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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 10, Issue 438

Sterling Ave. Subdivision OKd While Neighborhood Character Debate Continues

By Pat Casey

The proposed 3-lot subdivision at 1 Sterling Avenue was unanimously approved during the December meeting of the White Plains Planning Board. The controversial project, which places five residential units on a site originally housing a single-family home in the R2-4 Zoning District brought residents out in opposition during a multi-week public hearing.

The redevelopment calls for three individual sites, two with two-family houses and one with a single-family residence in the Fisher Hill neighborhood.

Residents speaking during the public hearing were concerned about traffic safety and a decline in the quality of life in their neighborhood should the subdivision be allowed to go forward.

Much debate back and forth between residents, the Planning Board and the developer resulted in changes to the lot site plans, particularly with regard to driveways and access to vehicles on and off the property as well as the final designs of the individual



The White Plains Planning Board and associated city staff at the Dec. 17 Planning Board meeting.

residences. The primary concern about a fundamental change in the character of the neighborhood remained for further debate.

Before the Board vote, member Lynn Oliva asked Planning Commissioner Chris Gomez if the Planning Department had undertaken advisory suggestions in the Comprehensive Plan to "establish new infill housing development guidelines in the close-in neighborhoods to insure high-quality design, etc."

Gomez responded that, "No, those guidelines had never been done." He further indicated that the Planning Department had conducted a land-use survey of property in White Plains and that analysis showed more than half of the existing two-family homes in the city are currently on lots larger than what was proposed for the 1 Sterling Ave. subdivision, even though it is Zoning compliant.

Both Oliva and Gomez agreed that a study proposed earlier in the public hearing to look at the close-in neighborhoods for other lots

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Westchester Synagogue Draws Hundreds to No Hate, No Fear Service

By Martin Wilbur

As thousands marched Sunday in New York City to fight against the growing scourge of anti-Semitism, a Westchester synagogue held its own No Hate, No Fear interfaith service that drew hundreds of worshippers to its sanctuary.

Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown welcomed an estimated 500 people through its doors to participate in prayer, songs and words of inspiration and to pledge solidarity to combat hate. Clergy and worshippers from the synagogue and an array of churches, temples and mosques in the area attended the hour-long service under a heavy police presence.

Rabbi David Holtz said unlike other horrific events, including the Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh in October 2018, there was something worse



MARTIN WILBUR PHOTO

Several hundred people from a variety of religious backgrounds crowd Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown Sunday to participate in an interfaith service to combat the growing tide of anti-Semitism and hate.

about recent events because there has been what amounts to an escalating pattern of attacks large and small, including the deadly violence at a kosher market in Jersey City, N.J. last month and the recent Hanukkah attack in Monsey.

This time it requires the community to do more than pray together, he said.

"This is a moment for us together to think and pray and to actually think about actual steps," said Holtz. "Thoughts and prayers only go so far. We then need to figure out what to do."

Temple Beth Abraham's Past President Allison Fine, who with Holtz co-organized the event, said that more uncertainty and despair today has seemingly contributed to the spike in hate crimes.

To tone down the rhetoric, Fine said everyone needs to welcome and invite the

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Westchester Synagogue Draws Hundreds to No Hate, No Fear Service

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stranger into their lives so there can be more interaction between people with differences.

Furthermore, schools play a key role in not only teaching students what to learn but how to learn, including helping them distinguish truth from misinformation, Fine said.

Finally, she supported the idea of "public moderators" in communities whose role will be to introduce different communities, and have them share their stories and lives.

Fine and Holtz lamented how synagogues and many houses of worship are now forced to hire armed security guards. Holtz said that it was wrong that any house of worship or public gathering place needs to have that level of security but it has become necessary.

"This can't be our new normal," Fine said.

"But the only way for it not to be our new normal is to fight for the day when we never have a guard here."

An array of dignitaries also attended the service. Among them was Westchester County District Attorney Anthony Scarpino Jr., who said the county has launched the Westchester Intelligence Center, which shares information, including social media monitoring, with the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and other law enforcement agencies.

Scarpino said while Westchester has had its share of anti-Semitic incidents and hate crimes that have coincided with the national spike, working with all of its law enforcement partners has thus far been relatively successful in preventing a larger attack.

But constant vigilance is required. That's particularly important because incidents of hate appear to feed off each other, he said.

"There is no indication, though, that we in Westchester have any operating group that has demonstrated anti-Semitism," Scarpino said. "We have individuals, there may be followers, there may be a lone wolf possibly, but we continue to monitor them to avoid that to the best of our ability."

State Sen. David Carlucci (D-Clarkstown) said he has introduced several measures to address intolerance, including introducing age-appropriate curriculum from the youngest grades through high school to discuss hate and the symbols that are used. Additionally, he is demanding greater accountability from social media companies.

Carlucci also wants to see a detailed database of all hate crimes to see if there are patterns and hot spots to have a better understanding of what's happening. It's a proposal that has been championed by Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner.

"We can't wait for Washington, we can't wait for another state," Carlucci said. "We're New York, we're 19 million people, we have the most diversity in the country and if we're going to fight hatred, we have to do it."

In his parting remarks, Holtz said the time has come for everyone individually to contribute toward fighting anti-Semitism.

"Go forth and change the world," he said.

Last weekend also saw the toppling of a menorah and vandalism of two churches in Yorktown.

Sterling Ave. Subdivision OK'd While Neighborhood Character Debate Continues

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that might be similarly impacted should be done, and that discussion should continue forward.

Neighbors speaking at the Dec. 17 meeting seemed reconciled that the approval would go through with a final vote that evening, but reiterated their concerns that no similar subdivisions should be allowed in the neighborhood. They expressed hope that this particular subdivision could be absorbed into the community and that all parties could "live with it. Just because it is legal, is it a good idea?"

Planning Board Chairman John Ioris said, "Whether it is a good idea or not needs to be



Architect's 3-D rendering of proposed design for single-family house and two-family house at 1 Sterling Ave., White Plains.

addressed by the people who set the zoning." He explained that the Planning Board's role was specifically to look at compliance and safety. Previously during the public hearing Ioris had emphasized that the subdivision proposal was legally compliant.

Ioris further said that there were only five Board members present at the December meeting, requiring a unanimous vote to approve the subdivision and site plans. He offered the developer the option to wait until six Board members were present.

David Steinmetz, legal counsel for the developer, requested a straw poll of the members present before he would answer

that question. Legal counsel for the city said that was not required. Steinmetz countered it was a courtesy. Ioris took "the temperature" of the Board members present and the vote went forward.

Because Site Plan 3 does not contain any environmentally sensitive areas, it will be approved by the Building Dept. at another time, but the entire 1 Sterling Ave. proposal had to be considered by the Planning Board as a whole.

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Greenburgh 2020 Budget Offers Holiday Gift to Residents

The Greenburgh Town Board unanimously approved the proposed 2020 budget by the December 2019 deadline. According to Town Supervisor Paul Feiner there is some very good news for taxpayers contained in the fiscal plan.

"Unlike many municipal governments around the region that have increased taxes, the Greenburgh Town Board approved a budget with no hike in the tax levy. And, a probable tax rate reduction next year," Feiner said in a recent email.

"Westchester County has also approved a budget with a probable tax

rate reduction. I am not aware of other municipal governments in Westchester that have reduced their tax rates. Most have increased taxes slightly," Feiner added.

According to Feiner, the tax levy remained the same as in 2019, \$9,321,202 for the Town Entire and \$59,201,693 for the Town Outside. The levy remained the same even with the inclusion of funds for investment in infrastructure, three union contract settlements, and new social media and economic development initiatives. "The Town continues to seek

grant opportunities to offset some of the Town's costs," Feiner said.

Assessments are trending upward.

"If the assessments continue to rise, the Town Entire and Town Outside anticipate a tax rate reduction for 2020," Feiner said. "The final tax rate will not be determined until March of 2020. We will work hard in 2020 to find ways to make government more efficient and always look for additional ways to save money. We always welcome and appreciate recommendations and suggestions."

Total Appropriations for the Town of

Greenburgh are: Town Entire (villages and unincorporated) - 34,825,775; Town Outside (unincorporated only) - 88,377,495.

Tax Levy 2020: Town Entire - 9,321,202; Town Outside - 59,201,693.

Assessed values as of March 15, 2019: Town Entire - 20,302,807,436; Town Outside - 10,323,904,140.

Tax rate for 2020 based on the levy and assessed values: Town Entire - 0.4591; Town Outside - 5.7344.

Projected tax rate decrease for 2020: Town Entire - 3.034%; Town Outside - 2.120%.

Art and Food Take Center Stage in Downtown White Plains

The White Plains Business Improvement District (BID) recently published the 6th edition of the White Plains BID Dining Guide and added a new installment of its public art program - Art in Public Places.

The new edition of the White Plains BID Dining Guide (2020) lists all 94 restaurants in the district. There is a restaurant for every palate and price point, from fine dining to fast casual. The guide includes a detailed map of the area.

The White Plains BID also continued its partnership with Professor Warren Lehrer's senior level Community Design class at Purchase College, SUNY for the fifth year to create highly visible poetry art. The goal of the project is to enliven the downtown with art, thereby creating a more pleasing and vibrant environment.

The works featured in Art in Public Places are graphic and illustrative interpretations of text; the poetry written by Judith Sloan is inspired by White Plains itself and is built on themes of positivity, resilience, and communal hope for the future.

The visual poetry exists on street-level, most recently on the construction site of The Mitchell, a mixed-use, two-tower development that will feature 434 apartment homes and 8,145 square feet of retail space from developer LMC.

"Art brings people together. It is an important part of defining a community and bringing new life to a neighborhood," said Kristiana Wilson, vice president of development for LMC. "We are honored to help local artists share their works with

the residents of White Plains. We look forward to a continued partnership with the White Plains BID as we find new ways to connect The Mitchell and LMC with our new community at large."

For a copy of the 2020 White Plains BID Dining Guide, contact the White Plains

BID or visit the White Plains BID's kiosk in City Center on the second floor by the Mamaroneck Avenue entrance.

Learn more about Art in Public Places by taking a free audio-visual tour on the Otocast app or visiting www.wpbid.com/art.



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Acts of Vandalism Probed in Town of Yorktown

By Rick Pezzullo

Yorktown Police are investigating several acts of vandalism on town and private property that occurred Saturday in the early morning hours.

Four glass doors were shattered at the Yorktown Stage in the Albert Capellini Cultural and Community Center, a menorah was toppled at Veterans' Field and multiple windows were broken at John C. Hart Memorial Library in

Shrub Oak.

In addition, windows at the First Presbyterian Church and the St. Patrick's Old Stone Church were destroyed.

In a joint statement, Yorktown Police Chief Robert Noble and Supervisor Matt Slater stated the incidents appear to be linked.

"As soon as these criminal acts were discovered town government took immediate action," Slater and Noble stated. "The Yorktown Police opened an

investigation and are currently collecting evidence and reviewing video of the immediate and surrounding areas. Town personnel are repairing the damaged town facilities."

Town officials are monitoring its other public facilities and the Yorktown Police will maintain an increased presence.

"The Town of Yorktown wholeheartedly condemns these hateful and disrespectful acts. We will attempt to identify and hold accountable those responsible to

the fullest extent of the law," Slater and Noble stated. "Destructive acts such as these have no place in Yorktown. They have no place in any community. We ask that our community assist our police department by sharing any information that may be helpful in the apprehension of those responsible for these crimes."

Anyone with any relevant information is asked to contact the Yorktown Police Department by phone at 914-962-4141 or by email info@yorktownpd.org.

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Grandpas United Will Meet to Discuss Depolarizing Today's America

All grandfathers are invited to attend the next Coffee with Grandpas United gathering at the White Plains Library, 100 Martine Avenue, White Plains, on Thursday, Jan. 9, 8:30 to 10 a.m.

David Greene, a member of Grandpas United, will talk about the Westchester Alliance of Better Angels, a local citizens' group to depolarize America. Better Angels is a national organization whose mission is to bring red and blue Americans together to understand the other side's point of view, seeking common ground and ways to work together.

This free monthly speaker series is hosted by Grandpas United, an inter-generational initiative of the White Plains Youth Bureau, in collaboration with the White Plains Library.

To register or for more information, contact the White Plains Youth Bureau, at 914-422-1378 or email GrandpasUnitedWPYB@gmail.com

It's Time to Apply for the White Plains Youth Bureau Aviation Academy Club

The White Plains Youth Bureau is now accepting applications for its Aviation Academy Club. The purpose of the Aviation Club is to educate White Plains youth (ages 12 to 17 years) about the exciting and growing field of aviation. The program is comprised of a series of learning activities including video presentations about the field of Aviation, flight simulator lessons, speakers, and field trips to area airports. Students can earn community service hours and will receive a Certificate of Participation after completing the flying lessons using the flight simulator.

For more information, contact White Plains Youth Bureau at 914-422-1378.

DAFCO'S ART GALLERY, WHITE PLAINS

By Neal Rentz

Bronx resident Joe Cobbinah brought a background in African Arts when he opened his gallery in the SoHo section of New York City about 23 years ago.

While he was a youth in his native Ghana, Cobbinah did volunteer work at the Ghana National Museum through a United Nations program.

Cobbinah came to America to attend college at the Rochester (NY) Institute of Technology. When he would go home for school vacations he would come back with artwork, which he would provide as gifts to friends and some of the professors. "I thought about it. I said, oh maybe this could be a good business," he recalled. Cobbinah eventually started obtaining African art pieces and began to sell them. "People were buying it," he said.

Cobbinah recalled that he worked for various companies before deciding to own an art gallery.

Cobbinah moved his gallery to White Plains in 2001 and he moved to his current location in the ArtsWestchester building in 2013. "This is a really good city," he said.

Cobbinah said he participates in several ArtsWestchester programs each year with proceeds from some of the events going to the organization. Every year he donates an artwork for the annual ArtsWestchester gala that is raffled off, he said. Moving into the ArtsWestchester building was a natural fit,



NEAL RENTZ PHOTO

Bronx resident Joe Cobbinah is president of Dafco's Art Gallery in White Plains.

he said.

Cobbinah said many of the pieces sold at his gallery were purchased from private homeowners in Africa. "They were not meant to be sold," he said.

Selling African art is not like selling Coca Cola, Cobbinah said. "When my

customers come here sometimes they spend 30 minutes" because they want more information about a particular artwork and what it is used for, he said. Private viewings of the gallery are available by appointment, he said.

One of the features of African art is

its functionality. For example, there are artworks available at the gallery that were created to be furniture, he said. "The bottom line is African art is functional," he said.

Another feature of African art is masks. "Some of them are ceremonial," Cobbinah said. For example, there are masks that are worn by boys and girls for ceremonies conducted when they reach puberty, he said.

Each piece in the gallery has a description on the gallery's Web site that is written by Cobbinah.

Dafco's Art Gallery is located at 31 Mamaroneck Ave., Suite 601, in White Plains in the ArtsWestchester building. For more information call 914-948-4420, send an e-mail to Cobbinah@aol.com or visit <https://>

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Obituaries

Norma Ravali Lento

Norma Ravali Lento, a life-long resident of West Harrison, died Jan. 3 after a valiant struggle against Parkinson's disease and dementia. She was 89 years old.

Born Oct. 23, 1930, to Robert and Lena (Furlani) Ravali in White Plains, Norma graduated from White Plains High School and Berkeley Secretarial School. She married James "Jimmy" E. Lento, Jr., of Eastchester on June 24, 1951, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in White Plains.



Norma had two careers, one commercial and one philanthropic. For many years she worked as the office manager for White Plains commercial property developers Pappas Enterprises Inc. After retiring, Norma managed the Lord's Pantry for more than 20 years, an organization that delivered over one million meals to Westchester's homebound HIV/AIDS patients and their families.

Norma had a wide circle of friends who were attracted to her sharp wit and entertaining conversation. She was a member of the White Plains Women's Club, loved Broadway theater, was a voracious reader, accomplished cook and devoted grandmother.

Norma is survived by her husband James E. Lento, Jr.; her daughters Elyse Lento Bonistall (Skip), Diane Lento McGovern (Scott Stefan); grandchildren Amy Bonistall Longo (Sal), Steve Bonistall and Luke McGovern. Norma is also survived by her sister, Janet Ravali Hofgren of Syosset, Long Island.

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to Hospice of Westchester: <https://www.hospiceofwestchester.org/>

Correction

In an article in the Dec. 31, 2019 issue of The White Plains Examiner there was an error about when the City of White Plains will pay for all health insurance benefits for its retired employees.

Five years after a retiree becomes Medicare eligible all health insurance premiums will be paid by the city.

Only those retirees who are 70 years of age and older no longer will be required to pay for part of their health insurance as of April 1, 2020. All other similarly situated retirees under the age of 70 are still required to contribute 15 percent toward their health insurance.

The active White Plains firefighters similarly situated had their benefits restored as of July 1, 2015 whereby they pay nothing in retirement and the firefighters already retired will pay 15 percent until age 70.

The White Plains Examiner regrets the error.

Lorna Lake



Lorna C. Lake, 80, of White Plains, passed away on Jan. 3.

Lorna was born on May 29, 1940 in Columbus, Ohio to the late Isla Snyder and Clarence Bowser. On April 4, 1983 Lorna married Frank Lake in New York City.

Lorna had a Master's Degree from Ohio State University. She was an accomplished musician playing the French horn, flute, piano, and banjo. She also painted and enjoyed photography. Lorna and Frank loved to hike and shared a passion for English Country Dancing, where they made lifelong friends. She always had a kind word and smile for all.

Besides her parents, Lorna is predeceased by her sister Sylvia Gayer.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made in Lorna's name to Alzheimer's Association act.alz.org

Hulda Leonor Valencia



Hulda Leonor Valencia, of White Plains, passed away on Jan. 1.

She was born in El Salvador, Central America.

A memorial service will be held at the First Baptist Church of White Plains on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 2 p.m.

Anne Mezzancello



Anne C. (Dolly) Mezzancello, had just turned 87 years old, when she passed away at her home in West Harrison on Dec. 29. Her loving family was by her side. She bravely battled Liver Cancer.

Born Dec. 24, 1932 in White Plains, the daughter of Lucia and Nicholas Palladino of Ferris Avenue. Anne married the "Love of her Life" Salvatore Mezzancello of Silver Lake on Nov. 15, 1953. Her Love predeceased her on Aug. 1, 2001. Together they raised three sons in the house they built and called home at 26 Lincoln Ave.

Anne was an AT&T long distance, overseas telephone operator for most of her career. She would often speak about the important people with whom she had short conversations, while connecting the call: Henry Kissinger, John Lennon, Ed Sullivan to name a few. In addition, she held several part-time positions including Customer

Service representative at Abraham & Strauss, White Plains Bowling Alley, and Holiday Inn in Elmsford.

Anne was a parishioner of the Saint Anthony of Padua Church parish and was a member of the Ave Maria Guild. In addition, she served as a volunteer for the Annual Festa in West Harrison. She and others would roll approx. 2000 meatballs, 100 lbs. of sausage and peppers.

She loved her Thursday morning adventures meeting up with friends at the West Harrison Senior Center, along with the many trips here and abroad; her Saturday morning hairdresser appointment at Karen's; her frequent trips with her friends for lunch at Graziella's of White Plains (she was the transportation); and her two-weeks' timeshare at Villa Roma.

Anne was an avid TV and movie buff and loved big band music. Anne was blessed with a generous, big heart, and had a lovely singing voice and knack for sketching flowers. She was a member of the Star Trek family, which television series she continued to watch until her last breath.

Anne is survived by her three sons and their families. Salvatore and Diana (D'Agostino) of Harrison; Guy and Joan (Salvo) of Armonk; and Mark and Pattie (Wuest) of West Palm Beach. Anne had nine beloved grandchildren and six great grandchildren: Jeffrey and his wife Jen, of Yorktown and their children Michael and Ashley; Matthew and his wife Marissa of Valhalla and their son Max; Jonathan and Becca of Port Chester and their son Luca; Daniel and Keeley of Greenville, S.C., and their children Clary Jo and Clay; Michael of Armonk; Jason of Stamford; Brittany, Courtney, and Dominique of West Palm Beach, as well as many nieces and nephews in Connecticut, Florida, Virginia and West Harrison. She had good friends in many cities and states with whom she called her "Lady Friends."

Anne was pre-deceased by her sister Jeanne, who passed on Nov. 6, 2007, and who was her closest friend. Even though they were miles apart, they spoke on the phone every day. Anne stayed in close contact with her sister's two children Dawn and JR, both of Virginia.

In lieu of flowers, please make Donations to St Jude's Children's Hospital.



Second Novel by Local Author to be Published this Month

By Neal Rentz

Former White Plains resident Richard Cirulli recalled last week the former Demitasse Café in Dutchess County.

Cirulli, who currently resides in Port Chester, said the café was a hangout for him and his friends.

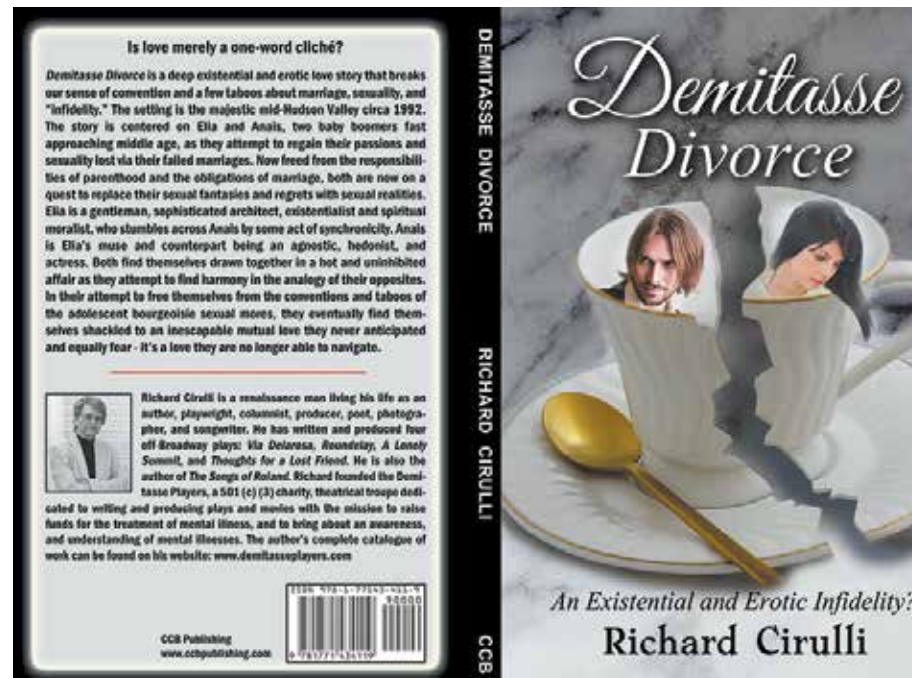
In his new novel, "Demitasse Divorce," the fictional version of the Demitasse Café is located in Cold Spring and it is where a married man and woman meet and have an affair and find they are falling in love with each other, Cirulli said.

Cirulli said he is an existential philosopher. He works with the Demitasse Players, who describe themselves as "An Essentially Existential Troupe."

Cirulli described the existential aspects of his new novel.

"The thesis of the story is the question, 'is love a cruel game we call happiness'; with the protagonist being romance and the antagonist being love," Cirulli said. "As the two main characters are drawn to each other and fulfill passions denied them in their failed marriages, they find themselves in an internal existential conundrum when they realize they are falling in love."

Cirulli said the two main characters did not anticipate or want to fall in love. "As the relationship escalates and circumstances reveal themselves, the reader will find him



The cover of the novel "Demitasse Divorce" by former White Plains resident Richard Cirulli, which will be published later this month.

or herself in a bit of an existential enigma as they pull the pieces together to discern the moral definition of infidelity."

"And as Elia and Anais navigate their relationship at various times and circumstances the infidelity itself is

questionable, though nonetheless real with consequences, making one question if the legal system is the antagonist when it attempts to govern emotions and passions," Cirulli said.

"Demitasse Divorce" is slated to be



"Demitasse Divorce," the latest novel written by former White Plains resident Richard Cirulli, will be published later this month.

published in two weeks by CCB. The novel will be sold by Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Cirulli said he will participate in a book-signing event sometime in March at the White Plains Barnes and Noble.

For more information about the novel, visit www.demitasseplayers.com.

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Four Easy to Keep New Year's Resolutions



By Anthony J. Enea, Esq.

We are fast approaching that time of year when many of us feel compelled to make resolutions that are often very difficult to keep. The most common are to exercise more, eat healthier and lose weight. While admirable, they are sadly often doomed for failure (trust me, I know!).

Contrary to the above, the four resolutions stated below are easy to keep and will help ensure your estate and elder law planning needs are in good order for years to come:

If you have executed a Durable Power of Attorney, take it out of the drawer and review it. Check to see if the individual you have appointed as the agent is still the person you wish to handle your financial affairs if you are no longer able to do so. Is your named agent still in good health and someone you have confidence in? Confirm that you have selected an alternate agent in the event the primary agent can no longer act.

Review the Power of Attorney to determine if the agent is given broad powers to handle your affairs. For example, does he or she have unlimited gifting powers? Does the agent have the ability to create and

fund an irrevocable and/or revocable trust, transfer assets to said trust as well as your spouse and other loved ones without any limitations?

The most frequently occurring problem with a standard short form Durable Power of Attorney is the lack of broad gifting powers. This prevents the agent from making transfers to protect the assets of a principal who is incapacitated and unable to handle his or her own financial affairs. If the Power of Attorney lacks the needed gifting powers, the incapacitated person's family may need to commence a guardianship proceeding with the Court to obtain authority to make the necessary transfer. It is an expensive and time-consuming procedure. If you have not executed a Durable Power of Attorney with very broad powers, I suggest you consider doing so.

Be proactive with respect to ensuring that you have taken all appropriate steps to protect your life savings from the cost of long-term care. Unfortunately, the cost of long-term care has well surpassed estate taxes as the number one factor resulting in the dissipation of assets being available to be passed to one's spouse, children and grandchildren for the vast majority of Americans. With the Federal and New York estate tax exemptions being relatively high (\$11.4 million per person Federally and \$5.74 million in New York

for 2019), they are of little concern to more than 99 percent of Americans. However, the exorbitant cost of long-term care, whether it be a nursing home or at home, is both a real and impactful expense.

Whether it be considering the purchase of long-term care insurance or creating a Medicaid Asset Protection Trust to protect one's house and other non-IRA assets, taking the steps to learn about said options is a lot easier than going to the gym five times per week and not eating any carbs. They will generally not take more than one phone call; and one or two meetings with an experienced elder law attorney.

Review any Last Wills and/or Trusts you have executed so as to determine that the beneficiary(ies), executors and trustee(s) named therein are still in consistent with your wishes.

It is also not unusual for one to have had a falling out with the person previously named as a beneficiary and/or executor in one's Last Will. If your relationship has changed, you may wish to consider changing your Last Will.

Additionally, as one's family grows, the possibility exists that a child and/or grandchild may have developed a disability. If the possibility exists that said disabled or incapacitated child/grandchild will inherit under the term of your Last Will and/or Trust, it may be prudent to consider having said beneficiary's share held in a Special

Needs Trust for him or her. This would help ensure that the amount inherited by the disabled person does not disqualify them from eligibility for any federal and/or state programs to which they might be entitled.

Last but not least, review your health care proxy to ensure that you have a named agent and an alternate agent. All too often the proxy is erroneously executed with two named agents, which is not legally permitted in New York.

It is also important that your agent specifically knows what your wishes are regarding your health care and end of life decision making in the event you are no longer able to make these decisions. Have a candid conversation with your health care agent as to whether or not you wish to be placed on life support and the conditions that need to be present in doing so or not doing so.

The above stated resolutions can be easily accomplished in a relatively short period of time – a handful of hours at the most. While I urge you to consider healthy eating and exercise, a healthy estate plan is also important to your peace of mind.

Anthony J. Enea, Esq. is the managing member of Enea, Scanlan & Sirignano, LLP with offices in White Plains and Somers, NY. Mr. Enea is chair of the New York State Bar Association's Senior Lawyers Section. He was named Best Lawyers' 2019 Trusts and Estates "Lawyer of the Year" in White Plains and Westchester County's Leading Elder Care Attorney at the Above the Bar Awards.

Crossword by Myles Mellor

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Reign __ Me"
4. Sensation when a foot falls asleep, or Mt. Kisco fabric store, Pins and __
5. Baseball practice pen
6. Condition in which goods are often sold
7. Cries of regret
8. Anti-discrimination org.
9. Corinne Bailey __ 2007 Grammy nominee
10. Gumbo
16. Hooter
18. Wise Biblical king
21. Neighbor of Bulg.
23. "Friends" role

28. Short-billed rail
29. Pawling monuments, __ Memorials
32. Twin of Bert Bobbsey
33. Beat setter
34. At the table
36. NASA scrub
37. Liberate
38. Any minute
39. Swan Lake steps

24. Seventh planet
25. Extent
27. Oktoberfest serving
29. 1982 film set in cyberspace
30. Batman nemesis, __ Strange
31. Return envelope abbreviation
33. CSI stuff
35. Cooking abbr.

Across
1. Maker of the Royale 8
4. Final Four grp.
8. Dos, e.g.
11. Effortless
12. Snow parka
13. Auspices
14. Clothing company, __ Taylor
15. Disintegrates
17. So-so grades
19. Legal departure
20. Comedian Richard
22. Long-tailed primate
26. Throw

Down
1. Messenger
2. Pay-Pal currency
3. The Who song "Love."

Solution on page 15

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Is it Okay to Fall in Love With a Realtor?

Have you ever fallen in love with a realtor? It's very possible, you know.

As a long-term realtor, I am reminded of the time when I was sitting in my office near the desk of a colleague who was talking with a client on the phone. After she related all the hurdles she had managed to negotiate that day in assuring a successful transaction for her client, she asked, "So, do you love me yet?"

Surely, all of us realtors want our clients to love us, not just for the money we can help make for them, but the satisfaction that comes from knowing we've negotiated a minefield in a process where almost anything can go wrong. Finding the right house or the right buyer, marketing a property that may need work, negotiating the selling price, getting an accepted deal, clearing the inspection, the title search, the more stringent mortgage requirements and the closing itself can be riddled with peril.

If there were to be a Match.com kind of service linking clients with realtors, the client would find that psychological profile of realtors would make them a likely catch, at least from a business point of view. They tend to be hardy in nature, outgoing and capable of responding to any kind of situation. In both ragingly good markets and those that are depressed and depressing, realtors can be a homeowner's or buyer's

best friend.

It's both the trying times and the moments of glory that bond realtors with their clients and vice versa. After all, there's a lot at stake, considering that a home is the biggest purchase most of us ever make. In that process, the realtor can come to know the most intimate details about their clients, their familial relationships, their financial status, as well as their preferences about how they want to live. Clients usually share with their realtors all the hard truths of their past and the eager hopes of their future life. And in the present, they spend a lot of time together.

If realtors are representing sellers, they share the creative process of marketing a home and the debriefings that follow every showing. If they represent buyers, they travel all over the countryside with them. The glue of either relationship is a lot of hand holding.

These relationships can be extremely loyal and long-term, with case histories



By Bill Primavera

lasting from the purchase of a young couple's first home to that same couple making a transition from their last home to assisted living, all with the same realtor who has grown old with them.

So it is no wonder that after a successful transaction we will see an agent agonizing over an appropriate closing gift to give the client, or a special delivery package will arrive at the realtor's office from clients to their special hero or heroine.

Yes, occasionally there can be a spat. Looking at both sides of that possibility, when a relationship goes bad between a realtor and a client, polls have shown the killer of the love affair is usually related to communication. Most frequently, complaints among sellers come when they don't hear from their realtors as often as they would like.

When realtors complain about their seller clients, it is usually about their refusal to price a house according to its market value. The realtor in this case feels that they will

put in all the work and not get the expected result of a sale.

There's even the scenario of unrequited love, and that would be when sellers attempt to sell a home on their own (called a FSBO). Most realtors will say that is tantamount to representing one's self in court or removing one's own appendix. More specifically, lack of a realtor can deprive a seller of this kind of relationship where essential guidance and expertise is offered, resulting in a better offering price, even with the realtor's commission factored in, as statistics confirm.

But there are some very special moments in the client/realtor relationship that are just incredibly sweet. In one such case, a young couple with whom I had been working for a full year in finding their ideal first home asked if they could stop by my house to show me their newborn baby. I felt as happy and pleased as if I had just become a new grandfather.

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

Explaining the Dichotomy of Discerning Palates



By Nick Antonaccio

It's happened to all of us. We're out to dinner with friends and one of them orders a bottle of red wine. When served, everyone at the table compliments your friend for his or her selection. But not you. Even as it is poured into your glass, your senses relay a message to your brain: this wine is not pleasing. The color is too light, the aromas are off putting, and the temperature is too warm. Worse, the wine tastes like cherry vanilla cola.

You think you have a reasonable palate, able to discern good wine from plonk; what's wrong with these friends?

Conversely, when I order the wine, I look

forward to opening friends' palates to a new experience, leveraging off the seasoned (refined?) palate I've developed over the years.

I anxiously pre-taste a favorite wine. Ah. Sublime. All of my senses reverberate in a crescendo of color, aroma, taste and terroir. I wait for the reactions of my guests, expecting similar responses. But it's not to be. A tepid response at best, as each one patronizes me with terse comments. Someone corrals the wine server and offers to order the second bottle. Ouch. Here comes another pedestrian bottle to the table.

How is it that our palates are so discerning and unique? I've addressed this phenomenon

multiple times at wine events I've conducted and in several Grapevine columns.

When we savor a glass of wine it is our senses of taste, aroma and, to a lesser extent, sight and touch that create a learned memory which is then triggered each time we approach a glass of wine.

The science of this process is rather ethereal to me. However, a few months ago I came across a TED Talk that pulled this all together.

Camilla Arndal Andersen, a neuroscientist with Danish company DuPont Nutrition and Biosciences, presented her research in a precise, concise manner, transforming

a rather subjective phenomenon into an objective discourse. While her point of reference was coffee, it applies equally well to wine.

Here are my heavily redacted quotes from her transcript. For the unexpurgated version, contact me.

"When I drink a cup of coffee, I detect this cup of coffee by receptors on my body, information which is then turned into activated neurons in my brain. Wavelengths of light are converted to colors. Molecules in the liquid are detected by receptors in my mouth, and categorized as one of five basic tastes. That's salty, sour, bitter, sweet and umami. Molecules in the air are detected by receptors in my nose and converted to odors. And ditto for touch, for temperature, for sound and more.

All this information is detected by my receptors and converted into signals between neurons in my brain. Information, which is then woven together and integrated,

so that my brain recognizes that yes, I just had a cup of coffee, and yes, I liked it. And only then, after all this neuron heavy lifting, do we consciously experience this cup of coffee. And this is now where we have a very common misconception."

"People tend to think that what we experience consciously must then be an absolute true reflection of reality. But there are many stages of neural interpretation in between the physical item and the conscious experience of it. Which means that sometimes this conscious experience is not really reflecting that reality at all. That's because some physical stimuli may just be so weak that they just can't break that barrier to enter our conscious mind, while the information that does may get twisted on its way there by our hidden biases."

The next time you have a conflicting opinion with a friend(s) on a particular wine and your reality is his or her perception or vice versa, don't fret. Wine is to be savored on many levels, both subjective and objective. Enjoy each experience.

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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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

The Best of Menu Movers & Shakers 2019, Part 2



By Morris Gut

Here are more of the food and dining venues that really stoked my palate this past year.

Homemade Spam at Eugene's Diner, Port Chester. Dynamic Chef/Restaurateur David DiBari of The Cookery in Port Chester, has

opened his newest: a retro diner-inspired restaurant serving jazzy cocktails. Once you get past the sparkling bar/lounge area, the diner-style design elements: the booths, counter seats, bustling open kitchen and retro lighting fixtures put on a Technicolor display. Add to that the rotary cake display case and small nearby sign: Burgers, Shakes, Pancakes and Caviar. That about sums up the eclectic menu, too. Got to taste rounds of menu based appetizers and beverages: their house made Hot Dog, with kraut, crispy onion, and mustard; Belgian Waffle, maple sausage, whipped butter, blueberry syrup; House made Rotisserie Spam, pineapple glaze; Griddled Meatloaf with Swedish gravy; Grilled Cheese, inside out with cheesy sauce; and more. It was all tasty. It's been quite a few years since I tasted Spam, and this version was good... really! Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Eugene's Diner is located at 112 N. Main Street, Port Chester. Phone: 914-481-5529, www.eugeneshdiner.com.

"La Bocca Della Verita" at La Bocca, White Plains. Chef/proprietor Tony Spiritoso has been marking 35 years as a chef and restaurateur in Westchester. A meal here usually begins at his signature antipasti bar loaded daily with tempting cured imported meats, cheeses and appetizing house made salads. Tony has brought his vintage bright red slicing machines along wherever he has been, and they sit here ready to roll on the antipasto counter. And the wine selection is among the best in the county. The dining room is strewn with artistic columns and serving pieces. There is banquet and table seating in the main 80-seat dining room, while the bar is often a perfect spot of networking with locals. There is a new wine room for private events for up to 60



Orecchiette with sausage and broccoli rabe at La Bocca.

guests. Tony and his son in law Alessandro and the veteran staff will take good care of you. Look for fresh porcini and seasonal game meats, too. Open 7 days. La Bocca, 8 Church Street, White Plains. 914-948-3281, www.laboccaristorante.com.

Prime steaks and chops, Alex's Bar & Grille, N. White Plains. Proprietor Alex Ahmetaj, a veteran of the restaurant-hospitality field, updated the menu at Alex's Bar & Grille offering big cuts of aged steaks and chops along with generously served Northern Italian/Continental fare. The steaks could be called a bargain here. The staff brings years of experience and a European flair to White Plains. Customers enter the multi-section dining room through the inviting bar/lounge with its black industrial ceiling, banquets and soft lighting. It is a good networking spot. The handsome



Fresh apple strudel at the 808 Bistro.



Assorted appetizers and Spam at Eugene's Diner.

dining room is split into cozy sections with white tablecloths, colorful deVelleneuve impressionist paintings and warming scones. Mediterranean clay colored banquets and chairs complement wooden walls and plush beige curtained windows. Check out such specialties as: Pan Fried Calamari with hot cherry peppers, Linguini alla Vongole, a delicious fresh Branzino prepared tableside, classic Veal Parmigiana, grilled Prime Filet Mignon, Prime NY Sirloin Steak, or the Veal Chop. Alex's Bar & Grille, 577 North Broadway, North White Plains. 914-358-1444 www.alex577.com

A Chef without borders, the 808 Bistro, Scarsdale. Marking its tenth year, this eclectic Italian and American eatery on

Scarsdale Ave. glows nightly in a rainbow of alternating colors. Glistening ceramic and metal tiles highlight the 50-seat dining room and ceiling. It's a Manhattan vibe and it's all kept properly casual. Chef/owner Sal Cucullo Jr. is a C.I.A. graduate who practically grew up in restaurants, working kitchens owned by his Italian family as well as venues of every stripe. He knows how to cook Italian, but for as long as I have known him, his creativity has never been bound by culinary borders. He can knock out a delicious version of Grandma's Gnocchi in a basil-pomodoro sauce one moment, and in another

prepare a decadent Baked Macaroni and Cheese with chunks of lobster and shrimp, infused with truffle oil, that will propel you to foodie heaven. The 808 Bistro, 808 Scarsdale Ave., Scarsdale. 914-722-0808, www.the808bistro.com.



Large meatballs at Ernie's.

Friendly staff, too. Good networking spot. The family also operates bustling Fratelli's Pizza and Pops Café next door. Maria's, 11 Huguenot Street, New Rochelle. 914-636-0006, www.marianewrochelle.com.

Wine down evenings at Ernie's, Bronxville. 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. Recent tastings have included: Luisanna's amazing Veal Meatballs, Cheese and Charcuterie Platter, Duck Wontons, Duck Confit, a wonderful Fettuccine Carbonara; Mushroom & Pea Risotto, and Baked Cod with Vierge Sauce. The Lemon Fettuccini 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.

The exotic scents and flavors of Mughal Palace, Valhalla. Mr. Alam of Mughal Palace serves his all you can eat Indian buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., more than a dozen selections from salad, main courses to desserts with all the trimmings. Cost is \$15.95 per person. Dinner is a la carte and begins at 5 p.m. Look for such specialties as: Lasuni Gobi, cauliflower florets tossed with bell peppers, onion, garlic and green herbs; Chicken Barbecue Kabab, marinated boneless chicken cooked in the tandoor oven; Lamb Bhuna, pieces of lamb cooked in a medium spiced sauce of bell peppers, tomatoes and fresh Indian herbs; and Mango Chicken, boneless chunks of chicken cooked with fresh mango, ginger, garlic and dry spices. A glass of lassi will help wash it all down, and don't forget the delicious house made Indian breads to scoop up the sauces. Open 7 days. Mughal Palace, 16 Broadway, Valhalla. 914-997-6090. The same team now operates Ambadi Kebab & Grill, 141 E. Post Road, White Plains, www.mughalpalace.com.

Bon appetite in 2020.

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. Email: gutreactions@optonline.net.

Italian/global flavors galore, Maria's, New Rochelle. Brothers Peter and Giovanni Cucullo have been causing a stir in New Rochelle for the past year, drawing patronage from all over the county to their flavorful riff on Italian/global cooking. Named after Grandma, Maria's has become almost a regular haunt for me. Love their happy hours from 3 to 7 p.m. when they offer some favorite beverages and small plates that are loaded with flavor. I am already hooked on such eclectic dishes as: Glazed Pork Ribs, Truffled Green Beans, Grilled Kielbasa with sweet and spicy Peruvian peppers, Mom's Meatballs, Cauliflower Fritters, and Roasted Shishito Peppers. Nice dining room and bar filled with artifacts from Grandma's.

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continued on next page

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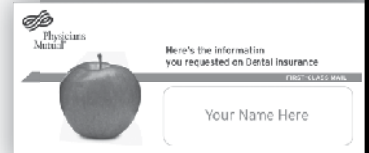
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Lake Road on Monday January 13, 2019 for the purpose of considering the following applications: Regular Meeting Start Time: 6:00pm AGENDA REVIEW 1. Bryant Taconic Corp., 157 Bryant Pond Road (TM#74-1-60/File 2018-0179) The subject property is comprised of +/- 2.817 acres and is located on 157 Bryant Pond Road within the CC-2 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a pervious paver patio, outdoor freezer, relocation of refuse enclosure, landscape waterfall and signage for gas dispenser. The applicant requires an Amended Site Plan. 2. Gan, Roy, - 560 Oscawana Lake Road (TM# 62-1-37&38/File: 2019-0206) The subject property consists of + 3.58 acres of

land and is located on 560 Oscawana Lake Road and within the R-3 Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a single family residence on an existing parcel where a dilapidated residence will be removed. A Site Development Plan and Major Grading permit is required. 3. Orentreich, David, 855 Route 301 (TM#39-1-9/File 2019-0189) The subject property consists of + 73.94 acres of land and is located on 855 Route 301 and within the PC Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to construct a 2,200 sq.ft. improvement to be utilized for equipment storage. Amended Site Plan approval and Major Grading Permit are required. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 4. Approve Minutes of December 16, 2019



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EOE

Happenings

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Trove Time. Trove Time is an early literacy playtime for ages 2-4 with a caregiver. Children and their caregiver will play together, hear stories, and learn about enriching a child's life and increasing their early literacy skills. Tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis beginning 30 minutes prior to the program; 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Story Trove at White Plains Library.

Do Gooders. Do Good in the Edge and join our community service group. This event, for teens in grades 7-12, is sponsored by the Allstate Foundation. 4 to 5:30 p.m. No registration required. Edge Media Lab, White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Tech Tuesday. A series of classes for children, specifically in grades 1-6. Each week, a particular topic related to digital technology is presented. Participants of this week's session will learn the basics of creating user interfaces and learn about app design; 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Galaxy Hall at White Plains Library.

Legendary Tuesday Night Jam. This jam has fostered many great musicians over the years. Some have gone on to tour, win Grammy Awards and achieve celebrity status. You never know who you'll hear. Come on down, play or listen, dance, drink and enjoy. All levels of musical talent are welcome. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 8 p.m. No cover charge. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-747-4740.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

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. 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. in Galaxy Hall, White Plains Library.

Noonday Getaway Concert. 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 includes the music of Jobim, Handel, Bach, Albeniz, and Pat Metheny, plus a couple of traditional ballads. 30-minute free concert begins at 12:10 p.m. at Grace Church, White Plains. This concert is made possible, in part, with the generous support of D'Errico Jewelry, Scarsdale.

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

Which Craft? Wednesday. Learn to use a sewing machine and make a simple project. For students in grades 6 and up on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited for this week's project. 4 to 5 p.m. at the Edge Media Lab, White Plains Library.

Open Mic / Poetry Slam. Competition and feature performances from guest poets from around the country. To take part in the open mic or slam, register between 6:30 and 7 p.m. Slam poets should bring at least one original poem of up to 3 minutes. Registration closes promptly at 7, and the program starts shortly thereafter. Co-hosted by local poet and slam-master Eric ZORK Alan. All are welcome. Community Room, White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave.

Anti-Semitism: What We Face and How We Fight It. A discussion about the rise of anti-Semitism in the United States and abroad and to learn about efforts to combat hatred. The discussion will feature Director of Government Affairs for the Simon Wiesenthal Center Mark Weitzman, Westchester County District Attorney Anthony A. Scarpino, Jr. and Deputy Chief Planning Officer at UJA-Federation of New York, Hindy Poupko. Presented by UJA-Federation of New York in Westchester and Westchester Jewish Council. All welcome. Temple Israel Center of White Plains, 280 Old Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Free. Registration required. Registration: Visit www.ujafedny.org/wc-anti-semitism. Info: Contact Susan Scharf Glick at 914-385-2120 or e-mail glicks@ujafedny.org or Shirley Green at 914-385-2125 or e-mail greens@ujafedny.org.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Tech Thursday. T(h)ech Thursday is a weekly meetup for teenagers who wish to learn more about various aspects of digital technology. From coding to 3D printing, there are many opportunities to learn and have fun. The particular topic of this week's session is app design. Participants will learn the basics of creating user interfaces and digital applications. 4 to 5 p.m. at the Edge Media Lab in White Plains Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains.

Friday, Jan. 10

Drop-in Computer Help for Seniors. This monthly drop-in session will help seniors with little or no experience with computers to feel more comfortable using

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.

a laptop. 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. Community Room, White Plains Library.

Dungeons and Dragons for Teens. Join a band of adventurers on a Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Attend every session, or drop in when you can; no registration required. For grades 7-12. Beginners encouraged. 4 to 5:45 p.m. Edge Media Lab at White Plains Library.

Full Moon Wolf Walk. Celebrate the first full moon of 2020 (aka the Wolf Moon) with wolves. While keeping warm by the outdoor fire pit, guests will enjoy warm drinks and likely the symphony of 40-plus wolves. Guests will learn about the history of wolves in the United States, their importance in a healthy ecosystem and the efforts to save these magnificent creatures for future generations. Also take a short moonlit walk to visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Zephyr and Nikai. Please bring flashlights. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 5:30 p.m. \$20. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Opening Reception for "2020 Vision." A group show featuring paintings by Steven Alexander, Daniel Anselmi, David Collins, Dana James and Josette Urso. Kenise Barnes Fine Art, 1947 Palmer Ave., Larchmont. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Feb. 22. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and by appointment. Info: 914-834-8077 or visit www.kbfa.com.

Westchester Photographic Society. Ira Block – Defining Your Photographic Style Through Personal Projects. Block will speak about his photo book project – "Cuba Loves Baseball: A Photographic Journey." He will be highlighting the techniques and tips he had applied to make this photo book. Block will discuss the importance of having a personal project to sharpen your vision and photographic skills and walk participants through the various stages of photographing a story, capturing moments, deciding on the final images that advance your story and make it complete. For adults 18 years old and up. Westchester Community College's Technology Building, Room 107, 75 Grasslands Rd., Valhalla. (Use Parking Lot 11) 8 p.m. Free. Info: 914-827-5353 or visit www.wpsphoto.org.

Broken Arrow: The Music of Neil Young. Returning for a second smash year, Broken Arrow perform Young's music featuring the rockin' electric Crazy Horse tunes and the more acoustic, pedal steel-driven country rock material. The band delivers these classic songs faithfully while taking them out on some jammin' excursions and tastefully tweaking some of the arrangements. Joe Mass nails Young's vocals perfectly and the harmonies are spot on. They bring audiences to their feet singing along and demanding encores at every show. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. \$25, \$32 and \$38. Info and ticket: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

"Newsies." Based on the 1992 movie

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

Saturday, Jan. 11

Coyotes: Behavior, Ecology and Coexistence. A special program about the local cousin to the wolf – the Eastern Coyote. Learn more about their biology and behavior and ways to reduce or prevent problems from occurring between people, pets and coyotes. After the talk, guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and potentially behold the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: \$15. Children (under 12): \$12. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Jewelry Medic. Do you need a ring re-sized, an appraisal, a new watch battery or assistance with another type of jewelry emergency? Jaymark Jewelers of Cold Spring has added the mobile jewelry repair shop to its services. The Jewelry Medic travels to homes, offices, gyms, coffee shops and other convenient meeting places throughout the area and offer reasonable rates on repairs. The public is also invited to participate in Bethel Springvale Inn's Open House which will be held simultaneously and include tours of the assisted living residence as well as refreshments. Bethel Springvale Inn, 62 Springvale Rd/, Croton-on-Hudson. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info: 914-739-4404 ext. 2204 or e-mail patricia.pelican@bethelwell.org.

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

Opening Reception for "Weather Report." Artists capture various states of climate and weather conditions and its effect on the Earth using various methods, media and techniques. Whether in realistic, impressionistic or abstract images, they create the mood, location and states of the forever changing conditions of the climate and environment. Mamaroneck artists group exhibition. Work in 2D and 3D will be on exhibit. Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont. 3 to 5 p.m. Free. Snow date: Jan. 18. Exhibit continues through Jan. 25. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m. Info: 914-834-1117 or visit www.mamaroneckartistsguild.org.

continued on page 15

EXAMINER SPORTS

The WHITE PLAINS Examiner Sports

Stepinac Holds off Iona after Griffin Injury in Crusader Classic

By Rob DiAntonio

Adrian Griffin Jr. was writhing on the court in pain with 4:59 left in the fourth quarter of the third-annual Crusader Classic between host Stepinac and rival Iona Prep.

The Crusaders, who were leading by 12 points, didn't crumble following the left knee injury to their Duke-bound junior. They buckled down and pulled out a 62-54 win in front of a sold out crowd of over 3,500 at the Westchester County Center last Saturday evening.

"Obviously, with A.J. going down, the momentum could have shifted," Stepinac coach Pat Massaroni said. "These guys battled and that's a really good win against a good team. This is an unbelievable event every single year. I don't think you see this much in high school basketball in New York State and across the country. It was sold out 48 hours in advance. It's a testament to our players, our community, Westchester County and New York City basketball."

Following the injury, Iona cut the Stepinac lead to single digits but R.J. Davis hit a runner and then made two free throws to keep the Crusaders in control. Stepinac knocked down its free throws down the stretch and didn't allow any easy buckets to

hold off the Gaels for the victory.

"We kind of just huddled up and said what we had to do," Stepinac senior Luke Fizulich said of how they kept their focus after Griffin's injury. "Even though he's hurt right now, let's just finish the game and we'll deal with that later. It was kind of scary seeing him go down but finishing the game was important."

The extent of Griffin's injury wasn't immediately known following the game.

"He'll be day-to-day until we get an MRI and some X-rays done," Massaroni said. "He's in a brace. The doctors and our athletic trainer here tonight are looking at him right now. He's in good spirits and walked off on his own. It was a pretty gruesome injury and kind of was a freaky thing. We'll evaluate it and probably won't know more until Monday or Tuesday once he gets tested."

Stepinac led just 31-25 at halftime, but erupted in the third quarter. It started with a Samuel Gibbs corner 3-pointer and was followed by a Malcolm Chimezie dunk to quickly stretch the lead to 11 points.



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTOS

Luke Fizulich drives baseline.

Griffin, who was relegated to the bench for much of the first half with three fouls, converted a three-point play to increase Stepinac's lead to 44-31 with three minutes left in the third. Davis then went coast-to-coast to make it a 15-point game.

The North Carolina-bound senior Davis, who was honored before the game for becoming the fifth player in Westchester County history to eclipse 2,000 career points, nailed a step back 3-pointer at the buzzer to send Stepinac into the fourth quarter with a commanding 54-38 lead.

"My teammates were a big help for my slow start (to the game) and at halftime they told me to just keep it going," said Davis,

who paced Stepinac with a game-high 22 points and added five rebounds. "I felt like my energy was pretty low (in the first half) and as a captain I had to bring it in the second half."

Fizulich was hot early, nailing three 3-pointers in the first half as he finished with 13 points.

Chimezie controlled the paint for the Crusaders and made it difficult for Iona to score inside. He tallied nine points, 12 rebounds and four blocks.

"I know that my team can score," Chimezie said. "We have great scorers with R.J., Luke

continued on next page



Malcolm Chimezie of the Crusaders goes up strong for two.



Justin Morety fires a three.

EXAMINER SPORTS

continued from previous page

and A.J. I know if I can get the rebounds and play strong defense every night, these guys are going to do their scoring. It's like a puzzle piece. I just fit that piece of the puzzle."

Griffin had eight points, five assists and four rebounds in just 19 minutes of action.

Gibbs added six points while Justin Morety chipped in with four points for the Crusaders,



Stepinac's Adrian Griffin Jr. drives by Iona's Ronald Greene Jr. in the third-annual Crusader Classic last Friday at the County Center.

who improved to 7-2 and avenged a loss to Iona from last year's Crusader Classic.

“We didn’t want to lose because between us it’s arguably the biggest rivalry in the area,” Chimezie said. “They got us last year and we knew that it wasn’t a real win. They just kind of got away with it. We had to come out here and prove a point that last year didn’t count.”

Iona was paced by Aidan Hilderbrand and Keeshawn Jones, who each scored 13 points.

The Crusaders and Gaels will meet again on Feb. 1 at Iona College.

Stepinac, which is ranked No. 15 in the nation, returns to action when travels to St. Peters (Staten Island) for a 5 p.m. game on Tuesday, Jan. 7. The Crusaders then welcome St. Raymond at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 10. They defeated St. Raymond 100-93 in overtime back in December in their first meeting.

"Our guys are battle-tested," Massaroni said. "Obviously, the last five



R.J. Davis looks to get around Iona's Keeshawn Jones.

games (prior to Iona) were against top 25 teams (nationally). Our guys know how to win and I think that's the difference between last year's team and this year's team. We figured out how to win in tight games and ugly games compared to last year."



Luke Fizulich celebrates after hitting a three in the first half.

Happenings

continued from page 13

Sunday, Jan. 12

Dylan Lauren Author/Speaker Event, Book Signing and Reception. Westchester resident Dylan Lauren, daughter of fashion mogul Ralph Lauren, will bring her sweet and exciting business story and talk about following her dream, life as a successful businesswoman, writing a book, her candy obsession and much more. The program will include an audience conversation and Q&A with the queen of sugar offering a peek inside her life as the CEO of the iconic Dylan's Candy Bar. Guests will get a behind-the-scenes understanding of what it takes every day to run the mouth-watering empire. All guests will receive a copy of her book, "Unwrap Your Sweet Life," will Lauren will sign. Bedford Playhouse, 633 Old Post Rd., Bedford. 1 p.m. \$60. Members: \$51. Info and tickets: Visit www.bedfordplayhouse.org.

FeederWatch. Learn about some of your backyard birds while identifying them at the feeders. Refreshments will be served. Cranberry Lake Preserve, 1609 Old Orchard St., North White Plains. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Also Feb. 1. Info: 914-428-1005.

Movie: Homeward Bound. The Incredible Journey (G, 1993, 85min). Three pets escape from a California ranch and embark on a dangerous quest to find their owners. 2 to 4:30 p.m., Galaxy Hall, White Plains Library.

“Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope.” A screening and discussion of this documentary film that explores the impact of adverse childhood events. Co-sponsored by the Ethical Society of Northern Westchester, the Westchester

Library System and the Briarcliff Manor Public Library, with special thanks to the Ossining Public Library, Ethical Society of Northern Westchester, 108 Pinesbridge Rd., Ossining. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Info: Visit www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org.

“Patriot in a Petticoat: The Life and Times of Ann Fisher Miller.” A presentation about this historic figure followed by a tour of the Miller House. Miller House, 140 Virginia Rd., North White Plains. 2 to 4 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-428-1005.

Candlelight Harpsichord and Clavichord Concert. Dr. Sándor Szabó will present this enchanting concert which will include compositions by the most brilliant composers of the Renaissance, Baroque and Classic eras juxtaposed with exuberant works by the most notable composers of the 20th century. This encounter of past and present is sure to engage both intellect

and emotion, as Szabó performs these masterworks written expressly for the Queen of Instruments, the harpsichord, and the most delicate of all keyboard instruments, the clavichord. The concert will be played on instruments built by notable American builder Zuckerman. Christ's Church Rye, 2 Rectory St., Rye. 3 p.m. Free; seating limited. Info and tickets: 914-967-1745 or e-mail sszabo@ccrye.org.

Salsa Social. Come and learn how to Salsa. A fun and exciting workout. Singles or couples; no partner necessary. Josie's School of Dance, 42 Memorial Plaza, Level B, Pleasantville. 5 to 9 p.m. Intro lesson at 4:30 p.m. \$10 admission. Dinner: \$6. Second Sunday of every month. Info: 914-332-8670.

Hudson Valley Blues Society Presents: Tas Cru and His Band of Tortured Souls. Tas Cru is truly a blues eclectic who refuses to let his music be bound to just one blues style. He'll swing you with a traditional shuffle, swoon you with a sultry ballad, lull you into a trance with deep hill-country blues and then rock your knobs off. If you want to be entertained, Tas is your guy. With a repertoire of more than 60 original songs from multiple albums and dozens of crowd-pleasing classics, this seasoned road warrior will give folks what they want, be it at a festival, concert or dance hall. Lucy's Lounge, 446 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Show at 7 p.m. General admission: \$20 (on first-come, first-served basis). VIP Seating: \$25. (In the event of bad weather, the show will be rescheduled and all tickets will be honored at that time.) Info and tickets: Visit <https://www.facebook.com/pg/LucysLoungeNY/events/>

Afro-Cuban All Stars. After gaining international fame for reviving the classic

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sound of Cuban son, tres master Juan de Marco turn the Afro-Cuban All Stars into a sensational showcase for Cuba's most prodigious young musicians. While long revered in Latin American and Europe as a founding member of Cuba's great son revival band Sierra Maestra, de Marcos first gained notice in the U.S. as founder of the Buena Vista Social Club. It was de Marcos who assembled Ibrahim Ferrer, Eliades Ochoa, Ruben Gonzalez and the rest of the crew for Ry Cooder when he came to Havana looking for illustrious old-timers. But de Marcos is just as interested in promoting Cuba's brilliant young musicians as in highlighting Cuba's senior talent. The All Stars not only features a rotating multigenerational cast, the group draws on both classic Cuban styles, like son and danzon, and contemporary dance rhythms like timba. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 7 p.m. \$38, \$48 and \$58. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusic hall.org.

Crossword Solution from page 8

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| 14 | A | N | N | | | 15 | E | R | O | D | E | S | |
| 17 | C | E | E | 18 | | | 19 | A | W | L | | | |
| 20 | P | R | Y | O | R | 21 | | | 22 | L | E | M | U |
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| 38 | A | N | O | N | | | | | | 39 | P | A | S |

Stepinac Holds off Iona Despite Griffin Injury in Crusader Classic



ROB DIANTONIO PHOTO

Adrian Griffin Jr. is swarmed by Iona defenders while going up for a shot in the paint before he experienced a left knee injury that left him writhing on the court in pain with 4:59 left in the fourth quarter of the third-annual Crusader Classic between host Stepinac and Rival Iona Prep. Stepinac pulled out a 62-54 win.