



# The WHITE PLAINS Examiner

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**FREE**

Covering White Plains, Greenburgh and Harrison

June 21-June 27, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 6, Issue 253

## A Celebratory Reading of the Declaration of Independence

As part of White Plains' celebration of the 100th Anniversary of its incorporation as a city, the White Plains Historical Society presented "A Day in the Life of Colonial White Plains." On Saturday, Tibbitts Park was transformed into a Colonial Town Green with reenactments of daily life by actors in Colonial dress, food of the time and a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence (portrayed by master storyteller Jonathan Krok) as it was read by Judge Thomas in White Plains in 1776. Inset: A "colonist" making lead musket balls.

HOWARD WALDMAN PHOTOS



## Legislature Passes Bill for Greenburgh Reassessment Phase-In

By Pat Casey

As the Town of Greenburgh finalized revaluation of properties throughout the township earlier this year and residents received notice of changes in their upcoming tax payments, there was confusion and concern.

Some residents questioned the accuracy of their assessments and others with significant increases said they could not make the larger payments immediately.

Permission from the State was necessary to allow a phase-in period and in response, Assemblyman Tom Abinanti (D-Greenburgh) and Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D-Yonkers) penned a bill that would authorize the Town of Greenburgh to adopt a local law to phase-in tax increases for certain residential properties that resulted from the recent town-wide revaluation. That

*continued on page 4*

## BOL Majority Leader Seeks September Date for Special Election

By Pat Casey

In a continuing effort to set the Special Election date for a replacement for former Mt. Vernon Legislator Bernice Spreckman on a day when another election is already scheduled, Westchester Board of Legislators Majority Leader Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining) has learned from the County Clerk's office that Spreckman's resignation letter was never received at that office.

Because Spreckman's resignation letter was incorrectly submitted, Borgia contends that her effective date of resignation has not yet occurred

according to New York State Public Officers Law Section 31 subd.1(f), which requires county officials to address their resignation letter to the County Clerk.

Since the earliest effective date of her resignation would be June 20, 2016, this allows the County board to set a special election for Primary Day, September 13, 2016, when there is already an election occurring in the Mt. Vernon section of the district, rather than holding the election at the now scheduled August date.

By not adding another Election Day to the calendar there is the potential to save taxpayers up to a \$100,000 in overtime

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## White Plains Officials, Residents Discuss Future of City's Transit District

By Andrew Vitelli

The distance between the White Plains train station and the city's downtown is a mere half-mile, about a ten-minute walk. But, as Mayor Tom Roach described last Wednesday, with steep streets and the surrounding buildings at times creating a wind tunnel, it can seem like quite the journey.

"The connectivity for pedestrians between the train station and the downtown is sorely lacking," Roach said at a public information session to discuss the future of the Downtown White Plains Transit District. "When you get off at [the White Plains] train station, you are

only three blocks from Main [Street] and Mamaroneck [Avenue], the heart of our city. But many people would not feel like walking that, because to them it seems much farther."

Walking past the Verizon building, which Roach described as the "Death Star," and the "Great Wall of the Galleria" mall, with few stores opening their doors to pedestrians, it takes too long for commuters to come upon the bustle of Mamaroneck Avenue with its shops, bars, and sidewalk dining.

"When you get into this train station, that's not the White Plains you see," Roach

*continued on page 2*

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## White Plains Officials, Residents Discuss Future of City's Transit District

continued from page 1

said. "You see steel and glass and wide roads and people looking tiny. It doesn't transmit the warmth of this community."

Improving the corridor between the train station and the downtown is one of several goals of a planning study underway to redevelop the area around the Metro-North Station off Hamilton Avenue, the busiest train station in Westchester. The study, funded by a \$1 million grant from NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development

Authority), will also look at improving traffic circulation at the station as well as pedestrian and bicycle access. The city is working with the engineering firm Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Wednesday's meeting, held at the Jaguar Room of the New York Power Authority building on Main Street, explored plans for three components of the project: pedestrian improvement, bike facilities, and wayfinding; station site circulation; and zoning and development. Residents at the meeting looked at a series of proposals for all three components and were asked to give oral and written feedback.

To make the area around the train station more appealing for pedestrians, city officials discussed the possibility of rezoning the area to draw ground-level retail to Hamilton Avenue and the surrounding streets. This drew



David Smith (standing) Principal at Planning & Development Advisors a consultancy group hired by White Plains, talks to residents about potential zoning and development changes at Wednesday's public information session on the Downtown White Plains Transit District. White Plains Planning Commissioner Christopher Gomez looks on in the background.



ANDREW VITELLI PHOTOS

Mayor Tom Roach discusses the future of the White Plains Transit District at a public information meeting last Wednesday.

concern from a few residents, who feared that opening shops and restaurants next to the train station would hurt downtown businesses. Officials also presented a series of potential plans to reformat the parking area at the train station to improve traffic flow.

The city hopes to complete the study by October, with a final public meeting set for Sept. 28 at the ArtsWestchester Gallery.

"The community response to the program has been fantastic. We came into it with the concept that we want to have real community involvement in this," Roach said. "To be in at the ground floor at one of the most important areas of our city as we look at how we can make it better."

For more information on the transit district or to give feedback, visit [wptransitdistrict.com](http://wptransitdistrict.com).

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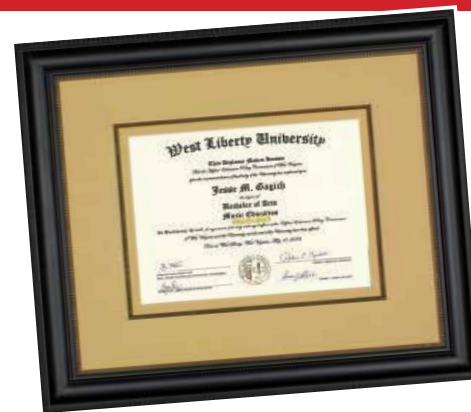
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# Vigil Held in White Plains for Victims in Orlando Attack

By Andrew Vitelli

Four days after a shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando left 49 people dead, close to 300 local residents attended a vigil outside Memorial United Methodist Church in White Plains, mourning the victims and calling for action to stop gun violence.

"We're here tonight with heavy hearts because of the senseless and the cruel loss of life that took place at Pulse nightclub in Orlando," Rev. Karen Burger of Mamaroneck United Methodist Church told mourners, who crowded in front of the church for the memorial. "We can only hope that the lives lost have jarred the world into a new activism for a better world where violence like this is not the order of the day."

The vigil was organized by The LOFT Community Center, an LGBT services center for the Hudson Valley housed at the White Plains church, with LOFT Director of Programs and Services Scott Havelka leading the event. Several local political leaders also spoke, focusing on advancing LGBT rights and



ANDREW VITELLI PHOTOS

The several hundred people attending the prayer vigil outstretched their arms to give their input to a peace blessing.

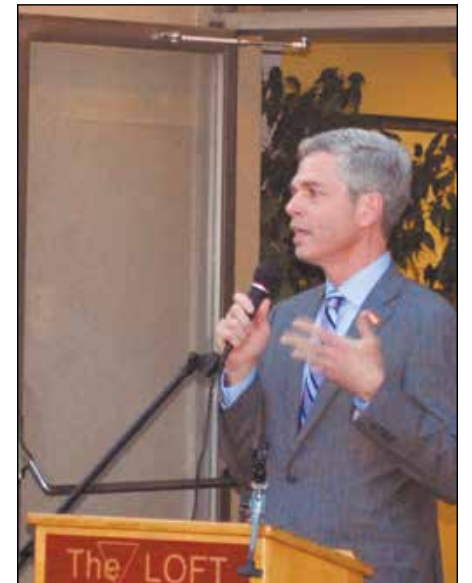
speaking in favor of gun control legislation.

"This was a terrorist act. It was a hate crime, someone filled with hate," White Plains Mayor Tom Roach said. "One thing that we should be able to do as a civilized nation is make it difficult for people who

hate to obtain military weapons. I think it is outrageous and unacceptable that we still have to argue this."

Thursday's vigil was one of many held throughout the country for the victims of the Pulse shooting, with pictures of the 49 victims posted on boards next to the podium as well as notes for people to post messages. Names of the victims were read

by representatives of a number of groups supporting the event, while attendees lit candles for the victims. Rev. Jennie Tall-ey led an opening prayer, with Rev. Deb Morra also leading a reading. Local comedian Fran Cisco read a poem she wrote after the attack. Yonkers Councilman Michael Sabatino also spoke at the vigil.



White Plains Mayor Tom Roach told the vigil attendees that he thought it was outrageous and unacceptable that we still have to argue against easy access to military weapons.



LOFT Director of Programs and Services Scott Havelka lead the prayer vigil at MUMC in White Plains in remembrance of those killed during a terrorist attack in Orlando last week.

## Tips From Pace Professor, Homeland Security Expert in Age of Terrorism

By Martin Wilbur

Staying alert and reporting even a hint of suspicious activity to law enforcement authorities are among the common sense approaches residents in every neighborhood should take to limit the possibility of a terrorist attack.

Professor Joseph Ryan, a 25-year New York City Police Department veteran and the director of Pace University's Management for Public Safety and Homeland Security, a new master's degree program, said in light of the June 12 Orlando nightclub shooting that killed 49 people and wounded more than 50 others, millions of Americans are understandably on edge.

A healthy concern doesn't have to paralyze residents, but there shouldn't be a false sense of security because local residents live in relatively safe, suburban communities.

"We need to all be alert no matter where we are," said Ryan, who chaired an advisory group for the U.S. Department of Justice that developed security strategies for the 1996 summer Olympics in Atlanta. "I think we've been lucky that we've not had that many attacks, yet a lot of law enforcement personnel is trying to do as much as possible. At the local level we all have to be vigilant, we all have to think about what we see."

Ryan said the See Something, Say Something campaign is an excellent straightforward piece of advice; however, it should be expanded to include Hear Something, Say Something. He also suggested that if a resident observes any suspicious activity or individuals in their neighborhood to call their local police department. That includes hearing anyone making extensive anti-American rants or other questionable behavior.

People also shouldn't be shy about cordially approaching people who seem out of place or who they don't recognize.

"It's the old idea of the neighborhood watch," Ryan explained. "People looking out for each other and I think that's the bottom line, and to know your neighbors, get to know the other people. The beauty of this is we're a free country. Everybody can come and go as they wish."

He said one effective law enforcement strategy was the Town of Ossining's program where police officers knocked on every residential door. It served two important purposes: officers introducing themselves to the people they serve, allowing the public to feel a greater comfort level with their local department, but also giving local police a chance to evaluate any suspicious residents.

Ryan also stressed keeping house doors locked when residents are not at home.



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# Westchester's Top 40 Young Professionals Celebrated as 'Rising Stars'

The Business Council of Westchester honored 40 of Westchester's most outstanding young business professionals, presenting them with its coveted "Rising Stars" Awards on June 16.

The awards were given to the Rising Stars' Class of 2016 during a celebration and cocktail reception at the Atrium at 800 Westchester Avenue. News 12's Tara Rosenblum, a member of the Rising Stars' Class of 2007, served as emcee.

The 2016 Rising Stars represent a diverse array of industries, including education, healthcare, law, finance, real estate development, public relations and marketing, among others. Maria Bronzi, Director of the Altium Alliance Branch of Altium Wealth Management and Chair of the Rising Stars program, oversaw the selection process.

As in previous years, the competition for the 40 spots was fierce.

"These exemplary young professionals have distinguished themselves through their talent, determination, leadership and commitment to the Westchester business community," said Marsha Gordon, President and



The Rising Stars winners pictured left to right, front row: Samuel Wallis; Teresa Weber; Jonelle Elizabeth Ward; Heidi Winslow; Patricia Simone; Jennifer D'Ambrosio; Melissa Cebollero; Jacqueline, Rubbo; Meghan Taylor; Christina Armentano Bowlby; Dan Braude; Mark Cermele. Middle row: Sean McAllister; Kevin Marbury; Joseph Delli Carpini; Adam Weiss; Ariana Aguilar; Hope Salley; Tiffani Blake; Lucinda Cross; Kelli Knox; Jacqueline Leahy; Jessica Proud; Abbey Kumar. Back row: Rajesh Kumar; Michael Reilly; Tracey Lewis Taylor; Dina Moss; Lori Stawicki; Joseph Ricca; Heather Oboda; Marc Miller; Jordan Brooks; Robert Cordero; Katherine Burstein McGinn; Gregory Slater; Christos Kyratsous; Joseph McCoy; Jordan Garner; Adam Telem.

CEO of The Business Council of Westchester. "Their initiative, innovation and drive to succeed have gone a long way toward ensuring that Westchester remains the smartest county in the United States."

County Executive Rob Astorino, who attended the ceremony, congratulated the Rising Stars and saluted the BCW for its commitment to strengthening the region's business community.

"You are the reason Westchester is the smart place to be," Astorino told the honorees. "You can dig into the Rising Stars network and use it to do something bigger than yourself. Westchester County is depending upon it."

The BCW's annual awards ceremony is modeled after the national business recognition program "Forty under Forty." The Rising Stars program is designed to recognize individuals under the age of 40 who exemplify leadership, foresight and a vision for the future of Westchester County. Winners were selected based on professional and/or entrepreneurial accomplishments, demonstrated leadership qualities and professional and/or business affiliations.

## Legislature Passes Bill for Greenburgh Reassessment Phase-In

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bill was passed by the Legislature last week and now awaits the Governor's approval.

The legislation (A.10551-A/S.8143), introduced at the request of the Greenburgh Town Board, authorizes the Town, after a public hearing, to adopt a local law that will exempt 66 percent of the assessment increase in the first year and 33 percent of the assessment increase in the second year. All homes will pay taxes on the full-assessed value of their homes in the third year.

This phase-in is intended to help lessen some of the impacts of the revaluation of properties in the Town.

"This legislation could help ease the burden on those homeowners, including many senior citizens, who will experience a large increase in their property taxes," said Abinanti. "With passage of this bill those significantly impacted by revaluation could have two years to adjust their budgets to pay their higher taxes without affecting the assessments that

have been lowered."

The Town of Greenburgh had not been reassessed for over 60 years.

In order to qualify for the phase-in, the homeowner must, among other things, not be delinquent on their taxes, qualify for the STAR exemption and own a one, two or three family residential property. The phase-in is applicable only to those property owners assessed with a tax hike, not a decrease.

According to Town Supervisor Paul

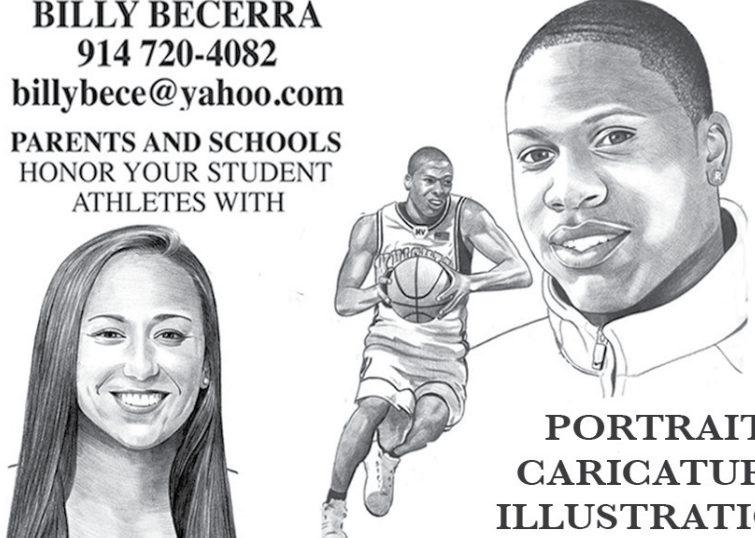
Feiner, some property owners have seen their taxes increase by 50 percent, 100 percent, 200 percent and even more. The neighborhoods most impacted were Irvington, Hastings and Edgemont.

The final day for residents who disagree with their revaluation to file a grievance at Town Hall to appear before the Board of Assessment and Review is today, June 21. Town Hall will be open until 9 p.m. Call the assessor's office at 989-1520 for more information.

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## BOL Majority Leader Seeks September Date for Special Election

*continued from page 1*

and other resources at a time when county government is under severe budgetary pressure, according to Borgia.

"This is a perfect opportunity for the County Board to make a good governance decision to save taxpayers upwards of \$100k and to increase voter participation by combining the special election with the already-scheduled September primary. We all agree that at a time when the County Executive's budget cannot find the needed money to fund basic police and public safety services, cuts contracts to not-for-profits that provide essential services, and borrows to cover basic operating expenses, the choice to hold an additional election is not fiscally prudent," Borgia said.

With four elections already being held in 2016 (presidential primary, Congressional primary, state and local

primary in September and the November general election) and a city-wide primary in the Mt. Vernon part of District 14 already set for September 13, Borgia says setting the Special Election date in August just wastes money and suppresses voter turnout because that is when most people are away on vacation.

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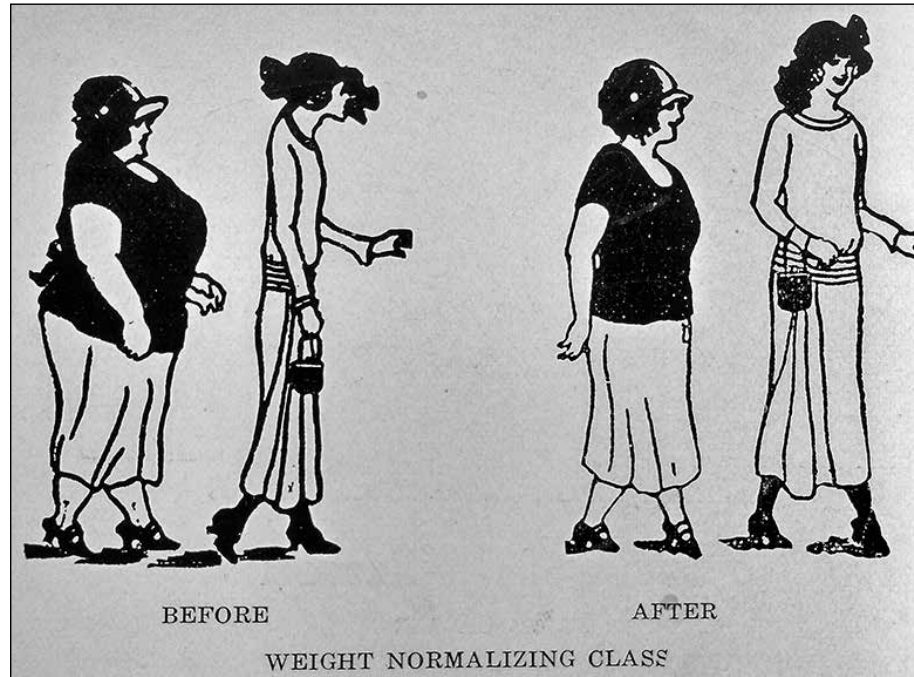
# White Plains Woman's Club Was a Pioneer in Women's Fitness Programs

By Colleen Fay

June 23 marks the anniversary of the signing of Title IX by President Nixon back in 1972. The law provides that "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." While the law actually has broad reaching implications, many associate it with the increased access to sports and athletic facilities at schools and universities for female students.

For many years, sports were not considered important or appropriate for women and girls and their ability to exercise or participate in sports was limited. Not everyone, however, was willing to accept the status quo and some fought for equal access for women.

Almost 100 years ago, in 1921, the Woman's Club of White Plains (or Contemporary Club as it was then known) recognized a glaring need in the community for a place where young women and girls could go to socialize, relax and exercise. The YMCA had been in White Plains for many years but no such organization existed for women. The members of the Woman's Club decided to address the situation and established the Community Girls Works. They rented meeting rooms for the girls and successfully negotiated with the YMCA for use of their facilities one day a week. As the program grew, additional meeting rooms had to be procured and when the YMCA moved to its new facility on Mamaroneck Avenue, the athletic program for women was expanded. The Community Girls Works offered classes in swimming, weight normalizing, rhythmic dancing, clogging and apparatus work, and bowling. The Woman's Club organized swim



The "Weight Normalizing" Class at the Community Girls Works



Early home of the YMCA at 48-50 Church St., White Plains.

and gymnasium instructors, lobby registrars, locker room attendants, etc. as well as the rental of the facility. The Contemporary Club and the Community Chest were invaluable in defraying the expenses

of running the program. The program was hugely successful demonstrating the clear need and desire by women for such facilities. During the winter of 1927-28, almost 2,500 girls participated in activities at the Community Girls' Works at the YMCA and another 450 at 124 Main Street.

The organization was clearly outgrow-

ing its facilities and it became obvious that a more permanent solution had to be found. In February of 1929, an application was submitted to the national organization for a local branch of the YWCA to be opened in White Plains. The Woman's Club solicited the approval of 58 organizations in the area to make this happen. By April, 1929, the application had been approved and the YWCA of White Plains became a reality.

Title IX was a tremendous boost for equal opportunity for women and fortunately, much has changed in the lives of women since 1921. However, the commitment of the Woman's Club of White Plains to improving the future of its community has not. The Woman's Club which celebrates its 100th anniversary this year has a long and proud tradition of charitable and philanthropic works in the White Plains community and continues to support the YWCA as well as numerous other local organizations and non-profits.

The Woman's Club believes every woman can contribute to the various opportunities the Club offers and invites women of all ages to join them as they continue their work to improve our communities. For more information about Club events and membership, see the website [www.womansclubofwhiteplains.org](http://www.womansclubofwhiteplains.org).

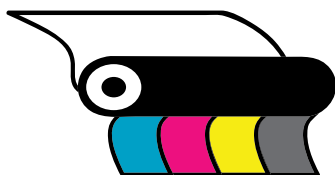
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# After 64 Years of Waiting, Veteran Finally Receives POW Medal

By Emily Whelahan

"It took them 64 years to get this little thing here," said Vince Speranza as he pointed to his newly received Prisoner of War Medal.

That medal now sits proudly in his window box full of honors from his service in the Korean War.

The 87-year-old Greenburgh resident finally received the medal about three weeks ago after waiting for more than six decades. However, there is more to Speranza than just amazing war stories.

He served in the 35th Regiment, 25th Division in Korea in 1951 and 1952. He trained to become a medic in Japan, and was placed in a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) unit, although it wasn't unusual for him to be given a weapon.

One day Speranza and several other men were captured. He was kept for more than 20 days in a rusty metal shack, stripped of all of his equipment, his uniform and anything that identified him.

"They gave me black bread and water," he recalled.

Speranza's need to use the restroom one day led directly to his escape as a prisoner of war. After he exited the make-shift facility, he realized his captors that had walked him there with rifles in hand were nowhere to be found.

He began to walk, and then run, certain that someone had to be following him. Finally, after a couple of hours he spotted what appeared to be a white star, indicating an American tank.

"I was so hoarse, and I was dry, and I was exhausted," Speranza said.

At first, no one knew who he was, but eventually Speranza found his way back to his MASH unit. The other men were in disbelief when he told them what had happened to him.

Just two weeks later, Speranza was back on the line and suffered a shrapnel wound to his leg, earning him a Purple Heart and landing him in a hospital in Pusan, Korea.

From Pusan, he was sent to another hospital in Omiya, Japan, and finally, re-



Korean War veteran Vince Speranza with all of his honors from his time serving in the military. A few weeks ago he received his Prisoner of War Medal 64 years after he came home from the war.

turned to the United States with shrapnel still in his leg.

Upon his return home and reunion with his family in the Bronx, his mother called his uncle, a doctor. Speranza's uncle looked at his wound and asked for a rubber band. He tied the rubber band around Speranza's leg. A couple of days later, the metal pieces fell out.

Although the shrapnel was gone and the injury healed, he hadn't received the two medals that he had earned – the Purple Heart and Prisoner of War Medal.

Eventually, Speranza wrote to former First Lady Nancy Reagan. Today, he pointed to the Purple Heart medal with his name engraved on the back. He smiled and said, "Nancy Reagan sent me this one right here."

Receiving his Prisoner of War Medal was a longer process. Because he was stripped of his identification and escaped the prisoner of war camp there was no documentation of his POW status. Finally, after years of lobbying and an intense



Vince Speranza holding a picture of himself and his fellow soldiers during the Korean War.

effort for the past five years, Speranza received his medal.

Not only did Speranza play various roles during his time in the service, including, fireman, chef and medic, he also had diverse careers.

From a young age Speranza loved cars and airplanes. The self-proclaimed "street boy" bought his first car a black Ford convertible one month before he was inducted into the service. He also took flying lessons.

After the war, Speranza took more flying lessons at Westchester Airport, receiving a multiengine and c-plane certificate.

"Unfortunately, I could have went to college," he said referring to the GI Bill that was available to veterans. "You must remember my mind was thinking differently – because I love flying."

Along with being a pilot, Speranza is an accomplished artist. His creations include tavern signs, birdhouses, screens

and paintings. Most notable are his paintings depicting Japanese culture. Speranza, a father of two and a grandfather, was exposed to Japanese art during his time in medic school. One of his works, a mural of a Japanese warrior, is on his living room wall.

He sold furniture, worked in his wife's family's steel business and in the corrugated box industry. He even dabbled in uranium prospecting.

Speranza is retired but continues to work for a local painting company.

"It keeps me busy, keeps my mind going," he said. "You know, I'm always doing something."

One of Speranza's deepest passions is his writings about his time in Korea. Speranza's friend Rod Carlson, a Marine helicopter pilot in Vietnam, writes about his wartime experiences as well and convinced Speranza to put his thoughts to paper. Speranza is a member of the Westchester Veterans Writing Workshop through Fordham University.

Writing seems to help many veterans make sense of what they have been through and allows them to share their experiences with others. That was needed because Speranza's time in the service forever changed him.

"The Vince that went over there never came back," he said.

He is also an active member of the White Plains chapter of the Disabled American Veterans.

Speranza may have finally gotten all of the medals he earned, but there were otherwise few positives to come out of his time in Korea. Still, he lives life to the fullest and appreciates what he has had in the more than 60 years since he came home from war.

"The bottom line is I'm here today," Speranza said. "How many guys I knew never came back. The most important thing is I have my health."

## Welcome to the Neighborhood



Arroway Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram opened June 6 at 531 Bedford Rd. in Bedford Hills after leaving its location in Katonah.

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# Police Blotter

## Greenburgh Police Department

**Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of Vehicle.** During the early morning hours of June 13 while on patrol on Knollwood Road officers observed a vehicle pull out of the Mobil Gas Station and travel north without the vehicle's lights on. A traffic stop was conducted. The driver said: "I'm going to be honest with you, my drivers license is suspended." An NCIC check confirmed seven open scoffs on three scoff days and a restriction for an interlock device. The driver was placed under arrest and the vehicle was impounded.

**Suspicious Incident.** On the afternoon of June 12 the complainant walked into Police Headquarters to report that when she arrived home at 3:30 that morning, while walking up the driveway of her home a male grabbed her arms from behind. She was not sure who the male was, but described him as Hispanic 6 feet tall in his 20's, wearing a yellow t-shirt. He did not say anything when he grabbed her. The complainant broke free and ran to the windows and doors of her house and started banging on them until someone let her inside. Once she was inside, the male fled the area in an unknown direction.

**Petit Larceny.** On the afternoon of June 12, police responded to the Best Market located on N. Central Avenue on the report of a larceny in progress. The complainant told the responding officers that a short, heavy set Hispanic male wearing a grey t-shirt with cut off sleeves and shorts had walked out of the store with a shopping cart full of \$293.24 worth of groceries after passing all points of service without paying for said items. The complainant then followed the suspect into the parking lot where he heard him say something in Spanish to another man while he was standing next to his grey Acura. He then tried to hide behind one of the vehicles parked in the lot. After the shopping cart was grabbed from the suspect, he ran north in the parking lot toward McDonalds. Police located the suspect and after he was positively identified by the complainant placed him under arrest.

**Petit Larceny.** On the evening of June 12, police were dispatched to 20 Tarrytown Rd. on a reported past larceny. The shift supervisor told the responding officers that she observed a Black male in a plaid short sleeve shirt, tan shorts, a white hat and sneakers enter the store. She recognized the male as a party who had committed previous larcenies at the store.

On that particular evening she observed the male take three electric razors from the shelf and leave the store past all points of sale without paying for them. The male fled in an unknown direction. The area was canvassed with negative results. A Security DVD of the incident was placed into evidence.

**Grand Larceny.** On June 12, 2016 at approx. 6:20 a.m. the complainant, while checking the Curry Acura parking lot at Saw Mill River Road observed nine vehicles resting on cinder blocks with all four rims and tires missing off them. There was a prior incident a few days earlier in which six vehicle's rims and tires were stolen. Attempts to contact Curry Acura were met with negative results. As per the previous report there are no surveillance cameras on the lot. All Vehicles missing rims and tires were located on the north end and east side of the lot in close proximity to each other. No additional information available at this time.

**Suspicious Incident.** On June 12 at 10 a.m. officers responded to a residence on a report of a suspicious phone call. The complainant who appeared confused

said she received a call from an unknown number. An unknown voice using her correct name asked if she was home, and said they would be right over. The complainant explained that she hung up the phone and immediately called the police. The complainant is an elderly woman, living alone and concerned for her safety. No one arrived at the home and the complainant was advised to call the police if an unwanted party responded to her home.



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# Obituaries

## Maria Masucci

Maria Masucci, of West Harrison, passed peacefully with her family by her side on June 17 after a long and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 88. Maria was born September 27, 1927 in Guardia Lombardi, Italy to Gaetana Iuni and Vito Luongo. In September of 1951 Maria married her husband Gaetano Masucci in Guardia Lombardi, Italy.

Besides her husband Gaetano, Maria is survived by her daughters Angela (Alphonse) Masucci Illuzzi of Stamford and Maria (Miles) Masucci Stark of Purchase, her sisters Antonette Caputo and Angela Damiano, her grandchildren Diana Illuzzi Hoffman, Michael Illuzzi, Peter Illuzzi and Stephen Stark and great granddaughter Holly Hoffman. She was predeceased by her sisters Carmine Pompeo and Josephine Luongo.

She will always be remembered as an incredibly kind and caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend and most recently a great grandmother.

She lived a very full life and worked incredibly hard to provide a comfortable

life for her daughters. She was the ultimate caregiver and cooking, baking and sewing were what she enjoyed most. She was also a very deeply religious woman and her faith helped her through the past year of her life.

Maria was a member of the G. Caboto Club in Harrison.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to The Lustgarten Foundation 1111 Stewart Ave. Bethpage, NY 11714 [www.curepc.org](http://www.curepc.org).

## Stephen Sules

Stephen Michael Sules of White Plains, passed away June 17 at his home. He was 24. Stephen attended White Plains High School and later The International Culinary Center. "Stavros" as he was affectionately known, worked at several restaurants and taverns in the area, most recently at The Black Bear Saloon in White Plains. Beloved Son to Lorraine and Stephen Sules. Beloved brother to John and his fiancé Danielle and his sisters Chelsea and Zoë. He is also survived by his paternal grandparents John and Louise Sules

and his maternal grandfather Michael D'Angelo. He is the grandson of his late maternal grandmother Ottavia D'Angelo. Beloved nephew to his godmother Michele Scaglione, his godfather Richard Sules and wife Elizabeth, John and Kelli Sules, Christopher and Paula Sules, Mark and Margaret D'Angelo, and Marlene D'Angelo, Beloved cousin to Thomas and Kat Scaglione, Michael and Christian Scaglione, Dana and Alex Van Loon, Christie and Frank Giusti, Jessica, Danny, Jenna and Jack Sules, Brevan and Carine D'Angelo, Gabriel and Michael Sules, Peter, Paul and Chloe Sules. Also loved and cared for by Veronica Velasquez. Loyal friend to many, he was loved by all who knew him. Stephen was a big-hearted Gentle Giant who wore his heart on his sleeve. Stephen loved Shakespeare, poetry, cooking and music. His smiling green eyes gave love and laughter to his family and friends. Stephen will be terribly missed and will remain forever young.

A mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Bernard's Church, 51 Prospect Street, White Plains, on Thursday, June 23 at 10 a.m. Friends may call at the Ballard-Durand Funeral Home, 2 Maple Avenue at South Broadway on Tuesday, June 21 and Wednesday, June 22 from 5 to 9 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the friends and family of Stephen Michael Sules can make charitable donations to: The Friends of the ICC, Inc., c/o B. Bissonnette, 462 Broadway, New York, NY 10013 or online at <https://secure.internationalculinarycenter.com/donation/friendsoficc.aspx>. All donors should put the name Stephen Michael Sules on the "Memo" line of their checks or use the "If you'd like to make a donation to The Friends of the ICC scholarship in the name of another person" section of the online donation page.

## George Jamgochian

George Jamgochian, 91, passed away on June 16. He was born on January 29, 1925 in Highland Park, MI to Mike and Ann Jamgochian, who were survivors of the Armenian Genocide.

George grew up in Lincoln Park, MI. He served in the US Navy in WW11 from July 1943 to February 1946 as a Radioman, Second Class and received the Philippine Liberation Medal with two stars, the Asiatic-Pacific Medal with three stars and the Victory Medal. His nickname given to him by his fellow sailors in the Navy was 'Jambo'. George attended several annual reunions around the USA with the crew of the USS Fremont.

George received his B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Lawrence Institute of Technology in 1952. He received his Master of Business Administration from Adelphi University in 1971. In his career he worked for several government contractors in aeronautics and aerospace.

George married Rose (nee Azarian) in 1954 in Detroit, MI and moved to Elmont,

NY to raise their children. They were happily married for 62 years.

The family were members of the Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs in Bayside, NY and George was a member of the Men's Club as well as a member of the Knights of Vartan. He loved jazz and big band swing music. He played the saxophone and clarinet and attended music classes at the Westchester Music Conservatory. He loved watching sporting events especially his favorite baseball team, the Detroit Tigers and favorite football team, the Detroit Lions. He loved Armenian history, culture and language and took Armenian classes and visited Armenia with his wife in 2005. His biggest enjoyment was spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren. George and Rose moved to Hartsdale in Westchester County, NY in 1996 and became members of the St. Gregory The Enlightener Armenian Church in White Plains.

George was preceded in death by his parents and sister Alice and her husband Mack Matulich.

George is survived by his loving wife Rose and their three children George B. Jamgochian and his wife Kim; Karen Turrissi and her husband Larry; and Lynn Aslanian and her husband Rich. He is also survived by his eight grandchildren; Lauren, Marielle, Lily, Michael, Vanessa, George, Brian and Lia as well as his niece Nancy Haff and nephew Mark Matulich and their families.

A wake will take place at St. Gregory The Enlightener Armenian Church in White Plains, on Thursday, June 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Friday, June 24 at St. Gregory The Enlightener Armenian Church at 10:30 a.m. Burial services will follow the funeral at Cedar Grove Cemetery, 130-04 Horace Harding Expy, Flushing.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to St. Gregory The Enlightener Armenian Church or St. Nersess Armenian Seminary.



## Life is a Cabaret

"Life is a cabaret old chum, come to the cabaret, start celebrating right this way" (Liza Minnelli)

Well it does sound like a good idea to get one's self out of the doldrums of life, though in light of White Plains' recent decision to raise the fee of cabaret licenses, I am not sure the cabaret owners are singing this same song. Especially in light of the recent, sudden and frequent fee increases, which seem excessive and punitive. Such actions on the part of White Plains do not promote a business friendly environment. The success of a city is primarily based on its economic vitality, and vision for long-term growth. When such administrative fees and regulations are enacted for the primary purpose of filling city coffers, economic strangulation may soon follow as businesses are forced out of business, or chose to do business elsewhere.

In a free market economy, the means of production are owned by the private sector, not government. When a government, with total disregard for the business community, imposes heavy and extensive operating fees on businesses for financial gain, by de facto, that city inserts itself as a business partner, abducting profits without risk or loss.

It may be fair to conclude with comedic license (it is still free) that with parking fees and fines going up proportionately with cabaret license fees, customers at restaurant establishments in White Plains will not have any money left to pay for the increased cost of drinks and admission to offset the higher operating costs of good entertainment.

Well, life is still a cabaret old chum if you are a politician, being paid by the same fine folks you are ripping off.

- R. D' Illuric, White Plains

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[pcasey@theexaminernews.com](mailto:pcasey@theexaminernews.com).

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



# Family Summer Safety



By Lou Giampa

Summer beacons outdoor play from water parks and horseback riding to fishing and building sandcastles. Add in baseball, barbeques and baboons at the zoo and the whole family will be sending Snapchat videos of their summertime activities. Did you know Grandma screams on roller coasters? And Granddad can toss a Frisbee well? There are many things you learn when multiple generations get out in the sun for fun. To help ensure summertime adventures are enjoyable for preschoolers to seniors, a number of safety precautions can help.

Summer is an ideal time for grandparents to bond with their grandkids through any number of activities that generate laughter and classic family stories for years to come. With some preplanning and safety tips in place, little ones to older adults can avoid sunburn, mosquito bites, skinned knees and worse that can put a damper on summertime togetherness.

The following safety considerations for seniors and their grandkids can help to ensure everyone has a good time when participating in outdoor activities.

**Amusement Parks.** Read and follow

all park rules, including the ride size requirements for younger children and physical restrictions for older riders. Make sure everyone stays together and within eyesight at all times. The intense gravitational forces and jerky movements of some rides can strain the neck and joints of both children and older adults, so be sure to take a 15-minute break or so between high-speed rides or simply avoid them. Watch for nausea, dizziness and headaches as signs of bodily stress. Before entering the park, share an escape plan with everyone in your group in case of sudden weather changes, park-wide emergency, etc.

**Biking.** Feeling the wind in your hair and push of the pedals can be exhilarating at any age. With some awareness, those new to biking and those who've been around the block a few times can enjoy many a spin together. A stable, comfortable bike fitted well for each body size will reduce the risk of falling and injury. (The young grandkids outgrow bikes quickly!) Cruiser or hybrid bikes that put riders in a better upright position are best for seniors. Choose even, smooth bike paths at local parks or recreational areas that fit the fitness and skill level of the youngest in your group.

## Guest Column

**Boating.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that every day in the United States, about 10 people die from unintentional drowning, and one in five of these drowning deaths are children age 14 and under. Essential boating safety for all ages includes wearing life jackets, avoiding alcohol use and knowing weather forecasts and local conditions on the water. Ensuring all non-swimmers in the family learn to swim before joining boat rides can prove a lifesaving measure.

**Camping.** Hiking in the woods and munching on roasted campfire marshmallows always go better when the family follows basic camping safety. Whether you are tent camping or hanging in the RV, be prepared by packing a first aid kit and emergency supplies including a flashlight, knife, map, compass and waterproof fire starter. Apply liberal amounts of insect repellent and avoid wearing perfumes and colognes, which attract stinging insects. Stock up on water and high-energy food and wash hands thoroughly after using the toilet or handling food. Be aware of how to respond to wildlife encounters and do not leave food, garbage, coolers or cooking equipment in the open.

**Swimming.** A key to swimming safety is

preventing germs in the water by never using the swim area as a bathroom or place to dispose refuse of any kind. Teach everyone not to swallow the water—chlorinated pool water or natural ocean, lake or river water. Adults are to stay within an arm's length of little children for quick response in case the children get overwhelmed, scared or disoriented. Every hour, both adults and children are advised to take a bathroom break, reapply sunscreen and rehydrate. Always swim together and in an area with designated lifeguards.

Summertime vacations and outings together are the perfect time for grandparents to build incredible memories with their grandchildren. With some advanced planning and flexibility in how each adventure will unfold, everyone can make the most of family time and create plenty of fun memories to share via photos, videos and tall tales.

*Lou Giampa is the President of Right at Home Westchester. Lou is a New York State Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) who volunteers in hospitals and nursing homes throughout Westchester County. He also volunteers with the Alzheimer's Association, Meals on Wheels, and the Aging in Place community; www.westchesterseniorcare.com.*

## LWVW Supports New York Single-Payer Health Care Proposal

For years, there has been little mention of single-payer, Medicare-for-all health care – until this election cycle. While a national plan may not be imminent, a New York single-payer plan is likely to pass in the near future. On Wednesday, June 1, the New York State Assembly passed the New York Health Act (A.5062A/S.3525A) by a vote of 86-53, for the second time in two years. In the Senate the bill is also looking very hopeful. There are already 22 cosponsors; with 3 more pledged votes, bringing us just seven votes away from a Senate majority in favor of the bill – definitely a forward momentum. A recent Gallup poll found that 58 percent of Americans, including 41 percent of Republicans, are in favor of single-payer health care.

The bill would provide comprehensive, universal health care for every New Yorker, without deductibles, co-pays or limited provider networks, and would be paid for by a progressive, broad-based publicly funded system based on ability to pay. Beyond the human rights issue of

universal healthcare, New Yorkers would save billions of dollars by eliminating bloated health insurance plans that have asked this year for 17 percent rate increases, with some plans asking for increases as high as 45 percent.

The League of Women Voters endorses the New York Health Act, and we enthusiastically lobbied at the State Capital on May 24, along with a broad coalition of labor unions, community groups, healthcare advocates, and, most recently, the business community. I lobbied along with the President & CEO of Transonic Inc., an Ithaca-based medical device manufacturer, whose New York company spends twice as much for its employees' insurance as its Canadian affiliate spends. If New York were the first state to pass single-payer legislation, we would attract many businesses, thereby adding much-needed jobs.

—Madeline Zevon, Health Care Chair, League of Women Voters of Westchester



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# It's Again Time to Dust Off the Subject of Household Dust

Have you ever heard of a dust fetish? I reluctantly admit to at least a keen interest in the subject, having alluded to it a couple of times in my column musings.

Recently I learned about a new study conducted by a group of scientists who had collected dust samples from 1,200 homes across the United States. It revealed that we all cohabitate with a few thousand species of bacteria and about 2,000 species of fungi, most of which originate outdoors and probably come inside via soil particles or as airborne spores.

Add to our skin cells other flaky stuff like fabric fibers, dust mite excrement, hair, pet dander, regular dirt, debris and micro particles and you have a pretty nasty brew that can give people with allergies and breathing problems a real hassle.

For anyone interested in forensic investigation, the study of dust bacteria and fungi can determine whether a home has dogs or cats and the ratio of women to men on the premises.

For those with allergy issues, finding a solution can be a quagmire. While some argue that it's simply a matter of pulling up carpeting and living with bare hardwood floors to control airborne bacteria and fungi, the authors of this new study state somewhat extremely that "If you want to change your bacterial exposures, you just may have to change who you live with!" Or better yet, "If you want to

change the types of fungi you are exposed to in your home, it may be best to move to a different home (preferably far away)."

Well, no wonder we encounter so many people who are sniffling and apologetically tell us, sorry, it's my allergies acting up.

While dust is inevitable, it horrifies some of us, as though its presence on our furniture and floors tells the world something unflattering about us. But some of us just don't give a damn.

You may be familiar with the documentary, HBO movie or Broadway version of "Grey Gardens," in which Jackie Kennedy Onassis' aunt and cousin, Edie Beale, and her daughter are depicted as living in squalor in a neglected ramshackle house with garbage strewn throughout and a hoard of cats and raccoons relieving themselves on the floor. When Jackie arrives to help remedy the situation and registers her shock at the condition of the property, Edie is



By Bill Primavera

dismissive, responding that her daughter "hasn't been keeping up with the dusting."

Is inattention to dust the first degenerative step to chaos in the home? Maybe for some, depending on their mental attitude about it, and in turn, how unkempt homes can affect its occupants.

One survey reveals that 83 percent of us are happier in a clean house and the act of cleaning itself gives 57 percent of the population a feeling of satisfaction. It also shows that 38 percent of women and 24 percent of men experience real stress living in a messy environment.

It would seem that dusting and cleaning can be therapeutic. Psychologists have found that there is a marked

difference in mood before and after cleaning, just as with a therapy session.

But beyond the psychological and unhealthy effects of dust, it can do real physical damage to most everything it lands on, from furniture surfaces to those things it clogs up like computer keyboards and vents.

There are fancy and simple ways to

get rid of dust. The fancy way is with an air purifier of which there are two types: those with fans that pull air through filters that trap dust and those called electrostatic precipitators in which an electrical charge is applied to the dust drawn into the device and captured on oppositely charged plates. Both are available as either portable units or as whole-house systems. Prices range from \$100 for a portable model to over \$1,000 for a whole-house system.

Among the houses I've listed or sold, I was aware of only one couple who had a whole-house air purifier system. So, unless people are plagued by allergies, I suspect that most of us dust with old-fashioned elbow grease, using either rags or one of those new magic dusters to which particles cling. Because the latter option can be expensive, a regular rag can be made just as effective if dampened before use and shaken out frequently.

It's funny how the exploratory process can affect you. As I sit at my computer, I'm very aware that between the keys of the keyboard is a lot of trapped dust. Are the raccoons soon to follow?

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. ([www.PrimaveraPR.com](http://www.PrimaveraPR.com)). His real estate site is [www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com](http://www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com), and his blog is [www.TheHomeGuru.com](http://www.TheHomeGuru.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

## A Bounty of Historic Wine and Farm Produce in Our Backyard



By Nick Antonaccio

The history and culture of the Hudson Valley is one of the most storied in our nation's 240-year history of independence.

Through the late 19th century, it was a center of agriculture and industry, as well as a magnet for artists and naturalists. Then the industrial age and mass communications relegated it to increasing obscurity and derision. The focal point for agriculture shifted west and south while airlines, railroads and most recently hi-tech tore down geographic boundaries and dispersed businesses and populations far and wide.

Likewise, new forms of art became decidedly more abstract (and popular) than the landscape paintings created by the Hudson Valley School that were as much travelogues as they were artistic works.

Our Hudson Valley region suffered immensely through these multiple evolutions of American culture and industry. However, in the last 25 years, a slow but steady resurgence has revitalized the reputation, and the economy, of the Hudson Valley.

The wine industry in this bounteous region, which stretches from Westchester to Rensselaer counties, shares the long histo-

ry of other agricultural products.

The French Huguenots planted the first grapevines in New Paltz in 1677, primarily for their own consumption. These small, home wineries were the trend for nearly 200 years. It wasn't until the mid-19th century that commercial wineries were established. One of these, established in Croton-on-Hudson, was a primary source of altar and medicinal wines, in addition to local produce, for New York City merchants. Long gone, the underground caves used to cellar their wines have survived, in what is now a Westchester County park.

Today, dozens of wineries are in full operation in the region. Less than 90 minutes away, Benmarl Winery, Millbrook Wines, Cascade Mountain, Robibero, Glorie Farm, Warwick Valley Winery and Clinton Vineyards have garnered a strong local following. Several wineries have banded together to enhance tourism; the Shawangunk Wine Trail is an organized way to take in the bounty of the lower Hudson Valley.

During the summer and fall, Hudson Valley wineries are popular weekend destinations for tastings, picnics and concerts – and of course many panoramic views of the Hudson River. I encourage you to con-

sider a staycation for a wonderful outing that will enhance your appreciation of the heritage and satiate your palate for fine wine and food.

The unique climate, soil and geography of the region make it difficult to support the more familiar grape varieties, such as

Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. While there are excellent representations of these grapes, the local hybrids are the stars. Varieties such as Seyval Blanc, Baco Noir, Traminette, Marquette and Chambourcin produce unique aroma and

taste profiles that are popular in tasting rooms across the region.

Just as the Hudson River supports the revival of the wine industry, it is even more evident in the farm produce of the region. The climate along the hills and vales of the region is more temperate than that of inland areas. Maritime breezes and sunlit hillsides provide ideal conditions for wineries, but also for fruit and vegetable farmers.

On any given in-season Saturday, there are more than 70 farmers markets throughout the Hudson Valley, including 20 in Westchester. These local purveyors have revived the agriculture industry of the 19th century, once again becoming a food supply for the New York metropol-

itan area. Consumers seeking naturally produced fresh farm products, grown responsibly with care, are sustaining the new organic locavore movement, from Westchester to New York City and beyond.

We are blessed in Westchester to be logistically located to enjoy the bounty of the Hudson Valley. A trip to local wineries is an intoxicating adventure to appreciate the wonders of nature at her best.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at [nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.







# The Restaurant Examiner



## New Menu to Be Unveiled at NY Firehouse Grille in Peekskill

By Jerry Eimbinder

The original NY Firehouse Grille in Peekskill closed in 2011 after being in business for 12 years. A year later, it was reopened by Alex Asadoorian, his wife Nikki and his brother Peter.

"We remained true to the existing menu and we kept such items as baby back ribs, the famed Steak Griller sandwich and the apple walnut salad," said Alex Asadoorian.

A smoker was added for the slow cooking of brisket, pulled pork, ribs and bacon. Then, a year ago, a number of tacos were introduced including the flamed fish tacos (Cajun-seasoned tilapia, coleslaw, corn pico de gallo and chipotle aioli), priced at \$14.

Another menu change will take place in a couple of weeks, which Asadoorian referred to as an upgrade. He will be keeping everything now on the menu but adding items. One of the new additions is a cheeseburger taco, which Asadoorian said might become the restaurant's signature dish.

"It's made with fresh chopped beef and cheddar cheese and sautéed in a pan. It comes with bacon, lettuce, tomato, red



The Wolverine—a wedge with buffalo chicken, pulled pork, bacon and mac and cheese.

onion and a special sauce in three soft tacos shells," he said.

The dish, to sell for \$15, is accompanied by a choice of French fries, curly fries, sweet potato fries, tater tots, house-made chips or a side salad.

Currently, one of the most popular dishes at NY Firehouse Grille is the spicy breaded "Kickin' Chicken" on a brioche roll. Priced at \$11, it's accompanied by bacon, cheddar and pepper jack cheeses, bell peppers and chipotle mayonnaise.

The restaurant's tasty chicken wings are probably the restaurant's biggest claim to fame, Asadoorian said. With over 50 flavors to choose from, it's difficult to decide on a favorite. The Buffalo wings are offered in a choice of seven different degrees of heat from False Alarm (naked) to Waiver Wings (the most scorching).

Customers who order Waiver Wings are asked to sign a release absolving the restaurant of all responsibility for any adverse health effects. Waiver Wings are free for anyone who finishes all 10 on the plate. The customer also receives a free T-shirt and is pictured with other successful Waiver Wing

eaters on one of the restaurant's television screens for a year.

Patrons can customize burgers by selecting a patty from ground beef, ground turkey, veggies, crab cake and grilled or fried chicken and adding cheese and toppings. Prices start at \$11. Lobster mac and cheese with a side salad costs \$18.

The smoking times are 15 hours for brisket, 12 hours for pulled pork and eight hours for ribs. Bacon is made from scratch; pork belly is cured for seven to 10 days, smoked and sliced.

For customers with hearty appetites, one tempting and satisfying recommendation is an eight-ounce New York steak called The Steak Griller, served open face on garlic toast with melted Swiss cheese, onion rings, French fries and horseradish sauce (\$16). Another, The Wolverine, is a nine-inch wedge topped with buffalo chicken, pulled pork, bacon, onion rings, mac and cheese and tiger sauce (\$15).

A full rack of smoked baby back ribs with French fries and coleslaw costs \$24. The menu also includes sizzling fajitas, sliders, wraps, sandwiches, salads, soup and chili.

For dessert, choose from apple pie, tiramisu, cheesecake brownie a la mode and fresh baked cookies.

Fireman's Iced Tea (\$12) is a favorite of customers, combining Heroes vodka with triple sec, rum, gin and a splash

of Sprite and grenadine. Another popular beverage is the Cosmo Rita (\$12), mixing Patron Silver Tequila, triple sec, lime juice and cranberry juice over ice. Twelve draft beers are available, six of which are rotated.

The NY Firehouse Grille has many daily discounts and deals. On Monday night, starting at 6 p.m., wings are priced at 50 cents each. On Tuesday's, Burger and Bud Bargain Night, customers can combine an Anheuser-Busch Bud Light beer and a burger with French fries for only \$9; burger toppings are available at additional cost.

Wednesday is \$12.99 Pasta Night, where customers can choose from four specialty pasta dishes that change each week or can select from always-available penne, spaghetti, linguini or fettuccini and six different sauces.

Wednesday evening is also trivia night. From 8:30 to about 10:30 p.m., tables or teams with up to six participants can compete in a three-round trivia tournament with 10 questions to a round. Usually the first round is devoted to identifying subjects of photos.

Thick-cut prime rib is offered at \$19.99 on Thursday evenings. It comes with a side salad, potato, vegetable of the day and corn muffins.

Karaoke is offered every other Friday, with the next one scheduled for this Friday, June 24.

Firemen, police officers, paramedics, teachers and military personnel receive a 10 percent discount on meals.

The restaurant has a patio and a special catering menu for on-site or off-site parties, including dishes not on the regular menu.

NY Firehouse Grille, which has 15 television receivers, is located at 63 Welcher Ave. in Peekskill. For more information, call 914-788-0808 or visit [www.newyorkfirehousegrille.com](http://www.newyorkfirehousegrille.com).



The Steak Griller at NY Firehouse Grille in Peekskill.



NY Firehouse Grille's fish tacos.



Some of the best wings in Westchester are at NY Firehouse Grille in Peekskill.



# EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds

062116

## ADOPTION

**Unplanned Pregnancy?** Need help? FREE assistance: caring staff, counseling and financial help. You choose the loving, pre-approved adoptive parents. Joy 1-866-922-3678 [www.ForeverFamilies-ThroughAdoption.org](http://www.ForeverFamilies-ThroughAdoption.org). Habla Espanil.

**High energy, passionate,** African American hope-to-be parent really wants to adopt. Lets meet and work together. Legally allowed expenses paid. Monroe. 1-800-398-9614.

## AUTO DONATIONS

**Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes,** benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call 914-468-4999 Today!

**Donate your car to Wheels For Wishes,** benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call 315-400-0797 Today!

## COLLECTABLES

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## EDUCATION

**Onteora Central School District is seeking the following positions:** Various Coaching positions, Network Support Specialist, Director of Athletics, PE, Health and Dean of Students Go to [www.onteora.k12.ny.us/positions](http://www.onteora.k12.ny.us/positions) to

see more information and to apply.

## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SPARKLICHIOUS MOUNT KISCO, LLC,** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/28/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent upon whom process may be served against LLC to: Robert McGuinness, 28 Main Street Redding CT 06896, Principal business address 333 N. Bedford Rd. Mount Kisco, NY 10549. Purpose: any lawful act.

**NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY MUSIC LECTURES LLC FIRST:**The name of the Limited Liability Company is MUSIC LECTURES LLC (hereinafter referred to as the "Company")

**SECOND:**The Articles of Organization of the Company were filed with the Secretary of State on April 18, 2016. **THIRD:**The County within the State of New York in which the office of the Company is located is Westchester. **FOURTH:**The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail process is 23B Washington Avenue, Pleasantville, New York 10570. **FIFTH:**The Company is organized for all lawful purposes, and to do any and all things necessary, convenient, or incidental to that purpose. Dated: May 23, 2016

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 297 MAIN STREET LLC ART. OF ORG.** filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/24/16. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Susan Lewkowitz, 670 White Plains Road Ste. 322, Scarsdale, NY 10583 914-723-4290.** Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF INNER AWARENESS, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/1/16. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Inner Awareness, 8 Midland Gardens, #3H, Bronxville, NY 10708.** Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SWAN GRAPHICS, LLC ARTS OF ORG.** filed SSNT 6/22/15. Office: Westchester Co. SSNY design agent of LLC upon whom process may be served & mail to: **29 North Greenwich Road, Armonk, NY 10504.** Purpose: Any lawful act.

## IN HOME PET SITTING

**PLEASANT PAWS INN LLC** Our home will be their home! 24/7 one on one love! We only take a small group of dogs. For quality care. Warm, cozy, relaxing no stress atmosphere. Large yard to play in! We look forward to having them be part of our family. Boarding: Daycare: Dog walker available to come to your home as well. Call Julie 914-906-8414 [www.Pleasantpawsinn.com](http://www.Pleasantpawsinn.com) FB

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## LOTS & ACREAGE

**ADIRONDACK MTN LAKE PROPERTIES!** 98 acresñ 1,100 ft waterfront - \$199,900 131 acres ñ ½ mile lake front- \$299,900 3 hours NY City! TWO pristine lakes! Financing Avail! Ask about our lakefront cabins & lodges too! 888-479-3394

## LOTS & ACREAGE

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**SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY** with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: [www.NorwoodSawmills.com](http://www.NorwoodSawmills.com) 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

## STORE FOR RENT

**OFFICE SPACE OR HAIR SALON FULLY EQUIPPED FOR RENT, Rt 6, Mohegan Lake, NY** For Information Call 914-282-6602

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*continued on next page*

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# BABY POWDER OR OTHER TALCUM POWDER LINKED TO OVARIAN CANCER

**Long-term use of baby/talcum powder is linked to ovarian cancer. If you or a loved one suffered from ovarian cancer after using Johnson's Baby Powder, Shower to Shower or other talcum powder, you may be entitled to substantial compensation. Call us at 1-800-THE-EAGLE now. No fees or costs until your case is settled or won. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.**

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continued from previous page

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF  
THE STATE OF NEW YORK WESTCHESTER COUNTY  
the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by NOTICE OF  
Proceeding In Rem Pursuant to Article Eleven of the  
FORECLOSURE Real Property Tax Law by the **Village/Town of Mount Kisco**  
INDEX NO. 2513-15

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 31st day of May, 2016, Robert Wheeling, Village Treasurer of the Village/Town of Mount Kisco, hereinafter, the “Enforcing Officer”, of the Village/Town of Mount Kisco, hereinafter, the “Tax District”, pursuant to law filed with the clerk of Westchester County, a petition of foreclosure against various parcels of real property for unpaid **Town and County taxes**. Such petition pertains to the following parcels:

69.51-2-2-122	LORRIANE SMARIO
69.56-2-7	JAD & LYNN BARGHOUT
69.64-4-1	THE HEARTH AT MOUNT KISCO LLC
69.72-4-8	JAMES H. LEE, SR.
69.75-1-3	ROSWELL D. REGAN
69.75-1-7	ROBERT & SIOBHAN ZANIEWSKI
69.80-4-2	CARMELO & VINCENZA CAMBARERI
69.81-3-2-1	CONSTANCE BASHORE
69.82-1-4	UNKNOWN OWNER
80.23-1-5	RICARDO & MARIA RODRIGUEZ
80.23-4-15	JAMES H. LEE, SR.
80.25-3-20	PETER KOMAR
80.33-2-4	PETER D. KOMAR
80.33-3-2	JOSEPH & RAY SAROKEN
80.33-6-6	PETER D. KOMAR
80.34-3-17	UNKNOWN OWNER
80.40-3-3	CHARLES BOEHMER
80.55-1-2-.1/4	RADIO CITY VENTURES,LLC
80.56-1-4	LINDA LUCADAMO & DANIEL DIMARINO
80.56-3-15.1	SPENCER & CO, INC
80.57-2-8	CARMINE CONTE
80.57-4-11	CARMELO & VINCENZA CAMBARERI
80.64-1-22	JOSEPH OLIVERI
80.72-4-18	UNKNOWN OWNER
80.80-1-15	UNKNOWN OWNER

**Effect of filing:** All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in such petition are hereby notified that the filing of such petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.  
Nature of proceeding: Such proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in such petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.  
**Persons affected:** This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in such petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of such petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.  
**Right of redemption:** Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may on or before said date redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereon, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to Joann Cerretani, **RECIEVER OF TAXES FOR THE VILLAGE/ TOWN OF MOUNT KISCO, 104 Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York, 10549**. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.  
**Last day for redemption:** The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the 31st day of August, 2016.  
**Service of answer:** Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in such petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the office of the county clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.  
**Failure to redeem or answer:** In the event of failure to redeem or answer by any person having the right to redeem or answer, such person shall be forever barred and foreclosed of all his or her right, title and interest and equity of redemption in and to the parcel described in such petition and a judgment in foreclosure may be taken by default. **Dated: Mount Kisco, New York May 31, 2016**

ENFORCING OFFICER:  
ROBERT WHEELING,  
VILLAGE TREASURER TOWN/VILLAGE OF MOUNT KISCO

WHITNEY SINGLETON  
Attorney for the Village/Town of Mount Kisco  
120 East Main Street  
Mount Kisco, New York 10549  
914-666-4400

SUPREME COURT OF  
THE STATE OF NEW YORK WESTCHESTER COUNTY  
In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by NOTICE OF  
Proceeding In Rem Pursuant to Article Eleven of the  
FORECLOSURE Real Property Tax Law by the **Village/Town of Mount Kisco**  
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**Effect of filing:** All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in such petition are hereby notified that the filing of such petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.  
Nature of proceeding: Such proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in such petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.  
**Persons affected:** This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in such petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of such petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.  
**Right of redemption:** Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may on or before said date redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereon, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to Joann Cerretani, **RECIEVER OF TAXES FOR THE VILLAGE/ TOWN OF MOUNT KISCO, 104 Main Street, Mount Kisco, New York, 10549**. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.  
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ENFORCING OFFICER:  
ROBERT WHEELING,  
VILLAGE TREASURER TOWN/VILLAGE OF MOUNT KISCO

WHITNEY SINGLETON  
Attorney for the Village/Town of Mount Kisco  
120 East Main Street  
Mount Kisco, New York 10549  
914-666-4400



## Barnum Financial Group Named One of New York's Best Companies to Work For

Barnum Financial Group, an office of MetLife is very pleased to announce that it has been named one of the Best Companies to Work for in New York State for 2016.

"Being named the #9 Best Company to Work for in New York State took a superb, ongoing effort and commitment by all of our employees—including our financial advisors, as well as our managerial and support staff," said Michael Bucci, Barnum Managing Sales Director. "It is an honor to work for a company that has built a culture that emphasizes a team approach and a dedication to helping our clients achieve their financial goals."

Barnum Financial Group provides a full range of investment and risk management products and services to over 250,000 clients, including individuals and their families as well as small businesses, corporations, government entities, not-for-profit organizations, and their employees. Offices are located in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island.

Barnum Financial Group was established in 1950 and has been under the



Michael Bucci

management of Managing Director, Paul Blanco, since 1993.

The 2016 Best Companies to Work for in New York State Awards are presented by Ryan, LLC, as well as supporting sponsor Anchin, Block & Anchin LLP. The program is a partnership of NYS-SHRM, The Business Council of New York, Best Companies Group and Journal Multimedia Corporation; [www.barnumfinancial-group.com](http://www.barnumfinancial-group.com).

## Paramount Celebrates 86 Years with Fundraiser

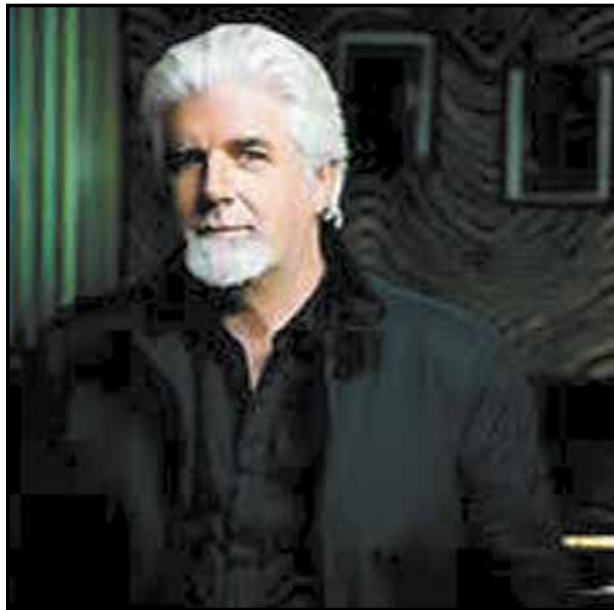
"This year's 86th anniversary of the theater marks our 3rd anniversary celebration," states Kurt Heitmann, owner of Red House Entertainment LLC. Join the

A special guest starts the celebration, Marc Von Em of Rob Thomas Band. Marc Von Em is a one-man band of sorts, able to create amazing amounts of sound and

diversity through his voice and one faithful guitar. His chops are wide-ranging, from delicate finger picking to rambunctious Pete Townsend type strumming. Marc's guitar serves as more than one instrument as he uses it to create percussive beats and, like Willie Nelson's and Tom Emmanuella's, it wears the scars of his passion for playing. Marc is able to seamlessly switch his' it vibe; his dynamic voice can go from smooth and soaring to smoky scatting.

The headlining act of the evening hardly needs an introduction due to his global success. Two notes is all it takes to recognize the voice of Michael McDonald. Distinctive and soulful, it is one of the

most yearningly emotive instruments of our times. To this add formidable songwriting and keyboard skills, and you have an artist who has been a singular musical presence for four decades. From '70s-era



Michael McDonald, multi Grammy award winning artist celebrates the 86th anniversary celebration at the Paramount Hudson Valley on Saturday, June 25th.

celebration and support live music in the Hudson Valley at the Paramount's only fundraiser of the year by purchasing your tickets today for an evening with Michael McDonald June, 25 at 8 p.m.

## The Fourth Annual Alyce N. Coqueran Memorial Scholarship



MARTHA RICHMAN PHOTO

The Fourth Annual Alyce N. Coqueran Memorial Scholarship was awarded to senior Kristina Hart (center) at the Sleepy Hollow High School Academic Awards Ceremony, on Monday, June 6. The \$700 Alyce N. Coqueran Memorial Scholarship was presented by the late Alyce Coqueran's son Albert Coqueran (left) and granddaughter Aisha Coqueran (right) at their alma mater Sleepy Hollow High School. Alyce Coqueran passed away on December 29, 2012, at the age of 86 years old, after serving the Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow and Westchester County communities for many years. She was the one of the original Founders of the Community Opportunity Center of the Tarrytowns and served on the Board for 41 years. She also tutored students at the Abbott House and was the Site Manager for the Tarrytown Nutrition Program for Seniors Citizens for the Town of Greenburgh for 15 years, among her many other community endeavors. She was inducted into the Westchester County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame in 2009. Besides the Alyce N. Coqueran Memorial Scholarship, 30 other scholarships were awarded at the Sleepy Hollow Awards Ceremony, including the Robin Birrittella Memorial Scholarship, the William Burnett Scholarship, and the Manuel Pousada Memorial Scholarship with 85 other Academic Awards. Principal Carol Conklin-Spillane served Sleepy Hollow in that position for 22 years. She will leave after this school year to take a position as the Superintendent of Schools for the Pocantico Hills School District. Conklin-Spillane was also presented an award by for her many years of long and meritorious service. Sleepy Hollow Guidance Counselor Patricia Bonitatibus is the Chairperson of the Sleepy Hollow Scholarship Committee. Alyce Coqueran's son Albert Coqueran is a sportswriter/photographer for the White Plains Examiner.

Doobie Brothers classics such as "What A Fool Believes" and solo hits like "I Keep Forgettin'" through two highly-acclaimed Motown albums, genre-busting guest spots and innovative concept shows, the five-time Grammy Award winning McDonald is both timeless and ever-evolving.

The 86th anniversary fundraising celebration at the Paramount includes giveaways and merchandise auctions. The support of the community is vital to the success of the Paramount Theater. Kurt Hietmann owner of the Paramount states

"We need your support to assure that we provide world-class entertainment to the Hudson Valley area all year round". Call or log on today for tickets for this exciting celebration in the historic Paramount Hudson Valley Theater's 86th Anniversary fundraiser where "World class entertainment it's closer than you think!"

Tickets: \$70, \$90, \$105, \$130. To purchase tickets and more information visit [paramounthudsonvalley.com](http://paramounthudsonvalley.com) or call the box-office at 914-739-0039. Paramount Hudson Valley is located at 1008 Brown Street in Peekskill.





# 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](mailto:pcasey@theexaminernews.com).

## Tuesday, June 21

**Summer Solstice Concert.** The White Plains Business Improvement District (WPBID) and Doug Panero Presents an after-work concert in the heart of downtown on the longest day of the year, featuring two can't-miss, breakout bands: Lawrence, an eight-piece, keyboard-driven powerhouse with a huge horn section behind the dynamic pop-soul singer songwriter siblings Clyde & Gracie Lawrence; and Morningsiders (alt-folk) four shining voices, compelling songwriting, and stirring instrumentals. The event will start at 5 p.m. and run to 8:30 p.m. at Court Street between Martine Avenue and Main Street. There will be plenty of delicious food and Heineken on hand. The event is free and will be held rain or shine; \$5 wristbands are required for ages 21+ to drink alcohol outside.

**Tuesdays @ Dorry's.** State Senator George Latimer will present an update on the Legislative Session just completed. There will be time for comments and questions. 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. Food ordering begins at 5:30 p.m. Presentation and discussion usually 6 to 7 p.m. Dorry's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains; 914-682-0005.

## Wednesday, June 22

**White Plains Farmers Market.** Located on Court Street between Martine Avenue and Main Street, the White Plains Farmers Market features produce and flowers, olive oil and balsamic vinegar, pickles and olives, handmade and imported cheese, seafood, bread and baked goods, organic honey, prepared food and flavors from around the world, a line of gluten free products, all natural soap, organic tea and more. Open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine.

**Outdoor Yoga.** The City of White Plains and White Plains Hospital present an evening of Yoga outdoors on Court Street, between Martine Avenue and Main Street. Check-in starts at 6 p.m. and Yoga starts at 7 p.m. The event is free. Returning this year to lead the class is White Plains' own Patty Holmes, owner of the Yoga Garden. Rain date Wednesday, June 29.

**Caramoor Outdoor Concert Series at Katonah Museum of Art:** Cole Quest and The City Pickers. Quest, grandson of folk icon Woody Guthrie, and his band of eclectic pickers bring a special brand of high-spirited talent, knee slapping energy and a high lonesome sound to the stage that'll leave you wanting more. Includes complementary beer. Katonah Museum of Art's Marilyn M. Simpson Sculpture Garden, 134 Jay St., Katonah. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Concert at 6 p.m. Katonah Museum of Art members: \$15. Non-members: \$20. Guests may bring their own blanket and picnic. Info: 914-232-9555 or visit [www.katonahmuseum.org](http://www.katonahmuseum.org).

**Art Series: Bodagones and Genre Paintings.** Who has done it best? From Archibald Motley to Cezanne, Monet to Vermeer, numerous artists have created genre images of kitchens, pubs, peasants and parties. Who will be among your favorites after tonight's class? Discussion led by Professor Valerie Franco. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whipoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887.

**"Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict."** The big, colorful life of Peggy Guggenheim – art patron, collector and sexually liberated bon vivant – jumps off the screen in this portrait by Lisa Immordino Vreeland. Weaving together commentary by curators, a long-lost series of Guggenheim interviews and archival footage of her friends (and often lovers) – among them Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst, Jean Cocteau and Jackson Pollock – Vreeland constructs a fascinating picture of a fierce champion of modern art and a devotee of the tangled personal relationship. Part of the FrameWorks: Art on Film series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$8. Non-members: \$13. (Members can attend for free by using their Anniversary Screening voucher.) Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Thursday, June 23

**Motivational Workshop.** 'Going Beyond Your Comfort Zone' motivational workshop features Jeremiah Taylor at the White Plains Education & Training Center (WPETC). The event will be held from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Continental breakfast and networking opportunities will begin at 8:30 a.m. followed by the presentation at 9 a.m. This motivational workshop is designed for professionals in the field of sales, marketing, entrepreneurship and community engagement. The WPETC is located at 303 Quarropas Street, in White Plains. Limited seating, register at [www.cityofwhiteplains.com/WPETC](http://www.cityofwhiteplains.com/WPETC).

**Noon Day Concerts.** Free concerts

will be held on Thursdays from noon to 2 p.m. in Renaissance Plaza located at Main Street and Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains. This week - Magic Touch, Acapella.

## Saturday, June 25

**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. 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](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**Butterfly Exhibit Opening.** The butterfly exhibit moves into a new home, a thoughtfully constructed arbor located in the enchanting Native Plant Meadow. Enjoy close encounters with butterflies and learn about their importance in nature. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Aug. 7. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**Float Like a Butterfly.** Join a naturalist on a short walk to the beautifully restored Native Plant Meadow. Learn about the life cycle of a butterfly and the epic migration Monarch butterflies embark on every year. Also, make your own colorful butterfly craft to take home. 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](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**An Evening With Paula Poundstone.** Recognized as one of Comedy Central's 100 greatest standups of all time and a 2010 inductee into the Comedy Hall of Fame, you can hear her through your laughter as a regular panelist on NPR's popular rascal of a weekly news quiz show, "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me." She tours regularly, performing standup comedy across the country. Interaction with the audience is never mean or done at a person's expense. She even manages to handle politics without provoking the pall of disapproval less artful comics have received. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$33, \$38 and \$48. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

## Sunday, June 26

**Story Walk.** Read "Screech Owl at Midnight Hollow" by C. Drew Lamm while walking along a short hiking trail. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free. Continues through Sept. 25. Info: 914-723-

3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

**African-American Heritage Festival.** The theme for this year's event is "Honoring African-Americans in Media." The day's events include entertainment by musical groups and dancers, along with drama and poetry readings, health and educational exhibits and activities for children. There will also be vendors who will be selling traditional arts and crafts and countless types of ethnic foods. Bring blankets or folding chairs for seating on the lawn. Rain or shine. Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla. 12 to 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-231-4033 or visit [westchestergov.com/parks](http://westchestergov.com/parks).

## Ongoing Events:

**New Kayak Boat Launch at Liberty Park.** Liberty Park is a two-acre park located on Lake Street on the White Plains/Harrison border. This park is a favorite for residents wanting to enjoy passive recreational activities. A peaceful environment tucked away from the busy downtown, Liberty Park lends itself to picnicking, hiking and fishing in the 22-acre Silver Lake. New this year, and open May 14 through October 16, is a Kayak Boat Launch. Kayaking is a fun and easy to learn activity for adults and children alike. Kayaking will be allowed by permit only and is available for daily or seasonal use. In addition, kayaking classes for families, adults and kids will be provided by Mountain Valley Guides. Kayak rentals are also available through Mountain Valley Guides. For additional information contact the White Plains Recreation and Parks Department at 914-422-1339.

**Bocce, Anyone?** Park-goers of all ages can now make a leisurely game of bocce part of their outdoor plans in the City of White Plains. The City of White Plains has opened two regulation size bocce courts in Turnure Park. The courts are located near the bathrooms and playground on Canfield Avenue and are open to the community. The game of bocce is a sophisticated spin on outdoor bowling and is easy to play and fun to watch. Players must bring their own bocce balls (available at most local sporting goods stores). The Recreation and Parks Department also has a set to lend to residents with a current Recreation ID card and a \$20 refundable deposit. The courts are free to use and open to individuals on a first come, first serve basis. Groups larger than 16 must contact the Recreation Department for a permit, additional Rules and Regulations for court use are posted in the park. For additional information, call 914-422-1339.







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