White Plains to Host 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

By Rick Pezzullo

The City of White Plains will host its annual September 11th Remembrance Ceremony on Saturday, September 11 at 9 a.m. at Liberty Park on Lake Street, the site of the city’s permanent 9/11 Memorial.

White Plains will join together in a special way with 60 communities across America thanks to the White Plains Youth Bureau’s Social Justice for Youth Community Youth Court. The Community Youth Court program was named an Official Partner for the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 Day of National Service and Remembrance.

As part of this award, the Community Youth Court program received the special 9/11 Flag of Honor, which includes the names of all 2,983 victims who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The 9/11 Flag of Honor visited the 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City on Sunday, June 27, 2021, and was physically on the ground where the Twin Towers once stood, and where the 9/11 Memorial now has been erected.

The City of White Plains will display this flag during its September 11th Remembrance Ceremony and later in the City Hall Rotunda. All of the 60 partner communities will honor 50 victims each by reading a short bio and sharing where they are remembered at the 9/11 Memorial in New York City. White Plains will additionally honor the six White Plains residents who died on September 11, 2001, as has become an annual tradition.

The city’s ceremony will involve youth who volunteer as part of the Community Youth Court program as well as youth involved with the Juvenile Justice System – none of whom were yet born on September 11th, 2001.

The White Plains ceremony will include messages from Mayor Tom Roach, County Executive George Latimer, and District Attorney Mimi Rocah, a wreath laying and placement of flower bouquets by members of the White Plains Common Council, as well as music and reflections on this historic day in history.

Leading up to and following the 9/11 Flag of Honor Across America Memorials on September 11th, many of the 60 partner communities will be undertaking service projects. In White Plains there will be two blood drives on Friday, September 10:
• Annual 9/11 Blood Drive hosted by the Thomas H. Slater Center in collaboration with the City of White Plains.
• Location: 2 Fisher Court.
• Time: 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
• Blood drive hosted by a coalition of local Indian American organizations including Arya Samaj of Suburban New York, Hindu Temple of Tri-State, Inc., India Center of Westchester, SEWA

Westchester Adds Six All-Electric Buses to Bee-Line Fleet

By Rick Pezzullo

Westchester County has added six all electric buses to its Bee-Line fleet.

County Executive George Latimer was on hand last week to usher in the first of the new buses - a New Flyer Xcelsior XE 35. The 35-foot bus has 32 seats. Each new bus is expected to save approximately 5,000 gallons of fuel per year compared to a traditional diesel bus, while preventing greenhouse gas emissions from polluting the environment.

“This is an exciting day for commuters and the environment,” Latimer said. “The unveiling of our first all-electric bus shows Westchester’s commitment to modernizing its fleet with greener vehicles. In addition to meeting our sustainability goals by reducing emissions, these new electric buses will save the County money by providing the system with significant fuel savings.”

The new bus, which costs $969,028, includes amenities like USB charging ports at every seat, a bike rack, 14 cameras for added security and a protective shield for operators. The New York Truck Voucher Incentive Program, administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, is providing $326,357 in funding per bus for four buses (totaling $1.3 million) as part of the state’s $127.7 million allocation of the federal Volkswagen Settlement.

“We have made it a priority to replace our existing bus fleet with new, energy efficient cleaner models,” said Hugh Greechan, commissioner of the county’s Department of Public Works and Transportation. “We are excited to add the first all-electric bus to our Bee-Line fleet and implement charging infrastructure at our bus garage in Valhalla.”

The New York Power Authority (NYPA), with its main office in White Plains, is installing six electric vehicle chargers within the bus depot to charge the new buses that the county will own and operate.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer welcomed first of six new all-electric buses last week.

The Bee-Line, which serves more than 27 million passengers annually, currently has 325 buses in its fleet, 177 of which are hybrid diesel-electric. In 2018 the county added 78 hybrid diesel-electric 60-foot articulated buses to its fleet. In addition, the county is in the process of procuring 106 40-foot hybrid diesel-electric buses which will be delivered in 2022. These buses will replace diesel buses.

More than 65 percent of all Westchester County residents are within walking distance of a Bee-Line bus route. The system has more than 3,300 bus stops and almost 60 routes.
The sounds of live jazz will be flowing throughout downtown White Plains as JazzFest White Plains returns with 15 live performances from September 9 – 12. Headlining this year’s much anticipated celebration of music and culture are rising stars and jazz legends, including: Theo Croker, Ravi Coltrane Quartet, Emmet Cohen, Gabrielle Garo, Erena Terakubo, Alphonso Horne and the Ray Blue Quartet with special guest Samara Joy and more.

JazzFest White Plains is an annual event sponsored by the village of White Plains and produced by ArtsWestchester, the City of White Plains and the White Plains BID.

For a full festival schedule and to purchase advanced tickets, please visit artsw.org/jazzfest.

“JazzFest features some of the most talented musicians you will ever hear, but it’s also so much more. It’s a celebration of cultures, communities and the artists who make it all come to life,” said ArtsWestchester CEO Janet T. Langsam. “I invite everyone to join us at JazzFest this fall as we celebrate the return of live music to our streets and downtowns and restart the arts together!”

White Plains Mayor Tom Roach said, “It is a pleasure to partner with ArtsWestchester and the White Plains Business Improvement District for the 10th anniversary of JazzFest White Plains. Over the years, this event has grown from a one-day, one-venue event into a multi-day, multi-venue jazz destination event that draws world-class musicians to White Plains and the Metro-NY region.”

JazzFest 2021 returns to White Plains with an all-in-person program and a stellar lineup of artists. For its tenth year, the festival remains true to its roots, presenting jazz from an outstanding roster of Westchester and NYC musicians.

2021 JAZZFEST WHITE PLAINS SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8 - Preview
12-1:30 p.m. | Shah/Gomes/Belo Brazilian Jazz Trio (FREE)
White Plains Farmers Market, 59 Court St.

Vocalist and composer Kavita Shah deeply engages the jazz tradition, while also addressing and advancing its global sensibilities. A lifelong New Yorker of Indian origin, Shah incorporates her ethnographic research on Brazilian, West African and Indian musical traditions into her original repertoire.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 9
12-1 p.m. | Gabrielle Garo Quartet (FREE)
Grace Church, 33 Church Street

Born and raised in Brooklyn, Gabrielle Garo is a multi-instrumentalist who plays flute, piccolo, alto, tenor, soprano saxophone and bass clarinet. She is the 2015 Harlem Women in Jazz Youth In Action Winner and was an ambassador for the 2018 Latin Grammy Awards.

*This performance is presented by Downtown Music at Grace. Proof of vaccination and masks are required for entry. The event will take place in accordance with New York State and local health department guidelines.

6-9 p.m. | Jazz’n ARTSBASH ft. Ravi Coltrane Quartet, a benefit concert for ArtsWestchester
City Square Park, 50 Main Street, White Plains

ArtsWestchester and Ginsburg Development Companies present the first annual Jazz’n ARTSBASH Benefit Concert with live music by the Ravi Coltrane Quartet.

Join us under the stars for cocktails, music, and hors d’oeuvres. The outdoor concert event will include two sets at 7 and 8:15 p.m.

Ravi Coltrane is a critically acclaimed Grammy-nominated saxophonist, bandleader and composer. His albums include, “Moving Pictures,” “From The Round Box,” “Mad 6,” “In Flux,” “Blending Times,” and “Spirit Fiction.” Born in Long Island the second son of John Coltrane and Alice Coltrane, Ravi was named after Indian sitar legend Ravi Shankar. Ravi lives in Brooklyn, NY and maintains a fast-paced touring, recording, composing and performance schedule. He leads the effort to restore the John Coltrane Home in Dix Hills, Long Island (www.thecoltranehome.org) and presides over important reissues of his father’s recordinngs.

Individual Tickets: $100; ArtsWestchester Members: $85

For sponsorship opportunities and to purchase tickets, please visit: artsw.org/jazzfest.

*For ticketholders, proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required for entry. Given the outdoor setting and vaccination requirement, masks will be optional.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 10
12 p.m. | Jazz at Noon: Anais Reni with the Pete Malinverni Trio (FREE)
White Plains Public Library Plaza, 100 Martine Ave.

Anais Reno, having performed with highly acclaimed jazz artists since the age of 10, has had a rapidly growing career as a singer with a love for jazz and the Great American Songbook. Reno will attend SUNY Purchase in the fall as an Elita Fitzgerald Scholar. Pete Malinverni is Head of Jazz Studies at the Conservatory of Music at Purchase College. He has been a fixture on the New York City jazz scene since moving there in the early 1980s and has recorded fourteen times as a leader in solo piano, trio, quartet, quintet, big band and chamber music.

7:30 p.m. | Emmet Cohen Trio ($25 for 7:30 p.m. | $40 for both 7:30 & 9 p.m. sets)
Grace Church, 33 Church Street

Returning for his third appearance at JazzFest! Recognized as a prodigy who began playing at age three, multitaced American jazz pianist and composer Emmet Cohen is in the vanguard of his generation’s advancement of jazz. Cohen is the winner of the 2019 American Pianists Awards and the Cole Porter Fellow of the American Pianists Association. In addition to leading the Emmet Cohen Trio, Cohen has appeared regularly with Ron Carter, Benny Golson, Jimmy Cobb, George Coleman, Jimmy Heath and Billy Hart, among others. During the 2020 lockdown, Cohen developed “Live From Emmet’s Place,” a series of weekly performances by his trio and special guests who livestreamed from his New York apartment, recalling the Harlem rent parties of yesteryear.

* For ticketholders, proof of COVID-19 vaccination and masks are required for entry.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 11
12-2 p.m. | Music in Action: Alphonso Horne and the Gotham Kings (FREE)
Starting at White Plains Plaza, 1 North Broadway

Catch Alphonso Horne and the Gotham Kings live in downtown White Plains as they serenade outdoor cafés! Eat at your favorite restaurant and enjoy the band’s performance as they stroll along the sidewalk playing music for outdoor diners.

4:30 p.m. | and a Show: Carole Alexis Company / Ballet des Amériques at Via Garibaldi (Dinner price $38pp | Children aged 5-12 $29pp)
White Plains Plaza, 1 North Broadway

A family experience for all ages, “Ballet des Amériques” Dancing Caravan will bring dance to downtown White Plains. Enjoy “Peter and The Wolf” and “Dance Jazz Mosaic,” both choreographed by Carole Alexis, accompanied by a three course meal at Via Garibaldi, an authentic Italian restaurant serving a traditional “family style” experience.

Advance tickets include:
• live performance by members of professional dance company Ballet des Amériques
• three-course dinner inclusive of tax and gratuity
• premier seating

*This performance will take place outdoors with advanced dining reservations required for premier seating. Patrons can also view the performance on the plaza, but must bring their own chair.

7:30 p.m. | Theo Croker Quartet ($25 for 7:30 p.m. set | $40 for both 7:30 & 9 p.m. sets)
The Playgroup Theatre, 1 North Broadway, #111

Theo Croker is a storyteller who speaks through his trumpet. The GRAMMY® Award-nominated artist, composer, producer, thought leader and influencer projects his jazz and other related musical forms. This concert event will include two sets at 7 and 9 p.m. (£50 per set)

SUNDAY, SEPT. 12
1-6:30 p.m. | White Plains JazzFest Culuminating Event (Ticket Prices: $25/$15)
Court Street (between Main St. and Martine Ave.). Tickets required for Admission*

1-11:45 p.m. | Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music

The Westchester Center for Jazz & Contemporary Music provides opportunities for musicians of diverse backgrounds, abilities and ages to develop their skills in jazz and other related musical forms. This performance features a selection of the Center’s top student musicians and faculty.

2:05-2:55 p.m. | Gilberto Colón Jr. & Ensalada De Pulpo
Gilberto “Pulpo” Colón Jr. is a pianist, composer, arranger, producer and band leader best known for his role as Musical Director for salsa superstar Héctor Lavoe. Colón has worked and recorded with some of Latin music’s most popular artists.

3:15-4:05 p.m. | Erena Terakubo Quartet
Born in Sapporo, Japan, Erena Terakubo began playing the alto saxophone at the age of nine. In 2010, Terakubo released her first album, “North Bird” with Kenny Barron, Christian McBride, Leo Pearson and Peter Bernstein, through the major Japanese record label King Records. Named after Indian sitar legend Ravi Shankar, Terakubo has performed on the Japanese jazz charts and was awarded Swing Journal’s Gold Disc. Terakubo has performed with Ron Carter, Jimmy Cobb, Louis Hayes, Vincent Herring, John Beasley’s MONK’s estra, Lewis Nash and Lenny White, to name a few. Terakubo has released six albums as a leader.

4:25-5:15 p.m. | Kotoko Brass
Kotoko Brass melds the traditional drum rhythms of Ghana, the sturdy bass and keyboards of the Caribbean, and the joyous horns of New Orleans, creating a unique sound of its own. The band has shared the stage with Femi Kuti, the California Honeydrops, Vieux Farka Touré, Innov Gnaoua, Take 6, Boston Pops and more.

5:35-6:30 p.m. | Ray Blue Quartet with Special Guest Samara Joy
Ray Blue is a soulful and tender saxophonist, composer and music educator. Ray has toured extensively both nationally and internationally. He has seven releases with his most recent project, Jazzheads. His newest recording, which features Kenny Barron on piano, is scheduled to be released this fall. Samara Joy, winner of the 2019 Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition, has a voice as smooth as velvet. In her self-titled debut album (Whirlwind Recordings), she is backed by guitarist Pasquale Grasso, bassist Ari Roland and drummer Kenny Washington.

** The Sunday performance will take place outdoors, at reduced capacity with advanced ticket purchase required. For the safety of all attendees, employees, ticketholders and our outdoor audience, tickets are sold in group seatings. Each group will have their designated table for the duration of the event and re-enter the event at their leisure. Tickets are non-refundable.

To purchase concert tickets or event sponsorships, visit artsw.org/jazzfest.
Too Early to Determine if Small Reduction in COVID Cases is a Trend

By Martin Wilbur

A small reversal in COVID-19 active cases locally is providing some hope that the summer surge in cases may be ending.

During the past week, active cases fell in Westchester from more than 2,700 to 2,600 as of last Friday. In mid-August, there had been nearly 2,800 cases representing the highest total since last winter’s peak of about 11,500.

“We’re watching a certain amount of flattening in the increase in infection and a very slight decrease in the hospitalizations, and while it’s too soon to call it a trend, two weeks is not enough to make that judgment, it is an encouraging sign,” said Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

In late June, active cases fell to between 100 and 200 in the county. In Putnam County, active cases have also inched downward during a two-week time frame. On Aug. 20, the county’s weekly tracker showed 130 cases while last week it was 110 was reached about two weeks ago. Just before the Labor Day weekend, that number had diminished slightly to 99, he said.

In those two weeks, however, the county has lost 10 people to the coronavirus, raising the Westchester pandemic death toll to 2,311.

One of the recent deaths was an inmate at the Westchester County Jail, a man in his early 50s, Latimer said. The man had refused getting the vaccination despite being offered, he said.

Latimer said he is proud that a large swath of the county workforce is vaccinated, with 10 departments at 100 percent and most of the remainder of the departments at about 80 percent.

“We’ve done it without mandating it, but we have done it by working with people, by bringing the message to them, trying to overcome objections, and having the information, we think will help us,” he said.

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Five Dead in Westchester Flooding From Hurricane Ida

Emergency Declaration Declared for Region

By Martin Wilbur

Five deaths have been confirmed in Westchester County from last Wednesday night’s devastating remnants of Hurricane Ida, leaving thousands of residents and hundreds of businesses looking to recover from their losses.

Floodwater inundated basements and stores throughout Westchester and Putnam, with many residents and merchants seeking federal assistance to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer announced Monday that over the weekend President Joe Biden had approved an emergency disaster declaration requested by Gov. Kathy Hochul for the 14-county area of the state that includes Long Island, New York City and the lower and mid-Hudson Valley, including Westchester and Putnam.

Westchester residents and businesses owners who suffered losses can seek more information and applications for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance through the county government’s website at www.westchestergov.com.

The declaration allows not just municipalities but businesses and homeowners to apply and tap into the money. Latimer expected the applications to be available before the end of the day on Monday.

“We are in the beginning of what could be a long recovery for residents and for communities at large,” Latimer said. “We, as a county government, are using our efforts to try and get the debris off the streets in concert with local governments, that we try to provide whatever transportation assistance we can through the Bee-Line bus system, that we identify resources that the federal government has given us which can be used in an emergency situation, providing food in an emergency situation.”

Susan Spear, the county’s deputy commissioner of emergency response, urged residents and business owners to take photographs of all damage and document the loss of all possessions to be able to show FEMA representatives.

Flooded Blamed for Five Deaths

A Rye Brook couple, Ken and Fran Bailie, both computer science professors at Iona College, were on their way home from the school Wednesday evening when their car was overwhelmed by water from the Blind Brook Creek, which spilled over its banks and onto Lincoln Avenue in Harrison, according to the town’s police department.

Ken Bailie’s body was found about a quarter mile from the car.

On Thursday evening, Westchester County police said that Samuel Weisshandel, 69, of Mount Kisco was found by Elmsford police after his car was abandoned on Route 119 as he was headed home from Rockland County.

A Mount Vernon resident, Alan Dorsainvil, was reported to have driven into deep standing water on South Columbus Avenue, and his vehicle became inoperable. With the floodwaters deepening, Dorsainvil apparently became trapped in his vehicle. When the water receded, his body was discovered by a passerby.

Authorities also confirmed a fifth death by last Friday, a White Plains man who still had not been identified. He was reported missing Wednesday night and was found at Saxton Woods Park. Police believe he may have drowned after getting out of his stranded car and possibly swept away by flood waters.

Hundreds, if not thousands of cars, were abandoned and became inoperable during the storm, including about 200 in the Village of Mamaroneck alone, Latimer said.

Flooding inundated areas of Mount Kisco when the Branch Brook overflowed into parts of the village’s downtown. Right: Water seemed to be everywhere last Thursday morning after torrential rains from Hurricane Ida came through the area. Shoppers Park parking lot in downtown Mount Kisco was a virtual lake.

Flooding hit the usual areas of the Saw Mill River Parkway through Pleasantville and Mount Pleasant as well as Bronx River Parkway from White Plains south to Yonkers. The Saw Mill, the Hutchinson River Parkway and a portion of the Sprain Brook Parkway continued on next page
Five Dead in Westchester Flooding From Hurricane Ida

continued from previous page

were all reopened sometime on Thursday. It took until last Friday afternoon for the county to fully reopen the Bronx River.

Even locations that don’t frequently see flooding during significant storms face a major cleanup as some areas in Westchester received up to 10 inches of rain within several hours. In downtown Mount Kisco, the Branch Brook overflowed, unleashing water into the Shoppers Park parking lot, stores along South Moger Avenue and the South Moger lot.

“Quite simply, the sheer quantity of rain, where you get three inches of rain in an hour, storm drains just can’t handle that,” Picinich said. “No matter where you are, unfortunately, a flash flood will do that.”

In addition to the downtown flooding, the village’s fields at Leonard Park were swamped and there was silt in areas where the water had receded, she said.

Firefighters were called to evacuate the Housing Authority building on Carpenter Avenue at about midnight on Wednesday night because of severe flooding there. The Housing Authority was working to find residents who were displaced temporary living arrangements, Picinich said.

“DPW crews, police, the fire department, they were out all night trying to ensure people’s safety and by clearing drains, and by doing all that we were doing an overnight watch at the sewer pump station and at Byram Lake, measuring the strength and integrity of the dam over there,” Picinich said.

Another community that saw significant flooding in stores was downtown Chappaqua, said Acting Supervisor Jeremy Saland. The new infrastructure that was installed a few years ago was overwhelmed, not designed to accommodate the deluge the area received last Wednesday night.

“I think the infrastructure did the best it could, but no project is prepared to take on eight inches of water in such a small window,” Saland said. “It’s not made for that, and we can see that around the county, no matter how old or how new the infrastructure is.”

He urged any merchants and homeowners that sustained damage to apply for the federal assistance.

In North Castle, the challenge wasn’t flooding as much as loss of power, even though there were plenty of residents with water in their basements, said Supervisor Michael Schiliro. Following the storm, more than 1,100 customers throughout the town were left in the dark, particularly in Armonk. A main feeder cable snapped near the intersection of Nannahagan Road and Route 120, knocking out power to hundreds of residents, Schiliro said.

By Saturday at about noon, virtually all those who lost power had service returned, although some of the same dysfunction that had been apparent in previous storms cropped up again last week with Con Edison, he said.

But governments are going to have to address major, debilitating storms as though they will be an annual occurrence, Schiliro said.

“It’s become almost like snow,” he said. “You have to prepare for snow and you have to prepare for outages and you have to prepare for storms, whether it’s going to be a winter storm or a summer storm.”

Doing Whatever it Takes

Latimer said he was on a call Monday morning with state and municipal officials and the county pledged to do everything it could to help communities recover from Ida. He and Board of Legislators Chairman Ben Boykin said the two branches of government would appropriate capital funds or pass bills to make sure there are resources in place for those most seriously affected.

The county is also partnering with Feeding Westchester to provide emergency food assistance to those who have victimized by the storm and its aftermath.

Last weekend, the county kept open its Yonkers and Mount Vernon trash facilities to receive the excess debris that had to be taken out of flooded residences and placed on the street.

“There’s anguish out there right now, there are people who are suffering right now,” Latimer said. “We must try and help them in whatever way we can.”

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Catholic Archdiocese Installing Rooftop Solar Array on Closed Briarcliff School

By Michael Gold

St. Theresa’s K-8 Catholic School in Briarcliff Manor has been closed since 2013, but its roof is still open for business.

Solar business, that is.

The Archdiocese of New York, with Con Edison Energy Solutions (CES), is installing solar panels on the school’s roof. The community solar project will be completed by the end of the year.

Once installed on the 20,000-square-foot surface, the panels will generate 159 kilowatts of electricity, which will flow into the electric grid. That’s enough to power 20 homes for one year.

The church, which still uses St. Theresa’s school building for religious education and day care and held Catholic Youth Organization basketball games before the pandemic, received an undisclosed lease fee from CES and will obtain a 10 percent discount on its electric bill. Additionally, the parish can designate nine low-income parishioners to receive solar credits, which would provide discounts on their electric bills.

The 10 percent discount is significant, explained Martin Susz, director of energy management for the Archdiocese of New York (ADNY), who is overseeing the project.

“If we can save every parish 10 percent, that’s a big deal,” Susz stated. “We could spend more on food for the poor, sheltering the homeless and education. We can save money for spending on whiteboards, teachers and computers.”

Maria Regina High School in Hartsdale is another possible candidate for solar, Susz explained. It has a 10,000-square-foot roof.

“We’re working out the economics of Maria Regina,” he said.

The ADNY completed a solar installation at Archbishop Stepinac High School in White Plains earlier this year, generating 388,750 kilowatt hours, equivalent to generating enough energy for 50 homes per year.

In 2018, the archdiocese installed a solar array on the roof of St. Anthony’s Catholic School in Yonkers, which generates 134,300 kilowatt hours.

In another sign of ADNY’s partnership with CES, the archdiocese is leasing unused land on its property at St. Augustine’s Church in Ossining, for a 10,000-square-foot electric battery that will store one megawatt of electricity. The project will enable Con Edison to store energy for use in peak times to avoid brownouts in the area.

The ADNY, consisting of church properties in Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess, Ulster, and Sullivan counties, as well as the Bronx, Manhattan and Staten Island, is undertaking the solar projects based on the Pope’s “Laudato Si – “On Care for Our Common Home” encyclical, which the Vatican issued in 2015.

Laudato Si represents the theological underpinning for the Catholic Church’s efforts to combat climate change.

“The climate change, we see it every day in front of us,” Susz explained. “The hurricanes, drought, fires.”

“We all have to do our part,” he added.

“Caring for the planet is a big deal. We need to care for God’s creation.”

He said the solar effort is a stewardship issue for the next generation.

“There is an urgent need to develop policies so that, in the next few years, the emission of carbon dioxide and other highly polluting gases can be drastically reduced, for example, substituting for fossil fuels and developing sources of renewable energy,” the Pope’s 2015 encyclical states.

Building renewable energy projects also saves the archdiocese money. “Utilities are one of our three largest expenses,” Susz stated. “We want to make sure we get the best rate.”

Additionally, the ADNY has changed the lights in buildings at 100 parishes in Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess and other locations in the Hudson Valley from incandescent and fluorescent to LED bulbs, which use less energy and thus lower electric bills.

“We’ve done a lot with LED lighting,” Susz explained.
National Preparedness Month: Plan for All Emergencies

National Preparedness Month arrives every September, and with it comes the Putnam County Department of Health’s efforts to rally residents to make a plan and build an emergency kit.

The very nature of a hurricane or other weather-related emergency is unpredictability. Unfortunately, the number and cost of weather and climate disasters are increasing in the U.S., according to the Climate.gov, site of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The way to stay ahead of these emergencies is by planning to be ready before they strike.

“We are marking the second year of National Preparedness Month during the evolving COVID pandemic,” he said.

Health Commissioner Dr. Michael J. Nesheiwat agreed, pointing to the ongoing need to build resilience as individuals and as a community, we will endure and rise stronger than before.

“We are marking the second year of National Preparedness Month during the evolving COVID pandemic,” he said. “Being prepared is becoming more and more important as time goes on,” said County Executive Mary-Ellen Odell. “With that challenge comes a newfound focus on preparation and building resilience. We know we cannot completely avoid serious problems. We are sadly reminded of that fact as we approach the 20th anniversary of 9/11. But if we work together to build resilience as individuals and as a community, we will endure and rise stronger than before.”

How government and communities respond to emergencies was changed forever in the aftermath of September 11. In the months following, the Bureau of Emergency Services and the Department of Health formed a county-wide task force to lead future preparedness efforts.

“The group continues to evolve and faces future challenges with a broadened scope for our comprehensive COVID response in a multitude of ways.”

“In an emergency services perspective, we have already come far in identifying our particular regional weather-related, natural threats, such as flood- or power-outage-prone areas,” O’Connor said. “Our close proximity to New York City also puts us at risk for intentional threats as well. We can’t completely avoid any of these challenges, so the answer lies in building an infrastructure that can bounce back. It is with this resilience that we can lessen the burden of future problems.”

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For more information, visit www.putnamcountyny.com, or visit the county’s social media sites on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @PutnamHealthNY.

The Yorktown Consolidated Water District will be flushing fire hydrants in section 3 & parts of section 7 from September 13, 2021 thru October 8, 2021 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please refer to your Town of Yorktown Trash Collection Schedule for the list of streets included in these sections.

Visit us online at www.yorktownny.org/water for a daily list of the streets being flushed. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.
**Police Blotter**

**Croton-on-Hudson Police Department**

*Aug. 23:* Report of a suspicious person sitting inside a vehicle on Harrison Street at 1:16 p.m. The party was interviewed and found to be a contractor on a lunch break.

*Aug. 25:* Patrols responded to Truesdale Drive at 4:57 p.m. on a report of a group of people who had exited a vehicle and made their way to the Croton River carrying belongings. Patrols observed a group of people on the opposite side of the Croton River in another jurisdiction. There were no parking violations observed in the area.

*Aug. 27:* Report of a kitten stuck in the engine compartment of a vehicle on Benedict Boulevard at noon. Patrol was able to rescue the kitten from its temporary home; condition neglected.

*Aug. 28:* Patrol responded to Cleveland Drive at 11:12 p.m. on a report that a group of several youths on the sidewalk at Veterans Corners were exposing themselves. Patrols encountered the group of juveniles. As patrol arrived, one of the juveniles exposed himself by “mooning” the police. The youths contacted their parents who responded to the scene to pick up their children. A report will be filed.

**Mets Acting GM Charged With DWI in White Plains**

By Rick Pezzullo

New York Mets Acting General Manager Zack Scott was arraigned in White Plains City Court last Thursday after being charged two days earlier by White Plains police with driving while intoxicated.

Scott, 44, a Rye resident, was arrested after being found asleep in his car at a traffic light near the federal courthouse and police headquarters on South Lexington Avenue at 4:17 a.m. on Aug. 31, said James Spencer of the White Plains Police Department.

According to Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah, Scott, who was in a 2018 Toyota, was initially disoriented and confused when he was awoken by police.

Rocah said Scott admitted to drinking earlier in the night and failed the three standardized field sobriety tests that were administered. Following his arrest, Scott refused to submit to a chemical test to determine his blood-alcohol content.

“Zachary Scott made an irresponsible decision to drive while under the influence,” Rocah said. “We are thankful nobody was hurt or killed but we will continue to hold people accountable for this kind of reckless and potentially dangerous conduct in Westchester County.”

In addition to the misdemeanor DWI charge, Scott was issued traffic tickets for disobeying a traffic control device, for violating the no stopping, standing or parking regulation on a highway and failing to notify the Department of Motor Vehicles about a change in address.

During his Sept. 2 arraignment, Scott’s driving privileges in New York State were suspended.

New York Mets Acting GM Zack Scott was arrested last week in White Plains on a DWI charge.

The Mets issued a statement Wednesday on Scott’s arrest stating he would not be traveling with the team on its current road trip.

“We were surprised and deeply disappointed to learn this morning about an alleged DUI involving Zack Scott. We take this matter very seriously,” the Mets stated.

Scott was originally hired as the Mets’ assistant general manager in 2020 before being promoted as general manager on an interim basis after Jared Porter was fired for allegedly sending lewd photos to a female reporter. Before joining the Mets last December, Scott worked for the Boston Red Sox for 17 years.

Scott is scheduled to appear again in White Plains City Court on Oct. 7.
Six New Food Artisans Join Pleasantville Farmers Market This Fall

Adding to the momentum of the outdoor Pleasantville Farmers Market, six new vendors join the market in the coming weeks, providing such diverse wares as ice pops, nut and oat milks, cold-pressed juices, fresh pretzels, sangria and unique granolas.

These new vendors join more than 50 producers who already sell at the market:

- Puras Paletas: Small batch creamy producers who already sell at the market: Month sangria and unique granolas.
- Edenesque nut milks are nutrient dense, made with 40 percent nuts (some artisan brands use 20 percent, commercial brands as little as 2 percent). Their oat milk is produced with New York State oats. Offerings include unsweetened and delicious flavored options. Starting on Sept. 11; weekly.
- Knot of this World Pretzels: Fresh soft pretzels made from New York State flour. Try them plain, flavored with cinnamon sugar or stuffed with broccoli and cheddar cheese, among other addictive choices. Visiting on Sept. 11 and 25; weekly starting in mid-October.
- Freshly Made: A variety of healthy and delicious cold-pressed juices served in eco-friendly reusable mason jars and made with local produce such as kale, cucumber, carrots and apples. Starting Sept. 25; visiting on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month.
- Manor Sangria: Uniquely blended New York State wine and fruit resulting in a deliciously balanced, flavorful and authentic sangria that comes in reusable mason jars. Starting Sept. 23; visiting on the fourth Saturday of each month.
- Wildcraft Baking Company: Savory and sweet granolas with carefully sourced ingredients, including flavors such as beet and buckwheat, cocoa-chicpea, and parsnip-oat, as well as Original Oat. Starting Oct. 2; visiting on the fourth Saturday of each month.

New Vendors Begin Arriving This Month

With roughly 30 percent of the regional population still unvaccinated, including children under 12 years old who are not yet eligible for vaccines, it may be a good time to take the preventative steps, she said.

Morton mentioned that she was happy to see Chappaqua School District officials require masks indoors as the new academic year began last week.

“At the same time, (we should) try to adopt legislation that is responsive to the needs of our small businesses in town,” Morton said. “This is where we start to have some disconnect with the science around transmission and accommodations that support small business but at this stage, I think that is necessary and a balance that I’m happy to think that we have an opportunity to keep at the moment.”

One exemption to the law would be for restaurant patrons who are eating and drinking, she said. Another potential carve out are for gyms and fitness centers because there had been some pushback from the operators of those facilities.

However, Morton said the feedback she’s received for the indoor mask mandate has been overwhelming, roughly 10-1 in favor of the law.

“If it were up to me, I would enact it today,” she said. “We have seen a bit of a flattening of the number of cases in the county and in New Castle over the past week. I suspect that’s a consequence of people being on vacation.”

Acting Supervisor Jeremy Saldan said he backs the legislation, particularly since schools have reopened and that there are children who are in hospitals’ intensive care unit because of the Delta variant.

“In light of the fact that we have children going back to school and being immersed with other kids, I find it’s a smart and practical thing to do and I’m in support,” he said.

Councilwoman Lisa Katz said while she favors a public hearing to gauge interest, the town should be following the guidelines from the state.

“I don’t know if I’m willing to do something that they have not yet promulgated because I don’t know if anybody on this dais has the skill necessary to determine that,” Katz said.
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF PUTNAM

AMERICAN ADVISORS GROUP

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHANNA MULARADELIS; if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff, SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

“JOHN DOE #1” through “JOHN DOE #12,” the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, Defendants.

To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of up to a maximum principal amount of $696,000.00 and interest, recorded on January 19, 2016, in Liber 6555 at Page 274, of the Public Records of PUTNAM County, New York., covering premises known as 6 EAST BELVEDERE STREET, COLD SPRING, NY 10516. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

PUTNAM County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: June 9th, 2021

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Veronica M. Rundle, Esq.
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675
Chappaqua Girl With Rare Blood Disorder Holds Out Hope for Transplant

By Martin Wilbur

Like millions of other high school seniors through the generations, Rebecca Bachenheimer was looking forward to life as a college student.

She made it through the balance of her junior year at the outset of the pandemic and was excited to be graduating from Horace Greeley High School.

But in May, when she should have been counting down the dwindling number of high school days and preparing for her freshman year at Connecticut College, Bachenheimer was suffering from fatigue, completely out of character for the 17-year-old.

“Rebecca was just extremely tired and so we called her doctor who told us to go in and just get a regular blood test, and when the blood counts came back, the doctor called us and said we’re going to the emergency room at NewYork-Presbyterian now,” said her mother, Doria.

Rebecca was diagnosed with severe aplastic anemia, a rare but potentially life-threatening condition where the bone marrow fails to produce adequate red and white blood cells. It also results in a failure to produce platelets, which inhibits a person’s ability to clot. There’s also a failure to produce platelets, which inhibits a person’s ability to clot. It also results in a failure to produce platelets, which inhibits a person’s ability to clot. It also results in a failure to produce platelets, which inhibits a person’s ability to clot.

The rare condition affects fewer than 20,000 people in the U.S. each year, according to the Mayo Clinic.

On Saturday, Sept. 18, in hopes of helping Rebecca find a match for a stem cell and bone marrow transplant and raise awareness for signing up more people to be potential life-saving donors, the family is holding a drive-through event for Be the Match at New Castle Community Day.

Anyone between the ages of 18 and 44 can register with Be the Match to get a quick cheek swab. It takes 10 minutes and people can remain in their car or get the swab at the Be the Match table at Community Day.

Doria Bachenheimer said there are more than 70 diseases, including blood cancers, where someone can be helped.

“We’re all inundated with causes that ask us for money,” she said. “You can’t always contribute money, and there’s not a lot you can do, but if you’re willing to do a cheek swab, you can go on the registry and perhaps you’ll be needed, and depending on which type of treatment you match for, it can be a matter of one or two hours.”

Both Doria and her husband, Bruce, were tested, but like a lot of parents, they each have only 5 of the 10 criteria needed to be a match. To be suitable, 10 out of 10 are needed.

The most likely matches are full siblings, materials from the Mayo Clinic stated, but Rebecca is the couple’s only child.

“As much as we want a match for Rebecca, we also feel very, very fortunate because she has received excellent care,” Doria said. “We live in an area that has amazing hospitals; we’ve gotten stellar care at NewYork-Presbyterian at the pediatric units at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital where she needs to go for weekly transfusions.”

Rebecca is currently on an alternate medical treatment, which is a combination of immunosuppressants, she said. The family is hopeful that will work, even though it has a lower success rate than a bone marrow transplant.

“It’s been a difficult year-and-a-half for Rebecca and her parents, as they take every precaution possible because of COVID-19. She’s had to take a gap year from college and can’t go for walks because if she falls and gets anick or a scratch, it can turn into a serious event. She hasn’t seen her friends or her grandparents in over a year, fearing the risk of infection, although Rebecca makes good use of FaceTime.

Despite the situation, Doria said they feel blessed that she and her husband both have understanding employers who allow them to take the time they need to tend to their daughter – and that Rebecca is determined.

“She’s very focused on getting better, so that helps a lot, but also she’s tired and a little bit tired of living with her current situation,” Doria said. “At 17, you want to be going to college.”

The Sept. 18 drive-through Be a Match event can be accessed through the Washington Avenue entrance to the Chappaqua train station. The drive-through and the table at Community Day will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Being My Mom’s Mom

Presented by Loretta Veney, CPP, Author of “Being My Mom’s Mom:” Loretta is a motivational speaker and trainer who has delivered more than 300 speeches and presentations on dementia and caregiving since 2014, and offers a wealth of information and encouragement for her audiences.

Join us for a FREE Educational Event

Tuesday, September 21st
11:30 a.m. Registration & Lunch
12:00 - 1:15 p.m. Presentation

Being Held At:
Four Brothers Pizza Restaurant
654 US-6, Mahopac, NY 10541

To RSVP
914-214-7927
TheArtisWay.com/WestchesterExaminer

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**Letters to the Editor**

**Explain My Request for Recusal on Chappaqua’s Form Based Code**

At the Aug. 30 New Castle Town Board meeting, I asked Councilwoman Lauren Levin to please recuse herself from further discussion and decision-making on the Chappaqua Form Based Code. Several neighbors have since asked me why she should recuse herself, and I would like to take this opportunity to explain.

Councilwoman Levin owns an investment property in the 149 King St. townhomes. Under the first draft of the Form Based Code, before she joined the Town Board, her investment townhouse was slated to be blighted by a 50-plus-foot-tall building wall on the northerly property line, located about five feet from its rear deck and 15 feet from its dining room and master bedroom windows. This would have boxed it in, blocking its access to sunlight, diminishing its value considerably.

Decisions on the Form Based Code by the Town Board majority (Jeremy Saland, Lori Morton and Levin) have now become very site-specific and very detailed, with these decisions now impacting different properties within and near the proposed Form Based Code district intensively and in highly differentiated ways. There’s now the suggestion of perhaps limiting zoning changes to the so-called North Greeley Avenue corridor, which would directly blight some townhomes within the 149 King St. complex but not others. Crucially, this change means that Councilwoman Levin’s investment property is no longer one of the townhomes that will be blighted.

The relevant authorities make clear that the actions of legislators must be above reproach, in both fact and in appearance. My neighbors are wondering why the Town Board majority thinks that it’s OK for their townhomes to be blighted by this action, but not for the similarly situated townhome owned by Councilwoman Levin. She stated, in the weeks before removing the possibility of her investment property being blighted, “the new development is directly behind those homes and I can see how that would certainly decrease the quality of life.”

Our town planner, Sabrina Charney Hull, has previously explained: “If you put up a building, it’s going to impact your neighbors.” All my neighbors wish they could control the decisions affecting whether or not their townhome will be blighted, but only Councilwoman Levin has that control.

This interest is substantial and direct, and the facts are quite different than they were before the decisions were made that spare her investment property.

It is critical that the public have full confidence that decisions about the future of our community are being made solely in the public interest, and an appearance of favored treatment, even if a legislator tells the public that their intent is solid gold, calls into question the integrity of the entire decision-making process.

Therefore, I have requested that Councilwoman Levin please recuse herself from further discussion and decision-making on the Form Based Code. This is not in any way personal, it’s about good public policy. In our town, there is direct precedent for board members recusing themselves over interests that are much less direct. I am hoping that good sense will prevail.

Scott Le Vine
Chappaqua

**Correction**

In last week’s article on The Nicholas Center’s expansion in Pleasantville, it was incorrectly reported that the center and its partner organization, Spectrum Designs, will both be awarded $48 million through workforce development grants. They will be awarded a second round of grant money from this initiative as part of the $48 million that is available to organizations statewide. The Examiner regrets the error.

**Protection of Pocantico Lake is Urgent for Future Generations**

As a 17-year-old who has lived in Briarcliff Manor my entire life, I love escaping into nature. Whenever life gets stressful, or when I want to exercise, or whenever I want to go and admire the wildlife I love living in this area because of places where nature is on display.

The construction of 31 houses would destroy this bucolic feeling.

We have the opportunity to influence change, not just for ourselves but for future generations. They will never know what they missed, but we will. It’s up to us to ensure that Pocantico Lake is preserved for years to come.

The decision to protect the lake should not be a challenging one. I remember my first time seeing the lake. I was in awe that such a beautiful space could be found in my town. I want others to be able to have this sense of joy when they first discover Pocantico Lake.

It’s time for the community to protect the lake that’s given so much to so many.

Josh Linett
Briarcliff Manor

**Sept. 15 Forum on American Rescue Plan Act Funds for W’chester**

Share your thoughts on the American Rescue Plan Act Funds on Tuesday, Sept. 13 at the Mount Kisco Public Library, at 100 Main St. in Mount Kisco from 6 to 8 p.m.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides a substantial infusion of resources to help turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery. These community input sessions are to solicit ideas for programs that address these needs.

To join the forum virtually, you may pre-register at https://bit.ly/3gDOuPH. For more information e-mail Communications@westchestergov.com.

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Adam Stone
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Laura Markowski
Associate Publisher
lmarkowski@theexaminernews.com

Peter Stone
CFO
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PO Box 611
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**The Putnam Examiner**

Martin Wilbur
Editor-in-Chief
mwilbur@theexaminernews.com

Rick Pezzullo
Editor
rpezzullo@theexaminernews.com

Ray Gallagher
Sports Editor
rgallagher@theexaminernews.com

Rob Diantonio
Assistant Sports Editor
rdiantonio@theexaminernews.com

Annette Van Ommeren
Designer
pcardi@theexaminernews.com

**The White Plains Examiner**

Jeff Olkbaum
Senior Account Executive
jolkbaum@theexaminernews.com

Ken Gulmi
Senior Account Executive
kgulmi@theexaminernews.com

Nick Antonaccio
Wine columnist

Bill Primavera
Real estate columnist

Morris Gut
Food Writer

dpacziana@theexaminernews.com

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Our letters policy follows: The Examiner welcomes letters about events, news or concerns. They must be signed and provide an address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit letters. We do not publish letters that contain libel, slander, vulgarity or if they promote the sale of a product or service. The Examiner reserves the right to do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to mwilbur@theexaminernews.com.
**Guest Columns**

**Solar Panels or Trees? Municipalities Are Faced With an Environmental Dilemma**

**By Linda Miller**

Through the 2020 addition of a Solar Power Generation Systems and Facilities section to the zoning code, Yorktown has shown its commitment to the important task of encouraging alternate energy sources to address the dire issue of climate change. Approving large-scale commercial solar farms, however, comes at a cost to another important environmental resource: Trees.

As of last month, substantially more than 1,000 trees on residentially zoned properties will have to be cut down to make way for five proposed large-scale commercial solar farms ranging in size from 2,872 acres to 15.9 acres.

- Two plans will clear-cut a total of 25 acres of woodlands, 638 trees on 9.1 acres and an undisclosed number on 15.9 acres.
- Two plans, on mostly cleared pasture or farmland, will cut down a total 255 trees, 187 on 6.5 acres and 87 on 2.87 acres. (A solar farm on a pasture that required removing only one tree has already been approved by the Planning Board.)
- The fifth plan is on 15 acres of a former dairy farm that hasn’t been in operation for decades. Part of the site is cleared but the number of trees to be removed has not, as yet, been determined.

Solar or trees? Yorktown needs to strike a better balance between two important, but conflicting, goals.

Yorktown has a Tree and Woodland Preservation Law, which clearly expresses the town’s commitment to preserve trees and woodlands for the many valuable functions they perform. Of course, one of these important functions is the sequestration of carbon dioxide. Indeed, trees and woodlands are crucial allies in our fight against climate change. However, it’s usually argued that solar panels are the better land use because by replacing fossil fuel they keep more carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere than can be sequestered by an equal area of trees. But this argument disregards other environmental functions of trees and woodlands.

- Stabilizing the soil to reduce the risk of erosion into our backyards, watercourses and drainage channels.
- Promoting groundwater recharge, a vital function for wetlands and for homeowners who rely on wells for their water.
- Slowing stormwater runoff to prevent street flooding and icing and to save the towns thousands of dollars in drainage infrastructure.
- Providing cool microclimates which can reduce air conditioning costs.
- Providing wildlife habitats that help maintain biodiversity, crucial to ecosystem stability.
- Filtering out pollutants in the air, such as ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide.
- Absorbing noise.
- Adding to the intrinsic aesthetic value of our neighborhoods, which in turn, enhances our property values.

Solar panels do none of these things. They convert solar radiation to electricity without emitting carbon dioxide. Period.

So how does Yorktown’s solar law reconcile the loss of tree and woodland environmental functions with our need for the clean energy solar panels provide? On paper, the solar law recognizes the environmental importance of the town’s open spaces, naturalized areas and rural character, and it establishes priorities for three types of locations for solar installations:

1. On agricultural or greenfield properties in areas that are presently cleared.
2. On commercial properties over roofs and parking areas.
3. On vacant parcels that are currently in a naturalized state.

The second priority is being successfully addressed, e.g., the parking lot canopy projects at IBM and the Granite Knolls sports complex, and the rooftop installation at the Jefferson Valley Mall. These projects are win-win situations – clean electricity with no trees lost.

But the solar law falls short regarding projects on the first and third priorities – agricultural land with trees or land in a natural state. Projects proposing to cut down more than 1,000 trees on these locations, including current applications before the Planning Board, need a very hard look toward maintaining a balance between the benefits of solar farms and the functions of trees and woodlands. But the solar law doesn’t require this.

Except for a landscaping requirement, the only environmental provision in the solar law is the requirement to compare the amount of carbon sequestration from the trees to be removed and the reduction in the use of fossil fuels by generating the same amount of electricity using solar energy. This isn’t enough.

Strangely, the solar law doesn’t require consideration of the other ecological functions of trees and woodlands, even though it’s a requirement of the Tree and Woodland Preservation Law under which tree permits are granted.

Kudos to the Planning Board for requiring that some, but not all, solar farm applicants will have to pay for the town’s newly-hired environmental consultant to review the environmental impacts, other than carbon sequestration, of their proposed plans. But that review is optional, not mandatory. And, as the saying goes, the devil is in the details, and it remains to be seen exactly what the environmental consultant will be asked to review. Will the Conservation Board and the Tree Conservation Advisory Commission be given an opportunity to provide input into the consultant’s scope of work? Or the public, especially the homeowners in the vicinity of proposed solar farms?

Solar farms and trees. Let’s be smart about recognizing that we need a balance of both. Let’s give serious thought to how the process for evaluating solar farm projects can and should be amended and fine-tuned to protect a vital natural resource while taking advantage of clean energy technology.

Linda Miller is a former environmental consultant, professor of environmental science and Yorktown Conservation Board member.

**Trailblazing Events Helped Create Strong Public Discourse and Shape Policy**

**By Assemblyman Kevin Byrne**

Earlier this month, we wrapped up our last “Trailblazing with Byrne” event of the year in the Town of Patterson. Since we launched these informal outdoor forums in May, we’ve successfully held at least one in each of the six towns within the 94th Assembly District (Somers, Carmel, Southeast, Yorktown, Putnam Valley and Patterson).

Each event was different and garnered participation from a diverse group of people. I’d like to thank every one of the participants for taking the time to attend and contribute to the conversation.

Our trailblazing forums gave me a special opportunity to listen and speak with constituents in person about a large array of issues affecting our state and region. We shared ideas on how we can work to make New York more affordable, reduce congestion, invest in transportation infrastructure, combat out-migration and be more welcoming to minority programs.

I had valuable conversations with several local parents who expressed their legitimate concerns about some of the highly controversial issues being discussed in school districts around the state and country. Let me be perfectly clear: while I support local control of our schools, I oppose any form or variation of “critical race theory” being taught to our young people.

Teaching the history of our country, the good and the bad, is essential. Promoting America’s rich history of diversity, including diversity of thought and experiences, is just as important. That does not justify promoting any form of framework that encourages educators to label people, including children, based on what they look like or their “privileged” status.

Personally, I know I have benefitted from many privileges and blessings in my life, but none more impactful or meaningful than the privilege of being born an American. The fact is that every person has some degree of privilege, and it should not be demonized or weaponized to create resentment, especially among our youth.

I also had some great conversations with neighbors about the importance of our parkland, our trails and various open space issues, especially “critical race theory” being taught to our children, based on what they look like or their “privileged” status.

Of course, our trailblazing tour has created safety hazards. After Maybrook Trail in Southeast, it was apparent that a missing lock could jeopardize these spaces as protected state parkland.

Besides the larger statewide policy discussions, we also had several detailed conversations about local issues that led to favorable outcomes in our area. For example, after our walk along the Maybrook Trail in Southeast, it was brought to my attention that a fence blocking access to the live tracks along a portion of the trail was missing a lock blocking access to the live tracks along a portion of the trail was missing.

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Mount Kisco’s SeptemberFest Ready to Return

Mount Kisco’s SeptemberFest is back! Organized by the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Mount Kisco, along with key business partners from the community, SeptemberFest is a three-day, high-energy outdoor festival that has the feel of a super-sized block party in the heart of downtown.

Open for all to enjoy, SeptemberFest 2021 takes place on Friday, Sept. 17, Saturday, Sept. 18 and Sunday, Sept. 19, a “must-go” for all to experience the best of Mount Kisco’s small town charm and big community spirit.

“Collaboration has gotten us through the worst of this pandemic, and we are looking forward to the better times ahead,” said Chamber of Commerce President Matt Grasso. “Moving forward with SeptemberFest gives us a sign of hope that we, as a business community, are on the road to recovery.”

SeptemberFest’s three-day downtown block party explodes with things to do for all ages including a full-blown carnival with plentiful fun rides and amusements, a leisurely street fair offering unique goods and services plus delicious food and brew along with great music and entertainment at the food court. Catch the magic show, stroll South Moger Avenue for a great shopping experience, view the antique car exhibit, visit Pop Up Alley for unique finds and services or just ride and play.

A festival favorite is the Eats & Ale Food Court featuring a roundup of quality food trucks offering delicious dining options plus local brews by Captain Lawrence. Live entertainment is a big favorite at SeptemberFest and with the support of Stage Sponsor Captain Lawrence Brewing Company, SeptemberFest 2021 is packed with a lineup of local artists throughout the weekend. A featured community partner, Consumers Energy Cooperative Inc. is the sponsor of the Hospitality Pavilion for SeptemberFest.

Friday night’s entertainment features crazy fun alongside the carnival with a super-charged, under the stars DJ dance party sponsored by D’Errico Jewelry. On Saturday night, SeptemberFest will rock with the live band Superhero, sponsored by McGrath Realty, Inc. On Sunday, visit the Eats & Ale Food Court for brunch, relax and enjoy acoustic singer/songwriter artists sponsored by On the Mend Medical Equipment & Supplies.

Sunday morning before the festivities, Kisco Run launches its eighth annual 5K through the streets of the village. More info on the race is available at www.kiscorun.com.

SeptemberFest will be open on Friday from 5 to 11 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and on Sunday from 12 to 8 p.m. For more detailed information about the SeptemberFest schedule, visit the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce’s SeptemberFest event page on Facebook or the Chamber’s website at www.mtkiscochamber.com.
Ronald McDonald House Hosting Dashing for Dylan Challenge

Ronald McDonald House of the Greater Hudson Valley will host the Dashing for Dylan Challenge, the seventh annual Dylan J. Hoffman Memorial event for the entire month of September. The Dashing for Dylan Challenge will support the families at Ronald McDonald House located at the Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital in Valhalla.

Dylan lived a short life, but his memory and spirit are alive and well. This event hosted by the House in conjunction with the Hoffman Family of Wilton, Conn., will celebrate his life and the thousands of families who have stayed at the Ronald McDonald House for the past decade.

The month-long event, which launched Sept. 1, challenges participants to raise money while doing any activity, at any location and on any day for the month of September. Miles can be logged by walking, running, bike riding, skating, dancing or any kind of exercise.

The goal is to raise $100,000 in honor of Dylan’s 10th birthday this year. Support the families and children who call Ronald McDonald House home and reach at least 3,650 miles, which is the exact number of days Dylan lived.

A celebration and grand finale of the month-long challenge will take place at a Family Fun Day, Sept. 26 at Crawford Park in Rye Brook. Families and participants can enjoy a fun-filled day of kid-centered and socially distant events. Throughout the month great incentives such as tickets for raffle baskets and grand prizes such as vacation packages will be awarded for the highest amount of money raised. Participants can also purchase Dashing for Dylan tee shirts and masks.

“Every year we love to host this event and bring the community together to honor such a special little boy and keep his memory and spirit alive,” said Christina Riley, executive director of Ronald McDonald House. “The funds we raise truly make a difference in the lives of the families we serve so we encourage everyone to and get out there, have fun and join the challenge. All proceeds will support the families and children who call Ronald McDonald House home and all donations made are 100 percent tax deductible. To register or for more information, visit www.rmh-ghv.org or https://www.facebook.com/rmhghv/.”

Mount Pleasant Day Street Fair Coming This Sunday

After a year’s hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Mount Pleasant Day Street Fair is returning this Sunday for an afternoon of food, fun and plenty of vendors.

The Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce Sponsored in partnership with the Thornwood, Hawthorne and Valhalla fire departments is holding the seventh annual fair. The partnership between the fire departments and the chamber provides a renewed spirit of togetherness.

Held on Elwood Avenue between Cross and Commerce streets between 2 and 7 p.m., there will also be musical entertainment, magic shows, rides for the children and fire department demonstrations.

A variety of community groups, including the Mount Pleasant PBA, AYSO and the town’s Conservation Advisory Council will be among the organizations that will be on hand.

At about 2:30 p.m. there will be a remembrance of the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks at the Fireman’s Memorial at the Hawthorne Fire Department.

Since its inception in 2014, Mount Pleasant Day had always been held in August, but the chamber moved it about a month later due to the likelihood that more families will be in town for the event.

For more information, contact the Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce at 914-359-4166, visit www.mptpleasantchamberofcommerce.org or e-mail mtpchamber@gmail.com.
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EVENT DETAILS

- The festival requires ALL attendees to be fully vaccinated. No exceptions.
- All attendees MUST show the New York Excelsior Pass OR vaccination card & ID upon entry.
- No one under 21 will be admitted to any event. No infants, strollers or pets.

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TUE | SEP 21
Italian Wine Experience with Kevin Zraly
5:30PM-7:30PM | Kanopi, White Plains

WED | SEP 22
Party on the Pier at Playland
6:00PM-9:00PM | Rye Playland, Rye

THU | SEP 23
Burger & Beer Blast
6:00PM-10:00PM | Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

FRI | SEP 24
Wine Collectors’ Dinner
6:30PM-9:30PM | X20 Xaviars on the Hudson, Yonkers

SAT | SEP 25
Grand Tasting Village
12:00PM-4:00PM | Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla
An Opportunity to Shop for Bargains Re-emerges in Chappaqua

By Martin Wilbur

A longtime downtown Chappaqua store is returning to the space that provided the public with bargains on an assortment of items for more than 50 years.

Congregation Sons of Israel in Briarcliff Manor is reopening the Opportunity Shop on North Greeley Avenue after the store, operated by the Sisterhood at Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester for more than a half-century, closed about two years ago. Over the years, the thrift and consignment shop brought in enough revenue to help purchase items that were needed by Temple Beth El.

Lois Schulman, who worked at the shop for many years, is reopening the business with her husband, Fred, both of whom are active members at Congregation Sons of Israel, said Susan Eisenstein, also a member of the synagogue.

A couple years ago the building that housed the Opportunity Shop was sold to new owners, which coincided with the expiration of Temple Beth El’s lease of the space at 61 N. Greeley Ave., she said.

Higher rent and COVID-19 led to the decision by Temple Beth El to vacate the storefront and return the premises to the new landlord.

In recent months, the Schulmans were able to negotiate and sign a lease with the landlord by Aug. 1 and will officially re-open the Opportunity Shop next Monday, Sept. 13 following a soft opening that began last week. The space has been painted, cleaned and reorganized for the opening.

“They were able to get that space and all of the volunteers, some of them were there for 30 years, all of them are going to come back and work there to help in the shop,” Eisenstein said.

With the Opportunity Shop’s latest incarnation, Congregation Sons of Israel will donate revenues from the store toward a different charity or organization each month, she said. The urgent need to resettle thousands of Afghan people has prompted the synagogue to identify the first charity as HIAS, a Jewish American nonprofit organization that provides humanitarian aid for refugees.

Future efforts are likely to help victims of Hurricane Ida, assisting senior citizens to buy food and taxi coupons for medical appointments or donations to local food pantries.

For the returning volunteers, they will not only get to contribute their efforts to a shop that will help others, but they can rekindle friendships, Eisenstein said. New volunteers are also encouraged.

“All the committed women who ran the shop over the years enjoyed the camaraderie, the pleasant social environment, the satisfaction of operating a successful business even without pay, and the knowledge that the profits were all going to a charitable cause,” she said.

In the past, the Opportunity Shop donated or consigned gently used clothing, household goods, linens, bric-a-brac, kitchen items, small tables and chairs, lamps and other items.

The Opportunity Shop will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for sales and donations. The public may bring merchandise for consignment during days of operation from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call 914-483-4144.
Installing a Standby Generator May Be a Good Bet

For many, the effects of Hurricane Ida are still being dealt with, reminiscent of the travails of the infamous Superstorm Sandy that hit us in 2012.

Sandy was very costly to me as a homeowner in that it knocked over 17 trees on my property that needed to be cut up and removed. Power outages are not only very disruptive, they can be expensive. At that time, my wife and I were literally in the dark for more than a week, and cold as well. Gone were our refrigerator and freezer contents. Operating a business from home, we were unable to reach our clients by e-mail.

That’s why having a backup generator is important, especially in areas that tend to experience extreme weather conditions that lead to power outages. With a backup generator, all or part of a property can have power so that its residents can live or work more comfortably and minimize financial losses during periods when electricity stays out for days.

But not all generators are created equal. The type of generator one buys could dictate how well it performs when needed. While a portable generator may not be as effective as a standby generator, a standby generator could make it easier to attract and retain tenants. Businesses don’t want to have to worry about losing inventory or customers, which investing in a standby generator obviates.

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According to Remodeling Magazine’s recent Cost Vs. Value Report, a $12,860 generator increases resale value by $6,940, which means 54 percent of the investment is returned to the owner.

Having a standby generator could make it easier to sell a property, and that could be a source of savings as well. In some cases, having one could also lower insurance costs for the property.

Portable generators offer peace of mind, and there’s value in that alone. If you don’t want to deal with the hassle of losing power and potentially having it stay out for days on end, then a standby generator is a smart investment.

Though a homeowner may not recoup that generator’s entire cost when selling the property, having that unit could save a world of money – and hassle – along the way.

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.

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CONVENIENT ONLINE SCHEDULING
“We have to count the letters of the alphabet and gather ourselves before we say something we regret.”

--Athenodorus

In this month’s column, I will address the topic of anger; a state of mind which we all have experienced sometime in our life. Existentialists are concerned with the meaning and quality of life, especially when events surface that make us become unmoored from our anchor of life. They also strive to navigate the gauntlet of life by transforming life from merely existing to that of finding essence. No easy task for sure!

To a degree, we are all existentialists. Existentialism is not a cure-all for all emotional encounters, but rather just another tool along with classical philosophy, therapy and religion to use when confronted with life’s trials and tribulations.

I’m not a fan of clichés, especially when making important life decisions. Though for the sake of making a point, I will refer to the cliché, “Don’t get mad, get even.” It is also my least favorite cliché, just as a matter of ethics and morality. To place this in perspective, we can approach such an emotional state by taking the position that mad is a reaction, anger is a state of mind.

“The effects of anger are almost always worse than the harm from the violation.”

--Seneca

There is much validity in Seneca’s words, especially when we engage in common conversations, to remember it is best to heed the fact that once your tongue utters an angry statement you can never retrieve it. To seek our peace and essence in life it is best not to warehouse our negative thoughts and grievances for the purpose to revisit them to stir up our anger, since they become a brain virus that spreads like an emotional cancer throughout one’s being. It’s quite ironic how some people are possessed to hold on to such anger from past events they wished they had not encountered, only to relive them in their heads daily, consciously or unconsciously.

Oh yes, the frail human condition. To help assist in finding your essence of life, a simple way to overcome such angry thoughts is to tell yourself the negative thoughts can’t afford to rent space in my head, and I will rent it out to more positive and constructive thoughts and memories. We can’t go back to the past to renegotiate a bad memory. But have the ability not to waste time revisiting them and dwelling on them and to better use our thoughts and time on more constructive endeavors, namely, to improve our own lot.

According to a recent research study conducted by Michael Greenstein, angry people are more susceptible to misinformation, and will use this misinformation to make life decisions and actions. Anger also renders false memories. Anger, along with its volatile temper, wounds us more than the person we are upset with. We often unjustly believe anger and revenge seem like the only course of action when we feel we have been wronged. The wise know better; anger will not take you to a better place or make you a better person or to allow you to be the best version of yourself. Take, for example, Orestes of Greek mythology fame, who having used his anger to take revenge, finds himself spending his life trying to free himself from the haunting of the three goddesses of fury, namely the fury of anger, who follows him wherever he goes. The moral being anger and revenge do not make Orestes feel better, only worse. He is haunted for life for his indiscretion of revenge and anger.

We should avoid knee-jerk emotional reactions when confronted with anger. And take the advice of Athenodorus to recite the alphabet to gather ourselves before we do and say things we will regret rather than unleashing a maelstrom of insults and attacks that will come to haunt us for the rest of our lives.

Be well. Be safe. Be happy. Be nice. Amor fazi!

Dr. Richard Cirulli is a published author, playwright and retired professor. His body of works can be viewed at www.demitasseplayers.com. He looks forward to your comments and can be reached at profcirulli@optonline.net.

Anger: Our Self-Inflicted Fury of Revenge

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SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Crossword

Across
1. Clobber
4. 1996 Gwyneth Paltrow title role
8. Sends with a recommendation
11. Respectful address
12. Involve
13. “If I had known”
14. _ Monde (French daily)
15. Man’s jacket feature
17. Othello’s betrayer
19. Printemps month
20. Succumb to pressure
21. Sedona
22. Irish poet or Yorktown accountant, RF
24. Khloe’s sister
28. Sud’s opposite
29. Pleasantville family hair salon known simply as “The Barber Shop,” La _____
33. Prosecutor, abbr.
34. Jump on the ice
35. Having deep affection for
37. Place
38. Skin soothers
39. Capt., e.g.
40. Hither and ___

Down
1. Get close to
2. Frequently, for short
3. Shade close to azure
4. With happiness or sadness, for example
5. “Give that ___ cigar!”

6. W. African republic
7. Organic radical
8. Archeologist’s find
9. ___ Grande (part of Texas’ border)
10. Bridge triumph
16. ___ Mahal
18. Atlanta’s state, abbr.
21. ___ Sedona
23. Hi!
24. Coward
25. Skate blades
27. Medical diagnostic procedures, abbr.
29. Indonesian island
30. Allies’ foe in WWII
31. Fishing rod attachment
32. ___ manner of speaking
36. Lacto-___ vegetarian

Answers on page 29

Buy Myles Mellor’s easy, super easy, medium crosswords, family puzzle books, word searches and cryptograms at www.ilovecrosswords.com

By Richard Cirulli
What to Do With a Financially Irresponsible Beneficiary

Every family has one. They are pretty easy to spot. We refer to them as the financially irresponsible beneficiary. Usually, they come in two different packages. The first have little or no resources and may or may not be gainfully employed. Any money that crosses their fingers is spent immediately.

The second group presents differently. They bought the house they could not afford and the luxury cars to go with it. Debt is never a thing. Some have more in the future. If and when things go south, these financially irresponsible beneficiaries will seek help. Providing the necessary structure to protect a financially irresponsible beneficiary from their own poor decision-making.

Direct bequests or distributions to a financially irresponsible beneficiary provides no protection for those assets. Past behavior is not always an indicator of future results, but smart estate planning considers all the available information. Oversight is not a punishment. Making sure a loved one is financially secure is a bedrock of estate planning. Wills and trusts provide the necessary structure to protect a financially irresponsible beneficiary from their own poor decision-making.

Trust planning, whether as part of a testamentary trust in a will or inter vivos trust, can set aside funds for their use over time. Spends trust allows the beneficiary to make discretionary payments on behalf of the beneficiary or distribute funds as needed so that preservation of trust assets are prioritized. Scheduled distributions can also be directed by the trust – from monthly allowances to annual payments depending on the beneficiary’s level of irresponsibility. Pools of money handed to a financially irresponsible beneficiary is a bad idea. Once that pool is gone it cannot be easily replenished. Incremental distributions allow for asset replenishment through sound management. Trusts may be incentivized to work smarter if there is no lump sum in their immediate future.

There are also financially compromised beneficiaries. Picture a young professional with an outrageously large student loan debt burden who is a competent money manager but may need financial help throughout his or her life. Though the fear of insolvency is not as acute, debt will govern career and housing decisions. Trust planning could alleviate some uncertainty and allow the beneficiary to choose a more personally satisfying career and preferable housing option.

Including the financially irresponsible beneficiary’s children in an estate plan is another way to protect assets and make sure that the beneficiary’s family unit remains strong. Creating sub-trusts to ensure education, housing and daily living expenses are paid offers additional security to a family that may suffer from poor financial management.

Aging parents of financially irresponsible children must navigate tricky family dynamics. Balancing the interests of the responsible children with those of the irresponsible children may bring hard feelings. Unequal distributions are a recipe for resentment. Equal distributions with trust planning and oversight are a more fundamentally fair approach to maintain family harmony.

Contact the professionals at Sloan & Feller today for more information on planning for a financially irresponsible beneficiary.

By Alan D. Feller, Esq., is managing partner of Sloan & Feller Attorneys at Law, located at 625 Route 6 in Mahopac. He can be reached at alandfeller@sloanandfeller.com.
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...continued on page 28
STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2013

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule "A" of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

Effect of filing: All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition are hereby notified that the filing of this Petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.

Nature of proceeding: This proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in this Petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.

Persons affected: This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of this Petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.

Right of redemption: Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may on or before said date redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereof, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to the Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle, 200 South Greely Avenue, Chappaqua, New York 10514. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.

Last day of redemption: The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the 29th day of October, 2021.

Service of answer: Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in this Petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the Office of the County Clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.

Failure to Redeem or answer: In the event of a failure to redeem or answer by any person having a right to redeem or answer, such person shall be forever barred and foreclosed of all his or her right, title and interest and equity of redemption in and to the parcel described in this petition and a judgment in foreclosure may be taken in default.

Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:
/s/
CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax
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THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2013

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LIEN NO.</th>
<th>OWNER OF RECORD</th>
<th>ASSESSED TO, IF DIFFERENT FROM OWNER OF RECORD</th>
<th>SECTION / BLOCK / LOT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>AMOUNT DUE*</th>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Luciano Velardo, Inc.</td>
<td>Velardo Luciano Inc.</td>
<td>80.19-1-31</td>
<td>Apple Farm Road</td>
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<td>Petrillo, Kathryn M.</td>
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<td>81.19-2-25</td>
<td>Lawrence Farms Crossway</td>
<td>$6,021.58</td>
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* Amount due as of August 14, 2014. Such amount does not include any subsequent years’ taxes, interest or fees.
STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

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Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2014

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STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

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<td>Velardo, Luciano &amp; Maria</td>
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* Amount due as of September 9, 2015. Such amount does not include any subsequent years' taxes, interest or fees.
STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2015

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule "A" of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

Effect of filing: All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition are hereby notified that the filing of this Petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.

Nature of proceeding: This proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in this Petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.

Persons affected: This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this Petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of this Petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.

Right of redemption: Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may on or before said date redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereof, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to the Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle, 200 South Greeley Avenue, Chappaqua, New York 10514. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.

Last day of redemption: The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the 29th day of October, 2021.

Service of answer: Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in this Petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the Office of the County Clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.

Failure to Redeem or answer: In the event of a failure to redeem or answer by any person having a right to redeem or answer, such person shall be forever barred and foreclosed of all his or her right, title and interest and equity of redemption in and to the parcel described in this petition and a judgment in foreclosure may be taken in default.

Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:

/s/ CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

STATE OF NEW YORK  
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding  
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2015

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<th>OWNER OF RECORD</th>
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* Amount due as of July 29, 2016. Such amount does not include any subsequent years' taxes, interest or fees.
STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE in the Year 2016

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule "A" of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

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Dated: July 13, 2021

Enforcing Officer:
______________________________
CHRISTINA PAPES, Receiver of Taxes, Town of New Castle

STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax Liens by Proceeding
In Rem pursuant to Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax
Law, Chapter 602, Laws of 1993 by

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* Amount due as of July 28, 2017. Such amount does not include any subsequent years’ taxes, interest or fees.
Inquiring Minds Want to Know: My Go-to Wine for Food Pairing

By Nick Antonaccio

It’s been a quirky summer so far, for whatever reason. – and there’s no relief – or consistency – in sight. I’ve been enjoying my “new favorite” summer wine that I’ve recently rediscovered.

My palate had been getting fatigued with most of my go-to summer wines: ubiquitous Rosés from just about every major wine region, Spain’s Albariño and Austria’s Grüner Veltliner for whites, and France’s Beaujolais and Côte du Rhônes for reds.

As enamored as I am with each of these refreshing summer wines, they were becoming a bit too predictable, especially when paired with the foods of summer. Yes, Rosé is an easy go-to wine for many summer dishes, but it coexists with, rather than defines, most dishes. Grüner Veltliner’s minerality and crispness is refreshing, but it doesn’t pair well with a number of summer dishes. Beaujolais, slightly chilled, comes close to an all-purpose summer wine, but falls short on complexity and body.

What’s a fellow to do? Abstinence was out of the question. In seeking out a new favorite summer wine that complemented the most summer dishes, I needed a wine that would perk up my palate with each bite of food. It doesn’t pair well with a number of summer dishes. Beaujolais, slightly chilled, comes close to an all-purpose summer wine, but falls short on complexity and body.

And then it struck me: sparkling wine. Always a favorite of mine, it has been relegated by many as an accompaniment to spicy Asian foods. Why not enjoy it as a multipurpose wine whose acidity and effervescence pairs so well with light dishes, seafood and other traditional summer recipes?

Even better, why not enjoy it as a Vin de Soif – held in hand on the backyard deck, on the beach at sunset or at any other venue calling for a bright, crisp wine with the right balance of fruit and acidity that titillates your sensory membranes with each sip and never dulls the flavor receptors in your mouth?

Here I must introduce a caveat. My reference to sparkling wines are those made in the classic French Champagne method, known as the Méthode Champenoise. It does not include other “carbonated” wines, such as Prosecco, that are produced en masse, without the finesse of the Méthode Champenoise wines.

Having reached this ah-ha moment, I began to mull over the misconceptions among consumers concerning sparkling wines. In my mind, sparkling wines are the stepchild of wines. Underappreciated and vastly misunderstood, they have been pigeonholed as special occasion wines for decades, even centuries. Sparkling wines, in my opinion, are the most versatile of wines. They pair as well with chicken piccata as they do with oysters, as well with hot dogs as they do with foie gras.

Every refrigerator should be stocked with at least one bottle (magnum?) of this palate-pleaser. When confronted with a difficult pairing decision, consider sparkling wine. When attempting to pair multiple dishes to a single wine from a restaurant list, consider sparkling wine. When confronted with the overwhelming number of choices of wines when planning a dinner menu, consider sparkling wine.

Why? It’s the effervescence of sparkling wine. It can restore your taste buds when inflamed by a Sichuan-inspired fiery shrimp dish. It can cut through the saturated fat of a classic French cream sauce that coats your tongue and dulls your taste buds, thus revitalizing your palate with each sip.

Is sparkling wine the answer to all of our pairing conundrums? No. But for my palate, it comes the closest of all wines. It won’t pair well with a rich fettuccine with wild boar sauce, but it will gracefully enhance the simple yet exotic flavors of spaghetti carbonara. It won’t pair well with a porterhouse steak but enjoy it with pork tenderloins in a white wine/garlic sauce. Hamburgers? No. Turkeyburgers? Yes. Lobster rolls (with French fries)? Yes, Yes, Yes!

Raise your glasses to the versatility and adaptability of the other white wine.

Nick Antonaccio is a 45-year Pleasantville resident. For over 25 years, he has conducted wine tastings and lectures. Nick is a member and program director of the Wine Media Guild of wine journalists. 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.
continued from page 22

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Fall in New York is better than ever with \textbf{The Great Jack-O’-Lantern Blaze} and special \textit{Legend} of Sleepy Hollow-themed experiences ready to launch in the Hudson Valley.

Blaze: Hudson Valley returns to its location at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson for a 17th year. On the grounds of Washington Irving’s Sunnyside in Tarrytown, visitors can enjoy two special celebrations of the author’s most famous work: Home of the Legend during the day and dramatic evening performances of Irving’s “Legend.”

Blaze returns bigger and better than ever before and features thousands of hand-carved jack-o’-lanterns lit up in elaborate displays throughout historic landscapes. Blaze: Hudson Valley will run for a record 59 nights from Sept. 17 through Nov. 21. New displays this year at Blaze: Hudson Valley include a New York City streetscape and an immersive river walk-through experience.

More Halloween fun can be found at the estate of Washington Irving, America’s founding father of literature. Historic Hudson Valley is bringing his classic spooky tale to life at Sunnyside, where visitors during the day can tour Irving’s home, take in an original shadow puppet film and see a special Legend exhibit.

In the evenings, master storyteller Jonathan Kruk casts a spell with dramatic performances of Irving’s “Legend,” performed outdoors under the stars. Complete with live music by Jim Keyes and an appearance from the Headless Horseman himself, this performance is sure to thrill audiences of all ages.

The health and safety of all visitors is the highest priority. Historic Hudson Valley’s experiences are largely outdoors and touch-free, and capacity has been reduced to ensure social distancing. Visitors who are not vaccinated are required to always wear masks. Masks are not required for vaccinated visitors while on the grounds but will be required when entering buildings at our sites, such as restrooms or shops.

Visit hudsonvalley.org for the most current requirements.

Blaze: Hudson Valley’s founding sponsor is Entergy; presenting sponsor is Westchester Medical Center; and contributing sponsors are J.P. Morgan Chase and Edge-on-Hudson. All events are held rain or shine. Proceeds support Historic Hudson Valley, the Tarrytown-based private, nonprofit educational organization that owns and operates several National Historic Landmarks.

\textbf{Ticket and date information} These events have limited capacity and sell out. All admissions are by advance purchase only. To further reduce staff/visitor touchpoints, no tickets are sold on site even if not sold out.

Blaze: Hudson Valley dates are Sept. 17 through Oct. 31 and Nov. 3-7, 10-14 and 18-21. Online tickets start at $32 for adults and $24 for children ages 3-17. Children 2 and under get in for free. Historic Hudson Valley members can attend Blaze: Hudson Valley for free.

Irving’s “Legend” dates are Oct. 1-3; 8-10; 15-17; 22-24; and 29-31. Online tickets start at $30 for adults and $24 for children. Historic Hudson Valley members receive a 15 percent discount on tickets.

Home of the “Legend” dates are Sept. 17-19 and 24-26; October 1-3, 8-11, 15-17, 22-24 and 29-31 and Nov. 5-7. Online tickets are $12 for adults, $10 for seniors and children 3-17. Children 2 and under and Historic Hudson Valley members get in for free.

For tickets and more information, call 914-336-6900 or visit www.hudsonvalley.org. There’s a $2.50 per ticket surcharge for phone orders.

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\textbf{Crossword Answers} 

\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
BOP & EMM & A & REFER & S & MAAM & ENTAIL \hline
LE & CO & TA & I & AG & MAI & CRACK & JOYCE & KIM & NORD \hline
BARBARIA & LAG & AXEL & INLOVE & LIEU & SALVES & ISLE & YON \hline
\end{array}
Did you know that nearly four out of five teens prefer contact lenses over glasses? With a new school year comes new routines and new responsibilities, making this a good time of year to make the switch. There's what to know about glasses, contacts and your teen's eyes.

• Get checked. Teens should have their vision checked before the school year begins whether they currently wear glasses or contacts or not. Correcting vision problems is a must for setting your child up for success at school, but glasses might not be your child's first choice.
• Consider glasses grief. Most schools are enforcing mask mandates. If your teen is masking up at school, they will likely experience foggy glasses. Plus, with homecoming right around the corner, your child might want the option of contact lenses for their next big photo op.
• Convenience. Daily disposable contact lenses can be a good choice for young people. Because your teen will have a new pair of contact lenses each day, he or she won't have to worry about cleaning and storing them.
• Know that moisture matters. Between texting with friends, scrolling through social media binge watching shows, gaming and schoolwork, teens are online more than ever. All this increased digital device usage can contribute to a reduced blink rate that can lead to lens dryness.

Even with a return to in-person learning this year, you can expect teens to be doing a lot of work on electronic devices. In fact, technology usage for students has increased more than 60 percent over the past year. With this in mind, it’s a good idea to opt for daily disposables that maintain moisture.
• Comfort is king. A contact lens that can provide clear, comfortable vision throughout the day is a good candidate for contact lenses or not. Correcting vision problems is a must for setting your child up for success at school, but glasses might not be your child's first choice.

Westchester Teams Up With Knicks for Back to School COVID PSA

As students head back to school, Westchester County is continuing its efforts to get information about the COVID-19 vaccine into the hands of young people and their parents. The county is once again partnering with the New York Knicks for a public service announcement aimed at promoting the COVID-19 vaccine.

“With students heading back to class, we want parents to know the vaccine is available for eligible young people, 12 years old or older, against COVID-19,” said County Executive George Latimer. “We also want to remind parents to continue the standard series of vaccinations as kids go back to school so everyone can learn in a safe and healthy environment.”

This latest PSA is part of an ongoing campaign launched in January encouraging the vaccine across Westchester. The Knicks are the first professional sports team to be featured in the campaign which includes the Radio City Rockettes and Billboard Music Award winners, AJR.

You can view the full public service announcement at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gm8c004_Y.

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Back to School

Fall Tips to Kickstart the Financial Road to College

For parents of high school seniors, the year before your child goes to college begins the real fretting about the financial implications.

If you’re like most parents, you value the importance of a college degree, while harboring anxiety about the price tag.

In a recent College Ave Student Loans parent survey conducted by Barnes & Noble Insights, 85 percent of parents agree that earning a degree is more important than ever. At the same time, most parents surveyed agree that the cost of college is more of a financial burden than in previous years, that the cost is surprisingly high and find paying to be stressful.

As you make your financial plans, consider these tips:

• Build a smart college list. Encourage your child to apply to a mix of private and public schools as sometimes merit aid from private universities can make costs comparable to public options. By applying to a variety of schools, you can compare financial aid award packages and identify a school that’s not only a good academic and social fit, but a good financial fit as well.

• Apply for financial aid. Create a spreadsheet listing financial aid deadlines and requirements, which vary by school and state. You can check with your school’s financial aid office to learn what paperwork is needed.

One date to circle in your calendar is Oct. 1. This marks the day you can begin filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Complete the FAFSA this fall and every year your child attends college. Doing so is the key to unlocking scholarships, grants, work-study programs and federal student loans.

This is also the date you can begin filing the CSS Profile, an online application that nearly 400 colleges, universities, professional schools and scholarship programs use to award more than $9 billion in financial aid annually.

• Look for scholarships. Have your college-bound student seek out and apply for reputable scholarships. Be sure to read the fine print to understand the terms. An easy one to apply for is the College Ave Student Loans $1,000 monthly scholarship sweepstakes.

• Review your finances. The overwhelming majority of parents – 97 percent – plan to help pay for their child's college education, according to the College Ave survey. Of those, 62 percent plan to draw from their income and savings to do so. Make time this fall to review your financial resources to determine how much you can contribute without sacrificing your retirement goals. You may need to get creative. For example, 1 out of 10 parents surveyed find extra income from a side hustle.

• Prep your student. Many students learn their first money management lessons in college. Give your child the financial know-how needed to hit the ground running. Discuss how to create and stick to a budget, how to build an emergency savings account and how to avoid peer pressure when it comes to spending. For example, just because a friend is dining out or traveling frequently, doesn’t mean your child has to do the same. Also, discuss how they can contribute to their education costs. Creating financial goals now will help set your child up for financial success.

• Get savvy. As you navigate the financial road to college, stay savvy by referencing the free tips, resources, guides and financial expert advice available at collegeavestudentloans.com/blog.

College costs can surprise many families. Don’t get caught off guard. To get financially prepared, use the year ahead to explore all your financing options and formulate a plan.

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