



Celebrating Social Justice Through the Arts



PHOTO COURTESY OF WHITE PLAINS YOUTH BUREAU

The annual White Plains Youth Bureau fund-raising gala "What's Going On ...Sharing Our Light" celebrated social justice through the arts, March 2 at the White Plains Performing Arts Center. The event featured uniquely choreographed dance presentations with social justice themes. Actress and model, Kissy Simmons, was recognized as the 2019 Artistic Honoree. Harry O. Bright, Jr. and Nicholas R. Wolff, both White Plains residents, were recognized for their work in the community. Pictured (l to r): Kissy Simmons, White Plains Mayor Tom Roach, Harry Bright, Nick Wolff, Frank Williams, Exec. Director White Plains Youth Bureau. Each honoree received a proclamation from The City of White Plains for their years of service in working for the people of White Plains and beyond. Kissy Simmons was thanked for making the world happy by "sharing her light." Rebecca Solomon (not pictured), a reporter for News 12 Westchester, was the Master of ceremonies for the event.

White Plains Superintendent of Schools Proposes \$226 Million Budget

By Neal Rentz

White Plains Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca has proposed a \$226,285,980 2019-20 preliminary budget that would maintain all student programs and stay within the state-mandated property tax cap.

Ricca also announced at the March 11 Board of Education meeting he was seeking to spend some of the revenues saved in a capital projects fund and also ask voters to allow the district to create another capital projects fund.

Ricca's budget is seeking to increase spending by 3.5 percent over the current year's \$218,593,020 ledger. The tax levy would increase by 3.4 percent, which is within the tax cap.

Ricca said Gov. Andrew Cuomo is proposing that state Foundation Aid for the district would be \$65,946, an increase of only .48 percent over the current year.

Ricca is proposing a series of staffing increases, such as another 1.2 earth science teachers at the Highlands Middle School; an additional English Language Acquisition teacher at Highlands; an additional half of a full-time equivalent of math specialist position in each of the district's five elementary schools to bring the total to the equivalent of one full-time specialist at each school and one full-time maintenance mechanic at the high school.

Some factors affecting next year's budget are anticipated increases in the district's contributions to employee pension funds and an expected 4.4 percent hike in employee health insurance costs, Ricca said.

When school district residents go to the polls in May they will vote on three propositions.

The first proposition is seeking approval

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White Plains Mayor, Former Member Debate Environmental Committee Effectiveness

By Neal Rentz

White Plains Mayor Tom Roach was criticized by a former member of the Sustainable White Plains Committee, saying he ignored the group's recommendations on a number of issues.

At the February and March Citizens to be Heard portions of the Common Council meetings former committee member Anne Bobroff-Hajal said the mayor had treated Sustainable White Plains unfairly.

At the March 4 Common Council meeting Bobroff-Hajal held up pages of documentation of research the committee had done on potential legislation to regulate the use of store plastic bags, "beginning in 2014 to the time you, Mayor Roach, disbanded us, claiming that we



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Former Sustainable White Plains Committee member Anne Bobroff-Hajal criticized Mayor Thomas Roach during the Citizens to be Heard portion of the March 4 Common Council meeting.

had done no work," she said. The documents were given to City Clerk Anne McPherson.

"Countless hours of research" on plastic bags was done by the committee and Bobroff-Hajal said she personally gave presentations on what other municipalities had done to regulate plastic bag usage.

Bobroff-Hajal said she had about 200 e-mail exchanges from the committee on the subject of plastic bags that she would print and submit

to the city at the April Common Council meeting.

The committee worked with county Legislator Catherine Parker on a proposal to ban plastic bags countywide, Bobroff-Hajal said. Parker asked for a letter from mayors on the proposed legislation to state support or not. "You never responded to us in any way," Bobroff-Hajal said. Roach never responded to any recommendations made by the committee, she said.

Documentation on work on nine other issues the committee worked on and letters to the mayor will be presented to the city, Bobroff-Hajal said. The work done by volunteer committees in the city "should be used, not ignored" and be available to

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White Plains Superintendent of Schools Proposes \$226 Million Budget

continued from page 1



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

White Plains Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca discussed his preliminary \$226,285,980 2019-20 budget during the March 11 Board of Education meeting.

of next year's proposed budget.

The second proposition is seeking to allow the district to spend from its capital reserve fund, the creation of which was

previously approved by voters. Ricca said the district anticipates that by the end of the current school year on June 30 there will be \$15.89 million in the fund. The district is asking voters to allow it to take up to \$6.4 million from the fund to pay for projects at Highlands Middle School and the high school. "It's essentially a savings account," Ricca said. By using the capital reserve the district can pay for capital projects "without going to bond," he said.

The middle school projects include work on the courtyard, new windows, lintels, repointing and lighting (\$1.3 million)

and replacement of the artificial field at Parker Stadium (\$1.02 million).

The proposed capital projects at the high

school include a new security vestibule (\$175,000), replacement of the electric service (\$1.5million), pool building improvements (\$890,000), additional funding for the intercom public address system (\$425,000) and artificial turf and drainage improvements (\$1million).

Proposition three would allow the district to create a new capital reserve that over a 10 year period would be funded up to \$25 million.

Passage of propositions two and three would not result in tax increases, Ricca said.

Trustee James Hricay said the superintendent's budget was "a thoughtful spending plan."

After two scheduled workshops on the spending plan the Board of Education is scheduled to approve next year's budget on April 8. A public budget hearing is slated for May 13.

The public vote on the budget and for Board of Education trustees is scheduled for May 21.

Two School Board Seats Are Up for Election, Candidate Applications Available

The Annual White Plains Board of Education Budget Vote and Election will take place on Tuesday, May 21, 12 to 9 p.m., at six voting districts. Two Board seats will be up for election, each with a three-year term of office, beginning July 1, 2019.

Candidates must be United States citizens, 18 years of age or more and residents of White Plains for at least one year. Petitions are available from Michele Schoenfeld, District Clerk, at 5 Homeside Lane. They must be signed by 100 qualified voters and returned by May 1.

Registration, for qualified voters new to the City, or those who are not registered to vote in general elections, will take place on Saturday, May 4, 12 to 5 p.m. at Mamaroneck Avenue School, Nosband Avenue. A resident who has moved within White Plains during the last year may also change his/her voting address at that time.

Absentee ballots will be available by application to the District Clerk, for any voter who will not be in White Plains during the hours of the election.

White Plains Mayor, Former Member Debate Environmental Committee Effectiveness

residents, she said, adding she wanted to show how city government works.

Roach responded to the criticisms leveled by Bobroff-Hajal through Senior Advisor to the Mayor Karen Pasquale.

"As is well known, Mayor Roach is a strong advocate for the environment," Pasquale said last week. "The Sustainability

Committee is an advisory committee to the mayor on environmental issues. In the fall of last year he reconstituted the committee with new members. The committee has been meeting regularly since late last year. They are currently working on a number of issues and the members are providing technical support on new initiatives.

The new group includes residents whose professional careers are largely focused on renewable energy, environmental engineering and education. Mayor Roach has been very pleased with the work of the committee thus far. The mayor is grateful for Ms. Bobroff-Hajal's service and wishes her well."

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Benefits of Raise the Age Legislation for Teen Offenders Discussed at Community Forum

By Abigail Weinberg

Six months after Raise the Age legislation went into effect for 16-year-olds, Westchester County is adjusting to a new set of practices for dealing with adolescents charged with misdemeanors and felonies. A panel of attorneys, judges and law enforcement officials discussed the challenges and rewards of implementing the new policy to an audience of more than 100 at the White Plains Public Library March 13.

Raise the Age raises the age of criminal responsibility from 16 to 18 in New York State and creates a new set of policies for dealing with 16- and 17-year-olds. The policy went into effect for 16-year-olds on Oct. 1, 2018 and will extend to 17-year-olds on Oct. 1, 2019.

Under the new policy, 16-year-olds who are charged with misdemeanors are referred to family court. The newly created Youth Part of Criminal Court, which is designed to consider offenders' young age, presides over violent felonies that involve significant physical injury, display of a weapon or sex offenses.

In some cases, the District Attorney can exercise discretion over which court to try 16-year-olds. For non-violent felonies, or violent felonies not involving significant physical injury, display of a weapon or sex offenses, the DA may file a motion within 30 days to retain the case in the Youth Part of Criminal Court. Otherwise, the case is deferred to Family Court.

The policy also changes the way that police officers are allowed to interact with 16-year-olds. Sgt. William Lugo, Commanding Officer of the Special Victims Unit for the Greenburgh Police Department, said that police officers can no longer question the youth the same way or house them in the same cell as adults. In addition, a parent must be notified when a

“New York and North Carolina were the last two states that prosecuted 16-year-olds as adults.”

16-year-old is taken into custody.

New York and North Carolina were the last two states that prosecuted 16-year-olds as adults.

Allison Lake, Executive Director of the Westchester Children's Association, said that 70% of crimes that 16- and 17-year-olds commit are misdemeanors, and that the opportunity for a young person to avoid a criminal record is instrumental in his or her success in life.

“Why we wanted to raise the age to 18 is to give young people that second chance, that opportunity to get resources and supports — certainly hold them

accountable to whatever crime they may have committed, but in an age-appropriate manner,” she said.

Speakers stressed that adolescents should be treated differently than adults because their brains are not fully developed until their mid-20s. While adolescents are more likely to take risks, they are also likely to outgrow criminal behavior, according to Julia Davis, Esq., the Director of Youth Justice and Child Welfare for the Children's Defense Fund of New York.

“Treating young people in the adult criminal justice system is bad for them and it's bad for us,” Davis said. “It does not result in a community of safety. It does not improve public safety, and rather reduces positive outcomes for our children.”

The change in legislation is already impacting youths' lives, Davis said.

“I hear every day stories about kids who were charged with misdemeanors that would have gone to criminal court and would have had a criminal conviction on their record, but now are going to family court or having their cases adjusted,” Davis said. “Absolutely we know that the law is making a difference for kids already.”

One of the biggest challenges the community still has to deal with, according to the panel, is that youths' involvement in the justice system often cuts into their time at school.

“A child should be in school six or seven hours a day,” said Wayne Humphries, Esq., Deputy County Attorney for the

Westchester County Department of Law. “Coming to this library for two hours a day to receive tutoring services is not sufficient.”

Kathie Davidson, Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, added that students who are involved in the justice system often want to return to school, but are embarrassed of the time they may have missed.

“We must advocate for educational opportunities for children,” she said.

The legal system will face additional challenges when the Raise the Age policy goes into effect for 17-year-olds next year. Panelists stressed that there tend to be more 17-year-olds charged with crimes than 16-year-olds, and that youth judges and detention services will have to accommodate additional people.

Regardless of the challenges, the panelists were optimistic that Raise the Age would have a positive effect on the community.

“Once they're in the system, the collateral damage is horrible. They really are ruined for life. They can't get housing, they can't get student loans, they can't get into college — things that just affect their life,” said Paul Noto, Esq., First Deputy District Attorney of the Westchester County District Attorney's Office. “The hope here — and I think it will be successful — is that we'll have a safer county and more productive young people.”

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Tri-County Police Vehicle Procurement is a Shared Services Initiative

Westchester County Executive George Latimer, Suffolk County Executive Steven Bellone, and Nassau County Executive Laura Curran have announced a cooperative buying plan for police vehicles. The announcement was made at a press conference with Latimer, Bellone and Nassau County Commissioner of Shared Services Melissa Gallucci in White Plains last week.

The shared services initiative allows for the respective counties, along with the towns and villages that comprise them, to cooperatively purchase more



(L to r) Westchester BOL chair Ben Boykin, Nassau Shared Services Commissioner Melissa Gallucci, Westchester County Exec. George Latimer, Suffolk County Exec. Steven Bellone.

than 200 police vehicles among the group. The strategy was to combine the three counties aggregate purchasing power into a single request for bids, in order to leverage better pricing. The discussions on this agreement began late last year, the

bid was published by Westchester County on Jan. 25, 2019, and bids were returned on Feb. 14, 2019.

Westchester County, acting as lead agency for the three counties, selected Beyer Ford from New Jersey – in a bid that will allow all participating governments to share total potential savings off list pricing, including discounts off both base price of the vehicles as well as options. Approximately 30 local governments across the three counties, as well as Westchester, Suffolk and Nassau acted together on a solicitation in January seeking the lowest pricing on police sedans, utilities and trucks.

“Our Administration is exploring every avenue to reduce the burdens faced by Westchester County taxpayers without cutting essential services and while maintaining our most important of functions. This shared buying program allows us to do both. Thank you to my partners in government on Long Island for their work on this shared initiative – I hope this is the first of many,” Latimer said.

The participation level among local governments may well increase as others piggyback their purchases off of their contract – and every participating local government may choose their own ‘options package’ for their own vehicles, according to a statement released by the group.

This shared purchasing agreement will be for three different vehicle types including:

Police Super Crew 4WD Pickup, Police Hybrid Sedan, and Police Hybrid and Gas AWD Utility SUVs.

WPS District Receives Financial Reporting Award



The White Plains City School District was awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Ricca presented the award to Dr. Ann Vaccaro-Teich, Assistant Superintendent for Business, at the March 11 Board of Education Meeting. The Association has made this award to the district each year for the last 31 consecutive years. Dr. Ricca thanked the entire Business Office staff, for their hard work, which made this recognition possible.

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County Legislators Press State on Criminal Justice Reforms

By Jade Perez

Last week members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators announced their support for bills pending in Albany that call for sweeping reforms to the state's criminal justice system.

County legislators, joined by representatives of legal and social service agencies, community members and advocates inside the county office building in White Plains, called for the transformation of the state laws on cash bail and criminal discovery.

Board Chairman Benjamin Boykin (D-White Plains) said the legislation will ensure that people who have been charged with a crime aren't disadvantaged because of an inability to pay bail. About 57 percent of people in the Westchester County Jail in Valhalla remain incarcerated because they can't make bail, he said.

"We have to change that situation and we have to do it now," Boykin said.

Legislator Lyndon Williams (D-Mount Vernon) acknowledged opponents may use scare tactics.

"In our system today, your guilt or innocence depends upon your ability to pay for your freedom or not pay for your freedom and that is not right," Williams said. "That is not the Constitution that we are supposed to be aware of and be respectful for."

Majority Whip MaryJane Shimsky

(D-Hastings-on-Hudson) referenced the 1989 Central Park jogger case and noted how that matter and other cases can destroy individuals' lives.

"People become homeless when they get exonerated and get out of jail because they've lost their apartments while they were in pretrial detention. Sometimes they lose custody of their children," she said.

Shimsky added that many held in pretrial detention are often innocent or they have committed a crime that is far less severe than the charges leveled against them.

Clare Degnan, executive director of the Legal Aid Society of Westchester County, said New York's outdated criminal laws fail to require a prosecutor to share information. While Degnan said some prosecutors believe that information sharing could endanger victims' lives, she countered that a substandard discovery process is compromising due process.

"Prosecutors will say they have a constitutional obligation to provide 'Brady material,' that material which is exculpatory," Degnan said. "The problem is they decide what is exculpatory and what isn't."

Rev. Emma Loftin-Woods was one of the community members who attended the Mar. 11 press conference and she shared a personal story detailing the

difficult financial burden after a family member is arrested.

She said when her grandson was 21, he had a substance abuse problem. He had stolen a chain off of a woman's neck to get money to support his habit. According to the state penal code, the offense was a violent charge even though there was no allegation of aggression.

"Although the person got her chain back and didn't want to press charges, the D.A. pursued the case," Loftin-Woods said. "My grandson's bail was \$50,000."

Bail was reduced to a \$7,500 bond, but she was still forced to use her pension and withdraw money from her retirement fund to pay the bail.

Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) said he has previously voted in favor of improved discovery rules and bail reform. While those measures did not become law, Buchwald said his goal is to "craft legislation that promotes criminal



JADE PEREZ PHOTO

Social justice advocates gathered with county lawmakers in White Plains last week calling for reforms in New York's criminal justice system. Lawmakers and supporters urged the state legislature to make criminal discovery and the bail process more equitable.

justice and the rights of defendants, while keeping in mind the safety of the public."

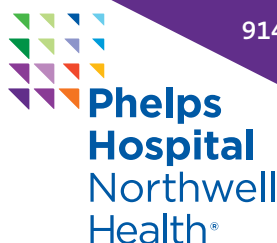
State Sen. Peter Harckham (D-Lewisboro) confirmed there are several pieces of legislation that are being discussed and are in the process of being revised with input from a variety of interests. While Harckham noted the importance of getting legislation passed, he also said it's crucial to make sure any measure is effective. He expects a package of bills to be debated in the near future.

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White Plains Man Gets 14-Year Prison Sentence for Rape

Defendant Carlos Paute, 24, of White Plains, was sentenced to prison, March 15, for raping a woman on her way home from the White Plains Transit Center in November 2017.



Carlos Paute

Westchester County Court Judge Barry Warhit sentenced Paute to 14 years in state prison and 15 years' post-release supervision. After which, he will have to register as a sex offender under SORA (Sex Offender Registration Act) guidelines.

In court, Assistant District Attorney Michelle Lopez, Chief of the Sex Crimes Bureau, read from the victim's impact statement which addressed Paute: "You

took away my worth, my privacy, my energy, my time, my safety, my intimacy, my confidence and my own voice until today." She added, "I am a real person who went through torture. I am not a statistic or a nameless face on the street. I am your sister, your daughter, wife or your girlfriend. What happened to me was real."

Case Background: On Nov. 8, 2017, at approximately 11 p.m. the defendant followed his victim after she left the White Plains Metro-North train station. Paute and the victim did not know each other. She was walking on a footpath adjacent to the Cadillac dealership, which accesses an apartment complex on Rockledge Avenue. As she turned onto Rockledge, the victim heard someone running up behind her and she turned in his direction. Paute then grabbed the victim in a headlock, punched her and forced her to the ground. He continued to strike her and covered her mouth and nose. Panicked and unable to breathe, the victim stopped screaming. At that time, despite the victim repeatedly telling him "no," Paute raped her.

He then threatened her if she ran away quickly. Once he fled, the victim redressed, ran home, and called police. She was treated at Westchester County Medical Center for her injuries.

The investigation was led by White Plains Police. They arrested Paute a few days after the attack.

Paute pleaded guilty to Rape in the First Degree, a class B violent felony, in December, 2018.

Port Chester Man Sentenced to Eight Years for Sexual Assault of Child

Fabio Coutinho, 42, of Port Chester was sentenced to eight years in state prison for the sexual assault of a child in North Castle in June 2018.

The defendant pleaded guilty to Criminal Sexual Act in the First Degree, a class B felony, Jan. 24, 2019. On Mar. 12 Westchester County Court Judge Susan Cacace sentenced Coutinho to an eight-year state prison term and 15 years' post-release supervision. Upon release, he will have to register as a sex offender. A SORA

(Sex Offender Registry Act) hearing will be conducted to determine what sex offender level will be designated.

Case background: On June 6, 2018, Fabio Coutinho was working as an interior house painter in a private North Castle residence. While in the home, the defendant engaged in sexual conduct with the five-year-old victim. The victim immediately told her parents what took place. North Castle Police responded and began their investigation. Through DNA testing of both the victim and the defendant, investigators corroborated the child victim's account.

North Castle PD arrested Coutinho Aug. 21, 2018.



Fabio Coutinho

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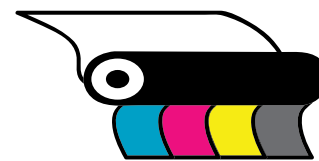
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FAIR DEAL CAFÉ, WHITE PLAINS

By Neal Rentz

Koshy Chacko explained last week why he named his restaurant Fair Deal Café, which opened on Mamaroneck Avenue in White Plains in 1992.

When Chacko, a former White Plains resident who currently lives in Armonk, purchased the building he placed a sign outside the premises which stated, "Let's make this a community store."

Customers sent him their opinions on a range of topics related to his new business including what types of muffins should be baked, what they needed to serve and one person asked if he would "make it a fair deal," Chacko recalled.

Fair Deal Café began as a grocery store and transitioned into a restaurant. After learning that Jewish military veterans wanted a place to sit so they could meet, Chacko decided to construct an addition to the building.

Fair Deal Café has extensive breakfast, lunch and dinner menus. "When people come in they say do you have that?" Chacko said. When he has told customers the restaurant did not offer something he would put it on the menu in response, Chacko said. "We're constantly evolving," he said. "We like to get the people involved."

The best-selling breakfast items are omelettes, sandwiches, "American Classic," which includes two eggs prepared in any style, bacon, sausage, ham, cheese, home fried or hash brown potatoes and toast and "Lean Breakfast," which consists of two egg whites, spinach, turkey bacon and fruit salad, Chacko said.

Though several sandwiches are offered for lunch and dinner, his customers mostly order hot food, Chacko said. Aside from the regular lunch and dinner menus, the restaurant offers daily specials. "At least 70 percent of my customers are everyday customers. So I have to give them a choice," Chacko said.

"Our number one seller here is salmon," Chacko said, adding he personally goes to a local market to purchase the fresh fish. The second most popular lunch and dinner item is lemon chicken, he said, adding, "The sauce is so great."

Another important part of the menus are the smoothies, Chacko said. His restaurant's smoothies are made from fresh fruit and fresh juice without added sweeteners.

The dessert menu includes house-made cranberry and banana pound cakes, Chacko said.



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Armonk resident Koshy Chacko and his wife, Omana, have owned Fair Deal Café in White Plains since 1992.

During the midday hours his customers are generally people who come from elsewhere to work in White Plains. "But in the morning it is people who live in White Plains and in the evening people who live in White Plains," Chacko said.

The restaurant provides catering services for wedding receptions and other events on the second floor and also has takeout catering with such offerings as cheese, hot food and wrap platters.

Chacko said the keys to the success of his restaurant are its fresh food prepared to order every day, affordable prices, his passion for the business and the work of his cook since the eatery opened, Louis Mendez of New York City.

Fair Deal Café is located at 253 Mamaroneck Ave. in White Plains. For more information call 914-946-3000, visit fairdealcafe.com or send an e-mail to fairdeal@aol.com.

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Obituaries

Sr. Jean Marie Noonan

Sr. Jean Marie Noonan, RDC, (formally Sr. Mary Michael), a Sister of the Divine Compassion, died peacefully on March 11.

Sr. Jean was born in the Bronx in 1924, the daughter of Frank and Elma (Oberholtzer) Noonan. She attended St. Thomas Elementary, Pleasantville and St. Mary's High School, Katonah. Sister received her BA in Biology from Good Counsel College and an MS in Chemistry from St. Joseph's College in Hartford, CT.

Sister began her career in teaching at St. Frances de Chantal School, Bronx and continued her career at St. Anthony's Elementary School in West Harrison, St. Lawrence O'Toole in Brewster, Preston High School in the Bronx, Good Counsel High School in White Plains and Kennedy Catholic in Somers. After years of teaching, Sr. Jean earned an RN degree in nursing. She served at Westchester Medical Center and Maryknoll Sisters Convent. Sister also participated in the Maryknoll Mission Program as a Maryknoll Associate Sister. During this period Sr. Jean traveled to South America to work with other Maryknollers.

Sister Laura Donovan, President of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion said, "In Sister Jean, we knew ardent faith, courage and love for God's revelations. A student of science with a deep spirituality, she called us to a new awareness of the "Cosmic Christ." Sister's colorful presence shall be sorely missed. May she rest in peace."

Sr. Jean Marie is survived by her Sisters of the Divine Compassion and many loving nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. She was predeceased by her brother Frank and her sisters, Elma Dellorso and Bernice Coleman.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Sisters of the Divine Compassion, 52 North Broadway, White Plains, NY 10603.

Elsie Jane Lahrmann

Dr. Elsie Jane Lahrmann, 79, returned to her heavenly home on March 11 after a courageous battle with a long illness.

Elsie was born to the late Anthony and Vincenza Manganello in White Plains, on June 12, 1939.

She attended White Plains schools and is a graduate of White Plains High School. She was employed by the City of White Plains as the Director of Emergency Planning and Civil Defense. Upon her retirement from the City of White Plains, she, along with her husband, George, owned and operated Walker Surgical in White Plains. During that time she also received her Doctorate of Naturopathy on July 11, 1998 from Westbrook University, and practiced holistic medicine up and until her death.

Community was very important to her especially in the City she loved dearly, and most recently enjoyed her time serving on the Board of the White Plains Gedney Association.

Elsie was predeceased by her husband, George P. Lahrmann, and her two brothers Frank and Sam Manganello. She is survived by her Nephews, Frank Manganello Jr. (Marie), Michael Manganello (Maureen), and her niece Lindamay Zulfer (Bob). She also leaves behind to cherish her memory, many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews, many devoted friends and extended family.

A Funeral Mass celebrating Elsie's life will take place at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church on April 13, 2019 at 10:45 a.m. Father Philip Quealy will officiate the service. Burial will follow at Ferncliff Cemetery.

The family gratefully requests that in Lieu of flowers donations be made in memory of Elsie Jane Lahrmann to Rosary Hill, 600 Linda Avenue, Hawthorne NY 10532; rosaryhillhome.org.

Ursula Marie Downey

Ursula Marie Downey, of White Plains, peacefully passed away on March 9 at age 96. She was born Feb. 1, 1923 on Staten Island, to Kathleen (Leary) and Jerome Donovan. She wed her beloved William Patrick Downey on Feb. 2, 1946 and they celebrated 67 years of marriage together. William predeceased Ursula in January of 2013 at the age of 94.

Ursula was a devoted mother, grandmother, great grandmother, neighbor and friend to all. She loved her family, reading, animals and flowers. She was a parishioner and volunteer at St. John the Evangelist Church and School in White Plains.

Ursula is survived by her sister Maeve Donovan and predeceased by her sister Rosemary Donovan. She will be lovingly remembered by her four children: Rosemary Mascali and her husband Kenneth of North White Plains, Deidre Smialowski and her husband Joseph of Newtown, CT, Andrea Downey and her husband Richard Kassler of New York City and Kevin Patrick Downey and his wife Kelly (Walsh) of Wilton, CT, and seven grandchildren: Sean Patrick Mascali, Meaghan Kate Bullard (Smialowski) and her husband James Donne, Brendan Matthew Smialowski and his wife Tanya (Kalmykova), Kathleen Maeve, Tara Donovan, Meaghan Walsh and Hailey Elizabeth Downey, and her great granddaughter, Clio James Bullard.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. John the Evangelist Church 148 Hamilton Avenue White Plains, NY 10601.

Rev. Thomas Kallumady

Rev. Thomas Kallumady, pastor of St. John the Evangelist and Mt. Carmel Church in White Plains, died March 9 at the age of 70.

Fr. Thomas was born March 25, 1948 in India to the late Joseph and Theresa

Kallumady.

He was ordained to the priesthood on Dec. 3, 1973. He earned his Bachelor degrees in Education and Economics, Masters Degrees in Theology from St. Albert's College, Ranchi, in English Literature from Utkal University, India, Masters in Pastoral Counseling and Doctoral Program in Church Leadership and School Administration, (1994) Fordham University, New York.

He was Pastor, Seminary professor and Archdiocesan Director of Catholic Charities in the Archdiocese of Bhubaneswar, India until 1988.

After coming to the United States, he served in the parishes of St. Michael's, Bronx, St. Frances de Chantal, St. Bernadette, St. Patrick, Brooklyn, Sacred Heart, Staten Island, St. John the Evangelist and St. Joachim, Beacon.

He was incardinated to the Archdiocese of New York in 2000.

He served as pastor of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral Basilica, 2002-2007, also administrator of Most Holy Crucifix. Pastor of the Church of Holy Innocents 2007-2013 Sabbatical Program in Rome 2013-2014. Administrator of the Parishes of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Roosevelt Island, St. John Nepemucene, St. John the Martyr, Manhattan.

Most recently, Fr. Thomas oversaw the renovation of his beloved parish of St. John the Evangelist and Mt. Carmel Church.



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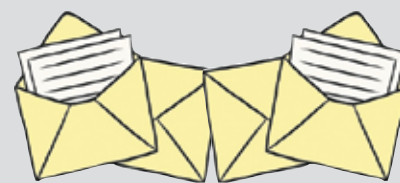
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An Abridged History of America's Tumultuous Wine Industry



By Nick Antonaccio

Much has been written of the American vitality and entrepreneurial spirit that vaulted us to world supremacy over the relatively short history of our democracy. We have accomplished much as a nation and have rarely suffered defeat in any endeavors – with, in my opinion, one notable early exception.

The growth of the wine industry in the United States has seen many fits and starts. I began to consider this as our nation has finally risen to an elite status in the ranks and esteem of the wine world. This is no minor achievement given the history of wine in the United States. Today's success overshadows the early failures of establishing a thriving national wine culture.

While the successful wine legacies of France, Italy, Germany and Spain date to the era of the dominance of the Roman Empire, the adventures of the United States wine industry are far more recent and have followed a path of mercurial highs and lows, coping with the fluctuating favor and derision of the American public.

Here is my brief perspective on the history of commercial winemaking in the United States.

The earliest documented instance of grape-growing and wine production took

place in Florida (French Huguenots) in the late 1500s. In the late 16th century and into the 17th century, small pockets of wine production sprang up along the Eastern seaboard. All were dismal failures.

America's leading proponent of fine wine in the fledgling years of the democracy was Thomas Jefferson. After traveling to France's Bordeaux and Burgundy regions (which were producing world class wines in a thriving industry) and acquiring a taste (and a portfolio) for the wines he encountered, he attempted to grow French grapevines at Monticello. Many years of experimentation ended in failure. Jefferson resorted to enjoying his wine cellar of fine French wines; fellow Americans were content with beer and whisky.

Fast forward to the great surge of immigrants from southern Europe and settlers from northern Europe commencing in the early 1800s. The Italian and German transplants planted European rootstock and hybridized American clones as they traversed the land. They enjoyed success by adapting to the American climate and avoiding its indigenous diseases.

By the mid 1800s, the first successful commercial winery was founded in Indiana; several decades later the most

successful state for producing wines was in another unlikely locale. As Italian immigrants were settling on the Eastern seaboard and slowly heading west, a number of their German counterparts were planting grapevines along the banks of the Missouri River. The hybridized grape they developed, Norton, became an instant success in Missouri. By 1880, Norton production reached two million gallons, the highest in the United States; the local Stone Hill winery was the third largest winery, in volume, in the world.

As the American Far West opened up in the mid-1800s as a land of opportunity, a mad rush took place. Aided by the first transcontinental railroad and the discovery of gold in California, European immigrants created a successful commercial wine industry. They achieved great popularity by replicating the "table wines" of their native countries. Their fellow Americans developed a palate for these pleasant, inexpensive wines.

At the same time, Protestant settlers from Northern Europe disdained the rising preference of Americans for alcohol-based beverages. Their Puritanical beliefs became a mantra for change. They initiated the Temperance Movement, which became a political hot potato, culminating in the enactment of national Prohibition in 1920.

This dark period in American history effectively ended the wine industry in the United States.

When Prohibition was repealed a long 13 years later, the industry struggled to recover. American preferences had changed; sweet, fortified (elevated alcohol) wines became the norm, a sharp digression from earlier preferences. It took nearly a half-century to return to the robust years of quality wine.

However, the inventiveness and entrepreneurialism of American winemakers prevailed. Today the industry enjoys the esteem and respect of the world market.

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 or on Twitter @sharingwine.



Spring: When Hearts Turn to Love and Elbows to Cleaning

Do you like the word association game? When you think of the word spring, does it rapidly associate with cleaning?

I must confess, for me, I have no such association. When I lived in a single-family home, spring was a time to clean up the yard and to create my planting plan for the flower and vegetable garden.

However, for most people, the winter blues are shaken away with a good and deep annual house cleaning. It can be quite a formidable task without the right plan, but it can be more manageable, even enjoyable, with a checklist.

This list offers an overview of what to do to navigate the process.

Clean the clutter to start

The essential part of spring cleaning is getting rid of any clutter – things you don't need. There is no better time to take advantage of the natural spring urge to get rid of items that are weighing you down, whether you realize it or not, and start afresh with a more streamlined lifestyle. Sort belongings into four categories – trash, giveaways, store for long-term or put away just for the season.

No matter where you start – from the outside in, or top to bottom – create a workable schedule and focus only on one task at a time. Furthermore, keep your goal for your finish date flexible.

Some projects will be more involved, such as organizing closets, and will take more time.

The tips below outline basic techniques for cleaning all objects and surfaces of your home, leaving your home spring fresh.

Clean room by room

Whether you prefer to proceed from the attic to the basement or start outdoors and move inside, create a realistic schedule and focus on one task at a time, keeping in mind that a single weekend won't suffice. You'll need several days for more involved projects, such as organizing closets.

Approaching your house room by room is the most effective way to deep clean your home at any time of the year, but especially in spring. Use room checklists as a springboard for deep-cleaning the areas of your home that really need extra attention. It is all right to skip items that have recently been cleaned and to focus on the parts of your home



By Bill Primavera

that have been neglected for a while.

Dust, dust, dust

Use a vacuum to remove dust on all surfaces where you can. Take everything off shelves and brush them (along with the books) with a feather duster. Use the dust brush or crevice tool on a vacuum to reach tight spots.

Clean upholstered furnishings

Take cushions outside and gently beat them by hand to remove dust. If there are stains, check the pieces for care labels. Use a vacuum's upholstery and crevice tools to clean under seat cushions.

Wax wooden furniture

Wipe surfaces with a soft cloth dampened with water and mild dishwashing liquid. Apply paste wax, such as Butcher's wax, a few feet at a time with a cotton rag folded into a square pad. Let the wax dry; then buff with a clean cloth.

Wash window screens

Spring is a good time to get a clearer view of the great outdoors. Do this by

washing window screens by using warm water and a mild dishwashing liquid. Scrub the screens with a brush, then rinse thoroughly with a hose.

Wax non-wood floors

Vinyl and linoleum floors that have lost their shine should be waxed with a polish designed for these surfaces. Most stone and tile floors can be treated with either a paste or a liquid wax designed for the material.

Establish new cleaning habits

Consistency with cleaning habits makes life easier for the homeowner. While a good, thorough spring cleaning is a great time to establish new ongoing cleaning habits and it can also make the next spring cleaning a good deal easier.

Simple 15-minute cleanup routines practiced every few days, each including a series of one- to two-minute chores, can make it remarkably easy to keep your home clean and tidy all year long. All you need is the discipline to adhere to such a plan. Good luck!

Bill Primavera, while a publicist and journalist, is also a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (www.PrimaveraPR.com). To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

Where to Dine After the 2019 NYBG Spring Orchid Show



By Morris Gut

A beautiful Technicolor harbinger of spring, the 17th annual Orchid Show at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx runs through April 28. I look forward to visiting NYBG, walking through the beautifully restored Enid Haupt Conservatory and beholding the seductive floral arrangements and dramatic plantings. This year's theme: 'Singapore, City in a Garden' (for additional info: www.nybg.org). After taking in all that beauty, we do get hungry. So where do we dine? Here are a few suggestions.

Orchid Evenings. This year visitors can enjoy cocktails, like a Singapore Sling, at several bar areas, as well as take in special 'Orchid Evenings' filled with entertainment and snacks from the popular Bronx Night Market pop-up, www.thebronxnightmarket.com. These unique evening events will take place: March 23, 30 and April 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27. Reservations are suggested.

Starr Dining Pavilions at NYBG. Ever since restaurant rock star Stephen Starr took over the food service concessions at NYBG, now known as Constellation Culinary Group, hungry visitors have been taking note. Starr made a big name for himself in Philadelphia where he

owns several powerhouse restaurants including his retro: Continental. He is also represented in Atlantic City at Buddakan, and in Washington, DC at the hot new Le Diplomate where we enjoyed a wonderful French brasserie brunch recently. He has premiered themed Dining Pavilions throughout the park and near the Enid Haupt Pavilion: the casual Pine Tree Café and a more formal dining room with waiter service called Hudson Garden Grill serving an eclectic American menu with locally sourced ingredients. Open daily. Check it out online: www.nybg.org/visit/dining/the-hudson-garden-grill/.

The Quarry. If you prefer to dine closer to home, owner Dominic Cesarini's handsomely renovated bi-level 70-seat dining room and bustling bar/lounge is always engaged in spirited networking. There are artsy exposed pipes and vents on the ceiling. Handsome brown wood and clay tone walls, warm lighting fixtures and modern sturdy deep brown butcher block chairs and tables highlight the floor with large picture windows and seating spilling out onto Main. The staff here is most friendly, efficient and eager to please. Cesarini, a 'local grill man' himself, whose family owned and operated several cafes and grills in the Bronx-Tuckahoe-Eastchester area, has kicked it up a notch

with a good mix of reasonably priced American tavern comfort fare with a good dose of broccoli rabe to go around. Check out the Fresh Salads and Tacos, Flatbreads, Short Ribs with garlic mashed, Filet Mignon Sliders, Pork Flatiron Scarpariello and Lamb Shank. Good burgers, too. Open 7 days for lunch, dinner. The Quarry, 106 Main St., Tuckahoe, 914-337-0311, www.thequarryrestaurant.net.

Ernie's Wine Bar. Out of this tiny kitchen come laudatory renditions of American/Global dishes bursting with flavor. Oenophiles, take note. The carefully selected wines served here, many from small-batch independent producers, can be heavenly. It is a wonderful

place to unwind, take in some music on special nights, and indulge. The small bar is great for networking, too. Recent food tastings here have included Luisanna's amazing Veal Meatballs, Cheese and Charcuterie Platter, Duck Wontons, Duck Confit, a wonderful Fettuccine Carbonara; Mushroom and Pea Risotto, and Baked Cod with Vierge Sauce. There is live entertainment. Check ahead for updates. Open Monday through Saturday for happy hour and dinner starting at 4:30 p.m. Ernie's Wine Bar, 7 Pondfield Rd., Bronxville, 914-652-7859.

Launching 2019 Spring Hudson Valley Restaurant Week

A kick-off party for Spring Hudson Valley Restaurant Week was held at The Factoria in Peekskill along the banks of the glistening Hudson River. HVRW continues through March 24, with many restaurants planning to continue serving their special menus for weeks thereafter. The event drew many Hudson Valley luminaries: politicians, restaurateurs and artisanal food purveyors, wineries and microbreweries. Janet Crenshaw, publisher of The Valley Table Magazine, opened the party with a discussion of dining in the Hudson Valley and introduced Factoria owners Louie Lanza and John Sharp. The Factoria complex is home to Fin & Brew Restaurant, River Outpost Brewing Co., and Spins Hudson Arcade, www.factoriacp.com. Guests were treated to a variety of tastings throughout the afternoon. Restaurants participating in HVRW are expected to offer 3-course luncheons for \$22.95, and 3-course dinners for \$32.95. Sometimes there are caveats, so be sure to verify the hours and the menus that are being served. Reservations are advised. For additional information and an up-to-date list of participating restaurants go to www.valleytable.com/hvrw.



Beautiful orchids abound at the Orchid Show at NYBG.

Westchester Beer Fest, March 23
The County Center in White Plains is the site of Westchester Beer Fest on Saturday, March 23 from 4 to 8 p.m. Producers of the event say there will be 200 craft breweries represented. Now



Duck Wontons at Ernie's, Bronxville.

that's a lot of beer. For additional info and tickets: www.countycenter.biz/event/beer-fest-of-westchester/.
Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. E-mail: gutreactions@optonline.net.

Menu Movers & Shakers

Crossword by Myles Mellor

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
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Across

1. Letters before Queen Mary

4. "Cool" amount

7. Prod

10. Emirates, for short

11. Palindromic female name

12. Profit for an investor

13. What U can follow

14. Peter and Brer, for two

16. Like Gen. Colin Powell

17. Mid-east chief

18. Yorktown real estate "Home Team," Bob & Diane _____

20. Cosmonaut Gargarin

21. Hearing organs

25. This Brewster business will "shock" your drains clean, _____ Snake

29. Meat in a deli

31. Unified

32. Windlass

33. Service arm, abbr.

34. Tarzan creator's monogram

Down

1. 'Hip hip ____!'

2. Capital of Lesotho

3. Volleyball player to set up the spike

4. Quagmire

5. Popular potato

6. Tag

7. Estrada of "CHiPs"

8. One who dresses in black

9. Grunts

15. "Ivan IV" composer

19. Nobelist Bohr

22. Kindle

23. Salon jobs

24. Landscapes, e.g.

26. Woodworking equipment

27. Memo

28. ____ de Mayo

29. Singer Bareilles with the hit "Love Song"

30. Police dept. alerts

32. Fungus

Solution on page 13

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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 or call 800-536-1401, Ext. 110

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LEGAL NOTICES

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 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 UP-STATE STUMP GRINDING, LLC. Arts. 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

continued on next page

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continued from previous page

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 TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA March 20, 2019 Pledge of Allegiance 1. Accept NRI maps, diagrams and comments 2. Parks and Recreation personnel changes. 3. Parks and Recreation refunds. 4. Wildwood Knolls Facilities Warrant 5. Appoint Lake Oscawana Harvester Operator 6. Building Department Daily Fee Report 7. Accept proposal from Kappus Pumps & Plumbing for grinder pumps for sewer pump station. 8. Continued discussion regarding road-divided contiguous properties. 9. Presentation by Town Assessor, Sheryl Luongo, regarding information and points of concern about Airbnbs. Audit of monthly bills

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KC MAKEUP, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/16/2018. 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: **Kasey Camacho, 2 Stanley St., Pleasantville, NY, 10570 Purpose: any lawful act.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLA SERVICES, LLC. Articles of Organiza-

tion filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 3, 2019. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **OLA Services, LLC, 50 Broadway, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OLA ASSOCIATES, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 13, 2019. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: **OLA Associates, LLC, 50 Broadway, Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DORENBAUM & BECK, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the SSNY on 2/28/19. Office location is Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **20 Manville Ln., Apt 4, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Healthcare Communications Consulting.**

TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 265 OSCAWANA LAKE ROAD PUTNAM VALLEY, NEW YORK 10579 Phone: (845) 526-3740 Fax: (845) 526-3307 EMAIL: mbabnik@putnamvalley.com NOTICE: Notice is hereby given to interested parties that a Public Hearing will be held by the Putnam Valley Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday March 28, 2019 at 6:30 at Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road for the purpose of considering the following petitions and requests together with all other matters that may properly come before the Board at this time. **AGENDA Held Over 1. Correia, Carlos, 1135 Williams Street-84.-2-48; CD** Request front yard setback variance and

280A variance for two lot subdivision.

2. Spinola, Anthony, 16 Hanson Street, 91.26-1-40; LP Request variance under Section 165-27 I 2 of the Zoning Code for fence. **Decision 3. Homeland Towers, LLC, 265-273 Oscawana Lake Rd.-72.16-1-23;CN** Request variance under Section 165-61 I 1 setback from the property line 210 ft. Request variance under Section 165-61 I 12a2 setback 750 ft. from a dwelling and public assembly. **New Application 4 Dronzek, Judith, 106 Dunderberg Road, - 62.14-1-30; R-3** Request front yard and lake front setback variance for deck and hot tub. **5. Lennon, Tim, 28 White Hill Road, 51.19-1-10; R-3** Request front, rear and variance for increase in height under Section 165-44 A (1) of the Zoning Code for addition to existing house. **6. Prezioso, Robert, 55 Pembroke Court-92.-1-80; R-1** Request variance for finished basement under Section 165-19D of the Zoning Code. **7. Vasquez, Jose, 30 Finnerty Place,-85.9-1-14; R-2** Request side yard setback variance for pool and deck. **8. Wendle, Gerard, 45 Ridgecrest Road, 83.64-1-22; LP** Request front and rear yard setback variance for generator and propane tanks. **BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WILLIAM MASKIELL CHAIRMAN**

NOTICE 3/2019 Please be advised that the next meeting of the **Planning Board** will be held at **Town Hall, 265 Oscawana Lake Road on Monday March 25, 2019** for the purpose of considering the following applications: **Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm AGENDA REVIEW 1. Homeland Towers, LLC- 265-273 Oscawana Lake Road(TM# 72.16-1-23/ File: 2018-0186)** The subject property consists of + 12.1 acres of land and is located on 265-273 Oscawana Lake Road and within the CN Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to lease an area of the parcel in order to construct a 160 foot monopole with antennas, together with related equipment within a fenced compound. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2. Approve Minutes of February 11, 2019**

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Wednesday, Mar. 13

Noonday Getaway Concert. A presentation of Downtown Music at Grace. Guitarist John Lehmann-Haupt is known equally for his arrangements of popular and traditional songs and for his classical interpretations. He has performed throughout the Northeast and in the homes of such prominent New Yorkers as Tom Brokaw and Madeleine Albright. His 12-year engagement at Windows on the World was cited for musical excellence by The New York Times. He returns to Downtown Music with a program, which moves from the music of J.S.Bach to traditional American ballads and on to Stevie Wonder. 12:10 p.m. 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 Nick Wolff and Daniel Luckner, Better Homes and Gardens/Rand Realty, White Plains.

Tech Wednesday for Adults. How to optimize or speed up your computer. 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.

Which Craft? Wednesday. Join Lena Roy from Writopia in a short, short story writing workshop. You will learn the crucial elements along the way — characters, plots, resolutions, and unexpected twists, and be amazed at the compelling result! Snacks will be served. For grades 6 and up. 4 to 5 p.m. at White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains. This program is rescheduled from Jan. 30.

Grandpas United. Sports Book Night. Grandpa's United is an organization of fellow White Plains grandfathers that hope to support the city's youth by serving as mentors; offering guidance, support, and wisdom. Grandpas United "Sports Book Night" will invite retired athletes who

have written books to engage with the Grandpas and student athletes by sharing sports and life experiences concluding with a discussion on suggested sports literature; 6 p.m. at White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Thursday, Mar. 21

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.

T(h)ech Thursday. Coding and design for teens. Learn core skills to create a software applications using free software; 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.

Common Ground: Sexual Misconduct. Are you interested in sharing your thoughts about some of the toughest issues facing our country—as well as listening to the opinions of your neighbors and friends? Then join us for Common Ground, a series of community conversations hosted by the White Plains Public Library and the League of Women Voters of White Plains. People of all viewpoints are welcome to participate, and we are committed to creating an atmosphere that is safe for everyone who attends. It will be a place to share experiences, opinions, and solutions to understand how people in our area are actually affected by the policies, issues, and events that we hear about in the news and media. We believe that together, we can reach across what divides us to create Common Ground. We will use the World Café model to structure our conversation. Participants will be split up into small groups and paired with a table captain, who will help keep the discussion on track. We will mix the groups up a few times during each event, to maximize the number of people who interact with each other. There will be time for both dialogue and reflection. 6 to 8 p.m. Community Room, White Plains Library.

Friday, Mar. 22

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.

Saturday, Mar. 23

Wild Animals Presentation. Join wildlife educator Anthony Cogswell to learn all about his amazing critters. Live animals will be in attendance. Cranberry Lake Preserve, Old Orchard Street, North White Plains. 1 to 2 p.m. Free. Info: 914-428-1005.

Hoff-Barthelson Music School Master Class Series: Daniel Phillips. This violinist is a founding member of the 30-year-old Orion String Quartet, which is in residence at Mannes College of Music and performs regularly at the Chamber Music Society. A winner of the 1976 Young Concert Artists Competition, Phillips has performed as a soloist with many American orchestras and appears regularly at the Spoleto USA, Santa Fe, Chamber Music Northwest, Chesapeake and Music from Angel Fire Festivals, as well as the International Musicians Seminar in Cornwall, England. He is a Queens College professor and on faculty at Mannes College of Music, Bard College Conservatory and The Juilliard School. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Free. Space limited; reservations strongly encouraged. Info: 914-723-1169 or visit www.hbms.org. Registration: E-mail hb@hbms.org.

Magillah Reading. A Humanist-style Magillah reading will be led by Rabbi Frank Tamburello of the Westchester Community for Humanistic Judaism with interactive participation of members and friends. There will also be a humorous short "Purimspiel" by members. Everyone is urged to wear a mask or costume, bring a dessert dish or fruit and also a canned or nonperishable food package as part of the holiday tradition called "Shalach Momot" for donation to a community food pantry. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 2:30 p.m. Free. (Donations welcome.) Info: Contact Dmitry at 914-713-8828 or visit www.wchj.org.

Portland Cello Project. Portland's premiere alt-classical group and a nationally recognized performing, recording and educational group with a revolving cast of classically trained cellists, brings a huge orchestral ensemble,

including brass, percussion and guest vocals by Patti King of The Shins, to perform a night in homage to Radiohead. During the first set, expect unique renditions of classical Radiohead pieces that wander from epic to breathtakingly intimate. The second set, from start to finish, will be Radiohead's seminal "OK Computer" album. This historic album that has proven over the years to yield an infinite variety of artistic inspiration to people of all walks of life with musical subtleties that hint at everything from Bach to Stravinsky. Purchase College's PepsiCo Theatre, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 8 p.m. \$25 to \$45. Info and tickets: 914-251-6200 or visit www.artscenter.org.

Sunday, Mar. 24

"Peter and the Wolf" Children's Concert and Meet the Instruments Party. Hoff-Barthelson Music School presents a special event featuring a performance of Sergei Prokofiev's enchanting classic. Performed by members of Hoff-Barthelson's faculty followed by meeting the instruments and the musicians who played them. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 1:15 and 3:15 p.m. Free. Reservations required. Info and reservations: Visit www.hbms.org.

Save the Planet Forum: Vegan environmental activist Ray Ippolito will lead a conversation on what we can do to save the planet in a forum at the Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation at White Plains (CUUC) 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The forum is sponsored by the congregation's Animal Advocacy Social Justice Team and is open to the public; it is suitable for school-age children and adults. Light food and beverages will be provided. CUUC is located at 468 Rosedale Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605. Childcare can be provided if requested by noon on Wednesday, March 20; send request to CUUCevents@gmail.com.

Crossword Solution from page 10

1	H	2	M	3	S	4	M	5	I	6	L	7	E	8	G	9	G
10	U	A	E	11	A	D	A	12	R	O	I						
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16	R	E	T	17	S	H	E	I	K	H							
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37	P	A	S		38	E	L	O			39	E	S	S			

..... EXAMINER SPORTS

WPHS Tigers Baseball and Softball Warm-Up for the Spring Sports Season

By Albert Coqueran

The Spring Sports Season is upon us and White Plains High School Baseball and Softball wasted no time beginning to evaluate their talent for the upcoming 2019 Seasons.

The Tigers Baseball team is following-up on a remarkable season whereas they went undefeated at 8-0 in the league and won the regular season Section 1 Conference 2-B Title last year.

The Tigers record last season was 17-4-1, after beating Mahopac High School in the First Round of the Section 1 AA Playoffs, while being eliminated by Arlington High School in the Quarterfinals.

Despite the fact that the Tigers return 13 varsity senior players, they lost many impact players after graduation in June, which leaves them seeking new talent to fill those voids.

"We have 13 returning varsity players. However, we do not return many starting players," noted Tigers Head Baseball Coach Marcel Galligani, who is beginning his 19th year at the helm.

The notable players the Tigers varsity lost after last season include first baseman/pitcher Spencer Lodes. Also gone is ace pitcher and leadoff hitter Michael Attonito, who will play for Head Coach



ALBERT COQUERAN PHOTOS

The Lady Tigers Softball Team is young but should be Section 1 AA Title contenders this season. They are led by Team Captains (l-r) sophomore catcher Zoey Kovach, third baseman Sarah DiSanto and junior pitcher Ava Rainone.

are really the only guys we are returning with varsity baseball experience," said Galligani.

Tigers' senior pitcher/outfielder Anthony Burgio played a major role on the mound and at the plate for the League Championship team last season. Burgio, who can stifle batters with his array of pitches, has already signed a Letter of Intent to attend Mercy College.

"I am very excited and ready to take the role. There is nothing better than playing the game I love with my best friends," said Burgio. "I am working with four pitches this season, fast ball, change-up, slider and curve ball and ready to give it my all," emphasized Burgio.

Galligani nurtures local players throughout their formative baseball years through his Hit-N-Run Program and freshmen and junior varsity level baseball teams. If Galligani ever needed his younger

development programs to pay dividends on the varsity level, it would be this season with the lack of varsity experience on his roster.

"It should help us this year. However, the speed of the play from where players are transitioning to from the junior varsity and some of the younger levels is certainly going to be different, so there is just going to be an adjustment period," stated Galligani.

The Tigers will open their 2019 season at RC Ketchum High School, on Thursday, March 28. The Tigers Baseball Home Opener will be against Clarkstown South, on Tuesday, April 2, at 4:30 p.m. at WPHS.

Lady Tigers Softball is Young but Talent Ready

If there is one major aspect of improvement to the Lady Tigers Softball Team this season, it would be the return of pitcher/first baseman Ava Rainone. The junior standout missed all of last season after sustaining an injury the day prior to the start of the 2018 season.

"Last year was really tough because I put in a lot of work before the season and broke my ankle the day before the season started. It feels great to be back," said Rainone, a Team Captain and All-Section selection as a freshman in 2017.

With Rainone out last season the pitching responsibilities fell on eighth grade standout Ella Utschig, who was more than up for the task. Nonetheless, as the regular season winded down, Utschig became injured which was major setback for the Lady Tigers on the mound without Rainone.

Ted O'Donnell begins his 24th year as Tigers Head Varsity Softball Coach with his trusted Assistant Michael "Skip" Stevens at his side for the 18th consecutive season. O'Donnell will also be helped by renowned trainer Chris Rowan as his Volunteer Assistant Coach.

Tigers Softball finished with a 15-6 record last season while advancing to the Section 1 AA Quarterfinals, where they lost to the 2018 Section 1 AA Champs Yorktown High School. "I was very pleased with last year, especially considering some of the injuries we faced," commented O'Donnell.

What is most noticeable regarding the Lady Tigers this season is that there are no seniors on their 2019 roster. However, they have a potent squad of young varsity talent, who has been playing together for many years.

Some of the returning players include junior third baseman Sarah DiSanto, a power hitter, who was All-Section her freshmen and sophomore seasons. Also, ninth grade prodigy second baseman Alexa Galligani who was the leadoff hitter last year. If the name sounds familiar, yes, she is the daughter of Tigers Varsity Head Baseball Coach Marcel Galligani.

Natasha Mendez also returns with her big bat to play shortstop as a freshman this year. Mendez started at shortstop last season and batted clean up as an eighth grader. Anchoring the Tigers battery is sophomore catcher Zoey Kovach. Kovach is the first sophomore Team Captain that O'Donnell has had in his 24 years at the helm "We are really good group of girls and nobody should count us out just because we are young. The chemistry between us is really good and we are on to big things," said Kovach.

Tigers Softball will open the 2019 season with their Home Opener versus Carmel High School, on Monday, March 25, at WPHS.



Tigers Softball slugger Sarah DiSanto was one of the top homerun hitters in Section 1 last season. DiSanto, a junior, was selected All-Section as a freshman and sophomore the past two years.

Nick Restaino at Sacred Heart University this season.

The Tigers also lost their first-string catcher and clean-up hitter Matt Dorchak, who after graduation took his talents to Villanova University. The Tigers also graduated veterans Conor Vogel, Paul Rand and Steven Flores. Therefore, the heart of the Tigers line-up and their star pitchers have moved on to the college ranks.

"When we look back to our roster from last year we are technically returning Anthony (Burgio), Nicky Gomez in the outfield and Ryan Sevcik, who will play the majority of the season at third base. Those



Tigers sophomore guard Tymir Greene had a quality game while scoring 12 points as White Plains beat Ossining 74-49, in the First Round of the Section 1 AA Quarterfinals. The Tigers will play Mount Vernon in the AA Semifinals, on Wednesday, at the County Center.

..... EXAMINER SPORTS

White Plains Plainsmen Luca Fugarino Stands with NY Rangers at MSG

By Albert Coqueran

Luca Fugarino received a thrill of a lifetime when the eight-year old member of the White Plains Plainsmen Youth Hockey League was selected to join the NHL NY Rangers and stand with them during the National Anthem on the ice at Madison Square Garden.

Fugarino participated in the National Anthem pregame ceremony dubbed the Junior Rangers BlueLine Kids Experience, before the Rangers played the Washington Capitals, on March 3.

Fugarino is a third grade student at Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School. He was selected along with the five other youth hockey team members from the Tri-State area from thousands of participants in the NY Rangers Junior Assist Program to partake the Junior Rangers BlueLine



PHOTO COURTESY OF FUGARINO FAMILY

Luca Fugarino (left), a member of the White Plains Plainsmen Youth Hockey League was selected to participate in the Junior Rangers BlueLine Kids Experience. Fugarino stood with the NY Rangers including (l-r) defenseman Tony DeAngelo, Assistant Captain Jesper Fast, forward Ryan Strome and center Vladislav Namestnikov, during the National Anthem, before the Rangers played the Washington Capitals, on March 3 at MSG.

Experience.

On March 3, the Rangers lost to the Capitals 3-2, on an Alex Ovechkin shootout goal. Nevertheless, the young White Plains Plainsman will never forget his BlueLine Kids Experience, while standing with the Rangers during the National Anthem at "The World's Most Famous Arena."

Luca's father is Steve Fugarino, the Junior Varsity Baseball, Modified Football and Modified Hockey Coach at White Plains High School.

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'Superman' Musical Coming to White Plains Performing Arts Center

By Neal Rentz

Superman has been an American pop culture icon since he swooped into his first comic book in 1938.

The character has been portrayed in seemingly countless adaptations in comics, films and television series for eight decades. But did you know that Superman was a star of a musical play?

"It's a Bird...It's a Plane...It's Superman,"

why he chose the play.

"Each year I try to pick one quirky, off-the-wall show to put into our season," Summers said. "I love introducing young performers to shows they have never seen or heard -- it is a fun adventure for them."

Summers described the premise of the play. "Superman battles a vengeful scientist determined to destroy the world's symbol of good. Meanwhile, Daily Planet

Summers said the performers for the upcoming production are between the ages of 10 and 13 and live in Mamaroneck, Rye, Larchmont and the surrounding areas. The show will be presented by three groups of students. "It is a relatively small show and I wanted to give all the performers who auditioned the chance to play a principal role. So splitting the show into three casts allowed me to do that," Summers said.

"The most challenging part of the show was helping the young performers understand the campy, '60's vibe' of the show," Summers said. "They have no frame of reference for this kind of humor, so

helping them to really find the cartoonish quality to the performances provided our greatest challenge."

Summers said the upcoming show is an opportunity to see a musical that is not often performed locally. "I would love for people to know that this show doesn't come around very often and so I would encourage them to come check it out. And bring the kids. It's a fun 90 minutes."

The White Plains Performing Arts Center is located at 11 City Place, on the third floor.

Tickets are \$15. To purchase tickets or to receive more information, visit <https://www.wstshows.com/on-stage>.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WESTCHESTER SANDBOX THEATRE.

Part of the cast of "It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman," which will be presented by the Sandbox Theatre at the White Plains Performing Arts Center from March 21 through 24.

debuted on Broadway in 1966. The original production had a book written by Robert Benton and David Newman, with lyrics by Lee Adams and music by Charles Strouse.

"Superman" is coming to the White Plains Performing Arts Center on March 21 through 24 in performances staged by the Sandbox Theatre.

Jason Summers, the Sandbox Theatre's artistic director, is the show's director and choreographer. He explained last week

writer Lois Lane struggles to make sense of her rocky romance with the superhero and Lois' ambitious coworker Max vows to make a name for himself by unveiling the Man of Steel's secret identity," he said.

Spoiler alert – Superman will not fly in this week's production. "Even in its original Broadway incarnation they only did one short 'flying' sequence," Summers said. "For such a campy, silly show, the flying becomes secondary and isn't necessary to telling the story."

Jump in and Swim and Special Olympics Programs at White Plains HS Pool



For the fourth year, White Plains High School partnered with the White Plains Recreation & Parks Department and the City's Youth Bureau in a "Jump In & Swim" program in the High School Pool last month. Over 100 students in the school's Lifeguarding and Aquatics classes volunteered to conduct swimming lessons. Under the direction of Teacher and Coach Patty Gilmartin, they devoted four days of 45-minute lessons to help promote safety in the water. Then in March, over 70 students volunteered to assist with the Special Olympics held in the White Plains pool. Lifeguarding class members got to practice their skills and Aquatics students participated in timing, presenting awards and cheering the swimmers on.

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