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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 9, Issue 416

County Police to Marijuana Legalization Backers: Not So Fast

By Ed Perratore

Westchester County in January reduced penalties for possessing up to two ounces of marijuana, and New York State's new law decriminalizing possession of similar amounts takes effect later this month. A new poll from Siena College also shows New Yorkers favoring marijuana legalization 55% to 40%, so you might think most residents are on board for the state to follow 11 others that have fully legalized recreational marijuana.

But police officials in the county, and across the state, have not budged on their position: Proceed with caution.

Extreme caution.

It isn't only that Governor Andrew Cuomo surprised police departments across the state with his declaration, last December, that legalizing recreational marijuana was among the top goals for his third term. It's that the police want no further steps toward state-sanctioned cannabis without a broad discussion—involving them and other stakeholders, such as medical professionals—that addresses their many doubts.

Following the governor's declaration, the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police issued a statement

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Macaroni the Clown Entertains Youth Bureau Campers

Two hundred-five summer campers were visited by Macaroni the Clown at the Youth Bureaus Bits N Pieces Summer Camp last week at Church Street School in White Plains. The auditorium was filled with laughter and fun as "Macaroni" performed juggling, rope tricks, and disappearing acts. The annual program was sponsored by Grandpas United.



Elected Officials Praise New State Gun Safety Legislation

By Neal Rentz

Gun safety legislation signed into law last week by Gov. Andrew Cuomo was praised by elected officials, just days before the country was rocked yet again by two incidents of mass gun violence in Texas and Ohio occurring within 24-hours of each other.

Cuomo signed legislation to establish up to a 30-day waiting period for individuals who are not immediately approved to purchase a firearm through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. The new law also closed the statutory loopholes to prohibit ownership or sale of a bump stock.

"For too long gun violence has plagued communities across our nation and while the federal government turns a blind eye, New York continues leading the way

forward to protect our families and our children," Cuomo said. "By signing these measures into law we are strengthening our nation-leading gun laws - banning devices whose sole purpose is to create the most bloodshed in the shortest timeframe and providing law enforcement the tools they need to stop firearms from falling into dangerous hands."

"As gun violence continues to affect communities across the state and the nation, we are advancing our efforts to strengthen our laws and protect New Yorkers," Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul said. "This legislation, extending the background check waiting period and banning bump stocks, will help to ensure that firearms do not get into the wrong hands and bans the use of devices that have been used to wreak havoc. We are committed to building on our nation-leading policies to stop senseless gun

violence and save lives."

According to the governor's office, federal law requires gun dealers to conduct a National Instant Criminal Background Check System background check on a potential purchaser prior to selling a firearm, which immediately provides the dealer with one of three possible notifications - "proceed," "denied," or "delayed." In the case of a "delayed" response, the dealer must wait three days before completing the sale. The FBI may continue to investigate the individual past the three-day timeframe but oftentimes by the time law enforcement has determined that the potential purchaser is ineligible, the sale has already been completed. By extending the waiting period up to 30 days, law enforcement is provided with sufficient time to complete a background check and help ensure that only those eligible to purchase and own a firearm are able to do so,

according to the governor's office.

The legislation was also lauded last week by Assemblywoman Amy Paulin (D-Scarsdale).

"This achievement has special meaning for me," Paulin said. "I was an advocate on the issue of commonsense measures to prevent gun violence long before I was an Assemblymember. I introduced a bill on the safe storage of firearms at the very beginning of my Assembly career. Though it has been a long time in coming, the result is a law that will help prevent accidental injuries and deaths, particularly of children, and will also help prevent incidents of suicide and theft."

"New York state law already requires the safe storage of rifles, shotguns, and handguns in households when a person who lives there has been convicted of a crime,

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County Police to Marijuana Legalization Backers: Not So Fast

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urging the state to take its time, learn from the experiences of states that had opted for legalization, and include all appropriate parties in any further plans. The county's chapter, the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association, followed suit. "Is that where we really want to go? Are we really going to do it because other states have done it? That's not necessarily the best answer," said Mt. Pleasant Chief of Police Paul J. Oliva, the president of the county's chapter and author of its own statement.

White Plains Public Safety Commissioner David Chong who was also asked to comment said that all 42 of the county's chiefs and commissioners have agreed to have one single spokesperson on the issue, the president of the county's chapter.

The arguments of the Westchester County Chiefs are twofold: public safety and public health. And a primary disagreement police have with marijuana's advocates is over the idea of marijuana as a "gateway drug" that leads to more dangerous, more addictive drug habits. The police insist it's a gateway drug; the opposition considers that notion long debunked.

But in truth, today's marijuana appears to be its own gateway. Many people today who advocate the legalization of recreational marijuana smoked it as teens, or in college, decades ago. And through the 1980s, the levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive compound in marijuana that gives the high sensation, was less than 2%. Today, the ranges of THC content in licensed dispensaries of states that have



Mt. Pleasant Chief of Police Paul J. Oliva, president of the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association, spoke to The Examiner.

legalized marijuana are much higher than that, but homegrown and black-market products, including THC-laced edibles resembling desserts or candies, can reach near 100% THC. Besides their greater psychoactive effects, higher THC levels are much more addictive.

Among the effects of routinely using today's higher-THC marijuana, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, are problems with attention, memory, and learning, along with increased risk of stroke and heart disease. Another potential effect—of particular concern if the user takes the wheel—is that "...marijuana users are significantly more likely than nonusers to develop temporary psychosis

(not knowing what is real, hallucinations and paranoia) and long-lasting mental disorders, including schizophrenia," according to the CDC.

Said Oliva: "Locally we've had people overdose on marijuana edibles, which, in all my 30-plus years as a police officer, I'd never seen."

This is what worries those concerned about public safety. THC levels do not necessarily correspond with impaired driving as consistently as blood-alcohol counts, but police sometimes can spot high drivers—by their slower reaction time, impaired judgment of time and distance, and decreased coordination—much the way they do drunks. "After alcohol," said the National Institute on Drug Abuse, "marijuana is the drug most often found in the blood of drivers involved in crashes."

And even without all-out legalization, there are more drivers impaired by THC, alone or in combination with alcohol or other substances. "In the past three years, we're seeing an increase in arrests with ability impaired from marijuana," said Oliva. "We've had accidents where marijuana was definitely involved, accidents with injuries where people smoked or ingested marijuana, and have had more vehicle crashes."


The many delivery systems of THC—joints, blunts, water pipes, edibles and more—further complicate how a police officer assesses a driver he or she has stopped along a highway. Unlike with alcohol, for instance, an officer during a vehicle stop cannot necessarily smell or

measure marijuana in the driver's breath. This, plus the way THC can linger in the blood for weeks, leads New York chiefs to insist that the financial impact of training officers to properly detect impairment by marijuana "could be crippling to some municipalities" without appropriate funding from the state.

Perhaps the greatest concern of both police organizations is the message legalization sends to kids, and THC's particular effects on developing brains. Harvard Medical School cites studies suggesting "that when youth and young adults (whose brains are still developing), are exposed to marijuana in secondhand smoke, it may have permanent effects on executive function, memory, and even IQ." Executive function helps us plan or manage time, evaluate ideas, finish work on time, and multitask.

The outcome gets worse if the teen or young adult is the one partaking. "Heavy marijuana use in adolescence or early adulthood," said the American Psychological Association, "has been associated with a dismal set of life outcomes including poor school performance, higher dropout rates, increased welfare dependence, greater unemployment and lower life satisfaction."

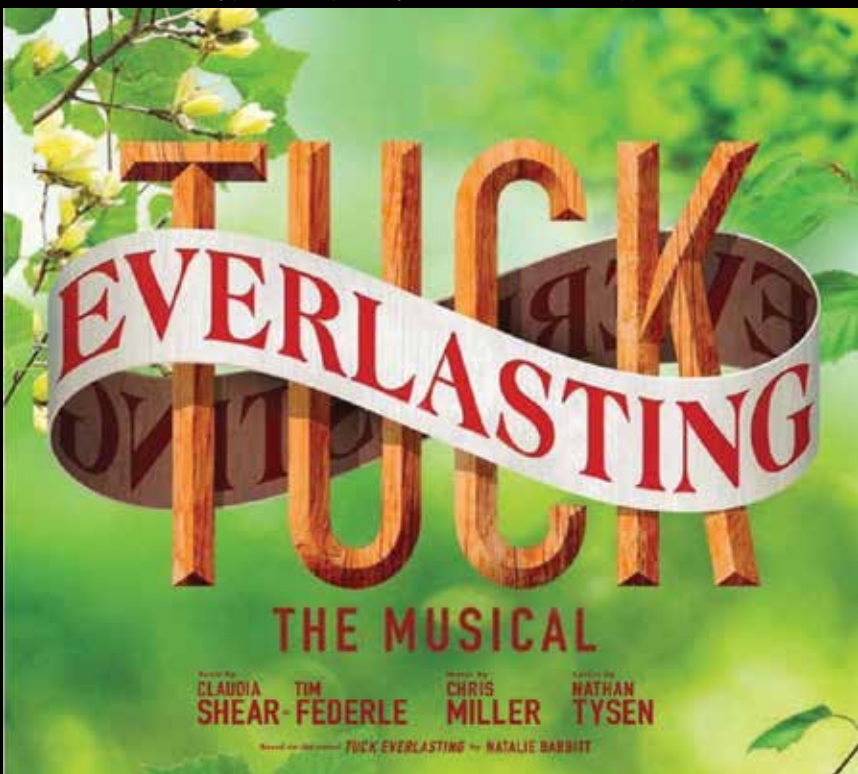
Oliva insists it shouldn't be about tax revenue—or about politics. "It's a public safety issue," he says. "Just as people choose to drive when they've been drinking, people will die on the roadways after full legalization. We need time to educate people about the dangers, even if one life is saved."



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Vaping Epidemic Growing Among Youth, Warns Congresswoman

By Abby Luby

Local high school students sent a strong message to adults at the roundtable discussion "E-Cigarettes and Youth," chaired by Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) last week. Their message: Here's what we're doing to stop kids vaping, but we need your help.

The meeting was held at the Student Assistance Services Corp. in Tarrytown where some half a dozen teens spoke directly to Lowey and several high-profile experts from the Centers for Disease Control Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) as well as local physicians, educators, health advocates and youth directors. "There's a lot of dangerous peer pressure on social media like Snapchat and Instagram," said Meaghan Ennis of Pleasantville High School. "Adults don't see a lot of the advertising for e-cigarettes because it's hard to find. You have to dig for it and it shows that vaping is cool."

CDC's Dr. Brian King, an expert on youth tobacco and e-cigarettes, said from 2017 to 2018, e-cigarette use among high schoolers rose 78 percent. "New products appeal to kids. Advertisements, new flavors and nicotine — that's the tri-fecta of factors that lead to the initiation of the youth epidemic. Schools are ground zero where e-cigs are being used. We are seeing signs of nicotine dependency."

Congresswoman Lowey has long spearheaded legislation addressing addiction to tobacco and e-cigarettes by youngsters. As Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, Lowey included an increase of \$40 million for the Office on Smoking and Health in the House-passed spending bill for Fiscal Year 2020. The Senate is currently considering this legislation. "Every stakeholder here today is critical to combatting the use of e-cigarettes by kids, teens, and young adults," said Lowey. "I am honored that members of the CDC Office on Smoking and Health traveled to the Lower Hudson Valley to collaborate with local physicians, educators, health advocates, youth directors, and students. This epidemic has taken hold in our community and ending it will be a team effort."

Nicole Calle, a senior at Ossining High School told about attending a recent youth conference to learn how to sway teens away from vaping or smoking. "We learned how to practice drug free fun and bring that

knowledge back to our schools," said Calle, who explained that teens indulge in tobacco and e-cigarettes, raising their dopamine levels to feel good. "Those levels can go up naturally and you don't have to smoke to feel good." Calle was applauded when she said, "Teens are attracted to the vape flavors. We want to hold a flavor ban and get the youth on board with that. Kids are here to stand up for themselves and I hope you guys can help us get this epidemic out of our schools." Lowey responded by saying, "This group has to continue to be vocal. We can't give up. I'm so impassioned about this issue and I hope to get more money to help control this epidemic."

Sherlita Amler, MD, Westchester County Commissioner of Health passed around several types of e-cigarettes. She talked about the Tobacco 21 law passed last year by Westchester County Executive George Latimer making it illegal to sell vaping products to anyone under age 21. "Many young people don't realize that when they vape, they breathe in an aerosol that can contain harmful substances, including highly concentrated and addictive nicotine, volatile organic compounds that can cause cancer, heavy metals and diacetyl, a chemical linked to a serious lung disease."

Educators on tap included Joseph Spero, Principal of Walter Panas High School of the Lakeland school district and Dr. Joseph Ricca, Superintendent of Schools in White Plains. Spero said the Lakeland school district considers it an infraction if a student is caught smoking within 100 feet of the school. "Our goal is not to throw kids out of school for bad behavior. But you also have to send a message that certain behaviors are serious issues. It's a balance."

Pleasantville High School student Nya Pierre shared a typical scene in a boys' bathroom at school. "It's pretty sad when you see kids smoking in the stalls." Pierre was joined by his fellow classmate Ian McKensie who told Lowey "a high school student could effectively help younger kids not to smoke. For younger kids that are starting to smoke cigarettes or are vaping, older teens are a good role model who could really listen."

Calle told of a public service announcement (PSA) contest whose message was to show students how to resist peer pressure to try e-cigarettes. "The videos produced in our school showed a teen's point of view and how to help their fellow students in many different situations including mental health issues. It



From left to right: Ossining High School Senior Nicole Calle, Pleasantville High School Student Ian McKensie, Congresswoman Nita Lowey, Pleasantville High School students Nya Pierre and Meaghan Ennis, and Alex Alvarez.

would be great to bring this PSA contest to more schools."

Lowey said the House Committee on Oversight and Reform hearing a few weeks ago focused on Juul, the company producing flavored e-cigarettes that advertises directly to teens.

"This is not the first hearing on this. We need to look at this issue from every perspective. The saturation of e-cigarettes has turned back the clock on decades of success in deterring underage use of tobacco," Lowey said.

Juul and other companies have marketed e-cigarettes without FDA approval for years but just a few weeks ago a judge ruled that e-cigarette makers have to submit applications for approval by the FDA by May, 2020. Late last year, the tobacco giant Altria invested \$12.8 billion in Juul. Altria's 35 percent stake in Juul is valued at \$38 billion.

When the discussion was over, Nicole Calle said, "This was a great opportunity to bring ideas to adults who were attentive. They were listening and took us seriously. We hope they will help us make a change."

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Bronx Woman Indicted for Burglaries of Households During Funeral Services

Latonia Shelecia Stewart, 27, was arraigned July 31 following a 22-count indictment by the Westchester County Grand Jury related to a series of residential burglaries of homes where families were attending funeral services. The thefts began in the fall of 2017 and ending in spring 2018.

The charges included six counts of Burglary in the Second Degree, a class C felony; five counts of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a class D felony; one count of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, a class E felony; one count of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property, a class D felony; one count of Petit Larceny, a misdemeanor; four counts of Criminal Mischief in the Fourth Degree,

a misdemeanor; one count of Possession of Burglar's tools, a misdemeanor; and three motor vehicle violations

The indictment alleges Stewart burglarized the Westchester homes of people who were out of the house attending their spouse's wake or funeral service. Stewart looked up obituaries online and targeted homes of individuals she believed would not be home while attending the decedent's services. When the people returned home, they found their home burglarized. They reported jewelry and other personal property missing. At some of the residences, the defendant broke windows and glass doors to enter using

a mallet hammer that was located under the seat of her vehicle when she was apprehended.

The charges stem from six incidents in Rye Brook, Cortlandt, Scarsdale, Irvington (Town of Greenburgh), Ossining and Tarrytown. She also faces charges for burglaries in Greenwich, Connecticut and in Carmel in Putnam County.

On May 1, 2018, Greenburgh Police, after surveiling the suspect for some time, observed Stewart driving away from the home of a deceased person. They stopped her car on the Sprain Brook Parkway. Inside the vehicle, they found jewelry in plain view. She also had an obituary on her cellphone.

Her baby was in the car at the time. Police took her into custody and later searched her car and her Bronx residence finding more stolen items and burglar's tools.

Greenburgh Police and the DA's Investigations Division with the assistance of New York State Police, Greenwich PD, Ossining PD, Tarrytown PD, Scarsdale PD and Rye Brook PD, investigated the case.

Stewart is scheduled next to appear in court Aug. 13.

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is subject to an order of protection or other factors," Paulin said. "This law adds households where a child under the age of 16 lives, or times when a child of that age could reasonably be expected to be visiting a house. Given everything we know about the effect a gun in the home can have on our children's health and safety, and the many tragic stories when a firearm was left unattended by an adult, this law is absolutely necessary for keeping our kids safe."



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The Sharing Shelf Begins Backpacks to School Initiative

By Natalie Chun

On Aug. 2, The Sharing Shelf began filling the first backpacks for its annual Backpacks to School initiative which plans to pack over 1,250 backpacks this year. Volunteers filling the bags ranged from middle school students to county officials, including Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

The Sharing Shelf is a grassroots initiative, which collects and distributes new and gently-used clothing for low-income children in Westchester County. Director Deborah Blatt started The Sharing Shelf in her garage just eight years ago. Since then, around 11,000 children have been served and The Sharing Shelf is continuing to expand, both in impact and its location.

"We're all about elevating the children and giving them more self-esteem and keeping them in school, that's really critical to us," Blatt said. "We know that children are dropping out of school, we know that children are not attending school, because they lack things as basic as clothing, socks, underwear."

The Sharing Shelf achieves this by partnering with nonprofits, community groups, schools and hospitals in the county. Blatt uses the euphemism "care manager" for teachers, attorneys, caseworkers, therapists and others working with low-income children and families. These care managers can submit requests for clothing to The Sharing Shelf, which puts together a package of clothing for each individual child.

"We're also making it easier for those



Volunteers plan to fill over 1,250 backpacks this year for The Sharing Shelf's annual Backpacks to School initiative. NATALIE CHUN PHOTO

working with low-income families in the nonprofit sector by giving them a tool to assist their clients with one more thing," Blatt said.

Because The Sharing Shelf works through these care managers, they do not work directly with families or individuals. They do not have the ability to assess need, according to Blatt so instead, those seeking The Sharing Shelf's assistance should go through the Department of Social Services.

"So a family in need, we would encourage

them to contact anyone they are working with in DSS," Blatt said. "Do they receive housing support? Do they receive food stamps? Contact their person at employment services or their person within DSS. Or, if they have any kind of Social Work support to contact that caseworker."

These care managers can also submit requests for children in need of backpacks from The Sharing Shelf during their annual Backpacks to School initiative. The Sharing Shelf also hosts a semi-annual Teen Boutique

which is a free, one-day shopping boutique for girls aged 13-19 from families in financial need.

The Sharing Shelf is focused on its community and logs 5,000 volunteer hours each year. They receive donations from nonprofits, stores, and members of the community but are currently in need of financial support in order to continue bringing clothing and school supplies to those in need.

"I love to see how the community steps forward with donations, with volunteering to give back, and we're really glad that the Shelf can be the impetus to make change for children who have need in our community," Blatt said.

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Obituaries

Josephine Ferrara

Josephine Marie Ferrara of West Harrison passed away on July 30 of chronic respiratory failure at the age of 87.

She was born in White Plains on May 3, 1932 to Vincenzo and Felicia Caridi, and graduated from White Plains High School.

Josephine is survived by her husband,

Domenico Ferrara, and their six children Teresa (Pietro) Toscano, Tony Ferrara, Vincent (Lisa) Ferrara, Josephine Ferrara, Domenick Ferrara and Felicia (Matthew) Fanelli.

She is also survived by her brother Vincent Caridi, as well as her four grandchildren Jake and Michael Fanelli, Christina (Jamie) Dohrenwend and Samantha (Tim) Rossner,

and her great-grandson, Connor Mako.

She is predeceased by her five siblings Anthony Caridi, Demetrio Caridi, Antonette Pavone, Joseph Caridi and John Caridi.

She was a devoted wife and a loving mother. She was a dedicated homemaker who took pride in her home and cooking.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to a charity of your choice.

Congresswoman Lowey Supports Impeachment Inquiry of Trump

Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-Harrison) announced last week she supported an impeachment inquiry into the alleged illegal campaign activities of President Donald Trump.

Lowey, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said she notified Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the House of Representatives, of her position.

"Since he took office, House Democrats have been aggressively and thoughtfully investigating potentially illegal activity by the President and others on his campaign and in his administration. The administration has done all it can to withhold information, leading to various legal efforts to secure testimony and evidence," Lowey stated.

"Former Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation produced a report

that shed light on the depths of systemic deception that appears to be second nature for the President and his advisors. While the Special Counsel's office did not indict the President, Mueller's testimony before the House Judiciary and Intelligence Committees made clear that there was no exoneration of the Trump administration, evidence of obstruction of justice leaves the President vulnerable to indictment after he leaves office, and Russia continues its efforts to steal our elections from the American people," Lowey continued.

"The House Judiciary Committee should move forward with an impeachment inquiry. I will continue to strongly support the important efforts of Democrats on the House Judiciary, Intelligence, Oversight, and other committees who are working

to hold President Trump accountable to the American people and believe an impeachment inquiry will strengthen our hand in uncovering the truth," she added. "As Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, I will also continue to work to ensure effective oversight of this administration."

Lowey, whose district (District 17) includes the City of White Plains, Rye, Harrison, Greenburgh and towns further north in Westchester and Putnam County, is currently serving her 16th two-year term.

Meanwhile, Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney (D-District 18), covers the Town of Somers, said he did not support an impeachment inquiry since he didn't believe it would be successful and would detract from other issues.

Westchester County Police Statement on Active Shooter Incidents

Over the weekend, County Executive George Latimer issued the following statement: "In the span of hours, our nation once again is reeling from the news of scores of fellow citizens – in two separate incidents - being killed at the hands of a person with an agenda and a gun. This is not normal and this is not okay. To honor these victims, I am directing flags on Westchester County buildings and property to be lowered to half-staff. We as a Country must act, we must do something, to stop this uniquely American epidemic."

Latimer also directed the Department of Public Safety to increase communication with local police departments in Westchester and provide any needed support they request. In response, intelligence bulletins from the New York State Intelligence Center and

the County Police were shared with local law enforcement through the Real Time Crime Center. RTC will continue to monitor developments and share that information with local law enforcement as needed.

Although there is no indication of any threats in this region, Westchester County Police are also assessing the need for increased patrols in Mount Kisco and Cortlandt, the two communities where the County Police provide municipal police service.

In continuation of the Department's efforts to keep Westchester residents safe, the County Police in recent months have provided active shooter training for civilians and law enforcement. The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training has been provided to hundreds of county

employees and citizens. Additional sessions are anticipated. CRASE provides practical guidance to increase the odds of surviving an active shooter event in the workplace or at public venues.

The County Police will continue to work closely with Counter-Terrorism Zone 3, the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association and all its law enforcement partners on training and exercises regarding active shooter events. It also continues to provide training and guidance to the Westchester Security Directors Association, among other groups. The Department will also be exploring adding private sector partners to the mutual aid drills that are held quarterly to ensure a rapid and coordinated response to any large-scale incident that might occur in the County.

Bronx Man Found Guilty of Attempted Murder in I-95 Shooting

Jamil Fields of the Bronx was found guilty of attempted murder and other charges following a jury trial for the shooting of another man on I-95 in Harrison in 2017.

The jury found Fields guilty of Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, a class B violent felony; Assault in the First Degree, a class B violent felony; and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C felony.

On July 18, 2017 at approximately 5:45 p.m., New York State Police and other emergency personnel responded to the area north of Exit 18B on Interstate 95 northbound in the Town of Harrison. There they found a man on the side of the interstate being cared for by civilians. The victim had sustained multiple gunshot wounds, including to his head, torso and left arm.

New York State Police investigators

found the victim had been shot while in a U-Haul van just prior to exiting that vehicle as it traveled northbound on I-95. Further investigation led police to Jamil Fields of the Bronx who had rented the U-Haul van in which the victim was shot.

On July 22, 2017, investigators located Fields who was still in possession of that van. Fields was arrested.

Sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 3.

Westchester-Putnam Council to Honor Assemblywoman Amy Paulin

The 2019 Women in Leadership Award is being presented to NYS Assemblywoman Amy Paulin. The Women in Leadership Award is presented to those who exemplify the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America as expressed in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. The recipients are chosen for their outstanding commitment to community as evidenced by the interest and

expertise given to many worthwhile organizations as well as the respect and esteem in which they are held.

A reception honoring Assemblywoman Paulin will take place on Sept. 10 at the Stone Manor, located at 101 Saw Mill River Road, Hawthorne.

Paulin has served the 88th New York State Assembly District (Scarsdale, Eastchester,

Tuckahoe, Bronxville, Pelham, Pelham Manor, and parts of New Rochelle and White Plains) since 2001.

A full-time legislator, Paulin annually ranks among the state's most productive and successful lawmakers. Her diverse legislative agenda includes state government reform, children and families, domestic violence, sex trafficking, education, health care, animal welfare, and preventing gun violence.



THE PUZZLE PARLOUR, WHITE PLAINS

By Neal Rentz

Pleasantville resident Ken Huling had been creating animation for children's films for a decade for The Walt Disney Company and Blue Sky Studios and he wanted a career change.

"I wanted to jump into a more entrepreneurial career," Huling recalled last week, adding later "I also really wanted to get out from behind the computer."

When he participated in his first escape room game Huling's life changed. "I played one of these games and said that was going to be it," he said. "I come from a family of board game geeks."

About two years ago Huling opened The Puzzle Parlour on Court Street in White Plains.

The concept began in Asia and spread to Europe, Huling said. It came to the United States in 2014 in Seattle, WA, he noted. "It's a very up and coming business. The whole industry is still growing."

Huling said he has many tasks in owning an escape room business. "I am building. I'm wiring. I'm doing tech stuff and meeting with the customers face to face," he said. "This is a combination of what my life has been up to this point."

Huling said he chose to open his new business on Court Street in White Plains because there were no other escape room businesses in Westchester. "I knew that

White Plains being a central location in Westchester would be successful," he said. "And I really wanted to be located next to a lot of restaurants so that people can easily come and play and then go eat."

The Puzzle Parlour offers a selection of four games, held in separate rooms, and each is designed for up to eight players and takes one hour to complete, Huling said. "They come into the game, we give them a few tips," he said, adding that about 80 percent of his customers are playing an escape room game for the first time.

For example, one of the games has players abducted by a mad surgeon and they must escape from his operating room before he returns, Huling said. Players are given a series of clues to help them escape, he said. "If you open something you're going to get a clue," he said. "That new clue is the most important thing to focus on. That's going to open something else."

The ideas for the games come from Huling and two of his friends who operate Puzzle Parlours in Kansas City, MO. The process of creating and testing new games takes a few months, he said. "Nothing is meant to be scary," he said. "Most of our stuff though is meant to be immersive."

The Puzzle Parlour is used both as entertainment for the public and for team building exercises for companies, Huling said. "It's more than a pleasant



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Pleasantville resident Ken Huling is owner of The Puzzle Parlour, which opened in White Plains about two years ago.

experience because they're required to problem solve together. They're required to communicate," he said. "Our rooms cannot be solved solo so they need each other."

The Puzzle Parlour was recently honored by Escape the Roomz, which ranked it 30th among the Top 100 Escape Rooms in the United States.

Huling explained what the name of his business refers to: "It is a cerebral challenge. It's not physical," he said.

The Puzzle Parlour is located at 131 Court St. in White Plains. For more information call 914-243-1091, send an e-mail to info@thepuzzleparlour.com or visit <https://www.thepuzzleparlour.com/white-plains/>.

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Memories of Real Plaster Walls, Long Gone

My father died when I was a teenager, before I understood that he was more than a skilled tradesman but, rather, a true artist.

A cement finisher by trade, he could do any maintenance or improvement project around the house from tiling our bathroom floor and stenciling our living room walls to plastering an entire room from scratch.

I was only eight years old when I watched with fascination as he plastered that new room in our house, created from a former screened in porch. First, he attached mesh lath to the studs and lobbed on the “scratch” base coat which he scored when it was half dry for adherence, then added a second layer, known as the “brown” coat and, finally, a perfect, hard and smooth finishing coat. I remember it as a laborious project in which each coat had to dry for a day or more before the next was applied.

When he was finished, he took my hand with his own, calloused by years of hard work, and guided my touch along the finishing coat, saying proudly “Billy, feel this. Smooth as silk, isn’t it?”

Today few people have solid plaster walls which have been replaced almost universally with the use of sheetrock or drywall. While drywall was invented in 1916 by the U.S. Gypsum Company, it wasn’t until the 1940s that it came into prominent use, the result of the labor shortage during World War II, and the housing boom that followed, requiring cheap construction materials that took less time to install.

With all the new-fangled home building materials created in the past century, none has had so revolutionary an effect as drywall,

basically compressed gypsum sandwiched between two sheets of heavy paper, expediting the homebuilding process more than any other material. But drywall has its deficiencies, from a lack of smoothness to the possibility of being victim to bad taping and spackling between panels that can produce weird and irregular surfaces.

I find it amazing that the art of plastering, while used for internal walls from ancient times, could all but disappear in just 50 years.

The skill of plastering has also all but vanished, except for a very few modern-day practitioners. When I did some investigation some time ago, I found that it’s still possible to build a home with plaster walls, but time consuming as it is, certainly compared with plasterboard, it is very time consuming and expensive. Most plasterers today do mainly repair work. I was glad to hear that quality plaster walls could still be an option, at least for those who can afford it.

There is an epilogue to the story of the room my dad plastered more than 50 years ago. Not so long ago, I was traveling to the South on business and took a detour to Newport News, Virginia, where that modest

home is located. Intending to do a quick drive-by, I couldn’t stop myself from pulling into the driveway. The clapboard ranch that I remembered had grown by half a story with dormers and had been veneered in yellow brick. I rang the doorbell.

Almost like a time-travel experience, I recognized the woman who opened the door as a grandmother version of the young bride who had bought the house from my parents a half a century ago. And, she recognized me as well! Imagine being told that you look the same as you did when you were eight years old?

She invited me in to tour the interior of the house, which looked pretty much the same, except for more contemporary colors and furnishings. When I entered the room that my dad had plastered, I was astounded to see that the plaster job was still in perfect shape with not so much as a hairline crack in it. I asked if the walls been re-plastered during the time the new owner had lived there, but she assured me that, except for maybe two or three additional coats of paint, it was absolutely the same as it was when she and her husband bought the house.

I went to the far side of the room to the exact spot where my dad had guided my hand across the wall a half century earlier, and I repeated the motion. Yes, the surface

was still smooth as silk.

In witnessing the lasting quality of my dad’s fine work, my eyes welled up with tears.

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.



By Bill Primavera

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FIRST 3 MONTHS*

Crossword by Myles Mellor

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8				9		10		
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32						33		
34							35	

Across

- The South, in the Civil War, abbr.
- Where Jamal Malik grew up
- Mantelpiece
- Pardon me!
- Relax
- Sgts. and cpls.
- Beatles song or Pleasantville handmade goods shop
- Original manufactured item
- Become irate
- Canonized mlle.
- Mistaken
- Get ready for something bad
- Fraternity “T”
- Appreciation of art and beauty
- Urgent request
- Singer Nicks

Down

- Swiss Alp’s abode
- Bun toppers
- Pub orders
- Justice Sotomayor
- Trains
- Stratford-____-Avon
- Ed’s pile
- Edible flower bulbs
- Trouble
- Tea brewer
- Compass pt
- Beauty parlor treatment
- Your workout will “come together” at this Jefferson Valley gym, ____ Fitness
- Pre-Revolution leaders
- ____ tu, Brute!
- Quizzical sounds
- Response to “Shall we?”
- Diva, Gluck
- Care for
- Mac rivals

Solution on page 10

Livanos Family Cooks on ABC's Family Food Fight



By Morris Gut

Three members of the Livanos family of Armonk, Lorena and her sons Johnny and Enrico, are competing on this summer's 'Family Food Fight', a cooking competition on ABC television, which airs Thursday evenings at

9 p.m. The Livanos family owns Moderne Barn in Armonk and City Limits in White Plains, as well as such popular restaurants as Oceana and Molyvos in Manhattan.

Judges on the show are: Cat Cora of 'Iron Chef', Ayesha Curry and Graham Elliott of 'Top Chef' fame. They are competing against other families from around the country for the \$100,000 grand prize. Tune in, it should be fun.

Craft Beers and Comfort Foods at Growlers, Tuckahoe

The outdoor patio is open. Growlers is located inside a renovated 1906 powerhouse Metro-North building in Tuckahoe. Growlers serves an ever-changing roster of international craft brews in a rustic 65-seat industrial space. There is a busy cocktail bar, communal high-top tables and a rear room with banquet seating. On occasion, you can hear the railroad whistle its way past. There are 20 taps on hand, and Cicerone certified servers who are knowledgeable about their product. Wines and specialty cocktails are also available. Burgers and Sandwiches are always on hand: Turkey Reuben, on toasted rye, Dijon mustard, Swiss, sauerkraut and Russian dressing; Growlers Beef Burger with choice of toppings, served on brioche roll; and Veggie Burger, spicy bean-based burger with tzatziki, lettuce, tomato and red onion on toasted brioche roll. Great Nachos, too. Growlers for take home. Happy Hours: 4 to 7 p.m. Growlers Beer Bistro, 25 Main Street Depot, Tuckahoe. Phone: 914-793-0608. www.growlersbeerbistro.com.

Wine Down Evenings at Ernie's Bronxville



Fettuccine with shrimp at Ernie's Wine Bar.



Revenge BBQ, Irvington.

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 live jazz on Wednesday nights. Recent tastings 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. The Lemon Fettucini with giant shrimp is amazing! There is live entertainment on Wednesdays. 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 Road, Bronxville. Phone: 914-652-7859.

Half-price Lobsters at Kee, White Plains

Here is a late summer treat you may want to take advantage of. Kenan, Ekren and Elvi, owners of Kee Oyster House on Court Street, corner of Rt. 22, White Plains, are offering half-price lobsters on Mondays. I watched recently as staff helped shell a tempting crustacean prior to serving. On Tasty Tuesdays there are half-price starters. And, as always, Kee's daily Happy Hours from 4 to 7 p.m. are great for fresh \$1 oysters with all the fixins'. Recently enjoyed a loaded Lobster Roll with a side of Old Bay chips at lunch. Early Bird Specials daily. Open Monday thru Saturday. Closed Sundays. Kee, 126 E. Post Road, White Plains. Phone: 914-437-8535. www.keeoysterhouse.com.

Cool Summer Jazz at Alvin & Friends, New Rochelle

Proprietor, artist, model, and consummate host Alvin Clayton is approaching his 10th year in New Rochelle with solid doses of American Soul Food, a taste of the Caribbean, and spirited jazz sessions. Alvin & Friends Restaurant has a sophisticated Manhattan

vibe: Alvin's colorful paintings dramatically line the walls, big hanging lighting fixtures, a sparkling bar and community table, and a staff that makes it all very inviting. If you visit for the cuisine check out the Classic Jambalaya, Shrimp and Grits, Fried Chicken, and Bourbon Glazed Pork Chops. Burgers and Mac and Cheese, too. Combine your visit with some live music. Love their Friday night jazz featuring local talent. Saturdays, too. The Sunday Jazz Brunch is a winning combination as well. Seasonal outdoor

seating. Alvin & Friends, 14 Memorial Highway, New Rochelle. Phone: 914-654-6549. www.alvinandfriendsrestaurant.com.

Revenge BBQ in Irvington: Thumbs Up!

After hearing a lot of good buzz, we finally got to Revenge BBQ in Irvington on a sunny Sunday afternoon and it turned out very well. The place, though cozy, was not crowded at the time of our arrival, so we scored seats at the community table inside. There was al fresco seating, too. The staff was friendly and helpful when we decided on their Lone Star Sampler: choice of 1 lb. smoked meats (they encourage choosing up to three), in our case pork ribs, pulled pork, and brisket (on the fatty side). The metal platter came with one custard corncake (that streak of custard an interesting approach), and one regular side of Texas beans at our request. We also ordered an extra side of Collard greens. Pickles and onions came with it, too.

Brisket was very good, melted in your mouth. The pork ribs were ok, just wished they had more meat on them. Pulled pork was quite tasty as well. Our sides of Texas beans and Collards were loaded with chunks of meat and flavorful. Their vinegar lined BBQ sauce was good, I thought, while my companion would have liked another option.

The crew was kind enough to explain some of their BBQ style, and in the scheme of things, I would agree that Revenge is a fine BBQ spot for the area. We will be back.



Lorena Livanos with sons Johnny and Enrico on ABC's 'Family Food Fight'.

Revenge BBQ, 48 Main Street, Irvington. Phone: 914-674-4848. www.revengebbq.com.

Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. E-mail: gutreaactions@optonline.net.

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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. For a full listing of the upcoming week's events, visit www.theexaminernews.com and click on **Happenings**.

Tuesday, Aug. 6

Toddler Tuesday. Toddler Tuesday is an early literacy story and playtime for ages 2-4 with a caregiver. Children and their caregiver will hear stories, play together, and increase their early literacy skills. Tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis beginning 30 minutes prior to the program. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave.

Talkie Tuesdays. Come and watch movie trilogies. Three great movie trilogies in July. For teens. 2 to 4 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Tech Tuesdays. Students in grades 1-3 are invited to come take part in a fun STEM-focused activity. Activities will include coding, computer animation, robotics, video game design, augmented reality, and other possible programs. 2:30 to 3 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Do Gooders. A weekly opportunity for teens in grades 7-12 as of fall 2019 to earn volunteer service hours and make a difference in our community. Each week we'll work on a different project to benefit a local organization. Registration recommended; space is limited. This program is supported by the Allstate Foundation. 3 to 5 p.m. White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave.

Reading Buddies. Practice reading with a teen Reading Buddy. Reading Buddies will be available to read one-on-one with children in grades 2 to 5 on Tuesday evenings and Monday and Wednesday afternoons for 15 minute sessions. Sign-up will start 30 minutes before the program time. 4:30 to 7 p.m., White Plains Library.

National Night Out. The City of White Plains Public Safety Dept. Safety Fair, 6 p.m. including dance groups, live band, community service organizations, and free giveaways.

Wednesday, Aug. 7

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

Storybook Dancing. Steffi Nossen School of Dance presents Storybook Dancing, a creative movement class for 3-4 year olds. 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! Space is limited to 24 dancers, tickets will be handed out on a first-come, first-served basis starting 30 minutes before the program. 11 to 11:45 a.m. Galaxy Hall, White Plains Library.

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.

Tech Wednesday for Adults. How to build a computer. Participants will learn about the various components of a computer and how they all work together. 12 to 1 p.m. at White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave.

All-Mozart Summer Sing. The Taghkanic Chorale, under the musical direction of maestro Jason Tramm, invites singers of all ages to join in singing two great works of choral literature by W. A. Mozart, his Coronation Mass and his Requiem in D Minor. Patrick Jones will accompany on piano for this event. The Sing will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the air-conditioned Westchester Korean SDA Church, 1243 Whitehill Road, Yorktown Heights, close to the Taconic State Parkway. \$12 admission includes use of scores and light refreshments. The Taghkanic Chorale is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization that rehearses Tuesday evenings and performs spring and winter holiday concerts. Singers and audience members come from Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Rockland, Orange and the lower Hudson Valley. For information about the Sing and the Taghkanic Chorale, call 914-440-3596 or visit www.taghkanicchorale.org.

Thursday, Aug. 8

Noonday Concert. Free concert at Renaissance Plaza, White Plains, featuring Country music with Gunsmoke.

Summer Jazz. S.O.A.R., 6:30 p.m. at William L. Carter Pavilion at Yosemite Park, 32 Manhattan Ave., Greenburgh. Food will be available for purchase.

Tech Thursday for Teens. Participants will have the ability to experience different virtual worlds and see what the hype is all about. 2 to 3 p.m. White Plains Library.

"Say Amen, Somebody." One of the most acclaimed music documentaries of all time, this film is an infectious joyous, funny, deeply emotional celebration of African American culture featuring the father of gospel Thomas A. Dorsey ("Precious Lord, Take My Hand"), pioneering singer Mother Willie Mae Ford Smith, the Barrett Sisters and the O'Neal Twins. When it was first released in the early 1980s, the film received an overwhelming critical response, garnering rave reviews around the world. Unseen in cinemas for nearly 30 years, "Say Amen, Somebody" has received a gorgeous 4K restoration. Part of the Sounds of Summer: Music Films Old and New series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Stories From the Past: Wolves and American Indians. Join Darlene Kascak (Schaghticoke Tribal Nation), education coordinator at the Institute for American Indian Studies, for traditional Native American stories about animals. Hear history come alive from the oral traditions

that have been passed down and preserved from one generation to the next. Come listen to the stories that were used to explain the great mysteries of life and teach life's lessons about love, leadership and honor as well as our connection to the earth. After the talk, guests will see ambassador wolves Zephyr, Alawa and Nikai and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Adults: \$16. Children (under 12): \$11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Friday, Aug. 9

Westchester Photographic Society: Shooting Movement. Society member and co-publisher of Metro Sports magazine Clark Thompson will demonstrate how to capture moving subjects. All photographers, beginner to professional, are welcome. Must be 18 years old and up. Westchester Community College's Technology Building, Room 107, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-827-5333 or visit www.wpsphoto.org.

"The Cure: Anniversary 1978-2018 Live in Hyde." On Saturday July 7, 2018, legendary band The Cure took to the stage in London's Hyde Park to celebrate 40 years of playing live. Featuring performances of classic songs including, "Pictures of You," "Lovesong," "Friday I'm in Love," "Boys Don't Cry" and much more, Trafalgar Releasing are proud to capture this historic concert to cinemas worldwide. Not only is this concert a great celebration of The Cure's legacy, it's also a fabulous gateway for die-hard fans in the making. Part of the Sounds of Summer: Music Films Old and New series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 9:30 p.m. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Ossining Food Truck Fridays & Concert Series: Elisa Pelmer and the Old Mill Singers. Ossining continues its summer concert series with an evening of food trucks, craft beer, wine and cider and music. Louis Engel Waterfront Park, 25 Westerly Rd., Ossining Food trucks at 5 p.m. Music at 7 p.m. Free admission. Info: Visit www.OssiningChamber.org.

Saturday, Aug. 10

Farmers' Market. Downtown Farmers' Market on Court Street in White Plains. Saturday opening day with music and special events. Hours of operation each Saturday are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Alla Prima: Oil Painting in One Session. Alla prima painting – also known as direct painting – is a technique in which layers of wet paint are applied to previously administered layers of wet paint. The paintings are generally completed in one session. This workshop will introduce workshop participants to alla prima techniques and will finish a work on canvas before you leave for the day. No prior art training is required; all levels welcome. Led by Jill Kiefer. (The

instructor will have some resources, but feel free to bring an outline version and color version of something you really want to paint.) For participants 15 years old and up. Pelham Art Center 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 1 to 4 p.m. Members: \$59. Non-members: \$66. (Plus, a \$20 material fee.) Registration required. Info and registration: Visit www.pelhamartcenter.org.

Havdalah Under the Sun. The Westchester Community for Humanistic Judaism presents this meet-and-greet for non-traditional like-minded Jews who enjoy celebrating their Jewish culture, history and connections without a reference to a deity. Includes lively questioning, discussion, social interaction and good refreshments. Led by Rabbi Frank Tamburello. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 4:30 p.m. Free (donations welcome). Info: Contact Dmitry at 914-713-8828 or visit www.wchj.com.

Art Garfunkel in Concert. Blessed with what The New York Times described as a "beautiful countertenor," Garfunkel has made an indelible mark on the music world as both a solo artist and half of the unrivaled Simon & Garfunkel. He has also enjoyed a successful film career, published a book of poetry and released 12 solo albums, the most recent being "Some Enchanted Evening" in 2007. In late 2017, he released his autobiography, "What Is It All But Luminous: Notes From an Underground Man." Since then he's been busy as a husband and father to his two sons, James and Beau Daniel. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$48, \$58, \$68, \$78 and \$88. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Sunday, Aug. 11

Chamber Music Concert. Chamber music performed by Andrew Pak, Annaliesa Place and Diego Garcia. They will perform chamber and solo pieces by Brahms, Grieg, Piazzolla and Chopin for the community. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 2 to 4 p.m. Suggested donation: \$10. Info: 914-738-2525 or www.pelhamartcenter.org.



Crossword Solution from page 8

	1	C	2	S	3	A			4	S	5	L	6	U	7	M
8	S	H	E	L	F				10	O	O	P	S			
11	E	A	S	E	U	P			13	N	C	O	S			
14	G	L	A	S	S	O		15	N	I	O	N				
16	O	E	M					17	S	T	E	A	M			
18	S	T	E									19	O	F	F	
			22	S	T	E	E	L				27	T	A	U	
			28	A	E	S	T	H	E			29	T	I	C	S
30	P	L	E	A					31	S	T	E	V	I	E	
32	C	M	D	R						33	S	N	E	A	D	
34	S	A	S	S								35	D	S	L	

Popular JazzFest Returns to White Plains Next Month

By Neal Rentz

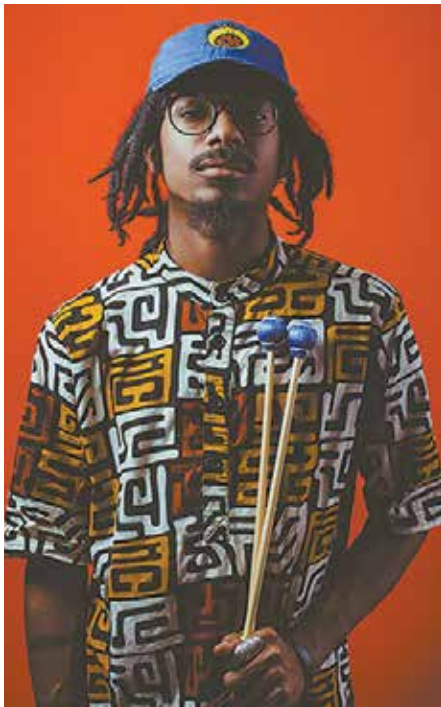
It may still be the dog days of August, but it is not too early to plan for a popular festival that is returning to White Plains next month.

The eighth annual JazzFest White Plains is scheduled for Sep. 11 through 15. The event, which its organizers say features a lineup of internationally renowned musicians, is being produced by ArtsWestchester, the City of White Plains and the White Plains Business Improvement District and is presented this year by Bank of America.

The event includes dozens of concerts taking place throughout the city with performances from such artists such as Mwenso & The Shakes, Camille Thurman and Emmet Cohen with George Coleman and Jimmy Cobb.

This year's JazzFest will culminate during the White Plains Jazz & Food Festival from noon to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15. Music and entry are free with food and beverage vendors taking over Mamaroneck Avenue in front of the historic ArtsWestchester building. Five bands will take the stage throughout the day, ending with the New Orleans sounds of two-time Grammy-nominated trumpeter Alphonso Horne and The Gotham Kings.

"The 2019 JazzFest White Plains lineup presents a diverse roster of path-breaking artists from young rising stars Joel Ross (vibes), Melissa Aldana (sax), Emmet Cohen (piano) and Camille Thurman (voice/sax)



Joel Ross will appear in concert at ArtsWestchester on Friday, Sept. 13 as part of JazzFest White Plains.



Melissa Aldana will perform with Joel Ross at ArtsWestchester on Friday, Sept. 13 as part of JazzFest White Plains.

Aaron Paige, director of folk arts for ArtsWestchester, and Wayne Bass, commissioner of the White Plains Department of Recreation and Parks, are serving as the co-artistic directors of this year's event.

Paige said last week it takes many months of work to put together the annual event. In fact, "We're already talking about the 2020 Festival," he said.

One of the factors used to choose performers in this year's Festival was if the performers are or formerly lived in Westchester, Paige said. In the New York area there are a "number of extremely talented jazz musicians," he said.

The Festival will feature both free and ticketed events. The event organizers work to hold programs throughout White Plains, Paige said. "We are always trying to bring music to public spaces."

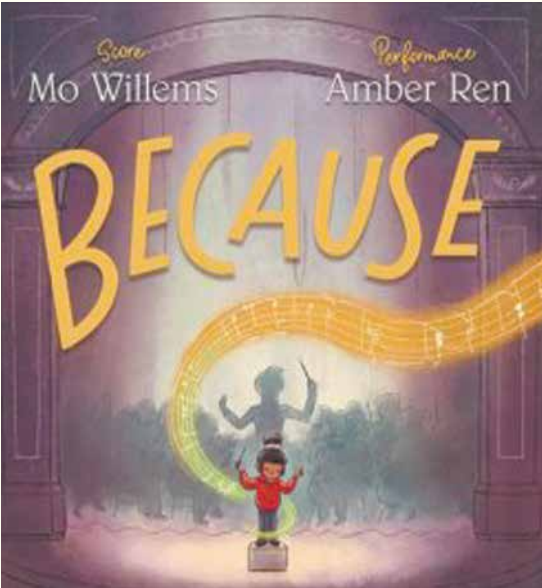
JazzFest attracts concertgoers from outside White Plains from the tristate area, which provides a financial boost to the downtown, Paige said. "We have received a lot of support from local businesses."

For more information about JazzFest and to purchase tickets, visit: artsw.org/jazzfest.

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Because, By Mo Willems at the Bryant-Mamaroneck Park StoryWalk

It's summer time and a new story has been selected for the Bryant-Mamaroneck Park StoryWalk: *Because, by Mo Willems*. A powerful symphony of chance, discovery, persistence, and magic in this



moving tale of a young girl's journey to center stage.

The StoryWalk, a partnership between the City of White Plains Recreation and Parks Department and the White Plains Public Library, combines a children's story with a popular walking route. The StoryWalk is a great way to inspire parents, teachers, and care givers to take young children on a short stroll and introduce them to a new book at the same time.

This month's StoryWalk will run through Friday Aug. 23.

The Bryant-Mamaroneck Park is located on the corner of Bryant and Mamaroneck Avenues. The park entrance is on the Mamaroneck Avenue side. Parking is available in the City of White Plains Mamaroneck Avenue parking lot (lower level).

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

In the Matter of a Proceeding Under Article 10 of the Family Court Act **LAIYA STOVER**
Docket Nos. NN- 16768-19
Children Under Eighteen Years of Age Alleged F/U No. 131936
To be Neglected by
SUMMONS (Child Neglect Case)
DIVINE STOVER, Respondent.

NOTICE: placement of your child(ren) in foster care may result in your loss of your rights to your child(ren). If your child(ren) stays in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months, the agency may be required by law to file a petition(s) to terminate your parental rights and to commit guardianship and custody of your child(ren) to the agency for the purposes of adoption. In some cases, the agency may file before the end of the 15-month period. If severe or repeated child abuse is proven by clear and convincing evidence, this finding may constitute the basis to terminate your parental rights and to commit guardianship and custody of your child(ren) to the agency for the purposes of adoption.

Upon good cause, the court may order an investigation to determine whether the non-respondent parent(s) should be considered as a respondent; if the court determines the child(ren) should be removed from his/her home, the court may order an investigation to determine whether the non-respondent parent(s) should be suitable custodians for the child(ren); if the child(ren) is placed and remains in foster care for fifteen of the most recent twenty-two months, the agency may be required to file a petition(s) for termination of parental rights of the parent(s) and commitment of guardianship

and custody of the child(ren) for the purposes of adoption, even if the parent(s) were not named as respondents in the child neglect or abuse proceeding.

A non-custodial parent has the right to request temporary or permanent custody of the child(ren) and to seek enforcement of visitation rights with the child(ren).

By order of the family court of the state of New York To the above-named respondent(s) who reside(s) or is found at [specify address(es)]:

DIVINE STOVER (Mother)
161 South 2nd Avenue
Mount Vernon, New York 10550 and to [specify name(s) and address(es) and relationship to child(ren)]:

N/A

Petitions under Article 10 of the Family Court Act having been filed with this Court, and annexed hereto

YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear before this Court at 111 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., 3rd Floor Annex, White Plains, New York 10601, on September 25, 2019 at 9:30 in the morning of that day to answer the petitions and to be dealt with in accordance with Article 10 of the Family Court Act.

Upon your failure to appear as herein directed a warrant may be issued for your arrest and/or the Court may proceed to Inquest and hear and determine the petitions as provided by law.

Dated: July 25, 2019
Clerk of Court

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LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY PRE-MEETING AUGUST 7, 2019 5 PM
1. Discussion of de-icer law. Update and possible choice of a date for the public hearing.
2. Set agenda for Work Session
3. Waive the building permit fee for Anthony De Ruggiero's Eagle Scout project.
4. Appoint Anthony Cotone to Groundskeeper Recreation Assistant position.
5. Appoint Gregory Kroohs to

Groundskeeper/Recreation Assistant position.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE TOWN OF PUTNAM VALLEY has received a wetlands application from the following applicant: **WT 16/19** Westchester-Putnam Council, Inc. Boy Scouts of America 1 Clear Lake Road TM# 40.-1-14 **WT17/19** Austin Hearst 73 Chapman Road TM# 61.-1-1

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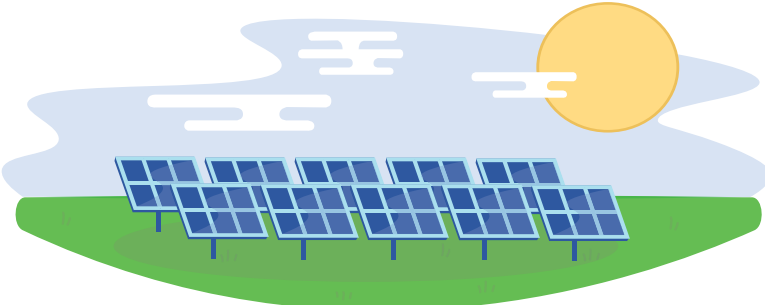
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It's a New Brave New World in American Wine Regions



By Nick Antonaccio

A number of Western European countries have centuries-old thriving wine industries, established many years before the United States was a glimmer in the eye of the Founding Fathers. The United States is a latecomer to the cultivation and production of wine. It has only been since the 1960s that the negative effects of Prohibition were overcome and a burgeoning wine industry began to gain a worldwide reputation.

Today, United States winemakers are challenging the Western European wine establishment to rethink centuries-old rules and regulations concerning the demographics of where grape varieties are planted. Not only is the United States a mosaic of many cultures and ethnicities, but it is also becoming a mosaic of wines rivaling the traditional sources of specific grape varieties long regulated and held in high regard in Western Europe.

There are several components of this evolution (revolution) of winemaking in the United States.

Let's focus on two of these.

1. The effects of terroir -- Many of the international grape varieties grounded in Western Europe are now grown in many other wine regions. The terroir of Burgundy is unique, producing an expression of Pinot Noir that is similarly unique in style, aroma

and taste. I have noticed that Pinot Noir is gaining popularity here in the New York area. Typically, the standby region for Americans is central California. When questioned by friends or readers for an alternative to these wines, my typical suggestion is to continue consuming Pinot Noir -- but from different American regions and terroirs, not necessarily from Burgundy. The terroir in the United States varies greatly and Pinot Noir from each region may differ significantly. A side-by-side experiment with American Pinots can be very revealing. Northern and Southern California Pinots reflect their unique terroir; likewise those from Oregon, New York and other states along the Eastern

“becoming a mosaic of wines rivaling Western Europe”

Seaboard. Styles vary from light and simple to fruit-forward and lush to complex and well balanced.

2. Regulation -- The regulatory systems in most Western European nations dictate which grape varieties may be planted in each designated wine region. Regulatory agencies in each country further dictate the winemaking practices required to earn a particular classification. In most countries there is a hierarchy established of which wines may bear the location designation. In Italy, to be designated Chianti Classico, a wine produced in that demarcated area must conform to specific criteria established and monitored

by a government agency. If adhered to, the wines may carry this designation on the label.

But not in the United States. While there are very broad regulations to inform consumers of the core grape variety that may be displayed on a bottle, the regulations generally end there. Winemakers in any state or geographic area may grow whichever grape or blend of grapes they decide. As noted above, in Europe the regulators dictate which grapes may be grown in Burgundy or Sancerre or Barolo in order to bear the name of that region on a bottle. In many of these wine regions, certain grapes or blends are not permitted. If produced, these wines typically must carry the equivalent wording of a base, or table, wine.

With the open approach in the United

States to wine cultivation and production, there are many blended wines not available anywhere else in the world. I recently sampled an extreme example of this: a wine that was a blend of Zinfandel and Tempranillo, cultivated and produced in the Hill Country of Texas. This was a multiple first for me: these two grapes grown in Texas and blended together. I enjoyed the wine immensely, but may never encounter it again anywhere else in the United States, or the wine world.

Next week, we'll embark on a virtual tour of several American wineries producing wines from grapes not historically grown in the United States.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years he has conducted numerous wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member of the Wine Media Guild of wine writers. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.



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The WHITE PLAINS Examiner Sports

WP Hit-N-Run Shut Out by Yorktown in 17U Finals

By Rob DiAntonio

The White Plains Hit-N-Run 17-and-under baseball team couldn't get anything going offensively in a 4-0 loss to Yorktown in the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League championship game last Saturday at Rogers Park in Danbury.

Andrew Frobose had White Plains batters befuddled at the plate. He tossed 6.1 innings before giving way to Vincent Cicutelli for the final two outs.

"He was throwing a two-seam fastball middle to outside (of the plate), and except for one hitter, we had all soft contact," White Plains coach Tony Burgio said of his offense. "The kid did a great job but most of his pitches were two-seam fastballs tailing away. He threw the ball well and we couldn't make the adjustments. I tried to tell my hitters to hit the ball to center field or go the other way with it. We just couldn't do it. Hats off to [Yorktown]. Defensively, they made every play."

Sixth-seeded Yorktown took a 1-0 lead on a sacrifice fly in the top



The throw to catcher Chris McGuire is too late as Yorktown adds an insurance run late in the game.



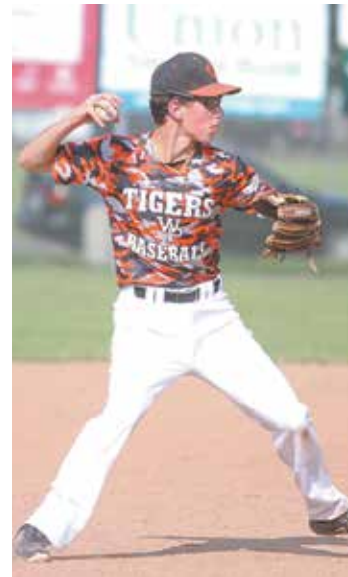
ROB DIANTONIO PHOTOS
Starting pitcher Mark Kent fires during the first inning.



Joey Portanova laces a single to left field.



Coaches Tony Burgio and Marcel Galligani talk with the team after a 4-0 loss in the 17U finals.



Shortstop Joey Portanova makes the throw to first.



Frank DeLeon takes a rip.



Carlos Paulino congratulates starting pitcher Mark Kent after working out of a jam.

of the third inning.

Mark Kent, the starting pitcher for fifth-seeded White Plains, was in control for most of the game but walked the first two batters to start the sixth inning. A Thunder baserunner then scored on a passed ball to make it 2-0. Kent then spun and threw to second for a pickoff, but the throw sailed

into center field and another run scored.

"We got sloppy at the end," Burgio admitted. "The score should have been 1-0. We didn't deserve to win. Hats off to their pitcher, again. We had one legit hit. We didn't have one runner reach second base today. That's what it really comes down to. If you don't

hit, you don't win."

Yorktown added another insurance run in the seventh and could have scored more, but Jake Dorchak made two highlight reel catches in left field to limit the damage.

WP cruised past Fairfield 16-0 in the semifinals to reach the championship game.

This White Plains team features the same players who will likely comprise the Tigers' varsity

baseball team next spring, so the summer league success bodes well for the future.

"It was a great season," said Burgio, whose team finished the summer 11-5-2. "This is the upcoming White Plains varsity team and it's all about development. And we're very young. We're going to have three seniors and the rest are sophomores and juniors. In two years, we're going to be very good."

White Plains Hit-N-Run 17 and Under Team Looks Good for Spring Training



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTO

The White Plains Hit-N-Run 17-and-under baseball team features the same players who will likely comprise the White Plains Tigers' varsity baseball team next spring, so the summer league success of making it to the championships bodes well for the future. Pictured, Andrew Gomez pitches in relief for WP Hit-N-Run.