



Youth of the Year Honored by White Plains Common Council

By Neal Rentz

Since she was in grade school, White Plains High School senior Angela Matthews has devoted herself to others.

Her efforts on behalf of the community and outside of White Plains were recognized by the Common Council on Nov. 4 as she was honored as the 2019 Youth of the Year.

Matthews, who was accompanied by family members at the meeting, was recommended for the honor by the city's Youth Bureau.

"We have a lot of good young people in our city and every year we take a moment to recognize one of them," Mayor Tom Roach said.

Roach said Matthews has been very active in the White Plains Community Youth Court for three years. The Youth Court seeks to deter and prevent juvenile delinquency and alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among White Plains youths.

The White Plains High School senior since the sixth grade has been helping to raise money for people in need around the world through the Global Ambassadors Program, as well as volunteering at a local Ronald MacDonald House and at other locations, Roach said. At the high school she and her friends created the Nutrition Club to encourage people to eat well.

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Students at Ridgeway Elementary Receive Their Own Dictionaries



Retired Teacher Robert Lent presented dictionaries to all third graders in the White Plains Schools last week, as part of a program of the Mid-Westchester Elks. This is the fifth year dictionaries have been presented elementary school children. Mr. Lent is pictured here with students at White Plains' Ridgeway School.

Latimer Introduces Plan to Limit County Executive to Two Terms

By Martin Wilbur

County Executive George Latimer proposed on Monday limiting holders of the office to two terms to help ensure a greater balance of interest and power between the executive and legislative branches.

Under the measure that would amend the county's 2011 law that enacted 12-year limits for both the Board of Legislators and the county executive's seat, holders of the post would be restricted to two four-year terms. Latimer said if approved by the board and signed into law, the measure would apply to himself as well.

He said it is an important step as the executive branch continues to have enormous authority and the ability to exercise influence while the public has increasingly expected to have increasingly higher turnover for many of its officeholders.



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

County Executive George Latimer talks Monday about his plan to restrict he and his successors to two four-year terms.

During one 52-year stretch, only four people held the county's executive's chair – Edward Michaelian, Alfred DelBello, Andrew O'Rourke and Andrew Spano.

"I think what we're watching now is the need for a more robust balance between the executive and the legislative branch and that's the best way to ensure that decisions are made with the broadest possible input and with the greatest amount of thoughtfulness," Latimer said.

The proposal is expected to be sent to the Board of Legislators this week. Latimer said he is hopeful that a majority of lawmakers will see the value in limiting the executive's tenure. He said he has spoken to some legislators and believes there is consensus in support of the new limit, although there are those who are philosophically opposed to term limits.

"I think there's general support for it,"

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NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

White Plains High School senior Angela Mathews is the 2019 White Plains Youth of the Year. She is shown above with Mayor Tom Roach who presented her with a plaque at the Nov. 4 Common Council meeting.

She is also a member of the National Honors Society, among other accomplishments.

"She's passionate about helping others," Roach said.

Mathews is planning to earn a doctorate in pharmaceutical science and become a pharmacist.

Mathews thanked those mentored her and who "helped me be more involved in the community."

"I'm so honored to be here tonight and so grateful to be the recipient of this award,"

Mathews said. "I'm so grateful to all the people who led me here."

Mathews thanked one of her mentors, Connie Jones, her youth coordinator at the Youth Bureau. Jones is "always guiding me and always being there for me," Mathews said.

Mathews said she hoped to "always be involved in my community."

"My life revolves around three aspects: which are to be aware, to elicit change and to contribute to society," Mathews said.

Latimer Introduces Plan to Limit County Executive to Two Terms

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Latimer said. "We're not changing legislative term limits and this is to allow a legislator to serve longer than the county executive can serve."

Legislators can now serve up to six two-year terms.

Latimer said that the most common limits for executive posts are eight years, including the governors in New Jersey and Connecticut.

"I think an eight-year period of time, given the concentration of power that belongs to the executive, it is a reasonable balance and what it does do is it turns over this position structurally more frequently," Latimer said.

One disadvantage to limiting county executives to two terms is a greater chance of having a lame-duck incumbent, he said.

Issues that may still have to be worked out is whether an executive who takes over following an incumbent's death or resignation should be allowed to run for up to two full terms of their own and whether to maintain a hard two-term lifetime limit for former county executives, Latimer said.

Currently, there are only two living former county executives, Spano and Rob Astorino. While he does not expect Spano to run for the office again, Latimer said he would not object to a special rule that exempts Astorino.

Several county lawmakers were called Monday afternoon to get their opinion on the proposal. Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C-Mount Pleasant) responded that while she hadn't yet read the bill, she supported the concept. Having more frequent open elections also spurs greater interest, she said.

"The forefathers did not want this to be a career," Cunzio said. "So I think it's important as a public servant that if you win, you do as much as you can in the position you're in and then you pass it on to somebody else."

Outgoing 22-year Legislator Michael Kaplowitz (D-Somers) said he had just heard about the plan earlier in the day and hadn't yet formed an opinion.

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Two More Local Democrats Join Race for Lowey's Seat

By Martin Wilbur

A former national security official under President Barack Obama and a Sleepy Hollow resident were the latest entries into the growing field of Democrats looking to succeed Rep. Nita Lowey in the 17th Congressional District.

Chappaqua resident Evelyn Farkas, who served as the deputy assistant secretary of defense for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia in the Obama administration, announced her candidacy Monday.

Last Thursday, Allison Fine, a recent national board chair for NARAL Pro-Choice America, author and advocate on women's issues, also formally announced that she was entering the race.

Their entry into the fray swells the Democratic field to at least five hopefuls. They join Assemblyman David Buchwald, state Sen. David Carlucci and Rockland County-based attorney Mondaire Jones seeking the party's nomination. Last month, Chappaqua resident Jo-Anna Rodriguez-Wheeler also signaled her intention to run for the seat.

Farkas, who grew up in Chappaqua and graduated from its public schools, said her priorities are to keep the country safe from foreign interference, to stand up to President Donald Trump's corruption and keep the American Dream alive for working families.

"I'm running for Congress because we are living in an all-hands-on-deck moment in our democracy," Farkas said. "When Russians interfered in the 2016 election, I was among



Chappaqua's Evelyn Farkas, who served in the Obama administration, and Sleepy Hollow resident and women's advocate Allison Fine have announced their candidacies for the 17th Congressional District seat.

the first to sound the alarm, putting me in the crosshairs of Sean Hannity. But I haven't backed down in my efforts to hold the President accountable for undermining our rule of law.

"I would be ready on day one to serve in the tradition of Congresswoman Lowey's strong leadership – fighting for our corner of New York, keeping our country safe from foreign interference and helping working families strive for the American dream."

A graduate of Franklin & Marshall College who holds a master's from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Farkas has worked for nearly 30 years in national security circles. She was a foreign policy leader for the Defense Department, Senate Armed Services Committee, the House Foreign



Affairs Committee and the U.S. Marine Corps University's Command and Staff College. She also ran a congressional commission focused on keeping weapons of mass destruction out of terrorists' hands and advised former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during her time as a U.S. senator.

Fine, founder of the Network of Elected Women, announced her candidacy via press release last Thursday.

"I want to lead us into the next chapter for our country; one that is prosperous and fair," Fine said in a statement. "Our democracy and economy need fixing. We need to create something new and better. The work of rebuilding our country begins right here at home. And this is my home. I know the issues people in our community face because I face them too."

Fine, who grew up in the village and lives with her husband and three sons, supports a federal \$15-an-hour minimum wage, a public healthcare option and increased reproductive freedom for women including codifying Roe v. Wade and repealing the Hyde Amendment, which bars the use of federal funds to pay for abortion except for a life-saving procedure or in the cases incest or rape.

As part of her platform, she also is calling to reduce the fossil fuel emissions to zero with increased investments in wind, solar and other renewable energy sources, unwavering support for Israel, dedicating more resources to crack down on hate groups with incidents of anti-Semitism and hate crimes on the rise and greater emphasis on online safety to protect the public from predators and the country from foreign interference.

"I want to build on the trailblazing legacy of Nita Lowey while taking on the crucial issues facing the 17th District and our country," Fine said. "Every century, Americans remake our democracy. This is that time again. It's time for new voices, especially in Congress where women are greatly underrepresented," Fine said.

In addition to her work for women's advocacy, Fine is an author on the use of digital technology for social good and has helped nonprofit organizations modernize their approach to social and civic online activism.

Lowey announced on Oct. 10 that she would retire next year at the end of her 16th term.

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Phase II Construction Begins at White Plains Winbrook Housing Campus

By Pat Casey

The White Plains Housing Authority with co-developer Trinity Financial broke ground Nov. 15 on The Overture at Brookfield Commons, the second phase of the redevelopment of the existing Winbrook Housing campus.

The Overture at Brookfield Commons will consist of a nine-story, 146,115 square foot mixed use building with 129 apartments and 2,074 square feet of community facility space. The project will also include 77 at-grade parking spaces (75 for residents and two for the community facility space).

The residential portion of the building will have 40 one-bedroom apartments, 63 two-bedroom apartments, 23 three-bedroom apartments, two four-bedroom apartments and one superintendent's unit. The building will also include a fitness room, children's playroom, and tenant lounge with outdoor terrace.

When constructed, the building will include 90 apartments set aside for existing Winbrook residents. The remaining apartments will be available for affordable to low- or moderate-income households.

A vacant existing building on the Winbrook campus (located at 135 South Lexington Avenue) will be demolished, clearing the way for the construction of The Overture building. There will be no displacement of existing Winbrook residents as part of the Brookfield Commons development, according to the White Plains Housing Authority.

New York State Homes and Community

Renewal (HCR) is providing \$15.3 million in permanent tax-exempt bonds, federal and state Low-Income Housing Tax Credits that will generate \$26.3 million in equity and an additional \$16.6 million in subsidy. Additional financing for the project is being provided by the City of White Plains, the County of Westchester and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). Capital One Bank and Chase provided the Letter of Credit. Capital One Bank and RBC Capital Markets are the tax credit investors and RBC Capital Markets is the tax credit syndicator.

At Friday's groundbreaking ceremony, Mack Carter, Executive Director of the White Plains Housing Authority said, "Our master plan is active and alive. The new Overture is a much larger replacement building with 129 units (25 more units than the first replacement building on the campus, The Prelude, which has 104 units)."

"All residents who qualify from our existing resident pool will be able to move into this new, modern, and environmentally friendly building," Carter said. "Each successive building phase will bring another new building with exciting amenities. It gives me great pride and joy to deliver this new building. We have just begun our quest to replace the old Winbrook community with the new Brookfield Commons."

In 2009, the White Plains Housing Authority completed the initial master plan work for the transformation of Winbrook Houses, a 450-unit public housing development built in 1949. In the first phase of the redevelopment, the White Plains

Housing Authority partnered to construct The Prelude. Built in 2014-15 on the corner of South Lexington Avenue and Quarropas Street, The Prelude includes 104 affordable housing apartments and the 13,500 square foot White Plains Education and Training Center.

HCR Commissioner RuthAnne Visnauskas, who was present at the groundbreaking with other local government officials from White Plains and Westchester County said, "The multi-phase redevelopment of the outdated Winbrook Houses will transform downtown White Plains by breaking up the public housing superblock and reconnecting residents to the surrounding community. When complete, The Overture at Brookfield Commons will

offer 129 families the opportunity to live in a beautiful, modern, energy-efficient building with great amenities in a more inclusive and vibrant neighborhood.

The entire project will be built to achieve Enterprise Green Communities designation for energy-efficiency and healthy environments and will participate in NYSERDA's Multifamily New Construction Program. The building will reduce its residents' projected energy use by 15 percent and conserve water through the use of low flow plumbing fixtures.

Operational funding (in the form of Tenant Protection Vouchers and Project Based Vouchers) was provided by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

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Results of Greenburgh Postal Service Delivery Test Inconclusive

By Pat Casey

A recent test of local mail pick-ups and deliveries was conducted in Greenburgh in response to the high number of complaints received by the Town Supervisor's office about US Postal Service reliability.

The test was conducted on Oct. 29, according to Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner in a report he provided about the procedure and results.

The test mailings were mailed by volunteers within the town (originating), and were mailed to volunteers with addresses within the town (destinating). The names and addresses were treated as confidential for test integrity.

Addresses included Irvington, Hastings on Hudson, Ardsley, Hartsdale, and White Plains (within Greenburgh).

Volunteers were provided pre-addressed envelopes in bundles. The bundles were

coded for tracking purposes. All test letters were mailed individually, and not banded during the test.

The test was coordinated by a retired Postal Service Manager to insure the test met established Postal Service test procedures and methodologies.

The Postal Service delivery standard for all First Class letter mail originating and destinating in the test area is two days. The USPS Service Performance Goal for this measurement is 96.5%.

"On the predetermined date of Tuesday, Oct. 29, eight separate mailings were made, consisting of ten pieces of letter size envelopes in each mailing. There were a variety of mailing locations that included post office lobby boxes, blue collection boxes on streets, and mail placed in residential mail boxes for pick up by carriers," Feiner explained.

A total of 80 pieces were mailed. Of that

number, 72 pieces were received on time – within the two-day standard for the test area. The score for this result is 90% on-time delivery.

One bundle (#1029-01) was placed in a blue collection box after the posted last collection time pickup of 8:30 a.m. Although some of the pieces were delivered on time, the bundle data was discarded from the test as defective data. This data is not included in the score.

Another bundle (#1029-02) was placed in a residential mailbox for pick up by the carrier. Two pieces were delivered on time, and eight pieces failed delivery. The volunteer verified the mail had been collected from the residential mailbox by the carrier on Oct. 29.

According to Feiner, this bundle of envelopes is important as some pieces were delivered on time, yet others failed. The data imbedded on the envelope bar

code is traceable, and allows comparison of the on-time pieces versus the failed pieces. The envelopes from this mailing will be provided to the USPS Westchester District, for analysis and determining service improvement opportunities.

Feiner indicated that he continues to receive complaints – on a daily basis – from residents who complain about mail being sent to the wrong person, checks, prescriptions and bills not being received. "Two days ago I received a letter sent to my home in Greenburgh that was supposed to go to a resident of Claremont Ave. in Mount Vernon," he said. "I continue to believe there should be Congressional hearings on Postal Service operations. Although some people mention that their full-time postal service carriers are great, the Postal Service uses many part-time employees. I have also received complaints of no deliveries on some dates."

Greenburgh Tree Law Hearing Re-adjourns Tuesday Night

The Greenburgh Town Board held a public hearing on a revised tree law last week and voted to adjourn the hearing to Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m. at Greenburgh Town Hall.

The proposed tree ordinance updates a 45-year-old existing ordinance limited to regulating less than 10% of town properties, according to Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner. "The law is consistent with scientific understanding of the importance of trees and consistent with

the Town's Comprehensive Plan and NYS Environmental Policies. The law focuses on tree replacements, in a scientific and objective way, and provides waivers for special circumstances. Limited or no pre-removal reviews for hazardous trees. No replacement requirements when removing invasive species. Provides reduced fees and paperwork for most homeowner activities," Feiner said in an email. "This was a joint product of the Department of Community Development and the

Conservation Advisory Council," Feiner added.

"Did you know that 100 trees remove 53 tons of CO2 per year and 430 lbs. of other air pollutants per year," Feiner asked. "Trees provide homeowner savings -- strategically placed trees save up to 56% on annual air conditioning costs. Evergreen trees can save 3% on heating costs. When native trees are utilized in landscaping plans, they are more likely to thrive, and have the added benefit of supporting local

songbirds. Trees increase property values. Each large front-yard tree adds to the house sales price. Large specimen trees can add to property values. Trees help protect against flooding."

A copy of the proposed law can be found here: <https://www.greenburghny.com/DocumentCenter/View/6134/Draft-Tree-Ordinance-11-14-19>.

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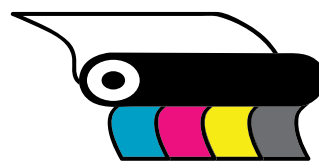
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Connecticut's Toll Plan for I-684 Fails After Two-State Backlash

By Martin Wilbur

A proposal to put a toll on the brief stretch of I-684 that crosses into and out of Connecticut appears to have fallen by the wayside after strong opposition scuttled the plan.

Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont proposed 14 new tolls on roads throughout his state to help pay for infrastructure improvements, including the short piece of I-684 that enters and exits the extreme southwest edge of the state. But bipartisan backlash in Connecticut against the larger revenue-generating scheme has apparently sunk the idea.

Elected officials in Westchester last week had slammed the proposal to charge motorists on the 1.4 miles between the Westchester County Airport and Armonk

exits. That would have disproportionately hurt New York drivers, said County Executive George Latimer.

Latimer said had the toll gained traction and gone into effect, Westchester would have gone to court to fight the state of Connecticut.

"It's basically a New York roadway," he said. "So clever, it may be, but there's no kind of fairness about it."

Drivers who regularly use the heavily-traveled highway to go to the airport or to White Plains would have been severely impacted, but the municipality that might have been the most seriously affected was the Town of North Castle. Supervisor Michael Schiliro said the town could have been looking at a surge of traffic on local roads because many drivers would have likely been looking for alternative routes to

avoid the toll.

"We won't have North Castle and surrounding residents paying a toll to the state of Connecticut for a stretch of road that each car is on for about 60 seconds," Schiliro said. "Our first responders handle calls on 684 often, New York State plows and maintains the road...and we don't ask Connecticut for a dime."

He said Saturday that he was happy to hear that Lamont had scuttled the proposal because it would have been a protracted battle against a unified New York contingent.

State Sen. Shelley Mayer (D-Yonkers), whose district includes a large stretch of I-684 in Westchester, called it inappropriate for Lamont to have pursued the toll on that short stretch of the highway. She thanked Connecticut state legislators for their opposition to the toll plan, although Mayer

cautioned that there's no guarantee that it won't return.

"Though I share (Lamont's) commitment to improving road and rail infrastructure, tolling a 1.4-mile stretch of road that is predominantly used by New Yorkers and does not have on or off exits in Connecticut, is wholly inappropriate," Mayer said.

"In addition, tolls like the one proposed for I-684 are a regressive tax on those who can least afford it. This new toll would also increase traffic on secondary roads by pushing drivers off of I-684 into surrounding communities and local roads in an effort to avoid the toll."

Connecticut officials had not mentioned how much the toll would have cost motorists had it gone into effect.

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Iona Prep Polar 'Plungers' Raise Over \$43,000 for NY Special Olympics



The Iona Prep 'Plungers' raised over \$43,000 as part of the 11th Annual Westchester Polar Plunge held last week at Glen Island Park. More than 125 Iona Preparatory students braved the frigid waters to defend the Gaels' three-year consecutive state championship titles. Iona Prep students have now raised just under \$250,000 for New York Special Olympics athletes since the inception of the Westchester Polar Plunge. "It was really cold out and I still can't feel my feet from after the plunge, but it was all worth it because it was for Special Olympics, and I am so happy that so many people from Iona Prep came out today," Austin Mone, a freshman at the school said.

PURE BARRE, WHITE PLAINS

By Neal Rentz

Caitlin Muldowney met Ashely Allen when Muldowney taught at the Pure Barre in Greenwich, CT, which has been owned by Allen since 2012.

The duo, which reside in Stamford, CT, are seeking to translate the success of the Greenwich facility in White Plains, which opened on Sept. 23. "We knew that White Plains was in need of a Pure Barre," Allen said last week.

Pure Barre is a national chain that began in Michigan in 2001. It provides 50-minute, full-body workouts throughout the day, typically from 5:30 a.m. to 7:50 p.m., to accommodate their customers' work schedules and for convenient times for retirees, Muldowney noted. Classes are intended for those 16 and older, she said.

The workouts include such aspects as isometric contractions, muscular endurance exercises, the use of small weights and other exercise equipment and exercises at the barre, which resembles a barre used by ballet dancers, Muldowney said. "It a fusion of ballet, Pilates and yoga," she said. "Pure Barre does cater to all ages. It's also very safe on the body. The workout is low impact."

"Anybody can do Pure Barre," Muldowney said. "We hit all major muscle groups," she said. It is a misconception that a person needs to be a dancer or have a flexible body to participate in Pure Barre classes, she said.

Allen said most of her customers either



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Stamford, CT residents Ashley Allen, left, and Caitlin Muldowney are co-owners of Pure Barre in White Plains, which opened on Sept. 23.

live or work in White Plains.

Muldowney said she enjoys doing the Pure Barre exercises and teaching in the group experience. "The best thing is being inspired," she said. "You can feel the energy of the person that's next to you. But at the same time you're still focusing on and

keeping your own zone to get your best workout." In addition, the classes provide a mental break from other things going on outside of the studio and participants feel the support from others taking the class, she said.

"The best part of taking a class is actually

the results," Allen said. "It's the only one I've felt the best results in not only in my physical fitness but my self-confidence."

"The best thing is just for anyone is to come and experience a workout even if they have not thought of joining a Barre class," Muldowney said, adding that a free introductory class is slower paced than the typical class.

Muldowney said she and Allen want to work with the White Plains community. "We want to be involved with every aspect of White Plains," Muldowney said.

The White Plains Pure Barre is located at 140 Mamaroneck Ave. For more information call 914-266-1664, visit <https://www.purebarre.com/location/white-plains-ny> or send an e-mail to whiteplains@purebarre.com.



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Westchester's Winter Wonderland Opens Nov. 29 in Valhalla

Westchester's Winter Wonderland returns to Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla on Friday, Nov. 29 at 5 p.m. for its sixth season.

Starting the day after Thanksgiving, the festive celebration takes place for six consecutive weekends through Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, plus weekday bonus days during the school holiday. For one \$20 all-inclusive ticket price, guests can enjoy unlimited access to Santa's Village, amusement rides, a live circus performance, ice skating rink plus free skate rental, a dazzling holiday light show featuring favorite elves Ned and Albert and one of Westchester's tallest lighted Christmas trees.

For the sixth straight year, Westchester Medical Center is the host of the circus and presenting partner of the annual event. The official tree lighting ceremony will start at 6 p.m. led by County Executive George Latimer and Westchester Parks Foundation Executive Director Joe Stout and sponsored by Robison Oil. New platinum sponsors for 2019 include Wegman's and Verizon. They will be joined by returning platinum sponsors Con Edison and Party Line Rentals and M&T Bank, sponsor of the family-friendly New Year's Eve Ball Drop on Dec. 31.

New this year is the addition of Santa's Village at the North Pole with live reindeer. Parents can take their own photos or jump in to take a family selfie. Visitors can also visit live reindeer, mail letters to Santa and see the real-life frozen "North Pole," a total Santa experience.

The heated double-poled, yellow and red-



WESTCHESTER PARKS FOUNDATION PHOTOS

Santa will visit with children during the sixth annual Westchester's Winter Wonderland, which opens at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla on Friday, Nov. 29 and runs through Jan. 4.

striped Winter Wonderland Holiday Circus tent presents up to five performances nightly, with thrilling circus acts that will entertain and delight children of all ages. New acts this year include motorcycle thrill drivers in the Giant Thunder Dome reaching speeds of 55 miles per hour; Miss Perla, the Human

Pretzel contortionist; the skills of Senor Soto on the glittering trapeze; and circus legend Greg DeSanto, one-time director of clowning for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. DeSanto is originally from Eastchester and was just elected president of the International Clown Hall of Fame.

"There are so many ways to enjoy Westchester's Winter Wonderland, from the circus, to the brilliant light displays, themed character nights and amusement rides for the young and young at heart, unlimited skating and free rental skates all covered in the admission price," said county Parks Commissioner Kathy O'Connor. "We look forward to a great season and especially to the opening night, a truly magical experience."

New rides will be added to FUNderland Village, including a 55-foot Ferris wheel. Children will have unlimited access to eight rides – the Winter Hay Ride, Wonderland Train Ride, Holiday Carousel, the 40-foot heated Fun Slide, Holly Jolly Dragons, Pony Sleighs and Tubs of Fun.

Lights of Wonder, sponsored by Verizon, will feature favorite elves Ned and Albert and holiday music. Magical displays include angels, snowflakes, elves tossing wrapped holiday gifts and a message of good will. Guests can also skate away on Westchester Winter Wonderland's huge ice rink, the same size as the rink at Rockefeller Center.

Pose for photos in front of Westchester's largest lighted Christmas Tree or take a break from the cold to enjoy food and refreshments in the heated Wegman's Holiday Dining Tent. Beer and wine are available for adults 21 and up, including a special Captain Lawrence Brew called Red Nose Ale, available only at Westchester's Winter Wonderland.

Westchester's Winter Wonderland will

continued on page 11

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Obituaries

Frances Smith

Frances H. Smith, 98, of White Plains, passed away Nov. 12 in the Bronx.

Born on Dec. 1, 1920 in the Bronx, she was the daughter of the late Henry Stortz and Emma Stortz-Quackenbush.

Frances lived her whole life in White Plains.



She was a devoted Lutheran, and worked for the city of White Plains in the Parking Authority. Upon retiring, she was involved with many humanitarian and environmental organizations. She was especially fond of animals and a big supporter of animal rights. She was an avid gardener, reader, and a strong advocate for women going to Washington. Frances was predeceased in death by her husband Raymond E. Smith, also by her sisters Lorriane Tompkins and Roberta Merz.

She has one living brother Henry Joseph Stortz.

Frances has three children David Smith (Nancy), Tracy Smith, and Wendy Hewitt (Robert). She was a grandmother of three, great grandmother of seven and a great-great grandmother of two.

Frances was respected, admired and loved. All who knew her will greatly miss her and carry their love for her in

their hearts.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Operation SMILE or SPCA of Westchester or of your choice.

Harvey Levine

Harvey Ross Levine, 81, a Scarsdale resident, died Nov. 12.

He was born Sept. 27, 1938 in Queens, to the late Samuel and Harriet Levine.

On Aug. 29, 1961 he married his wife Abby Gail in Queens.



Together they raised two sons, Matthew Levine of West Orange, NJ and Jonathan Levine of Brooklyn.

Harvey Levine was the most dedicated of husbands, a nurturing father, and one of the most respected people in his profession. He lived each day with great patience and good humor, always looking for an opportunity to teach a life lesson or provide guidance to anyone that asked. Harvey spent his free time with his wife Abby putting in the garden on weekends, antiquing and reading countless books about American history and sea travel.

Business was one of Harvey's passions. In 1973 he founded Levine Contract Furniture by representing two manufacturers.

Over the next 45 years he created a nationally recognized Representative Firm and fostered long term relationships with clients, business partners and most importantly, his employees. His favored phrase was "they're liars till they're buyers," always cautioning less experienced associates not to get too complacent.

Harvey made sure to spend lots of time with his two sons, Jonathan and Matthew. He was at all times: basketball coach, swim instructor, tennis chauffeur, reptile wrangler, vacation planner, Troop leader, chaperone to amazing cultural events and sea captain. To his children he could do no wrong but upon reflection, he was not a good sea captain.

One of the family adventures was a vacation to Canada where his friend encouraged him to take one of his houseboats out on the lake for a few days. Harvey, not knowing any better never gave it a second thought. "This boat is just like a car," he said to himself. He soon discovered that cars don't drift like 30-ft. pontoon boats; so did the other boats on the lake...and in the lochs...and at the dock. The children had no idea their lives were in peril and they wondered often why their mother looked so frightened that week. So, Harvey stuck to reading about boats thereafter.

When it came to Abby, Harvey had tunnel vision. His love was pure and his devotion blinding. They met through friends and found a match. With Abby's eye on design and Harvey's on jazz and business they courted, married in 1961, and shared a romance through thick and thin. He was enchanted over Abby and they danced every chance they got for 48 years whether music was playing or not.



Angela Leschke

Angela Leschke, 89, from White Plains, passed away of natural causes on Nov. 12, at White Plains Hospital.

She was born on Dec. 22, 1929 in Haibach, Germany to Katerina and Jakob Stahl.

She immigrated to New York in September of 1952 and married John Leschke



on November 21, 1953. He preceded her in death in 2001 after 48 years of marriage. She was a resident of the City of White Plains for 59 years.

In addition to being a homemaker, Angela was a crossing guard for the White Plains police department for over 25 years.

Angela was a parishioner of Our Lady of Sorrows Church and an honorary member of the Bavarian Club Edelweiss of Westchester.

She is survived by her son her son Rudy and his wife Cathy of California, Ernst and Lisa, of Maryland, and her grandchildren Chris and his wife Lauren, Michael and Molly, and Kimberly and her husband Joseph of California, and Kristen and Brian of Maryland.

She is also survived by her great grand children Jacob and Gabriella (Chris and Lauren).



City of White Plains Rec & Parks Day Camp Director Job Openings

The City of White Plains Recreation & Parks Department is looking for individuals interested in working as Camp Directors at their full day, Summer Day Camps. Positions are open at Camp Quarropas, grades 3rd – 5th, and Teen Camp, grades 6th – 8th.

The Camp Directors are responsible for the oversight and successful execution of all camp operations and activities. Camp Directors must be available for 2020 pre-camp preparations and be committed to working the full camp season from July 6- August 14. These are hourly positions

with the hourly rate based on education and experience.

Qualified candidates must have the following: Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university; ability to plan, organize, evaluate and supervise programs; experience working with youth with special needs is a strong plus.

If you are interested, please call and/or send resume to: Sia Tofano, Director of Community Center,
914-422-1414 or Email: atofano@whiteplainsny.gov.

Correction

In the story "White Plains Council Okays Firefighters Contract," published Nov. 12, we wrote that Firefighters would receive a "4-percent raise for the first year of the pact." That is incorrect. White Plains Firefighters will receive a 1/4-percent raise for the first year of the new pact.



Finding Traces of Your Roots in the Strangest Places



By Brian McGowan

I said hello to my Viking ancestor the other day in the strangest of places – a doctor’s office, where I had gone with a hand complaint.

While many people of Irish extraction carry Viking blood, few are able to trace it back to any single person. I certainly can’t. But there are the telltale signs of Viking blood – a red beard, when all else is brown. I’ve got that one, though the majority of the hairs on my head and face have now turned a stately grey, if not outright silver.

A stubborn streak, yes; love of stories and storytelling – most definitely. Ancestry.com confirmed that I am a whopping 2 percent Scandinavian. I thought it would be more, perhaps a quarter. But who can argue with science? I’ll take whatever I can lay claim to of a connection with these fascinating people.

The Vikings landed in Ireland in 795, sacking a monastery on Rathlin Island. For the next few hundred years, they sacked and pillaged these centers of learning. Why? Monastic centers were targeted because they were where the gold and precious jewels were stored, the first in the form of chalices and candleholders and saints’ reliquaries, the latter often adorning beautifully hand-scripted books capturing the gospels and other religious as well as

secular texts.

Lightly defended – at least in the beginning – the monasteries also provided an easy source of slaves to be carried back to the jarldoms of Scandinavia – modern day Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. Ironically, the pressure these marauders placed upon the Irish monasteries caused a large number of learned monks to migrate to the courts of continental European kings and princes, where they established centers of learning that lasted many centuries beyond the Vikings, with enormous benefit to the survival of western civilization.

Viking raids continued unabated for almost 300 years, but in between these adventurous souls decided to settle down in the Emerald Isle, and began carving out kingdoms of their own, just as they were doing in Scotland, England, France and countless other realms of Europe. And the native Irish and their would-be conquerors settled down to an uneasy peace, disturbed every so often by raids and counterraids back and forth across the shifting borders of Viking and Gael.

When they were finally defeated by an unlikely coalition under Brian Boromhe (more commonly rendered as Boru) at the Battle of Clontarf in 1014, the Vikings had left a permanent mark on Ireland, not all of it a tale of destruction. They opened the country to trade. With their fleets of

longboats, the Vikings not only sought to conquer lands, but to conquer markets as well. They brought a concept previously unknown to the largely nomadic Celtic tribes of Ireland.

Every Irish town or city or bit of geography that ends in “ford” is a reminder of the Vikings, brought from their home waters, or fjords, as they are called to this day. Waterford, Wexford, Carlingford are all Viking in origin; Dublin as well, though there’s no trace of a fjord there. There is, instead, the memory of a “black pool,” or dubh linn, where the Vikings set up shop.

They also left genetics, some of which are afflictions among the Irish to this day. Hemochromatosis, high iron levels in the blood, is one of those. Haven’t got that!

Another is Dupuytren disease, also called Viking’s disease, which first manifests itself as an annoying bean-size lump under the skin of one’s palm. It is a slowly progressing condition of the hand where certain tissues begin to constrict. Once present, it can either stabilize or progress over time beyond mere annoyance into something more serious.

A few months ago, I found the first telltale signs of my Viking ancestor, who I will affectionately call Ragnar, after the chief character in the History Channel series “Vikings.” And with that genetic memory of an ancestor long dead, I am happy to peacefully coexist. Just glad it’s my left, and

not my sword hand!

Pleasantville resident Brian McGowan was born and raised in the Bronx and is a second-, third- and fifth-generation Irish-American/Canadian, as his immigrant ancestors followed several paths to the New World. Reach him at brian.m.mcgowan1952@gmail.com or on Twitter (@Bmcgowan52M). To see more of his writing on “things Irish,” follow his blog, “Rethinking Irish,” at www.rethinkingirish.com.

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Crossword by Myles Mellor

1	2	3			4	5	6	7	8
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Down

1. University conferral
2. Sent with a click
3. Transport to Oz
4. Indicator
5. Keeps at it
6. In the manner of
7. Pale
8. Government security agency, abbr.
10. Caesar's 7
12. Cylindrical fruits
15. Memb. of Congress
16. Shine, in product names
18. Mark on a ruler
19. Harmony
20. "I tawt I taw"
a puddly ____
22. Canned soup additive
26. Overly ornamental
27. E.R. workers
28. Cooking meas.
29. Gotcha!
30. Middle of many German names
32. Promgoer's woe

Across

1. Mahopac emporium for our furry, finned and feathered friends, ____
Value 4. Offspring
9. Medical provider grp.
10. Chateaux
11. Jeanne ____
13. Tropical lizard
14. Becoming hardened to
16. Candied, as fruits
17. Chimney black stuff
21. Helped cause, with "to"

22. Food in Exodus
23. Baseball's Blue Moon
24. Like dessert wines
25. New discount store in Mt. Kisco ____ Shoppe
28. Alehouse
31. California's Santa ____ Valley
33. Some are animated
34. Evidence collectors
35. Plant also known as heartsease
36. President after F.D.R.

Solution on page 12

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Christmas Tail

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A Formula for an Intimate Tasting Event at Home



By Nick Antonaccio

I'm sure many of you have participated in wine tastings at fundraising events and/or at your local wine shop. Why not enjoy a similar event in the privacy of your own home with family and friends?

A winetasting evening can be simple or elaborate, elemental or complex, informal or highly organized. Whichever route you take, it is always going to be fun. Consuming wine with family and friends seems to have a universal effect of conviviality.

'Consuming wine with family and friends seems to have a universal effect of conviviality.'

Here are a few tips on planning and structuring an in-home wine tasting.

1. Decide on a theme. It can be a specific varietal, a specific region or a combination of the two. Limit your individual wine selections to five or six wines. If you're

planning to offer additional pourings of wines after the tasting session, purchase an additional bottle of each wine to be enjoyed by all.

Typically select wines in the \$10 to \$15 price range, but also throw in a \$9 bottle and a \$20 bottle in order to evaluate differences in style and appeal of wines at opposite ends of the price spectrum.

2. Set up the tasting area. You'll need appropriate glassware. For informal tastings, almost any stemware will do. If you want to be more formal, select the appropriate glass shape for whites (tall and slender) and for reds (rounded bowl and more squat).

Next, fashion some form of scorekeeping sheet, either individual cards for guests to write notes and scores (a 1-10 scoring scale is sufficient) or a master sheet kept by the host to record verbal evaluations by each guest.

3. Taste the wines. Yes, there is a preferred way to experience wines. These simple steps apply at your tasting event as well as when you order wine at a restaurant. Follow this "5 S Steps" sequence.

SIGHT: The color and viscosity of the wine will set up your expectations of the wine. Light, clear color typically equates to softer, less acidic styles of wine. Darker,

opaque color typically equates to robust, more acidic styles of wine.

SWIRL: Holding the base of the glass on the table, move the glass in a circular motion. This step opens up the wine from its cramped quarters in the bottle and allows it to breathe, which brings out the bouquet and aromas of the wine.

SMELL: Go ahead, don't be reluctant to stick your nose into the glass to experience the sensory characteristics of the wine. After all, it is your sense of smell, with its 10,000 components, that determines your opinion of a wine.

SIP: Take a sip of wine and note how it initially feels on your palate. This is when your sense of taste comes into play (sweet, sour, salty, bitter, umami).

SWALLOW OR SPIT. When you swallow, the intensity of the wine – the "finish" – is experienced, as the wine passes through the rear of your mouth, where your bitter sensory taste buds reside. This will help you determine the acidic levels of the wine. Of course, by this fifth step, you've experienced 90 percent of the style and characteristics of the wine, so don't think it's inappropriate to spit the wine into a spittoon.

4. Evaluate the wines. As I note above, this can be recorded by each guest or by the hosts. At the end of the tasting, compare

evaluations. It's quite normal for one of the wines to stand out as the worst in class; it's not so normal for one to stand out as best in class. If you enjoy a particular wine but it doesn't seem to be consensus opinion, don't fret. Go out and buy a case of that wine.

Wine tastings are an efficient way for you to develop and understand your wine palate. A side benefit is that you are likely to discover a wine that will become your new favorite – until the next tasting event.

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



For a Quicker Sale, Home Staging is the Path to Success

One of my most important jobs before listing a property is to help my sellers prepare their homes for showing to prospective buyers.

I was reminded during a recent presentation at my William Raveis office by home stager Susan Atwell who recommended engaging a home stager. Why? Because nobody can look at their homes objectively, even someone who's been in the business a long time.

Atwell didn't plan a career as a home stager. An English major in college, her true passions were science and math. After a few years in the business world, her love for logic first evolved into a successful career as a computer scientist.

So when she first heard that staged homes sell faster, it seemed to make sense. But she still wondered, how do they really know? In her mind, she figured there's only one way to prove that home staging works, and that's scientifically.

At her recent presentation, she said, "To perform this scientific experiment, it would be necessary to take two identical homes, one staged (or decorated to sell), one unstaged. Everything else being equal – the home's location, its price and promotion to potential buyers – and then see which one sells faster.

"But, since we know this isn't really possible, we can still devise a comparable strategy. Not one that we recommend, of course, but one that many home sellers unwittingly end up trying."

Regardless, she stated, this technique will still prove true if staged homes really do sell

faster than un-staged homes.

Here are the steps:

First, attempt to sell a home "as is." Then wait and see what happens. If there is no sale, stage the home. Clean, declutter, put away personal items, freshen up paint, add lighting, update bedding, remove old window treatments, put out fresh towels – anything that will show off your home's best features while making it feel both inviting and move-in ready.

Once staged, wait an equal amount of time, or until the home finally sells. Compare how long it takes to sell.

Atwell said that she unwittingly performed this experiment some years ago with a friend whose home was on the market for nine months with no sale and no offers. The market was beginning to cool, but when the home was originally listed, the market was still hot – proving that even in the best markets, some homes won't sell "as is."

Its total transformation cost less than 1 percent of the listing price, Atwell said. Once staged, the home sold in just two months, with multiple offers and the beginnings of a bidding war. At the time the home was listed, there was a seven-month



By Bill Primavera

inventory of homes glutting the market. This means that under normal or average conditions, this home would not be expected to sell for at least seven months. Staging lowered that time to two months.

Even with her passion for decorating – and her acknowledged addiction to home staging television shows – it wasn't until Atwell saw firsthand the impact staging had that she was truly convinced that it worked.

The Real Estate Staging Association (RESA) has used a similar approach – but on a much larger scale – to prove that home staging is effective. Each year RESA compiles a report based on feedback submitted by hundreds of home stagers around the United States. Here's what

they found in 2011:

--RESA studied 174 homes that were previously on the market for an average of 156 days before the homeowners gave up trying to sell on their own and called in a professional home stager. Those same homes were staged, relisted and sold on average in 42 days, a 73 percent reduction in time on the market.

--RESA also studied 410 homes that were staged before they went on the

market and sold in 42 days on average. The study concluded that it doesn't benefit the homeowner to list the property first to see if it will sell.

So even if a home hasn't been staged yet, Atwell said that's okay because evidence shows that it's never too late.

There are two variables not taken into account in RESA's study. It is not known if the asking price was adjusted or if the same real estate agent was used throughout the selling process. The influence of either could be significant.

It is also possible that anxious home sellers are not only more willing to properly prepare their home for sale, but may also be more willing to price the home to sell because there is no amount of staging or marketing that can make up for an excessive asking price.

Don't forget that even if a homeowner is planning to dwell rather than sell, there are great benefits to engaging a home stager for better utilization of space, furnishings and décor.

For more information about home staging, call Susan Atwell at 914-525-0454 or visit www.atwellstagedhome.com.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com), specializing in lifestyles, real estate and development. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

Happenings

Tuesday, Nov. 19

Coffee with Grandpas. Youth Bureau program. 8:30 to 10 a.m., White Plains Library.

Trove Time. Trove Time is an early literacy playtime for ages 2-4 with a caregiver. Children and their caregiver will play together, hear stories, and learn about enriching a child's life and increasing 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. to 12 p.m. White Plains Library.

Homework Help. Teacher in the Library. Homework help for students in grades 1 through 6; 4 to 6 p.m., White Plains Library.

“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 experiment with Minecraft and related software while learning about 3D world design. 4:30 to 5 p.m., Galaxy Hall, White Plains Library.

Wednesday, Nov. 20

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

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.

Noonday Concert. Reimagining III - The last in a series of three concerts, which focus on the art of transcription; presented with the support of the Rudyard and Emanuella Reimss Memorial Fund of the Westchester Community Foundation. Daniel Ficari, organ, plays an all-Bach program. A pre-concert talk, which places the music in historical context, begins at 11:50 a.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 the Brian Wallach Agency, White Plains.

“My Little Chickadee.” Mae West plays Flower Belle Lee, a wisecracking singer who is abducted by a masked bandit during a stagecoach holdup. Before long she meets the con artist Cuthbert J. Twillie (comedy legend W.C. Fields) and sparks fly. With of broad humor and double entendre, this comedy western was a once-in-a-lifetime teaming of the two megastars. Preceded by an introduction by Bill Fields, grandson of W.C. Fields, for the evening screening. Presented in new 4K restoration. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 1 and 7:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit

www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Thursday, Nov. 21

Thanksgiving Breakfast. More than 120 organizations will celebrate the diverse roots and shared values by delivering an affirming message about staying true to who you are while reaching out to others. This year, AJC Westchester/Fairfield is honoring Imam Mohamed Shaffieq Chace of the Islamic Center of New Rochelle, Richard Leroy of Temple Shaaray Tefila and Mecca Santana of Westchester Medical Center Health Network for their efforts to understand each other's points of view. Rabbi Jeffrey Segelman, rabbi emeritus of Westchester Jewish Center will deliver the keynote address on the topic of “Inner strength, bold action.” Westchester Community College President Dr. Belinda Miles will also make welcoming remarks. Westchester Community College gymnasium, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 7:30 to 10 a.m. \$25. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-948-5585 or visit www.ajcwestfair-diversity2019.eventbrite.com.

Junior League Holiday Boutique. Featuring an impressive roster of nearly 40 vendors, with many participating for the first time. They will offer a wide variety of merchandise, including jewelry, home goods, clothing, hostess gifts, items for children, men and more. An opportunity for the Westchester community to support small and local businesses. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase for a chance to win one of several fabulous prizes. Twenty percent of all vendor proceeds will be donated to the Junior League of Central Westchester. C.V. Rich Mansion, 305 Ridgeway, White Plains. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Suggested donation for admission: \$10. Info: Visit www.jlcentralwestchester.org/hb or e-mail JLCWHB@gmail.com.

“Joker.” The most provocative title this awards season, recently named the highest grossing R-rated film of all time, “Joker” is an original, standalone story of the iconic archnemesis struggling to find his way in society. Director Todd Phillips’ exploration of Arthur Fleck – brilliantly portrayed by a transformed Joaquin Phoenix – shows him as a clown-for-hire by day, with dreams of becoming a stand-up comic at night, inspired by his hero, talk show host Murray Franklin (Robert DeNiro). As Arthur spirals down a path of cruelty and violence, this gritty character study fully embraces the darkness of its villain in a shocking and unsettling way. Also starring Zazie Beetz, Marc Maron, Frances Conroy and Bill Camp. Followed by a Q&A with Phillips by film center Board President Janet Maslin. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$25. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Hitler’s Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields. Wendy Lower, the John K. Roth Professor of History and director of the Mgrublian Center for Human Rights at

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

Claremont McKenna College, will speak at this program. Part of the annual Kristallnacht commemoration. Iona College’s Spellman Hall, Thomas J. Burke Lounge, 75 North Ave., New Rochelle. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Free. Registration recommended. Info: Contact Dr. Elena Procario-Foley at 914-637-2744 or eprocariofoley@iona.edu or Julie Scallero at 914-696-0738 or jscallero@hhrecny.org. Registration: Visit hhrecny.org.

Friday, Nov. 22

GROW Conference. The region’s largest gathering of business owners and professionals for the purpose of training for small businesses. The full-day forum brings together local professionals through networking, mentoring, business development and marketing sessions for the purpose of building relationships to further their company’s growth. The keynote address will be delivered by Jason Robinson, director of marketing at UPS. Westchester Community College’s Gateway Center, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$110. Westchester Community College students (with valid I.D.): Free. Info: Contact Eridania Camacho at 914-606-5616 or at eridania.camacho@sunywcc.edu. Registration: Visit www.growyourbusiness.eventcombo.com.

Book and Author Luncheon. Sponsored by the Woman’s Club of White Plains, featuring Mary Calvi, nine-time Emmy award-winning journalist and CBS TV co-anchor, discussing her book “Dear George, Dear Mary” about the relationship between young George Washington and Mary Phillipse. 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$50 (check made payable to: The Woman’s Club of White Plains. Send to Barbara Dannenberg, 34 Century Ridge Road, Purchase, NY 10577. Or make a reservation online at www.womansclubofwhiteplains.org.

“The Addams Family: A New Musical.” Wednesday Addams has grown up and brought home a boy. Gomez is tearing his hair out. Not only has she brought home a boy, but she wants to marry him. And he’s normal and from a respectable family. Hilarity ensues with your favorite characters, Morticia, Pugsley, Fester and Grandma, as Gomez tries desperately to keep this secret from his beloved. Written by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice with music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa. Bedford Hills Community House, 74 Main St., Bedford Hills. 7 p.m. \$20. (Active duty military and seniors receive 15 percent discount.) Also Nov. 23 at 2 and 7 p.m. and Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. Info: 914-666-7004 or visit www.bedfordcommunitytheatre.com. Tickets: Visit www.bct1.eventbrite.com.

“The Biggest Little Farm.” A documentary that chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 200 acres of barren farmland and dream to harvest in harmony with nature. Through various hardships and a vast learning curve, they embrace opportunities provided by nature’s conflicts. With the help of biodynamic expert Alan

York, they uncover a biodiverse design of living that exists beyond the farm. Preceded by guest speaker Allison Turcan, founder of D.I.G. Farm in North Salem, and host and producer of the podcast Getting Dirty. She will discuss what it takes to be a local farmer. Co-sponsored by the Town of New Castle, the New Castle Sustainability Advisory Board, the Greeley Sustainability Club and the Friends of the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center. Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, 480 Bedford Rd., Chappaqua. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Free. Info: Visit chappaqualibrary.org or e-mail sab@mynewcastle.org.

Autumn Tails Gala. Paws Crossed Animal Shelter’s largest fundraising event will be an evening of great friends, scrumptious food, fun, music and dancing, unique and awesome auction and raffle prizes. For their work in animal rescue, Gianna and Chazz Palminteri will be this year’s honorees. All proceeds will benefit the orphaned pets of Paws Crossed. Renaissance Westchester Hotel, 80 W. Red Oak Lane, West Harrison. 7 to 11 p.m. \$175. Info and tickets: Visit www.pawscrossedny.org/autumn-tails-gala or e-mail Julie Potter at julie@pawscrossedny.org.

Westchester Photographic Society: Close Up and Macro Photography. For adults 18 years old and up. Westchester Community College’s Technology Building, Room 107, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. (Use Parking Lot 11) 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-827-5353 or visit www.wpsphoto.org.

“The House of Blue Leaves.” A black comedy by American playwright John Guare about a zookeeper who dreams of making it big in Hollywood as a songwriter. Artie wants to take his girlfriend, Bunny, with him to Hollywood, but his wife Bananas is a schizophrenic destined to be institutionalized. A production by Arc Stages’ Community Stage. Arc Stages, 147 Wheeler Ave., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$22 and \$28. Also Nov. 23. Info and tickets: Visit www.arcstages.org.

Saturday, Nov. 23

Farmers’ Market. Downtown Farmers’ Market on Court Street in White Plains.

Early Morning Photo Session. A special opportunity to photograph the center’s ambassador wolves: Nikai, Alawa, and Zephyr. Guests will also be given access to photograph the critically endangered Mexican wolves and red wolves from vantage points not generally available during regular visits. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 9 a.m. \$100. Pre-registration required. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Eagle Hill Hike. With Storyteller Mike. Take a hike up Eagle Hill, a lovely place to see the Tappan Zee Bridge and the Hudson River. Mike is Rockefeller State Park Preserve’s master storyteller and always happy to share legends of the preserve. Rockefeller State Park Preserve’s main

continued on next page

Westchester's Winter Wonderland Opens Nov. 29 in Valhalla

continued from page 6

be open on Fridays from 5 to 10 p.m. and Saturdays 4 to 10 p.m. On Sundays through Dec. 22 it will be open from 4 to 9 p.m. and on Dec. 29 from 4 to 10 p.m. Beginning Monday, Dec. 23, it will be open weekdays from 5 to 10 p.m., except Dec. 24 and Dec. 25, when it will be closed.

For complete information and to purchase tickets, visit www.wwinterwonderland.com.



The Lights of Wonder at Westchester's Winter Wonderland, which opens at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla on Friday, Nov. 29 and runs through Jan. 4.

Happenings

continued from previous page

office, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. 9 to 11 a.m. Free. Registration requested. Info and registration: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eagle-hill-hike-tickets-80280744869>.

Holiday Train Show. Looking for a fun experience this holiday season for you and your family? Enjoy zooming freight cars, flashing bells, tooting whistles and more at one of our most popular events. A thrill for all ages. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Members and children (under 2): Free. Non-member adults: \$10. Non-member seniors and students: \$9. Non-member children (2-12 years old): \$8. Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 15. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Meet the Animals. If you love animals you will want to come to this program. Meet the nature center's animals and learn all about them. Cranberry Lake Preserve, 1609 Old Orchard St., North White Plains. 1 to 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

"Wrestling Jerusalem." A screening of this film, which presents the writer/actor Aaron Davidman as he embodies 17 different characters in and around the city of Jerusalem in an eye-opening journey of the Israeli-Palestine story. Followed by a discussion, refreshments and a brief Havdalah service. Sponsored by the Westchester Community for Humanistic Judaism. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 2:30 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Info: Contact Charlotte at 914-218-8525 or e-mail info@wchj.org.

"Rising Tide." Be among the first to see the world premiere of this brand-new work from innovative Dutch dance company Arch 8. The company and its choreographer Erik Kaiel create unorthodox, acrobatic dance for kids and grownups who can't sit still, specializing in joyful and engaging interactive performances. Their work for young audiences encourages an active viewing, a participatory imagining on the part of the audience – and oftentimes a willingness to come up on stage and play along. The

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company has performed around the globe. Suitable for audiences six years old and up. PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 3 p.m. \$15 to \$30. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or www.artscenter.org.

Chamber Music. Society of Lincoln Center: Great Innovators. In a single decade, with works such as "The Firebird" and "The Rite of Spring, Stravinsky showed possibilities for musical extremism never before imagined. With bracing harmonies, infectious rhythms and brilliant orchestration, everything that Stravinsky created in this fertile period stole the musical show of the era. This trio arrangement of "The Soldier's Tale" introduced his wildly controversial music to the chamber music stage. Other innovations also abound in this program: Beethoven's Clarinet Trio (the first of its kind), Mendelssohn's "Songs Without Words" (his own invention) and Smetana's Piano Trio, the first major chamber work from the Bohemian region. With Anne-Marie McDermott, piano; Ida Kavafian, violin; Gary Hoffman, cello; and Jose Franch-Ballester, clarinet. Purchase College's Recital Hall, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 5 p.m. \$30 to \$65. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.artscenter.org.

"The Diary of Anne Frank." The National Players troupe performs this live theatrical adaptation, which brings the true story of an incredibly insightful young girl to the stage, in hopes of inspiring the next generation. In 1941 Amsterdam, 13-year-old Anne Frank goes into hiding with her family. For the next two years, she never leaves the attic where her family is concealed from the Nazis. Anne finds solace writing in her diary, capturing the daily lives of the secret annex's inhabitants – from the horrors of war to the excitement of first love – with wit, determination and idealism. Westchester Community College's Academic Arts Theatre, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 8 p.m. \$28. Seniors and students: \$26. Children (under 13): \$18. Info and tickets: 914-606-6262 or visit www.sunywcc.edu/smartarts.

Marc Black. The Schoolhouse Theater welcomes back eclectic folk-rocker Marc Black with his show, "Life...One Song at a Time." Through music, Black deals with life and all its social and political challenges – one song at a time. Noted for his "timeless songs, deep grooves and excellent playing," Black was inducted into the New York Chapter of the Blues Hall of Fame in June 2014. The Schoolhouse Theater & Arts Center, 3 Owens Rd., North Salem. 8 p.m. \$25. Info and tickets: 914-277-8477 or visit www.schoolhousetheater.org.

Sunday, Nov. 24

Be the Parent, Please. Strategies for Solving the Real Parenting Problems. Naomi Schaefer Riley, author of "Be the Parent, Please," draws from her experiences as a mother of three and delves into the latest research on the harmful effects that excessive technology usage has on a child's intellectual, social and moral formation. Temple Israel of New Rochelle, 1000 Pinebrook Boulevard, New Rochelle. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Free. Walk-ins welcome; RSVP requested. Info and RSVP: E-mail Chavaya@tinr.org by Nov. 22.

Dark Start Orchestra. Celebrating the Grateful Dead Experience. Performing to

critical acclaim while celebrating their 20th anniversary in 2017 and more than 2,600 shows, Dark Star Orchestra continues the Grateful Dead concert experience. Their shows are built of the Dead's extensive catalog and the talent of these seven musicians. On any given night, the band will perform a show based on a set list from the Grateful Dead's 30 years of extensive touring or use their catalog to program a unique set list. This allows fans young and old to share in the experience. By recreating set lists from the past and by developing their own sets, Dark Star Orchestra offers a continually evolving artistic outlet within this musical canon, honoring both the band and the fans and seeking out the unique style and sound of each era. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 7 p.m. \$48. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Monday, Nov. 25

Sensory Lunch Hike. A quiet lunchtime walk through the woods to focus on letting our senses experience nature. Rockefeller State Park Preserve's main office, 125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville. 12 to 1 p.m. Free. Registration requested. Info and registration: Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/sensory-hike-monday-november-25-2019-from-noon-to-1-pm-tickets-80289095847.

Crossword Solution from page 9

1	P	E	T					4	S	P	A	W	N		
9	H	M	O					10	V	I	L	L	A	S	
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16	G	L	A	C	E					17	S	O	O	T	
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JUDICIAL VACANCY, TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY. With the election of Judge Gina Capone to the NY State Supreme Court, the Town of Putnam Valley will be faced with a judicial vacancy effective 1/1/2020. If you are interested in being appointed to the Town of Putnam Valley Justice Court, please send your résumé to Supervisor, Putnam Valley Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Rd., Putnam Valley, NY 10579, or email soliverio@putnamvalley.com. The Town will require that you are a Town resident, have a law degree and some judicial experience either as a law clerk or within the Court system itself. Interviews will be held the first week of December. **Deadline for submission of résumés is Wednesday, November 27th.**

JOB OPPORTUNITY \$18.50 P/H NYC \$15 P/H LI \$14.50 P/H UPSTATE NY If you currently care for your relatives or friends who have Medicaid or Medicare, you may be eligible to start working for them as a personal assistant. No Certificates needed. (347)462-2610 (347)565-6200

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LEGALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Putnam Valley Town Board will conduct a public hearing on **Wednesday, November 20th at 6:00 pm.** to hear comments on the use of Bubblers, De-icers and Aeration Systems in Water. **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING** the Putnam Valley Town Board will hold its public regular monthly meeting. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD** Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: **11-14-2019**

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF 2020 PUTNAM VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the 2020 Fire Department Budget was adopted as the final budget on November 13, 2019. Sherry Howard Town Clerk Dated: 11/14/19

Town of Putnam Valley Town Board Meeting November 20, 2019 6 PM
1. Pledge of Allegiance 2. Proclamation for Eagle Scout Josh Uchetel 3. **PUBLIC HEARING ON DE-ICER LAW** 4. Departmental Reports 5. Supervisor's Comments 6. Legislative Report 7. School Report Parks and Recreation 8. Refunds 9. Children's Center salaries for 2020 10. Accept resignation of Joseph Piechocinski from the Parks and Recreation Commission 11. Accept resignation of Phil Keating from the Parks and Recreation Commission Highway Department 12. Request to go to bid for materials Building Department 13. Daily Fee Report Summary Finance Department 14. Budget Transfers 15. Public Comment 16. Audit of Monthly Bills

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EXAMINER SPORTS

Stepinac Three-Peat Halted by Hayes in CHSFL AAA Championship

By Albert Coqueran

The success of the Stepinac High School Football Team the past six years in November is no less than remarkable. The Crusaders record the past six years in the month of November is 20-3 overall. Furthermore, within those six years the Crusaders won three CHSAA NYS Football Championships and four CHSFL AAA Championships, including back-to-back NYS and CHSFL Titles the past two years.

After losing their only regular season game to arch rival Iona Prep on a fluke fumble recovery for a touchdown, 36-35, on Sept. 28, the Crusaders ran the table winning their next four straight games by a total point spread of 150-57.

They finished the regular season with a 7-1 record while earning a two-seed and a bye in the Quarterfinals in the CHSFL AAA Playoffs. However, with all eyes focused on Iona Prep, the number one seed finished the regular season undefeated at 8-0. Stepinac waited their opportunity to compete in the Semifinals and possibly get another chance to avenge their only loss of the season against their nemesis Iona Prep.

Nonetheless, lurking in the background was the number four-seed Cardinal Hayes High School, who some CHSFL aficionados estimated was the best team in AAA coming into the 2019 season.

The Cardinals starting quarterback transferred very early in the season and they struggled to find uniformity. They lost to Stepinac on a last second field goal by Enda Kirby, 28-26, on Oct. 19. Then the Cardinals took back-to-back losses into the Playoffs

with a devastating loss, 58-41, to Iona Prep.

When the CHSFL Varsity AAA Playoff Brackets were released it read: Iona Prep #1 bye will play winner of Hayes #4 vs. St. Anthony's #5 in the Quarterfinals. Stepinac #2 bye will play winner of Monsignor Farrell #6 vs. Christ The King #3 in the Quarterfinals.

Hayes thrashed St. Anthony's 61-14 in the Quarterfinals and awaited the next opponent the undefeated Gaels in the Semifinals. Christ the King beat Farrell in the Quarterfinals and then Stepinac trounced the CTK, 43-6, in the Semifinals.

However, on Saturday, Nov. 9, at the same time the Crusaders were doing away with the Royals in White Plains, there were rumblings coming from New Rochelle that number four-seed Cardinals had just shocked the undefeated number one seed Iona, 45-34, in the AAA Semifinals. This win by the Cardinals ruined the much-anticipated match-up between Stepinac versus Iona Prep in the CHSFL AAA Championship.

Nonetheless, it set up a rematch of last year's Championship game which Stepinac won 29-18 over Hayes to win back-to-back CHSFL AAA Titles. The Crusaders then went on to win the CHSAA NYS Football Championship also for the second straight year.

But there would be no three-peat for the Crusaders this year, as it was the Cardinals turn to take home the Michael Cunneen Memorial Trophy. Cardinal Hayes beat Stepinac, 25-7, to capture the 2019 CHSFL AAA Championship, at Mitchel Athletic Complex, in Uniondale, on Saturday.

"We had a great year; the players played

their hearts out. We met up with a very talented team. We had our chances and we just did not capitalize," commented Mike O'Donnell, after completing his 32nd year as Head Coach of the Crusaders.

The Crusaders only score in the game came after the Cardinals fumbled on their first offensive possession in the first quarter. Stepinac recovered in their territory and a few plays later junior running back Kyle Benjamin found a crease in the Cardinals defense and ran 66 yards for a touchdown.

Who would have ever thought after Stepinac crushed their last four opponents in the regular season, 150-57, and then ran over CTK 43-6 in the Semifinals that they would only manage seven points in the Championship Game.

The Cardinals defense turned the tables on the Crusaders led by Defensive MVP of the Game, Nicholas Burgess with seven tackles and four sacks. Furthermore, Cardinals sophomore quarterback Henry Belin, who was expecting to merely play junior varsity this season after transferring from Bergen Catholic, was selected Offensive MVP of the



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTO

The Crusaders led by Team Captains strong safety Zachary Barnes (left) and quarterback Joey Carino (right) fell one game short of a three-peat as CHSFL AAA Champions. Cardinal Hayes the number four seed beat the number two seed Stepinac, 25-7, to win the 2019 CHSFL AAA Championship, at Mitchel Athletic Complex, on Saturday.

Game. Belin completed 12-of-18 passes for 205 yards with one touchdown. Cardinals' running back Jalen Smith was the leading rusher of the game with 125 yards and the one touchdown on 13 carries.

Stepinac quarterback Joey Carino, who rewrote the Stepinac history books during his varsity career completed 7-of-22 passes for 108 yards in the Championship Game. Carino, who threw for over 3500 yards in his three-year varsity career and broke the single season passing record at Stepinac, will take his talents to the University of Albany in September.

White Plains High School Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2019

By Albert Coqueran

White Plains High School's Fifth Annual Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held in the Media Room at White Plains High School on Friday.

The WPHS Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2019 celebrated eight new members including Liz Flocks, who graduated in 2007, after helping lead the Tigers Girls Basketball Team to three consecutive Section 1 AA Titles in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Flocks attended Niagara University where she was distinguished as Captain of the Purple Eagles Women Basketball Team while scoring 1,210 career-points. She is presently an Assistant Coach for the United States Army at West Point Women's Basketball Team.

"It is such an honor to be inducted into the White Plains High School Athletics Hall of Fame. Playing at White Plains High School played an instrumental role regarding who I am today," stated Flocks. "I was so lucky to have had great teammates and coaches to help me become the player that I was in high school and then in college. I would not have been as successful if it had not been for my teammates and coaches, I owe them a lot," proclaimed Flocks.

"It gives me great pride and joy to see Liz inducted in the WPHS Athletics Hall of Fame," acknowledged Sue Adams, who was the Head Girls Basketball Coach during Flocks four-year heralded Tigers varsity career. "She is well deserving of this honor for all of her contributions to our athletics program, especially the girls basketball

team. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to coach her for four years and to follow her career from Niagara to the United States Military Academy," said Adams, who was inducted along with her daughter Kim into the WPHS Athletics Hall of Fame last year.

Dan Woodard, the longtime Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Glenn D. Loucks Track & Field Games was also inducted as a member of Tigers Athletics HOF Class of 2019. Woodard is also a former football and track coach at WPHS. He also served as an administrator for both the Middle School and High School and is a former WPHS Principal. Woodard spearheaded the renovations to Loucks Field in the early 2000's, whereas a Turf Field was erected at WPHS.

Nick Panaro, the present Secretary of the WPHS Athletics Hall of Fame Executive Committee was also enshrined on Friday. Panaro served as WPHS Athletic Director for many years. As the former Head Coach of Cross Country and Track, Panaro brought 13 Cross Country Championships to WPHS. Panaro is also a former Chairman of Section 1 Track & Field and is presently the Assistant Meet Director of the Loucks Games.

The other five inductees of the White Plains High School Athletics HOF Class of 2019 included: Tom Donahoe ('78) for football, basketball and track; Mark Martino ('79) for Tigers football and lacrosse. Martino



PHOTOS COURTESY WPHS ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME Liz Flocks (left) presently an Assistant Coach for the U.S. Army West Point Women's Basketball Team was inducted into the White Plains High School Athletics Hall of Fame on Friday. Flocks and legendary former Tigers Head Girls Basketball Coach Sue Adams (right) teamed to win three consecutive Section 1 AA Titles from 2005- '07.

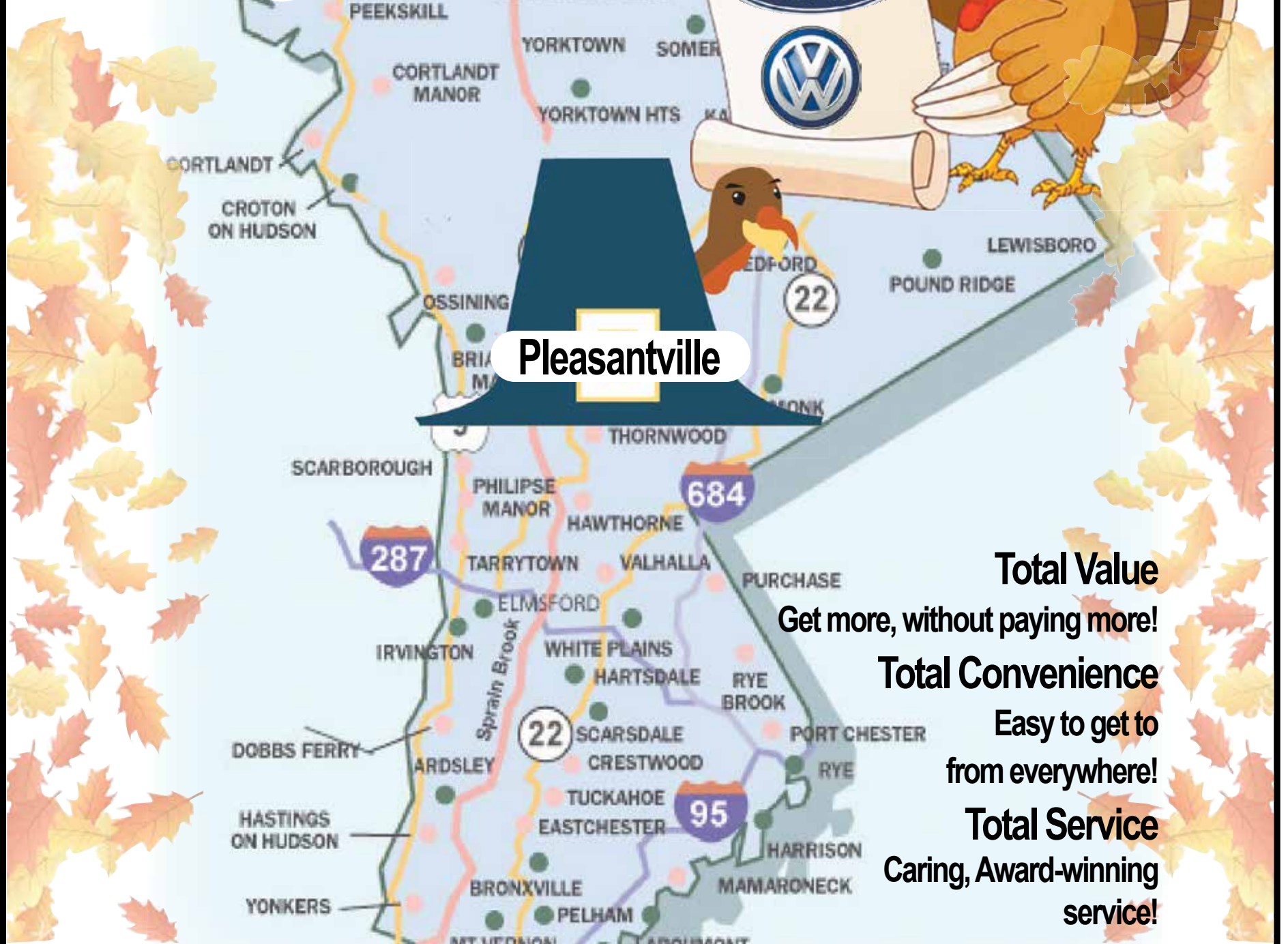
also coached White Plains Youth Lacrosse for 16 years. Also being distinguished was Joe Materile ('55) for Tigers baseball and basketball. Materile also coached baseball and basketball at Mahopac High School for over 30 years.

Also, inducted was George Perry, who coached football, wrestling and baseball from 1960-1993. Perry accumulated a resume of coaching a total of 70 sports seasons at WPHS. And Arnold Clinton ('80), the former All County and All State Tigers football player and Section 1 Wrestling Champion was posthumously inducted.



The White Plains High School Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2019 include: [l-r] George Perry, Mark Martino, Nick Panaro, Dan Woodard, Adrian Clinton (son of the late inductee Arnold Clinton), Tom Donahoe, Liz Flocks and Joe Materile.

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