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Cinco de Mayo
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FREE

Covering White Plains, Greenburgh and Harrison

May 2 - May 8, 2017

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 298

More than 400 Attend White Plains Climate Rally

With local temperatures reaching unusually high for a spring day, hundreds gathered at White Plains Fountain plaza Saturday to support the People's Climate Movement. Using the fountain works as a speaker's platform, emotional voices said it was their moral responsibility to challenge the climate change deniers in Washington, D.C. White Plains Mayor Tom Roach, joining speakers from groups like the Sierra Club and other local environmental organizations, enthusiastically spoke out in support of sustainability and environmental protection. One sign read: "We care for the sake of our children of Earth's sacredness."



JOHN RHODES PHOTO

WP Democratic Committee Campaign Debuts Common Council Slate

By Stacey Pfeffer

The White Plains Democratic Committee announced its officially endorsed candidates for Common Council Thursday at a news conference in front of White Plains City Hall. The candidates include current Mayor Tom Roach, incumbents John Martin and John Kirkpatrick and first-time candidate Justin Brasch. The Common Council is the city's legislative body and its seven members are elected at large to serve four-year terms.

County Legislators Ben Boykin and Alfreda Williams were also endorsed for re-election in a unanimous decision. The entire Common Council slate

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Graffiti, a Growing Problem Along the Bronx River Parkway

On a recent bicycle ride on the Bronx River Parkway bike trail, Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner was surprised by the amount of graffiti along the path. "The scenery is beautiful. One big problem: Lots of graffiti along the path, from south of the Kensico Dam to White Plains and Scarsdale," Feiner said in an email. "Almost every bridge and wall along the pathway has graffiti on it, some with language not suitable for children."

Feiner took photos of the graffiti and sent them to the office of the Westchester County Executive, suggesting that the graffiti be removed.

"The graffiti reminds me of the old NYC subways or the South Bronx and symbolizes (in my opinion) disrespect

for public property and neglect. It leaves a very poor impression of the park," Feiner added.

Feiner also posted some of the photos on his personal Facebook page and received some interesting responses. "Some people agree that the county should remove the graffiti. Others feel that the county should turn the graffiti along the path into a community art project. Many people responding to his Facebook post suggested encouraging art groups to work with local youth to turn spaces along the parkway and under bridges into community art.

"Last year I contacted the Friends of the Parks and suggested that the Friends organize a graffiti busters (group),

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Sex Trafficking Victims Law Makes Headway in Albany

With several laws to help victims of human trafficking already under her belt, NYS Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Scarsdale), has ushered A.1030, legislation she authored, through the State Assembly and it will move forward for consideration by the State Senate.

The bill would exempt victims of sex trafficking from providing a DNA sample to be included in the State's DNA criminal offender database.

New York State has been on the forefront in recognizing that commercially sexually exploited individuals are victims of human trafficking and should not be treated as criminals.

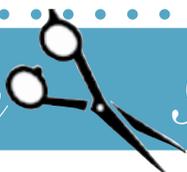
Paulin, one of the leading advocates to end human trafficking, has authored several pieces of legislation, including

the Trafficking Victims Protection and Justice Act, to hold traffickers and buyers accountable and get help to trafficking victims who are trapped in the vicious cycle of human trafficking.

This legislation will exclude from the definition of a designated offender a person convicted of prostitution or loitering for the purpose of engaging in prostitution or a person whose participation in an offense the court determines was a result of having been a sex trafficking victim under New York or federal law. By making clear that these persons are not designated offenders, the victims will not be required to provide upon conviction a DNA sample that would be included in the state DNA identification database.

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Court of Appeals Finds County Violated Housing Settlement

By Martin Wilbur

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit upheld a lower court's ruling last Friday that Westchester County violated terms of the 2009 affordable housing settlement.

The bluntly worded seven-page decision concluded that the county has been "engaging in total obstructionism" because it has failed on numerous occasions to submit an Analysis of Impediments (AI) that is acceptable to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the courts.

Under the terms of the agreement, Westchester was to have submitted an acceptable AI adequately analyzing the impediments that municipal zoning laws present to fair housing choice within 120 days from the time the agreement was reached in August 2009.

The court also threw out the county's arguments that HUD's refusal to accept nine AIs submitted by the county is unreasonable and, therefore, it should no longer be required to submit one.

Last week's decision stated that the county's assertions were without merit and the court warned it to comply with the terms of the agreement.

"The County would be well-advised to stop making excuses and to complete its obligations under the Consent Decree with diligence and dispatch," the

ruling stated.

Friday's development came four months after County Executive Rob Astorino proclaimed that Westchester had complied with the terms of the agreement by having built or having building permits in place for 790 units of new affordable housing by the end of 2016, 40 more than had been required. He also mentioned that about 100 additional units are also in the pipeline.

Ned McCormack, the communications director for the county, said Friday in a statement that the administration was "surprised" by the court's comments as Westchester has complied with the unit count and has been working with U.S. District Court Judge Denise Cote and the new housing monitor to wrap up the settlement.

"Since Judge Cote's opinions last summer, the county has worked with the new monitor and consultant approved by the monitor to complete its two remaining obligations - the 'One Community' educational campaign and the Analysis of Impediments," McCormack's statement read. "Given that the One Community campaign is already under way and the monitor-approved consultant, VHB, has found no evidence of exclusionary zoning based on race, we are confident the remaining requirements can be met and the settlement concluded in a timely manner."

Recently, VHB, prepared a 10th AI for the county but that also was rejected by HUD. The Court of Appeals decision did not address the latest rejection.

Board of Legislators Chairman Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) said the ruling amounted to a "judicial smack down" of the county and its arguments.

Although the court also found that the county violated the settlement because it failed to quell community opposition to Conifer Realty's controversial 28-unit affordable housing project in downtown Chappaqua, Kaplowitz said the AI is the central issue and must be addressed by Astorino or Westchester risks severe fines and penalties potentially totaling millions of dollars.

Also, HUD or the courts could potentially force the county to build additional units if it fails to comply, he said.

Westchester lost close to \$25 million in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from 2011 to 2014, money that had been withheld for lack of compliance.

"The worst is not even the money that's been lost, the worst case is the money that could be potentially lost in the future," Kaplowitz said.

He said he believes Astorino may be hoping that he can eventually convince HUD Secretary Ben Carson or even

President Donald Trump to be more sympathetic to the county's plight.

"That's a gamble, and unfortunately, that gamble is with great stakes being played with taxpayer money," Kaplowitz said.

On Monday, the seven-member Democratic Caucus on the Board of Legislators called for a Committee of the Whole meeting with the new housing monitor to find a solution. Majority Leader Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining) said for years the caucus has called for a countywide housing needs assessment.

"To save taxpayers from thousands of dollars in fines, we have no choice but to explore all actions we can take due to the County Executive's total obstructionism - which were the Court's words, not mine," Borgia said.

Kaplowitz, whose district includes the Town of New Castle, said he was not concerned about the court's finding regarding the Conifer project in Chappaqua because it is on track to be built. There were delays because approvals were needed from the state Board of Review and the MTA and a site remediation plan to clean up the land was required.

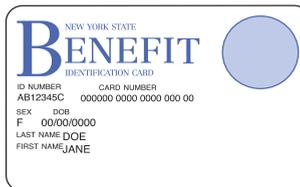
New Castle town officials have consistently voiced their opposition to the project, arguing that the location on Hunts Place is poor for housing because it's between the Metro-North tracks and the Saw Mill Parkway.



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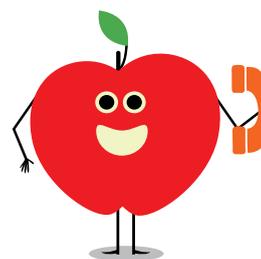


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WP Democratic Committee Campaign Debuts Common Council Slate

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was endorsed by the State Legislative delegation that represents White Plains in Albany. Assembly members Amy Paulin and David Buchwald and State Senator George Latimer, who is running for County Executive against Rob Astorino, were all present at the news conference voicing their support for the slate.

"This election is not about me. It's about the progress the city is making," said Mayor Tom Roach. Noting that the

news conference was on a busy downtown White Plains street, Roach commented, "it's noisy here because we are thriving." Roach also mentioned how important it is for "everyone to feel welcome in White Plains, regardless of immigration status or sexual orientation."

All of the candidates spoke about how business is booming in White Plains. In the past year, White Plains has added over a thousand corporate jobs downtown.

Major corporations such as Danone, Godiva and Jagermeister have relocated their US headquarters to White Plains and this past week Sumitomo Matsui Bank received approval from the County's Industrial Development Agency to relocate headquarters to White Plains. "They [the corporations] are voting with their feet," noted Roach.

Echoing that sentiment, County Legislator Ben Boykin said that when he

joined the City Council "there was an empty Macy's behind City Hall and you can just look around now and see my resume."

Justin Brasch was introduced as a new candidate for the Common Council. Currently a member of the White Plains Planning Board, and a founder and principal attorney for a Manhattan-based law firm specializing in landlord-tenant

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Graffiti, a Growing Problem Along the Bronx River Parkway

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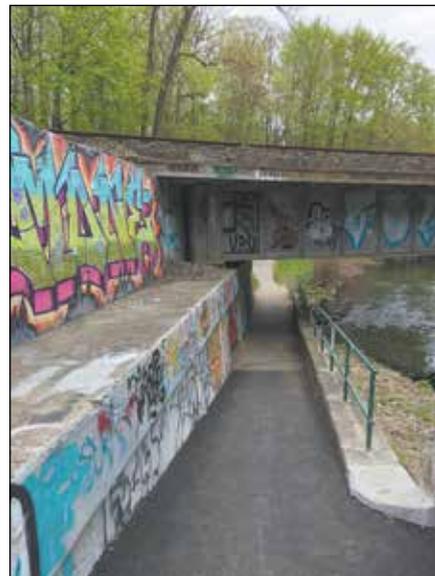
soliciting volunteers to remove the graffiti from areas along bridges, paths, and walls along the bike paths," Feiner said.

There have been volunteers working along the path to clean up the unwanted messages.

Feiner is looking for residents' opinions and has suggested several options:

1. Westchester County should remove the graffiti along the Bronx River bikeway and respect open spaces.
2. A volunteer graffiti busters group should be formed to remove the graffiti.
3. The county will never be able to completely get rid of graffiti along the path. The county should approach artists and create a community art project along the path.

Feiner also noted, "In the interest of fairness, a few weeks ago I cycled from



A sample of graffiti along the bike trail.

Elmsford to Ardsley on the South County trail and had the opposite experience. The path had no graffiti on it, parts of the path were repaved, no debris alongside the path. I was very pleased and sent the County Executive and Commissioner of Parks a thank you note, praising them for the efforts. I also posted on my Facebook pages positive comments. Last year I had complained about the lack of maintenance along that stretch of the pathway."



Sex Trafficking Victims Law Makes Headway in Albany

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"These individuals are victims, forced into a life of exploitation and abuse,"



Amy Paulin

Paulin said. "They have come into our criminal justice system by virtue of their enslavement at the hands of their traffickers. Their basic human rights have already been violated by their traffickers; we cannot compound the further violation of their rights by requiring a DNA sample."

The bill will be sponsored by Andrew Lanza (R-Staten Island) in the Senate.

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Proposed Compromise May Breathe New Life into Miller House

By Martin Wilbur

The possibility of a compromise between Westchester County and the Town of North Castle could finally result in the long-delayed rehabilitation and preservation of the Elijah Miller House/Washington's Headquarters in North White Plains.

After years of bickering, an intermunicipal agreement is being discussed that would require the county to pay for the desperately needed renovation of the 279-year-old house on Virginia Road and transfer ownership to the town.

If that would occur, the Friends of Miller House/Washington's Headquarters, a nonprofit group formed in 2011, would be responsible for raising money to pay for ongoing operation of the house and various programs, said Linda Fernberg, president of the Friends.

"We feel we can meet the challenge to support the house and we will endeavor to do that if it comes to that," Fernberg said.

Through previous fundraising efforts, the Friends have a little more than \$40,000 already set aside. There has been a small amount of additional funds that have been pledged through its website and a GoFundMe page with potential donors lined up from as far away as Chicago and California on the condition that an acceptable restoration be completed, Fernberg said.

A rough estimate projects about a \$34,000 annual operating expense. Fernberg said once the house is renovated it will be easier to attract donors who would be attracted to preserving a site with a direct connection to George Washington and the Revolutionary War.

The Miller House, built by Elijah Miller's father, John, in 1738 was used by Washington during the Battle of White Plains in October 1776. It also is in close proximity to Miller Hill Park, where the patriots repelled the British to stop them on their advance northward from Long Island. Elijah Miller and his two sons died that year fighting the war, but his wife, Ann, lived in the house until her death in 1819, and their daughter lived there until

1838, Fernberg said.

It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976, the state register in 1980 and on the county inventory of historic places in 1988. Westchester County has owned the property since 1917, allowing visitors for many years, but during the past 20 years it has fallen into disrepair. A blue tarp has covered the roof for several years to protect the house from further damage.

Town Supervisor Michael Schiliro said despite many details that still need to be ironed out, including limiting the financial exposure for the town and the Friends, restoring and preserving an important piece of local and American history is essential.

"We need to get this done, we need to get the Miller House restored, and if there's a middle ground where because of state law the property can't transfer to the volunteer group and they would take it on, we may have to be the vessel that holds it," Schiliro said.

The possible solution marks the first notable chance of progress in several years. In 2010, the Board of Legislators voted to place \$1.2 million toward the project, which included moving the structure to Kensico Dam Plaza. County Executive Rob Astorino vetoed the expenditure, and despite the board overriding the veto, the project was never done.

There was also an attempt a couple of years later to restore the house and move it to Fountain Park.

County Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) said last week it was a fair proposal and that an architectural firm is currently working on plans to restore the house to a preservationist's standard with an improved drainage system.

There would be \$1.3 million through a bond and \$700,000 is available through the 2017 capital budget, she said. The county is also pursuing state grants.

Cunzio stressed that while the proposal is promising all parties must agree to terms.

"I am very committed to this project

and very excited to see it moving forward," Cunzio said. "It is long overdue."

John Diaconis, a member of the Friends of Miller House's board of directors, said formal discussions will likely start with the county next month. Repairs would probably not begin until well into next year, Diaconis said.

Any transfer of property between two governments would require the approval of the state legislature, he added.

Local history lovers and those involved on the town's Elijah Miller House Committee, the Friends and the group Daughters of Liberty's Legacy (DOLL) expressed renewed hope a solution may be on the horizon.

DOLL President Cynthia Kauffman said there could be a wide variety of programs at the grounds, including tours, programs for schoolchildren and events to commemorate holidays such as Presidents Day and July 4.

"It's very important to see something in the place that it was and to touch it and to hear the stories," Kauffman said.



A photo of the deteriorating Miller House/Washington's Headquarters house taken several years ago.

"I can assure you Washington's Headquarters, if the county does what it says it's going to do, Washington's Headquarters will be alive again and as one of the people who used to go there on Sundays and give tours to people, I can't wait to do that again," added Richard Nardi, board of directors member for the Friends.

Fernberg said local residents can contribute by becoming a Friends member for \$5. On its website, www.friendsofmillerhouse.org, pledges and donations can be made.

"It's something we should be proud of and something we should be happy to own or have in our town," Fernberg said. "I think we can all make this work if we all work together."

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Young Techies Face Off in Mobile App Development Bowl

By Anna Young

After spending the last two months creating mobile apps, hundreds of high school and college students gathered last Friday for the third annual #WestchesterSmart Mobile App Development Bowl at Pace University.

Since February, more than 400 students from over 40 high schools and colleges throughout Westchester, Rockland, New York City, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts have been challenged with developing an app that will improve the lives of people over 65 years old.

"You have what it takes, we want you to get your start here, we want you to develop, showcase and be rewarded for what you do," said County Executive Rob Astorino, who handed out the awards to the winners during the Apr. 28 ceremony. "Your hard work and determination speaks volumes about you and your schools.

During the competition, each team was given the opportunity to present its app to the more than 60 judges in attendance. Judges recognized the top three teams in the creativity, usability and functionality categories and selected a grand prizewinner that achieved the top scores in those categories.

Stephen O'Leary, director of telecommunications at New York Presbyterian, a judge for the second year, said he was interested in finding an app that is practical, creative, innovative and



KanjiStick from The New School's Parsons School of Design was the Grand Prize winning team in the 2017 #WestchesterSmart Mobile App Development Bowl. From left, County Executive Robert P. Astorino; Team KanjiStick; Kevin McGuire, Commissioner of Westchester County Department of Social Services and Dr. Jonathan Hill, Dean of Pace University's Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems. The awards ceremony was held April 28 at Pace's Pleasantville campus.

technically capable for the typical senior.

"There's a lot of great ideas for stuff that's not on the market," O'Leary said. "I'm surprised every time I come here because some of the ideas are unique and refreshing."

Many students who competed said they were inspired to create an app based on their grandparents' needs.

"It's definitely clear the elderly population is much more susceptible to isolation and loneliness," said

Peter Solimine, a Mamaroneck High School senior. "Our (team members) grandparents gave us a lot of feedback."

The competition's grand prizewinner was team KanjiStick from Parsons School of Design. Team members Kokoro Naruke, Chihara Hori and Han Yam Guo won the \$1,000 top prize and LeEco Les S3 Unlocked Smartphones.

The trio created an app called On Time, which connects users with their health insurance company and pharmacy

to help remind them when to take their medications.

Arton Mirakaj and George Samuels from Pace University were the recipients of the YouTube Social Award, a new award that honors a team that creates a video as an additional showcase for their mobile app. The duo won a visit to Google and a tour of the YouTube studios in New York City.

Dr. Jean Coppola, an associate professor at the Seidenberg School who helped create the Mobile App Development Bowl, was the recipient of the College Coach of the Year Award, an award based on student nominations given to a coach who exhibits outstanding leadership, passion and commitment to students and STEM academics in their community.

During the event, Coppola commented on how impressed she is every year with each participant and the hard work they display.

"I'm blown away, I just want to cry," Coppola said.

Dr. Jonathan Hill, dean of the Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems at Pace University, said he was inspired by each participant after seeing the passion, intensity and technical skill they put into their projects.

"We're doing this to raise awareness and needs to serve a certain population, and the way young people have risen to the challenge is truly impressive," Hill said.



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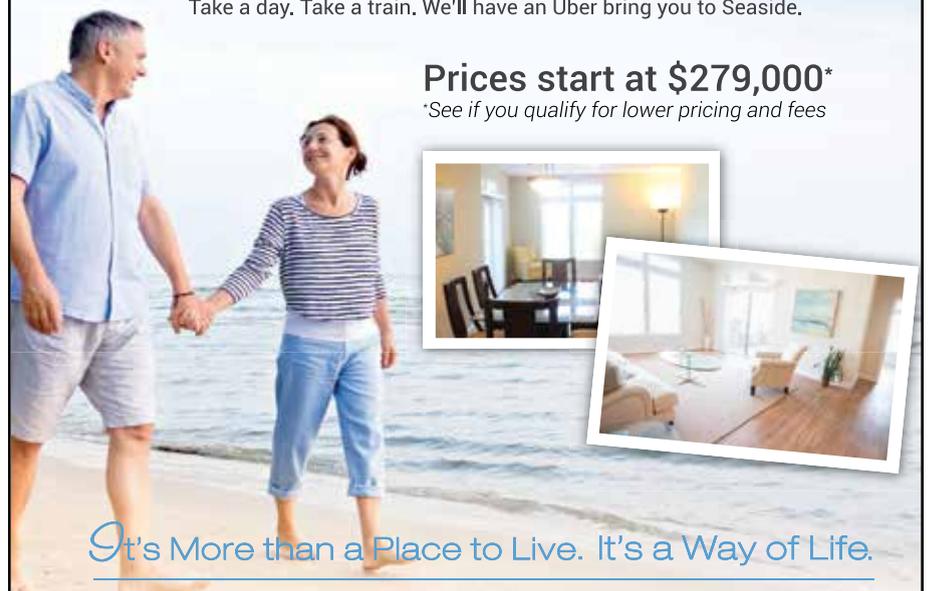
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United Way to Hold a Great Gatsby-themed Gala May 4

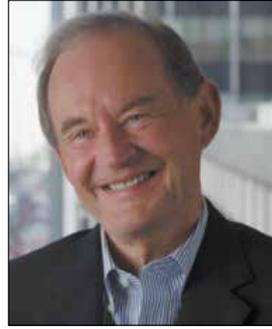
United Way of Westchester and Putnam will honor David and Mary Boies and IBM Corp. when it holds its Gatsby-themed Spring Gala on May 4 at the Doral Arrowwood in Rye Brook.

The celebrated litigator and his wife, an accomplished litigator in her own right, will share the stage with IBM, the Armonk-based technology giant and long-time United Way supporter.

"We all know David for his skill as a litigator and Mary for her many impressive legal accomplishments, but what may be less well known is their demonstrated commitment to community, something they share with our other honoree, IBM," said Alana Sweeny, President and CEO of the United Way of Westchester and Putnam.

The United Way Gala will feature a 1920s theme with signature cocktails, dinner, a silent auction, music and dancing with Jazz Quintet and vocalist Jazz Forum Inc. of Tarrytown.

The Gala Committee was co-chaired by June K. and Roger D. Blanc, Esq.; Drs. Nan and Scott Hayworth and David



David Boies



Mary Boies

M. Yawman, Esq.

David Boies is one of the most celebrated attorneys in the United States, and was named one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World by Time Magazine. Probably his most high-profile case involved serving as lead counsel for former Vice-President Al Gore in connection with litigation relating to the Florida vote count in the 2000 elections. Other notable cases included: a 2008 case in which Mr. Boies recovered a record \$4 billion for American Express in its landmark

antitrust case against Visa and MasterCard; his successful defense of NASCAR in antitrust litigation that charged it with monopolizing championship auto racing and a 2009 jury verdict for his client Starr International against AIG over the ownership of \$4.5 billion in assets; and a 2010 case in which he won a \$1.3 billion jury verdict for his client Oracle against SAP for copyright infringement.

Mary McInnis Boies is Counsel to Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP where she specializes in antitrust and corporate commercial litigation. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Council on Foreign Relations and chairs its Committee on Nominations and Governance. She has served as Vice President at CBS Inc., General Counsel of the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board, Assistant Director of the Domestic Policy Staff at the White House, and Counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on

Commerce. She founded and later sold MaryBoies Software Inc., a publisher of children's educational software

IBM's commitment to excellence and community involvement extends to its more than 50-year partnership with United Way of Westchester and Putnam. The Armonk-based technology giant was among the first local corporations to launch a fundraising campaign on behalf of United Way in 1964, just after the company moved its headquarters to Westchester and only two years after the United Way was founded.

From technology, volunteerism, grants to support vital programs such as homelessness prevention, literacy and aid to at-risk children, IBM has been there to provide educational and technical resources.

United Way of Westchester and Putnam (UWWP) helps local residents in Westchester and Putnam become self-sufficient and thrive in a stronger community For ticket information, contact United Way at 914-917-6700 or visit uwwp.org.

WP Democratic Committee Campaign Debuts Common Council Slate

continued from page 4

and leasing laws, Brasch has more than 30 years in public service. Brasch noted his role on the Planning Board was to "analyze the budget, save money and expose waste while expanding services and being fiscally responsible." Brasch was nominated for the Council after Councilwoman Beth Smayda decided to retire and not seek a third four-year term.

State Senator George Latimer noted how White Plains is considered a model city by his colleagues in Albany. Cities like Binghamton want to be "just like White Plains. Whether it's improving a downtown business district, embracing their historic past, investing in parks and recreation, or bringing in arts and cultural events. It's not just the natural advantages of White Plains: it's the leadership of White Plains," Latimer said.

Milagros Lecuona, also a Democrat and current member of the Common Council, is running for Mayor against



From (l to r) Councilwoman Beth Smayda, Councilman John Martin, Assemblyman David Buchwald (behind Martin), Common Council candidate Justin Brasch, Mayor Tom Roach (at podium), Councilman John Kirkpatrick, State Senator George Latimer (behind Kirkpatrick), Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, Legislator Ben Boykin, and Legislator Alfreda Williams, with supporters on the steps of White Plains City Hall

incumbent Roach but she has not received endorsement from the Common Council for the upcoming election. Running with Lecuona for seats on the Council and pushing a Democratic primary are Alan Goldman, Michael Kraver, and Saad Siddiqui.

The primary is September 12 and the Council members will run at large, which means that the three candidates with the largest number of votes will win the nomination. The regular election is November 7 and as of press time, the White

Plains Republican City Committee had not yet announced a slate of candidates. Currently all of the Common Council members are Democrats.



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Obituaries

Paul R. Tricarico

Paul R. Tricarico, age 93, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on April 25. He was born August 20, 1923 to Nicholas and Teresa (Palumbo) Tricarico in Manhattan where he resided until 1955 when he moved to Elmsford. He served in the Navy during World War II from Jan. 1944 to Dec. 1945. He was proud of his service, vividly recalling and retelling his experiences.

In 1950 he married his loving bride, Rose Scarola. He received his watch repairing certification in 1952 prior to being employed as an inspector and foreman at General Motors in Tarrytown until his retirement. He enjoyed repairing watches in his spare time, his pipe, a beer or glass of wine, Rose's great cooking, the American Italian Club and being surrounded by family and friends. He was a devout and long-time parishioner of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel church.

He reveled in all the holidays, especially Christmas when he enjoyed his role as Santa (and a good one at that). When he retired at the age of 62, he took great pleasure in traveling to many places, visiting his children and family and always enjoying Rose's homemade Italian cooking (yes, he loved his food). He was

extremely honored and proud to have served as Grand Marshall in the Elmsford 2014 Memorial Day Parade. When his traveling and visiting days slowed down the past several years, with mobile phone in hand, he continued to check in on his children, grandkids, siblings, nieces and nephews and extended family and friends. In his last days he reminded us how grateful and blessed he was to have shared his life with his wonderful wife of 66 years and all his children and grandchildren. To quote, "I had a great life."

He is survived by his loving wife Rose (Scarola), his children Teresa Perkins, Thousand Oaks, CA; Maria and husband Nicholas Smacchia, Thornwood, NY; Nicholas and wife Dina Tricarico, Freehold, NJ; Paula Tricarico, Stamford, CT; and Jennifer and husband Tod Nestor, Gibsonia, PA. As an adored grandfather, he reveled in spending time with his nine grandchildren, Janine Burns, Marisa Samoyedny, Daniel Smacchia, Lisa Smacchia, Rachel Nestor, Elise Walker, Bryan Nestor, Krista Tricarico and Allison Nestor, and nine great grandchildren.

He is survived by his dear brother Joseph Tricarico and loving sister Carmela Tricarico, and predeceased by siblings Michael Tricarico, Rocco Tricarico, Rose Morano and Frank Tricarico. As proud

uncle, he loved his many nieces and nephews and their families.

Carmela DiBiasi

Carmela DiBiasi passed away on April 24, almost four years to the day following her husband Mario. Carmela was born June 3, 1923 in Guardia Lombardi, Italy where she was later married to the love of her life. She came to the U.S. and worked with true immigrant spirit to build a life for her family that was more stable than the one she left behind. The epitome of a devoted mother, she was the centerpiece of her family whose grace was a source of inspiration to all who knew her.

Carmela was predeceased by her grandson Matthew and her two brothers Joseph and Salvatore Scavone. She is survived by her sister Angelina Morano, her children Guido (Denise) and Phyllis (Robert), and two grandchildren, Thomas and Robert Blake. She will be remembered for her wisdom, her passion for baking, and above all, her deep and unselfish love.



Marie Nicolais

Marie "Ann" Antoinette Cirminello Nicolais died April 24 at the age of 95. She was born in Calitri, Italy and migrated to America in 1931. She grew up in Silver Lake and graduated from White Plains High School. Throughout her life she worked for W. T. Grant's, a title company, General Electric, American Mutual Insurance Co., and the Westchester County Clerk.

She is predeceased by her husband of 63 years, Jack, her son Jack Jr., and her sister Grace Buonocore.

She is survived by her daughter Mary Ann and son-in-law Joel Wiedmont of Mahwah, New Jersey, her daughter-in-law Eniko Nicolais and son-in-law Steve Rolando of Kiawah Island, South Carolina, and her grandson Stephen Nicolais of Kansas City, Missouri. She is also survived by her sisters Rose Begnaud of Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, and Vicki Tarone of West Harrison, her brother-in-law, Louis Buonocore of West Harrison, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in memory of Ann to Christian Health Care Center Foundation at 301 Sicomac Ave. Wyckoff, NJ 07481 or online at <https://christianhealthcare.org/donate/>.

White Plains School Board Election, May 16

Two candidates have filed petitions for election to the White Plains Board of Education in the upcoming vote on May 16. Incumbents Rosemarie Eller and Randy Stein will seek re-election for three-year terms beginning July 1. Ms. Eller was first elected to the Board in 2005 and is currently Board President.

Dr. Stein joined in 2008.

The Annual White Plains Board of Education Budget Vote and Election will take place on Tuesday, May 16, Noon to 9 p.m., at six voting districts.

Absentee ballot applications, for any voter who will not be in White Plains during the hours of the election, are

available online on the district's website: www.whiteplainspublicschools.org or by calling the district offices: 914-422-2071.

The School Board's search for a new Superintendent of Schools has resulted in the choice of Dr. Joseph L. Ricca to lead the district beginning on July 1,

2017. He will be visiting all the schools before the end of the year and will also be here to meet the staff and community on Thursday, May 4, at 7 p.m. in the Media Center of the High School.

The Board expects to appoint Dr. Ricca at their May 8 Board Meeting.

White Plains YMCA is Hiring Lifeguards

The White Plains YMCA has an immediate need for Lifeguards and Swim Instructors. If you are interested, contact Rickey Richard, Aquatics Department Coordinator at RRichard@ymca-cnw.org.

Camp Combe YMCA is also hiring for summer Lifeguards and Swim Instructors. To work at this Northern Westchester outdoor facility contact David Hennessey, Executive Director at dhennessy@ymca-cnw.org.



White Plains Outdoor Farmer's Market Is Open

The White Plains Downtown Farmer's Market is open for the season, Wednesdays, on Court Street between Martine Avenue and Main Street, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through November 22.

Produce vendors are from local farms located in upstate New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. The farmers and other vendors offer a wide assortment of fresh produce, plants, home baked goods, breads, fish, olive oils, cheeses and prepared foods.

New vendors this year: Dobbs & Bishop Fine Cheese, BMP Roasters, Mangalitsa Charcuterie (starting on May 17), Gaucho Burger Argentinian Chimichurri sauce bottles.

Returning farmers include: Rolling Ridge Farm, S&SO Produce, Mead Orchards, Westchester Greenhouses.

Returning vendors: Meredith's Bread (+line of gluten free products), The Crumble Bee, Lamar Pastry, And Everything Else You Could Want!

Mozzarella For You, Teagevity, The Twisted Branch (Olive Oil, balsamic vinegar, salt & spices), Doc Pickle, Sweet Things Wild Thyme Honey, Mind, Body & Bath, Break Bread Not Heart (Giovanni Green), Cotes Fish, Walter's Hot Dogs, Irvingtons Delights, Santo Burrito.

For updates and vendor information visit the Farmer's Market page on the city website, <http://www.cityofwhiteplains.com/>.

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to pcasey@theexaminernews.com. The White Plains Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.

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Litter Affects Neighborhoods and Whole Towns

Litter. Littering. Litterbug.

They would be almost cute sounding words were it not for their meaning and the deleterious effect can have on our communities, neighborhoods and individual properties.

I regret that I was unable to participate in my town's annual clean-up on Earth Day because of a bad back. What's more regrettable is that any of us must compensate for others' disregard for our environment.

The issue of litter and its relation to the real estate business became abundantly clear to me on one occasion when I was driving to a house showing on a rather busy street. The young couple I was accompanying told me to cancel the appointment even before seeing the property. I thought the reason may have been that they preferred a quieter street. But that was not the issue.

"I can't live on a street where people just let litter lie there like that," the wife said. "Does the whole town have so little respect for the environment?"

I don't know how extensive the research is, but Keep America Beautiful, an organization dedicated to stop littering and recycling, tells us that houses for sale in littered neighborhoods usually don't get the best prices, and littered towns have less chance of attracting new businesses, residents and tourists.

Because I owned a property for many

years that was surrounded on three sides by roads, two of which were relatively busy, I believe that I am somewhat of an expert on road litter.

What people discard from their cars or as pedestrians shows something about how they live. While the major offending throw-away in the '70s was cigarette butts, I find that today it is mostly cups from slush machines, plastic containers for bottled water and beer cans.

I think there must be a lot of overweight litterbugs out there because most of the packaging materials I pick up are either from McDonald's or Burger King.

The frustrating thing is that only twice did I actually see someone discard litter from a car. I suspect most litterers must check first to make sure that nobody is looking or they rid themselves of the refuse of their gustatory sprees in the dead of night when most of us are fast asleep.

Keep America Beautiful also tells us that 75 percent of Americans admit to littering within the past five years. (I'm in the 25



By Bill Primavera

percent of those who never litter, and I'm sure you are too.)

We are also told that most litter offenders are males 18 to 34 years old who eat in fast food restaurants at least twice a week, go out for entertainment at least once a week and drive more than 50 miles a day. So, while we may never catch them, we know a little more about them.

To help individuals, most towns have a clean-up day at least once a year, usually around Earth Day. When I checked with Kim Angliss-Gage, who's in charge of refuse and recycling in my hometown of Yorktown, I learned that our town picked up more than 10 tons of roadside litter last season.

While most towns have codes that classify littering as illegal and impose fines for businesses or individuals, do you know anyone who has ever been fined for littering?

The two times that I caught litterers in the act proved quite interesting.

The first time, I saw a young man at a stoplight throw out a large soda cup, still filled with ice. I pulled alongside the offender, rolled down my window and,

perhaps venting years of frustration in not catching anybody in the act, I shouted, "Pig!" His equally gruff response to me is unprintable for a family newspaper.

But just recently, I had a better experience as a litter vigilante. Again, I saw a young man in front of me toss out a wrapper of some kind from his car window, and again I was able to pull alongside the car. With the kind of moderation that comes with the years, this time I said, "You know, it would be really nice if you didn't throw your trash on the road." This young man, obviously embarrassed, said sheepishly, "I'm sorry, sir," and got out of his car to retrieve it.

From what I've observed along the roads, I was thinking that littering has lessened somewhat in the past decade, but Angliss-Gage assures me that it's as prevalent as ever.

"It's just that we have more knights in orange vests who help us out in picking up litter throughout the year," she said.

I know that I always did this around my property and am thankful for all the others who do the same.

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.



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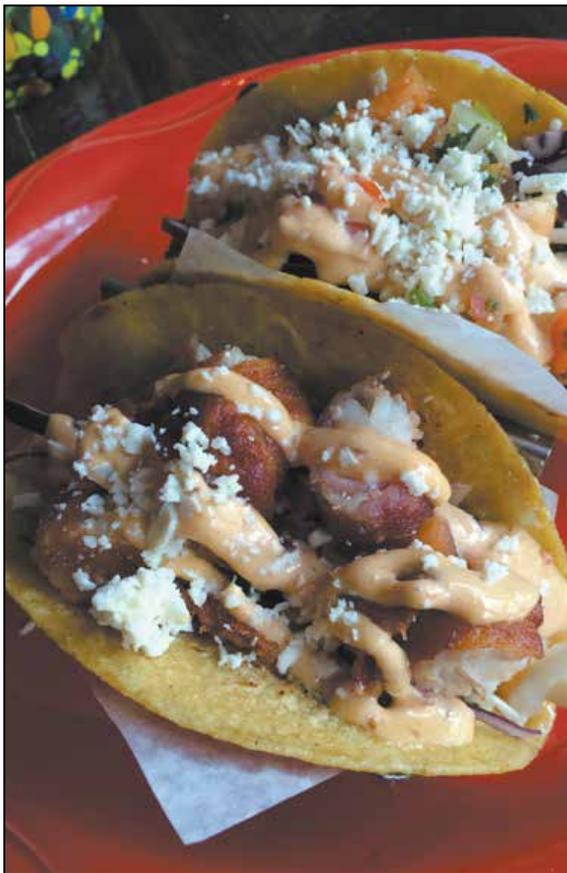
Cinco de Mayo Celebrated in Westchester, May 5



By Morris Gut

It is the largest Mexican-American Cultural Celebration and it takes place on Friday, May 5th this year, highlighted with Mexican food and entertainment. Mexican restaurants all over the area are preparing their most exciting traditional specialties for their patrons, some for an extended period of time. The Mariachi will be out in force, too, serenading the crowds. Historically, Cinco de Mayo commemorates The Battle of Puebla back in 1862, when the Mexican army surprisingly defeated French forces. Here in the States, the festivities include families and restaurants. If you want to participate, here are some suggestions.

White Plains BID Cinco de Mayo Celebration. This year's outdoor event will take place on Mamaroneck Ave. and E. Post Road on Sunday, May 7, from 1 to 6 p.m. It will be an afternoon of fun for the whole family. The first 250 guests who purchase a \$5 wristband, which allows for



Stuffed Tacos at Rio Bravo.

drinking outdoors (must be 21 or older), will receive a free sombrero. There will be prize drawings, too. Sponsors including Corona and Modelo will provide live Mexican entertainment and crafts all day. There will also be plenty of food from local restaurants and taverns like Lola's Mexican Kitchen, Sundance Kitchen, Hudson Grille, Lilly's and Brazen Fox. There is plenty of municipal parking in

the area. Enjoy the Fiesta! For further info: www.whiteplainsbid.com/cincomayo.

Los Mananitas, 1250 Rt. 22, Brewster; 845-279-4646. This Mexican restaurant on top of Rt. 684 offers dramatic views of the East Branch Reservoir and an outdoor patio for relaxing and picture taking. There are plenty of window seats and a fireplace room for comfort, too. They will be offering a Mexican Buffet all day for \$25 per person, and it's all you can eat. They also plan Mariachis, DJ and dancing, and drink specials at their big bar. Look for such kitchen specialties as: El Aquacate, avocado stuffed with crabmeat and shrimp; Carnitas, three soft pork tacos; Vegetable Fajitas, and Sinaloa, jumbo shrimp wrapped in bacon stuffed with Manchego cheese. Ample free parking. www.lasmananitasrestaurant.com.

Rio Bravo, 1879 Palmer Ave., Larchmont; 914-341-1546. Rio Bravo is a fine choice for Cinco de Mayo, a sprawling 200-seat environment strewn with colorful Mexican art and artifacts, and multiple seating areas with a big galloping bar/lounge for socializing. Brothers Edgar and Hector Brambila also operate a Rio Bravo in Fairfield, CT, and another in Westport. The menu is loaded with flavorful surprises: Milanese Chicken Tacos, hand battered fried chicken wrapped in a tortilla covered with melted cheese, roasted poblano crema, pico de gallo and mixed cabbage; Torero Steak Fajitas, a giant portion of wood grilled marinated skirt steak; Southwestern Caesar Salad, a spicy twist to the traditional Caesar with corn, tomatoes, cotija cheese and chicken Milanese, tossed with chipotle-ranch dressing; and Square Knot Salmon, achiote and lemon seared salmon with roasted pineapple. General manager Omar and his staff will take good care of you. Happy Hours in the galloping bar/lounge Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. feature half price house drinks and appetizers. Taco Tuesdays offer \$1 tacos at the bar. Large selection of Tequilas at the bar and you can also build your own Margarita. www.riobravotacosandtequila.com.

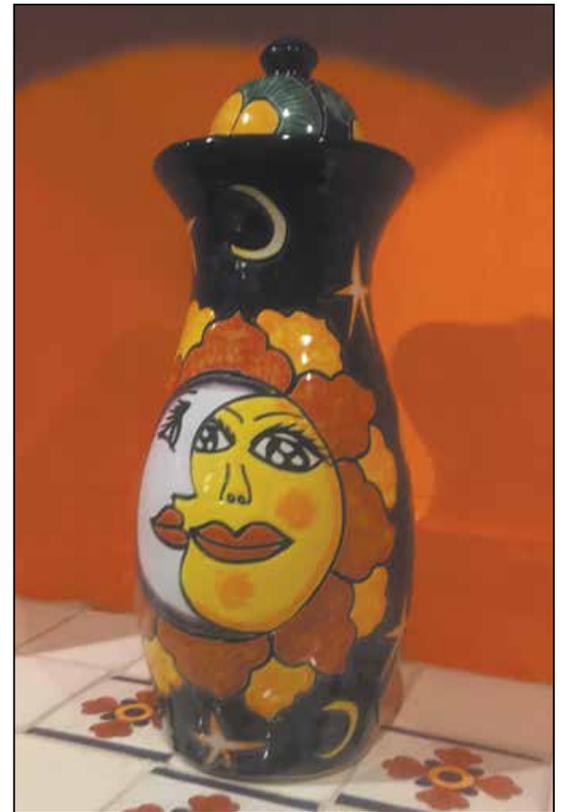
Rancho Grande, 1789 Central Park Ave., Yonkers; 914-337-3056. For Cinco de Mayo, Mexican food and culture meld beautifully with celebration and big, sprawling Rancho Grande Mexican

Restaurant in the Highridge Shopping Plaza along Central Park Ave. offers an exciting environment. Owner Mary Maloney and general manager and host Jose Perez are ready to take you on their tasty south-of-the-border tour. It is a multi-faceted 320-seat dining room and

bar/lounge strewn with colorful art and artifacts. There is a lot of flavor in the Botanita Grande, combination platter of nachos, dry quesadilla, flautas, guacamole, chorizo, pico de gallo and sour cream; Guacamole prepared tableside; sizzling Fajitas with your choice of fillings; Alambre Mar Y Tierra, steak, chicken, shrimp, with mixed vegetables, white rice and chile poblano sauce; and the Paella Luisita. There is a vegetarian version, too. Daily Happy Hours: 4 to 7 p.m. Weekend entertainment schedule. Off-premise catering. Private party facilities. Free parking. www.ranchograndemex.com.

BarTaco, 1 Willet Ave., Port Chester; 914-937-8226. This bustling dining room with open kitchen and outdoor deck with umbrella tables overlooking the Byram River has become a favorite spot for young and old who enjoy south-of-the-border flavors galore. Their signature 4-inch tacos and bib lettuce wraps come with a variety of fillings. Favorites include: Baja fish, cauliflower with romesco sauce, fried oyster, and duck with tamarind glaze. Popular kitchen dishes include: Rotisserie Chicken, Tuna Poke and Mahi Mahi Ceviche. Plenty of specialty cocktails and beers. Municipal parking. www.bartaco.com.

Guapo Cucina Mexicano, 10 Warburton Ave., Yonkers; 914-920-5900. Don't let the simplicity of this dining room fool you. The Mexican specialties coming out of this kitchen are top notch and loaded with flavor. Enjoy their fresh made enchilada and taco combinations, Camarones a la Diabla, jumbo shrimp seared in a spicy sauce served with tortilla; delicious Chiles Rellenos, queso blanco cheese filled poblano



Colorful Mexican artifacts at Rio Bravo.

peppers in a tomato broth; and Parillada Tradicional, with steak, shrimp, pork, cactus and onions. Bar and cocktails. Municipal parking. www.guaporestaurant.com.

Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. E-mail: gutreactions@optonline.net.



Appetizer platter at Rancho Grande.



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, May 2

Tuesdays at Dorry's. This week Linda Ryan "Coming Home." Injustices in our criminal justice system; and how a welcoming re-entry program at Memorial United Methodist Church hopes to address them. Tuesdays@Dorry'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. Dorry's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, 914-682-0005.

Wednesday, May 3

Farmer's Market. The White Plains Downtown Farmer's Market is open for the season, Wednesdays, on Court Street between Martine Avenue and Main Street, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through November 22.

Noontime Getaway Concert. Downtown Music at Grace welcomes Violinist Anna Rabinova and pianist Svetlana Gorokhovich who will collaborate on a program, which includes the Brahms Sonata No. 3 and the Poeme, Opus 25, of Ernest Chausson. 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 Nanette H. Bourne and John R. Delfs.

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.

Thursday, May 4

Historical Society Dinner. The White Plains Historical Society at its Annual Dinner will honor Christine Roithmayr as the Society's 2017 "Citizen Extraordinaire" 6 to 9 p.m. at the Woman's Club of White Plains, C.V. Rich Mansion, 305 Ridgeway. New York State Assemblyman David Buchwald will introduce Ms. Roithmayr at the award ceremony. Catering will be provided by Caperberry Events of White Plains. Tickets to the Historical Society's

Annual Dinner may be purchased online at www.whiteplainshistory.org.

Friday, May 5

"Urinetown the Musical." A terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides that he's had enough and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 8 p.m. \$20 and \$25. Also May 6 at 8 p.m. and May 7 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www.wppac.com.

Saturday, May 6

Bird Walk. Join avid birder Mike Bochnik from Hudson River Audubon Society in search for all the birds that live around the lake. Cranberry Lake Preserve, Old Orchard Street, North White Plains. 8 to 9:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

Wildflower Walk. Join master gardener Mary Harrington to identify and learn about the wildflowers that inhabit the reserve. Cranberry Lake Preserve, Old Orchard Street, North White Plains. 12 to 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

Garden Workday. Organic gardening benefits people and our planet, so join in to cultivate the teaching garden. Supplies will be provided. Recommended for ages 18 and up. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 9 a.m. to noon. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Battle of the Bands. Pleasantville Music Festival's "Battle of the Bands," sponsored by Lagond Music School, will hold the second phase of the semifinal round at Copper Face Jack's, 166B Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plain; 1 to 5:30 p.m.. Admission to all of the Battle of the Bands competitions and the Announcement Party is free.

Sunday, May 7

Bicycle Sunday. Bronx River Parkway from Westchester County Center in White Plains, south to Scarsdale Road in Yonkers; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free to participate; \$7 parking at the County Center lot in White Plains.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration. White Plains BID Cinco de Mayo outdoor event will take place on Mamaroneck Ave. and E. Post Road from 1 to 6 p.m. It will be an afternoon of fun for the whole family. The first 250 guests who purchase a \$5 wristband, which allows for drinking

outdoors (must be 21 or older), will receive a free sombrero. There will be prize drawings, too.

Cherry Blossom Festival. The City of White Plains and The Japan Education Center invite you to a celebration of Spring at the City's Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. This beautiful festival highlights and celebrates Japanese culture and tradition. The cherry tree and its blossoms, known as sakura, hold great significance for the Japanese people. In Japanese culture the cherry blossom represents the end of the winter season and the beginning of new life in spring. They are a symbol of the cycle of life, death and rebirth. The afternoon will include Japanese music, dance, song, storytelling, games and crafts. Japanese food and beverages will be available for sale. The event takes place among groves of Japanese cherry trees located at Turnure Park on Lake Street from Noon until 5 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Raptors of Westchester. Meet the center's birds of prey with a naturalist and discover what makes these magnificent creatures the hunters of the sky. Includes a visit to the outdoor bird aviary to

feed the majestic Bald Eagles, Red-Tailed Hawks and Great Horned Owl. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Monday, May 8

Bird Walk. Beginners welcome. Bringing binoculars is encouraged. Rockefeller State Park Preserve, 125 Phelps Way (Route 117), Pleasantville. 7:30 a.m. Free. Second Monday of each month. Info: 914-666-6503 or visit www.sawmillriveraudubon.org.

Young Explorers Story Time. Nature discovery for youngsters. Enjoy a nature-themed story and discover the wonders of nature while exploring fields, forests or landscaped grounds. Dress for outdoor activity. Except in extreme weather conditions, a portion of each class is spent outdoors. For children three to five years old; with a parent or caregiver. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: \$9 per child. Non-member: \$12 per child. Every Monday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

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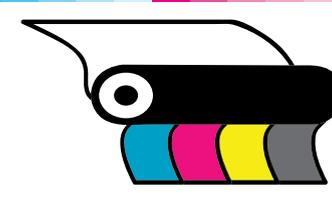
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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING - REVIEW OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE The Westchester County Board of Legislators, pursuant to Section 303-a of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law shall hold a public hearing to consider the review of Westchester County Agricultural District No. 1, the proposed modifications as recommended by the Westchester County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) and described

in a report adopted by the AFPB, and any other proposed modifications submitted in writing to the Board during the comment period. The public hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. on the 8th day of May, 2017 in the Chambers of the Board of Legislators, 8th Floor, Michaelian Office Building, White Plains, New York. Please contact the Board of Legislators at (914) 995-2800 if you require special arrangements for access to the public hearing. The Westchester County Agricultural District consists of a total of 7,504 acres of land within the following municipalities (listed in order of the amount of farmland in each): Town of North Salem (3,770 acres), Town of Bedford (1,001 acres), Town of Somers (980 acres), Town of Yorktown (648 acres), Town of Mount Pleasant (384 acres), Town of Cortlandt (353 acres), Village of Sleepy Hollow (222 acres), Town of Lewisboro (146 acres). Modifications to the agricultural district proposed by the AFPB consist of the addition of County-owned agriculturally related parcels of land and additional parcels of land as described in the AFPB report. Copies of the AFPB report, a list and map of farms proposed to be included in the district and modifications proposed by the public are available on the County website at www.westchestergov.com and at the Department of Planning, Room 432 of the Michaelian Office Building, located at **148 Martine Avenue in White Plains and the Office of the County Clerk. For more information, visit the County website or contact David Kvinge, Director of Environmental Planning, at (914) 995-2089 or dsk2@westchestergov.com.**

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 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.**

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 McKinley, 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)

continued on next page



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Memorable Wine Stories Recalled Over 500 Grapevine Columns



By Nick Antonaccio

Life can present us with opportunities at unanticipated moments and under unanticipated circumstances. So it is that I came to write the "You Heard it Through the Grapevine" column for the Examiner group of newspapers.

A chance conversation with publisher Adam Stone at a gathering in the summer of 2007 gave rise to my column in his start-up weekly newspaper. From its initial edition of 2,000 copies, the Examiner Media group has grown to a chain of four editions, with a combined circulation of 25,000 copies and about 70,000 readers each week.

This week's column is a milestone for me: it marks my 500th column.

Many thanks for your support and the support of Stone and Martin Wilbur (editor-in-chief) for these rewarding years. I hope you have enjoyed reading these columns as much as I have enjoyed creating them. It has truly been a labor of love, as I draw my inspiration from each of you.

Consumed with nostalgia and fond memories of the past nine-plus years, I thought I would mark this occasion with a brief retrospective of my body of

work to date. Thanks to reader support, I have been inspired to write columns on numerous topics that I hope provide a modicum of insight and/or education as you walk the virtual vineyard trails of the wine world.

1. From Wine 101 Through a Ph.D.

Dissertation Defense. In addition to the science of winemaking – terroir, biodynamics, wine glass size and shape and the health benefits of polyphenols – I have also spent a considerable effort on the "art of wine." From lessons on food and wine pairings, to the proper way to smell and taste wines, to nuanced guidance on honing one's appreciation of the nectar of the gods, I hope you have gained a more sophisticated palate.

In addition, I'd like to believe that you are drinking new and different wines since you have been reading this column. Numerous columns have presented alternatives to the tried and true, including wines produced from grapes you may never have heard of before perusing this column. A glass of Albarino anyone? Hopefully the overly complex world of wine has been somewhat demystified for you.

2. Virtual Tours.

Oh, the places we've

been! From our backyard in the Hudson Valley and Long Island to an exhaustive 13-part series in Spain, with side trips to France, Italy, Austria, South Africa, Chile, California, Oregon and Washington. Each trip was presented as a travelogue, tooling around the countryside in a supercharged

Ford Mustang or wearing out shoe leather along vineyard trails – always with the intent of capturing the essence of the locale.

3. The Provocative and the Scandalous.

The French provided vast amounts of fodder for the darker side of wine. Do you remember French rabbits that feasted on grapevines, wiping out wines to pair with hare stew? Or billionaire Bill Koch being duped into spending millions on counterfeit French wines from prestigious auction houses? Koch's purchase of counterfeit wines also created fodder to report on convicted independent counterfeiter to the stars, Rudy Kurniawa, and a documentary following his nefarious exploits.

4. Not-your-typical Wine Pairings. These were fun columns. Pairing wine with Oscar-nominated best pictures, Super Bowls, the Tour de France, soccer World Cup teams and major music genres.

5. Emerging Trends. From the global to the hyperlocal, each trend was

accompanied by wine recommendations from the many wine shops to which I am eternally indebted for matching bottles to concepts. Beginning with the impact of the Great Recession (higher quality wines at lower prices), then moving on to the world-class offerings of today's value-priced wines from nearly every wine-producing region (including all 50 American states).

I look forward to enlightening and entertaining readers in my travels on the local roads and establishments, responding to the greeting "Aren't you the wine guy?" as I happily pen future columns.

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.



EXAMINER MEDIA Classifieds 050217

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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.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FAR FROM HOME PRODUCTION, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/7/2017. 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: **42 Glen Road, Eastchester, NY, 10709. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE BLADRESS, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/03/17. 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: **8 Cedar St, Tuckahoe, NY, 10707. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FREE-DOM CAPITAL ENTERPRISES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/14/16, Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of

process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **405 Tarrytown Road #1437, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION of 1352 COMMERCE AVENUE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/14/16, Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **1027 Washington Avenue Pelham Manor, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF WK RISK MANAGEMENT, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/10/2017. Office location: Westchester County. LLC formed in CT on 7/11/2016. SSNY designated agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to: 925 Westchester Ave., Suite 400, White Plains, NY 10604. CT address of LLC: 190 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT 06897. Certificate of LLC filed with Secy. of State of CT located at: **30 Trinity St., Hartford, CT 06106. Purpose: providing assistance to insurance brokers and agents.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)

NAME: Mitch's Fishes, LLC Articles of Organization were filed With the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/09/16. Office location : Westchester County. SSNY has been designated As agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to : **The LLC, 22 Baltic Place Apt 2D , Croton On Hudson, NY 10520 (the LLC's principal business Location) Purpose : any lawful purpose**

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EXAMINER SPORTS

Stepinac Sweeps Doubleheader for Much Needed Wins

By Albert Coqueran

On Saturday, April 29, the Stepinac Varsity Baseball Team notched two much needed victories when they swept a doubleheader at Stepinac High School. The doubleheader played in the sunny and hot 84-degree temperature was a result of Stepinac's CHSAA AA Division game against St. Raymond High School being rained out on Wednesday, April 26.

The postponed game against the Ravens was rescheduled for Saturday morning at 10:30 with the already scheduled contest against Hackley School of Tarrytown to commence at 12:30 p.m.

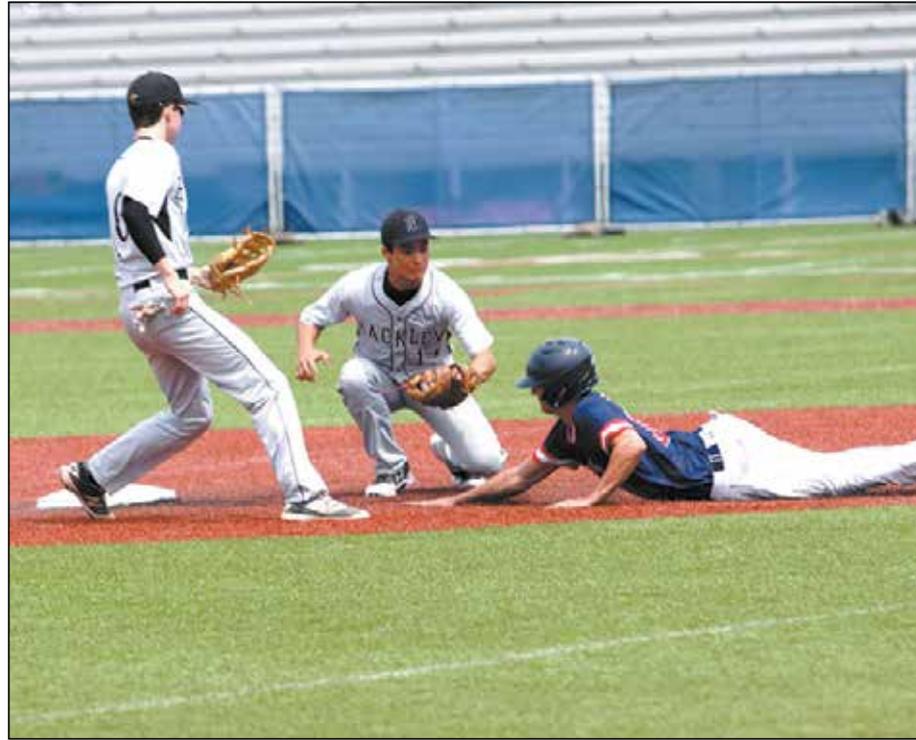
Stepinac (8-5 overall, 6-5 CHSAA AA) started the season with a four-game winning streak. But the Crusaders have been struggling recently after back-to-back losses against AA rival Kennedy Catholic (8-3) last week.

Despite the Crusaders back-to-back wins on Monday, April 17 and Wednesday, April 19, their three-game losing streak from Monday, April 10, through Wednesday, April 12, against AA opponents did extensive damage to their CHSAA NY/Bronx/Man/Westchester Division record.

Stepinac lost both games in the home-and-away series against All Hallows High School, 5-3 and 8-6, respectively,



Crusaders have lost some tough games this season but probably none more disheartening than their 1-0 loss in eight innings to Kennedy Catholic on April 27. Richie "R-Rod" Rodriguez pitched 7-1/3 innings, with no earned runs and four strikeouts, while giving up only three hits in defeat. Rodriguez, a junior, is a multi-talented player, who has a 0.73 ERA on the mound and bats .400. He also plays first base.



Hackley second baseman Danny Hernandez (center) puts the tag on Crusaders John Taps sliding into second base on an attempted steal. Taps caught stealing did not do much damage, as the Crusaders scored seven runs in the inning and went on to beat the Hornets, 11-7.

on April 10 and 11. Consequentially, the Gaels from the Bronx, with a 6-4,

record are one game ahead of the Crusaders in sixth place in their CHSAA AA Division. Stepinac (6-5) as of Sunday, April 30, is in seventh place in the CHSAA AA NY/Bronx/Man/Westchester Division.

Nonetheless, do not count the Crusaders out quite yet. Stepinac has proved this season that they have the stuff to be CHSAA AA Champions. They trounced Division leader Fordham Prep, 11-6, on April 19. The Rams stand alone in first place in the NY/Bronx/Man/Westchester Division with a 7-2 record, as of Sunday. Furthermore, the Crusaders beat AA NY/Staten Island opponent St Joseph's by-the-Sea, 7-1, in their prior game on April 17.

The Crusaders "Big Stopper" Austin Mercado pitched a complete game four-hitter while striking out four and allowing only one earned run against St. Joe's to put a halt to Stepinac's three-game losing streak. Mercado has a record of 3-2 on the mound thus far this season with a stingy 1.73 earned run average.

The "Big Stopper" Mercado re-emerged to "stop the bleeding" by winning the first game of the doubleheader against Division opponent St. Raymond on Saturday. This essential Crusaders

win came after back-to-back losses to Kennedy.

Again, Mercado did no damage to his ERA by allowing only one run with five strikeouts in the 12-1 win over the Ravens. "I just kept getting ahead in counts and when I did not get ahead in the count, I just kept battling with batters and throwing strikes," revealed the Crusaders ace pitcher.

"Austin (Mercado) has been our guy for so long and we hit a couple of losing streaks and he stopped them both," acknowledged Crusaders Head Coach

Keith Richardson. "Obviously to get that first-game of the doubleheader and league win was important. There is nobody we depend on more than him," stated Richardson.

Although beating Hackley (4-5) of the Section 12 PSAL in the second game of the doubleheader was not a League victory for the Crusaders. The 11-7 win against the Hornets, which resulted in the Crusaders sweeping the doubleheader, was certainly a timely psychological boost for them at the midway point of the season.

Richardson mostly filled his line-up in the non-league game with bench players, which established just how deep the roster is for the Crusaders this season. He gave four pitchers work with junior Matt Camas getting the win against Hackley.

Crusaders junior first baseman Andrea Casabianca had two homeruns in the game. His second dinger came back-to-back, after senior catcher Ryan Ragone hit a three-run homerun, as part of a seven-run the third inning for Stepinac.

Stepinac has lost some tough games this season, which is another aspect that should be evaluated when sizing them up midway through the season. Moreover, considering the Crusaders five losses so far this year, only one of their losses was by more than two runs.

"This league is tough, as everybody can beat everybody and that is exactly what is happening. We have a lot of work to do with a big week coming up, so hopefully we can take advantage of it," commented Richardson.

After going on a two-game road trip this week against Mount St. Michael and Moore Catholic, Stepinac will return home to take on Cardinal Spellman High School on Friday, May 5 at 4 p.m.



Hackley School Head Coach Steven Frolo (left) and Stepinac Head Coach Keith Richardson (center) go over the ground rules with the umpire before the two local teams take the field at Stepinac. Frolo has been at the helm of the Hornets from Tarrytown for 25 years, while Richardson is in his second year as Head Coach of the Crusaders.

EXAMINER SPORTS

Fifth Annual WPHS Special Olympics Homecoming Basketball Game

By Albert Coqueran

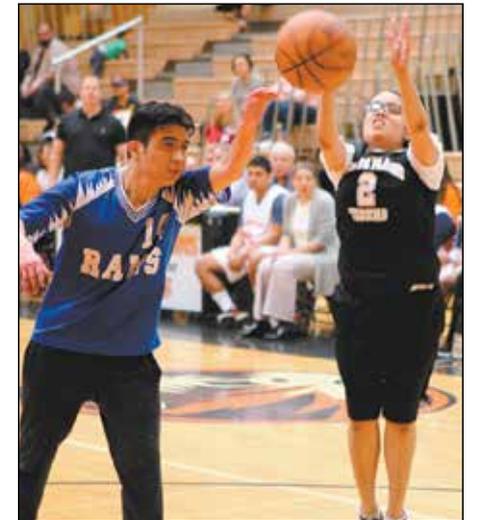
On Thursday, April 27, White Plains High School Special Olympics Pioneer League Basketball Team welcomed Sleepy Hollow and Port Chester High Schools Special Olympic Teams to participate in their Fifth Annual Special Olympics Homecoming Basketball Game at White Plains High School.

The Special Olympics Pioneer League Basketball Teams are a function of the Special Education Departments at the aforementioned high schools. The Special Olympics Homecoming Game features a Round-Robin format, which provides for all three participating teams to play each other during the event.

Kevin Brown has been the Head Coach of the WPHS Special Olympics Pioneer League Basketball Team for 11 years. Brown with his assistant coach Michael Beaton organizes the special day for the Special Education athletes. "This is the fifth year and this is the biggest turnout for sure, every year it gets better and this



Special Olympics Homecoming Game referee June Logan (kneeling), has volunteered with Special Olympics for many years. Logan calls a timeout during the Homecoming Game to tie the sneaker laces of Sleepy Hollow guard Ethan Spann, to make sure he remains safe during the game.



Senior Alana Serrano (right) of the WPHS Special Olympics Basketball Team shoots a jumper but is blocked by Port Chester High School Special Olympic Team forward Sthoycok Matute (left).

is because of the school community at large. I have a lot of help," stated Brown,

who is also a Social Studies Teacher and Job Coach with the Special Education Program at WPHS.

"It is important for all of our students to have opportunities and Kevin Brown, who runs the Special Olympics Program does an outstanding job," acknowledged WPHS Athletic Director Matthew Cameron, who worked the scoreboard during the Special Olympics Homecoming Game.

WPHS historian Don Gano announced the game, while "The Long Shots" representing the WPHS Song Writers Club entertained fans with contemporary music.

The Homecoming Game festivities began with a pregame ceremony highlighted by a reading of the Special Olympics Athletic Oath, which read: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." Certificates were also presented to the Special

Education graduating seniors, who were participating in the game.

After the game there was a Pizza Party with cupcakes and a cake dedicated to the graduating seniors. The WPHS Key Club donated the pizza.

The Sleepy Hollow Special Olympics Team is led by Head Coach Kim Kaczmarek and Assistant Coach Bonnie Berry. The Port Chester Special Olympic Team Coaching staff consists of Head Coach David Sheridan and assistant coaches Chris Wagner and Sharla Kaufman.



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

The WPHS Special Olympics Basketball Team (front) is pictured with the Tigers Mascot (left), the Girls Lacrosse Team and the Junior Varsity Baseball Team, who came out to support the Special Olympics squad during their Fifth Annual Special Olympics Homecoming Basketball Game at WPHS on Thursday, April 27.



A new addition to this year's WPHS Special Olympics Homecoming Basketball celebration was Isabella Brown (left), the daughter of Kevin Brown, Head Coach of the WPHS Special Olympics Basketball Team. Isabella, 14 years old, sang the National Anthem to kick-off the festivities prior to the Homecoming Game.



Christian Arellano, of the White Plains High School Special Olympics Basketball Team dribbles down court.

NFL Colts Player Speaks at White Plains My Brother's Keeper Meeting



Pictured (l to r) Frank Williams, White Plains Youth Bureau Director; White Plains High School Boys Basketball Coach, Spencer Mayfield; Mike Lindberg, Football Coach; White Plains Youth Bureau Youth Employment Services Youth Worker, Hilary Blackman; and Steve Grant, Former NFL Indianapolis Colts Football Player. My Brother's Keeper is program started in 2014 by President Obama to create equal opportunities for young people that allow them to reach their full potential. The program engages volunteer mentors. The White Plains Youth Bureau embraced the program and has run several programs. Mr. Grant has spoken to over a million youth across the nation.

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