College School of Business will observe the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with a special symposium featuring an insightful panel that will explore the direct and residual impacts of the act on diversity and inclusion initiatives in the workplace. Includes conversation about the history of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, emerging trends and best practices in the arena of diversity and inclusion. Reid Castle, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-323-5150.

Tuesdays at Dorry's. Mitchell Polay is a 6th grade Social Studies/ELA teacher in the Yonkers Public School District. He is a Teacher Fellow at the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC; he also teaches History of the Holocaust classes at the Yonkers Teacher Center and at Westchester Community College. This past summer, for the second time, Mitch traveled and studied in Germany and Poland with The Holocaust and Human Rights Center of White Plains. At Dorry's he will discuss his recent experiences in Europe and the methods he uses to teach this subject. Tuesdays @ Dorry's gathers "conversation partners" weekly for informal table talk. There is no charge. Just come and order your food from Sylvia and enjoy the discussion and the company; 6 to 7 p.m. Food ordering starts at 5:30 p.m. Dorry's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains.

Wednesday, Oct. 1

White Plains Outdoor Farmers Market. The Farmer's Market will open weekly, on Wednesdays, through November 26th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The

Farmer's Market is located on Court Street between Main Street and Martine Avenue. The Market welcomes returning and new vendors offering farm-fresh, locally grown fruits and veggies, fish, fresh meat and poultry, breads, baked goods, jams and jellies, pickles, homemade salami, smoked duck breast, pate and much more.

Noonday Getaway Concert.

Downtown Music at Grace is excited to present From the First Chair - Laura Hamilton, principal associate concertmaster of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, is joined by pianist Jerome Rosen in sonatas of J.S. Bach and Cesar Franck. At historic Grace Episcopal Church, 33 Church St., White Plains; 12:10 p.m. Free.

Assemblyman on Your Corner.

Assemblyman David Buchwald invites community residents to attend the session to ask a question or relay a problem they hope can be solved. State Senator George Latimer will also be in attendance; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Atlanta Bread Company, 220 Main St., White Plains.

Base Ball During the Civil War Era.

With Historian and Author John Zinn; 7:30 p.m. Part of the Daniel E. Sickles Civil War Roundtable in association with The White Plains Historical Society held at The Purdy House: 60 Park Ave., White Plains. For information contact: 914-949-4679, Program@CivilWarNY150.org.

Mother Nature's Story Time. Enjoy fall days with nature-themed stories, nature walks, live animals and/or crafts. For children two to four years old; with a parent or caregiver. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 to 11 a.m. Six-week session (Wednesday through Nov. 5): Members--\$50 per child. Non-members--\$90 per child. Info and registration: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Thursday, Oct. 2

"Visions 2014" Opening Reception. Featuring works in a diverse array of media, including oil, acrylics, photography, mixed media, paper, sculpture, fiber and jewelry created by Mamaroneck Artists Guild members. Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont. 6 to 8 p.m. Gallery open Tuesday through Saturday 12 to 5 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Oct. 11. Info: 914-834-1117 or visit www.mamaroneckartistsguild.org.

Great Books Forum Series. Discuss "The Martian Chronicles" by Ray Bradbury. Led by Professor Casey

Ellis. Along with the works themselves, discussions focus on issues of context and interpretation. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Room 131, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Professor James Werner at 914-606-6840 or e-mail james.werner@sunywcc.edu.

"Songtrails Live." Folksinger/songwriter Caroline Doctorow, who has released 10 solo albums, will perform her unique blend of original and folk/Americana. Also appearing will be fellow folk and Americana singer-songwriter and Grammy Award winner Julie Gold and Hugh Prestwood, a member of Nashville Songwriter's Hall of Fame. A reception to meet the performers will take place after the show. The College of New Rochelle, 29 Castle Place, New Rochelle. 7:30 p.m. \$15. For those with a College of New Rochelle I.D.: Free. Tickets: Visit www.Smarttix.com or at the door. Info: Visit www.cnr-drama.org.

Saturday, Oct. 4

Child I.D. Day. Rey Insurance with New York Life and Erie Insurance have teamed up with local law enforcement to create a Child ID kit to help families maintain current photos of and descriptive information about their children. Learn what you can do to create a happier, safe environment for our children. Bring the entire family and friends for a day of fun, Halloween festivities, and valuable safety tips. All children will receive a FREE Identification Card, courtesy of Rey Insurance. ID cards include: child's photo, digital fingerprints, and other vital information. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rey Insurance 219 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow.

Fall Tree Identification. A leisurely hike to learn to identify the many species that grow at the preserve. Cranberry Lake Preserve, 1609 Old Orchard St., North White Plains. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

Peter Wood: A Retrospective. On view in the White Plains Library Museum Gallery from through November 28, this exhibit features the work of Peter Wood, an English teacher at White Plains High School. His art has been shown in Manhattan, Easthampton, NY and the mid-west. One of his paintings was featured in an exhibit at the Katonah Museum of Art. All of the books used in his work were re-purposed from discarded items from libraries, schools or private collections. They were reclaimed from garbage and remainder bins and the artist "attempted to breathe new life into

them. Essentially, these books have been reborn." Much of the art intermingles print with paint — both oil and acrylic. "Print is a limited art form; painting is a limited art form, but by co-mingling them. they are less so." Mr. Wood is also a writer, playwright, actor and former middleweight boxer. Born in Manhattan, he currently lives in Mount Kisco with his wife, Suhua, and daughter Zoe Makepeace. An opening reception will be hosted by the artist on Saturday, Oct. 4, from noon to 2p.m. The reception and exhibit are free and open to the public. White Plains Public Library, 100 Martine Avenue, White Plains.

Gem Hunt. Discover the treasures of the earth while learning about many local gems and crystals. Each participant receives a geode to take home. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 11 a.m. for children five to seven years old. 2 p.m. for children eight years old and up. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$12. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Sunday, Oct. 5

Teaching Trails: A Community Path for Environmental Education. Join guided trail experience through the woodland forest. Discover who left that track, which tree makes the best animal home or which plant makes its own heat to help melt through the late winter ice. Program runs about 30 minutes. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 11:30 a.m. Free. Also Oct. 5 and 19.

Music From The Heart. Featuring acclaimed soprano Mary Mancini and Mario Tacca, world renowned accordion virtuoso. Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Theatre, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 3 p.m. \$20. Advance sale: \$10. Info and tickets: 914-606-6790.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

An Evening with Junot Díaz: A Lecture, Reading and Conversation. One of the most exciting and acclaimed writers of our times, Díaz is a recipient of the MacArthur Fellowship, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Award for Fiction. The program is followed by a book signing. The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 4:30 to 6 p.m. Free. Info: 914-251-6550 or visit www.purchase.edu



EXAMINER SPORTS

Harrison Field Hockey Team Tops Pelham; Huskies Edged by Byram Hills

By Skip Pearlman

The Harrison High field hockey team came up on the short end of a tough, 2-1, loss Saturday at home against Byram Hills. But the Huskies picked up a much-needed win last week, beating Pelham, 2-1, the prior Tuesday.

The split left the Huskies at 2-5-1 overall, and 1-3 in league play.

Saturday against Byram Hills, the Bobcats got goals from Corrin Burke and Noelle Love to take a commanding lead.

Harrison got on the board with 7:00 left, with Tasha Garayo scoring off a feed from Elisa Arcara, but the Huskies were unable to find the equalizer.

Allison Didjarano had five saves in net for Byram Hills, while Christina Decarlo stopped nine shots on goal for Harrison.

“We knew that this was a team that could capitalize on opportunities,” Huskies coach Sara Witmer said of Byram Hills. “After they scored, we tried to get on the board. We played well down 2-0, we still fought back. Hopefully they took something away that they can improve on for next time.”

“For us, it comes down to consistency,” Witmer added. “We need to always mark, always recover. Arcara and Taylor Kelly both played a really good game for us on defense.”

It was Arcara who knocked in the game-winning goal against Pelham the prior Tuesday, scoring with 16:00 to play, off a pass from Christine Cardascia.

Cardascia’s unassisted goal 5:00 into the second half tied the game at 1-1, after Kaylee Levine had given Pelham a 1-0 lead late in the first half.



Christine Cardascia scored a goal and assisted on the game-winner vs. Pelham last week. Here, she races to secure a loose ball in a loss to Byram Hills.



Elisa Arcara had a game-winning goal for Harrison vs. Pelham last week.



SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTOS

The Harrison field hockey team talks strategy during a timeout during a loss to Byram Hills last week.



Harrison’s Grace Manning (6) looks up field as she prepares to pass.



Paris Cipollone (12) of Harrison gets position and moves the ball last week vs. Byram Hills.

a 4:15 game Wednesday, and the Huskies are at Mahopac next Monday at 6 p.m.

Lindsay McNamara stopped seven shots for the Pelicans, and Decarlo had 11 saves for Harrison, including one crucial - and likely game-saving - denial, on a penalty shot.

“It was a very back-and-forth game,” Witmer said. “It came down to which team was more consistent. I like the way we played. We were more on top of the things we’ve been stressing.

“And Decarlo definitely came up big for us,” the coach added. “Especially on the stroke. Cardascia played well, she moved the ball and passed well, and our defense did a nice job marking and outletting.”

Harrison was set to travel to Pelham for

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EXAMINER SPORTS

Harrison Girls Soccer Continuing Progress, But Suffer a Pair of Close Losses

By Skip Pearlman

The Harrison High girls soccer team has been coming together and showing signs of improvement this season, but that doesn't make losing close games any easier, as the Huskies found last week in a pair of 2-1 heartbreakers, at the hands of Port Chester and Eastchester.

Harrison led early in both matches.

Saturday at Port Chester, Jordan Specht gave Harrison a 1-0 lead in the 23rd minute, scoring off a follow-up shot off a defender.

But the Rams tied the game with 10 minutes to play, then

won it with a goal with 4:00 left in the second overtime, converting on a header off a corner. It was Port Chester's first win over Harrison in over a decade. Making matters worse was the fact that the Huskies out-shot PC by a 17-8 margin.

"It was a very tough loss," Huskies coach Jon-Erik Zappala said. "Individually we played well, but as a group we let the opponent get in our head and we didn't capitalize on our shots. It was definitely frustrating. That was the first time we've lost to them in 11 years."

Huskies keeper Caitlyn Burgos stopped six shots on net, as the team fell to 3-6 overall and 2-4 in league action.

"Every day we work on shooting, but that's part of the game," Zappala said.



SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTO

Gina DiRusso of Harrison.

"You have to capitalize on shots." Zappala pointed to strong play from center mid Gina DiRusso, as well as his goalie. "Gina played very well for us," he said. "And Burgos has been having a great season, and played well. Emma Smolev has also been consistently playing well on defense."

The prior Tuesday at Eastchester, Gia Mancini put the Huskies on top 20 minutes into the game, scoring off a pass from Erin Nelson.

But Eastchester rebounded with two goals in the last 15 minutes to take the game. The Eagles got

the equalizer from Erin Ahern, then won it when Julie Murtagh found the back of the net with under 5:00 left.

Burgos was busy, and finished with 10 saves.

"We dominated the game," Zappala said. "We should have had a few more goals. Their goals came off a corner and a direct kick. And there were some tough calls in this one, but we needed to capitalize on more of our opportunities."

"Julia DiRusso played well for us," Zappala added. "And Erica LaManna, at offensive middle, was always in the right place at the right time. But their keeper made some nice saves."

Harrison was set to visit Byram Hills Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

Surging Huskies Rack Up Dominant Tennis Wins Over Rye, Byram Hills

By Skip Pearlman

Harrison's girls tennis team continued its strong play last week, improving to 8-3 overall and 5-1 in league after rolling to wins over Rye and Byram Hills, both in dominant fashion.

Last Tuesday at home against Rye, Harrison, which prevailed 7-0, got singles wins from Deana Giambo, Ella Eisinger and Sydney Mueller.

The Huskies' teams of Elisa Pettinato and Lauren Nielson, Sydney Saviano and Jessica Saviano, Sarina Iraj and Ayaka Yorihiro, and Tory Tuburzi and Lindsay Amann all came up winners as well.

Harrison coach Justin Loeb said his team was stoked to face Rye, a traditional rival.

"Giambo had a tough match the first time we played them," Loeb said. "But she made sure she did really well this time. And our two captains, Mueller and Eisinger, both have been playing really well the last couple of weeks. And our doubles teams have been playing well. The Savianos only have one loss all year. They have a great sense of the game. And our first doubles team, Pettinato and Nielson, have also been playing well."



SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTO

Deana Giambo, who won her matches vs. Byram Hills and Rye last week, has been playing well at first singles for Harrison.

One day earlier, the Huskies avenged their first loss of the season, a 7-0 setback to Byram Hills a few weeks earlier. This time, Harrison rolled to a 6-1 victory.

Giambo and Mueller earned wins in singles action, with Eisinger suffering the team's only loss of the day in a close, three-set match.

Pettinato and Nielson, the Savianos, and the team of Iraj and Yorihiro all took their matches to sweep doubles play.

Loeb said the team savored the victory, knowing they didn't put out their best effort in the first meeting of the two teams.

"We were very thrilled with the Byram Hills win, especially after losing to them 7-0 for our first loss of the season," the coach said. "Our doubles teams have definitely improved,

they're communicating much better. They're very aggressive and playing smart. They're really putting it together."

Loeb and the Huskies are also thrilled to have won eight of their first 11 matches, a big-time turnaround from last fall.

"Last year we only had three wins," Loeb said. "Now we have eight already, and we believe we have a shot at the league. We're keeping motivated, and spirits are up."

Harrison hosts Pelham Wednesday at 4:15 p.m.

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Falcons Volleyball Team Picks Up Two Wins, Improves to 3-3

By Skip Pearlman

The Woodlands High volleyball team pulled its season record back to the .500 level last week with a pair of wins, beating Solomon Schechter, 3-1, and the Yonkers Montessori Academy, 3-2.

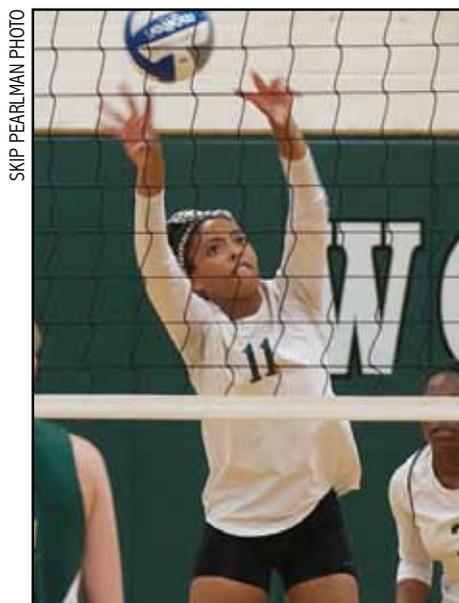
Last Tuesday on the road, the Falcons won in four sets at Solomon Schechter.

Madison Young came up with five kills and 10 assists for Woodlands (3-3, 2-2), and Nia Whalhall-Moon added a pair of blocks, five assists and 11 kills.

Falcons coach Taneisha Contave had good things to say about the way her team has gelled.

"The girls are really getting better every match," Contave said. "They keep gaining confidence and they're coming together. I'm really excited to see what the second half of the season brings, because they get better every time."

One day earlier at Woodlands, the



SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTO

Woodlands sophomore team captain Madison Young has had a strong start to the season.

Falcons edged the Yonkers Montessori Academy in five.

Young was strong with four aces, 10 assists, three kills and a block, and Walthall-Moon contributed with six assists, one block and five kills.

"The girls played aggressive," Contave said. "We were missing players, so we lost the first set, but then we adjusted and played better. I was very happy with that."

"Our senior, Lourdes Turner, has been a very aggressive all-around player for us," the coach added. "And Madison has played with us since the end of seventh grade. She's definitely a strong player, and she's by far our most aggressive player. She's been solid for us, and she's leading all the stats. But this is a growing team, as a unit we're striving to get better."

The Falcons were set to visit Hastings today (Tuesday) at 4:15 p.m.

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EXAMINER SPORTS

Stepinac Staggers St. Francis Prep, 56-0, for 4-0 Start

continued from page 1

them in the first half against the Crusaders and they never got the chance to "bite" back in the game. Stepinac blanked the Terriers 49-0 in the first half. Moreover, the Crusaders offense scored 35 points in the first quarter.

The mismatch was evident in the first quarter. Crusaders running back Daniel Negron caught a 15-yard pass from Coleman in the end zone and three minutes later running back Malcolm Major cross the goal line again on a 6-yard dash.

Remarkably, 16 seconds later the defense got into the act when safety Demarcus Miller intercept a pass and ran it in from the Crusaders 22-yard line. Fans at Mitchel Field had hardly got settled in their seats and Stepinac was winning 21-0, five and a half minutes into the first quarter.

Nonetheless, the first quarter damage was not complete. The Crusaders went on to score 35 points in the first quarter, while not letting the Terriers near the goal line. Back-up quarterback junior Tyquell Fields hit wide receiver Giancarlo Furio with a 22-yard pass for a score. Then with 34 seconds left, Major dashed 50 yards for his second touchdown in the first quarter.



Crusaders defensive back Gavin Heslop (center) hits Terriers running back Stephon Monfort and stops him in his tracks, as Stepinac beat St. Francis Prep, 56-0, at Mitchel Field, on Friday, to begin the season undefeated at 4-0.

ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

"We have to give credit to the offensive line; they opened up the big holes. I worked hard this offseason and now it is showing what hard work can do," said Major.

In the second quarter, after the Crusaders defense stopped the Terriers in the red zone on the 13-yard line; halfback Tyquan Ennis figured let me get in on this and scooted 87 yards on first down for a touchdown. "As soon as the play started, I saw the hole that the line made and I just went for it," commented Ennis.

C o l e m a n captioned the first-half scoring with a 24-yard keeper right through the middle of the Terriers line. The Navy bound QB is impressed thus far this season with the commitment of his team. "Everybody was making plays tonight. It feels great to be 4-0, because it is very hard to do, but we are going to continue getting better," said Coleman.

Coleman also paid special tribute to first year starting center

Khaleb Celaj, who is snapping the ball to him and blocking for him this season. "Khaleb is doing great, he transferred to a different position so now he is learning a new scheme at center but he is adapting

and getting better week by week," Coleman said. Celaj's father, Kenny played for Georgia Tech University and signed as a free agent with the Miami Dolphins.

Stepinac was leading, 49-0, at halftime. Therefore, O'Donnell sat his first string players for the entire second half. "It was great to get everybody in the game. It is important to teach the student/athletes to respect their opponents. We have been there before on the wrong end," mentioned O'Donnell.

Although, despite their success so far this season, O'Donnell is trying to keep everything in perspective. Of course, after 27 years as the Head Coach and 35 years total coaching at Stepinac, he is quite aware how quickly the CHSFL AAA-AA can turn on you.

"We continue to talk about taking it one game at a time. I do not think we will have the problem of over confidence the next couple of weeks because we are playing football teams that we have not had a lot of success against in the past," stated O'Donnell.

Stepinac Fundraiser-A Doo Wop Spectacular, Nov. 1

Fans of Doo Wop, the effervescent music of the 1950's, will have the opportunity to attend a Doo Wop Concert, at Stepinac High School, on Saturday, Nov.1, at 7 p.m.

The Doo Wop Concert is a fundraiser for the Stepinac Football Program and will feature The Tokens singing their classic hit, "The Lion Sleeps Tonight," among other favorites. The Harptones will also sing their 50's classic, "Life is But a Dream," with other songs.

Also, Yonkers native Jackie DiMaggio will grace the stage with Christopher Macchio for a Tribute to West Side Story, and Kid Kyle, Demensions, Classic Sounds and Teen-Sations will also entertain the crowd.

For tickets to "A Doo Wop Spectacular" at Stepinac High School, on Nov.1, call 914-424-8814 or 914-494-4286. Tickets are \$40 each.



After scoring 35 points in the first quarter and winning 49-0 at the half, Crusaders starters got to enjoy the second half from the sidelines, including [l-r] tight-end Terry McDonald-Preston, running back Malcolm Major and center Khaleb Celaj, who were all smiles while shutting-out St. Francis Prep, 56-0.



Crusaders quarterback Brandon Coleman (right) breaks free of Terriers defender Stephon Monfort to score Stepinac's seventh touchdown of the first half on a 24-yard run.



It was a weary day for St. Francis Prep, as the last play of the game indicated, as Crusaders cornerback Frank Rocco (#36) walks away after sacking Terriers quarterback Chris Torres to end the game with Stepinac winning 56-0, at Mitchel Field, on Friday.



Stepinac's defense has held opponents to 24 points total in their first four games this season. Number 22 cornerback Nick Dadario (center left) and #33 linebacker Daniel Negron demonstrate why, as they would not give an inch to Terriers running back Stephon Monfort.

EXAMINER SPORTS

Huskies Get Much Needed Win as Team Steamrolls Over Pelicans, 36-17

By Skip Pearlman

After losing their first three games of the season – something that doesn't happen to this proud program very often – it was pretty obvious what the Harrison High football team's priority was going into Pelham last Friday night.

The Huskies got just what the doctor ordered in the form of a 36-17 victory that certainly wasn't perfect. Pelham scored all 17 of its points off of Harrison turnovers. But, as they say: a win is a win.



SKIP PEARLMAN PHOTOS

Junior AJ Lovallo rushed for 120 yards and two touchdowns against Pelham.

And first-year coach Dominick Zanot and his players were sure happy to get this one.

Zanot didn't mince words. "We needed a win," he said flatly. "We have good football players here. It's been an adjustment for the kids, as well as the coaches (the transition to a new coaching staff), and the combined record of the first three teams we faced (Panas, Rye and Somers) is 9-1. We competed in the first two games, but against Somers the wheels came off. We didn't execute, and we had some key injuries (Michael Dragone and Rashan Gilmore), two of our primary carriers. And Gilmore's could be a season ending injury. We had to re-build our offense, put kids in new positions."

Whatever Zanot and the Huskies did, it worked against the Pelicans.

Harrison led 16-7 after a quarter, and went up 28-17 by halftime.

Mike Salvatore scored on a nine-yard run for Harrison's first TD, and on the Huskies' next possession it was junior AJ Lovallo, playing his first game at running back, breaking off a 45-yard touchdown run, good for a 16-7 lead after a successful two-point conversion.

Lovallo added a 36-yard TD in the second, and Salvatore scored on a five-yard burst with 3:00 to play in the half to put the Huskies up 28-17.

Salvatore scored his third touchdown of



Junior AJ Lovallo rushed for 120 yards and two touchdowns against Pelham.

the game on Harrison's opening possession of the second half – on a four-yard run – and a two-point conversion accounted for the final margin.

It was a breakout day for Lovallo, who finished with 120-yards and two touchdowns on 13 carries. Salvatore scored three times and rushed for 52

yards, and junior Zach Evans added 54 yards on 11 attempts. Huskies QB Joe Nannariello didn't go to the air much, completing 3-of-7 attempts for 37 yards, no TDs and one pick. Nannariello also ran for 25 yards on two carries.

"They really rose to the occasion," Zanot said of his players. "None of them played like backups, they played like starters. AJ was impressive. He hadn't had much of an opportunity before, and he was a pleasant surprise. Our offensive line played well, and our defense put a lot of pressure on the quarterback."

"Salvatore and Evans also contributed," Zanot added. "We really focused on the yards after the initial contact. And Drew Estes, on defense, was outstanding at outside linebacker."

Next up for the Huskies is a meeting with Sleepy Hollow (3-1) Thursday at 4 p.m. at Harrison. Zanot knows his team has a challenge ahead with the Horsemen. The team's only loss was to Rye.

"We'll need to run the ball successfully," Zanot said of the game. "We have to keep the Sleepy Hollow offense off the field. They have a very good quarterback – we'll need to contain him and keep pressure on him."

The Stepinac Soccer Program, New Pride and Glory

By Albert Coqueran

The Stepinac Soccer Program has gained a new sense of pride and self-satisfaction this season among their players. The Crusaders have recorded a 6-0-2 record, which has them undefeated at the mid-point of their schedule this season.

On Thursday, Sept. 25, at Stepinac High School, the Crusaders made easy pickings of the winless, 0-7-1, Holy Cross Knights from Flushing. The Crusaders ran past the Knights, 6-2, to keep their undefeated home record (3-0) in tact.

The Crusaders jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first half; with senior forward Martin Dedvukaj scoring early in the half assisted by senior Co-Captain Brendan Monaghan.

After the Crusaders other Team Captain Junior Batista filled the net for their second goal; Dedvukaj revisited Knights goalie John Stefnauee and scored his second goal of the game, again assisted by Monaghan.

Before the 80 minutes of play ended Dedvukaj had accomplished the elusive "hat trick" in soccer by scoring three goals in the game. "It is a good feeling but it is all about the team. I am glad that I could help



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTO

The Stepinac High School Soccer Team is undefeated thus far this season with a 6-0-2 record. The Crusaders Soccer program is on target this year to have their best season since 1998.

out and the three goals statistic is great," said Dedvukaj.

Junior forward Andrew Laurenzano was all over the field for Holy Cross. Laurenzano scored the Knights only two goals, with one goal coming early in the second half. Then he got a penalty kick past Crusader goalie Rob Sanders to end the game.

The Crusaders also scored three times in the second half, as they did before halftime. Besides Dedvukaj's "hat trick" goal in the second half; Batista kicked his way to his second goal of the game, assisted by Dedvukaj and Monaghan finished the scoring with a goal.

Crusaders soccer has had resurgence this season under new Head Coach Matthew Hanley

and his second-year Assistant Coach Bijan Maleki. Hanley returns to Stepinac after coaching the soccer team in 1992 and 1993. Hanley led the Crusaders to the CHSAA A Sectional Title in 1993. Maleki was an assistant last year and returned to help Hanley revise the program.

Under Hanley and Maleki's tutelage this

year, Stepinac soccer is in the midst of having their best season since 1998. "The fact that I have a great assistant coach (Maleki) and his good relationship with the players from last year's team, would be the first contributing factor to our success this season," acknowledged Hanley.

"Also, we have a lot of returning players, we are senior heavy and they have all stepped-up and are leading the younger players," said Hanley. The Crusaders have 14 seniors and 13 juniors on their roster this season.

Nonetheless, if shutting-out a winless Holy Cross does not display the level of competition Stepinac has competed against this season. Then consider that they have also beaten Iona Prep in New Rochelle, Christ The King and Xaverian away, Monsignor Farrell and Regis High Schools at home, while tying soccer powerhouse Fordham Prep at Fordham.

"It is a great accomplishment so far this season, it is a big milestone in Stepinac's history," commented Dedvukaj. "It is not often over the years that we have done this, it is a really big step-up for us and we figure, why not go all the way."

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