SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 9, Issue 437

White Plains Council **Ends Retired Employees** Insurance Contribution

Following more than a year of impassioned pleas, a group of retired White Plains firefighters will no longer be required to pay a portion of their health insurance premiums.

The White Plains Common Council voted to no longer require any of its retired employees to pay part of their health insurance during a special meeting on Dec. 23.

However, those firefighters will be required to pay for past due health insurance payments not made during a legal dispute with the city. Those former employees will need to make the back insurance payments

For the past several months retired firefighters have attended the Citizens to be Heard portion of Common Council meetings to seek the policy change. Due to a difficult financial period, the city required firefighters to pay 15 percent of their health insurance premiums beginning in 2010. In 2015 the Common Council restored the benefit to active firefighters but not to retirees of the fire department.

Ed Lobermann, a retired firefighter, has been speaking on behalf of himself and about 100 other retired firefighters at several meetings.

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My Brothers Keeper Honors White Plains Community Leaders



The White Plains My Brothers Keeper organization held its 3rd Anniversary at the Thomas H. Slater Center Dec. 19. The anniversary honored community leaders for positively impacting the lives of White Plains boys and young men of color. The honorees were: Larry Armstrong, Social Worker White Plains Youth Bureau; Coach Spencer Mayfield, White Plains School District; Sergeant Lavalle Larrier, White Plains Police Department; and Wiley Harrison, CEO of the Business of Your Business.

Menorah Lighting in White Plains Brings People Together in the Face of Antisemitism

By Pat Casey

After a string of anti Semitic attacks across New York over Chanukah, members of the Westchester Jewish community, and the broader Westchester community, came together in a public sign of unity and support in the face of hate at a Menorah lighting in Tibbits Park, White Plains, Sunday evening.

The ceremony was organized and led by Rabbi Avrohom Butman of Chabad of Westchester County and took on a heightened tone of solidarity after news reports of a violent stabbing attack in a rabbi's home in Rockland County that left five people injured earlier in the weekend.

The White Plains Menorah lighting was attended by over 100 people and dignitaries, as well as numerous police officers and firefighters.

Rabbi Avrohom noted there was a



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RABBI AVROHOM BUTMAN

Over 100 people and dignitaries gathered in Tibbits Park, White Plains, for a public Menorah lighting Sunday evening, the last night of Chanukah.

noticeably higher police presence to ensure those attending the event were safe.

Among the elected officials who attended were County Executive George Latimer; White Plains Police Commissioner David Chong; White Plains Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Wayne Bass (who helped coordinate the event); White Plains City Councilmen Justin Brasch, John Kirkpatrick, and John Martin; director of the White Plains Youth Bureau Frank Williams; Westchester County legislator Catherine Parker; White Plains City Council members elect Victoria Presser and Jennifer Puja; State Senator Shelley Mayer; and Randy Stein of the White Plains school board.

Also in attendance was Rabbi Chaim Marder of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains, who helped publicize the event, as well as several religious leaders from local

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Menorah Lighting in White Plains Brings People Together in the Face of Antisemitism -

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churches who came to show their support for the Jewish community.

The Menorah lighting began with Rabbi Avrohom Butman thanking those who attended despite the rainy weather. He highlighted the eternal lesson of the Menorah, which is that light always triumphs over darkness. "No matter how much darkness we may see around us, we must always remember that just a small candle dispels much darkness," Rabbi Avrohom said. "In times where darkness seems to have the upper hand, it is truly heartening to see the whole community come together in a ceremony that reminds us that light will always triumph over darkness," he added.

County Executive George Latimer shared words of support for the Jewish community, and was honored with lighting the 'Shamash', the first candle of the Menorah. White Plains Councilman Brasch made the blessings and lit the 10-foot Menorah.

Before the public Menorah lighting, the Westchester County Board of Legislators issued a statement expressing that BOL members "deplore the attack Saturday night at the home of Rabbi Chaim Rottenberg in Monsey and offered their strong support to



Rabbi Avrohom Butman (right) with White Plains Commissioner of Public Safety David Chong at Sunday's Menorah lighting in White Plains.

the victims, their families and Congregation Netzach Yisroel where the attack took place.

Board Chairman Ben Boykin said, "While we wait for all the facts to be investigated, we do not hesitate to categorically condemn all acts of violence, hatred and bigotry wherever and whenever they occur. But we need to do more than offer our condemnation after the fact. We must work proactively and with vigilance to protect one another and to combat the rising tide of violence and intolerance plaguing our nation and the world."

"We thank County Executive George Latimer for directing the County Police to offer additional protection to the County's synagogues and other Jewish facilities, and we will continue to work with the administration and the County's Human Rights Commission to face the scourge of bias, discrimination and related violence during this holy time of year and always," Boykin continued.

BOL Majority Leader Catherine Parker promised to look at strengthening Westchester's definition of hate crimes and hate incidents when the legislature reconvenes in 2020.

"The Board of Legislators is committed to seeing that our laws provide the highest level of protection to our residents. I have reached out to our Chair of Legislation to ensure that we will take up discussion to investigate strengthening our definitions of hate crimes and hate incidents as New York City has done, as soon as our new term

begins," Parker said.

On Sunday County Executive Latimer directed the Westchester County Police Patrol Units to conduct additional inspections of synagogues and any other Jewish facilities within the county's jurisdiction. "If any are occupied, we are having our officers stop in to reassure that we are here to protect them," Latimer said in a statement. "Westchester County stands with the people of Rockland County and condemns the horrific act of violence in Monsey."

Westchester County has been continuing Operation Safeguard Taskings, which have been ongoing for more than a week in conjunction with New York State Police. These Taskings consist of daily inspections and high-visibility patrols of places of mass gatherings, transportation facilities and retail centers. Westchester County Police also has a detective partaking in the response to the incident in Rockland County.

"This is a very holy time of the year, one where we must come together and protect and support our neighbors. We pray for the victims and pray that unity and tolerance prevails," Latimer said.

White Plains Council Ends Retired Employees Insurance Contribution

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The issue of the health insurance payment requirement was debated among the Council members last week. "We have two ordinances here before us tonight," Councilman John Kirkpatrick said. The first oridiance, which was introduced in

November, "was not equitable with regard to existing employees and other retirees," he said. Other employees were also required to pay 15 percent of their health insurance premiums in 2010 when the city was facing financial difficulties, which included the

elimination of 120 city positions, he said. Kirkpatrick said he was not on the Council when the decision was made to require city employees and retirees to pay 15 percent of their health insurance premiums and he did support the concept.

"I agree with the retired firefighters that this was not an equitable situation," Kirkpatrick said. In November, Kirkpatrick had said if the retired firefighters were no

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Presented by Jennifer FitzPatrick, MSW, LCSW-C, CSP

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White Plains Dems Endorse Jeremiah Frei-Pearson for State Assembly Seat

By Pat Casey

In a statement Dec. 26, Civil Rights Attorney and White Plains resident Jeremiah Frei-Pearson thanked the White Plains Democratic City Committee for its overwhelming endorsement of him in the race to replace David Buchwald as the NYS Assemblymember from the 93rd District.

"I am honored to have the support of White Plains Democratic City Committee as the campaign moves forward," said Jeremiah Frei-Pearson. "We're going to build on this victory as we continue to take our campaign's message across the entire District, from White Plains to North Salem. Together, we will build on David Buchwald's excellent legacy; we will stand up for everyone in our community - including immigrants, LGBTQ people, women, people of color, people with disabilities and everyone who is under assault from Trump; we will fight for our environment, for fair wages and good jobs for working people, for better healthcare, for affordable housing and education, and for



Jeremiah Frei-Pearson has been endorsed by the White Plains Democratic City Committee to run for the NYS Assembly 93rd District seat being vacated by David Buchwald as he runs for a seat in Congress

all the values and causes we believe in."

In an interview with The White Plains Examiner Frei-Pearson said he wants to step in and fill David's shoes and take on the voice of the entire community. "People are struggling in all communities in the 93rd District, he said. "Not only in the lower-income communities, but in the richer communities as well."

During his presentation to the White Plains Democrats, Frei-Pearson highlighted his experience as an attorney taking on powerful interests on behalf of people who are being treated unfairly as his top qualification for the job. Through his law practice, Frei-Pearson has represented thousands of children in foster care and used the courts to successfully reform broken government agencies on behalf of at-risk children. Today, he leads a law firm based in the 93rd District.

We fought the Trump administration when it started putting kids in cages at the Mexican border. We stood up to nursing home owners that put profits over people and left residents in unsafe environments, he said.

Currently, Frei-Pearson is the chair of the White Plains Sustainability Committee and is also a member of, and the past Chair of, the Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities. He is also an active volunteer with a number of civic and charitable organizations including Legal Services of the Hudson Valley and Habitat for Humanity.

Having grown up in Northern Westchester, Frei-Pearson is a graduate of John Jay High School. He returned to the county nine years ago when he moved to White Plains with his former wife. He also has close family ties in the White Plains community.

Frei-Pearson is likely to officially launch his campaign in early January 2020.

Of the nine communities in the 93rd District, White Plains has consistently provided by far the largest number of Democratic primary votes, making the endorsement crucial to the campaign.

Westchester Health Department to Receive State Vaccin

By Neal Rentz

The Westchester County Health Department will receive an incentive grant to recognize the county's partnership with healthcare providers and parents in protecting children from vaccine-preventable diseases.

"It is gratifying to me to see our staff acknowledged by the New York State Department of Health for their dedication to the important goal of increasing immunizations," County Commissioner of Health Dr. Sherlita Amler said. "We also owe our success to medical providers and parents who partner with us to protect newborns and all children from vaccine-preventable diseases."

The department will receive the maximum award of \$87,095 for exceeding expectations in reporting by its Immunization Action Program and Perinatal Hepatitis B

Prevention Program, according to the county.

According to the county through outreach, follow-up and office visits with pediatric practices, the Immunization Action Program works to increase childhood immunization rates and to assure that healthcare providers administer the recommended vaccines in a timely fashion and record them in a state immunization registry. In pursuit of the program's goals, a nurse visited more than 100 pediatric and family practitioners to

Vaccine Grant

share best practices during the year

The goal of the Perinatal Hepatitis B
Prevention Program is to prevent the
transmission of hepatitis B from an infected
mother to her child during childbirth.
Newborns infected with hepatitis B have
a 90 percent chance of developing lifelong
infection and there is no cure for the illness,
the county noted, adding completing the
hepatitis B vaccine series provides more than

a 95 percent chance of lifelong protection.



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White Plains Council Ends Retired Employees Insurance Contribution -

longer required to pay 15 percent of their premiums the other city retirees should receive the same treatment. But to do so would have meant "a significant impact on our budget and therefore our taxes," Kirkpatrick recalled saying.

Research from city departments has shown there is a way to end the requirement that retired firefighters no longer pay for part of their health insurance premiums without burdening the city financially, Kirkpatrick explained.

Councilwoman Milagros Lecuona said the issue had been before the Common Council for more than a year and she was



Retired White Plains firefighters and other residents in attendance at the Dec. 23 Common Council



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White Plains Common Council President John Martin at the special meeting on Dec. 23.

many months about how much it would cost to have no retired firefighters pay for part of their health insurance. But Kirkpatrick received the information in one month, she said. There is "a lack of transparency," she said. Had she had the information she would have supported ending the health insurance payments for all city employee retirees, Lecuona said.

Lecuona said retired firefighters facing financial hardship should not be required to pay past due health insurance payments.

Lecuona said she and Councilman Dennis Krolian had been working on legislation for months regarding the retired firefighters, but did not learn until a few days previous to the special meeting about the second piece of legislation that would eliminate the current premiums payment but would require the retirees to make past due premium payments. "There is no transparency and no teamwork whatsoever," she said. All retirees who will no longer be required to keep making health insurance payments should thank the retired firefighters who have worked on the issue for many months, she said.

The vote on the first resolution, which would have ended the health insurance payment requirement for the retired firefighters without requiring them to make past due payments was defeated 5-2 with only Lecuona and Krolian voting in favor of it.

The Council did vote unanimously on a second resolution that will end the practice of requiring retired city employees to pay a portion of their health insurance going forward, but will require retired firefighters to make past due payments for their health insurance. At the request of Council President John Martin, the period to make the repayments was extended to five years, which was a two year increase from the original legislation's deadline.

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Because the retirees are no longer represented by a union they have "no real power," Martin said. He thanked the retirees for their efforts and the work of the city's legal counsel John Callahan and city staff on the second piece of legislation. "This is the most fair and equitable solution that we could reach," Martin said. The legislation will not

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Police Blotter

Larchmont Man Arrested on Child Pornography

Trevor McKay, 40, of Larchmont is charged with possessing and promoting child pornography.

McKay was arrested Dec. 19 by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office Criminal Investigators and arraigned in New Rochelle City Court on charges of Promoting an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, a class D felony, and Possessing an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, a class E felony. He was released on his own recognizance.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) received incident information from Google about "Child Pornography" that had been sent through their server. Google informed NCMEC that a person using an email account had uploaded images of child pornography. The user of that email account was using a mobile telephone at the time of the upload.

The New York State Police, which staffs the NYS Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), reviewed the case and received a response from the telephone provider about the user of the mobile telephone.

The information was forwarded to the Westchester District Attorney's Office



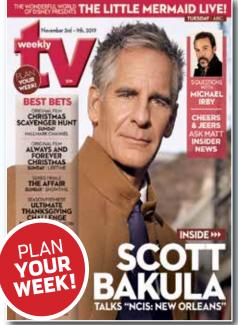
Cybercrime Bureau, which launched an investigation.

The DA's Investigators executed a search warrant at McKay's residence. The felony complaint alleges, at least one image of child sexual exploitation was found on his computers and mobile devices.

The defendant's next court appearance is set for Jan. 6, 2020.

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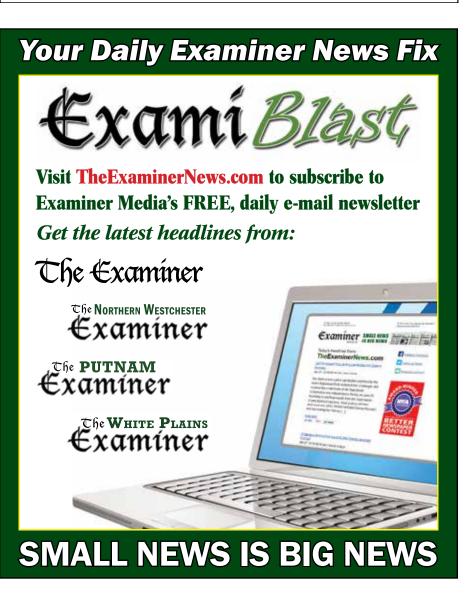
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SOLARIS SPORTS CLUBS, YORKTOWN

By Neal Rentz

With a late fall and early winter that has included its share of brutally cold and stormy weather, there is a new place to play soccer and other sports indoors in Yorktown.

Solaris Sports Clubs opened on Veterans Road three weeks ago by Irvington resident Mike Friedlander, who is the facility's general manger, as well as other partners in the joint ownership.

Friedlander, who was a teaching tennis professional for more than 30 years, is also general manager and one of the partners of Westchester Turf & Tennis in Hawthorne. Influenced by the success of Westchester Turf & Tennis, he decided to open another facility in Yorktown, Friedlander said last week.

Solaris Sports Clubs offers basketball courts, soccer fields, and space for pickleball, which Friedlander said is a popular participant sport.

Pickleball is played on a badminton-sized court with a slightly modified tennis net. Participants, whether as singles or doubles, use a paddle and a plastic ball with holes, according to the USA Pickleball Association Web site.

Pickleball is a "very big popular sport" that is a combination of tennis and ping pong, Friedlander said. "It's a lot of fun and it's very fast paced."

Other sports that will be played at Solaris include volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, flag football, baseball and softball



Irvington resident Mike Friedlander is general manager and one of the owners of Solaris Sports Clubs, which opened recently on Veterans Road in Yorktown.

on new indoor fields. The tennis courts have been replaced with two artificial turf fields, Friedlander said. There will be youth programs set up in soccer, lacrosse and basketball. There are already rentals by many soccer clubs for practices, said Friedlander, who has served as a youth soccer coach. He noted it is not safe to play sports such as soccer outside in the cold weather months.

Friedlander is seeking to encourage adults from the local area to use the facilities at night after their working day is over from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. "That's one of the things that we really want to stress because this is a place where people can come and socialize, not just play sports," he said.

Though changes have been made, the new business is also continuing the gym facilities from the former owners of the business, Friedlander said.

"Our gym membership is still active and flourishing," he said.

Solaris Sports Clubs is located at 201 Veterans Rd. in Yorktown. For more information, call 914-962-4094 or send an e-mail to Mike@Soaris-sports.net. The business also has a Facebook page.



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Local Computer Club Navigates Evolving PC Landscape

By Robert Marich

Years ago, local residents wanting product and basic user information for their personal computers would go to stores like the 17 Radio Shacks blanketing Westchester County and other now-defunct specialty retailers. If clerks didn't know or just made bland sales spiels, "after the salesperson moved away, another customer would walk up and volunteer advice," recalls longtime local computer aficionado Joe Bruno. "That's often how people learned about products and troubleshooting in that era."

expertise informally



Westchester PC Users Group president Pierre Darmon (left) and Deb Meisels speaking at an event of the computer club.

unbiased and knowledgeable persons locally is the mission of the Westchester PC Users Group, a 38-year-old local non-profit computer club. Reachable at wpcug.org, the club conducts about 15 workshops a month, which serve as sounding boards for practical knowledge regarding personal computers and mobile devices for both hardware and software. WPCUG's 170 members come from across Westchester, Putnam, Fairfield and Bronx Counties.

"If you belong to the club, you get free telephone support from our knowledgeable experts," says Deborah ("Deb") Meisels, vice present of WPCUG, who lives on City

> Island. "Most of our workshops start with a Q&A session. So if you have a technical problem, you can ask in the Q&A and get help" tapping the expertise of workshop leaders and members. Meisels, who is a retired proofreader for professional publishers and organizations, notes that some workshop leaders taught tech at the famed Bronx High School of Science and some others work as computer consultants.

WPCUG has been through it all. Decades ago, concerns of local computer users centered around waves of destructive computer viruses running amok ALLAN TURNBULL PHOTO and navigating the cumbersome PC operating systems of the era that frequently required

professionals to set up. Now plug-and-play simplicity has sparked a revolution of easyto-use devices; smart phones and tablets are part of the mix. With this progress, home computer users are now befuddled in different ways. It's a chore managing today's online world that stretches from financial transactions, such as bill paying, banking, and stock trading to navigating overflowing personal content of vast troves of photos and

Two well-attended WPCUG workshops on "Digital Legacy" illustrate the point that today's digital media is becoming the dominant recording medium in people's lives. The workshops were inspired by growing instances of disasters ensuing when persons are incapacitated or die with no one able to access online financial accounts, assets and communications. "Digital Legacy" advice included this checklist: appoint a digital executor (a person separate from the overall estate executor); create a unified password manager; and print out on paper passwords and financial records that are stored to be accessible to the digital executor.

Another hot topic is protecting personal information in digital media. "Our private lives and private data are constantly at risk," cautions WPCUG president Pierre Darmon, a White Plains resident. "People don't realize how much they are sharing.' The former career IBMer, who holds a Ph.D. degree, operates a computer support and education consulting business, Westchester PC/Mac Solutions.

Ioe Bruno, who is a retired computer consultant living in Sleepy Hollow, agrees data-security is a top-of-mind issue of club members, noting that users increasingly find vulnerabilities don't come from their computers. Instead, the hackers break into non-computer devices connected to personal wireless networks that the ordinary person doesn't think of as dangerous entry points.



WPCUG member Joe Bruno.

These include internet-connected video doorbells, baby/nanny monitors, home climate controllers, smart TVs and motors for everything from garage door openers to roof vent fans.

"If any malicious individuals or organizations break into your network, once they're in, they can see anything that is shared on your network," says Bruno. A solution is to connect such ancillary devices to their own, separate networks; that's achievable using multiple routers.

Many WPCUG members are older adults and retirees whose computer and tech experience goes back decades, literally before Microsoft introduced Windows and Apple MacIntosh. For example, while working at a Veterans Administration hospital in the 1980s, Bruno pioneered using personal computers – then something of a novelty - for therapy to rehab patients.

WPCUG workshops occasionally touch on nostalgia ("remember how difficult this used to be!"). But members are mostly focused on mastering today's digital media and also looking to what's on the horizon.

White Plains Council Ends Retired Employees Insurance Contribution -

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lead to a "budget hole." It is a solution to an almost decade long dispute which has been in and out of court.

Councilman Justin Brasch said retired firefighters were treated differently than other city employees. "We're trying to fix that injustice and do it for all," he said. "We have figured out how to do this in a fiscally responsible way."

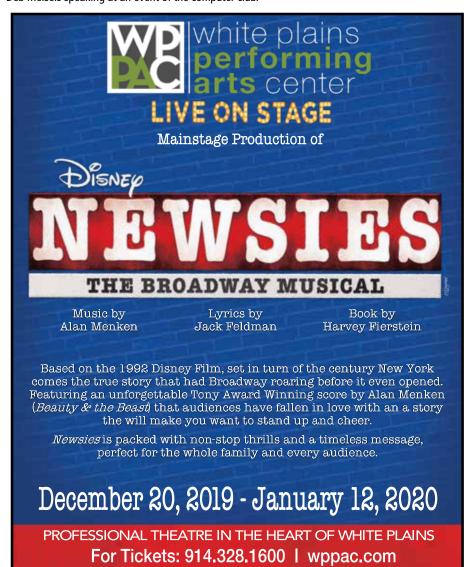
Councilwoman Nadine Hunt-Robinson said the city had tough decisions to make in 2010, with lawsuits from city employees about the requirement at the time to pay a portion of their health insurance. Hunt-Robinson said she wanted to make the change for all city employees. She met with Lobermann and other retired firefighters in the fall and she told them the change could not be implemented until the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, 2020 and budgetary offsets were needed to pay for the change, she said. "This is how government is supposed to work," she said.

"The situation with the law gives you a right to do something," Krolian said. But there are often ethical, moral and other issues. "Go above and beyond" the law, he said. The retired firefighters made good arguments about the inequity of having them pay a part of their health insurance in retirement, Krolian said.

Mayor Tom Roach said a court ruling supported the city's requirement in 2010 that its employees should pay a portion of their health insurance. "However, we're in a better fiscal situation today" Roach said. 'What we do for one, we do for all."

Roach said the original proposal from Krolian and Lecuona, which would have allowed the retired firefighters to not pay past due health insurance payments would not have been fair to the retirees who had made payments and would not have been reimbursed. Paying back those who had made payments would have been expensive for the city, Roach said.

In an interview following the Council's actions Lobermann said he was pleased with what the councilpersons did. "I'm glad it's come to a conclusion. I think it's as fair as it can be under the circumstances and I compliment the Council in recognizing a wrong that was done and correcting it," he said.



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Obituaries

Rose M. DiFabbio



Rose DiFabbio, 86, a lifetime resident of White Plains, passed away peacefully on Dec. 28.

She is predeceased by her husband (Benemino DiFabbio) and her son (Robert DiFabbio). She is survived by

her daughters, their families including their spouses, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her family thanks you for all of your prayers during this time.

Florence C. Brennor



Florence C.
Brennor died
peacefully on Dec.
26 at her White
Plains home with
her beloved family
by her side.

Florence was born Feb. 2, 1934 at Metropolitan Hospital in Manhattan to the late Mary Brennor.

She lived with her mother and younger sister Gloria Brennor in Harlem until they moved to Harrison. Later Florence moved to White Plains.

For over 55 years, Florence worked at GAL Manufacturing. She loved her job and all the members of her work family. They all fondly referred to her as "Flo."

She was a woman of great faith, attending mass weekly at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in White Plains and later at St. Anthony of Padua Church.

Florence had great love for fashion, the opera and especially her cats. Her greatest joy was spending time with her friends and family at her beloved summer home in Charlestown, RI.

Florence was devoted to her friends and family and is survived by her sister Gloria Brennor, her niece Chiara Lamorgese and her husband John and their children Patrick and Stephanie, and her nephew Christopher Bisceglia and his daughter Shea along with many other nieces, nephews and friends.

Janice Fay Hanges

Janice Fay Hanges, a White Plains resident, died Dec. 25 at the age of 59.

She was born June 21, 1960 in Brooklyn. Her parents were Henry and Sandra Harrison. After her husband Henry's passing, Sandra married Barton "Bob" Schaffer, who later adopted Janice and her sister Cheryl.

On Sept. 22, 1985 Janice married Stewart Hanges in Randolph Township, NJ.

Janice loved Community Theater, both acting and directing and received awards for both from the Theater Association of New York (TANYS).

She worked for Dream Vacations as a Travel Agent.

Besides her husband Stewart, of White Plains, Janice is survived by her sister Cheryl Schaffer of Medford, MA.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Janice's name to The American Cancer Society, or the Amateur or Community Theater of your choice.

John P. Walsh



John (Jack)
P. Walsh died
peacefully at home
on Dec. 24, his
87th birthday, after
a long illness. He
was surrounded by
his family.

He is predeceased by his parents, Dr. James F. Walsh and Genevieve (Powers) Walsh,

and five of his six siblings.

He is survived by his wife Joan B. Walsh and their children Douglas, Whitney and Matthew, also son Chris and his wife Ruth and their children Rachel and Aidan, his sister Mary Jane Hughes, and Cecil Meade.

Before finding his calling in his professional life, Jack had numerous early jobs he would mention from time to time: lifeguard, Clerk and Weights Expert for the US Postal Service, Company Clerk in the US Army during the Korean Conflict (think Radar O'Reilly – except in Germany – and with more panache, a better vocabulary and a gift for turning a phrase), and dump truck driver for the company that built I-95 in Connecticut.

Jack did find his professional niche as a copywriter, writing those letters that ask you to "do something." His colleagues and competitors (most of whom he called friend) labeled him "a very big fish in a very small pond." Among his many clients were American Heritage, Smithsonian, Time, Southern Living, Playboy, and even the IRS, but not Sun Myung Moon.

However, his true calling was sitting at the head of The Big Table at his home, often literally but sometimes figuratively, surrounded by his family and friends, all of whom held him in the highest esteem. Joan and Jack bought that house, their first and last and the one in which he died (which was his stated intention), in 1964. More people than anyone could count have come through the front door of that house in the intervening years. The early, young visitors are now in their 50s and 60s and some of their earliest memories are being welcomed into that home by Jack and Joan, and that has been true for many of their children as

Jack was an astute observer of life, a keen student of history and an eloquent speaker. Among his more memorable observations was, "Time spent as the last person on a line is wasted."

Jack, Joan and their children took numerous trips together over the years, and, in time, added their daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Memories of these times, the dinners, parties, and trips with Jack, will be cherished by all who were fortunate to have been a part of them.

Ellen Drago Wright

Ellen Drago Wright, 99, died peacefully Dec. 26 in Delray Beach, Florida.

Ellen was born in New York City in 1920, daughter of Mario and Luisa Fasana, and was raised in Rye and Harrison, attending Harrison High School.

During World War II, Ellen met her husband, Charles Richard Drago. They raised their family in White Plains. While Charles built houses, Ellen founded Drago Realtors, a pioneer woman-owned real estate business to initially sell the homes Charles had built. Ellen grew and expanded the business, which she ran for more than 30 years. Ellen was well known for helping her clients to buy their dream homes. This included providing mortgages herself directly to her clients-many who remained lifelong friends. Even after passing the business to her son, Ellen remained active in the real estate market well into her nineties. Following the death of Charles, Ellen married Thomas Sydney Wright whom she was married happily to until his passing. Ellen split her time between White Plains, Delray Beach, FL and Westerly, RI with her family. She also spent a lot of time with her friends at her beloved Westchester Country Club.

Ellen loved to travel to Cernobbio, Italy (on Lake Como), her family's hometown, to spend time with the multitudes of cousins. Ellen single-handedly reconnected and maintained relationships with literally hundreds of cousins.

Ellen is mourned by her children and their spouses: Stephen Drago, Riva and Jonathan Schmid. She leaves behind two grandchildren: Lindsey and Andrew Schmid.

She is survived by her sister Gloria.

She was predeceased by her husband Charles and her husband Thomas. She was also predeceased by her sisters Virginia, Alice and Mary.

The funeral mass will be held on Jan. 3 at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 920 Mamaroneck Ave, White Plains.

Dr. Howard Essner

Dr. Howard Essner, passed on Dec. 21, with his beloved wife Susan in his arms.

Predeceased by his first wife Marian and beloved sister Phyllis, a devoted father to Mitchell, stepfather of Gary, Missy, Jeffrey (Lisa), adored grandfather of Ariela, Dean, Jacob, Candace, Sarah, Jordan, Miranda, Eden, Riley and Daisy.

For 45 years, Dr. Essner "Howie" practiced Obstetrics and Gynecology in White Plains. He delivered 10,000 babies and treated the women who were his patients as if they were family.

Born to Jean and Herman Essner in Brooklyn, he graduated Syracuse University then Medical School in Geneva, Switzerland.

"Howie" was a Francophile who loved travel, wine, and learning about foreign lands and cultures. He truly was a renaissance man keenly interested in technology, politics, finance and The New York Giants. Countless friends and family will miss the steady judgment and advice he so generously offered everyone he met.

Neutralizing a Home for Sale is No Longer Automatic

It's been just over 17 years that I've been an active real estate agent. It's always easy for me to remember how long I've been involved in the buying and selling of houses and commercial properties because it was during my first office Christmas party that my grandson Richard was born, and he just celebrated his 17th birthday.

A lot has changed in the real estate industry during that time and a lot has changed in my own head about how I conduct my affairs within it. Sometimes, I reverse myself about real estate matters. For instance, for many years I advised my sellers, as I was taught in the real estate courses I took, to "neutralize" their homes for sale so that buyers can more easily project their own taste into what they see. Nothing was to be too overstated.

Maybe I received an early lesson in that philosophy, if somewhat outdated today. When I was about 15 years old, I decided that my bedroom needed to better express who I was. Against the wishes of my parents, I painted the walls a bright blood red. I loved the results, which made me feel encompassed simultaneously by warmth and excitement.

But when it came time to sell that house, my mother reported to me that one couple, upon entering that room, exclaimed "Wow!" My mother was convinced that the bold statement in my room turned off the prospective buyers. If my memory serves correctly, I believe my parents repainted that room a neutral beige.

During the many intervening years, I bought my own homes (two of them), both historic structures, one in Brooklyn Heights and the other in upper Westchester. In both cases, I wallpapered most of the rooms in highly personalized wallpaper and patterns, against realtors' advice at the time, I didn't bother to remove the wallpaper before I put the homes on the market. I don't think that decision deterred the sale of either home. Today, HGTV has

educated the prospective homebuyer to look beyond the personalized taste of the current homeowners and to project in their imagination their own tastes in any property



By Bill Primavera

they toured.

To me neutralize is equivalent to dull and I would never recommend it to my sellers. Why not present bold statements to the buyer that can present a more dynamic design for living? Over the past weekend, the real estate section of The New York Times coincidentally echoed the same sentiment.

That said, there are certain staging essentials that I would recommend. Chief among them is to declutter. Remove large pieces of furniture that tend to diminish the size of a room by placing them in storage and clear table surfaces of unnecessary items. If there are heavy draperies, remove them to lighten up the room. Arrange furniture in a way that looks most welcoming

when standing at the entrance to the room, as a prospective buyer would first see it. One caveat: remove photographs of family members. This tends to personalize the

house and shares with the prospective buyer information that should be private to the seller.

Remember to appeal to other senses, not only sight but smell. One thing that is difficult to discuss with seller clients is that sometimes there is a certain odor associated with a home that is unpleasant, whether associated with animals or spicy cooking. It is necessary to discreetly approach the subject and to suggest an air freshener.

While some advisers may suggest that a home for sale be neutralized to the point of eliminating all distinction and personality, I would strongly advise against it. Don't strive to make it too "stagey" as though it's ready for a photo shoot for a magazine feature. The family life you show may not be the same as the buyer's, but for lands' sake, show them that the house was a true home, both lived in and enjoyed!

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

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13. R.N.'s forte 14. Community chorus in

Carmel, Putnam

33. Electrocardiograph,

34. Music genre 35. Compass direction

of summer 39. Pipe joint **DOWN** 1. Turn red, perhaps 2. Good to go 3. Unleaded coffees 4. Possible stress result

37. Unit of electric current 38. Sign

5. Blah 6. It may be blowing in the wind 7 Ri11 8. Queen of scat 9. Anonymous litigant 15. Put on again 19. Words of dismay 22. Occupy

23. Roof hanger in cold weather

24. Snarl 26. Breathe out

27. Apply anew 28. Prefix meaning "bone"

29. Bit of physics

30. Founder of New York's Public Theater

32. It might make vou sweat

Solution on page 13

10

Thoughts on Pursuing New Lifestyle Paths in the New Year

You Heard It

Through the



become polarized in many aspects of our social, political and even viewpoints. dietary In the new year, I recommend, and have personally resolved, to seek a more centrist viewpoint and

conduct in my inward and outward lifestyle, all with the goal of seeking a more balanced perspective on life.

I encourage you to join me to experiment with changing select aspects of your personal life, whether you conduct yourself at either end of the social/political spectrum or closer to the center. It's always beneficial to hit the reset button on occasion.

A few recommendations:

- 1. Are you viewing and reading every news bulletin, e-mail, text and tweet as soon as they appear on your home screen banner? Experiment by spending one day a week with your smartphone at least 10 feet from your reach. Maybe begin with one hour a day.
- 2. Have you experimented with a Meatless Monday? Try a Meatless week. Over the past two years I've witnessed an undercurrent of dietary change in our country. The western diet of the baby boomer generation (high levels of fat, sugar, processed foods) has slowly been rejected

Generation Z population are shifting their diets to more plant protein based, grounded in natural foods. Anecdotal evidence of this is the growing number of restaurant menus and food markets featuring prominently

identified vegetarian and/or vegan dishes or shelf items.

3. Enjoying a glass of wine with meals most evenings? Try consistently abstaining from any alcohol for several days or a week. Or join the growing ranks of consumers experimenting with the concept of a Dry January (and/or March or any months

you select). Wine in moderation has always been my hallmark. For me, abstention for any prolonged period diminishes the joy and enhancement that a glass of wine brings to a meal. But I've noticed the growing trend of Dry January across multiple generations

This phenomenon began in Great Britain nearly 10 years ago and has gained popularity in the United States over the last two years. Health conscious adults are abstaining from alcohol during this month in an effort to curb their alcohol consumption and seek a healthier diet.

Anecdotal results I've gleaned are all positive. In Britain, the University of Sussex has been tracking the results of those who

by younger generations. The Millennial and practice Dry January. During and after the month-long abstention, they report a "host of health benefits, like improved sleep, more energy and weight loss." How to measure the effect of short-term abstention? Do you have more energy, feel more productive

and healthier? Do you feel inclined to continue to follow this regime again?

How to cope with the temptation of alcohol during the month? I recommend multiple glasses of sparkling water, in place of sparkling wine, in a stemmed wine glass. And be sure to not engage in an excessively

Wet February.

I believe that alcoholic consumption (of any type) is intrinsically dangerous and unhealthy. I also espouse the volumes of medical evidence that, drunk in moderation, wine has long-term health benefits that seem to outweigh the obvious risks.

I endorse the USDA guidelines that moderate consumption is acceptable. Men should consume no more than two glasses per day; women one glass. But is the USDA's acceptable consumption definition valid for your physiological make-up? Try the Dry January experiment and measure the effects.

The bottom line for me has always been three principles: moderation in consumption, drinking responsibly and consulting your medical professional before consuming alcohol. Somewhere in those maxims lies a reasonable approach.

But now I find myself getting caught up in the growing appeal of temporary abstention. As I'm at my desk penning this week's column, I've convinced myself it is appropriate that I too join the ranks of teetotalers for the month of January. And perhaps even cut back on my animal protein and my social media consumption.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 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.





Happenin8s

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

Tuesday, Dec. 31

Public New Year's Eve Celebration. Ring in 2020 in downtown White Plains at the New Year's Eve Spectacular; 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Gated access only at Main St. at Church St., Renaissance Sq. at Williams St., Martine Ave. at Mamaroneck Ave., and Court St. at Martine Ave. (ADA access).

Westchester's Winter Wonderland. A one-of-a-kind holiday experience featuring Santa's Village, amusement rides, unlimited skating on an outdoor ice rink (skates included), the Winter Wonderland Holiday Circus, food and beverage options and a dazzling light show. Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. 5 to 10 p.m. \$20. Children (under 3): Free. Also Jan. 1, 2 and 3 from 5 to 10 p.m. and Jan. 4 from 4 to 10 p.m. Info and tickets: Visit www. wwinterwonderland.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 1

Happy New Year!

Howl in the New Year With Winter Wolves for Kids. This is the best introduction to wolves for families with young children. Youngsters will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves; they're out searching for prey as their growing pups experience their first winter season. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and potentially the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Also, enjoy hot beverages in the woodstove-heated classroom. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Thursday, Jan. 2

School's Out/Art's In: Abstract Nature Scrolls. Combine natural materials with fun watercolor techniques to create colorful expressive paintings inspired by the scroll

paintings of Rotem Reshef. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Members: Free. Non-member children and adults: \$10 each. No registration necessary. Info: Visit www.katonahmuseum.org.

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. STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sign up will start at 4 p.m. White Plains Library.

Tech Thursday. 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 game design. Participants will learn how to create interactive 3D experiences and test them out. 4 to 5 p.m. at the Edge Media Lab in White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Stories & Stuff. During Stories & Stuff, stories are centered around a theme and children listen and discuss the topic. The children create a craft project that ties in with the theme. Caregivers are invited to assist children during the craft portion of the storytime. 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. in the Trove, White Plains Library.

Friday, Jan. 3

Comic Book Club. Discuss new titles and learn drawing and sketching techniques from a local artist. Pizza will be served. 2 to 3 p.m. Edge Media Lab, White Plains Library.

Nutrition Workshop. We all want to make healthy choices for our families and ourselves. Yet, being healthy is easier said than done. That's where Just Say Yes (JSY) can help. JSY provides nutrition education for New Yorkers. Join Feeding Westchester's nutritionist Alyssa Advincula for this free workshop with cooking demonstration. 2 to 3 p.m. Community Room, White Plains Library.

"Newsies." Based on the 1992 movie and inspired by the true story of the 1899 Newsboys Strike, this is a joyful and entertaining musical capturing the strength that young people have when they join together and stand up against injustice. With a funny, poignant book by Harvey Fierstein and stunning music by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman, "Newsies" is a classic with the power to inspire. White Plains Performing Arts Center, 11 City Place, White Plains. 7 p.m. \$37 to \$59. Also Jan. 4, 10 and 11 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 4, 5, 8 and 12 and 2 p.m. Info and tickets: 914-328-1600 or visit www. wppac.com.

Westchester Photographic Society: Photo Competition. Members compete in digital competitions. All prints and digital black and white. Critiqued by a professional judge. 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.

Saturday, Jan. 4

Three Kings Day. A bilingual story about the traditional celebration of Three Kings Day, or Día de Reyes. Listen to a story and decorate your own crown. 3 to 4 p.m., Galaxy Hall, White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Winter Wolves. Winter offers families a unique opportunity to visit the wolves during their favorite time of year. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why this season is such a magical time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as their maturing pups experience their first winter season. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and potentially the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Enjoy hot beverages in the woodstove-heated classroom. Dress for cold weather. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m.

Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Also Jan. 5, 12, 19 at 2 p.m., Jan. 18 and 26 at 1 p.m. and Jan. 20 and 25 at 11 a.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Adult Salsa Class. Addie-Tude Performing Arts Center, 42 Memorial Plaza (lower level), Pleasantville. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. \$12. Every Saturday. Info: 917-215-1720 or visit www.addie-tude.com. Call or visit website because classes are subject to change.

Sunday, Jan. 5

Colin Mochrie (Of Whose Line is it Anyway?) Presents HYPROV: Improv Under Hypnosis. From the brilliant minds of improv and comedy legend Colin Mochrie and master hypnotist Asad Mecci comes a brand new, mind-blowing, jaw-dropping, side-splitting show. Hypnosis and improve - two arts forms that have mystified and entertained fans, sceptics and everything in between for decades worldwide - come together as two masters of their crafts unite for a totally unique comedy experience. Twenty random volunteers from the audience will be put under hypnosis (the process of which is a show in its own right), their inhibitions evaporated and their minds no longer their own. The four or five best are left on stage when one of the worlds' leading improvisers enters. Mochrie will initiate and manipulate those under hypnosis himself and turn the show into an improv extravaganza. In the hands of two masters and solely crafted from the audience's uninhibited subconscious, this will be an entirely original and completely unforgettable show, for who knows where the unconscious mind will go. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 7 p.m. \$35, \$43 and \$48. Info and tickets: Visit www. tarrytownmusichall.org.

A Dog's Way Home. Movie. (PG, 2019, 137min). A lost dog goes on an epic 400 mile journey to be reunited with her owner. Along the way she meets a host of new friends, both human and otherwise. 2 to 4:30 p.m. Galaxy Hall, White Plains Library.

Westchester Wedding & Bridal Expo January 4

On Saturday, Jan. 4, the 20th Annual Westchester County Wedding & Bridal Expo returns to the Westchester County Center in White Plains. The atmosphere will sparkle with glamorous wedding gowns, elegant formal wear, door prizes, entertainment, wedding photographers, videographers, limousine services, floral designs and bridal bouquets, food samples from the finest caterers and reception halls in Hudson Valley. Come and see the latest dances performed live and listen to wedding DJ's, bands and classical music.

It's one -top shopping and planning at a bridal convention with many of the best local and regional wedding vendors and professionals.

Register to win prizes:

- Association of Wedding Professionals \$3500 Grand prize
- Calabash \$3500 vacation Grand Prize
- D'Errico Jewelers \$1200 necklace
- Men's Wearhouse tuxedo package, Valued at \$1000
- Virginia's Bridal a \$400 gift certificate
- Events by SB (2) gift certificates \$300 each
- Kleinfeld Bridal Gift certificates \$250 each
 - VW Bus \$200 gift certificate
 - Williams Sonoma \$129



picture frame

- Distinctive Visions \$100 gift certificate
- Digital Weddings FREE photo for the Brides that attend

The Westchester Wedding & Bridal Show is produced by Jenks Productions. Expo Hours: Saturday 11a.m. to 4 p.m. Wedding Expo Tickets: \$8Adult – purchase online or available at the door. For more show information, floor plans, vendor lists and the latest information on show events and entertainment visit https://www.jenksproductions.com/event/westchester-bridal-expo/.

Register for the bridal show grand prize and get \$2 off your total ticket purchase.

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Cheryl Brannan Inducted into Westchester Women's Hall of Fame

Cheryl Brannan, founder of Sister to Sister International (STSI) and the Yonkers chapter of the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus and a STEM advocate, was inducted into the Westchester Women's Hall of Fame. The honor was bestowed on Brannan by the YWCA of White Plains & Central Westchester, which celebrated the gala event at the Woman's Club of White Plains recently.

At the induction ceremonies, Brannan was recognized for her trailblazing leadership in civic, political, corporate and international arenas over the past 30 years.

"Cheryl Brannan clearly embodies the criteria of the Westchester Women's Hall of Fame," says Maria Imperial." She has spent her life giving back and creating opportunities for women and girls, especially Black women and girls, in Westchester County. She is a fierce, bold woman warrior."

Brannan has led Sister to Sister International for 25 years, linking women of African descent globally to resources that strengthen and advance them through advocacy, education and promotion of African culture. Particular emphasis is placed on healthy lifestyles and a STEM camp for Black and girls of color she created 10 years ago. The camp has since evolved into a year-round STEM Academy, creating a pipeline to Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, (STEM/STEAM) careers where Black and girls of color, are significantly

continued from previous page



Cheryl Brannan, left above, with Maria Imperial, CEO of the YWCA of White Plains & Central Westchester.

under-represented.

Brannan has been a strong advocate for healthcare reform in the US and has supported local and national elected officials on this critical issue. A pivotal research study she spearheaded recently entitled "A

Snapshot Report: State of Black Women and Girls in Westchester County" documented major health disparities between Black women and girls and their Caucasian counterparts.

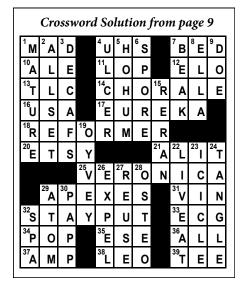
She also formerly consulted with Westchester County Executive Andy Spano's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Health Disparities in the Black community and was a member of the Westchester Medical Center Task Force on Community Health, the Westchester County African American Advisory Board and the first person of African descent to serve on the Yonkers Planning Board, among other positions of service, over the years.

Brannan is past county-wide president of the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus, which has been instrumental in supporting candidates for key positions within the county. In 2016, she also served as the chair of the Hillary Clinton for President, Westchester Women of Color Committee.

Brannan is a life-long resident of the city of Yonkers and has traveled extensively throughout Africa, Europe, Asia and the Caribbean. She led Sister to Sister International's efforts to hold Special Consultative Status with the United Nations and is a former delegate to UN Conferences in Nairobi, Kenya and Beijing, China.

She is an NGO delegate to the UN Department of the Economic and Social Council and has worked on various conferences with the Department of Public Information, Division for the Advancement of Women, the World Health Organization and spearheaded events during the Commission on the Status of Women sessions, exposing hundreds of Westchester County women and girls to the UN and global issues affecting women and families, for over 15 years.

She is CEO of Brannan Solutions Group, a multifaceted consulting firm specializing in issues related to STEM for Black and girls of color, equity and inclusion, health and wellness, management practices, women and children, and social responsibility.



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Examiner Sports

Early Lead Evaporates in White Plains' Loss to Rye

By Rob DiAntonio

Everything was clicking early on, but a young White Plains girl's basketball team couldn't sustain it for four quarters in a 52-40 loss to visiting Rye last Saturday morning.

The Tigers jumped out to a 20-12 lead after one quarter, but were outscored 19-2 in the second quarter to head into halftime trailing 31-22. After the 20-point first quarter outburst, White Plains scored just 20 points over the final three quarters.

"We're still working on maturity because sometimes I start two eighth-graders and a ninth-grader," White Plains coach Benji Carter said. "What we're doing is working on the mindset of how to control the basketball game. They get a little loose at times."

White Plains regained life in the third

Julia Reggio goes up for a contested layup.

quarter. Adriana Moreno scored on a layup and Ineivi Plata finished at the rim to make it a six-point game. Plata then went 1 of 2 from the line. But Rye responded with a 3-pointer to push the lead back to eight points.

A Julia Reggio pull-up jumper and two free throws from Plata trimmed Rye's lead to 39-36 with 12 seconds left in the third quarter. But Amanda Latkany scored with two seconds left to send the Garnets into the fourth quarter leading 41-36.

The Tigers were unable to keep the comeback going, scoring only four points in the final frame as a long and athletic Rye squad pulled away.

"I've got girls overcommitting off the dribble when they should draw in and kick out," Carter said. "They have to make the



India Newman spots up for a three.



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTOS

Julia Reggio drives to the basket.

game real simple and easy. Until we get better with that, length shouldn't bother us. We just have to get smarter when we get inside the paint: 'Do I take the shot or do I make the pass?' I think they're kind of working on that as well."

White Plains battled through foul trouble with Reggio picking up her third foul with 3:36 left in the second quarter. Reggio, the team's star senior who recently scored her 1,000th career point, was held to just four points. Aliya McIver, a freshman point guard, picked up her fourth foul just over two minutes into the third quarter to add to the Tigers' foul woes.

"It always does," Carter said when asked if the foul trouble affected how aggressive they could be in the second half. "Our bench is really young and we have three girls that are out (with injuries) that can really help. So them picking up silly fouls early on with being overaggressive and extending their defense into the front court, really kills us. Those are our two top players."

Plata, an eighth-grader, and Moreno paced White Plains with 14 points each. The duo scored nine points apiece to help spark the first-quarter run. Plata also had four steals

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Adriana Moreno goes up for two.



India Newman goes in for two.



Elma MrKulik battles for a rebound with Rye's Amanda Latkany.



Aliya McIver looks to get around two Rye defenders.

and four rebounds while Moreno swiped three steals.

McIver and India Newman, another eighth-grader, added four points each. McIver tallied six rebounds, four assists and three steals. Reggio had six rebounds to go with three assists and three steals.

Teaghan Flaherty led 7-1 Rye with a game-



White Plains coach Ben Carter disagrees with a call.

high 21 points. Latkany added 15 points.

White Plains, which dropped to 6-4, will look to get back on track when the Tigers welcome Roy C. Ketcham for a 6:15 p.m. contest on Friday, Jan. 3.

"When teams apply pressure, we have to show our patience a little more," Carter said. "I think sometimes we lose patience. If we can maintain our patience and keep learning how to keep our pressure on, I think that will continue to help us out. We tend to break down when teams go on a run. They're not used to adversity and that's something they've got to get better with."

Stepinac High School Crusader Hardwood Club Inducts Six into Hall of Fame



At Stepinac High School's recent annual Crusader Hardwood Club Dinner, six new members were inducted into the Hall of Fame in recognition of their outstanding contributions as members of the school's varsity basketball team. The new inductees are (I-r): Kevin Hyland (Class of '02) of New York City, formerly White Plains; Billy Palagonia (Class of '90) of Chicago, formerly New Rochelle; Ed Dealy (Class of '06) of Naples, Florida, formerly White Plains; Larry Blucher (Class of '81) of Greenwich, formerly Yonkers. Brian Croughan accepting on behalf of his late brother Jimmy Croughan (Class of '78) of Tuckahoe. Not shown is Michael Hyland (Class of '96) of Stamford, formerly White Plains.



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTO

White Plains' Aliya McIver attacks the basket early in a home game with Rye last Saturday morning. Everything was clicking early on, but a young White Plains girl's basketball team couldn't sustain it for four quarters in a 52-40 loss. McIver tallied six rebounds, four assists and three steals during the game.