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October 1 - October 7, 2019

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 9, Issue 424

## Shared Services Initiatives Moving Forward in Westchester

By Neal Rentz

Westchester County is looking at a series of new initiatives to share services with its municipalities in addition to its current programs, officials said last week.

The second public hearing on County Wide Shared Services was conducted on Sept. 23 in White Plains.

The county recently received a \$300,000 state grant. The funding will be used to implement the Westchester Shares Online Shared Services Portal Project. According to County Executive George Latimer, the portal will serve as an online database of all available equipment and services that can be shared between the county, local governments, municipalities and school districts.

Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins

said at last week's hearing that the county has updated its shared services plan from last year.

County Deputy Director of Operations Emily Saltzman noted that the state has extended its deadline for shared services plans from New York's counties until the end of the year. The Westchester final bipartisan shared services plan will be submitted to the municipalities and the Board of Legislators and a third public hearing will be conducted, Saltzman said.

One of the shared savings programs is the portal, County Chief Information Officer Marguerite Beirne said. Once the portal is in operation it will save the county and its municipalities \$2 million in the first year, with an expected \$1.2 million in savings annually in the subsequent years.

*continued on page 2*

## Tigers Experience First Season Loss Amid Call Dispute



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTO

White Plains High School Tigers, 3-1, after disappointing call negates touchdown. Coach says something should be done about shortage of referees. Pictured: During the game, Tigers Quarterback Ben Finkel scans the field while Christian Young blocks.

## New Red Light Cameras to Launch in White Plains this Week

By Pat Casey

Three new red light cameras will begin operating on or about Oct. 1 in White Plains at South Lexington at Maple Ave. (southbound), Main St. at Bank St. (eastbound), and Martine Ave. at Mamaroneck Ave. (westbound).

The camera additions are part of Phase II of the City of White Plains Red Light Safety Camera program. According to the mayor's office, this final phase will include the installation of nine additional cameras at seven intersections, bringing the total number of intersections to 12, the amount initially authorized for White Plains by the state of New York.

"The cameras will capture still images and video of red-light

running violations. This is a public safety program, and the city's goal is to deter red light runners and improper turns on red and prevent collisions resulting from these violations," according to a statement from city hall.

Traffic cameras will begin operating at several remaining locations later in the fall: Hamilton Ave. at Cottage Pl. (westbound), Mamaroneck Ave. at Ridgeway (northbound), Mamaroneck Ave. at Bryant Ave. (northbound), North St. at Bryant Ave. (northbound), Tarrytown Rd. at Central Ave. (southbound), and Westchester Ave. at South Kensico Ave. (eastbound).

Cameras will operate 24-hours/ day and capture images of every



New red light cameras will go online this fall in several White Plains locations.

vehicle running a red light at the designated intersections. Warning signs alerting drivers to the intersection safety cameras have been installed. Violators will receive a Notice of Liability (NOL) in the mail, which includes instructions on how to access the still images and video of the violation. The NOL carries a fine of \$50, but does not result in any points being added to a license. The NOL is issued to the registered owner of the vehicle. The program is administered by Verra Mobility with each violation reviewed and approved by the White Plains Department of Public Safety prior to being issued.

In July 2018, Phase I of the program was initiated with

the installation of six cameras at five intersections.

These cameras remain operational at Mamaroneck Ave. at Bryant Ave. (southbound), Main St. at Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (eastbound), Bank St. at Hamilton Ave. (northbound), Hamilton Ave. at Bank St. (westbound), Westchester Ave. at South Kensico Ave. (westbound), and North Broadway at Hamilton Ave. (southbound).

According to the mayor's office, during the program's first year of operation, from Aug. 1 2018 to July 31, 2019, intersections with red light cameras saw a 15% reduction in injury crashes and a 26% reduction in angle,

*continued on page 7*

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# Shared Services Initiatives Moving Forward in Westchester

continued from page 1

Some of the other new shared services initiatives outlined by county officials last week include having a county police officer serve as a resource officer during the school year and then work in county parks when school is out of session for the summer; working with the New York Power Authority on energy efficiency programs and having the county work with local governments to do regional tax assessments.

"The basic principal here is to be as innovative as we can," Latimer said. The state will provide a financial matching grant equal to the savings generated by new shared savings programs.

"The plan that we submitted last year was a quantum leap over the prior year's plan," Latimer said. The county is seeking to create additional shared services plans even after the new plan is sent to the state by the end of 2019, he added.

"Over the course of the last year we tried very hard to convince municipal governments that we are the partner," Latimer said. "That is not as easy to do as people would think because for most of the time county government, under both parties, have taken the attitude that we're a corporate entity and we have our (own) needs." The county needs to prove to local governments that shared services with it will also be in their interests, he said.

Board of Legislators Chairman Benjamin Boykin (D-White Plains) said his city has

NEAL RENTZ PHOTOS



Westchester County Executive George Latimer, left, and Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins at the Sept. 23 County Wide Shared Services public hearing in White Plains.



Westchester County Board of Legislators Chairman Benjamin Boykin (D-White Plains) at the Sept. 23 County Wide Shared Services public hearing.

a shared services program with the city school district to purchase new school buses to replace its aging vehicles. Having other municipalities enter into similar agreements with their local school districts would be financially beneficial, he said.

Two residents spoke during last week's hearing. Stanley Dorson, a district

representative from the office of state Sen. David Carlucci, asked for the date of the deadline for submitting the shared services plan to the state. Saltzman said the deadline is Dec. 31. The county will submit to the state data on how much shared services saved it this year and how much in savings it anticipates from the revised plan for next

year, Saltzman added.

Eileen Nadelson, president of the League of Women Voters of North East Westchester, asked if local governments would object to having their volunteer fire departments replaced with a county fire department. "There's no proposal on the table to do this," Latimer replied.

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# Workers Demand Altice Stop Outsourcing Westchester Jobs

By Neal Rentz

Several Altice employees and members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators were among those who gathered in front of the county office building in White Plains on Sept. 23 to protest the company's outsourcing of some of its jobs.

The participants shouted slogans including "Altice – bring back the jobs" and "What do you want – our jobs" at the press conference.

Altice is a cable television provider with headquarters in Long Island City. The company delivers pay television, Internet access, telephone services and original television content to customers throughout the US.

Altice workers in Westchester have recently become part of the Communications Workers of America Local 1130. CWA Local 1103 President Kevin Sheil said the participants were seeking to have Altice provide its Westchester employees with the jobs protections provided to its Brooklyn employees and stop outsourcing Westchester jobs. "One of the top priorities of any legitimate union" is to fight for good middle class jobs, he said. "It is long been a cornerstone of CWA's efforts to protect the rights of all workers not just union workers," he said. "We have seen across all industries how the race to the bottom subcontracting has devastated communities with job loss and customer service issues."

Sheil said Altice has an agreement with the state Public Service Commission that



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Altice employees and members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators were among those who participated in a press conference on Sept. 23 in front of the county office building protesting the company's outsourcing of some jobs.

includes "specific protections against layoffs along with customer service and broadband access requirements." The company has eliminated more than 200 middle class jobs in Westchester and a total of about 1,000 in the tristate area, he said. The jobs have been shifted to lower skilled and paid contract workers, he said.

The transfer of Altice jobs to contract workers hurts Westchester's economy and threatens the quality of service, Sheil said. "Altice has systematically eliminated good

middle class jobs in order to make a quick buck," he said. "If Altice continues to treat Westchester's workers and customers as second class citizens we will look to the New York State Public Service Commission to carry on its review of Altice's compliance with requirements made under their agreement."

Altice field technician Jonathan Carter, who lives in Wappingers Falls, said he has been employed by the company for 13 years and for the past three years he has been part

of the company's splicing project working out of Hawthorne. "In those last three years I've seen our workforce go from 300 plus workers down to 130 to 120," he said. The job cuts came after Altice purchased Cablevision in 2016, he said. "It seems like our work is being contracted out more than ever before. When I say that job security is our number one issue I believe I speak for all of my brothers and sisters that work for Altice," Carter said.

County Board of Legislators Chairman Ben Boykin (D-White Plains) said the legislators who attended the press conference were standing with the CWA local and other union members in attendance. "We have your back," Boykin said. "We on the Board of Legislators when we see an injustice we're there to stand with you. And what we want for the Altice workers is the same security and the same pay that they're getting in Brooklyn."

Legislator Catherine Borgia (D-Ossining), chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, said, "In our society we have seen this race to the bottom where corporate profits matter more than people having a decent living wage. Where we are trying to get services on the cheap where we place workers in danger, where people get hurt on the job or have to leave the job because the physical demands are too much, where they're being asked to do the work of three workers who did it in the past. I am all for efficiency but I don't think it happens at a human cost."

*continued on page 5*



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# El Centro Hispano to Celebrate 45th Anniversary in White Plains

**By Neal Rentz**

Isabel Villar, founding executive director of El Centro Hispano in White Plains, said last week that it was hard to believe the organization has been in existence for four-and-one-half decades.

"It's been a long time, but it has gone very fast," Villar said.

El Centro Hispano will celebrate its 45th anniversary with a black tie event on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 66 Hale Ave. in White Plains. Villar noted that returning as master of ceremonies will be Jorge Ramos, the former news anchor for Telemundo.



Left: I Centro Hispano in White Plains will celebrate its 45 anniversary with an event at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Oct. 26. Shown above is the El Centro Hispano team. First row: from the left, Cecilia Bikkal, board president; Isabel Villar, founding executive director and H. Judith Aucar, deputy director. Second row, from the left: Diana Olivos, coordinator of the My Older Brother tutorial program; Iliana Gonzalez, accounting instructor; Daisy Flores, assistant to the deputy director/ grant writer/development person; Claudia Malaga, chief of operations; Giselle Robles, outreach worker/data base specialist and Henry Avendaño, coordinator of the El Centro Hispano Technology Center/lead instructor. Third row, from the left: Cesar Castro, IT consultant; Jennifer Abreu, director of children's educational programs; Keyla Garcia, director of marketing/ branding and adult educational programs; Yani Vilca, legal consultant; Chelsea Mosquera, assistant to the director of marketing /branding and adult educational programs and Lizette Mosquera, teacher's assistant in the early literacy program.

Ramos has been master of ceremonies on more than one occasion since 1998, she said.

This year's honorees are: Apple Bank for Savings, Aguedo Camacho, Heriberto Contreras, Evelyn and Herbert Hadad, The Hersch Family - Key Bank - Alice & the Late Fred Perkins - Southern Westchester BOCES, the White Plains Department of Public Safety, White Plains Hospital and the White Plains City School District: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca, Director of LOTE and ELL Lisa Panaro, Jesmae Ossorio, the principal of the Post Road Elementary School, Post Road School Assistant Principal Suzanne Lasser and Clerk of the Board of Education Michele Schoenfeld.

The event's Honored Guests will be Ann Rockefeller Roberts, The Lanza Family Foundation and George and Rachel Gumina.

The event is honoring those "who helped us" to help the Hispanic community, Villar said.

As stated on its Web site, "El Centro Hispano's mission is to assist, support and strengthen Hispanic families; to help them become self-sufficient and to ease their transition into their new culture while maintaining and enriching their own."

“Right now we are the oldest Hispanic organization in Westchester County,” Villar said.

El Centro Hispano, a charitable organization was established in January 1974 under the auspices of the White Plains Community Action Program in the Chapel Hall at St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church. It remained part of the Community Action Program until 2000 when it became a separate entity with its own self-governing Board of Directors. "We are very grateful for St. Bernard's Church," Villar said.

A limited number of tickets for the anniversary event are still available. To purchase tickets visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/el-centro-hispanos-45th-anniversary-tickets-66460439965>.



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# Lawmakers, Gun Violence Prevention Advocates Sign Symbolic Woodstock Stage Panel

On Sept. 26 Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America along with state, county, and local Hudson Valley lawmakers gathered in White Plains to sign a panel from the original 1969 Woodstock stage. The signing is in support of federal common-sense gun reforms, including background checks on all gun sales and red flag laws.

Steve Gold, a resident of New City and co-founder of Peace of Stage, acquired the original stage and began using it for social change after collecting hundreds of signatures in support of common-sense gun laws at Woodstock's 50th Anniversary events.

Gold then reached out to his district representative State Senator David Carlucci (D-Clarkstown) to garner more signatures. Carlucci prominently displayed the panel in his New City office so residents could show their support.

"Woodstock was all about music, peace and a huge instant community of people caring for each other. The original stage panel symbolizes that unity and social activism. Hundreds have already been inspired and signed the stage panel and we hope many more will sign it and our online petition and join us in demanding common-sense gun reform, Gold said"

Volunteers with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America from Westchester and Rockland Counties showed their



Local lawmakers and gun violence prevention advocates signed a portion of the original Woodstock stage to show their support for gun reform. Steve Gold, of New City, acquired the stage and has been using it for social change after collecting hundreds of signatures.

support by signing the panel, which will be delivered by Gold to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell in Washington, D.C.

Naomi Marrow, Westchester Local Group Legislative Lead, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America said: "We are in

a rolling national nightmare of escalating gun violence and Moms Demand Action is pressing the Senate to immediately pass background checks on all gun purchases and a comprehensive Red Flag law. We should not live in fear of gun violence and must raise our voices to enact sensible laws to protect Americans now."

More than 20 Hudson Valley lawmakers attended the signing. Congresswoman Nita Lowey sent a representative on her behalf, while United States Democratic Leader Charles E. Schumer said in a statement: "Moms Demand Action has been a tireless advocate, strong supporter and true ally in the fight for common-sense gun reforms, especially right here in Westchester. We can't afford a bill that is simply aimed at pleasing the NRA, not to get the job done; we need real results. It is abhorrent that despite an endless string of shootings, hundreds of lives lost and the overwhelming cries by the American people throughout the country pleading for Congress to act on gun violence and end these senseless tragedies, that we have to stand here and keep the pressure on. Nonetheless, please rest assured that I stand with you in this fight. Whether in spirit at today's rally or on the Senate floor, I will continue to vociferously fight for meaningful and commonsense reforms, like fixing our broken background check law."

## Workers Demand Altice Stop Outsourcing Westchester Jobs

*continued from page 3*

On Monday, Altice released this statement in response to last week's press conference: "Altice is steadfast in its commitment to providing customers in Westchester and the entire tri-state area with the best products and a great overall experience as evidenced by investments in our Altice One entertainment platform, newly launched Altice Mobile service, state-of-the-art fiber network deployment, and more. We are

currently in negotiations with the CWA and committed to reaching a mutually acceptable agreement that provides for our employees while ensuring the company can continue to succeed in today's competitive landscape. We have offered the CWA terms that are consistent with current collective bargaining agreements for our other represented employees, and we will continue to negotiate in good faith."

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# Police Blotter

## Fleeing Burglary Suspects Nabbed by Westchester County Patrol Officers

Three burglary suspects arrested by Westchester County Police as they attempted to flee on the Hutchinson River Parkway are being held without bail at the Westchester County Jail in Valhalla.

At about 3:15 p.m., Sept. 23, the Rye Brook Police Department broadcast a description of a vehicle wanted in connection with a burglary that had just occurred in the village. County Police patrol officers began to check the Hutchinson River Parkway and an officer located the vehicle in the vicinity of Wilmot Road in New Rochelle. Following

a traffic stop, the three suspects were taken into custody and transported to County Police headquarters in Hawthorne.

The trio is suspected of committing burglaries in other Westchester communities. Detectives assigned to the Real Time Crime Center and the General Investigations Unit are assisting multiple departments with ongoing investigations into the suspects.

County Police charged the three suspects with Criminal Possession of Stolen Property, a felony, in connection with burglary proceeds found in their vehicle.

The suspects are identified as Bronx residents Thomas A. Ricketts, 28, Latiek M.

Frazer, 26, and Omar S. Willis, 28.

The suspects were arraigned Sept. 24 in New Rochelle City Court and were ordered held without bail at the County Jail.

## 11 Charged In White Plains Federal Court With Crack Cocaine Distribution

Geoffrey S. Berman, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, William F. Sweeney Jr., Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and Brian Ryan, Town of Greenburgh Police Chief, announced the unsealing of an indictment charging 11 defendants with narcotics distribution offenses in and around Westchester County last week.

The defendants, Randy Sargeant (aka "Black"), Kelvin Ganpat, Jean Carlos Laureano (aka "Rico"), Christopher Martinez (aka "Panama"), Howard Meredith, William Brito, Amanda Coppola, Jamal Peters (aka "Mega Head"), Bert Hickson, Christine Morrison, and Crystal Martine, were presented in White Plains federal court before U.S. Magistrate Judge Judith C. McCarthy on Sept. 20.

As alleged in the indictment, from at least 2018 until September 2019, the defendants conspired to distribute 280 grams and more of crack cocaine.

All defendants are charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute 280 grams and more of crack cocaine, which carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum sentence of life in

prison as prescribed by Congress. However, any sentencing of the defendants will be determined by the judge.

Berman praised the outstanding investigative work of the FBI Westchester County Safe Streets Task Force and the Greenburgh Drug and Alcohol Task Force.

The FBI Westchester County Safe Streets Task Force is comprised of Special Agents and Task Force Officers from the FBI, US Probation, ATF, New York State Police, Westchester County PD, Westchester County DAs Office, NYPD, Yonkers PD, Mount Vernon PD, Peekskill PD, Greenburgh PD and New Rochelle PD.

The Greenburgh Drug and Alcohol Task Force is comprised of investigators from the Greenburgh PD, Tarrytown PD, Sleepy Hollow PD, Dobbs Ferry PD, Ardsley PD, Irvington PD, Hastings PD and Elmsford PD.

The case is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant United States Attorney Christopher Brumwell is in charge of the prosecution.

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# FRECKLES JUICE, WHITE PLAINS

By Neal Rentz

When you ask Bronx resident Felicia Forbes why she named her business Freckles Juice she has a simple reply.

"I guess you didn't notice my face full of freckles," Forbes said recently.

Forbes opened her second location in the City Center in White Plains in October 2018. Her first location is in the Bronx.

Forbes recalled she started making juices for herself and her family in her home. "Then I started bringing juice to work for my co-workers and then I decided, wow, I'm pretty good at this, I should open a location," Forbes said. She opened her first location in the Bronx in 2016.

Forbes said the City Center in White Plains reached out to her "and I said it was a great opportunity to grow. Being right here in the City Center is like being part of a community."

The drinks served at Freckles feature fresh fruits and vegetables, including kale, mango, strawberries, cucumbers, beets, carrots, ginger and mint. Some of the drinks also include vegan protein, nuts and almond milk. Freckles offers drinks called "wellness shots" in such varieties as wheatgrass and ginger.

Freckles smoothies are blended with ice, while the juices are not. The smoothies "are

a little thicker and they're sweeter" than the juices, Forbes said.

One of the most popular smoothies is Belize It, which includes mango, strawberry, banana and pineapple juice. "I went to Belize and I love Belize," Forbes said.

"A lot of the names are actually Reggae songs that we love," Forbes noted.

Forbes does not have one favorite Freckles drink. "I love all the drinks a lot, it just depends on my mood," she said.

Freckles drinks do more than just taste good, Forbes said. "The health benefits vary just depending on what you're looking for," she said. "For instance, we have stuff with celery. Celery is great for high blood pressure. Beets are good for blood pressure. We have things for diabetics like cucumber, ginger and celery."

Freckles' customers have the option of customizing their drinks, Forbes said.

Forbes said her customers come "from all over," including people traveling from such faraway places as Kenya and Russia.

Forbes said she would like to bring her business to outdoor community events to get "more involved with the White Plains community."

Freckles Juice is located in the City Center in White Plains, 9 Mamaroneck Ave. For more information visit [frecklesjuice.com/](http://frecklesjuice.com/).

Businesses  
of the Week



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Bronx resident Felicia Forbes opened her second Freckles Juice location in the City Center in White Plains in October 2018.

## Advertise in The White Plains Examiner 914-864-0878

## New Red Light Cameras to Launch in White Plains this Week

continued from page 1

left turn opposing, and pedestrian crashes (combined). Those types of crashes are the types targeted by this program. Total crashes were reduced by 18%.

While there is controversy over the effectiveness of red light cameras for traffic safety purposes, recently released data analysis from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety showed that red light running is up nationwide. In its report the AAA Foundation also cited the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), which "found that when properly implemented,

red light cameras reduced the fatal red light running crash rate of large cities by 21% and the rate of all types of fatal crashes at signalized intersections by 14%."

White Plains received state authorization to establish a red light camera program in August 2015. The authorization was for a modest program with cameras permitted at "up to 12 intersections" in the city.

The red light camera program is authorized for a 5-year period by the State Legislature, and must be renewed by the State Legislature.

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# Scarsdale Teens Cycle to Raise Money for White Plains Hospital

Several Scarsdale teenagers and members of the Junior Friends of White Plains Hospital sweated and cycled their way to raising funds to benefit White Plains Hospital Family Health Center on Sept. 22.

Spearheaded by Charlotte Meyers, 17, president of the Scarsdale High School Junior Friends of WPH, the fundraiser drew 23 cyclists to the Flywheel Sports cycling studio in Scarsdale. The teens raised nearly \$1500 in support of local healthcare.

The students are members of the Junior Friends of White Plains Hospital and work closely with their adult counterparts in



the Friends of White Plains Hospital. The mission of these groups is to raise awareness, provide volunteer services, and raise money for valuable hospital programs.

The Family Health Center, which opened in a new location in June, provides preventive, primary care, and specialty services to families and children living in White Plains and surrounding neighborhoods.

Pictured from left to right are Jennifer Farfel, Eileen Meyers, Charlotte Meyers, Jayden Cyzner, Tara Bleustein, Bonni Bleustein.

## Rotary Club of White Plains Celebrates a Century of Service

On Oct. 19, the Rotary Club of White Plains will celebrate its 100th Anniversary at a Gala benefit, "Celebrating a Century of Service." The Gala will be held at the C.V. Rich Mansion, 305 Ridgeway, White Plains, at 6:30 p.m.

White Plains Rotary will honor four community partners at the event: J. Frederick Singleton, long-time Meet

Director of the Glenn D. Loucks Memorial Track and Field Games; Diane H. Tabakman, immediate past President of the White Plains Library Foundation; the White Plains Hospital; and the White Plains Youth Bureau.

Proceeds of the Gala will benefit the White Plains Library Foundation to support renovations of Library meeting rooms used

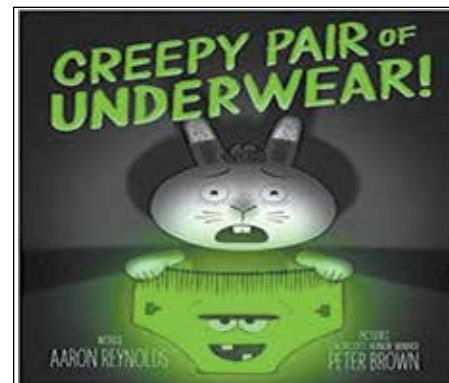
by thousands of people each year attending programs, classes and meetings. Gala proceeds will also benefit the Foundation of the Rotary Club of White Plains to support the Club's ongoing charitable work in the White Plains community.

For donation and event information, visit [www.rotarywp.org](http://www.rotarywp.org).

## New Halloween Story at Bryant-Mamaroneck StoryWalk

Fall is upon us and a new story has been selected for the Bryant-Mamaroneck Park StoryWalk. To get you in the mood for Halloween, "Creepy Pair of Underwear!" by Aaron Reynolds has been selected.

Jasper Rabbit is NOT a little bunny anymore. He's not afraid of the dark, and he's definitely not afraid of something as silly as underwear. But when the lights go out, suddenly his new big rabbit underwear glows in the dark. A ghoulish, greenish glow. If Jasper didn't know any better he'd say his undies were a little, well, creepy.



The StoryWalk, a partnership between the City of White Plains Recreation and Parks Department and the White Plains Public Library, combines a children's story with a popular walking route at the Bryant-Mamaroneck Park, located on the corner of Bryant and Mamaroneck Avenues. The park entrance is on the Mamaroneck Avenue side. Parking is available in the City of White Plains Mamaroneck Avenue parking lot (lower level).

This month's StoryWalk will run through Friday, Oct. 31.

## Greenburgh Seeks Volunteers to Test Postal Service Operations

In response to the ongoing resident complaints regarding Post Office mail delivery, The Town of Greenburgh will be conducting a test of the Postal Service First Class Delivery within the Town.

The following is a basic guide to the testing that will be conducted during October and November:

1. The delivery testing will utilize the same External First Class testing methodology utilized by the Postal Service to test mail delivery locally, and nationwide.

2. The test would require ten volunteers for each of the four test weeks during October and November. Volunteers may be from any address within the entire town.

3. Each volunteer will attend a one hour meeting in Town Hall, be handed 10 letters

in advance of the test date, and will be instructed to place the letters in the mail stream on a specific date. Volunteers will be instructed to place the letters in his/her own mailbox for carrier pick up, or in a designated blue collection box. Volunteers will confirm (via email or phone) that the letters were posted in the mail on the date as directed.

4. Each volunteer will subsequently receive 10 letters at their home address. The volunteer is only required to mark the receipt date on the letter enclosed in the envelope, and return the 10 letters (and envelopes) to Town Hall when all 10 are received. No business address, apartment address, or P.O. Box address can be used for the test. To insure accuracy in the testing, the volunteer must be available to

check their mail daily until all 10 pieces are received.

The data gathered during the test would be recorded on a simplified data chart and will provide a snapshot of local mail delivery within the Town. Results of the weekly testing will be shared with all residents, and Postal Service Management.

Any resident wishing to be a volunteer in this test, please contact my office. My email is [pfeiner@greenburghny.com](mailto:pfeiner@greenburghny.com).

I continue to receive numerous complaints about the postal service from residents and think that this test could provide the postal service with valuable information.

—Paul Feiner,  
Greenburgh Town Supervisor

**Advertise in The White Plains Examiner 914-864-0878**



# Obituaries

## Suzanne D. Raimondi



Suzanne D. Raimondi (nee Celentano), 91, originally from the Bronx, and later of White Plains, passed away peacefully on Sept. 26.

She was the loving spouse of the late Michael C. Raimondi. Cherished mother to Michael Raimondi (Diane) of Yonkers, Vicki Habermann (John) of White Plains, and Stephanie Hoina (Ron) of White Plains.

Proud Nanny to Christie Adamo (Frankie), Michael Raimondi (Corina), Nicholas Raimondi, Alex Raimondi, Alyssa Habermann, and Zac Hoina. Thrilled Great Grandmother to Nicholas and Christian Adamo and Cher Michaelina Raimondi. Beloved aunt to a multitude of nieces and nephews.

Dear daughter of the late Anthony and Emily Celentano and older sister of Butch, Perry, and the late Anthony Celentano.

Her kind and gracious nature meant she never met a stranger and she will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. The family would also like to thank Annemarie, Sumarah, Nelista, and Claudia, among so many others, for their loving care of Sue.

In lieu of flowers, and in honor of Sue's favorite saint, the family requests donations are sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital ([stjude.org](http://stjude.org)).

## Rosemary Theresa Underwood

Rosemary (Rose) Theresa (Sniffen) Underwood of Croton-on-Hudson, passed away on Sept 25 at the age of 57.

Rose was born to Donald James and Georgianna Elizabeth (Beardsley) Sniffen on Oct. 19, 1961 in N. Tarrytown. Rose recently retired from a lifelong career with two school districts and was able to finally travel and enjoy retirement.



Rose joins her mother, Georgianna; her father, Donald; stepfather, Bob Sloat; sister's, Holly Rodriguez and Geraldine Sniffen; brother, Joseph Sniffen and lifelong friend, Lucio LaForgia, in heaven.

Rose is survived by her husband, David Maglin; children, Erika Miller (Charles Moncion), Crystal White (Dennis) and John Carlos; grandchildren, Kiara, Isabella, Charles, and Olivia Moncion; siblings, Donald, Miracle, Frances, Alfred (Barbara), Robert (Mary) and Charles (Marie) Sniffen and many nieces and nephews.

Rose was a devoted wife, mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, aunt and grandmother. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, playing cards, and watching

tennis. She loved, most of all, animals, including her cat "whiskey" and spending time with her grandchildren, at the Hudson River and the lake in New Hampshire. She opened her heart and her home to many over the years and will be truly missed by family, friends and all that knew her. Always in our hearts.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019 at Holy Name of Mary Church, 110 Grand Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY.

Flowers are being accepted or in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the World Wildlife Fund ([www.worldwildlife.org](http://www.worldwildlife.org)) in Rose's memory.

## Felix Davila

On Sept. 22, Dr. Felix Davila, a White Plains resident, passed away at White Plains Hospital.

Dr. Davila was born in Granada, Nicaragua on April 27, 1939.

He practiced medicine for 50 years, over 40 of which were in the White Plains area. Dr. Davila graduated from the University of Guadalajara, Mexico in 1964. He did residencies at the VA hospital in the Bronx and at Westchester Medical Center. He



held fellowships in gastroenterology at the University of Mississippi and at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Davila also studied at the Aiche Cancer Center in Nagoya, Japan.

Dr. Davila was in private practice in Nicaragua from 1973 to 1975 and in White Plains from 1975 until his retirement in 2014. He was attending physician at White Plains Hospital from 1975 until his retirement and was the medical director of White Plains Hospital's addiction treatment center from 1980 until its closing.

He was a consulting physician to the White Plains city school district for over 15 years. Dr. Davila held medical licenses in New York, New Jersey, Mississippi and Texas.

Dr. Davila was on the board of directors of many organizations, including the American Red Cross, Westchester Mental Health Association, the English Language Center at Pace University and the American Cancer Society. He was former president of the Westchester Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to his work as a physician, Dr. Davila was a dedicated poet. He was the founder and chair of the Instituto Cultural Ruben Dario, which was dedicated to increasing the visibility and recognition of the Nicaraguan poet within the United States.

Dr. Davila is preceded in death by his mother, father and his daughter, Nicole.

He leaves behind family, friends and patients who admired, respected and loved him.

His family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Sociedad Latina, based in Boston, where his daughter, Alexandra, serves as Executive Director. A scholarship for continuing education of Latino youth interested in medical and health sciences is being established in his honor. Donations can be made through their website - <https://www.sociedadlatina.org/donations>.

## WCC's Great Chef Culinary and Wine Series Begins Oct. 7

The Westchester Community College Foundation is presenting its annual Great Chefs Series of wine tastings, cooking demonstrations and three-course dinners on four Monday evenings starting Oct. 7.

These tantalizing events, co-sponsored by DeCicco & Sons and Wine Enthusiast, will be held in the college's state-of-the-art instructional kitchens and Culinary Dining Room on the Valhalla campus. All of the funds raised from the series will benefit the foundation's scholarship fund and the college's on-campus food pantry.

Host Chef Philip McGrath, curriculum chair of the college's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Program and former chef and owner of the Iron Horse Grill in Pleasantville, has assembled a stellar cast of local culinary celebrities who will create epicurean delights and enable visitors to dazzle future dinner guests. The chefs will be assisted by the college's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management students.

The evenings begin with an exclusive wine tasting reception with specialists from Wine Enthusiast. Chefs will then

demonstrate the how-to's of each meal. Guests will enjoy the chefs' creations paired with an accompanying wine, beer or cocktail. Each guest will leave with a goodie bag, recipes for dinner and beverage pairing information.

Monday, Oct. 7, 6 p.m., Sonora (Port Chester). Restaurateur and author Chef Rafael Palomino is keenly aware of flavors people love and crave. Drawing from his childhood in Bogotá and many years in New York City and France, Palomino will share techniques and recipes for cooking mouth-watering Latin-inspired dishes. Beverage pairing provided by StilltheOne Distillery Two and Wine Enthusiast.

Monday, Oct. 21, 6 p.m., Farmer and the Fish (Purdys, Sleepy Hollow, New York City). Chef, owner and farmer Michael Kaphan raised the bar on "farm-to-table" dining by sourcing their restaurants with produce from his five-acre farm in North Salem. Kaphan will show why using fresh and local has been one of the main ingredients for their success. Beverage pairing provided by the Croton Tapsmith and Wine Enthusiast.

Monday, Oct. 28, 6 p.m., The Cookery (Dobbs Ferry) and Eugene's Diner and Bar (Port Chester). Known for his boundary-pushing style and thoughtfully creative dishes, Chef David DiBari will showcase courses from his various restaurants. Joining DiBari will be Sajin Renae of The Cookery and Chef Iulia Mahu of Eugene's Diner and Bar who are the core strength behind the creativity, passion and kitchen operations at each restaurant. Beverage pairing provided by DeCicco & Sons and Wine Enthusiast.

Monday, Nov. 4, 6 p.m., X20 Xavier's on the Hudson (Yonkers). Join Chef Peter Kelly of the Xaviars Restaurant Group as he prepares a menu and cooking demonstration you can prepare at home for your next extravagant dinner party for family and friends. Beverage pairing provided by Midway Wine & Liquors and Wine Enthusiast.

Tickets for each event are \$150. For details, visit [www.sunywcc.edu/greatchefs](http://www.sunywcc.edu/greatchefs) or contact Sue Mackey at 914-606-6558 or at [sue.mackey@sunywcc.edu](mailto:sue.mackey@sunywcc.edu).

The series will help support student scholarships and special programs that

provide students with critical services. The foundation raises resources to meet student and college needs not met by public funds, awarding more than \$25 million in scholarships to over 18,500 students since 1969.

Support for tuition alone is not enough to help some students; their everyday needs are not being met as they deal with food insecurity issues. The college's food pantry was established in 2014 and provides meals and non-perishable food items for more than 1,000 students and their families. In 2018, the Great Chefs Series raised funds to distribute 250 Thanksgiving dinners to students in need.

The Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management curriculum leads students to careers, not only in restaurants but also in commercial, on-site and institutional establishments. Course work includes culinary arts, business management, work experience and a basic liberal arts core. Culinary Arts and Management graduates move into positions in the field or transfer to four-year colleges to continue their studies.



# Fall Chores in the Garden Can Be the Most Gratifying

As a realtor, I show homes that have various types of yards and gardens. Especially when a client is from the city, I am always sure to point out the care and maintenance that is required outside.

I remember well when I first moved from the city to my country home, I was a bit overwhelmed by the attention and sweat my property required. After just one growing season, however, I was hooked as an ardent gardener and accepted the considerable toil with pleasure.

I have found that, for me, autumn in the garden and yard can be most gratifying as deciduous trees and perennials start to yawn, preparing for a long winter's sleep, accompanied by that sweet smell that comes from plants releasing their chemistry and the crisp, clean sound of decaying leaves falling to the ground. It forecasts shorter days. The only outdoor chore that remains is clearing walkways of snow and ice.

While spring is probably everybody's favorite time in the garden, the fall signifies the finiteness of garden chores. When a weed is pulled, it stays pulled and doesn't replace itself with double the aggression. When perennials are deadheaded, the gardener can take a furlough from assuring that they are properly fed and watered, but will welcome them back in spring after they both have rested.

The proportions of any garden change as the perennial and annual growth are whacked back, which makes the vistas more open from one bed to the other. Also, it eliminates many of the planning mistakes from one season to the next, as errant plans are abandoned and bulbs and perennial roots

are moved to other locations.

More creative joy comes from choosing which mums to feature as the color transitions from fall to winter. While you will see drifts of mum plants on some properties that have every color in the fall palate, I always liked to stick to one color, two at the most.

For the longest display of mum flowers, it's best to buy those where most of the plant is still buds. When the mums fade, just leave them where they are; they maintain a nice mound throughout the winter and you can cut them back in early spring. If you're lucky, they may return, but sometimes they don't, depending on winter conditions.

I now live at Trump Park where there is a fantastic landscaping program three seasons of the year. But I look back on my long-term gardening chores with great pleasure and nostalgia. My most gratifying fall jobs was always building up the mulch beds to make them look well-tended and keeping the perennial roots from heaving.

I always asked my tree service provider to send me a truck load of wood chips if they are very clean (no leaves) and processed into smaller chips. Truly, it's as good as expensive mulch. In fact, I liked it better because it offered more texture and looked

more natural to me.

Here are other garden tips at this time of year:

1. Harvest any vegetables left on plants. It's important to pull out all of the crops because debris left over the winter can cause diseases to enter the soil and re-appear the next spring.

2. This is the time when you can add horse manure or compost to the soil because that allows plenty of time for it to break down.

3. For those who like to bring houseplants inside, they should all be gathered into a shady area for a few days to get them used to low light conditions. Make certain that they are clean and free from little critters.

4. Perennials that are overcrowded or growing in a large ring with the center

portion missing means that it's time to subdivide. You'll become popular with your neighbors if you share the excess. Cut back the remaining perennials to three to six inches in height.

5. Prepare for brilliant displays of daffodils, tulips and crocuses in spring by planting bulbs now. Do not plant them in tidy rows but rather "broadcast" them in drifts on the surface and plant them where they land for a more natural look.

6. For those who have the patience to endure the rigors of rose maintenance, it is

time to prune dead branches and cut off any old flowers. Rose bushes should be mounded using topsoil or mulch and the canes should be cut back to six to 12 inches. For better protection, the bush can be covered with a bushel basket.

7. Also, this is the best time to transplant shrubs or young trees to new locations.

I don't advise readers about preparing lawns in the fall for next spring because I must confess that for years I didn't aerate and thatch the soil and I didn't fertilize. Because my former property was first cultivated in the early 18th century, I felt that I got a free pass to a very naturalized lawn accepting crabgrass and dandelions with grace.

But then, I engaged a wonderful lawn care service that took care of all those great chores that I said I was too busy to do. I do hope that it wasn't because I was too lazy.

*Bill Primavera enjoys a dual career as a publicist and a realtor associated with William Raveis Real Estate in Yorktown. He engages in residential and commercial real estate. To employ the services of The Home Guru to market and promote your home for sale, call Bill directly at 914-522-2076.*



By Bill Primavera



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15						16				
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**Across**

1. Salt away  
6. Acted as a ringer  
11. Volcano outputs  
12. Network connections  
13. Skip the usual wedding preparations  
14. In the slightest degree  
15. Cornfield sound  
16. Puts down  
17. Any way you spell it, this Mahopac ice cream shop means "quality"

21. Physical problems  
25. Cleopatra paramour or Carmel Jeweler  
27. Character in Asimov's "Foundation Series"  
30. Mole org.  
31. Out of port  
32. Expert  
34. Child's playground toy  
35. Receive charity  
36. Part of a table setting  
37. Equals

**Down**

1. Smart one  
2. African republic  
3. Statement of belief  
4. Oracle competitor  
5. Compass point  
6. Wall Street worker  
7. Little bit  
8. W.W. II turning point  
9. Snaky swimmers  
10. High-speed Internet inits.  
18. \_\_\_\_ Bean, retailer  
19. Burning up  
20. Most spotted card  
22. Quiet!  
23. Tertiary period  
24. Marksman  
26. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" director David  
27. New Year's Day game  
28. Largest continent  
29. Monthly budget item  
31. Teaspoon, abbr.  
32. Payroll processing company  
33. Anonymous Jane

**Solution on page 16**



# Classic Steaks and Chops at Alex's Bar & Grille



By Morris Gut

Classic Steaks and Chops at Alex's Bar & Grille

This restaurant could make a fine stop on your fall dining tour. Marking his seventh year, proprietor Alex Ahmetaj, a veteran of the restaurant-hospitality field, has updated the menu at Alex's Bar & Grille on North Broadway in North White Plains, a 120-seat restaurant and bar/lounge that offers big cuts of classic prime aged steaks and chops along with generously served Northern Italian/Continental fare. There is also a good happy hour networking scene in the bar/lounge evenings.

Customers enter the multi-section dining room through the inviting lounge with its black industrial ceiling, banquets and soft lighting. The handsome dining room is split into cozy sections with white tablecloths, colorful deVelleneuve impressionist paintings, and warming scones. Mediterranean clay-colored banquets and chairs compliment wooden walls and plush beige curtained windows. There is outdoor

sliced portabella mushrooms; Veal Portofino, rolled with prosciutto and mozzarella served over rice with shitake mushrooms in a brown sauce; Lemon Sole Marechiara with clams and calamari; Chicken Scarpariello prepared on or off the bone; and Veal Saltimbocca with prosciutto, eggplant and mozzarella. The fresh Branzino prepared tableside is a delicious indulgence. Daily specialties augment the regular menu.

Carnivores will enjoy selections From the Grill featuring such big value priced prime cuts as: Ribeye Steak, Filet Mignon, N.Y. Sirloin Steak, Lamb Chops, Pork Chops with sautéed green and sweet peppers, and Veal Paillard, and hearty Veal Chop Valdostana. Addicting sides include: hash brown potatoes, creamed spinach, sautéed broccoli, and asparagus. To complement your meal there is a fine wine cellar.

Desserts are house made daily and include such classics as Cheesecake, Tiramisu and Napoleon.



## Hard Luck Pool Hall Opens in White Plains

Want to brush up on your pool game? A big new sign overhead reads: Hard Luck Poolhall, Bar, Lounge at 197 E. Post Road, White Plains, just down the street from Wolf & Warrior Brewery, Z Prime, and Pax Romana. I guess the closure of the original Executive Billiards along Mamaroneck Ave. made this effort possible. Rumor has it that it is the same owners. It is a sprawling space with bar, lounge area, a health-conscious food menu, big TVs, and a lot of pool tables. Spotted an urban patio in the rear. Niko and company are your hosts. Daily Happy Hours. Open seven days. For info: 914-607-2200. [www.hardluckpoolhall.com](http://www.hardluckpoolhall.com).

## Oktoberfest at Dunne's Pub, White Plains

Proprietor Declan Farrell, who also owns Vintage on Main Street, White Plains, will be serving an Oktoberfest Menu every Thursday during the month of October. Dunne's kitchen puts out fine versions of: Potato Pancake Appetizer, Sauerbraten, a hearty Triple Wurst Plate with all the trimmings, Veal Schnitzel, and Calf's Liver, German style. There will be German beer, too. Dunne's Restaurant & Pub in White Plains is a neighborhood treasure, an authentic Irish tavern with all the traditional Gaelic accoutrements intact. There is an exciting live Irish music session every Wednesday night. And Oktoberfest is celebrated the first Thursday of every month all year. Open seven days for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. Municipal parking. Dunne's Pub, 15 Shapham Place, White Plains. 914-421-1451. [www.dunnespubandrestaurant.net](http://www.dunnespubandrestaurant.net).

## Rooftop Indian Summer at Freebird, White Plains

Proprietor Nick Fusco has done a fine job renovating his multi-level, Southern-themed Freebird Kitchen & Bar in White Plains. Check it out for Happy Hour brews and comfort foods served from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. On one recent Indian summer day the rooftop was a pleasant venue offering its own bar and a cityscape of White Plains/Mamaroneck Ave. Try the creamy Shrimp & Grits, \$3. Sliders,



Oktoberfest Wurst Platter at Dunne's Pub, White Plains.

Chicken & Waffles, Mac N' Cheese, House Wings, fresh Oysters and Burnt Ends Chili. Weekend Brunch is now being offered, too. Entertainment schedule. Freebird, 161 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains. 914-607-2476. [www.freebirdkitchenandbar.com](http://www.freebirdkitchenandbar.com).

## White Plains Oktoberfest, Oct. 13

The food and sounds of Bavaria will take over the streets of White Plains for the 11th Annual White Plains Oktoberfest on Sunday, Oct. 13 on Mamaroneck Ave. between East Post Road and Maple Ave. The festivities will take place from 1 to 6 pm. and include German inspired beers and food along with live music provided by the Alpine Squeeze Band. There will also be a 'stein holding' competition. \$5 wristbands and proof of age will be required for beer purchases. Participating restaurants at this writing include: Freebird, Brazen Fox, Hudson Grille, Lazy Boy Saloon and Ale House, Lilly's and Ron Blacks Beer Hall. Iron Tomato will supply the German food. For further info visit [www.wpbid.com](http://www.wpbid.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: [gutreaactions@optonline.net](mailto:gutreaactions@optonline.net).*



Hearty Veal Campagnola at Alex's Bar &amp; Grille



Dining room view at Alex's Bar &amp; Grille.

patio seating, weather permitting.

The menu offers such tasty appetizers as: Baked Clams, Pan-Fried Calamari with Hot Cherry Peppers, Jumbo Broiled Shrimp, Crab Meat Cocktail, and Clams on the Half Shell. There is a Cold Antipasti Platter, too.

Fresh salads include: fresh Burrata, Alex's Chopped Salad, Asparagus Vinaigrette, Fresh Mozzarella with Sliced Tomatoes; classic Caesar Salad, and Sliced Tomato and Onion. Warming soups include: Pasta Fagioli and Escarole with Beans.

Big bowl pastas include fine versions of Linguini ala Vongole with white or red sauce; Giant Shrimp Pasta; Fettuccine Alfredo with cream sauce; Gnocchi Bolognese with meat sauce; Penne ala Vodka, and Eggplant Parmigiana.

Hearty seafood, chicken and veal dishes include: popular Veal Parmigiana; Veal Campagnola; fresh Sea Bass prepared in a variety of styles; Chicken Portabella with

Special Hint: The bar/lounge is separated from the main dining room and offers a reasonably priced bar menu along with good spirited networking. Happy hours are Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. and specially priced drinks are offered along with complimentary house-made potato chips. Drinks are 40% off and Martinis are \$6. Dining is also encouraged in the bar/lounge. Four TVs offer the latest sporting and news events.

Alex's Bar & Grille is located at 577 North Broadway, N. White Plains. The restaurant is open seven days a week from noon. Lunch is served Monday through Friday: noon to 3 p.m. Main courses: \$14.95 to \$25.95. Dinner main courses: \$15.95 to \$54.95. Bar menu selections: from \$9.95. Party facilities. Major credit cards. Proper casual dress. Free parking; valet weekends. Reservations accepted. Phone: 914-358-1444. [www.alex577.com](http://www.alex577.com).



Bar/lounge at Alex's Bar &amp; Grille.



# Music Conservatory of Westchester Celebrates 90th Anniversary

Celebrating a milestone year never sounded so good. The Music Conservatory of Westchester invites the Westchester County community to a 90th Anniversary Kick-off and Open House at its White Plains location on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 11 a.m. through 3 p.m. The open house will offer free demo classes and will showcase Conservatory student performances representing an array of musical genres, while sharing in the joy of making music for 90 years.

Explore the variety of musical ensembles and performance opportunities offered at the Conservatory and enjoy impressive, entertaining student performances. An immersive musical instrument petting zoo will also bring youngsters up-close to some of the many instruments offered for lessons at the nonprofit community music school.

Demo group classes will be available for the following popular introductory classes (no musical experience necessary):

**First Notes** (ages 3 months through 3 1/2 years): This is a class for toddlers and parents that teaches music fundamentals and concepts in a fun, interactive way. Songs and musical activities develop the child's sense of hearing, sight, and touch in response to music. Students learn the fundamentals of rhythm, melody and harmony through ear training, creative movement, songs and improvisation. Pre-K Music Skills offers a perfect entry point for your child's musical education, helping prepare him/her to learn an instrument.

**Beginner Group Piano** (kindergarten through grade 1): Using a blend of different teaching methods and materials, children learn basic piano skills in a nurturing environment with their peers.



Music Conservatory of Westchester drum kids.

**Beginner Group Guitar** (kindergarten through grade 1): Strong basic playing skills provide a foundation for students to learn classical, jazz, or rock when they reach more advanced levels, and to participate in a rock band, jazz combo or guitar ensemble. Working with their peers in the early stages helps foster the collaborative spirit necessary to make music with others.

From its 1929 launch at Hyatt House in Scarsdale, to White Plains locations at Burling Avenue and Soundview Avenue, to the move to its current home at 216 Central Avenue, the Conservatory has had numerous "Karmic Transformations," as its 2001 Best of Westchester plaque states. A new transformational project will enable the Conservatory to play a significant role in bridging traditional music education with 21st century technology-based innovation. To be constructed in 3,500 square feet of unfinished space in the Conservatory building, the new facilities will include a Digital Piano Lab, Recording Studio, Percussion Studio, additional Music Therapy Studio, and large Rehearsal Studio. The

Recording Studio will be networked to the Percussion Studio and to the school's Recital Hall, which will enable the Conservatory to make quality recordings of performances and music sessions.

This major construction project is made possible with a \$500,000 grant award from the New York State Regional Economic Development Corporation, requiring a dollar for dollar match from friends of the Conservatory. Music Conservatory of Westchester's 90th Anniversary Kick-off and Open House

## Fortified Wine: It's Time it Receives the Recognition it Warrants



By Nick Antonaccio

The notion of naturally produced wines has gained significant support and popularity in the United States. Left behind have been naturally produced wines that are fortified. These wines have been further processed with alcohol, typically brandy, a good deal of which are naturally produced.

I was never a big fan of fortified wines. But I've been fortunate in the past few years to enjoy a number of excellent, palate pleasing wines that happen to be fortified.

Sometimes it's been port, other times sherry, on a few occasions madeira. I will freely admit that it has taken me a number of years to develop an appreciation for this style of wine. I believe my experiences were likely influenced by the bad rap to which these wines were subjected.

There was the fortified wine of my teenage years (Thunderbird) followed, as a responsible twenty-something by Dry Sack Sherry (yecch). It was a bottle of vintage 1970 Dow Port I received on my 40th birthday that opened a new world of sensory pleasures to me; it was more sophisticated and more complex than many table wines I had previously enjoyed.

Even today, each time I pour a glass from an open bottle, it is different than the first

or most recent pour from that bottle. I find this is the defining element of these wines. They are living, breathing organisms that for several decades undergo constant changes in aromas and flavors. Each pour is steeped in nuance and is meant to be contemplated. Think of a Shakespearean passage that holds a different meaning each time it is read.

There are several types and styles of fortified wines, depending on their country of origin, the fortification process employed and the length of aging.

1. Port. This has been the signature wine of Portugal since the 16th century. The fortification is achieved from adding brandy to fermenting red wine, which halts the fermentation at a critical stage, sustaining the sugars present in the barrel. In this manner, the wines are able to develop their signature structure of raisins and a slight sweetness, making them perfect as dessert wines.

2. Sherry. During the Age of Discovery, Spanish explorers stocked their ocean-going ships with fortified wines, ensuring that the wines would not spoil on long voyages. Produced from white grapes and ranging from lighter-bodied to deep, complex, full-bodied styles, sherries have a much more diverse profile than port. Although fortified in the same manner as port, the brandy is

added at the end of the fermentation process, resulting in a drier style than port and easier to blend to a winemaker's preference. This makes most Sherries a preferred aperitif wine.

3. Madeira. On this island off the Portuguese mainland, wine is fortified in a manner similar to sherry, with one pronounced difference. Upon completion of fermentation, the wine is distilled in oak

casks – literally slow-cooked for up to three months before bottling. The concentrated end product has sophisticated, complex flavors that are best enjoyed in front of a roaring fire (with your favorite cheese).

4. Marsala. This is not the bottle that is in your kitchen pantry. Produced in Sicily from white (or red) indigenous grapes, it is fortified in a similar manner to port. It is a lighter, softer, nuanced wine that is best when served chilled and paired with fruit or hearty cheeses. Recently revitalized, Sicilian winemakers have made this a wine to be sought out.

The best way for you to introduce yourself to these wines is through a wine-by-the-glass list at a local restaurant, tapas bar or wine bar. Once you've isolated your personal palate preferences, purchase a bottle at a

local wine shop.

I encourage you to take a step back – clear your perceptions of fortified wines – and enhance your wine experiences with a fresh look at what's being offered today. Your palate, and your psyche, will thank you.

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](mailto:nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com) or on Twitter @sharingwine.

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# 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](mailto:pcasey@theexaminernews.com). For a full listing of the upcoming week's events, visit [www.theexaminernews.com](http://www.theexaminernews.com) and click on **Happenings**.

## Tuesday, Oct. 1

**Wellness: Forgiveness, Making Peace With The Past.** The ability to forgive is a sign of profound emotional strength rather than weakness. It is a process of moving on that can be learned and implemented. Guided by Dr. Mimi Leibman, discuss and practice the stages of forgiveness. Leibman was Director of the Staff Development Institute and Assistant Director of Professional Development for the Yonkers Public Schools. She has a Ph.D. in psychology from The City University of New York. 10 a.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Toddler Tuesday.** Early literacy story and playtime for ages 2-4 with a caregiver. Children and their caregiver will hear stories, play together, and increase their early literacy skills. Tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis beginning 30 minutes prior to the program. 10:30 a.m. White Plains Library.

**Do Gooders.** Do Good in the Edge and join our community service group. This event, for teens in grades 7-12, is sponsored by the Allstate Foundation. No registration required. 4 p.m. White Plains Library.

**Talkie Tuesdays.** Come and watch a different "classic" movie each week, 4 p.m. White Plains Library.

**Tech Tuesdays (Grades 1-6):** "Music Making" "Tech Tuesday" is a series of classes for children, specifically in grades 1-6. Each week, a particular topic related to digital technology is presented. Participants of this week's session will practice using audio editing software and learn how to make digital tunes. 4:30 p.m. White Plains Library.

**Tuesdays@Dorrry's.** Dr. Kurt Beil uses a combination of Integrative, Functional, Naturopathic and Chinese Medicine services to provide high quality natural health care. Trained in both conventional medical science and ancient healing arts, Dr. Kurt helps explore the causes of one's disease so that they can be addressed and eliminated as work is also done to reduce one's symptoms and support total health and well-being. In his presentation on 'Naturopathic Medicine: Holistic Natural Healthcare in the Modern Era' he will share how the perspectives, approaches, and methods of this traditional form of medicine address the needs of today's society. Table talkers meeting weekly to discuss local issues. Food ordering begins at 5:15 p.m. Presentation 6 to 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Dorrry's Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains.

## Wednesday, Oct. 2

**Farmers' Market.** Downtown Farmers' Market on Court Street in White Plains. Hours of operation each Wednesday are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Tech Wednesday For Adults.** Music And Audio Design. Tech Wednesday is a series of classes focusing on different

advanced digital technologies each week. The topic on this particular date is digital music making and audio editing. Participants will have the opportunity to practice using related software and discuss various related topics. Beginners and professionals alike are encouraged to attend. 12 noon at White Plains Library.

**Noonday Concert.** Downtown Music at Grace 30-minute concert will present Mathew Graybill, 2006 Prize Winner of the New York International Piano Competition. Presented in partnership with the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation. 12:10 p.m. The concert will be held in Grace Church, 33 Church St., White Plains. There is no admission fee, donation suggested. This concert is made possible, in part, with the generous support of Hudson Grille and Lilly's, White Plains.

**Lunchtime Meditation.** A weekly meditation program. Brief beginning instruction will be followed by meditation. No experience or special equipment needed. A guest instructor will lead the program the first Wednesday of each month; 12:15 to 1 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Which Craft Wednesday.** Chalkboards. Use chalkboard paint to make and decorate a chalkboard. For students in grades 6 and up on a first-come, first-served basis. 4 to 5 p.m. White Plains Library.

**2019 Sundance Shorts Program.** A 97-minute theatrical program of seven short films selected from this year's Sundance Film Festival Short Film Tour, widely considered the premier showcase for short films and the launchpad for many now-prominent independent filmmakers for more than 30 years. Includes fiction, documentary and animation from around the world, offering new audiences a taste of what the Festival offers, from sharply-written comedy and drama to edgy genre and an intimate family saga. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

## Thursday, Oct. 3

**Mental Health Job Fair.** Recognizing that vacant staff positions impede the mission of Westchester County's nonprofit service providers, the Westchester County Executive's Office, the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) are holding a Job Fair 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Westchester County Center in White Plains. In delivering their broad array of programs to Westchester County residents, more than 75 different not-for-profits contract with Westchester County, through DSS and/or DCMH to provide community-based services to thousands of people across Westchester. More than 20 different potential employers, with over 400 open positions, will be participating.

**Career Fair.** CareMount Health Solutions

LLC, the management services organization for CareMount Medical, P.C., the largest independent multispecialty medical group in New York State, will host this fair. Clinical and non-clinical opportunities are available for those interested in full-time, part-time and per diem work at CareMount's locations in Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Columbia and Ulster counties, and New York City. Candidates should bring copies of their résumé to the fair for an immediate interview. Chappaqua Crossing's Kisco Room, second floor, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 2 to 6 p.m. Free. Info or if unable to attend, résumés may be submitted at [www.caremountmedical.com/careers](http://www.caremountmedical.com/careers).

**T(h)ech Thursday For Teens.** Music Making T(h)ech Thursday is a weekly meetup for teenagers who wish to learn more about various aspects of digital technology. From coding to 3D printing, there are many opportunities to learn and have fun. The particular topic of this week's session is music making. 4:30 p.m. at White Plains Library 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**STEM Buddies.** Children in grades 1-4 can sign up at the Compass Desk in the Trove to work on STEM activities in small groups for 30 minutes with teen volunteers or college students. Sign-up will start at 4:00pm. STEM = Science Technology Engineering Math. White Plains Library.

**One Book, One Movie: Teen Talk.** Extend your One Book reading experience by coming together to watch a film with related themes to "Everything I Never Told You" by Celeste Ng. Join in a meaningful discussion afterwards. Light refreshments will be served. Film schedule: October 3 - The Perks of Being a Wallflower; October 10 - The Blind Side; October 17 - The Sun is Also a Star; October 24 - A Dog's Journey. 5:30 p.m., White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Score Counseling Sessions.** Individual counseling sessions for SCORE clients. 6 p.m. at White Plains Library.

**Great Books Forum Series.** "Tzili: The Story of a Life" by Aharon Applefield will be discussed. Led by Professor Scott Zaluda. Westchester Community College's Gateway Center, Room 131, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Professor James Werner at [james.werner@sunywcc.edu](mailto:james.werner@sunywcc.edu).

**Poetry Slam & Open Mic.** Our exciting "1st Wednesday" (note: this month on the first Thursday) series continues with Open Mic, SLAM competition and feature performance from guest poet Thomas Fucaloro. To take part in the open mic or slam, please register between 6:30 and 7 p.m. Slam poets should bring at least one original poem of up to 3 minutes. Registration closes promptly at 7 p.m., and the program starts shortly thereafter. Co-hosted by local poet and slam-master Eric ZORK Alan. All are welcome. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**"Date Night."** The Armonk Players presents this lovefest of one-act comedies, including "Sure Thing" and "English Made Simple" by David Ives, "National Love Championships" by Joy Arzaga, "A Chance Meeting" by Frederick Stoppel and "Check Please" by Jonathan Rand. Conceived and directed by Joy Arzaga. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 8 p.m. Adults: \$20. Students (18 and under): \$10. Also Oct. 4 and 5 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. Info and tickets: Visit [www.armonkplayers.org](http://www.armonkplayers.org).

## Friday, Oct. 4

**Comic Book Club.** Discuss new titles and learn drawing and sketching techniques from a local artist. Pizza will be served. 4 p.m. White Plains Library.

**Hudson Chorale's Giant Tag Sale.** This is not your typical neighborhood tag sale. The sale includes used and new donated items in a wide variety of categories: used and antique furniture, collectibles, jewelry, small appliances, housewares, CDs, DVDs, books, toys, sports equipment, tools, gardening supplies, good used clothing and accessories, holiday items, bed and bath, decorative art and more. All proceeds will benefit Hudson Chorale, the area's renowned nonprofit community chorus, and will be used to cover the costs of securing professional soloists and musicians to join us the concerts. Rain or shine. 107 Bedford Rd. (corner of Manville Road), Pleasantville. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Early bird from 8 to 9 a.m. for \$10. Also Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info: Visit [www.HudsonChorale.org](http://www.HudsonChorale.org).

**The Sleepy Hollow Experience.** This outdoor immersive theater event will now be seen for the first time in the tristate area, staged at the estate of Washington Irving, just in time for the bicentennial of his publication of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." The production features live professional musicians and singers, who will perform the scenes in various locations around the estate and engage with audience members. Theater-goers will be guided by storytellers from scene to scene, meeting Ichabod Crane and Katrina Van Tassel, imbibing and snacking during the famous party scene at the Van Tassel', and, in a thrilling climax, encountering the Headless Horseman himself. Washington Irving's Sunnyside, 3 W. Sunnyside Lane, Tarrytown. 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$45 for adults and \$25 for children. Historic Hudson Valley members receive a 10 percent discount. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Nov. 3. Info and tickets: 914-366-6900 or visit [www.hudsonvalley.org](http://www.hudsonvalley.org).

## Saturday, Oct. 5

**Farmers' Market.** Downtown Farmers' Market on Court Street in White Plains.

**Movie: Frankenweenie.** Frankenweenie (PG, 2012, 90min). 2 p.m. Suburban

*continued on page 16*



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## AUCTIONS

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**WARREN COUNTY TAX FORECLOSED REAL ESTATE AUCTION!** Saturday, October 19, 2019. 30+ Parcels! Registration: 9AM; Start: 10AM Location: Warren County Courthouse;

1340 State Route 9, Lake George, NY Visit: www.auctionsinternational.com. Call: 800-536-1400

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## LEGALS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE,** the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 2 at 5:00 pm. to hear comments on a proposed Local Law for the use of Bubbler/Aeration Systems in Putnam Valley Lakes: **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing to hear comments on a proposed Local Law re: the Septic Tank Pump Out for Protection of Impaired and other Water Bodies Proposal to amend Section 90.1 **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will be conducting the regular monthly Work Session meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD Sherry Howard, Town Clerk Dated: 09-18-2019**

**ESTOPPEL NOTICE** On August 26, 2019, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York (the "Village") adopted a Bond

continued on next page

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- a skill set to enhance the overall appearance of the grounds for a large campus;
- the minimum qualifications as established by Putnam County Civil Service.

Interested applicants must apply online via OLAS (BOCES Online Application System) at <https://www.pnwbooces.org/olas/#/!jobs> no later than October 13, 2019.  
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Resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village is not authorized to expend money or the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the New York State Constitution. Summary of Bond Resolution 1. Specific Object or Purpose – the purchase of a sanitation truck at a maximum estimated cost of \$245,476. 2. Period of Probable Usefulness – fifteen (15) years. 3. Maximum Amount of Obligations to be Issued - the maximum amount of obligations to be issued for the objects or purposes described above is \$245,476. The Bond Resolution herein summarized shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours for twenty (20) days following the date of publication of this notice at the office of the Village Clerk of the Village of Pleasantville,

Westchester County, New York. Noreen Regan Deputy Village Clerk, Village of Pleasantville, Westchester County, New York

**Town of Putnam Valley Work Session October 2, 2019 5 P.M. Public Hearings**

1. Expansion of septic pump out law
2. Deicer law Regular Meeting
3. Presentation of Town Budget by Sherry Howard, Town Clerk.
4. Discussion: rescind Town law prohibiting paint ball games and activities within the Town of Putnam Valley.
5. Schedule of 2020 Preliminary Budget Meetings.

Please be advised that the next meeting of the **Planning Board** will be held at **Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road on Monday October 7, 2019** for the purpose of considering the following applications: **Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm**

**AGENDA PUBLIC HEARING** The following public hearings have been scheduled for **October 7, 2019 at 6:00PM** (or as soon thereafter as agenda conditions permit) at the **Putnam Valley Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York, 10579**. All interested

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parties are invited to attend and will be heard. A copy of the application materials and plans may be inspected during normal business hours at the office of the Planning Board Clerk, Town of Putnam Valley Town Hall. 1. **Putnam Valley Fire Station- Oscawana Lake Road (TM#72.20-1-7.12& 7.11/ File2019-0199)** The subject property consist of +/- 10.3 acres of land and is located on Oscawana Lake Road and within the R-2 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing soil remediation of contaminated fill that was placed on the Fire Department and the Ambulance Corps. Properties. The remedial design project includes re-grading the unstable slopes and construction of a clean soil cover over the top of the contaminated fill. 2. **Sposato Adam- 694 Sprout Brook Road TM#72.15-1-23/ File 2019-0198)** The subject property consist of +/-1.004 acres of land and is located on 694 Sprout Brook Road and within the R-1 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing an accessory apartment attached at the rear of the existing residence. A Site Development Plan and Special Use Permit is required. **SKETCH 3. Gjonaj, Chris- White Rock Road (TM#73.-2-30.1/ File2017-0170)** The subject property is comprised of +/- 3.9 acres and is located on White Rock Road within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a single family residence, driveway, septic system and well. 4. **Fields, Harrison-15 Locust Glen**

**Road (TM#73.-1-44/ File 2019-0202)** The subjects property is comprised of +/- 1.99 acres and is located on 15 Locust Glen Road within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a log cabin home on existing foundation. 5. **Copper/Bier- 23 Twin Pines Road (TM#74.-1-5/ File 2019-0201)** The applicant is proposing to demolish and reconstruct a single- family residence. The subject property is located in the Three Arrow Co-op and within the R-3 Zoning District. 6. **Putnam Valley Fire Station- Oscawana Lake Road (TM#72.20-1-7/ File2019-0196)** The property consist of +/- 10.3 acres of land and is located on Oscawana Lake Road and within the R-2 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a Fire Station building +/-30,000 sq.ft. in size, with well and septic system, 127 parking spaces, stormwater management facilities and related site improvements. 7. **Putnam Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corp. (TM# 72.20-1-7.11/ File2019-0204)** The applicant is proposing an amended site plan for improvements to allow shared access and parking with proposed fire station on adjacent property. The Planning Board will consider adopting a resolution declaring intent for lead agency for the Fire House and Ambulance Corp. project. **EXTENSION 8. Fiorentino, Annette- Wiccopee Road (TM#41.-2-14/ File2017-0169)** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES 9. Approve**



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continued from previous page

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, pending for beer, wine & cider has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine & cider at retail in a restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at 30 Wheeler Ave pleasantville, NY in Westchester County for on premises consumption. Potayto Potahto LLC DBA FALAFEL TACO

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Happenings

continued from page 13

schoolboy Victor resurrects his deceased dog Sparky as part of a science experiment, and he must contend with the unexpected complications of having an undead house pet. White Plains Library.

Public Opening for Sparkling Amazons: Abstract Expressionist Women of the 9th St. Show. Groundbreaking and innovative, this exhibit presents the often-overlooked contribution by women artists to Abstract Expressionism and the significant role they played during the 1940s and '50s. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 2 to 5 p.m. Adults: \$10. Seniors and students:

\$5. Children (under 12) and members: Free. Exhibit continues through Jan. 26, 2020. Exhibit hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 12 to 5 p.m. Info: 914-232-9555 or [www.katonahmuseum.org](http://www.katonahmuseum.org).

**The Robert Cray Band.** Cray has been bridging the lines between blues, soul and R&B for the past four decades, with five Grammy Awards, a Blues Hall of Fame inductee, recipient of the Americana Lifetime Achievement Award, countless tours and more than 20 acclaimed albums. The group's most recent recordings, "Nothing But Love" and In "My Soul," put the band back on the Billboard Charts. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$39, \$49 and \$60. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

Tickets may also be bought at the box office 30 minutes before showtime.

Sunday, Oct. 6

**The Witches. (PG, 1990)** Classic film based on the Roald Dahl book. A boy's vacation to England takes a turn when he discovers a witches' convention, that is planning on turning all children into mice! Can he stop them, even after he's been turned to a mouse? Starring Anjelica Huston, Mai Zetterling. Creatures by Jim Henson. 2 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Sunday Media Lab For Teens.** In this self-directed program, teens can use selected technology in the Edge Media Lab. 2 p.m., White Plains Library.

**Third Annual Fall Fun Fest:** Celebrating Abilities. The Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) is presenting this event in support of people with developmental disabilities and vulnerable children. Includes entertainment and refreshments. To include those with walkers and in wheelchairs, the event will feature a Stroll and Roll followed by music and activities. All proceeds to support WIHD's vital services and programs. Westchester Institute for Human Development, 20 Hospital Oval West, Valhalla. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Registration required. Info and registration: Visit <https://www.wihd.org/event/fall-fun-fest>.

**Chamber Music at Rye Presbyterian.** The 2019-20 season beings with music for flute and strings. Flutists Demarre McGill will join violinist Nancy Wu, violist Michael Roth and cellist Jerry Grossman for works by Beethoven, Debussy, Dohnanyi, Mozart and Pazzolla. Rye Presbyterian Church, 882 Boston Post Rd., Rye. 3 p.m. \$40. Students: Free. Walk-ups the day of the concert are welcome. Info: 914-967-0842 or visit [www.ryepc.com](http://www.ryepc.com). Tickets: Contact Ronald Arron at 914-523-4646 or e-mail [ronarron@optonline.net](mailto:ronarron@optonline.net).

**Valhalla Oktoberfest.** A fun-filled day as the community brings Munich to Valhalla. Enjoy German food and music. The Valhalla Fire Department will also be hosting a fire prevention event. See the department's equipment, go for a ride in the bucket of the ladder truck, flow some water from one of the engines, see the Jaws of Life in action and much more. Broadway, Valhalla. 3 to 6 p.m. Free admission. Info: Visit [www.mtpleasantchamberofcommerce.org](http://www.mtpleasantchamberofcommerce.org).

**Hops and Harvest Benefit.** Kick off the fall season by enjoying the breathtaking fall foliage while sampling food and drink from local artisan chefs, area wineries and breweries. To benefit the Greenburgh Nature Center. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 3 to 6 p.m. Members: \$100. Non-members: \$150. Info and reservations: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

Crossword Solution from page 10

1	A	M	A	S	S	6	A	I	D	E	D
11	L	A	V	A	S	12	N	O	D	E	S
13	E	L	O	P	E	14	A	T	A	L	L
15	C	A	W			16	L	A	Y	S	
17	K	W	A	L	I	T	Y				
21	I	L	L	N	E	S	S	E	S		
25	A	N	T	H	O	N	Y				
27	B	A	R	R							
31	T	O	S	E	A	32	A	D	E	P	T
34	S	W	I	N	G	35	D	O	N	E	E
36	P	L	A	T	E	37	P	E	E	R	S





# The WHITE PLAINS Examiner Sports

## Crusaders Cannot Cure Regular Season Woes vs. Gaels

By Albert Coqueran

On Saturday afternoon, the cars were piled in the driveways and parking lot of the school and lined up on Mamaroneck Avenue. You could not park a scooter within a quarter mile of Stepinac High School. What does this mean? Of course, Iona Prep is visiting Paul J. Marbach Memorial Field for what evolved into another gridiron classic.

For the past two regular seasons the results of the Stepinac versus Iona Prep football contests has a differential of a total of six points with the Crusaders on the losing end of both games. The Crusaders lost to the Gaels, 36-34 in overtime last season and 38-34, during the regular season in 2017. Both games are in the CHSFL historical records as nothing less than "Gridiron Classics!"

Stepinac was able to redeem themselves against the Gaels last season by winning the most important game they played against each other, the 2018 CHSFL AAA Semifinals. The Crusaders won the Semifinals classic, 37-26, and went on to become back-to-back CHSFL AAA and CHSAA New York State Football Champions.

On Saturday, there was standing room only in the bleachers and the grassy knoll and paths surrounding the stands were filled to capacity. Approximately, a combined 3500 fans from both high schools were in attendance to cheer their school to victory.



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

The Stepinac versus Iona Prep game was the 19th Annual Joseph R. Rivero Memorial Game. Rivero, the late student, player and coach at Stepinac, was killed in the September 11, 2001 WTC terrorist attacks, while working with Cantor Fitzgerald. Rivero got his start in football with the White Plains Bernies, who play the Joe Rivero Bernie Bowl at halftime in his honor.

Once again, it was the Gaels (4-0) that surfaced on top in the regular season game by a trick play and of all things, a fumble, which summed the slimmest margin of victory, 35-36. Therefore, in the past three regular season games, the Stepinac vs. Iona

gridiron classic has been decided by a total of seven points.

Yes, there were many big plays in the game that sent both sides of the routing population into frenzy. But none more than the hook-and-ladder successfully demonstrated by the Gaels and a fumble by Iona quarterback Darius Wilson, which led to the winning two-point conversion.

The game went back-and-forth with three ties. Iona was leading, 21-14 at the half but Stepinac bounced back to tie the game 21-21 in the third quarter. With the game tied 21-21, QB Joey Carino sailed into the end zone after running 72 yards from scrimmage, while increasing the Crusaders lead to 28-21.

Three minutes and 19 seconds later, Carino hit running back Mekhi Green with a short pass for a 41-yard catch-and-run touchdown. The Crusaders (3-1) had a commanding, 35-21 lead at the end of the third quarter.



Iona Prep running back Jarel Washington stretches the football over the goal line after running 70 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter of the thrilling Stepinac versus Iona Prep game, on Saturday. The Gaels won an incredible gridiron classic, 36-35.

Nonetheless, the momentum started to shift the Gaels way when Carino fumbled on the Iona 33-yard line early in the fourth quarter. The Gaels capitalized on the turnover as running back Frankie McFadden scored on a seven-yard run to bring Iona within seven points at 35-28.

"When you go up 14 points, you cannot let them back in the game. There so many miscues and other stuff and we let them back in the game," stated Crusaders Head Coach Mike O'Donnell.

Then with 3:05 remaining in the game, Gaels Head Coach Joe Spagnolo surprised everyone except for his own team by calling the old hook-and-ladder play, which went for 61 yards to the Stepinac 22-yard line. Spagnolo was known for his inventive offenses, while he was the Assistant Coach and Offensive Coordinator for Stepinac for 10 years, before joining the Gaels.

Gaels QB Wilson handed off to Avery Turton in the backfield when he stopped suddenly and pitched back to Jarel Washington, who ran 61 yards to the Stepinac 22-yard line.

The success of the hook-and-ladder setup a Gaels touchdown and the controversial winning play of the game. Wilson hit his wide receiver Alex Wilson with a nine-yard touchdown pass which made the score 35-34 Stepinac with 1:59 left in the game.

The Gaels decided to go for the win with a two-point conversion. Wilson was stopped before the goal line but reached out to put the ball in the end zone. The ball was knocked away and as the Stepinac crowd celebrated, Williams picked the ball out of the air and scored for the Gaels.

Initially the referees called the play no good but after a brief huddle awarded the two-point conversion to the Gaels. The referees ruled that Wilson unintentionally fumbled the ball forward which kept the ball live when Williams recovered in the end zone.

"It was a crazy play, it was a sweep and we kept it up the middle. I went to stretch out and the defense poked the ball away and my receiver recovered and scored," depicted the Gaels quarterback. The game ended on Gaels Jordan Dunbar's interception in the end zone as the Crusaders were threatening to score.

Both teams would have to admit that this game may have been the greatest of the Stepinac versus Iona Prep rivalry games. But Stepinac (3-1) goes down in defeat by one point, 36-35, for their first loss this season.



NY Giants legendary quarterback Phil Simms (left), who played 15 years with "Big Blue" and led them to a victory over the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXI, observed the talent with Mike Quick (right) of ESPN Radio, at the Stepinac versus Iona Prep game on Saturday at Stepinac.



# EXAMINER SPORTS

## White Plains' Offense Stalls in Loss at Arlington

By Rob DiAntonio

Shortly after a Christian Young touchdown late in the first half, it appeared that White Plains was going to take a two-touchdown lead into halftime when Chris McGuire scooped up a fumble on the ensuing kickoff and ran it into the end zone.

But the referees called the Arlington player down and the touchdown was negated.

The momentum completely swung in the Admirals' direction as they dominated the second half, pulling away for a 23-13 win to hand the White Plains Tigers their first loss of the season.

"They said the runner was down and he never fumbled," said White Plains coach Mike Lindberg, who vehemently disagreed with the call. "I saw that he was up and he was not down."

Lindberg said, something needs to be figured out regarding the shortage of referees. He noted there were just four officials at the game while Our Lady of Lourdes only had three referees at their game.

"The kids deserve better than four officials because the officials just don't see everything and they just really end up making some calls that don't help the game," he said.

Young bounced outside and jetted down the left sideline for a 57-yard touchdown with just over a minute left in the first half to put the Tigers up 13-7.

Arlington's Tommy Gibson booted a 26-yard field goal with 5:41 left in the third quarter to cut the White Plains lead to 13-10. Kwincey Pease then found Aston McKenzie in the end zone on a third down touchdown pass



White Plains' Christian Young looks to elude an Arlington defender last Friday night.

ROB DIANTONIO PHOTOS

with 2:54 left in the third to give Arlington a 17-13 lead.

The Admirals' Gibson blasted a 40-yard field goal to stretch their lead to 20-13 with 9:52 to play. He then made his third field goal of the second half to seal the win with under a minute to play.

"Arlington is a big and physical team. They ran right at us," Lindberg said. "They had a touchdown catch on third down and long and three field goals. As much as they moved the ball, when it counted we stopped them. Their kicker had a great night."

White Plains' offense struggled to move the chains in the second half. The Tigers ran just 13 plays to Arlington's 37.

"In the second half, it seemed like any time we got some momentum, we got a penalty or some miscue," Lindberg said.

Caleb Gillen's 50-yard run set up Ben Finkel's 14-yard touchdown pass over the middle to Josiah Harris midway through the first quarter. The touchdown tied the game up at 7-7.

The Tigers (3-1) will look to bounce back when they host Mamaroneck for their homecoming at 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4.

"You take your losses, you watch film and you get better," Lindberg said Friday night. "It's not the end of the season; it's the middle of the season. We've got three more games before playoffs. Go out, do what we're supposed to do, take care of business and win those three games. Then hopefully we get a good seed and home playoff games. We showed that we can play with anybody. Now we make the corrections and now we put them away."



Josiah Harris heads up the field after catching a pass against Arlington.



White Plains coach Mike Lindberg talks with the Tigers after the game.



..... EXAMINER SPORTS .....

# White Plains Tigers Girls Swim Team A Family Affair

By Albert Coqueran

White Plains High School's Head Girls Swim Team Coach Patricia "Patty" Gilmartin has been leading the squad for 32 years. Gilmartin's success rate has been legendary in the annals of Section 1 Athletics.

Besides her winning nature, the manner in which she leads the team is renowned as well, while creating a family atmosphere with discipline, love and motherly support.

"Swimming is not my first love, but this team is honestly such a good family and Coach Gil is like a second Mom to me," expressed Margaret Caserta, one of the Team Captains.

The Lady Tigers made a big splash against Eastchester at home on Thursday, while winning the Meet, 92-77, to improve to 3-1 overall and 3-0 in their Division this season.

Sophomore Diver Lizzy Tirado excited the crowd with her back one-and-a-half pike dive and hitting the water in perfect form. Tirado won her event by a score of 214.95 with the closest Eastchester competitor more than 110 points behind.

Swimmer Ava Iannetta, who qualified for the States last year, placed first in two events. She swam the 100 Butterfly at a winning pace of 1:02.36 and won the 50 Freestyle with a time of 26.73. Seventh grader Claire Weinstein, a newcomer to the team, is proving her worth to Coach Gilmartin, while placing first in the 200 Individual Medley. Luisa Nierhoff had the best time in the 100 Breaststroke 110.85 and placed second in the Individual Medley. Nierhoff was a State Qualifier in the 200 I.M. and Breaststroke last season.

The Tigers Girls Swim Team has 73 members including three sisters. The Reyna sisters, senior Margaux, sophomore Salma



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

The WPHS Girls Swim Team is lead by senior Team Captains (front row l-r), Juletzey Reyes-Martinez, Margaret Caserta, Ana Flores, Shannon Rogers, Margaux Reyna and Gurveen Dhallu. Senior leaders are (back row l-r) Gisselle Coatl, Alejandra Guallpa, Lauren Formica, Stephanie Castaneda, Lilly Nguyen, Marlee Reinmuth and Vanessa Remedios. They are flanked on the left by Coach Josh Eller and on the top right by Head Coach Patty Gilmartin.

and eighth grader Alexa are all outstanding performers in the pool. Alexa Reyna has already qualified for the States this season in the 500 and 200 Freestyle. She also set a new school record in the 500 Freestyle this season with a time of 4:57.70, while breaking

her own record set as a seventh grader last year of 4:59.01.

Alexa placed first in 200 and 500 Freestyle versus Eastchester, while her sister Margaux, a Team Captain, placed second in the 50 Freestyle and third in the 100

Butterfly. The Reyna sisters are also major contributors in the Relay events. Alexa with Nierhoff, Iannetta and Weinstein won the 200 Medley Relay. Margaux joined her sister Salma with Tirado and Taryn Becerra to win the 200 Freestyle Relay against Eastchester.

"I think having my sisters on the team makes me a better swimmer," commented the older Reyna sister Margaux. "I am more motivated to come and swim with them and I love being in relays with them."

In 2018, the WPHS Girls Swim Team made six new school records, which are prominently displayed on the walls of the pool area. Besides, Alexa Reyna's record in the 500 Freestyle, she also broke the record for the 200 Freestyle last season with a time of 155.06.

Furthermore, Iannetta set a new 50 Freestyle mark at 24.11, Tirado a new diving score of 440.10, and the 200 Medley Relay Team of Salma Reyna, Iannetta, Nierhoff and graduate Kayla Shannon set a new school mark of 1:50.93. Also last season, Iannetta, Nierhoff, Shannon, and Alexa Reyna set a new school record in the 400 Freestyle Relay with a time of 3:38.83.

How does Gilmartin manage this huge 73-member swim team? Well, of course, she relies on her 33 years of coaching experience. But she also gives much of the credit to the girls. "I am so lucky, the girls are very cooperative and they really want to be here," acknowledged Coach Gil. "We have a very strict set of rules and they understand the ramifications. They also do whatever they can to help each other," stated Gilmartin, who has also been the Head Coach of the Tigers Boys Swim Team for 33 years.



The Lady Tigers top swimmers and diver include, (front row l-r) Nicole Euyoque, Cathy Stanton, Annalynn DiMarco, and the three Reyna sisters, Margaux, Salma and Alexa, who has a eighth grader has already qualified for the States this year. (Back row l-r) Coach Josh Eller, State qualifiers last season Ava Iannetta and Luisa Nierhoff with Claire Weinstein and diver Lizzy Tirado, who also qualified for the States last season with Head Coach Patty Gilmartin.



# Crusaders Lose to Gaels, 36 to 35, in Gridiron Classic



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTO

Stepinac quarterback Joey Carino scores on a 72-yard run from scrimmage in the third quarter to put the Crusaders in the lead 28-21. But Iona Prep came back to win the "Gridiron Classic" 36-35, at Stepinac, on Saturday. Full story on page 17.