



## White Plains Celebrates St. Patrick's Day With Annual Parade



It seemed everyone was Irish last Saturday in White Plains as the popular 21st annual St. Patrick's Day parade was held. Residents lined the parade route, starting from the intersection of Mamaroneck Avenue and Old Mamaroneck Road and along Main Street before the parade ended near City Hall.

See pages 4 and 5 for more photos

## White Plains Residents Criticize Proposed Westchester Ave. Complex

By Neal Rentz

Several neighboring residents sharply criticized a proposed 303-unit apartment complex at 1133 Westchester Ave. during a White Plains Common Council hearing last week.

The joint venture of the NRP Group and the RPW Group plans to create the housing in the same complex that already has a variety of other businesses and a day care center. Developers for the 70-acre property, located in a Planned Campus Development District, are seeking a zoning map amendment and site plan approval.

The 303 rental apartments would be created in three new five-story buildings with a mixture of one-, two- and three-bedroom units. Ten percent of the units would be affordable housing and solar panels would be installed on the buildings' roofs.

The three buildings would be constructed on about 20 acres. The development would include fitness rooms and a swimming pool. There would be 12,000 square feet of public recreational space, which would be linked to an existing walking path. Landscaping would provide a visual separation between the buildings and the commercial space.

"(This would be) one of the first live-work initiatives in Westchester and pretty much the region," said attorney Michael Zarin, representing the applicant.

However, a few residents in close proximity to the property said their quality of life would deteriorate if the project is built.

Carol Desoe, president of the Ridgeway at White Plains Homeowners Association, said until two weeks ago

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## Windward School Seeks to Move Students to March of Dimes HQ

By Neal Rentz

The Windward School is looking to move several of its grades to the building that currently houses the national headquarters of the March of Dimes at 1275 Mamaroneck Ave. in White Plains.

The private school serving special needs youngsters needs site plan and special permit approvals from the city to make the switch.

Mark Weingarten, an attorney representing the Windward School, told the Common Council during last week's public hearing the school hopes to relocate students in grades 1-5, most of whom are at 13 Windward Ave. The March of Dimes will be vacating the Mamaroneck Avenue premises in July.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Attorney Mark Weingarten last week discussed the Windward School's proposal to move some of its students to the March of Dimes national headquarters before the White Plains Common Council.

"Windward enjoys a national reputation for excellence. It is indeed a very special place," Weingarten said. "It educates children in grades 1-9 who have language-based learning disabilities and dyslexia."

Weingarten said the school's other campus is at 40 W. Red Oak Lane in West Harrison. The lower school on Windward Avenue houses grades 1-4, he said. Grades 5-9 are currently located at the West Harrison location.

Weingarten said the school is proposing to group the fifth grade with grades 1-4 and relocate operations to the March of Dimes building. The move would provide additional space at the West Red Oak Lane facility for grades 6-9, he said.

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## White Plains Residents Criticize Proposed Westchester Ave. Complex

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she and her neighbors were unaware of the proposal. She said the development's proposed traffic circle would be only 320 feet from the nearest home in Ridgeway. With leaves off the trees in winter, it would have a severe impact.

"We are directly impacted," Desoe said. "We have been in clear view of the parking lot."

Furthermore, the local firehouse only opens when school is in session, she said. If the project is built, the firehouse at the corner of North Street and Ridgeway must be open at all times, Desoe said.

She argued that an additional 31 school children generated by the project could put a strain on the White Plains School District, likely forcing the hiring of additional teachers.

The outdoor swimming pool proposed for the complex would also increase noise levels in the neighborhood and should be moved, she said.

Desoe and Fairways housing complex



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Carol Desoe and other neighboring residents criticized a proposal for a 303-unit apartment complex at 1133 Westchester Ave. at the Mar. 4 White Plains Common Council meeting.

resident Ron Bailey said security would be a concern. Bailey said his property shares a pond with 1133 Westchester Ave. and trespassers use drugs and engage in "other illegal activity." They also skate on the pond in winter.

"We are concerned about the number of units," Bailey said. He added that about 170 of the units would be one-bedroom apartments, which would increase traffic in the area.

Resident Tom Broderick, who spoke on

behalf of the Gedney Association, which opposes the project, said if the overlay zone being sought by the developers was approved it could spawn construction of more than one million square feet of multifamily housing in the city.

The one resident who supported the project last week, Mark Ludlow, said the project could benefit the city because people who would live in the new apartments could also work at the site, which would limit traffic.

Zarin said the project would be in line with the intent of White Plains' Comprehensive Plan and Planned Campus Development District.

"The neighbors on that western edge are really concerned," Councilman Justin Brasch said.

Brasch said their trees, roads and quality of life should not be harmed if the project is approved.

The Common Council adjourned the public hearing until its Apr. 1 meeting.

## Windward School Seeks to Move Students to March of Dimes HQ

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"Windward is a victim of its own success," Weingarten said. "It is maxed out at both campuses leaving too many children unable to take advantage of the very special services that are offered by the school."

According to the proposal, enrollment

in grades 1-5 would be 350 students. There would also be 110 faculty members at the Mamaroneck Avenue location. The current March of Dimes building is a three-story, 113,000-square-foot building, Weingarten noted.

Andrew Tung, a partner with Divney

Tung Schwalbe, LLP, told the Common Council that the March of Dimes building "would lend itself well" to the school's classroom and office needs. The school also hopes to build a gym at the southeast corner of the building and a multipurpose playing field. The field would be located to

the south of the proposed gym, Tung said.

The nearest bus stop is at the bottom of the stairway connected to the building and no students currently use the Bee-Line bus system to commute, he said. The Windward School does not anticipate any

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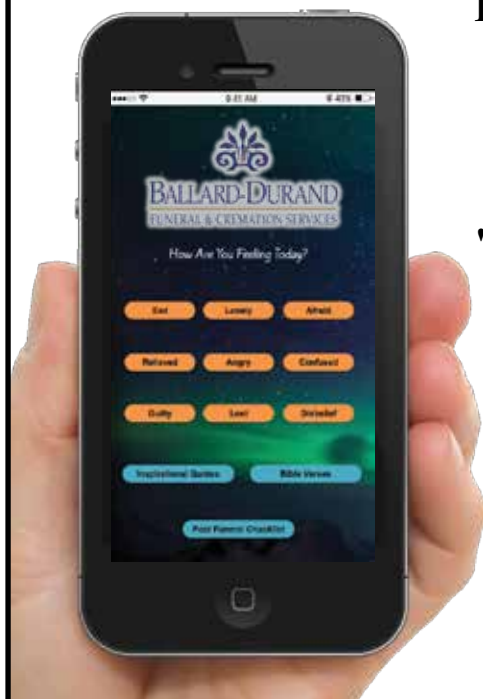
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# White Plains Common Council to Seek Additional Affordable Housing

By Neal Rentz

Members of the White Plains Common Council said last week they were supporting a series of proposed measures to increase affordable housing by expanding the city's Affordable Rental Housing program.

Since 2003, the city has required new multifamily developments to provide a 10 percent set-aside of affordable units reserved for those at 80 percent of the Westchester County Area Median Income (AMI) range. Under current law, a developer could seek Common Council approval to provide 6 percent affordable units at the lower 60 percent AMI range.

AMI is determined annually by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to determine eligibility for its housing programs.

Commissioner of Planning Christopher Gomez, who proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance, is asking that all housing developments of 10 or more units be subject to affordable housing requirements. The current policy bases the requirements on the zoning district where new housing would be developed.

The plan would also increase the percentage of affordable housing for developments with 10 or more units from 10 percent to 12 percent for households making 80 percent of the AMI and from 6 percent to 8 percent for households earning 50 to 60 percent of the AMI. The percentage does not include density bonuses, which if approved by the city, would require an even greater percentage of affordable housing to be provided by the developer.

Another proposal calls for the creation of an option for developers to provide fewer affordable units if they agreed to make a payment to the city's affordable housing fund. The fund is used to encourage more affordable housing in other ways, such as providing down payment assistance to help residents purchase a home or to subsidize the cost of land for developers seeking to create affordable housing.

Last Monday, Common Council members agreed an increase in affordable housing is needed.

"This is a very ambitious package," Councilwoman Milagros Lecuona said.

Lecuona called the lack of affordable housing "a crisis in White Plains," even with the efforts already made by the city. More affordable units would be developed if the legislation was approved, she said.

Councilwoman Nadine Hunt-Robinson also backed the plan, particularly the 60 percent AMI provision, which she had advocated in the past.

"This new law protects working class people who are at \$41,000 a year," she said. "It would increase the amount of



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

White Plains Councilwoman Nadine Hunt-Robinson supported legislation seeking to increase affordable housing in the city at the Mar. 4 Common Council meeting.

housing that is set aside for those individuals."

A positive aspect of the legislation is the provision to provide additional affordable housing through a buy-out provision, Hunt-Robinson said. The additional funds could create "sweat equity" programs to allow people to purchase homes, she said.

Additional affordable

housing would allow more people who work in White Plains to live in the city, Hunt-Robinson said.

"A diverse residential body makes for a diverse city which makes for a rich city and that's what also draws the companies," she said. "We can't sit on our laurels because the gap is widening particularly with the luxury housing."

"This is something that I've been wanting to move on for quite some time and I know the council shares that view," Mayor Tom Roach said. "We believe that this legislation will help us get to the next level."

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# WHITE PLAINS CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH ANNUAL PARADE



NEAL RENTZ PHOTOS





# WHITE PLAINS CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK'S DAY WITH ANNUAL PARADE



*Everyone was Irish for the day on March 9 in White Plains as the popular 21st annual St. Patrick's Day parade was held.*

*People of all ages lined the parade route from the intersection of Mamaroneck Avenue and Old Mamaroneck Road to Main Street, ending up in the area of City Hall.*





# White Plains Woman Among Seven Charged in Lottery Scheme

By Neal Rentz

A White Plains woman and six others were charged last week in an alleged lottery scheme in federal court in White Plains.

The charges were announced Mar. 7 by Geoffrey Berman, the United States attorney for the Southern District of New York, and William F. Sweeney Jr., the FBI's assistant director in charge of the New York field office.

Tiffany Randolph, 30, of White Plains was one of the seven individuals who allegedly engaged in the scheme that would defraud elderly victims by telling them they won the Publishers Clearing House Sweepstakes but needed to prepay

their taxes to obtain their winnings, according to the U.S. attorney's offices and the FBI. Linkoy Bennett, 22; Renneil Williams, 32; Dwayne Boreland, 37; and Oshane Royce, 23, all of the Bronx, were all charged with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud.

Fabian Robinson, 33, and Harriann Mitchell, 38, also of the Bronx, were charged with conspiracy to launder the proceeds of the scheme as were Randolph, Bennett, Williams and Boreland.

The alleged illegal activity took place from July 2017 through September 2018.

The suspects were presented before U.S. Magistrate Judge Paul Davison last Thursday. They face up to 20 years in

federal prison.

"These seven defendants allegedly engaged in the scheme to contact elderly victims under the guise of winning a sweepstakes, imploring them to prepay taxes on their 'winnings' before they could collect. In reality, this was a coldhearted scheme to bilk over \$1 million from over 30 victims," Berman said.

Unnamed co-conspirators called elderly victims throughout the United States and falsely told them they won the Publishers Clearing House Sweepstakes, but needed to prepay taxes and fees to receive their winnings, law enforcement authorities said.

Victims sent cash, postal money

orders, wire transfers and personal and cashier's checks to the defendants at various addresses throughout the Southern District of New York territory. The defendants collected the proceeds and remitted them to an unnamed co-conspirator.

Sweeney said many seniors find themselves in difficult financial straits, which creates concerns about money. That is one of the reasons they're targeted and can easily be victimized, he said.

"If you believe you are a victim of fraud, or know a senior who may be, regardless of financial loss, immediately report the incident to your local FBI field office or law enforcement agency," Sweeney said.

## Social Justice Forum to Explore Key Issues March 24 in Purchase

Gun violence, the #MeToo movement, immigration, criminal justice reform and environmental justice are just a few of the timely topics community members will engage in at what is expected to be the largest social justice gathering in the county.

Dozens of organizations will participate in the Westchester Social Justice Forum on Sunday, Mar. 24 in the Music Building at SUNY Purchase College, located at 735 Anderson Hill Rd. in Purchase.

The event will open with a keynote presentation by Juan Gonzalez, co-

host of "Democracy Now!" followed by performances by The Peace Poets and multimedia storyteller Amani Olugbala of Soul Fire Farm.

Following the plenary, participants will break out into workshops delving deeper into the most pressing issues of the time, including fracking and nuclear energy; gun violence; responding to hate speech; racism; injustice in the food system; criminal justice reform; the power dynamics of racism; gender-based violence; immigration; and a just resolution to the Palestine/Israel conflict.

Participants also have the opportunity to learn about the healing properties of medicinal plants and tree therapy.

Community organizations will gather to exchange ideas and information, foster solidarity and celebrate their work to create a more just and equal society. Participants will harness their collective power to organize a movement for change. The social justice forum will provide the space to learn from one another, strengthen local organizing skills and connect as a community.

The event is free and all are

welcome. Advance registration is requested.

For more information and registration, visit [www.westchestersocialforum.org](http://www.westchestersocialforum.org).

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# WESTCHESTER ROAD RUNNER, WHITE PLAINS

By Neal Rentz

Andrew Kimerling has spent decades pounding the pavement running, so he knows something about how to be properly outfitted when going for his exercise.

Westchester Road Runner is the name of the store he and his former coach, Mike Barnow, opened in White Plains in May 1980. It is stocked with a variety of items for runners, including an impressive collection of running shoes.

"We're actually a specialty running store," said Kimerling, a Bronx resident. "So 90 percent of our shoes, clothing and accessories are for runners."

The store also sells swimwear and triathlete wear for men and women, he said.

Kimerling, who has been running for about a half-century, said his business is different from chain sporting goods stores. Each of his employees is a runner and they know the products well.

"If you walk into a mall athletic store you are basically going to buy a shoe by color, which happens a lot," Kimerling said. "But we try to fit a proper shoe to the person. We watch them walk. We take note of any injuries they may have, any physical ailments. Sometimes a doctor

will send them in with a prescription. We will spend as much time with them as they need."

It's not uncommon for a member of his staff to spend 45 minutes to an hour with one customer to get the right shoe on their feet, Kimerling said. That's particularly true if the person has a specific foot problem, which requires a certain shoe.

Despite the emphasis on runners, Kimerling has a much wider customer base. He estimated that half of his customers are people who walk and want to be comfortable, he said.

Kimerling, who had been an accountant, originally partnered with Barnow, who came up with the idea to launch the store nearly 40 years ago. The business was originally located at 209 E. Post Rd. before moving to its current location at 179 E. Post Rd. in 1988.

Barnow, who lives upstate and is a well-known coach in the New York metropolitan area and around the county, no longer has a stake in the store but is still the coach of the Westchester Road Runners Club, which Kimerling belongs to. The store is "the unofficial center for the running club," Kimerling said.

It also helps that Kimerling is as enthusiastic about running as anyone who



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Westchester Road Runner has been a fixture in White Plains for the casual and serious runner for nearly 40 years.

enters Westchester Road Runner. He said that it "is the best way I know to relieve tension."

"Whatever I've done during the day that might be grating on me, if I go out for a run (of) about a half a mile to a mile, everything begins to ease out," he said.

For more information about Westchester Road Runner, call 914-682-0637 or e-mail WestchesterRR@aol.com.

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## Obituaries

### Michael F. Kane

Michael F. Kane, a White Plains resident, passed away Mar. 5. He was 70.

Michael was born Mar. 12, 1948 to Charles and Elizabeth Gilmore Kane in the Bronx where he was raised and educated.

Michael graduated from Cardinal Spellman High School and Fordham University. He was employed as an Economist by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for 30 years.

Michael is survived by his sons Brian and Matthew, siblings Ann and John, many nieces and nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Michael is predeceased by his siblings Charles and Maureen and his former wife Elizabeth.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to TCCHCC- Huntington Unit in NYC.

### Cesidio Ciotola

Cesidio Ciotola, 86, of White Plains, passed away Mar. 4.

He was born Feb. 27, 1933 in Ateleta, Italy to the late Antonio Ruffino Ciotola and Scholastica Sciuolo.

While in Italy, Cesidio served in the Italian Alpini Army. After moving to

the United States, Cesidio worked for the City of White Plains in the highway department. He was also a member of the Italian American Club in West Harrison and the Roma Italian Club in White Plains.

On Apr. 2, 1956 he married his wife Teresa Ciotola in Ateleta, Italy.

Besides his wife Teresa, Cesidio is survived by his five children: Anthony (and wife Lorraine) of Carmel, Linda (and husband Peter) Hernandez of Mahopac, Lucy Cioce (and husband Kenny) of Poughquag, Fiorina (and husband Ralph) of Peterborough, NH, and Rosanne (and husband Joseph) DiNardo of Mahopac.

He is also survived by his brother Elio Ciotola of Pescara, Italy, his sister Lina Ranallo of White Plains, sister-in-law Elizabeth Ciotola of Valhalla, 14 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Cesidio was predeceased by his brother Gino, his sister Lucia and brother-in-law Luciano Ranallo, his sister Pasqua and brother-in-law Guido Buccigrossi, his sister-in-law Maria, and brother-in-law Guerino Ranallo.

### Antoinette F. Dougherty

It is with great sadness that the family of Antoinette Dougherty announces her passing on Mar. 4, at the age of 71 years.

Antoinette was born on Apr. 2, 1947 in Brooklyn to parents Nicholas and Mary Incorvaia.

Antoinette will be lovingly remembered by her husband Allen and her daughter Lisa and her husband Ben Dempsey and their three children Colin, Brendan and McKenna, and daughter Christine and her husband Alex Irmmler and their two children Liam and Lila, as well as by her brother Carl Incorvaia and his wife Lourdes.

Antoinette was a gentle soul who showed love and kindness to everyone she met. The strength and courage she showed during her 16-year long battle with lung cancer was truly inspirational. She worked as an Assistant Director of Student Activities at White Plains High School for over 18 years. It brought her great joy to work with students and mentor them throughout their high school years.

Those who so desire may make memorial donations online in memory of Antoinette to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; Giving.mskcc.org.

### Alexandra Riofrio

Alexandra Riofrio, 79, of White Plains, passed away Mar. 3.

Alexandra was born Dec. 31, 1939 in Ambato, Ecuador.

Alexandra was a homemaker and is

survived by her husband Felix Riofrio, their four children Elizabeth Morano (Pat) of New Rochelle, Edward Riofrio (Karen) of Danbury, Richard Riofrio (Michele) of Brewster, and Joseph Riofrio (Jamie) of Southington, CT; 11 grandchildren Gianna and Giastina Morano, Mackenzie, Shelby and Alex Riofrio, Rebecca, Julia and Ella Riofrio, and Sienna and Jacob Riofrio and Irelynn Janell.

As the matriarch of the Riofrio family, you could not be a part of her life without saying, "She was like a mom to me." Ale was the first in her family to leave her beloved country of Ecuador with \$20 in her pocket to give her family the opportunities that the United States had to offer. One by one, Ale brought her family here to White Plains. Ale measured her own success by watching the successes of her family.

Ale was an active member of the Danbury Senior Center in Danbury, CT.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Donate Life Connecticut, P.O. Box 278, Durham, Connecticut 06422; ctorganandtissuedonation.org.



### Windward School Seeks to Move Students to March of Dimes HQ

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students taking a Bee Line bus to classes once it moves to the March of Dimes building.

Councilwoman Milagros Lecuona asked if the school was considering placing solar panels on the roof of the building. Tung responded that solar panels have been explored.

"They were not found to be cost-

effective for the school in terms of the time it would take to pay that back against the investment that would be required," he said.

No residents addressed the Common Council during the hearing. The hearing was closed by unanimous vote.

Council members gave no date when the proposal may be discussed again.

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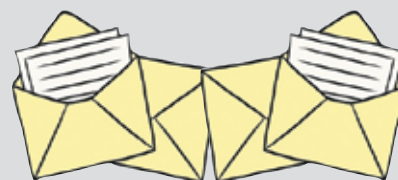
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# Happy St. Patrick's Day: How Much Do You Really Know About Him?



By Brian McGowan

Holy Season is here, and what better way to commemorate the blessed saint than a game of trivia centered upon the man we commemorate on Mar. 17. Ten questions follow. Jot down your answers, then see how well-versed you are in Ireland's patron saint.

1. The day itself: birthday or the day he died?
2. Where was he born and what was his nationality?
3. In what year did he first arrive in Ireland?
4. Where is the second largest St. Patrick's Day parade held?
5. Was he the first Christian missionary to visit Ireland?
6. Did he really drive the snakes away?
7. Upon what mountain did he fast for 40 days and nights?
8. Where is he buried?
9. What famous prayer is attributed to him?
10. Aside from St. Patrick, who is the second most famous Irish saint?

While you're mulling whether or not you've made a good show of your knowledge of "things Patrick," take a moment to learn how to wish neighbors, friends and relatives a Happy St. Patrick's Day in said saint's adopted language, Irish

Gaelic. If greeting one person, say "Lá fhéile Pádraig sona duit!" Tough to roll off the tongue? Try it as it's pronounced: "Law aye-la Par-ick sun-a dit."

To a group of people, say: "Lá fhéile Pádraig sona dhaoibh!" Just change the last word from "duit" (dit) to "dhaoibh" (YEE-uv). Practice a few times. There, you've got it!

And now the answers.

1. March 17 is the day St. Patrick died.
2. He was born about 416, on the west coast of Britain, then part of the Roman Empire, and a Roman citizen. This does not connote that he was Italian, as several of my circle insist.
3. He ended up in Ireland at 16 years old, kidnapped by a marauding band of Irish and pressed into slavery as a shepherd for the next six years, during which he developed a great love for his captors, learning their language, customs and quirks. He made a vow he would come back some day and bring them the Christian faith.
4. Dublin comes in second, followed by Sydney, Australia and then Chicago. All vie to topple New York City, undeniably the ruler in this annual contest.
5. St. Patrick, while the most successful missionary to visit Ireland's shores, was not the first. That honor goes to a man named Palladius, who preceded St. Patrick by a

few years, but didn't quite have the touch that Patrick had. To my knowledge, no parade steps off in his honor. Anywhere.

6. Now, are there really no snakes in Ireland? Well, there aren't, unless you count pet snakes brought in by the odd fellow or gal looking for notoriety. An island for the last 8,500 years, the climate was too cold beforehand, in the aftermath of the glaciers, to sustain reptiles. St. Patrick just claimed credit, smart man that he was, for a fluke of nature.

7. The mountain of Croagh Patrick is where St. Patrick fasted for 40 days and nights in the year 441. Located in County Mayo and nicknamed "The Reek," it is also a mountain sacred to the pre-Christian faith that flourished equally well in this island.

8. St. Patrick died about the year 493. He is buried, legend has it, in County Down, on the grounds of Downpatrick Cathedral.

9. While St. Patrick contributed much to the literature of the church, the most famous prayer attributed to him is "St. Patrick's Breastplate," which is actually a hymn. It begins "I arise today through a mighty strength..." For the full text of it, a visit to my blog is in order.

10. If you answered St. Columba, or St. Bridget, either answer makes you

a scholar. Arguably the more famous of the two is Columba (521-597) who founded the monastery of Iona off the coast of Scotland, which became a center of learning renowned throughout the western world. We'll have more on him in a future article.

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](mailto: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](http://www.rethinkingirish.com).

## Guest Column



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# My Lifelong Attempt to Ban Foam Rubber From My Life

Perhaps you've never thought much about foam rubber as a stuffing for furnishings but I for one have never cared for it. In fact, I've always had a kind of aversion to it.

My last experience with foam rubber was a few years ago when the wingback chair in my office literally fell apart. I ordered a replacement from Macy's from a newspaper ad. I didn't think about the materials used when I ordered it, but it seemed to have an appealing shape, considering that it was a lounge in disguise. When it arrived, however, I was disappointed to find that its arms, seat and back were upholstered in foam rubber.

Well, I thought, it is not as though I bought the throne from King Tut's tomb. It was relatively inexpensive and I'd just live with it until I found a replacement with better materials before banishing this rubbery edition to a guest room or donating to Goodwill.

In the meantime, every time I sat to watch television, I never felt quite settled in place, but rather suspended by those little air pockets tucked within the foam. This was not a new issue with me.

I still remember the joy and excitement when my mother came home one day with several tremendous paper bags filled with new pillows for the whole family.

"And they're foam rubber!" she exclaimed, as though modern science had finally reached our home.

I was only seven years old and had little to say about what things surrounded me in our home. But one thing was certain: when I lay my head on foam rubber, I couldn't sleep. I simply tossed the pillow aside and lay flat on the mattress.

Mother insisted that I try to get used to it, but after a week of tossing my new pillow aside, feisty fellow that I was, she finally relented and bought me a feather down pillow. My older brother and sister knew from that point that I was the "different" sibling in the family, and I rather liked the distinction.

The only time I delighted in the use of foam rubber is when I ordered it as the mat beneath the wall-to-wall carpeting in the central hallway of my former home, the result of a somewhat arbitrary decision. The red carpeting already had a deep rich pile and, combined with the mat, visitors literally sank into it as they walked across it, all but losing their balance in the process, especially women in heels.

I couldn't swear to it because I'm not the testing lab of Consumer Reports, but I suspect that its use extended the life of



By Bill Primavera

that carpeting by many years.

Where did this foamy substance come from, I wondered, and how long had it been around? I learned that the pioneering work was done in Germany by Otto Bayer in 1937. I'm sure that many people who enjoy bouncing around on it are grateful for his work.

As for me, I'm an old-fashioned guy who likes sofa pillows filled with goose feathers and goose down that have to be plumped up again after I sit on them. I remember the time when an exceptionally large fellow came to our home and sat on our camelback loveseat and all but squashed its all-down pillow to a flat pancake.

When he rose to leave the room, unconsciously I went to the chair to fluff up the pillow again.

While down pillows are the highest quality filling that can be purchased, they are also the most expensive. They must have down proof ticking under the upholstery fabric to prevent feathers from poking through and, still, sometimes they do. Also, there is the constant re-fluffing required. However, down used with other

materials, such as polyester fiber, is a good option.

To be fair, there are foams labeled high resilient that are more comfortable and reduce that droopy, saggy feel that can come over time. It even comes with an "indentation force deflection" number ranging from 6 to 45 that will tell you in advance the softness or firmness of the upholstered piece.

The foam stuffing in that wingback chair, unfortunately, must have been on the lower end of the scale. When I replaced the chair, I bought one with a pillow that needed to be plumped up after each seating, one that, when I plopped down on it, stayed plopped. To me, this represents those little things in life that don't cost much but make you feel that you're living in luxury.

Bill Primavera is a Residential and Commercial Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate, as well as a publicist and journalist who writes regularly as The Home Guru. For questions about home maintenance or to engage him to help you buy or sell a home, call him directly at 914-522-2076.



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# Navigating the Corkage Fee Policy of Restaurants



By Nick Antonaccio

Restaurant wine lists, crafted by today's wine-focused chefs and highly-educated sommeliers, can be the epitome of the overall experience at a restaurant. Many restaurants painstakingly pair food and wine offerings and invest significantly in well-stocked wine cellars.

However, when celebrating a special occasion or trying to impress a potential business client, a diner may prefer to bring his or her personal bottle(s) of wine to a restaurant. Once looked upon with disdain by restaurant owners, many now offer this accommodation – typically at a charge.

This “corkage fee” is not necessarily an arbitrary policy to discourage diners inclined to enjoy a personal bottle of wine. Rather there is an underlying business logic. Restaurants typically work on tight profit margins. The food portion of a meal yields a thin margin. It is common knowledge that overall profitability lies in the beverage menu. Few are willing to forego the profit in marking up wines to double or triple their cost.

Many restaurants have adopted corkage fee policies in recognition of exceptional dining occasions. In most instances, the fee is designed to cover the cost of the service required to present and serve a

consumer's personal bottle of wine. Some peg their fee to the cost of a lower-priced bottle on their wine list.

Here are several guidelines to follow if you have been saving a special bottle of wine to celebrate with a restaurant meal.

1. Always call ahead to inquire of the restaurant's corkage policy. Rather than simply show up with that special bottle, calling is always preferable in order to avoid a potentially uncomfortable situation.
2. If you plan to order additional bottles from the wine list during the meal, let the restaurant know this when inquiring. This will partially compensate the restaurant for the loss of a sale; many will waive their corkage fee.
3. Don't embarrass yourself by showing up with a wine that's already on the wine list. Check the online list ahead of your visit or call ahead to double-check.
4. Don't further embarrass yourself by showing up with a wine of less value than wines at the low end of the wine list. A restaurant is accommodating you on the premise that this is a special occasion or a special bottle. That \$12 bottle you had with pizza last Friday is an insult to the wine director who has meticulously crafted a wine list that represents the chef's carefully prepared and paired menu.

5. Share your good fortune. Offer the sommelier and waiter a taste of that special wine. It will usually guarantee the same stellar service you would receive if you were ordering an expensive bottle from the list. These folks work on the generosity of customers' tips. A shared taste of a memorable wine helps assuage their monetary loss.
6. Speaking of tipping, remember that wine service is the same regardless of the source of the wine. I usually tip based on the average price of a wine that I would otherwise have ordered from the wine list if it were not a special occasion.

While most restaurants have a corkage fee policy, in New York City at least 50 restaurants have blanket or one-night corkage fee waivers. Certain restaurants charge no fee but limit the number of bottles allowed. Others charge minimal fees between \$10 and \$25.

Still others charge according to their stature. If you're intent on bringing your own bottle to the highly acclaimed Eleven Madison Park, be prepared to pay \$65. Per Se charges a whopping \$150 per bottle for the privilege of not ordering wines from one of the most expensive wine lists in Manhattan (not to mention their \$355 per person tasting menus).

Several Westchester restaurants have

reasonable corkage fee policies, although they are rarely publicized or in print. Call ahead. On certain nights, corkage fee policies may be waived. Mediterraneo in Pleasantville waives its fee every Tuesday night.

In 2019, there is no reason to compromise on a wine to accompany your meal. Avail yourself of knowledgeable sommeliers' wine lists – or simply BYOB.

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



Crossword by Myles Mellor

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8
9					10	11		12
13							14	
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	17	18			19			
	20			21		22		
23					24		25	
26						27		
28				29			30	31
33				34				
35						36		

Across

1. Indian language

6. Baking need, abbr.

9. High up in an oak, for example

12. Soul singer Corinne Bailey \_\_\_\_

13. Westchester parkway or Mt. Kisco health club

14. BBC rival

15. Outdid

17. Cry on the set

19. Shoulder scarves

20. Beauty products provider

22. Start the betting

23. Without commitment to buy 25. 116 is one

26. Intellectuals

28. Coolness

29. Abolitionist Stowe or Pleasantville funeral home, \_\_\_\_ Flooks

33. Dictionary abbr.

34. Commentator

35. Two-time U.S. Open

Down

1. City map abbr.

2. Retirement plan

3. Unprecedented

4. Garage band recording

5. "Put \_\_\_\_ writing"

6. The Three Amigos, e.g.

7. Cotton fabrics that feel like satin

8. Dangles

10. Arena shouts

11. Disney dog

16. Ice cream treat

17. Like an ice-cream holder

18. Overcoats

21. \_\_\_\_ buena, evergreen plant

23. Pizza ingredient

24. Battle of Normandy city

27. Suckling spot

30. Triangle part, abbr.

31. Ending for Japan

32. Numbered hwy.

Solution on page 14

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## AUCTIONS

**CHEMUNG COUNTY** Tax Foreclosed Real Estate Auction: 100+ Lots. Wednesday, March 27, 2019. Registration: 7:00AM; Auction Start: 9:00AM. Holiday Inn Elmira-Riverview, 760 E. Water Street, Elmira, NY 14901 Pre-Auction Bidder Seminar: Thursday, March 14, 2019, at 6:00PM. For complete information, visit [www.auctionsinternational.com](http://www.auctionsinternational.com) or call 800-536-1401, Ext. 110

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## EVENTS

**Watkins-Montour Rotary Club's ANTIQUE SHOW & COLLECTIBLES SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019 9:30am to 3:00pm** Clute Park Community Center, Rt. 414, Watkins Glen 32 DEALERS

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NEWCASTLE BUILDING INSPECTORS, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/7/2019. Office Location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at: **P.O. Box 99 Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THUMBS UP! ENTERPRISES, LLC.** Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 1/24/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to principal business address: **420 South Riverside Ave, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520. Purpose: Youtube Channel.**

**FORMATION OF ETNA CAPITAL ADVISORS LLC FILED WITH THE SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 1/25/19.** Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to **Richard Imprescia, 1821 Casey Ct., Mohegan Lake, NY 10547. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DISTINGUISHED DESTINATIONS LLC** Filed with SSNY on 9/12/2018, Office: Westchester County, SSNY Designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **c/o Elli Travel Group, 1967 Palmer Avenue, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF REID & LEIVA MULTISERVICES LLC** Filed with SSNY on 01/14/2019, Office Westchester, SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **506 Van Cortlandt Park Ave, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the Limited Liability Company is Palmyra Holdings LLC. The Articles of Organization were filed with the New York Secretary of State on February 19, 2019. The office of the Company is located in the County of Westchester, State of New York. The New York Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the Company upon whom process in any action or proceeding against it may be served, and the address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of process in any action or proceeding against the Company served upon him or her is **110 Marquand Avenue, Bronxville, New York 10708. The purpose of the business is any lawful business.**

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

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIFE GIVERS TRANSPORTATION, LLC** Filed with SSNY on 1/22/19. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **75 Bruce Ave., Apt. 4F, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF E&L BY DESIGN, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with NYS Dept. of State on 1/9/2019. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, **2020 Maple Hill Street, Suite # 902, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF UPSTATE STUMP GRINDING, LLC.** Arts. *continued on next page*

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# Happenings



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

## Wednesday, Mar. 13

**Noonday Getaway Concert.** A presentation of Downtown Music at Grace; 12:10 p.m. Chamber Music with the musicians of the Westchester Philharmonic- Eugene Moye, cello, and Friends. Grace Episcopal Church at Main and Church St., White Plains. 30-minute free concert; donation accepted. This concert is made possible with the generous support of the Brian Wallach Agency, White Plains.

**Opioid Addiction Awareness.** Community Awareness Presentation: "Opioid Addiction - Impact on Our Community" a panel presentation, Q & A. 7 to 9 p.m. Presented by The Woman's Club of White Plains, 305 Ridgeway, White Plains. Presenters will be representatives from White Plains Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital, White Plains School District,

White Plains Youth Bureau, the White Plains Opioid Task Force, and Project REACH. The goal of the forum is to understand the challenges and create opportunities to partner as a community to address this increasing epidemic. This event is open to the public, please feel free to bring guests.

**Storybook Dancing.** 11 a.m. Steffi Nossen School of Dance presents Storybook Dancing, a creative movement class for 3-4 year olds taught by Kristina Todd Nelson, or another instructor. Space is limited to 20 dancers, tickets will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis starting 30 minutes before the program. Each week dancers will go on an adventure into a classic story book and dance their way through the pages while learning fun, creative dance. Explore literature, music and dance in this fun and engaging workshop. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Tech Wednesday for Adults.** Typing 101. Learn how to type, an essential digital literacy skill in today's modern world. Properly entering input into a computer can help lead to success. See how many words you can type per minute! 12 to 1

p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Lunchtime Meditation.** A weekly meditation program. Brief beginning instruction will be followed by meditation. No experience or special equipment needed. A guest instructor will lead the program the first Wednesday of each month; 12:15 to 1 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains. For more information, contact Christiane Deschamps at 914-422-1496 or [cdeschamps@whiteplainsny.gov](mailto:cdeschamps@whiteplainsny.gov).

**Which Craft?** Wednesday. Make Your Own Soap. Learn how to make your own glycerin based soap. Pick your shape, scent and color. Snacks will be served. For grades 6 and up. 4 to 5 p.m. at White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**"Water, Sanitation and Gender: Issues for the 21st Century."** A presentation on the impact of water resources on cultural and economic development. The speaker is Marcia M. Brewster, Senior Consultant, Nautilus International Development Consultant, formerly with the U.N. Presented by the Westchester branch of the American Association of University Women. Westchester Community

College's Classroom Building, Room 100, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. (Use Parking Lot 4 or 5.) 6 p.m. Free.

**"Straws."** Director Linda Booker interviews scientists, activists and restaurant owners about the effects of plastics on the environment in a screening of this documentary. Leave the program with new ideas about what you can do to make a difference. In partnership with the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit [www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org).

## Thursday, Mar. 14

**Trove Time.** Trove Time, 11 a.m., 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. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**St. Patrick's Day Luncheon.** White

*continued on page 14*

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*continued from previous page*

of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/10/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC: **19 Terrace Ave., Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PRO-TO DOG SERVICES, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/13/2010. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **1707 EAGLE BAY DR OSSINING, NY 10562. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DSG HOME RENOVATIONS LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/08/2018. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **6 East Sidney Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY WORK SESSION MARCH 13, 2019 6 PM Pledge of Allegiance Public Hearing Acceptance of NRI Maps and Comments**

**1.Leprechaun resolution 2.Appoint** Anthony Cotone and Gregory Kroohs as temporary Groundskeeper/Recreation Assistants. **3.Award** open-top container bid. **4.Request** by Peter Belefant to attend the NY Planning Federation Conference on April 28, 2019. **5.Request** by Tom Carano to attend the NY Planning Federation Conference on April 28t, 2019. **6.Authorize** Supervisor to sign Badey & Watson contract agreement. **7.Discussion** LP Pump Station **Audit of monthly bills**

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS** Notice is hereby given that the Town of Putnam Valley will receive requests for proposals and publicly open sealed bids for the contract: **2019 GRASS CUTTING** at the Town Clerk's Office located at the Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road, Putnam Valley, New York 10579 at the following date and time: **Date: April 1, 2019 Time: 2:00 PM** The contract Specifications will be available at the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall. Contractors must carry statutory Disability and Worker's Compensation Insurance and Liability Insurance of not less than \$300,000 naming the Town of Putnam Valley as additionally insured. Insurance policies are to be filed with the Town Clerk. Contractors must carry a performance bond if their Bid is \$25,000. or more. Contractors are to provide all supplies and equipment. Bids must be submitted in the form attached within a sealed envelope showing the Bidder's

name and clearly marked with the project name "2019 Grass Cutting Bid." Each Bidder must furnish with the Bid a properly executed non-collusion affidavit. The Town of Putnam Valley reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any informalities therein, or to award the Contract to any Bidder if deemed in the best interest of the Town to do so.

## MEDICAL SUPPLIES

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## REAL ESTATE

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Happenings

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Plains senior citizens are invited to the Community Center Cafe to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a delicious lunch and live entertainment from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Register online at <https://register.capturepoint.com/WhitePlainsCityof> or in person at the Community Center, located at 65 Mitchell Place, before March 13th. Payment is required at the time of registration. \$3 suggested contribution for seniors 60 years and over; \$5 guests under 60 years. Transportation is available to and from for White Plains residents 60 years and older.

**T(h)ech Thursday.** Animation Design For Teens. Learn basic animation skills using free software. Attendees will have the chance to create a personal animation. Equipment is provided; registration is required; 4 to 5 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**Stories & Stuff.** Preschool storytime, including a craft activity, for ages 4 and 5 without adult. Literacy connections are made at "Stories & Stuff" where stories are centered around a theme and children listen & interact with corresponding rhymes, songs and/or finger plays. A final craft project ties in with the topic fostering a sense that stories are imaginative, yet lasting, and continue to enrich our creative thoughts & play; 4:30 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**No Property in Man:** Slavery and Antislavery at the Nation's Founding. Rather than presenting the Constitution as a cynical political bargain enshrining slavery in the new nation, Sean Wilentz argues that it actually restricted slavery's legitimacy and kept alive the eventual possibility of antislavery politics at the national level. Wilentz is the George Henry Davis 1886 Professor of American History at Princeton, author, editor and winner of multiple prizes and awards. Part of the John Jay Homestead Scholars Lecture Series. John Jay Homestead Historic State Historic Site, 400 Jay St. (Route 22), Katonah. Registration and light refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Program

at 7 p.m. Members: \$20. Non-members: \$25. Reservations recommended. Info and reservations: 914-232-8119, visit [www.johnjayhomestead.org](http://www.johnjayhomestead.org) or e-mail [friends@johnjayhomestead.org](mailto:friends@johnjayhomestead.org).

**"The Guilty."** This gripping film is set entirely inside the emergency dispatch room of a Copenhagen police station, where officer Asger Holm answers a call from a kidnap victim – and is abruptly cut off. Through a brilliant use of soundscape and screen images, director Gustav Möller takes the viewer inside Holm's heightened senses as he searches for the victim without being able to leave his desk. Preceded by an introduction by programmer Kathy Bonomi. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:35 p.m. Members: \$9. Non-members: \$14. Info and tickets: Visit [www.burnsfilmcenter.org](http://www.burnsfilmcenter.org).

**Lewis Black: The Joke's on US Tour.** This Grammy Award-winning standup comedian is one of the most prolific and popular performers today, executing a brilliant trifecta as a comedian, actor and author. Receiving critical acclaim, he performs more than 200 nights a year throughout Europe, Canada, the United States and New Zealand. Black's live performances provide a cathartic release of anger and disillusionment for his audience. He is a passionate performer who is a more pissed-off optimist than a mean-spirited curmudgeon. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$58, \$68, \$88 and \$98. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

**Foster Kids Unite Fundraiser.** The second annual Foster Kids Unite fundraiser. Hosted by Tanya Cooper with headliner Neko White and featuring Allan Fuks, Johnny Fugaro and Joseph Conklin. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. \$20. Info and advance tickets: Visit [www.lucyslaughs.com](http://www.lucyslaughs.com). Type in the promo code Examiner at the prompt when buying tickets online.

**Friday, Mar. 15**  
**Goodtemps.** Are you seeking short- or long-term employment? Come and meet staff from GoodTemps to discuss your career goals! GoodTemps provides flexible work opportunities in the five boroughs of New York City, Northern New Jersey, Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk Counties. GoodTemps is the temporary staffing division of Goodwill® Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey, Inc. Since its founding in Brooklyn in 1915, Goodwill NYNJ has empowered individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment to gain independence through the power of work. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact GoodTemps directly at the number below. Registration is by appointment only. Walk-ins are not accepted. Please bring your resume to the appointment: 914-422-1480; White Plains

Library, 100 Martine Ave.  
**Trove Time.** 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; 11 a.m., White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

**All Bach All the Time.** Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Great Composers Lecture Series continues with the composer whose music represents the pinnacle of intellect and beauty – both individually and combined. Even his purely instrumental compositions, intended "simply" for study or "for the pleasurable diversion of music lovers" reside on an artistic Mount Olympus. Prepare to scale the musical heights of the heart and mind with Michael Boriskin. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 11 a.m. \$25. Hoff-Barthelson students: Free. Space limited; reservations strongly encouraged. Info and reservations: 914-723-1169 or e-mail [hb@hbms.org](mailto:hb@hbms.org).

**Hot Chili Peppers.** Bagpipes meet rock 'n' roll as the group takes its signature "bagrock" sound to the masses with a unique fusion of rocked up bagpipes and clever covers of popular songs from all genres. Their trademarked sound includes traditional pipe tunes, such as "The Flowers of Scotland," The Hills of Argyil" and "Amazing Grace," and contemporary anthems. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$35, \$43 and \$48. Info and tickets: Visit [www.tarrytownmusichall.org](http://www.tarrytownmusichall.org).

**Saturday, Mar. 16**  
**Super Scavenger Hunt.** Enjoy a super-special, spring scavenger hunt in search of natural wonders. Register at the nature center of choice, pick up a list and return it to any nature center. Cranberry Lake Preserve, Old Orchard St., North White Plains. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Rain date: Mar. 23. Info: 914-428-1005.

**Playland Job Fair.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Westchester County Center in White Plains. On-the-spot interviews will be conducted at this event for the first 300 candidates to arrive. Salaries start at \$12 an hour.  
**Celtic Muse & Minstrelsy – of Bards, Bagpipes and Rhymers:** Music and Instruments of Celtic Lands. This concert explores rare and rustic musical traditions and lore from the heart of the Celtic lands. Medieval-Renaissance and Celtic music and culture will be combined on this journey to Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Brittany (the Celtic northwest corner of France.) The music will span the cultural tradition of bards, bagpipes and rhymers. Followed by a Q&A. Whippoorwill Hall, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1

p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or [www.northcastlelibrary.org](http://www.northcastlelibrary.org).

**Drop-In Do Gooders.** A drop-in community service opportunity. Teens will make birthday cards to donate to Meals on Wheels. No registration required. This program is supported by the Allstate Foundation; 2 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave.

**Aspen Santa Fe Ballet.** The company's bold vision – top global choreographers, distinctive groundbreaking repertoire and virtuoso dancers – has fostered a jewel of a dance company that reflects the pioneering spirit of the American West. A European sensibility glossed with American ebullience forges Aspen Santa Fe's aesthetic, as the company has come to epitomize the contemporary-classical genre. Purchase College's PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$30 to \$65. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit [www.artscenter.org](http://www.artscenter.org).

**Sunday, Mar. 17**  
**Movie: Disney's Peter Pan.** Disney's classic take on J.M. Barrie's story of the Boy Who Won't Grow Up. Wendy and her brothers are whisked away to the magical world of Neverland with the hero of their stories, Peter Pan. G, 1h 17min, Animation, Adventure, Family; 2 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave.

**Purim Family Activities and Carnival.** One of the most enjoyable Jewish holidays is Purim. Activities for young children, including songs, the megillah reading and costume parade following by the carnival featuring game booths and events for all ages. There will also be a sports bounce house, crats, a food court, the costume contest and prizes. Award-winning magician Joshy K will also perform. All welcome. Greenburgh Hebrew Center, 515 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry. 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Only cash and checks are accepted for ticket and food purchases. Free parking. Info: 914-693-4260 or visit [www.g-h-c.org](http://www.g-h-c.org).

**"LandEspace: New Visions of the Landscape From the Early 20th and 21st Centuries."** The show juxtaposes the work of early 20th century American modernist painters who exhibited their innovative works at the groundbreaking 1913 Armory Show with contemporary artists from the 21st century, which have rediscovered and reinvigorated the genre. Curated by Olga Dekalo, this show is comprised of about 30 works and reveals how a diverse range of artists broke from the established landscape painting traditions of their predecessors to create a new visual language that profoundly changed the way the genre was perceived. Katonah Museum of Art, 134 Jay St., Katonah. 12 to 5 p.m. Adults: \$10. Seniors and students: \$5. Members and children (under 12): Free. Exhibit continues through June 16. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m.

continued on next page

Crossword Solution from page 11

1	H	I	N	D	I				6	T	S	P		
9	T	R	E	E	T	10	O	P		12	R	A	E	
13	S	A	W	M	I	L	L			14	I	T	N	
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		17	C	U	T			19	S	T	O	L	E	S
		20	O	L	A		21	Y		22	O	P	E	N
23	O	N	S	P	E	C		25	S	T	S			
26	L	I	T	E	R	A		27	T	I				
28	I	C	E			29	B	E	E	C	30	H	E	R
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# WBT Transforms 'Menopause' Into an Uproarious, Must-See Event

By Evelyn J. Mocbeichel

On the surface one would think a subject about a woman's exasperating physical experience would not be a source for entertainment. But a popular stage production provides a unique take about the topic.

"Menopause the Musical," with its current engagement at Westchester Broadway Theatre (WBT), highlights all these women's experiences in an absolutely comical way, in song, dance and dialog. The national tour from GFour Productions, winner of 44 Tony Awards and 54 Drama Desk Awards, is on a limited run at WBT through Sunday, Mar. 24.

Perfect for a ladies' night out, I invited a friend to join me instead of my spouse. However, there were plenty of men there enjoying the humor in it all, too. Not knowing what to expect the 90-minute play to be about, we were thoroughly entertained from the start to its fantastic conclusion. Of all the wonderful shows at WBT, this one had the most audience laughter on a non-stop basis – from both genders in attendance.

"Menopause the Musical" is a groundbreaking celebration of women who are on the brink of, in the middle of or have survived "the change." Now celebrating 17 years of female empowerment through



hilarious musical comedy, the play has evolved as a grassroots movement of women who deal with life adjustments after 40 by embracing each other and the road ahead.

Set in an upscale department store, four women meet while shopping for lingerie on sale. After noticing unmistakable similarities among one another, the cast jokes about their woeful hot flashes, mood swings, wrinkles and weight gain. They form a sisterhood and unique bond with the entire audience as they rejoice in celebrating that menopause is no

longer "The Silent Passage."

The four women depicted are from various backgrounds – a business executive, a soap opera star soon to be replaced by a younger actress, a Midwestern housewife in New York City with her husband who is attending a convention and an aging, mellow flower child.

Cast members Megan Cavanagh (Earth Mother), Donna J. Huntley (Professional Woman), Debby Rosenthal (Soap Star) and Roberta B. Wall (Iowa housewife) were spot on in their character portrayals.

WBT casting is routinely superb and each role was flawlessly executed by the actors on stage. A shout-out to the powerful vocals of Huntley, the comedic timing and expressions of Cavanagh, the sassy portrayal by Rosenthal and the enthusiastic motions and physical comedy of Wall. As an ensemble they were

extraordinary in singing, choreography and chemistry.

Stage design is also creative with the backdrop of "Bloomies" department store. Each floor the women visited provided a chance for costume and set changes and songs and dance numbers to perform. Speaking of songs, the music is upbeat and hysterically funny as favorites from the 1950s through the '70s were sung with the same melody, only the words were changed to reflect the women's life experiences.

With more than 20 classic hits, including "Stayin' Alive," "I'm Sorry, The Great Pretender," "My Guy," "I Got You Babe," "Only You" and many more, it was impossible not to tap your feet along with each number.

Don't miss this production if you like to laugh, enjoy great music and watch four fabulously talented actors on stage turn an often-whispered subject into a great night of entertainment. Enjoy a delicious dinner or lunch at either an evening production or afternoon matinee.

Tickets are on sale now and available at the Westchester Broadway Theatre box office, by visiting [www.broadwaytheatre.com](http://www.broadwaytheatre.com) or by calling 914-592-2222. Discounts for groups of 15 or more are available by calling 914-592-2225.

## Happenings

continued from previous page

**Quartet 212.** Violinists David Chan and Catherine Ro, violist Dov Scheindlin and cellist Rafael Figueroa will perform music by F. J. Haydn, Puccini, Rossini and Verdi. The quartet members also perform for the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra where Chan is the concertmaster and Figueroa is the principal cellist. Scheindlin also is a member of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. Rye Presbyterian Church, 882 Boston Post Rd., Rye. 2:30 p.m. \$40. Info: 914-967-0842 or visit [www.ryepc.com](http://www.ryepc.com). Tickets: Contact Ronald Arron at 914-523-4646 or [ronarron@optonline.net](mailto:ronarron@optonline.net). Tickets will also be sold at the door before the performance.

**Friendly Gathering.** The White Plains Youth Bureau and William M. Mooney, Jr., will be honored at the 2019 Friendly Gathering to be held 5 p.m. at Congregation Kol Ami, (252 Soundview Avenue, White Plains). The event benefits The RDC Center for Counseling & Human Development. The Friendly Gathering features a corned beef and cabbage dinner, Irish songs by Brian Conway and friends, and a performance by The O'Rourke Academy of Irish Dance. Tickets are \$55 in advance and \$60 at the door; seniors are \$50 in advance and \$55 at the door. Tickets for children under 12 are \$15. For reservations or more information, contact 914-798-1103 or [ps Sheridan@divinecompassion.org](mailto:ps Sheridan@divinecompassion.org).

**PWW Celebrate Women's History Month.** Guest Speaker: Helen Rothberg, Ph.D, author of *The Perfect Mix*, will speak about *Lead to Your Next!* We live busy lives. Lists, schedules, people, places, things. Jobs, family, friends, colleagues. It's a luxury to just stop, even for a few moments, and ask: where am I actually going? Let's share this luxury together in thinking about how to *Lead to Your Next!* 6 to 8 p.m. Sam's of Gedney Way, 50 Gedney Way, White Plains; \$15/PWW member, \$20/Non members. Includes appetizers. Cash Bar. MUST Register to Attend, [www.professionalwomenofwestchester.com](http://www.professionalwomenofwestchester.com).

### Tuesday, Mar. 19

**Tuesdays@Dorries.** Dr. Sheila Collins and Rev. John Collins will discuss: "How Should We Understand the U.S.'s Intervention in Venezuelan Politics?" Discussion will be from the perspective of modern Venezuelan history, the history of U.S. interventions in Latin and Central America, U.S. media coverage of the current situation and other sources that tell us what is currently happening there. Sheila led three study groups to Venezuela during the Chavez regime and John was a participant in two others. They met with members of the government, opposition leaders, U.S. embassy officials and members of civil society organizations. Weekly table talk, everyone is welcome. Food ordering begins at 5:15 p.m. Presentation 6 to 7 p.m. Dorries Diner, 468 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains.



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