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Covering White Plains, Greenburgh and Harrison

April 25 - May 1, 2017

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 297

Holocaust Victims Remembered at Solemn Ceremony in White Plains

By Anna Young

Hundreds gathered at the Garden of Remembrance in White Plains Monday afternoon to commemorate the Holocaust during this year's Yom HaShoah Holocaust Commemoration ceremony.

With the theme, "Keeping the Memory Alive: Generation to Generation," the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center partnered with the Westchester Jewish Council to reflect and honor the six million Jewish people who were killed during the Holocaust.

A Torah procession of over 25 rescued Torahs that are housed in Westchester, a candle lighting ceremony and musical selections emphasized the solemn purpose of the gathering.

"Today we remember the six million Jews who were killed for the crime of

ANNA YOUNG PHOTO



Esther Geizhals (left) with a rescued Holocaust Torah and its procession carrier at Monday's Yom HaShoah Holocaust Commemoration ceremony in White Plains.

being, of being who they were, for being Jewish," Rabbi David Holtz, President of the Westchester Board of Rabbis said. "Today we honor the heroes and the martyrs, the victims and the survivors."

Keynote speaker, Esther Geizhals of Larchmont, shared her story of survival after being sent to Auschwitz concentration camp in 1944 at the tender age of 14.

After arriving in Auschwitz with her mother and brother, her family was quickly separated as she was motioned to go right while the rest of her family was told to go to the left.

"I started to cry, I wanted to be with my mother and I started to run to the other side. Out of nowhere came an inmate who told me in Polish, 'Don't you dare move from here' and she stood and blocked my way," Geizhals said. "They took me into the house, they shaved my hair and they disinfected me with a powder. They took my clothes away and gave me one single garment, a dress that was two sizes too big."

After spending six weeks in Auschwitz, Geizhals was moved to two other camps, Bergen Belsen and Rochlitz in Czechoslovakia. In 1945, Geizhals managed to escape during a death march when eventually she was liberated by the Russian army.

As the war came to an end, Geizhals

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Astorino Gives State of County Address, Borgia Offers Rebuttal

By Pat Casey

Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino gave his 2017 State of the County Address last Thursday to a packed audience at the Westchester County Courthouse in White Plains. His primary message for the sixth consecutive year was the renewed commitment to not raise taxes with a balanced budget in the fall.

Astorino touted plans for Playland Amusement Park, a \$1.2 billion science and technology hub in Mount Pleasant and the potential for \$140 million in revenues at Westchester County Airport through a public-private partnership. He also talked about plans to tackle the county's growing heroin and opioid use crisis.

"I was elected to stop the tax madness,

and we did just that by stopping the out-of-control spending," said Astorino. "The county budget today is less than the budget was when we took office in 2010. Taxes are still too high, but citizens and businesses know they can count on me to manage their tax dollars smartly and responsibly."

After sharing a personal story of a family who lost their 22-year-old daughter to heroin, Astorino announced Project WORTHY - Westchester Opioid Response Teams Helping Youth, a new plan to attack the growing opioid addiction problem in the county. The program builds on the existing Westchester Safer Communities initiative and will build response teams involving experts in

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Automatic Voter Registration Could Fix New York's Poor Voter Turnout

By Pat Casey

The League of Women Voters of White Plains presented a forum on Voting Issues and Reform in New York on April 19, offering an overview of voting issues in the 2016 election and a look at voting issues, especially low voter turnout in New York State.

The moderator for the forum, Sally Robinson, League of Women Voters New York (LWVNY), Vice President Issues and Advocacy, referred to a 2012 report conducted by the LWVNY that outlined many suggestions for the state, noting that New York is poor on voter reform and the five-year-old report still stands as the go-to document.

Thomas Lopez, Counsel on the voting rights team, Brennan Center for Justice; Jennifer Wilson, LWVNY, Director of

Program and Policy; and New York State Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) 93rd District, Chair subcommittee on Election Day Operations and Voter Disenfranchisement, member Committee on Election Law, spoke about voting issues from each of their perspectives.

Lopez, whose work at the Brennan Center gives him a national view, said there are several states with very strict photo ID laws, most notable being Texas, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Ohio and Kansas. Legislation has been put forward to bring a photo ID law into New York, but Lopez said he does not see the bill going anywhere in the current political environment in New York State. He added that in some states with strict laws, the Brennan Center has identified

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Astorino Gives State of County Address, Borgia Offers Rebuttal

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health, law enforcement and mental health and parents, students, clergy and coaches who will work together to identify abuse cases, understand the underlying causes of addiction, and develop pre-emptive strategies. Dr. Mark Herceg, Westchester County's Commissioner of Mental Health, will lead the effort.

Astorino acknowledged the frustration and partisan divides dominating the public discourse across the country and spoke of the importance of listening to a public with opposing viewpoints and working with lawmakers and stakeholders in a balanced, persistent and bi-partisan manner.

"As the County Executive for close to one million people, it's my job to find middle ground – balance what divides us – and that's why I have been committed to bringing county government to the people of Westchester and listening to what is on their minds," Astorino said.

Astorino noted gains made in private sector employment, nearly 44,000 new jobs since 2010 and a drop in the unemployment rate to 4.2 percent, while touting a number of other positive developments that make Westchester a desirable place to live and work, such as a 25 percent drop in crime, Westchester's highly educated workforce, the county's placement among the healthiest places in the country, and its ranking as one of



County Executive Rob Astorino delivers the 2017 State of the County Address.

the top digital counties in the U.S., among other accomplishments.

Highlighted projects included the North 60 proposal for a \$1.2 billion Westchester Bio-Science and Technology Center. Earlier this month, the county board approved a lease with Fareri Associates on 60-acres of county owned property at the Grasslands campus in Mount Pleasant. When finished, the new center will feature more than two million square feet

of biotechnology and research facilities, alongside space for medical offices, shopping, a hotel and a Children's Living Science Center. The project is expected to generate \$9 million in estimated new real estate taxes; \$7 million in estimated new annual rent to Westchester County and 12,000 jobs.

Regarding the Westchester County Airport, Astorino said the county is seeking to enter into a public-private partnership as part of an FAA program. Bids are due back in 90 days. "The idea is to create a long-term revenue stream so that money is coming into the County's budget for decades to come," Astorino said.

The County Executive advised that Playland will be up-and-running this season on May 13 with Standard Amusements investing \$60 million in the park for new attractions, restaurants and rides to come on-line in 2018.

Astorino asked the Board of Legislators to join him in a lawsuit to ward off the closure of Indian Point. He cited the potential loss of billions of dollars to the county and local communities. The lawsuit charges that Gov. Andrew Cuomo failed to follow the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) before announcing plans to close the plant.

Westchester's proposed lawsuit has nothing to do with the debate over nuclear

energy, Astorino said. Its purpose is to ensure that any decision to close Indian Point fully protects the rights and safety of residents and environment by following the law.

Astorino commented on the 2009 federal housing settlement by noting Westchester County had exceeded the requirement to develop 750 units of affordable housing in 31 mostly white communities by December 31, 2016 by delivering 790 units with another 100 in the pipeline.

During his speech, Astorino also cited success in the County's battle against homelessness – including Westchester's Patriot Housing program that helped secure housing for over 500 previously homeless veterans.

In a solemn ceremony, Astorino presented Armando "Chick" Galella of Sleepy Hollow with Westchester's highest honor – the Distinguished Service Award. Galella is one of the few living veterans to have fought at Pearl Harbor. He also was awarded the Bronze Star for his Meritorious Service during the invasion of Okinawa.

The Democratic Rebuttal

In a videotaped presentation, Catherine Borgia, the Democratic Majority Leader of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, gave the Democratic rebuttal,

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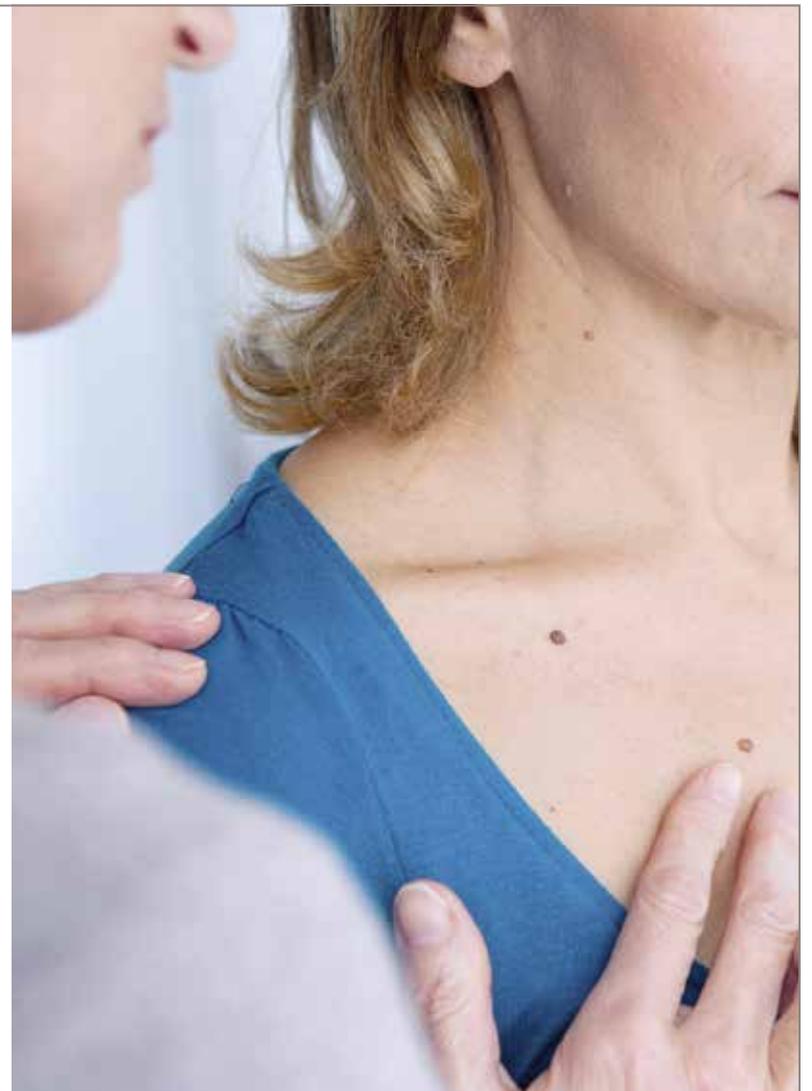
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Democratic County Exec Hopefuls Bash Astorino in Forum

By Martin Wilbur

Democratic county executive candidates Kenneth Jenkins and George Latimer vowed Sunday they would protect needed services, resolve outstanding issues related to the affordable housing settlement and support more inclusive policies in their administrations.

Joined by an enthusiastic crowd of supporters at a forum organized by nine progressive grassroots organizations in Croton-on-Hudson, the two hopefuls continually portrayed two-term incumbent Rob Astorino as a far-right ideologue who is out of step with mainstream Westchester values and even many Republicans.

A third candidate, Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti (D-Pleasantville), was also scheduled to attend but informed organizers late last week that he has decided against pursuing the Democratic nomination, said forum moderator Bruce Campbell.

Jenkins and Latimer argued that Astorino's dogmatic approach of refusing to consider even a small tax hike may be politically popular but has jeopardized the county's fiscal outlook. Westchester also remains the highest taxed county in the United States, they said. Under Astorino, county government has had flat taxes for six years while taxes were reduced 2 percent early in his administration.



County Legislator Kenneth Jenkins, seated left, and state Sen. George Latimer in Sunday's Democratic forum in Croton-on-Hudson.

Jenkins, a county legislator from Yonkers, called Astorino "Trump light" to the joy of the partisan crowd. Astorino's tough rhetoric regarding issues surrounding the affordable housing settlement is "masquerading as standing up to the federal government," said Jenkins.

"I'm running for county executive to be your county executive because I know we deserve better," he said. "I know we can do better. My plan gets us there."

Latimer, a state senator from Rye who

serves the 37th Senate District, said in three of his four years when he served as Board of Legislators chairman before becoming a state legislator taxes were zero. Growing revenue along with small tax increases when needed is a healthier alternative rather than borrowing for operating expenses.

"What we're seeing now is an ideological approach that says we are not going to raise taxes," Latimer said. "All of these things will come due, and when they come due, what will suffer is not the fiscal

policy alone, we're going to suffer in our environment, in our transportation in our affordable housing."

Both candidates pledged that the remaining affordable housing issues would be resolved shortly after they would take office. Last week it was reported that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) once again found the county's Analysis of Impediments (AI) to zoning to be insufficient.

Jenkins said the main issues have been source of income, submitting an AI that is acceptable to the federal government and how to deal with municipalities that do not comply with the agreement.

Latimer said he would head to Washington with a team of county officials and find common ground with HUD.

"We want affordable housing that would be acceptable to everybody and I guarantee within a month we will have turned a corner on this issue," Latimer said.

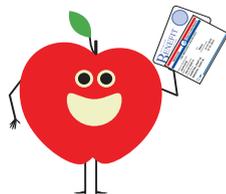
Restoring the county's Human Rights Commission would send a strong message to the public, particularly when the JCC of Mid-Westchester was receiving threats and there were other hate incidents earlier this year, the candidates agreed. Both said it would be properly staffed.

The two candidates also said they would work to restore vital services such as

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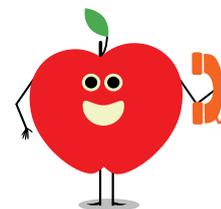


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Astorino Gives State of County Address, Borgia Offers Rebuttal

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claiming the County Executive's policies had set Westchester back.

"Tonight, with plenty of pomp and circumstance, the County Executive expressed his opinions of the current state of Westchester," Borgia said. "Here are the facts: Under this Administration, our finances have been treated like a credit card. For years the County has been forced to borrow in order to meet basic operating expenses. When you borrow money you have to pay it back - with interest. Democratic Legislators like Ben Boykin have long warned of the enormous budget shortfalls from this practice - and last year, the County Executive's budget stuck you with a \$15 million bill"

Borgia claimed that Astorino had

tried to negotiate a backroom deal to sell off the County airport to cover his own fiscal mismanagement, and warned that continued borrowing for operating expenses was going to eventually catch up with the County.

She cited the fight by legislators for funding of over \$1 Billion dollars' worth of needed repairs to bridges, roads, and infrastructure while the County Executive asked for \$25 Million for a new skating rink.

"This administration spends resources in the wrong places because of personal political ambition," Borgia said.

She noted that proposals like Paid Sick Leave, transportation initiatives and the immigration protection act are central to Democratic initiatives.

Holocaust Victims Remembered at Solemn Ceremony in White Plains

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went back to her hometown with the hope of finding a surviving member of her family. She soon found her way from Poland to an American zone in Germany, where she was able to travel to the United States in Feb. 1947.

"People who are born in this country, don't really appreciate how wonderful our country is," said the 87-year-old survivor. "I'm here 70 years and I'm a very loyal citizen."

"If we had Israel in 1939, we wouldn't have lost six million Jews, who were killed because they were born Jewish," she added.

Congressman Eliot Engel, who spoke at the event, said he believes the best way to honor those who were murdered is to make sure the United States continues to show its support to Israel.

"That's the way we can remember all of the family members and all of the people who perished because we have to always continue to say, no matter what, no matter all the tragedies, the people of Israel live," Engel said.

As survivors continue to pass away, the remaining few believe in the importance

of sharing their stories and experiences with the younger generation so this type of genocide never happens again.

"We must share our stories for the new generation to remember what happened to us," said Bettina Graf, a New Rochelle resident and survivor from Vienna, Austria.

"Her (Geizhals) story of survival gives life to the history, to the death march, concentration camps, and the ghettos and her story is a reminder of why we mourn the loss of six million lives," County Executive Rob Astorino said. "We're blessed to know those who survived, we're blessed to know Esther and we are obligated to reflect on her memories to carry her experiences with us in our hearts."

**SMALL NEWS
IS BIG NEWS**

Democratic County Exec Hopes Bash Astorino in Forum

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health, mental health and transportation. Jenkins said one idea he has is to use 10 percent of the county's \$400 million corrections budget to fund programs for youths.

"It will help our school districts, it will help save money for our school districts," Jenkins said. "It will help make sure that social services will have less pressure on them. At the end of the day, that's the kind of forward thinking we need to have."

Latimer reiterated that he would bow out of the race should he fail to gain support at the May 10 Democratic convention. The party should unify and not force the unnecessary expenditure of money, he said.

However, Jenkins said he would press

ahead to a Sept. 12 primary if he's not selected because Democratic voters should have a choice.

Both candidates said turning out Democratic voters, who are often unmotivated in off election years, is a key to defeating Astorino in November.

"It's all about taking a message and packaging a winning strategy," Jenkins said. "We all understand this is what it's all about."

The organizations that co-sponsored the event are Action Together Northern Westchester; Indivisible CD 17; Indivisible Rivertowns, Northern Westchester Indivisible; Indivisible Pleasantville; Up2Us; Up & Up Action Initiative; and Yorktown Together.

Automatic Voter Registration

Could Fix New York's Poor Voter Turnout continued from page 1

definite patterns that indicate those laws were created to inhibit votes by members of minority groups.

With all the claims about voter fraud in the 2016 election, Lopez said actual voter fraud is "vanishingly rare." There are adequate procedures in place to check



Sally Robinson, League of Women Voters New York, Vice President Issues and Advocacy, refers to a 2012 report that outlines voter issues in New York.

voter registration, he said, adding that what needs to be done is to get people registered.

National statistics quoted by Lopez indicate there are 50 million unregistered voters in the United States, or one in four eligible citizens not registered to vote. In New York State 40% of adult citizens are not registered.

Lopez proposed that automatic voter registration (AVR) where any time a citizen registers with a government agency they are automatically registered to vote, be adopted in New York. "This is an opt-out rather than an opt-in program," Lopez explained. He quoted a report by the PEW Research Center that found most people believe that when they register a change of address with the Post Office their voter registration is updated as well.

"This is not true," Lopez said. "Many

people find out they are not registered when they arrive at the polls to vote and find out their name is not on the rolls."

California, Connecticut, Oregon, Vermont, West Virginia and Alaska currently have AVR. During the first month that AVR was in place in Connecticut more people were registered than in 2015, 2014, and 2013.

Lopez further indicated that AVR actually makes the rolls cleaner.

Wilson spends her time advocating for voter reform in New York by lobbying with members of the legislature. She advocates electronic, rather than printed poll books to help streamline the registration and sign-in process. Electronic registration would allow voters to register up to 10 days before Election Day, according to the New York State Constitution. A law passed by the Legislature changed that date to 25 days to accommodate the printing of the large rolls.

Assemblyman Buchwald said people should be involved in democracy at its core. He encourages New Yorkers to support NY Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's proposed Bill A53121, which includes 11 proposals addressing a range of voter topics including early voting in the state.

Buchwald promotes consolidating state primaries, but noted that when most election reform bills get to the state senate "that's the end of them, unfortunately, as a fact point-of-view," including proposals that would make the ballot easier to read.

Buchwald further noted that often, ethics and election reform proposals get into the budget process and disappear. "The budget process cannot be the be all and end all on advocacy for these issues," he said. "There is no reason why we can't pass legislation now and then tie it up to next year's budget."

All the panelists agreed that New York needs to update its voting machines. "Forty-two states are using 10-year-old or more equipment, but people are not making this a priority," Lopez said.

They all agreed AVR should be pursued in New York and around the country.

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Program Seeks Volunteers to Provide Free Rides for Seniors

By Martin Wilbur

It's no secret that the American population continues to age as medical advances and greater knowledge about how to stay healthy emerge.

But longevity creates other problems, such as providing services to the aging population that previously may not have been needed.

One service whose popularity is steadily increasing in Westchester is RideConnect, a Family Services of Westchester program that provides free transportation by volunteer drivers to residents 60 years old and over, most of whom are on fixed incomes or who can no longer drive. They are taken to doctors' appointments, shopping, religious services or social visits anywhere in the county or southern Putnam.

However, the demand for RideConnect, which is based in Mount Kisco, far exceeds the service's ability to find enough volunteer drivers, said its Director Karen Ganis.

Last week, Ganis and RideConnect's Mobility Manager Marietta Manoni appealed for more volunteers. It doesn't have to be a time-consuming commitment, but if someone can provide just one ride a week that would help keep up with the demand.

"Whatever they're willing to do we're willing to have it because we have so many people looking for rides to everything,

to doctors' appointments, to grocery shopping, to church, to synagogue," Ganis said. "We even have a client who herself is a volunteer."

In 2012, RideConnect's first year, there were 993 rides and referrals to other agencies. Last year that number mushroomed to 15,971 rides and referrals, according to Ganis.

However, RideConnect, which receives about 80 percent of its funding from the federal government and most of the balance from Westchester County, currently has a roster of only about 150 volunteers, she said.

Ganis said that some of the drivers still work while others are retirees. There is a strong vetting process to screen volunteer drivers, who can be from 21 to 80 years old. They must pass a background check and have a clean driving record.

Aside from saving seniors from prohibitively expensive livery service providers, it is common for volunteers and clients to form friendships, Manoni said.

"It's also a comfort level," she said. "With us, we're kind of a little mom and pop shop, so they're very comfortable with our volunteers."

"Our volunteers may be strangers, but not for long," Manoni added.

Ganis said the satisfaction many of the volunteer drivers derive from helping people who might otherwise

be housebound is its own gift.

"The volunteers will tell you they get as much as they give," Ganis said. "The stories they get from the clients are funny. A lot of them are World War II veterans and have unbelievable stories to share. Depression-era babies who can tell you about going through some hard times. I think our volunteers get a lot out of it."

Garrison resident Tom Brennan, a retiree college instructor at St. Thomas Aquinas in Sparkill, said he volunteers whenever he can and finds the seniors incredibly friendly and grateful.

"You can't believe how appreciative these people are," said Brennan, who drives in northern Westchester. "We're like a lifeline to their doorstep."

Della Howell of Mahopac, also a retiree who has been volunteering for close to three years, said she cherishes her time driving, talking with the passengers



RideConnect Mobility Manager Marietta Manoni, left, with one of the service's clients, Louise Spano of Yorktown Heights. RideConnect provides free transportation for seniors 60 and up for pickups and drop-offs anywhere in Westchester and southern Putnam.

and learning.

"They're as important to me as I am to them," Howell said.

Volunteers can operate any kind of vehicle. For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Karen Ganis at 914-242-7433 or visit www.rideconnectwestchester.org.

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Letter from Gedney Assoc. President to the White Plains Council Regarding FASNY

The latest events concerning FASNY's unrelenting efforts to build a regional school complex in the south end of the City raise very serious legal questions. Let's review the facts: In 2013 the Common Council found the entire former Ridgeway Country Club as an environmentally sensitive site. In fact, the City went out of its way to say that each of the parcels were environmentally sensitive. In September of 2016 the Common Council in a split 4 to 3 vote agreed to a Stipulation of Agreement to review yet another FASNY plan in which the school development would be on Parcel A and as part of that review consider removing that parcel as an environmentally sensitive site. The Agreement said the Common Council would "determine whether the Alternative Plan is or involves any 'Environmentally Sensitive Site or Feature' as defined in Section 2.4 of the City Zoning Ordinance."

In the Fall of 2016 the Gedney Association engaged an environmental specialist who submitted a report on November 30, 2016 confirming that the Parcel was an "Environmentally Sensitive Site" under the City's regulations.

Over three months passed when on March 10, 2017 FASNY's attorney sent a letter to the Mayor and Common Council complaining about the Gedney Association's report and unbelievably said "Such a determination would undermine one of the essential premises of the Stipulation of Agreement that FASNY's limitation on its reduced Alternative

School Plan to Parcel A would require only a majority vote." There is absolutely nothing in the Stipulation that even remotely suggests this. The letter suggests some sort of "private deal" hatched by the parties secretly, which we all know is not legal and requires further investigation regardless of the outcome of the Common Council decision.

Three days later on March 10, 2017 Commissioner of Planning Gomez sent a memorandum to the Common Council confirming that Parcel A was indeed an Environmentally Sensitive Site. On March 15, 2017 the Common Council voted that Parcel A was indeed an Environmentally Sensitive Site. On the night of the Meeting the Roach administration released two reports prepared for the City confirming the site's Environmentally Sensitive Site designation. These reports were dated November 28, 2016 and February 16, 2017 but not released until that night. These reports should have made public months ago.

Lastly, FASNY's lawyer keeps referring to Scenic Hudson's two-page letter supporting FASNY's argument that the stream in question is a ditch. I personally spoke to a signer of the Scenic Hudson letter who said they never inspected the site, which is an essential requirement of any such analysis. I should also note that the Chair of the French American School, Andrea Soros Columbel is on the Advisory Board of Scenic Hudson. Another surprise.

The other significant and frankly bizarre modification in the new plan is the proposed use of Ridgeway. In December of 2013 the Common Council in its Environmental Findings resolution was emphatic in stating: "The potential significant adverse impacts on public infrastructure of the MPP/Ridgeway as proposed cannot be mitigated" (Finding H-13).

"None of the Ridgeway access mitigation measures address the unmitigated significant adverse impact that full access to the project Site from Ridgeway and Hathaway Lane has on the role of Ridgeway as a Collector Street, not as an arterial roadway, as identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan." (Finding J-8)

In a report dated November 2012 Sue Habel former City Planning Commissioner cited the following adverse impacts in using Ridgeway: Impacts on the operation of Ridgeway as a Collector road;

Impacts to traffic flow into and out of the downtown on both North Street and Mamaroneck Avenue due to signal timing and adjustments;

Impacts to pedestrians using Ridgeway, which does not have sidewalks along its length from the Proposed Project to North Street.

Impacts on local neighborhood streets due to cut-through traffic to avoid congestion on the major arterial streets and particularly on Ridgeway during AM and PM drop-off and pick-up periods.

The latest FASNY plan actually increases the student population for the middle and high school from 478 in May of 2014 to now 640. Our traffic engineer points out that FASNY has made various errors in the basic math calculations and in their own assumptions and therefore their estimates of peak hour morning traffic are off by 23.9%. Also, FASNY estimates that there will be 1.65 students per car. Why did they not use a more reliable indicator such as actual experience of the German school with 1.30 students per car, a difference of 21.2%?

The key finding of our traffic engineer is that the new FASNY Plan "presents multiple safety hazards." In her report she states, "Unrestricted access to multiple minor streets in the immediate area will result in innumerable safety hazards that

cannot be mitigated without changing the nature and character of the affected neighborhoods." Our fire safety expert states "The FASNY proposal will lead to significant increases in fire response time from Fire Station 7 to a substantial part of the Gedney Farm neighborhood north of Ridgeway."

Simply put, Ridgeway was not designed to accommodate this volume of traffic.

The existing road network in this area is like 'Swiss Cheese'. The streets in these neighborhoods were constructed close to 100 years ago before the advent of subdivision road specifications relating to width and configuration. In more recent years cul-de-sac design was implemented to avoid cut-through traffic. Besides the substandard width these streets have no sidewalks. The street network would make it very easy for drivers to funnel through these neighborhood streets to access the school, thereby creating hazardous conditions, which will undeniably put our children, pedestrians and cyclists in danger.

The Council should never have considered reopening this application. It is now clear that the obvious effort of the Stipulation was to crassly bypass the super-majority vote requirement for environmentally sensitive sites. It is a disgrace and disrespectful of the entire review process. The holding back of expert studies commissioned by the City confirming Parcel A as an environmentally sensitive site (ESS) until just before the Council Meeting casts a further cloud on the process.

In conclusion, the manner in which the entire ESS matter was handled was inappropriate to say the least.

**-John E. Sheehan, President
The Gedney Association**

Editor's Note: This letter was edited for space considerations.



**SMALL NEWS
IS BIG NEWS**

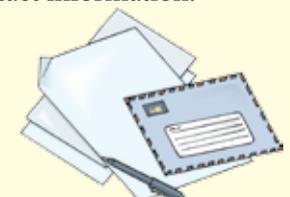
Correction

In the April 18-24 edition of The White Plains Examiner there was a front-page headline that read: "Tigers Ace Pitcher Spencer Lodes is Back in the Rotation." This was an editorial error, as Spencer Lodes was merely making his first appearance this season as a pitcher in Relief, in the WPHS vs. Mamaroneck game on Saturday, April 15. Lodes is working his way back into the Starting Pitcher Rotation, after being sidelined this season from pitching with shoulder stiffness, as the writer wrote in his story.



Letters Policy

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Obituaries

Emanuel Belmont

Emanuel F. Belmont, a lifelong resident of White Plains, passed away April 18. He was 93. Emanuel was born May 9, 1923 to Angelo and Rose (nee Severino) Belmont. He was a proud veteran of WWII, where he flew 53 bombing missions over Europe and Africa. After his service "Manny" was employed by Jack's Army Navy Store, Joe's Sport and Marine Shop, The Brother's Shop, and was the Court Clerk for the City of White Plains. Emanuel married Gabriella Buccelli in 1948.

Emanuel is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Gabriella, his two children Patricia Sabatino of White Plains, and Jeanette Moore of Ft. Worth, TX, three grandchildren; Suzanne Kellar, Cheryl Sabatino and Kristen Moore, two great-grandchildren; Jude and Aviana, and three nephews; Ronald, Donald, and Douglas.

Lore Silton

Lore Silton, a former resident of Rye Brook, passed away on April 15. She is survived by her husband Peter Silton, son Andrew Silton and his wife Margaret Kanze Silton, daughter Nicole Klemens, former son-in-law, Michael Klemens, son Daniel Quat, grandchildren Katherine Silton and her husband Roger Williams,

Andrew Silton and his wife Katherine Weissler, Daniel Klemens and Robert Klemens, and great granddaughters Annabel and Emily Williams.

Lore was born in Hohenlimburg, Germany on December 17, 1920 to Morris Rosenberg and Hilde Benjamin. She had an older brother Fritz. Lore and her family left Germany in 1936 and lived in Belgium. Her father died in a traffic accident in 1939, and her brother and stepfather were arrested and deported to Gurs, France shortly after the German invasion of Belgium in 1940. Lore and her mother fled Belgium in 1941 and were smuggled into Free France. In 1942 Lore and her family escaped a German deportation order in Annecy, France by hiking across the Swiss border. She survived the remainder of World War II in refugee camps and as a maid in Switzerland.

Lore came to the U.S. in 1947, living and working in Manhattan as a secretary. She married her husband, Peter in 1949. They lived in Queens, Dallas, Texas and from 1960 until 2015 in Rye Brook, before moving to the Knolls retirement community in Valhalla. In addition to being a stay-at-home mom, Lore was a long-time member of the Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains, a volunteer for Carver Center, an organization serving the minority communities of Port Chester, a

French tutor, a volunteer in boy scouts, girl scouts and the PTA, and a sales representative for various Caribbean hotels.

During 67 years of marriage to her husband Peter, a retired airline executive for KLM, Lore traveled through dozens of America's national parks, explored many of the world's great cities, and reunited with family and friends spread across the continents. Lore had a passion for cooking and hospitality, which she continued to pursue up until this year.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Doctors Without Borders or the Valhalla Ambulance Corp. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mary Schaeffner

Mary Catherine Schaeffner died peacefully on April 15 surrounded by her family.

Mary is the mother of Margaret (Meg) Reilly of Ridgefield, CT and Ronald Schaeffner of Purchase. She was greatly loved by her grandchildren Meaghan and Matt Reilly, Danielle Schaeffner, Kaitlin Schaeffner Wright and great-granddaughter Kaia Wright.

Mary moved to Ridgefield, CT in 2011 after residing in Purchase for more than 50 years. She was born in Oswego, IL the daughter of Charles and Margaret

(Gorman) Foss and grew up in Chicago before moving to Louisville, KY as a teenager.

Mary met her future husband Bill (who predeceased her in 1994) on a blind date while he was stationed at Fort Knox during WW2. They were married in November 1944. Mary and Bill moved to La Grange, Illinois because of a General Foods Company transfer. While there Mary actively volunteered at St. Francis School as well as the local hospital. Upon returning to New York, Mary remained involved by giving countless hours to the White Plains Women's Club, St. Anthony's parish, and working at the White Plains Board of Education. Mary was a founding member of the St Anthony's choir and sang each Sunday well into her eighties.

The family would like to give special thanks to all the caregivers in the Ridgefield area who cared for their mother with compassion, respect and love. They will be forever grateful.

A private burial was held on April 19 at St John's Cemetery in Middle Village, Queens, NY. A memorial service for family and friends will be held on Saturday May 6 at 10 am at St Anthony of Padua Church in West Harrison.



No Happy Earth Day for Westchester County

As communities throughout Westchester gathered to honor and protect our planet on Earth Day, April 22, they should have paused to consider our County's scorecard on the environment.

Environmental groups like Scenic Hudson and Riverkeeper, in partnership with Governor Cuomo, the NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation and the Department of Health fought for over a decade to shut down the aging nuclear reactors at Indian Point. They cited Indian Point's history of operational, safety and environmental problems, as well as the grave risk of a nuclear accident to the 20 million people living within a 50-mile radius of the reactors.

Further, the reactors' antiquated cooling systems were responsible for the killing of billions of aquatic organisms, leading to a precipitous decline in numbers of fish in the Hudson River. An agreement was reached in January 2017 to close the plant by 2021.

County Executive Rob Astorino was not ready to embrace the benefit to public safety and the environment that the closing of Indian Point provided. In April he announced that he intended to file a lawsuit seeking to invalidate the agreement reached between NY State and Entergy to close the reactors.

In 2015 Astorino made a deal with SpectraEnergy granting it a license to build a pipeline carrying fracked gas through Blue Mountain Preserve, a public park. He bypassed legislative and county review processes to do so. Why? Could SpectraEnergy and its subcontractors' contributions to Astorino's campaign have been the reason? Today, our Blue Mountain county park stands denuded

of trees and vegetation, drains clogged and ditches filled with standing water.

In his statements, Astorino has shown that protecting the environment is not a priority. He has frequently spoken up for fracking, calling it a "great economic opportunity," despite its contamination of groundwater and impact on climate change. Astorino has refused to acknowledge the threat posed by the Algonquin pipeline, which carries fracked gas for export and passes within a few hundred feet of Buchanan Elementary school and close to Indian Point's irradiated spent fuel rods.

When asked at a town hall recently his opinion of President Trump's assertion that climate change is a Chinese hoax, Astorino refused to condemn that absurd claim.

This year, Westchester's citizens will have another chance to celebrate Earth Day on November 7, when voters will head to the polls to vote on a County Executive. With our vote, we can make a choice for a county leader who puts our environment and our health above campaign contributions.

—Svetlana Tsalik, Larchmont



Salon 913, White Plains

By Pat Casey

Gina Barrios and Maria (Rini) DeVito have been professional hair stylists for many years, each with the dream of one day owning their own studio. That dream came true in January this year, when they discovered Sola Salon Studios on Hamilton Avenue in White Plains and opened their own business in Studio 8. Their mantra: "Good Karma for your Hair."

Having worked together at a salon located upcounty, Barrios said she and DeVito had kept their eye on each other. "I knew that if left, I would want to take Rini with me, Barrios explained, "and she thought the same thing about me."

When they learned about Sola, the possibility to have their own salon became reality because the Sola Salon business model allowed them to rent a studio and open a franchise at a price they could afford. "We took the largest studio and made it our own," Barrios said.

And the venture has been a great success. The business has been growing by recommendations from very satisfied customers. Clients come from as far north as Brewster and the Bronx in the south.

The partners, who live in Hartsdale and Tarrytown, love the city environment of White Plains. They like the vibrancy of the people and the changing pace the city makes from daytime business to nighttime

entertainment. Their location near three municipal parking lots offers easy access.

The salon is open seven days a week by appointment and Barrios recommends customers call at least a day in advance to get the time slot they want.

"We take walk-ins too, if we have time between bookings, but calling first is best," Barrios said.

For each new customer Barrios and DeVito take time to do a consultation, finding out what the client wants and what would work best for their lifestyle and hair.

"It's spring now and most of our customers want something fresh and new like highlights. Some customers want lowlights to give their hair more depth or a glaze to give the hair shine or a more intense Keratin treatment to protect the hair shaft and prevent frizz in humid weather. Then we follow up with a cut and maintenance," Barrios explained, adding that they also offer perms, up-do's, facial waxing and other services.

The Salon 913 studio environment is relaxed and as clients become regulars, the atmosphere has become comfortable and friendly. "This is just what I wanted," Barrios said. "I don't want the factory feel,

I want my customers to feel at home. They walk in the door, drop their bag on a chair and then relax while we make them look their best."

Salon 913 was named for Barrios' wedding anniversary date and she is the mother of a four-month-old boy. This keeps her busy, but also in the swing of different looks and needs for different clients. And those clients cover many age groups and include men as well as women.

"Many of my early morning customers are men," Barrios said.

The partners plan to offer a "ladies night out" package for groups of women interested in sipping on simple cocktails and eating lite snacks while they get their look updated before heading to the restaurants in White Plains.

Barrios, who loves to create up-do's, also books bridal parties and has ideas for styles for the upcoming prom season.

With Mother's Day in May, the Salon is offering \$5 off the regular \$75 price for a color and cut; and \$10 off highlights and cut at \$130. There will also be a Mother's



Rini DeVito (front) and Gina Barrios opened Salon 913 on Hamilton Avenue in White Plains in January.

Day Raffle for a basket full of products and a gift card that all mothers coming into the salon for services will be entered into.

Barrios feels her prices are very reasonable and will keep customers coming back. She stands firmly behind the professionalism and quality of the work she and DeVito do.

Salon 913 is located at 445 Hamilton Ave., Suite 100, White Plains. Call 914-844-9906 for an appointment.



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Boomerang

Radicals, Greeks, Youthquakes, Revolutions, and Weird Democracies



By Richard Cirulli

Media does not report 'news' it creates it. An event happens when it goes on TV and becomes a myth.
–Jerry Rubin

The summer of love was to a degree the work of such upstart political firebrands as Tom Hayden, Abbie Hoffman, and Jerry Rubin to name just a few, who along with their moniker Yuppies (Youth International Party) entrenched the forces of the young and old in a generational clash for the future of Western Civilization. These militant Yuppies sought a revolutionary change, hoping to break the 'crooked timber' of the human condition by using its 'Youthquake' to cast the remnants of this splintered tree as the seeds to grow a new American Utopian future. To a degree they have achieved their goal. Since the sixties, America has grown a more liberal form of Democracy, as manifested by our now languid views of social mores, supported by many elected politicians and appointed officials.

Now that Democracy has become the preferred label for modern representative government, it is now also fashionable to label bad forms of popular government as 'ochlocracy' or mob rule. Some historians and academics have credited this

'success' to the Fourth Great Awakening in American history brought on by the Youthquake of the sixties counterculture. The First Great Awakening occurred in the 1730s-1740s that set in motion the spirit of the American Revolution. The Second Great Awakening occurred in the early 19th century and forged the dynamics leading to the Civil War (second revolution). Scholars disagree on the Third Great Awakening that was instrumental in producing the politics of progressivism of the early 20th century.

With all this talk about Democracy, it is worth noting that the concept is derived from the Greek word *demos* referring to the 'poor many'.

For the record, Jerry Rubin had reinvented himself from being a sixties radical to a very successful businessman in the 1980s. Aristotle might have addressed this behavior in his *Nicomachean Ethics* by stating that the young should not be permitted to engage in political science since they lack the life experience to form the basis of reasoning, and have the tendency to follow their emotions. Furthermore, Aristotle's conception of revolution is viewed in two parts. The first is stasis, the situation in which political life simply cannot go on any longer. The other is bloody civil war in

which stasis can lead.

To prevent this, Aristotle believed a stable government could be achieved by giving political power to the majority of citizens so long as they possess the majority of societies' wealth. Sociologists call this the lozenge shaped distribution of wealth. For example, if there are few very poor and few very rich in society, the middle with much to lose, will outvote the poor and not ally to them to expropriate the rich. By their numbers alone the middle can deter the rich from encroaching upon the rights and wealth of their inferiors. Ironically, the Greeks feared the *demos* would use their political power in their own

Guest Column

interest, not unlike today, where the top less than 1% (the rich and well bred) use their concentrated wealth and power for their own interest. We should ask ourselves how our democracy has fallen to this sad state where it can no longer distribute power and wealth for the common good.

The answer may be found by looking at the true revolution that silently usurped the Yippie revolution. While the powers behind the throne allowed this youth circus to perform and capture the attention of the media, for the sake of democracy, the managerial revolution

was entrenched as the ultimate oligarchy of power behind the throne.

In the managerial revolution corporations became the de facto power, wielding control over the nation. The constitution of oligarchy is based on property assessment, in essence, the rich rule at the expense of the poor. Plato was correct in stating that oligarchy is the adversary of democracy, since the former is based on the accumulation of concentrated wealth, while the latter is based on freedom and equality.

Democracy has been raided by propaganda using the vocabulary of liberal democracy to mask a truly undemocratic society. Today in America, oligarchy is freely masquerading as a democratic society unbeknownst to many Americans. We should ask ourselves in earnest: "Are we truly living in a WEIRD (Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic) society? Or do we really care?"

Trotsky summed it up best, "you say you are not interested in politics, but politics is interested in you."

Did I hear anyone whisper Davos? The Bilderbergs? Check Mate? Is it too late?

Dr. Richard Cirulli, is a retired professor, business consultant, writer, columnist, and innocent bystander at large. He looks forward to your comments, and can be reached at profcirulli@optonline.net.

Distracted Driving – It Can Wait

By Marissa Shorenstein and Anthony B. Spada

Spring is the season of life, a time of renewed energy and growth. It is a time when more people take to the roads and sidewalks and revel in warmer weather. Despite the vibrant colors of the flowers, the sound of children playing outdoors, April is also Distracted Driving Awareness Month – a month in which we also face the grim reminder that distracted driving is as dangerous as ever.

As technology improves, the ability to stay connected to our friends, family and social media rests at our fingertips. But you must remember, the decision to take your eyes off the road is not worth a life. We may be heading to different destinations, but we are all on this road together. This message couldn't be more important as AAA research shows that 81 percent of drivers say texting/emailing while driving is a very serious threat to safety. AT&T research shows that more than 9 in 10 people consider smartphone distracted driving to be dangerous, yet 7 in 10 engage in smartphone activities while driving.

Though the majority of drivers are aware of the dangers of distracted driving, despite the warnings, they continue the

risky behavior. This is why AT&T and AAA Western and Central New York (AAA WCNY) remain committed to educating the public on the increasing dangers of distracted driving; 70 percent of people consider distracted drivers a much bigger problem today than three years ago.

One way to curb this issue is by starting at home. All parents and guardians need to be positive role models for the young drivers in their households: educate them to never use your phone behind the wheel and talk with them about this dangerous behavior. Seventy-seven percent of teens say that adults tell them not to text or email while driving – but they see their parents constantly doing it themselves -- and 93% of teens say they would stop if a parent in the car asked them to do so. This is important because drivers ages 19-24 were nearly twice as likely as all drivers to report having typed or sent a text message or email while driving, per AAA research. Talk with the young drivers in your house about distracted driving, and be a good role model by putting your phone down.

One resource parents can use to talk with their children is AT&T's It Can Wait campaign, which has one simple message: distracted driving is never OK.

You're never alone on the road, even when you're alone in your car. Texting, video chatting, web surfing, and social media endangers the lives of the drivers around you, children riding their bikes and the mother crossing the street with her newborn baby.

The campaign has inspired more than 15 million pledges – and counting – from people across the country to not drive distracted. Take the pledge at ItCanWait.com. One pledge could save a life.

Another tool is AT&T DriveMode

– a free app that silences incoming text message alerts when your car reaches 15 MPH.

We at AAA and AT&T are proud to support the efforts of It Can Wait ... and we encourage all drivers to do so. The message is simple: keep your eyes on the road and not on your phone.

Marissa Shorenstein is the New York President/Senior Vice President of AT&T and Anthony Spada is President-CEO at AAA Western and Central New York and President of AAA New York State.

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If My House is Dusty, Am I a Bad Person?

If we are made from dust and shall return to dust, as the Bible tells us, does that give us a pass to live with the stuff during the time in between?

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, not only as housekeepers, but also as human beings.

And some of us just don't care.

I remember an interview long ago in *The New York Times* in which an eccentric artist said she hadn't dusted her apartment in over 30 years, saying, "after the first two years or so, you really can't tell the difference." That kind of empirical research really impresses me.

In the HBO movie "Grey Gardens," Jackie Kennedy Onassis's 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 Onassis arrives to help remedy the situation and registers her shock at the condition of the property, Edie dismisses the condition of her living environment by saying simply 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. A recent survey revealed

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. Furthermore, it shows that 38 percent of women and 24 percent of men experience real stress living in a messy environment.

It would seem that, especially in times of stress, 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.

Professor Carol Nemeroff, director of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Southern Maine, said this psychological boost may be derived from biological programming to clean out our nests.

"And because we know that good hygiene leads to good health," she said, "cleaning may ultimately be related to a basic survival instinct."

Wow, get out that dust rag.

For those who still don't feel like dusting, it may be motivating to know that dust is composed largely of our own

flaking skin cells. Now that we know what it contains and that it can cause real stress, does this explain the expression "uncomfortable in our own skin?"

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

There are both 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 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, which offer varying degrees of effectiveness depending on the model, or as whole-house systems. Prices range from \$100 for a portable model to over \$1,000 for a whole-house system.

But, among the houses I've listed or sold, I was aware of only one couple that 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 regular rags or one of those new magic dusters to which particles cling, such as the Swiffer Sweeper or Pledge Grab-It Cloths. Because the latter option can be expensive, a regular rag can be just as effective if dampened before use and cleaned frequently.

I definitely do not recommend a feather duster because it merely spreads the dust around.

It's funny how the exploratory process can affect you. As I sit at my computer, I'm very aware and uncomfortable in the knowledge that there is a lot of dust trapped between the keys of the keyboard. 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). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com, and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.



By Bill Primavera



The Elixir of Life: Wine or Water? At What Cost?



By Nick Antonaccio

I've written numerous occasions that today's wines are of the highest quality and greatest value in the history of wine. A mere 50 years ago (which is a short breath in the 6,000-year history of wine), poor growing techniques in vineyards and unclean and adulterated grapes and fermented grape juice were the culprits in many off-putting wines sold in the marketplace.

Then the latest generation of winemakers took over the family reins in wineries across the globe. They were eager to learn new techniques and to employ new technology to enhance their wines in order to meet the growing sophistication of wine consumers' palates. They were critically aware that the success of their wineries depended on expanding their brand recognition, and distribution, beyond their local and national borders.

In 2017, wine consumers have more choices than ever before from more regions than ever before, at price points lower than ever before.

The value and quality of wines priced at \$15 and below has grown exponentially in the last 10 years.

A parallel history of water has occurred. Ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans cultivated grapes and produced wine as an alternative to contaminated water. As the quality of water began to improve, it was added to wine to dilute its bitter taste and off-flavors. Medieval winemaking practices dictated a ratio of two to three portions of water to one portion of wine.

In more modern times, water continues to be added to wines to mitigate unwanted components, including high alcohol and undesirable concentrations of naturally occurring sugars. In California, regulators now permit the limited addition of "Jesus units." (That's term for water, referencing his miracle of transforming water into wine at the Marriage at Cana.)

Once water became clean and pure, it slowly became a beverage of choice over other beverages, including certain wines. I remember the first time, which seems like ages ago, I came across a bottle of still water on the supermarket shelves. My reaction? They put tap water into a bottle and expect me to pay for it when I can drink my own (seemingly) free New York City Catskills spring water from my kitchen

faucet? But over time, convenience won out over logic, and today I'm buying cases of "spring water" at my local supermarket.

These days, enterprising businesses are selling a bottle of water for less than a quarter. So, just as quality wines have been declining in price, so has bottled water.

And that sounds like markets in perfect sync with each other: higher quality and lower prices.

Of course, there are exceptions to the norm. There are still a few wines in the marketplace where economic elasticity is upside down. I'm seeing the same phenomenon for waters. High-end "designer waters," like the 11-ounce Voss, retail for well over \$1. Even higher-end bottles from "Canadian Glaciers" retail for up to \$14 per bottle.

In today's consumer market psyche of "I will outspend you simply because I can" and "I need to have the most expensive product in the market," it's difficult to rationalize the price of wine compared to these waters.

When the vectors of wine and water prices cross in a pricing graph, it might be quite disconcerting to consumers. The price of select waters is greater than that of select wines?

Here's a case in point:

For years, the price of Trader Joe's

Charles Shaw wines, dubbed "Two Buck Chuck," have been the darlings of price-conscious consumers. At \$1.99 per bottle, the approximately eight wines appeal to a certain demographic, selling nearly one billion (!) bottles annually.

Even when the price escalated to \$2.49 – and Trader Joe's retained the name (the new price rounds down into Two Buck territory) – sales remained solid. However, in a strange twist of upside economics, the Two Buck Chuck on Trader Joe's shelves sells for less than select waters in the marketplace.

The "elixir of life" – wine or water? You decide. Is it composition or economics?

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





Happenings



The Examiner is happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event to pcasey@theexaminernews.com. For a full listing of the upcoming week's events, visit www.theexaminernews.com and click on Happenings.

Tuesday, April 25

Stories & Stuff: "Hooray for the Library" preschool story time, including a craft activity, for ages 4 and 5 without adult. Literacy connections are made where stories are centered around a theme and children listen and interact with corresponding rhymes, songs and/or finger plays. A final craft project ties in with the topic fostering a sense that stories are imaginative; 4:30 p.m.; White Plains Public Library, 100 Martine Avenue, White Plains.

Tuesdays@Dorrey's. This week Rev. John Collins will talk about Reconstruction, the period from the end of the Civil War in 1865 until the withdrawal of Federal troops from the states of the Confederacy in 1876 has in many ways shaped US history ever since. We will discuss the amazing achievements of the formerly enslaved people during that period, accomplishments largely forgotten or debunked by revisionist historians. We will also consider the importance of Reconstruction in understanding what David Billings has called "the persistence of white supremacy in US history and culture" and its poisonous effect in the Age of Trump. Tuesdays@Dorrey's gathers conservation partners every Tuesday to share a meal and learn from presenters invited each week. Food ordering starts at 5:30 p.m. presentation 6 to 7 p.m. Dorrey's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, 914-682-0005.

Wednesday, April 26

Noontime Getaway Concert. Downtown Music at Grace welcomes Scarsdale Middle School Performing Ensembles Vocal Music Club, Sinfonietta,

Grade 4-6 All-District Elementary Jazz Band Grade 7 and 8 Jazz Band. These ensembles rehearse weekly outside of the school day. The performers are highly dedicated and work very hard in developing their craft as well the skills needed to perform within an ensemble. The program includes a variety of music ranging from Classical to Jazz to Broadway. A Downtown Music debut. Free Admission. Concert begins at 12:10 for 30 min. at Grace Episcopal Church in downtown White Plains at the intersection of Mamaroneck Ave. and Main St. This concert is made possible with the generous support of Jim and Betsy Dineen.

Lunchtime Meditation. At the White Plains Library a weekly meditation program. No registration or equipment necessary. Starts promptly at 12:15 p.m. with the first few minutes devoted to beginning instruction. For information please contact 914-422-1496 or cdeschamps@whiteplainsny.gov. The White Plains Public Library is located at 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

The Nazi Hunters. With Andrew Nagorski, a lecture about those who searched for and prosecuted Nazis at the Nuremberg trials including the experiences of the young American prosecutors in the Nuremberg and Dachau trials. There will be a book signing and books will be available for purchase; 7:30 p.m.; Romita Auditorium, Ryan Hall, Iona College, 715 North St., New Rochelle. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, April 27

Great Books Forum Series. Thomas Hardy's "Jude the Obscure" will be discussed. Led by Professor Maryanne Vent. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Room 131, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Professor James Werner at james.werner@sunywcc.edu.

Friday, April 28

New York State Legislators Town Hall. Meet members of the Westchester and Putnam delegation as they discuss the most pressing issues facing the state, including replacement power for Indian Point and decommissioning the site; broadband investment through state funded programs; economic development initiatives to make New York more competitive; shared services initiative; free tuition at public universities; and reform of public pensions and benefits. Pace University's Wilcox Hall, 861 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 to 9:45 a.m. Westchester County Association members and young professionals: \$35. Non-members: \$45. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit www.westchester.org.

Tai Chi Class. A graceful form of exercise that helps reduce stress and is beneficial for a variety of other health conditions. It promotes serenity through gentle, flowing movements performed in a slow, focused manner accompanied by deep breathing. Reformed Church of the Tarrytowns, 42 N. Broadway, Tarrytown. 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-366-3937.

Opening Reception for "Rebel, Rebel."

A solo exhibition of new works by New York artist Adam Handler. The exhibit will debut a new body of work primarily comprised of Handler's "Girl" and "Tulip" paintings, recurrent and favorite themes for the artist. These works continue to deal with the female archetype, and issues of identity, and depict an international set of characters. Doing away with perspective and proportion, he opts for bold, loud colors and exaggerated forms, embellished with repeated patterns of colorful floral adornments and geometric configurations that reach out to the edge of the canvas and impart a "personality" to each girl. Madelyn Jordon Fine Art, 37 Popham Rd., Scarsdale. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through June 10

Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Info: 914-723-8738 or visit www.MadelynJordonFineArt.com.

Hoff-Barthelson Music School Master Class Series. Internationally celebrated flutist Guy Eshed will coach the school's flute students. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-1169, visit www.hbms.org or e-mail hb@hbms.org.

Friday Night Film Series: "Mustang"

In a northern Turkey village, Lale and her four sisters are walking home from school, playing innocently with some boys. The immorality of their play sets off a scandal that has unexpected consequences. The family home is progressively transformed into a prison; instruction in homemaking replaces school and marriages start being arranged. The five sisters find ways of getting around the constraints imposed on them. The third of a six-film series. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Davis Auditorium, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. Doors open at 7:10 p.m. Refreshments at 7:20 p.m. Screenings at 7:45 p.m. \$11. Seniors: \$10 (60 and older). Info and tickets: 914-723-3186.

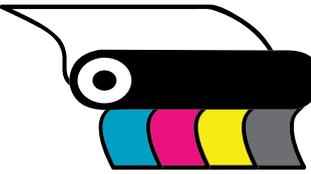
Saturday, April 29

Native Plant Sale. Versatile plants that provide food and shelter for birds, butterflies and bees and add splendor to the landscape will be on sale at the Native Plant Center's 18th annual Native Plant Sale. Westchester Community College's Native Plant Center, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Center members may enter at 9:30 a.m. Free admission. Info: 914-606-7870 or visit www.nativeplantcenter.org.

Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why April is a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the high desert of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they prepare for the birth of this year's pups. Guests will visit ambassador Wolves Atka, Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and the center's critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$14. Children (under 12): \$11. Also Apr. 30 and May 29 at 11 a.m. and May 6, 21, 27 and 28 at 2 p.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. Program runs

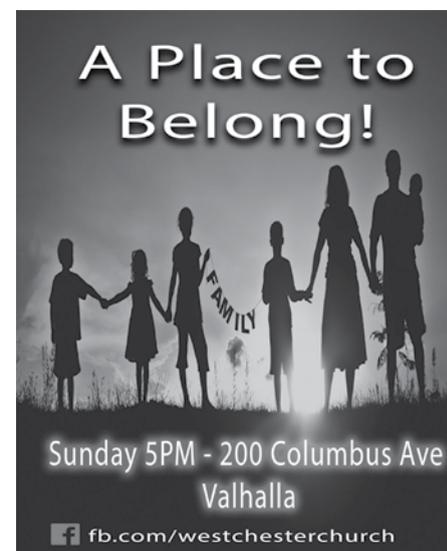
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 926 SJA Realty, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on January 27, 2017. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803. The principal business address of the LLC is: **926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HUTCH95 REALTY MANAGEMENT, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on February 3, 2017. Office location: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: **926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803. The principal business address of the LLC is: 926 Wynnewood Road, Pelham, NY 10803 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NIN-JACATSTUDIO, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/03/2016. NY office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is **3700 Campbell Ct., Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose/character of LLC: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF BEVERAGE MANAGEMENT SERVICES LLC, a foreign limited liability company ("LLC") Cert. of Formation filed with Sect'y of State of DE, Div. of Corps., PO Box 898, Dover, DE 19903 on 3/7/2014. Cert. of Authority filed with Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/14/16. 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: David B. Petshaft, P.C. 222 Bloomingdale Rd, Ste 116, White Plains, NY 10605 **Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A LICENSE NUMBER 1301628 for an On Premises Liquor License has been applied for by Kisco Kitchen LLC. under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law for premises located at **445 East Main Street. Mt. Kisco, New York 10549, County of Westchester for on-premises consumption.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BASIL-BOX LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/10/17. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the **LLC, 26 Meadow Ln, #B, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

PUBLIC NOTICE "A LOCAL LAW amending Section 104.11(5)(f) of the Laws of Westchester County to provide the County authority to enter into a lease agreement for approximately 60 acres of County-owned property located at the north portion of the Grasslands Reservation(also known as the Valhalla Campus at Grasslands) in the Valhalla section of Mount Pleasant, New York, and commonly referred to as the "North 60" with Fareri Associates, LP, its successors or assigns, for a term not to exceed ninety-nine (99) years for the purpose of creating a research and development complex to support the County of Westchester's growing medical and bio-tech industry." A Local Law, the description of which is cited above, was adopted by the Westchester County Board of Legislators in session April 3, 2017 and approved by the County Executive on April 6, 2017. This Local Law, Local Law Intro No. 8787-2017 which is subject to a referendum on petition shall take full effect sixty (60) days after its adoption. A copy of the full text of said Local Law is available for inspection during regular business hours in the Office of the Clerk of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, 8th Floor, Michaelian Office Building, **148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York 10601. SUNDAY VANDERBERG Clerk & Chief Administrative Officer of the Westchester County Board of Legislators Westchester County, New York Dated: April 11, 2017 White Plains, New York**

NOTICE OF FORMATION of MDU On-Demand Services, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 21, 2017. Location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. **The address of the LLC is 50 Shore Road Pelham, NY 10803. The business helps residents in apartment buildings take care of daily chores.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PAK CREATIVE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on January 30, 2017. Office location: Westchester County. The SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Peter McKin-**

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ley, 29 Montrose Point Rd, Montrose, NY 10548. Purpose: Any Lawful Act.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EF HOSPITALITY ASSOCIATES, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/17/2017. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: 20-7 Foxwood Dr., Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: any lawful acts.

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Happenings

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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.

Italian Conversation for Kids. Sara Machiavelli, a Bologna, Italy native, will teach children about her country and native language. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Also May 6. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscopubliclibrary.org.

Spring Hike. Finally, spring weather has arrived. Enjoy a spring hike around the preserve. Cranberry Lake Preserve, Old Orchard Street, North White Plains. 1 to 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

Animal Anatomy. Learn how an animal's physical attributes are connected to their methods of hunting, protection, travel and nesting through films produced by Mercy College students. Filmmakers tell the animals' stories through their eyes. All ages. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Greenburgh. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Melissa Etheridge in Concert. Her popularity grew around such memorable

originals as "Bring Me Some Water," "No Souvenirs" and "Ain't It Heavy," for which she won a Grammy in 1992. "Come to My Window," a searing song of longing from her fourth album, "Yes I Am," brought Etheridge her second Grammy Award for Best Female Rock Performance. In 1995, Etheridge issued her highest charting album, "Your Little Secret," distinguished by the hit single "I Want to Come Over." Known for her confessional lyrics and raspy, smoky vocals, Etheridge has remained one of America's favorite female singer-songwriters for more than two decades. Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. 8 p.m. \$75, \$90 and \$110. Info and tickets: 914-739-0039 or visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com.

A Tribute to Sonny Rollins. Don't miss the final jazz event this season as Ravi Coltrane, James Carter, Joe Lovano, Jimmy Heath and special guests pay tribute to the great Sonny Rollins in a one-of-a-kind festival-style program. The Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$47.50 to \$77.50. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.artscenter.org.

Sunday, April 30

White Plains Vintage Market. Everything vintage - glassware, linens, kitchenware, mid-century modern, deco,

clothing, furniture, garden decor and so much more! Rain or Shine Food trucks; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ebersole Ice Rink, Delfino Park, White Plains; \$5 admission.

Motorcycle Safety Event. We want to encourage both motorists and motorcyclists to be aware of their surroundings when sharing the road and to drive their vehicles smart. The police and others will provide motorcyclists with important safety tips. Noon to 4 p.m. at the Dannon parking lot across from Greenburgh Town Hall. 100 Hillside Ave, Greenburgh. May 7 rain date.

Historical Trolley Tour. The Trolley Tour is back by popular demand. You will be surprised at the many American Revolution era houses and sites that are still remaining in the White Plains area. Seats are limited. Reservations being accepted. Presented by Daughters of Liberty's Legacy, Inc. (DOLL); 2 p.m. (rain or shine); starts and ends at Purdy House, 60 Park Ave., White Plains; refreshments included; \$50 (65 and older/Veterans/children under 16/DOLL members, \$40). This is a FUNdraiser for DOLL. Tickets available at www.doll1776.com.

Spring Concert. Local community ensemble New Westchester Symphony Orchestra (Benjamin Niemczyk, Conductor) to present annual Spring Concert to feature soloists Taz Kim and Reed Peterson, New Westchester

Symphony Orchestra's Student Concerto Competition finalists. The program includes Beethoven's Piano Concerto, No. 3., Mvt. 1 Elgar Cello Concerto in E Minor, Mvt. 1 Brahms Symphony No. 1 in C Minor; 3 p.m.; at Memorial United Methodist Church, 550 North Street, White Plains; tickets are \$15, with discounted prices for seniors/students at \$10. Tickets can be purchased at www.newsymphony.org

Monday, May 1

Westchester County Celebrates Israel @69. In honor of the 69th anniversary of Israeli Independence, the Westchester Jewish Council in partnership with the JCC of Mid-Westchester and the Jewish Education Project is coordinating a community-wide celebration 7 to 9 p.m. at the JCC of Mid-Westchester, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale. The evening will begin with a Yom Hazikaron memorial ceremony followed by a festive Yom Ha'atzmaut - Israel Independence Day - celebration. This event is free and open to the community though RSVP is requested - 914-328-7001.

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EXAMINER SPORTS

Tigers Softball Scores Academically and Wins Nyack Tournament

By Albert Coqueran

On Thursday, April 20, during an impromptu practice session, White Plains Head Coach Ted O'Donnell did not initially refer to his team's performance on the field during an interview at White Plains High School.

Instead, O'Donnell, in the midst of his 22nd season at the helm, emphasized the academic performance of his 14-player roster. "I have 13 players that have a 90% and above weighted average," proudly stated O'Donnell. "Therefore, for scholar athletes, they (NYSPHSAA) are allowing you to use weighted grades this year and I happen to have a very strong academic team," emphasized O'Donnell, who is also a Social Worker at WPHS.

Of O'Donnell's 14 players on the WPHS Softball Team, 13 of them are enrolled in Advance Placement and Honor Classes, which allows their overall averages to be classified by their "weighted" academic averages in accordance with their challenging curriculum.

"Thirteen of my players are taking a total of 49 Advance Placement and Honors Classes and they have a combined average-weighted GPA of 105.519, which is impressive, especially considering that they are simultaneously performing as varsity athletes," said O'Donnell.

On the field of play, the Lady Tigers maintain a 3-3 record after winning the Nyack High School Black and Red Tournament over the weekend. On Friday, the Lady Tigers trounced the Sleepy



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

The battery for the Lady Tigers Softball Team this year includes two lefty pitchers: freshman Ava Rainone (left) and senior Team Captain (right) Emily Tumminia. They will be anchored behind the plate by junior catcher Lauren Medico.

Hollow High School Horsemen, 18-0 in five innings, in the Opening Round.

Tigers' pitcher Emily Tumminia pitched a one-hitter and while at the plate she had three hits and six RBIs. Tumminia is just one example of O'Donnell's prolific academic team, as she will attend University of Michigan next year. Tumminia academically has a weighted GPA of 5.2.

This season, Tumminia is sharing the pitching duties with another lefty, young freshman Ava Rainone, who pitched the Nyack Black and Red Tournament Championship game against host Nyack on Saturday. Tumminia, a Team Captain, will reinforce the infield at first base when not on the mound.

Rainone gave up seven hits, while only relinquishing one earned run and struck-out nine Horsemen to get the win. The Lady Tigers bats were still in full gear in the Championship game, while winning by a margin of 13 runs, 16-3.

The Lady Tigers were losing 3-0 in the bottom of the second inning, but broke the game open

when Erin Patterson, known for her precise slap-hitting, slapped a two-out hit to tie the game. Then, junior outfielder Brooke Falvey followed with a bases loaded two-out triple that put the Tigers ahead, 6-3.

Falvey is the sister of Tayler Falvey, an All-County and All-Section player for the Lady Tigers, who graduated in 2013 and is presently a senior at Catholic University.

Senior shortstop and clean-up hitter, Juliet Lodes had three RBIs in the game, as did freshman third baseman Sarah DiSanto. The Tigers scored six runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to secure the Tournament Title, 16-3.

Lodes is a four-year varsity starter and also a Team Captain who is undoubtedly the anchor and leader of the team. She is the sister of Spencer Lodes, the star pitcher and first baseman for the Tigers Varsity Baseball Team.

The clean-up hitter hit a homerun over the centerfield fence at Scarsdale High School to support winning pitcher

Rainone, who threw a four-hitter with eight strikeouts and no walks in the Lady Tigers initial win of the season against the Raiders, 7-2, on April 18.

"Without my team behind me, I definitely would not be able to handle my role. But I have 100% trust in every single one of our players," stressed Lodes. "There is not a weak link on our team and the overall bonding and chemistry, I have never experienced in my four years playing varsity," commented Lodes, who will attend Catholic University next year.

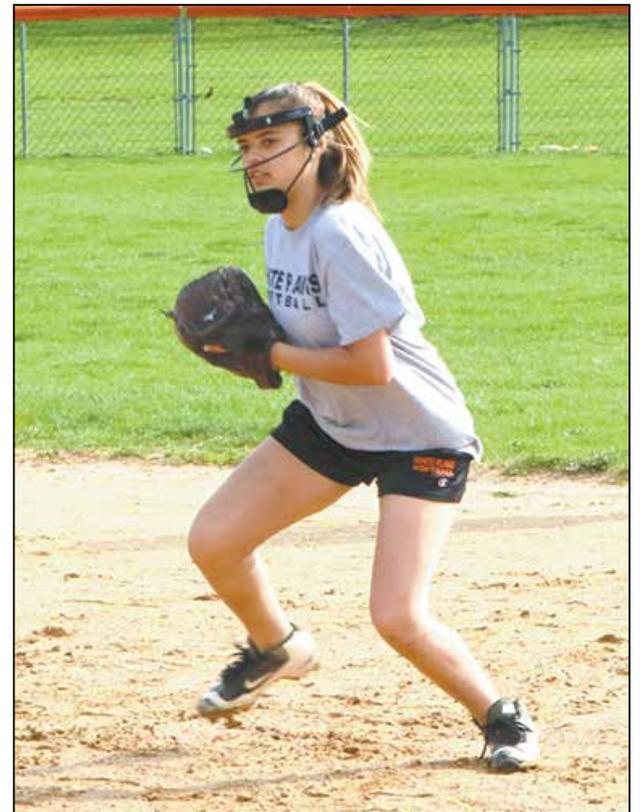
Rainouts proved difficult this season for the Lady Tigers but they managed to "weather the storm." This included the home portion of the away-and-home series versus Scarsdale, on April 20, due to wet field conditions. Therefore, O'Donnell had to revamp his schedule this season to accommodate rainout-dates.

"Today is the 20th of April, so the last day you can play a regular season game is May 14. This means in the next three weeks we have to get in 16 games, this means playing five or six games a week. This is the first time that I have been in this position as a varsity Head Coach," commented O'Donnell.

O'Donnell is assisted in the coaching ranks by his ever present assistant Michael "Skip" Stevens, who was hired during the summer as the Head Football Coach at the merged football program of Briarcliff/Alexander Hamilton High Schools.



Senior Juliet Lodes, is a four-year varsity starter and the undisputed leader of the Lady Tigers Softball Team. Lodes will hold down the shortstop position on defense and bat clean-up at the plate.



Tigers senior second baseman Maria Mendez, can pick-up grounders with the best of them. Also a Team Captain, Mendez comes from a long-line of WPHS Softball pedigree. Her cousin Samantha Mendez was a 2016 All-Section player for the Tigers and her sister Stephanie Mendez played for the Tigers a couple of years ago and is now playing college softball.

EXAMINER SPORTS

Westchester Knicks Keith Wright Earns Sportsmanship Award

By Albert Coqueran

Besides playing in 47 games this season, while leading the team in rebounds with 6.9 per game, averaging 8.8 points per game and scoring in double-figures 23 times; Westchester Knicks forward Keith Wright has been a pillar of the Westchester community on and off the basketball court.

Wright was acquired by the Westchester Knicks from the Austin Spurs in a trade for his Harvard University teammate Wesley Saunders on February 23, 2016. Since coming to local Knicks, Wright has been a workhorse, while playing 23.6 minutes per game in 2015-16 and last season logging 26.7 minutes per game.

However, simultaneously during both seasons, Wright made the extra effort to be a competitive gentleman on the court and a helpful member of the Westchester County community off the court.

On April 17, Wright was awarded for his efforts, while being presented the 2016-17 NBA Developmental League Jason Collier Sportsmanship Award for character and conduct on and off the basketball court.

The NBA D-League Sportsmanship Award honors, Jason Collier, a former center in the NBA D-League, who also played for the NBA Houston Rockets and Atlanta Hawks. Collier died suddenly on October 15, 2005, while preparing to play in his sixth season in the NBA.

In April 2015, Wright formed a foundation titled The Wright of Way, Inc., which prepares and equips youth involved in basketball with the tools to obtain scholarships and funding to



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTO

On March 23, 2016, exactly one month after Westchester Knicks forward Keith Wright was acquired in a trade during the 2015-16 season, he was serving the Westchester community by assisting with the Miracle Beautification Project at Ridge Road Park, in Hartsdale. On Monday April 17, Wright was presented the 2016-17 NBA D-League Jason Collier Sportsmanship Award for his character and conduct on and off the basketball court.

further their education.

This season, Wright's community initiatives included, working with the Food Bank of Westchester, Xperience Outreach Program and spreading Holiday cheer at the Boys and Girls Club of Northern Westchester. Wright also participated in free basketball clinics for the Junior Dub Knicks Youth League presented by Chase and accompanied local Knicks mascot Hudson to Maria Fareri Children's Hospital to surprise and comfort ailing children.

Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley to Honor Major League Baseball Commissioner

Major League Baseball Commissioner (MLB) Rob Manfred will be honored at this year's annual Wish Ball—An Evening of Wishes, where supporters of Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley are looking to help grant the pending wishes for more than 150 local children with life-threatening medical conditions.

The gala, which is the chapter's biggest fundraiser each year, will get underway at 6 p.m., Friday, May 12, at the historic Abigail Kirsch at Tappan Hill Mansion, former estate of Mark Twain, in Tarrytown.

Manfred, along with hundreds of other distinguished guests and community leaders from throughout the Hudson Valley, will pay tribute to the courage of the more than 2,500 children whose wishes have been granted since the chapter was established in 1986. That night, the joy of their wishes, love of their families and the many donors and volunteers who have made dreams come true will be celebrated.

Thomas J. Conklin, President and CEO

of Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley, said that it was "very exciting to have Manfred as our honoree and to recognize him for his contributions to our important mission," adding: "He and his family, who live in the Hudson Valley, have been long-time supporters of the chapter. For the past two years— and with a third year set for June 1— his participation in the JP Doyle's Charity Softball Game has helped raise more than \$40,000 for the cause."

The softball fund-raising initiative, which brings together sports celebrities, is led by Brian Doyle, Chair of the Board of Directors, long-time supporter of the chapter, and co-owner of JP Doyle's Restaurant and Public House in Sleepy Hollow.

Manfred was elected as MLB's 10th Commissioner on August 14, 2014 by vote of the 30 Major League Clubs and officially became the sport's leader on January 25, 2015.

In his first year as Commissioner, Manfred set goals for the industry that focused on the expansion of youth

Highlands Middle School Student to Participate in Elite Hockey Program

Dante Palombo, 13 years old and a seventh grader at Highlands Middle School in White Plains, was selected to participate in the New York District Hockey Player Development Program for Boys. The program is run by the New York State Amateur Hockey Association (NYSAHA), which is one of 12 sections around the country of the United States Hockey Association, the governing body of youth hockey in America.

Over 400 boys from different NYSAHA sections took part in four different tryouts around the state. Only 80 elite players from across New York State were invited to this camp. A total of 48 Forwards (Dante is a forward), 24 Defensemen and eight Goalies were selected to participate in this unique opportunity at this District Camp. Participants will be exposed to an intense daily schedule of both on- and off-ice instruction by high-level coaches from prep schools, colleges, USA Hockey National Team Development Program (NTDP) and professional levels. They will play competitive games during evening ice sessions.

The week's schedule will include practice sessions focused on individual skill development, game concepts and team strategies and the off-ice lectures will concentrate on Modern American Hockey concepts, nutrition, strength and



Dante Palombo

conditioning and other essential aspects of competing at the highest levels. Dante is one of only four players selected from Westchester County who have been invited.

This is part of USA Hockey's initiative with 12 districts around the county to develop the most promising players in the USA and step one in identify potential prospects for USA Hockey's NTDP, which brings the top players in the USA at 16, 17 and 18 years old to live in Plymouth, Michigan and train.

Last year as a sixth grader Dante was selected to represent the New York Rangers organization on it's pee wee team at Tournoi International de Hockey Pee-Wee de Québec hockey's Little league World Series.

collective bargaining issues, including successful renewals of the Basic Agreement in 2002, 2006 and 2011.

Manfred is a graduate of Cornell University and Harvard Law School. He and his wife, Colleen, have four adult children.

As in prior years, Darlene Rodriguez of NBC's Today in New York and Mike Bennett of WHUD's Mike & Kacey in the Morning will serve as Wish Ball celebrity co-hosts for the evening's festivities.

The popular Wish Ball, which sells out early, will feature live and silent auctions, cocktails, dinner and dancing to the music of "Tramps Like Us." Guests will have the unique opportunity to adopt a child's wish during the evening's live auction.

Tickets are \$425 per person or \$4,000 for a table of 10. Also available are sponsorship opportunities ranging from \$3,750 to \$15,000 and Journal ads ranging from \$250-\$1,000. To purchase tickets and to learn more, visit <http://501auctions.com/hvwishball2017> or call 914-478-9474.



Rob Manfred

participation, international growth, improved pace of game, the infusion of technology into the game, increased marketing of the game's young stars and furtherance of the game's diversity goals.

Manfred became MLB's Chief Operating Officer in 2013. Prior to that, he had served as an MLB Executive Vice President since 1998, directing all



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