



Investigators: Crash Investigation May Take a Year to Complete

By Martin Wilbur and Janine Bowen

It may take investigators up to a year to find out why the driver of an SUV moved into the path of the Metro-North train in Valhalla last week killing six people.

National Transportation Safety Board member Robert Sumwalt said the agency's team is expected to return to Washington this week and piece together a timeline of the Feb. 3 accident at the Commerce Street crossing in hopes of determining probable cause. Investigators also hope to learn whether the fiery explosion that engulfed the vehicle and the train's lead car was caused by the third rail or the SUV's gas tank.

"We're just in the very beginning stages of this investigation," Sumwalt said last Friday. "There's a lot that needs to be done, yet there's a lot that has been done."

The five passengers killed were



NTSB Board member Robert Sumwalt surveys vehicles involved in the Metro-North train crash last week in Valhalla.

all seated in the train's first car. They were Eric Vandercar, 53, an investment banker from Bedford; Walter Liedtke, 69, an art curator from Bedford Hills; Chappaqua resident Robert Dirks, 36; Joseph Nadol, 42, of New Castle; and Tomar Aditya, 41, of Danbury. Another 15 passengers were hurt, some seriously. Most were taken to nearby Westchester Medical Center.

The driver, Ellen Brody, 49, of Edgemont was also killed. She entered the crossing when the barrier came down on her 2011 Mercedes ML 350 about 6:27 p.m. last Tuesday. The driver who was in the car behind Brody's at the time of the accident reported to investigators that he had entered onto Commerce Street after traffic had been diverted from the Taconic State Parkway

continued on page 2

Firefighter Honored With Street Naming

By Pat Casey

White Plains Firefighter William Joseph (Billy) DeLanoy was remembered in a street dedication ceremony on Saturday, Feb. 7. The block from Maple Avenue to Carhart on Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, is now called Billy DeLanoy Way.

The dedication took place in front of White Plains Fire Station 6. A new street sign marks the intersections.

Billy DeLanoy was a White Plains resident for 58 years. He died on February 6, 2013.

Having resided in numerous neighborhoods in the White Plains community, DeLanoy attended St. John's Grammar School and Stepinac High School. He married Joanne Del Vecchio in 1977 at the chapel at Good Counsel.

Together they raised three sons and two grandchildren, who all reside in White Plains.

DeLanoy worked for the City of White Plains for 34 years, with the White Plains Fire Department (1978-2013) Badge 27, Lieutenant (1996-2003) Badge 26, Deputy Chief (2003-2013) Badge DC2. He was Welfare Chairman for White Plains Professional Firefighters Local 274 and Executive Board member of White Plains Professional Firefighters Local 274. He came from a long line of firefighters who also served the City of White Plains dating back to the 1920s.

Many of his accomplishments included running political campaigns

continued on page 4

Communities May Apply for HUD Funds Through State

By Pat Casey

In a joint statement Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Congresswoman Nita Lowey announced Monday that \$5 million in Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding for 2015 would be administered to eligible Westchester Communities.

Both the governor and members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators acknowledged and thanked Congresswoman Lowey for working with the federal government to help loosen up the funds.

Because of the ongoing affordable housing lawsuit between HUD and Westchester County, local governments

and nonprofits within the Westchester consortium that received HUD funding but which were later accused of taking the funds without building required affordable units, were denied CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) money from 2011 through 2014, totaling \$23 million. The consortium was disbanded at the end of 2014, but the ongoing settlement dispute has not been resolved.

The \$5 million is for 2015 only and there is no indication whether or not funds would be available in 2016.

Under the Congresswoman and

continued on page 4



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continued from page 1

due to a separate accident, Sumwalt said.

When he approached the crossing, he reported that traffic was "inching along" as the SUV moved onto the crossing and came to a stop. At this point, the crossing arm lowered onto the SUV and hit the back of the car. According to the witness, Brody got out of her car and walked to the arm, then got back into the vehicle and sat there for a moment "as if there was enough time to put on her seatbelt."

Sumwalt said the 5:44 Southeast-bound Harlem line train from Grand Central Station was traveling at 58 miles per hour--under the 60-mile-per-hour speed limit-- before the engineer applied the emergency brake when he spotted the car in the crossing four seconds before impact. NTSB investigators determined the train had decelerated to 48 miles per hour when it collided with the SUV and took another 650 feet to stop, he said.

Sumwalt stated all equipment was functioning properly and procedures were followed by the crew in the seconds before the crash. The train's horn sounded with the proper cadence--two long blasts followed by one short blast and another long blast--as it approached the crossing.

Thirty-nine seconds before the train approached the crossing, the flashing lights illuminated and the arm subsequently lowered, said Sumwalt. The area also had adequate signage.



NTSB lead investigator Mike Hiller gives instructions to the team at the scene of last week's Metro-North crash.

Investigators will study the factors that may have led to Brody getting stuck on the tracks. Sumwalt said they will try to determine how familiar she was with the vehicle and the area and if traffic in front of her prevented her from moving forward. In addition, the NTSB is in the process of obtaining her cell phone records, to determine if she was texting or making a call at the time of the accident.

"We do that routinely now in all transportation accidents because we have seen a lot of accidents where this is a factor," said Sumwalt.

The SUV was registered and passed inspection in December.

The third rail, which broke apart

in 39-foot sections after impact, was last inspected in December, according to Sumwalt. One section of third rail pierced the SUV behind the driver while 12 sections broke through the bottom of the first train car and piled up inside the train car.

The NTSB will work cooperatively with MTA police to conduct a thorough inspection of the severely damaged first car of the train. It was removed late Wednesday to the MTA facility in North White Plains.

"This is a very detailed investigation of this car. We're combing carefully through pieces of ash, debris, pieces of third rail that have penetrated into that rail car and

it makes for a very lengthy investigative process because of the severe, burnt-out condition of that car," Sumwalt said.

County Executive Rob Astorino took a tour of the crash site hours after the accident and affected seeing the charred wreckage firsthand.

"What I saw on that train is something that I'll never forget," Astorino said. "I am amazed that anyone got off that train (alive)."

After the collision, hundreds of passengers were seen evacuating the rear of the train and walking along the Taconic Parkway, on nearby streets or through the snow in nearby Gate of Heaven Cemetery looking for a way to get home, Astorino said.

On a typical weekday, that train averages about 655 commuters, said MTA President and CEO Thomas Prendergast. The train had made its last stop at 125th Street and was scheduled to stop next in Chappaqua. Prendergast said.

For Astorino, the deadly crash hit close to home.

"I was a commuter. This is my home town and I would take (that) train from Hawthorne," he said. "You sit down on the train with your iPad or iPod and you expect to get home safely. This is the last thing anyone would expect to happen."

If anyone has information that could benefit the investigation, they may e-mail witness@NTSB.gov.



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Gedney Neighborhood Eager for Decision on FASNY Special Permit

By Pat Casey

Waiting anxiously to hear when a decision will be made on the Special Permit and Site Plan applications by the French American School of New York (FASNY), the Gedney neighborhood Association wrote to White Plains Mayor Tom Roach for an update.

John Sheehan, president of the Gedney Association received the following email from White Plains corporation counsel John Callahan in response: "The Mayor requested that I respond to your e-mail. The FASNY application is undergoing review by city staff, including, but not limited to, the SWPPP review being conducted by the Department of Public Works. When all necessary reviews are complete, the Council will consider the applications at a public meeting. I cannot commit to a date by which the reviews will be completed, as it is important that they be thorough."

After a several year process of back and forth negotiations about the fate of the site formerly owned by the Ridgeway Country Club, the final period of review of the complex project is now in process.

The site, which meanders through one of White Plains suburban-like communities, would house a regional K-12 school campus and a multi-acre

wildlife preserve, and would include the partial closing of a neighborhood street, Hathaway Lane.

Towards the end of the public hearing segment, public outcry against any type of closing of Hathaway Lane became a prominent issue and several agencies within White Plains including the city's Planning Board and the White Plains Board of Education expressed their concerns about public safety, especially pedestrian and traffic safety in a neighborhood where more cars could potentially be forced onto local streets.

White Plains, which has been seeing zoning changes and multi-use development projects in and around its downtown, is a 10-square mile city. The urban core is surrounded by suburban neighborhoods. The encroachment of institutional and commercial entities into the quieter neighborhoods has become a major issue for the city at large.

Some proponents of the FASNY project say the area already has plenty of institutional development and that the school would be an asset to the community. Those opposed claim FASNY would set a precedent for the undoing of White Plains single-family zoned neighborhoods.

White Plains Thomas H. Slater Center Sets 50/50 Fundraising Challenge

As it gets closer for Kurt Kannemeyer, Development Director at St. Christopher's, Inc., to climb the 19,500-foot Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania as a fundraiser for developmentally disabled children, a the White Plains-based Thomas H. Slater Center is launching a county-wide 50/50 Challenge for the effort.

The Slater Center is recruiting 20 people to raise \$1 each day for the 50 days leading up to the climb on April 1. The 50/50 Challenge began this Monday.

"Our goal is to engage Westchester County in assisting Kurt's final push before his climb," said Heather Miller, Executive Director of the Thomas H. Slater Center.

St. Christopher's #ClimbForOurKids Mount Kilimanjaro Fundraiser will raise funds for an ILS (Independent Living Services) Center for St. Christopher's developmentally disabled children at their Valhalla Campus.

In an environment where children are faced with their own "mountains" on a daily basis, Kannemeyer, an Ossining resident, has become a role model. In addition to raising awareness for at-risk, special needs children, he will be climbing in honor of his mother, Gladys, who passed away last July after a long

battle with breast cancer.

Since the fall, St. Christopher's has been able to raise \$20,000. With \$10,000 more, St. Christopher's will be able to reach its goal.

Since its inception in 1881, St. Christopher's has helped teens with emotional, behavioral and learning disabilities by providing a residential program encompassing comprehensive therapeutic, social and family services coordinated with special education schooling.

"It is encouraging to see the Thomas H. Slater Center assist in our fundraising efforts," said Kannemeyer. "I am grateful that they have collectively put together this challenge to not only help reach our goal for the climb and also help children right here in our community."

For more information on how to join the 50/50 Challenge call 914-948-6211.

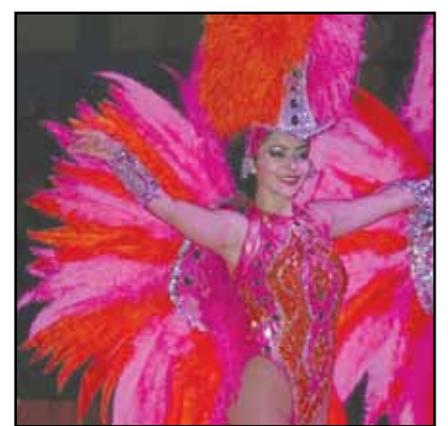


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Firefighter Honored With Street Naming

continued from page 1

for various elected officials throughout Westchester including Janet DiFiore, DA of Westchester County and Alfred



Billy DeLanoy was a St. Patrick's Day Parade Aide. A block along Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains has been dedicated in his name.

Del Vecchio, Mayor of City of White Plains. He was a St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee Member and Grand Marshall Aide in 2006.

DeLanoy was co-founder of Little League Baseball in the City of White Plains and brought Stepinac freshman baseball to the school in 1994, where he was head coach for four years. He also revived American legion baseball in the City of White Plains, where he was head coach for five years. He also umpired Baseball throughout Westchester County.

In memorial remarks White Plains Fire Chief Richard Lyman said about Billy: "Bill was more than a friend to us. He was a trusted advisor, a big brother you went to for advice. He always offered support that was pure, simple and refreshing. He would make recommendations, offer solid advice and then guide you into developing your own plans and schedules, and making decisions in the future."

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Communities May Apply for HUD Funds Through State

continued from page 1

Governor's plan, communities that had previously been in the consortium will now be able to competitively apply to the State for funds.

New York State Homes and Community Renewal will distribute approximately \$3.3 million in Westchester County CDBG funds through a competitive application to allow the funding to be distributed quickly and fairly to the most effective initiatives proposed by local community nonprofit organizations and localities. The funding will be made available only to initiatives located in the areas formerly served by the Westchester County Consortium.

Activities eligible for this funding include housing improvements for rehabilitation, homeownership, residential water/wastewater projects, structural improvements to public facilities that will serve special-needs populations, and infrastructural improvements to public water/wastewater systems and public works such as sidewalks and streets. This funding will also create jobs through grants and loans that will foster small business development.

More than \$600,000 will be available from Emergency Shelter Grants, which can fund the renovation of buildings used as emergency shelters or transitional housing for homeless families as well as maintenance, operation, rent, repair,

security, food, and utilities. More than \$900,000 will be available for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, which can fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership.

At a press conference after the announcement BOL chair Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) said the announcement was a big win for Westchester. He said that with the State stepping in rather than the County, funds would be held in a lock-box type situation and not used for other purposes.

Mary Jane Shimsky (D-Hastings-on-Hudson) said Greenburgh had lost \$700,000 because of the withholding and was grateful for the available funding.

Legislator John Testa (R-Peekskill) said he was happy about the State intervention and noted that the County Executive had been requesting that HUD do something similar to work one-on-one with communities in the disbanded consortium.

Testa also said that the CDBG grants came from taxpayer dollars and should not have been withheld arbitrarily.

Communities such as White Plains, which were not part of the Westchester Consortium, did not lose CDBG funding and have maintained their one-on-one relation with HUD.

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Special Bulletin



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Metro-North Crash Victims All Remembered as Outstanding Individuals

By Pat Casey

The fatal train/car accident on February 3 at the Commerce Street crossing in Valhalla has been acknowledged as the worst accident in Metro-North's history. Six local victims lost their lives that day. All were remembered by family, friends and co-workers as outstanding individuals.

Ellen Brody, 49, of Edgemont, was the driver of the SUV that moved onto the tracks triggering the crash. She is remembered as a perpetually optimistic and caring family person who greeted everyone with a warm smile and infectious humor. She worked at ICD Contemporary Jewelry on South Greeley Avenue in Chappaqua. She met her husband, Alan, in 1989. He said she was the love of his life and that "our family reveled in her sunshine." They had three daughters Alexa, Julia and Danielle.

The remaining five victims were all passengers on the Metro-North Harlem Line train's first car as it headed north.

Robert Dirks, 36, of Chappaqua, was a Scientist at D.E. Shaw Research, which creates computer models of organic molecules for use in drug development. A high school valedictorian, he received a Ph.D. in chemistry from the California Institute of Technology where he met his wife. They had two children. Dirks was referred to in several media reports as a

person of habit who regularly rode in the first train car because he preferred the quiet it offered.

Walter Liedtke, 69, of Bedford Hills, oversaw the collection and special exhibitions of European paintings at the Metropolitan Museum in Manhattan for the past 35 years. He was an authority on the works of Johannes Vermeer and Rembrandt. He earned his master's degree at Brown and a doctorate at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. He spent four years on the faculty at Ohio State. In 1979 he received a Mellon Fellowship to study at the Metropolitan Museum, which he never left. Liedtke and his wife, Nancy, a math teacher, who is his only immediate survivor, raised horses.

Joseph Nadol, 42, of New Castle, was Managing Director at JP Morgan. He joined the Manhattan-based bank in 2001. Institutional Investor magazine in 2009 named him the best analyst covering the aerospace and defense-electronics industries. He was remembered for his adventurous spirit and immense love for family and friends last Saturday at his memorial service at First Congressional Church in Chappaqua.

Nadol's widow, Jen, said her husband was always ready to live life to its fullest. They had three sons Joey, Sam and Jake.

Aditya Tomar, 41, of Danbury was JP

Morgan vice president of technology supporting the bank's asset-management division. Before joining JP Morgan, he worked at Morgan Stanley, Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. and Barclays Capital. Tomar, an immigrant from India, studied at the Indian Institute of Technology and Miami University in Ohio before beginning his career at Con Edison, where he worked in commodity pricing. Tomar is survived by his wife Reshma.

Eric Vandercar, 53, of Bedford, was Senior managing director in institutional sales and trading and head of municipal funding at Mesirow Financial in New York. He had previously spent 27 years

at Morgan Stanley. Those who knew Vandercar remembered him as a person who loved to work hard and play hard and as someone who was always ready for an adventure. A graduate of the Wharton School of Business, Vandercar held degrees in business and engineering and earned his MBA from NYU. He married his wife, Jill, whom he met on a blind date, in 1995. They had two children Jake and Sadie.



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Motorist: Safety Improvements Needed at Commerce Street Crossing

By Martin Wilbur

When Adam Handler heard the news last Tuesday night that a Metro-North train had collided with a vehicle at the Commerce Street railroad crossing in Valhalla, he was transported back nearly a decade and left shaken.

On that day when Handler approached that same crossing, the red lights flashed briefly and a second or two later the heavy wood barrier on his side of the road came down onto the roof of his car.

"I've seen that happen to drivers. You can get befuddled," said Handler, a Brewster resident who had owned a small advertising agency on nearby Stevens Avenue for about 20 years and used the crossing three or four times a week.

It was a nerve-racking experience for Handler but he was fortunate it was in broad daylight and traffic was light at the time. There were no other vehicles behind

him, so he quickly gathered himself, put the car in reverse and moved out of the way of danger. He thought perhaps that he failed to notice the red flashing crossing lights as quickly as he should have.

"I didn't want to make a big deal out of it at the time," he said.

However, it wasn't the last time Handler would see that happen. On repeated occasions, there were other drivers who would become trapped, surprised that the arms would descend so quickly and onto a car.

He said some motorists would actually get out of the car, more concerned about damage to the roof of their car when the barrier would come down with a thud than they possible being partially in the path of an oncoming train.

Last week he immediately began wondering if the driver of the 2011 Mercedes SUV, Edgemont resident Ellen

Brody, may have become confused at what was happening, when the barrier came down and rested on the back top portion of her car, contributing to an already difficult set of conditions in that area at that time.

Unlike the time it happened to him, Handler said last Tuesday was dark with rush hour traffic and a nearby accident. It also appears that Brody may have been unfamiliar with the territory.

The tragedy has prompted Handler to contact the National Transportation Safety Board with suggestions to improve safety at the location and to reach out to state representatives to help improve conditions at that crossing.

"There are a couple of things they could do to avoid this," Handler said. "It's more a traffic and road issue than an MTA issue."

One step he suggested is for the state or the proper jurisdiction to extend the

area off of Commerce Street by building a small lane that runs parallel to the Taconic State Parkway. Currently, there is room for about three or four cars to fit on the short stretch between the parkway and the crossing should the crossing arms come down, which is usually inadequate during rush hour.

Handler's second suggestion would be to put foam on the wooden barriers, since it appears that many drivers are concerned about scratches or dents.

Last week, during his briefings, NTSB board member Robert Sumwalt said that the crossing functioned properly. He also said it took 39 seconds from the time the red crossing lights flashed until the train entered the crossing.

However, Handler hopes that the accident opens the eyes of the authorities to make improvements at the site to make sure it never happens again.

Goldberger to Serve Second Term as YMCA Board Chairman

White Plains resident Charles A. Goldberger of McCullough, Goldberger and Staudt LLP, has been elected Chairman of the Board of the YMCA Central and Northern Westchester.

Goldberger has served on the board of the YMCA and as its legal counsel for many years. This is his second time in the role of chairman. He took the

position at the Jan. 22 meeting, the first of the year, after his election in December. The YMCA consists of the White Plains facility, a community YMCA in Somers and Camp Combe YMCA in Putnam County

A senior partner in MGS, Mr. Goldberger heads the litigation department and concentrates on

commercial, construction and personal injury litigation, commercial arbitration and Surrogate's Court litigation. He is a member of the Westchester, New York State and White Plains Bar Associations, and of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of The Hebrew

Hospital Home, Inc. and serves as General Counsel to several cooperative and condominium associations. He also serves on the Westchester County Parks, Recreation and Conservation Board.

Mr. Goldberger has been a visiting professor in Estonia, Romania, Bulgaria, Poland and Serbia.



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Trespass. On the morning of January 26, police responded to a call from Ray Catena Lexus, 525 Tarrytown Road, White Plains. The car dealership reported that two suspicious males were observed sitting in a gold mini van in the rear lot. When the police arrived, they asked the males what they were doing in the lot. They responded that they were just looking around, and they had done nothing wrong. The dealership manager said he believed the two men were the same people observed at a past tire theft at the company's other lot on Yellowstone Avenue in White Plains on December 25th. The surveillance video from December 25th was given to the Greenburgh Police Department detective division by the management. The dealership informed the police they did not want to press any charges for the past larceny, but did want the two males arrested for trespassing. The management also advised it wanted the two males to stay off all its properties. The men were placed into custody and transported to police headquarters where they were processed for trespassing arrest. The Dodge minivan was towed to the impound lot. The two men were also charged with a past larceny from January 15 at Mavis Discount Tire, 865 South Central Ave., Scarsdale. The men were later arraigned at Greenburgh Town Court for both charges. They were given \$500 bail. Because they were unable to make bail and they were transported to Westchester County Jail.

Driving While Intoxicated. On the evening of January 26, police responded to a motor vehicle accident on Central Avenue in Hartsdale involving a single vehicle that struck a utility pole. The driver of the vehicle was seen fleeing the scene on foot. He was later stopped by additional responding officers. The suspect was observed to have glassy, blood shot eyes, was unable to keep his balance, and had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from his breath. His speech was slurred. Officers noted that the

suspect had to lean on the police vehicle to keep his balance. Due to a language barrier, the standardized field sobriety tests were unable to be administered. Based on their training and experience, the officers determined the suspect to be under the influence of alcohol and placed him under arrest. A witness at the scene said he saw the suspect travel across two lanes of traffic, striking the utility pole and then running from the vehicle. A breath test was performed at police headquarters. The suspect was charged with leaving the scene of a property damage accident. Police also observed that the suspect had two Visa credit cards and a NY State Drivers license in his possession that did not belong to him. He was later fingerprinted.

Suspicious Incident. On January 26, police responded to a home in Hartsdale. The caller said she recently discovered missing folders and emails on her laptop computer and that the folders and emails contained financial information from Citibank and Fidelity Investments. The alleged victim did not have any further information on the incident, saying she did not know if anyone actually obtained access into her computer and she had not checked with her financial institutions to see if anyone accessed her accounts. Police advised her to contact the financial institutions advising them to check her accounts and to monitor them for fraudulent activity. She was further advised to check her computer for any viruses or unusual activity. The incident was documented and the victim was advised to contact police headquarters if she discovered any fraudulent activity.

Possession of Controlled Substance. On the afternoon of January 29 members of the Greenburgh Street Crime Unit observed a vehicle traveling on Old Tarrytown Road failing to stay within the traffic lane. A traffic stop was conducted. As police officers approached the car, they observed a baggie containing a white rock like substance believed to be MDMA on

the driver's lap. The driver was removed from the vehicle and said baggie was recovered and confirmed to be MDMA with the use of a field test kit. The suspect was placed under arrest and transported to police headquarters where he was booked, processed and held.

Criminal Mischief. On January 29, police responded to a residence in Hartsdale on a report of a dispute that occurred earlier in the day at the Petco parking lot. The caller reported that his cellphone was damaged when it was

thrown into a snow bank during a verbal dispute. The argument was over money and the caller provided the name of the person who had made the attack. When police asked to see the damaged cell phone the caller said he did not have it nor did he have paperwork for the exchange he said he had made earlier that day for a new phone. A witness said she had observed the altercation and that when the caller offered the cell phone in place of the owed money, the attacker threw the phone into the snow. No further information could be obtained and nothing further was done.

Exami Blast

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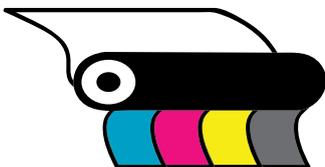
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lmarkowski@theexaminernews.com
Associate Publisher

Peter Stone
pstone@theexaminernews.com
Chief Financial Officer

Pat Casey
pcasey@theexaminernews.com
Editor-in-Chief

Bill Primavera
bprimavera@theexaminernews.com
Real Estate Editor

David Propper
dpropper@theexaminernews.com
Reporter

Neal Rentz
nrentz@theexaminernews.com
Reporter

Albert Coqueran
acoqueran@theexaminernews.com
Sports

Morris Gut
mgut@theexaminernews.com
Food Columnist

Nick Antonaccio
nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com
Wine Columnist

Dina Spalvieri
dspalvieri@theexaminernews.com
Designer

Paul Cardi
pcardi@theexaminernews.com
Account Executive

Nina Harrison
nharrison@theexaminernews.com
Account Executive

Jeff Ohlbaum
johlbaum@theexaminernews.com
Account Executive

Corinne Stanton
cstanton@theexaminernews.com
Media Consultant

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

High School Student Sends Out Plea to Save Her School

My name is Teresa Ramoni and I'm a junior at the Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in White Plains. As you may have heard by now, the property my school is located on is being sold due to the Sisters who own the campus's financial state. In May of 2014 we were told that we had to be off campus by July 1st and were told to look for relocation options.

My school's Board of Trustees worked very hard in order to find a location for our school, but due to the short time table they were given, their efforts were unsuccessful. Now we have been blessed with the answer to our prayers. A financial backer has come forth and has given the Save Good Counsel Inc. (a parent group that is an established corporation) the money they need in order to place a market value bid for the property.

Although we have the money to buy the campus, in order to show that we are

financially stable after we purchase the property, we need to raise some funds. As of now \$25,000 had already been raised in a week. I am reaching out to you to make a donation of any kind in order to help us achieve this goal. If for some reason our efforts are unsuccessful, you will be given back your donation.

I ask you to donate whatever you can for me, the elderly sisters who live on campus and who will be able to stay if we purchase the property, and for my fellow students and teachers. GCA is a wonderful community filled with wonderful people. I have made such amazing friends who I know I will stay in touch with throughout my lifetime. I have been graced with having such dedicated teachers who inspire and guide me everyday. My teachers have families to provide for and they deserve a stable job for the future. It is time for us to give back to the sisters who have served our community for over 100 years and

preserve a legacy and beautiful historic jewel in the city of White Plains.

I hope to graduate from Good Counsel Academy and hope that GCA will be a haven for thousands of young women in the years to come. Anyone who has gone to or visited GCA can tell you what a special place it is. It is filled with such a warm family-like atmosphere and has a beautiful spirituality. I can honestly say Good Counsel has helped shape me into the person I am today and the person I will grow to be in the future. If there was no GCA, I do not know what I would do next year. This means everything to me and so many others!

Let's show the world that education is something worth fighting for and as Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

—Teresa Ramoni

Health Commissioner Urges Residents to Get Flu Shots and Other Vaccines

The Westchester County Health Department is offering residents the opportunity this month to get free flu shots, along with vaccines to protect against six other diseases at its Yonkers and White Plains clinics.

The health department clinics will offer: Free flu vaccines to residents age 19 and up and Free HPV and meningococcal vaccine for college students.

Residents who are uninsured or whose insurance doesn't cover vaccines also may receive: Zoster vaccines for ages 60 and up to protect against Shingles, Flu vaccine for children ages six months through 18 years, MMR for residents age 19 and up, which

provides protection against measles.

Call now for your appointment. Supplies are limited. Clinics will be held: Feb. 20 at the White Plains Clinic, 134 Court St., call 995-5800; Feb. 13 and 27 at the Yonkers Clinic, 20 S. Broadway, 2nd floor, call 231-2500

"Last week's case of measles in a Bard College student who rode an Amtrak train as well as the multi-state measles outbreak that originated at Disneyland are fresh reminders of the importance of getting vaccinated," said Westchester County Commissioner of Health Sherlita Amler, MD in a media alert announcing the free vaccines. "We have vaccines for children,

students, adults and seniors – and these vaccines provide safe and effective protection for a number of diseases."

To prevent spreading the flu, cough or sneeze into your elbow and wash your hands frequently with soap and water frequently. If you do get a respiratory infection, stay home until 24 hours after your fever subsides to avoid spreading your germs. Clean surfaces you touch often, such as doorknobs, water faucets, refrigerator handles and telephones. Get plenty of rest, exercise and eat healthy food.

For more health information go to www.westchestergov.com/health.

Obituaries

Marie Cassavecca

Marie Cassavecca, 83, of Elmsford passed away February 6. She was born May 27th, 1931 to the late Samuel and Anna Trombone. She was also predeceased by her husband Peter, her brothers Dominick and Frank, her sisters Teresa and Elizabeth. She is survived by her loving children, Debra Efferen of Carmel, Laura McLoughlin of Lake Carmel and James Cassavecca of Elmsford; and three grandchildren Kenneth McLoughlin Jr., Robert and Scott Efferen, her sisters Natalie, Philomena and Catherine. Visitation will be Tuesday, Feb. 10, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at the Ballard-Durand Funeral Home, 72 East Main St., Elmsford. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Elmsford on Wednesday, Feb. 11th at 10 a.m. Burial will follow the service at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in White Plains.

Maria Seelig

Maria "Maya" Seelig, of Hartsdale, passed away February 3. She was 93. Maya was born November 20, 1921 in Karlsruhe, Germany to the late Karl and Lina Fiedler. On August 8, 1948 Maya married Ernst A. Seelig Sr. He predeceased her March 9, 1976. For 20 years Maya worked as a seamstress for Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman.

Maya is survived by her four children: Ernst A. Seelig Jr. and his wife Melanie of Ossining, Reinhold K. Seelig and his wife Eileen of Saratoga Springs, Sonya M. Berger and her husband Marc of Walden, and Michael W. Seelig and his wife Jill of Hartsdale. She was predeceased by her daughter Ilona M. Seelig.

Also surviving are nine grandchildren; Heidi (Shawn) Swears, Tiffany (Nate) Seelig, Lucas (Danijela) Seelig, Dara Seelig, Jacob Seelig, Abigail Seelig, Jessica Berger, Michael Seelig Jr., and Lindsey

Seelig, and four great grandchildren; Wyatt, Natasha, Penelope and Cypress.

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.



Getting Locked Out, Locked Up, and Locked In

With my recent move, I learned that hanging on to keys and identifying which key is for which lock is important. I needed to call my local Locksmith-on-Wheels in Yorktown Heights, owned by Eugene and Carl Camia, to open two locked file cabinets with long lost keys.

There was also an unexpected mystery that unfolded before me. Buried deep in the eaves of my attic was a footlocker that I had placed there more than 40 years ago when I moved into the house and totally forgot about. It was an item my parents had purchased for me when I was 13 years old and being shipped off to military school. It was to hold all my clothes and

past. When the trunk lid was slowly opened, we found only dense stacks of newspapers, periodicals and manuscripts -- packed tight, much like the famous hoarder Collyer brothers -- dating from 1962 to 1968, obviously the latter year being the date the trunk was closed and locked. I quickly realized that this was my public relations "clipping file," every publicity placement I made from the beginning of my career, including a blowup of a New York Times clip of my wife and me from our 15 minutes of fame that had gone missing, I thought, forever. I had forgotten how much space was required before paperless storage.

The experience gave me the opportunity to think about the importance of keys and locks and to meet Carl Camia, who told me that his call for lost keys has greatly decreased since the age of keypunch locks and automatic openers. All I have to do now, for instance, is stand near my car with my key in my pocket and my car door opens automatically. Then I just push a button to start it.

Camia told me something interesting, even a little frightening, about home security for people who move from more urban locations where having more than one deadbolt lock is common. We want the same thing here in the country, and when we do, it can be a dangerous thing in case of a fire.

"If a fire breaks out in a house and the second deadbolt lock is in place, the homeowners can panic and not be able to find the key and not be able to get out of the house," he said. It's happened."

Locks have always been about keeping us secure and others from stealing our possessions. It began nearly 4,000 years ago in Assyria with the wooden pin lock. Although those locks are the most primitive examples of the trade, they were actually the basis for the modern tumbler locks today. Combination locks and padlocks were also used in antiquity, with the earliest examples found in ancient Roman sites. Wealthy landowners and nobles used wooden lockboxes to store and protect their valuables from thieves. At that time, locks were hand-crafted and costly to produce. In Roman culture, citizens used keys as rings to keep them safe from theft.

Through the years, locks became wood/metal hybrids, but around 900 A.D. they became all-metal, typically made of brass and iron, making them exclusive to blacksmiths, thus the title of Locksmith was born.

The Industrial Revolution drastically

changed the manufacturing of locks, with machines making it possible for advanced components to be produced with ease. In the United Kingdom, Robert Barron's Double-Acting Tumbler introduced the five lever system, and Jeremiah Chubb's Detector Lock utilized automatic jamming mechanisms, inspired by demand for a new lock by the British government in 1818. Barron's design is one of the few that is still used today.

The most commonly used lock now is the Double-Acting Pin Tumbler Lock, modeled after the wooden locks of Assyria. It was first patented by American physician Abraham Stansbury in 1805 and later modernized by Linus Yale of Connecticut in 1848. In the early 20th century, Hungarian immigrant John Junkunc revolutionized the craft with his dial combination locks and went on to make American Lock Company one of the biggest manufacturers of locks in the nation.

Since then, locksmiths have gone on to add features ranging from magnets to electronic sensors and digital keys.

If you get locked out, or something you want gets locked in, or if you move into a

new house, be sure to change the lock for obvious reasons and call Locksmiths-on-Wheels at 914-245-0048.

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.



Blow-up clipping of a New York Times article about Margaret and Bill Primavera, discovered in a trunk, forgotten and locked away for over 45 years in The Home Guru's attic.

other possessions for that experience. As an adult, I used it for moving from one place to another and storage.

As I lugged it from its hiding place, I found that it was extremely heavy, locked and had no key. I had no idea what might be in it. My wife guessed that it might be cobblestones, remembering that I used to collect interesting stones for walkways and patios.

"Oh, right," I said, "that makes sense, that I'm going to save stones under lock and key."

On that fateful day for the unveiling of its secret contents, I called together my staff for a "happening" much like that famous non-event that Geraldo Rivera staged for the opening of the Al Capone vaults in Chicago. I didn't remember any skeletons, figuratively speaking, from my



By Bill Primavera

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Reveling on Chinese New Year and Mardi Gras



By Morris Gut

Don't forget the Lunar New Year, the Year of the Goat, beginning on Sunday, Feb. 19th and of course Fat Tuesday, Feb. 17th. Here is an eclectic round-up of delectable dishes and dining venues for these food-centric celebrations. Be sure to check ahead for exact dates, times and pricing.

Aberdeen Seafood & Dim Sum: 3 Barker Ave., White Plains, 914-288-0188. In the Residence Inn, the staff told us they would be offering special New Year banquets for two weeks. You can also celebrate with a run through their popular Dim Sum, or from the regular menu. www.aberdeenwhiteplains.com.



Chinese New Year Specialties

This flavorful pan Asian menu blossoms. Owner Charlie Kao of **Spring Asian Cuisine**, 545 Gramatan Ave., Mt. Vernon, 914-699-2828, will be serving a variety of creative Chinese New Year's dishes along with specialties from Japan, Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam. Charlie and his staff would be pleased to help you make selections from the menu. A great party idea: Charlie offers Karaoke equipment and a stage for your group. www.springasiancuisinemountvernon.com.

Eugene Lum of **Lum Yen Chinese Restaurant**, 100 W. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, 914-698-6881, is the second generation of his family to be operating at the corner of Boston Post Road and Mamaroneck Ave. It has been going on for over 40 years. This spot recalls those delectable memories of Cantonese-style Chinese cuisine of years ago. They are planning to serve a variety of New Year's specialties. www.lumyen.com.

Imperial Wok Chinese & Japanese Restaurant 736 North Broadway, White Plains, 914-686-2700, will be offering an extraordinary banquet for about two weeks. There has been a lot of buzz about their tasty Szechuan selections. You can order off their regular menu as well which

includes such long-time favorites. www.imperialwokwhiteplains.com.

The Chen brothers at **Oriental Palace**, 480 New Rochelle Road, in the Chester Heights section of Bronxville, 914-668-8877, have a fine hand with their regional Chinese cuisine. They will be celebrating the New Year from Feb. 19th with an exciting banquet menu. The festive menu includes such specialties as: Honey Sesame Shrimp, Winter Melon Pottage with young ginger, Filet Mignon with Chinese basil; Crispy Fish with peppercorn sauce, and winter festival rice.

Mardi Gras at the Bayou: Proprietor Peter Van Cott of **The Bayou Restaurant**, 580 Gramatan Ave., Mt. Vernon, has been serving up the spirited sounds and flavors of Cajun country going on 23 years, and the place is still bustling and enjoyable. So if you can't make it to New Orleans, this is the spot to revel in authentic blues and zydeco music while hunkering down to an overstuffed Po' Boy or such house specialties as: Southern Fried Chicken, Grilled Peppered Catfish, Tender Pork Ribs Smothered in BBQ Sauce, Jazzy Jumpin' Jambalaya served with Louisiana Andouille Sausage, Alligator Sausage, and Crawfish Tails Smothered in Rich Creole Gravy. A special Mardi Gras Bash



Traditional Mardi Gras Dessert

will be held here on Fat Tuesday, Feb. 17th featuring live entertainment and a 4-course dinner. Cost is \$65 per person and seating times are at 6, 8 and 10 p.m. If you just want to hang at the bar there will be a \$20 cover charge. Entertainment will be provided by 'The Crown Prince of Zydeco' C J Chenier & The Red Hot Louisiana Band. Reservations are definitely suggested. Phone: 914-668-2634. www.bayourestaurantny.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.



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The Restaurant Examiner



The Restaurant Examiner's Guide to Valentine Day's Dining

By Jerry Eimbinder

Restaurants offering prix-fixe menus or special menus for celebrating on Feb. 14 are covered in this article. In some cases, the Valentine's Day dishes are also offered on Feb. 13 and 15. At most restaurants, the regular menus or limited versions of it will also be available. Prices shown for prix-fixe menus do not include tax, tip or beverages except where otherwise noted.

Because Valentine's Day falls on a Saturday this year, many restaurants are extending operating hours. Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, for example, will be open for lunch on Valentine's Day, probably the first time in its history it has done this.

Armonk

Amore. Four-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$55 per person. Entrées: Osso buco, chicken scarpariello, wild boar tagliatelle, pesce del giorno, seafood cannelloni and garganelli fungi.

Moderne Barn. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$90 per person. Wine pairing add \$45. Entrées: Broiled filet mignon, ricotta gnocchi mushroom medley, seafood risotto with mussels, clams, shrimp, and calamari. Chocolate covered strawberries.

Briarcliff Manor

105-Ten. Three-course prix-fixe menu. Entrees: Oven roasted prime rib, baked salmon papillote, and grilled one-and-a-quarter-pound lobster and escargot.

Chappaqua

Crabtree's Kittle House. Four-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$85 per person. Wine pairing add \$50. Entrées: Filet of Florida red snapper and roast filet mignon of beef. \$75 per person on Friday and Sunday.

Croton-on-Hudson

Fino. Three-course, prix-fixe, dinner, \$37.50 per person. Entrées: Chicken martini, salmone dijon, veal chop valdostana, red snapper, heart-shaped ravioli, shell steak, linguine with clam sauce. Coffee included.

Dobbs Ferry

Cedar Street Grill. Special romantic cocktails and Valentine's Day Singles Night beginning at 10 p.m.

Half Moon. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$65 per person. Entrées: crab stuffed sole, yellow fin tuna, Scottish salmon a la pancha, surf and turf, stir fry, roasted duck, Guajillo rub semi-boneless chicken, 36-ounce steak for two and lobster ravioli.

Elmsford

Rini's. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$38.95 per person. Limited a la carte menu available. Entertainment at 7:30 p.m. Tony J Jazz Masters Trio with vocalist Louis Vanaria. No cover charge.

Hastings-on-Hudson

Forty North. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$65 per person. Complementary glass of champagne. Entrées: grilled

skirt steak, pork brasciole with house-made tagliatelle and braised lamb shank. Ladies will bring home sweet treats.

Harvest on Hudson. Three-course, prix-fixe, dinner, \$75 per person. Entrées: Branzino, ravioli, calamaratta, veal, John Dory, skate, short rib, chateaubriand for two, duck L'Arancia and venison.

The Prime. Four-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$45 per person. Entrées: Roast tenderloin, maple glazed diver scallops on bed of spinach, French-cut stuffed chicken breast and dijon crusted Atlantic salmon. Complementary glass of Ruffino prosecco.

Irvington

Chutney Masala. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$49.95 per person. Entrées: Saag paneer, baigan bharta, chicken tikka masala, lamb vindallo, tandoori salmon, goan shrimp curry and crab moille. Free glass of sparkling or house wine.

Il Sorriso. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$45 per person. Glass of prosecco included. At least five entrées will be offered including filet mignon and lobster tail.

Red Barn Bakery. Treats, 100-percent organic and non-genetically modified organism for purchase at the counter. Chocolate covered strawberries, heart-decorated cookies, chocolate cheese cake, chiffon cake, macaroons and flourless chocolate cake. Breakfast-in-bed packages can be customized with scones, muffins or other baked goods. Gluten-free and vegan baked goods, in wide varieties, are available.

Red Hat on the River. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$75 per person. Includes hors d'œuvres. Entrées: Fish stew, sautéed Block Island fluke, grilled Scottish salmon, French-cut chicken breast, duck and cherry, short rib bourguignon and grilled prime aged steak. Coffee, tea, espresso or cappuccino included. Dessert: Five assorted sweets.

Katonah

La Fontane. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$70 per couple. Entrées: Crab ravioli, grilled petite veal, roasted Norwegian salmon, lemon linguini with clams and artichoke, pork shank and pappardelle and risotto pescatore.

Larchmont

Plates. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$65 to \$85 per person depending on seating time. Glass of prosecco. Entrées: Pastrami short ribs, prime rib, spinach noodles, striped bass, smoked barbecue ribs and duck ravioli. Complementary strawberries dipped in molten chocolate and complementary petit fours (brownie bites and sweet squares).

Mount Kisco

Cafe of Love. Specials: Venison flavored with chocolate grape gastrique, duck

ravioli, citrus branzino papillote cooked in parchment. Complementary "Passionate Kiss" cocktail and complementary parsnip and pear soup amuse with caviar come with dinner. Winter menu available.

The Rose Room. Seafood tower for two with oysters, clams, lobster, shrimp and crab. Red velvet crepe with ice cream and homemade cannoli filling. Complementary glass of prosecco.

Via Vanti! "All-Aphrodisiac" specials: Veal osso buco (\$30), salmon en brodo (\$24), pollo fantastiche (\$24), paella (\$29), "Italian Stallion" rib-eye, oven-roasted bronzino (\$25). Appetizers include a heart-shaped pizzette (\$15), his half has spicy sausage, her half has pears, almonds, cheese and honey.

New Rochelle

Alvin & Friends. Entrées: Seared scallops, anise spiced duck breast and braised beef short ribs. Live piano music and roses for the ladies.

NoMa Social. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$45 per person. Entrées: Peppered filet mignon, lobster ravioli, slow roasted Amish chicken, black bass a la pancha and slow braised lamb shank.

Ossining

Travelers Rest. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$125 per couple. Entrées: Stuffed salmon, half chicken, sliced filet mignon, Porterhouse steak, black angus steak, New Zealand rack of lamb, eight-ounce lobster tail and stuffed shrimp Wellington. Dessert: Chocolate covered strawberries.

Rye

La Panetière. Prix-fixe dinner, \$90 per person. Wine pairing add \$45. Entrées: Tenderloin of veal and lightly spiced filet of beef. Dessert: Heart of chocolate mousse and creme brûlée.

Scarsdale

California Pizza Kitchen. Special offer for two people: one appetizer, two entrées and a dessert for \$32. Entrées: Barbecue chicken chopped salad, pizzas, including mushroom pepperoni sausage pie, and pastas, including garlic cream fettuccine with chicken.

Fig & Olive. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$65 per person. Wine pairing add \$26. Ladies will receive a rose at the end of their meal. Entrées: Truffle risotto, Chilean sea bass, filet mignon and roasted rack of lamb. Limited a la carte menu also available.

Tarrytown

Cellar 49. Wine-paired, prix-fixe dinner/accommodations package, \$359-\$369 per couple with lobster risotto and filet mignon with chocolate port wine reduction; paired wines and beers with each course. Includes one overnight accommodation and Biddle Mansion American breakfast for two.

Cooper's Mill. Entrées: Skuna Bay

salmon, striped bass, French-cut chicken breast, filet mignon and rack of lamb. Complementary glass of prosecco.

Equus. Five-course, prix-fixe tasting menu, \$135 per person. Wine pairing, add \$50. Entrées: Grilled Washugyu sirloin jus de braisage or quail and Hudson Valley foie gras.

RiverMarket Bar and Kitchen. Four-course tasting menu for two, \$75. Featuring dishes prepared with products raised and grown in the Hudson Valley.

Ruth's Chris. Three-course dinner, \$43.95 per person. Entrées: scallops, six-ounce filet and shrimp, stuffed chicken breast and salmon. Side dish included. Roses for the ladies and take-home bag of chocolates on Saturday. Godiva chocolate martini (a Godiva chocolate is in this drink) priced at \$14 (Saturday only).

Tarry Tavern. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$55 per person. Roasted red beet salad and braised pork cheeks. Red roses, chocolate truffles and chocolate dipped strawberries.

Thorntown

Casa Rina. A choice of five three-course special dinners for two.

White Plains

42 The Restaurant. Six-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$300 per couple. Entrées: Halibut or filet mignon. Includes a bottle of sparkling wine or wine and "Romeo & Juliet" (manchego cheese and quince fruit).

Melting Pot. Five-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$74.95 per person. Entrées: Bourguignonne, cog au vin, mojo and seasoned court bouillon. Dessert: chocolate fondue.

Sapori. Roses for the ladies. Otherwise, will serve its regular menu.

Yorktown Heights

Don Tommaso's. Guests will receive a complementary glass of prosecco with their entrees.

Thyme Steak & Seafood. Three-course, prix-fixe dinner, \$90 per person. Complementary glass of champagne and chocolate rose. Entrées: Murray's chicken breast, Berkshire double-cut pork chop, stuffed sole, salmon, rib-eye and cod.

Anyone who wants to surprise a sweetheart will get full cooperation at Plates in Larchmont. The restaurant will hide an engagement ring in the hollow center of a "Ring Ding" dessert normally filled with cream. This practice has been taking place for a long time, and thus far, no one has bitten or swallowed the ring.

According to the National Restaurant Association, Valentine's Day is the second most popular holiday in America for dining out, trailing only Mother's Days.





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, Feb. 10

Tuesdays at Dorry's. Felice Petrello Community Health Specialist and Operations Manager at BrightStar Care will discuss aging in place and available options ranging from nursing homes to home care. Conversation partners gather weekly for informal table talk. There is no charge. Just come and order your food from Sylvia and enjoy the discussion and the company. Please join us. No reservations are needed. Presentation is 6 to 7 p.m. Food ordering starts at 5:30 p.m. Dorry's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains; 914-682-0005.

WPCNA Meeting. The White Plains Council of Neighborhood Associations (WPCNA) is meeting at 7:30 p.m. at Education House (downstairs Meeting Room), 5 Homeside Lane, White. The guest speaker will be Ben Himmelfarb, Librarian for White Plains History at White Plains Public Library. After graduating from Purchase College, Ben went to the University at Albany for his Masters Degrees in history and information science. He was hired by the White Plains Library in October 2014 and started working to build their local history collection and slate of engaging history programs.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

Noontime Getaway Concert. Downtown Music at Grace 12:10 p.m. Fantee Jones on piano. We welcome the most recent prize winner of the New York International Piano Competition. A Downtown Music debut. Free Admission; 30-minute concert at Grace Episcopal Church, Main and Church streets, White Plains.

The Great Atlantic Garbage Patch.

A plastic bag blows into the Bronx River and washes into the Long Island Sound—so the story begins. But where does it end and what's the impact? Follow the story of the plastic bag as it moves through our neighborhoods and into our oceans. Learn how garbage is collecting in our oceans, and why a "plastic gyre is dire" is not just for fish and sea birds, but for humans as well. Short

informational video followed by a presentation. Presented in partnership with the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. Refreshments at 7 p.m. Program at 7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Saturday, Feb. 14

Love is in the Air (and in the Dirt and Water). Hearts and flowers are nice but don't forget the cockroaches, tarantulas, snakes and worms. Be prepared to open your heart to some slime and dirt. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: \$5 per person. Non-members: \$8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Valentine's Day Teen Night. The City of White Plains Recreation and Parks Department invites all teens to head over to Ebersole Ice Rink for a special Teen Night. Teens can enjoy their very own ice skating session, plus music and dancing in the warming room with a DJ. The Slap Happy Café will provide food and drinks, and get ready with your silliest and craziest faces because there will even be an area for photo-ops; 8:30 to 11 p.m. for Grades 5-8 at Ebersole Ice Rink in Delfino Park, located at 110 Lake Street in White Plains. The admission fee is \$5. Skate rentals will also be available for \$5.

Winter Wolves. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why this season is such a magical time for packs in North America. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr as well as the centers critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Also enjoy hot beverages in our woodstove-heated classroom. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Also Feb. 16, 18 and 22 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

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. Every Saturday and Sunday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Sunday, Feb. 15

Winter Pack Chat for Kids. Children will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves as they search for prey while their growing pups experience their first winter season. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the center's critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Enjoy hot beverages in the woodstove-heated classroom. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Also Feb. 28. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Chinese Year of the Sheep. Get an early start celebrating the Chinese New Year. Come meet our resident sheep and goats and learn about our clever and woolly friends. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: \$5 per person. Non-members: \$8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Monday, Feb. 16

Disney's "Aladdin Kids" February Break Workshop. A week of acting, singing and dancing, this workshop will cast, rehearse, tech and perform the 30-minute Disney's "Aladdin Kids," all in the span of one week. For children in grades 2-8. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Center, White Plains. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day through Feb. 20. Tuition: \$350 (includes four complementary tickets to the Feb. 20 performance). Registration required. Registration: 914-328-1600 or visit wppac.com/shows/disneys-aladdin-kids. Additional info: 914-328-1600 or e-mail education@wppac.com.

Thursday, Feb. 26

In Our Son's Name. Movie screening of "In Our Son's Name" follows White Plains residents Phyllis and Orlando Rodriguez over more a decade as they search for meaning and cope with grief after their son, Greg, is killed in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. This intimate, one-hour documentary challenges conventional concepts of justice and healing, and reveals the potential of trauma to inspire,

not defeat, the human spirit. Sponsored by Memorial United Methodist Church Memorial Interfaith Connection, Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr., Institute for Nonviolence; 7:30 p.m. at United Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains; 914-949-2146.

Wednesday, March 11

School Budget Forum. The White Plains Board of Education has announced the district's 2015-16 budget planning schedule. The district is seeking broad input on the budget from the community, at two Budget Forums: on Wednesday, January 21st, and Wednesday, March 11th. Both are in the B-1 Room at White Plains High School, at 7:30 p.m. Additional meetings will take place in the community and any group or organization wishing to host such a meeting may contact the Superintendent's Office at 422-2033. All residents are invited to attend these sessions, to participate in focused dialogue on spending efficiencies, areas of concern, budget priorities and creative ways to increase revenues. A review of the district's financial situation, the state's and city's financial constraints, and other issues relating to development of the budget will be presented. The district will also hold two Public Hearings: the first on March 9, on the Preliminary Proposed Budget, and the second on May 11 on the Board of Education's Adopted Proposed Budget.

Free Informational Meetings With the Builders Institute of Westchester

The Builders Institute, a trade organization that has been helping businesses in construction and all related industries in Westchester and the lower Hudson Valley for nearly 70 years, is opening their meetings. While meetings are usually only for members, they believe that the information at these upcoming meetings is so important for everyone in the industry that they have waived all fees to attend. All meetings are held at: The Crowne Plaza Hotel, 66 Hale Ave, White Plains. RSVP to the Builders Institute Required. Call 914-273-0730 or fax your business card to 914-273-7051.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m.: Understanding NEW Construction Insurance Certificates

Thursday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.: Tax, Accounting, and Financial Planning For Construction Industry Members

Thursday, April 9, 6:30 p.m.: How to Better Market and Grow Your Construction Business

EXAMINER SPORTS

Sean Kilpatrick Comes Home with the 87ers to Play the Westchester Knicks

By Albert Coqueran

When Sean Kilpatrick walks onto the basketball court in Gardella Park, on Ferris Avenue, in White Plains, he is considered the King of the Court. At White Plains High School he is a basketball legend and at the University of Cincinnati, he graduated as an NCAA Division 1 Basketball First Team All-American.

Kilpatrick was born in Yonkers and moved to White Plains when he was 12 years old. He grew-up under the guidance of his mother Regina Williams and his grandmother Evelyn Kilpatrick, while developing his basketball prowess under legendary Tigers Head Coach Spencer Mayfield.

Kilpatrick is the second All-Time Leading Scorer for Boys basketball at White Plains High School and led the Tigers to the Section 1 AA Championship Game in 2007. Kilpatrick, along with his high flying teammates R'Shad James and Spencer Smith, alongside inside muscle-man Rishawn Johnson, crafty ball handler Jamell Cromartie and workhorses



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

On Friday, Feb. 6, the Westchester Knicks with Pepe Auto Group, hosted a special jersey night in honor of My Sisters' Place. [L-r] Westchester Knicks Director of Marketing Partnerships, Marc Miller, MSG Marketing Executive, Dave Decina, CEO of My Sisters' Place, Karen Cheeks-Lomax, GM of Mercedes Benz of White Plains, Gary Turco and West. Knicks VP of Business Operations, Bill Boyce, display a replica of the purple jerseys worn by the team that evening in honor of My Sisters' Place.



L-r] Westchester Knicks weekly radio show co-host Jordan Griffith, spends time with his former high school coach, Tigers Coach Spencer Mayfield and former teammate Sean Kilpatrick, as he and WFAS co-host Chris De'Angelo, welcome Kilpatrick back to the Westchester County Center, as a member of the Delaware 87ers.



White Plains High School basketball legend Sean Kilpatrick (center) was reunited with his former Tigers teammate Jordan Griffith (left) and high school coach Spencer Mayfield (right), when he returned to White Plains with the Delaware 87ers to play the Westchester Knicks, at the County Center, on Friday.

Christian Nunez, Sean Brooks and Jordan Griffith, recorded a 21-3 record, during the 2006-07 season. However, they lost to Mt. Vernon High School in the Section 1 AA Championship Game.

Kilpatrick graduated from Cincinnati, last year, after scoring 2,145 points. The Ferris Avenue resident departed the Bearcats as their second All-Time Leading Scorer, surpassed only by "Mr. Bearcats Basketball" himself, "The Big O"

Oscar Robertson with 2,973 points.

Unfortunately and unexplainably, Kilpatrick a First Team All-American, John Wooden Award Finalist and Naismith Trophy Semifinalist, just to name a few NCAA accolades, did not get drafted in the 2014 NBA Draft.

The WPHS 2008 graduate could have opted to take his skills to Europe and earn a hefty salary. However, he decided to remain stateside and hone his skills in the NBA Developmental League in pursuit of his NBA dream. "My agent keeps telling me, just stick at it, stick at it and everything is going to work out," said Kilpatrick.

Kilpatrick played on the Philadelphia 76ers Summer League Team this past summer, which led to him being signed by the Golden State Warriors as an unrestricted free agent. The Warriors waived Kilpatrick on October 30, but he was acquired by the Warriors NBA Developmental League affiliate, the Santa Cruz Warriors, on November 3, 2014.

As the Westchester Knicks were not going to host the Western Division Warriors this season, hope for local fans to see their high school basketball hero playing professionally were diminished. But on January 23, Kilpatrick was traded to the Delaware 87ers, the NBA affiliate of the Philadelphia 76ers, who were scheduled to play the local Knicks, on February 6.

Kilpatrick returned, with much fanfare, to the Westchester County Center with the 87ers to play the Westchester Knicks, on Friday, Feb. 6. "It feels great to be back. It is amazing to come back to this arena and play in front of my family and friends. It is something really big not only for me and the 87ers but for the City of White Plains," stated Kilpatrick.

Before the local Knicks (9-21) ended their seven-game losing streak by beating the Warriors, 126-101; Kilpatrick was a guest on the WFAS-1230 A.M. radio show from 12-2 p.m. broadcasted from the County Center.

Ironically, one of the hosts of the weekly Westchester Knicks radio show is White Plains native Jordan Griffith, who played with Kilpatrick at WPHS. Griffith is also the WFAS color commentator for the Westchester Knicks games.

Griffith stayed in close contact with his friend "SK" as he calls Kilpatrick, and spoke about their high school experiences on the radio show. "Coming into the 2007 season our goal was to make it to the County Center and win the Gold Ball, but we came up one game short," said Griffith. "SK and R'Shad James were catalysts for us, especially Sean. You could just see flashes of greatness and knew he could be really good," recalled Griffith. James presently plays with the Reno Bighorns, the NBA D-League affiliate of the Sacramento Kings.

Also joining the show on WFAS was Mayfield, Kilpatrick's high school coach. At one point during the show, Mayfield, Griffith and Kilpatrick reminisced about the fun days with the Tigers. "It is great to see Sean, just seeing him and touching him, I feel my high school team is going to win a few games now," said Mayfield with a smile.

Kilpatrick did not have a good shooting game that evening, while scoring seven points on 2-of-10 shooting but he did make 3-of-3 foul shots. The White Plains phenom also did not make any of his trademark three-point shots, while going 0-for-3 from the arc. Maybe it was the excitement of the day surrounding his homecoming that affected his game. However, Kilpatrick is having a good quality D-League season, while averaging 11.6 points, 3.2 rebounds and nearly two assist per game.

Kilpatrick was greeted at the County Center by a multitude of local fans, including his mother Regina Williams, his four-year old daughter Bailey Kilpatrick, his grandmother Evelyn, former Tigers teammates Sean Brooks and Christian Nunez, Coach Mayfield, White Plains sports historian Don Gano and many WPHS former and present students and employees.

Kilpatrick celebrated his 25th birthday, on January 6. He hopes his next birthday will be marked while playing in the NBA. If Kilpatrick is not traded from the 87ers or called-up to the NBA, family, friends and local fans will be able to welcome him home again, as the Westchester Knicks have a rematch with the Delaware 87ers, at the County Center, on Saturday, March 7, at 7 p.m.

EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING MOUNT PLEASANT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Central School District (the "District") that a special meeting of the qualified voters of said District be and the same is hereby called to be held in said District in the Westlake High School Gymnasium, Westlake Drive, Thornwood, New York on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting on the following propositions:

PROPOSITION #1
Shall the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Central School District be authorized to (1) construct additions to and reconstruct various District buildings and facilities, including infrastructure and site work improvements, and acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus, at a maximum cost of \$34,920,000, (2) expend such sum for such purpose, (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$34,920,000, and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

PROPOSITION #2
Shall the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Central School District be authorized to (1) construct an addition to and reconstruct the auditorium and related music rooms, including site work, and acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purpose, at a maximum cost of \$4,996,000, (2) expend such sum for such purpose, (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$4,996,000, and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

PROPOSITION #3
Shall the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Central School District be authorized to (1) construct a new access road to the District campus and construct

grass athletic fields, at a maximum cost of \$2,685,000, (2) expend such sum for such purpose, (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$2,685,000, and the levy of a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

The vote upon such propositions shall be by machine or absentee ballot. The hours during which the polls shall be kept open shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. prevailing time or for as long thereafter as necessary to enable qualified voters who are in the polling place at 9:00 p.m. to cast their ballots. Personal registration of voters is required, and no person shall vote whose name does not appear on the register of the District. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to Section 2014 of the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, he or she is eligible to vote at this meeting. If a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he or she is also eligible to vote at this meeting. All other persons who wish to vote must register. Any person may register to vote not less than five (5) days preceding the vote between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the office of the District Clerk, 825 West Lake Drive, Thornwood, New York. The register prepared by the Board of Registration shall be filed in the office of the District Clerk, 825 West Lake Drive, Thornwood, New York and will be open for inspection immediately upon its completion by any qualified voter of the District from during regular school hours on each of the five days prior to the vote, except for Sunday, March 22, 2015. Absentee ballots may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk. Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days prior to the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on or prior to March 23, 2015, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on March 24, 2015. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available in the office of the District Clerk on each business day during school hours until the date of the vote. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his challenge and reasons therefor known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

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EXAMINER SPORTS

White Plains High School Boys and Girls Basketball Celebrate Senior Day



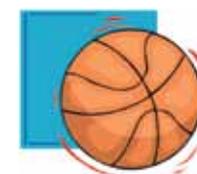
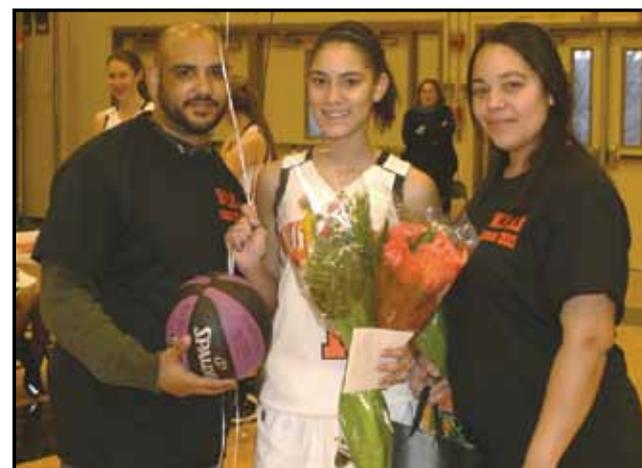
Brittany Johnson played two years of varsity basketball for the Lady Tigers. Johnson said, "It is great to make the playoffs. It was better this season, we did really well, and we just participated well as a team." Johnson (center) celebrated Senior Day with [l-r] Assistant Coaches Spencer Smith and Amy Ferraro, Jocelyn's mother Sheryl Johnson and Head Coach Tara Flaherty, before the Tigers beat Mamaroneck High School for their 10th victory this season.



The White Plains High School Boys Basketball Team celebrated Senior Day, before their home game against Scarsdale High School, on Tuesday, Feb. 3. [l-r] Assistant Coach Ed Sands, Head Coach Spencer Mayfield, seniors Kevin Trapp, Nijee Lewis-Jones, Weston Reed, and Terrance Scott with Assistant Coaches Paul Scotman and Devon Wilson.



White Plains High School Girls Basketball recorded their best record, 10-7, in three years. [l-r] Head Coach Tara Flaherty, Assistant Coach Spencer Smith, Antonio Lacarbonara, the father of senior center Isabella "Izzy" Lacarbonara, Isabella's mother Lisa and Assistant Coach Amy Ferraro celebrated Senior Day, on Friday, Feb. 5, before the Tigers beat Mamaroneck High School, 56-33. Isabella's grandfather is Nick Perriello, proprietor of Nicky's Pizza, which will be reopening on Mamaroneck Avenue in the next two weeks. Perriello and his son Jake also attended the game.



Senior forward Jocelyn Sanchez will play an intricate role in the Lady Tigers success in the Section 1 Playoffs. Sanchez (center) celebrated Senior Day, with her father Joshua Sanchez (left) and her mother Jennifer Elias.

continued from page 14

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