Mount Pleasant Voters to Decide if Highway Super Becomes Appointed Post

By Sean Browne

The Mount Pleasant Town Board unanimously approved placing a referendum on the ballot later this year asking voters to make the highway superintendent’s position an appointed post rather than an elected one.

The referendum, which will require the town code to be amended, will be on November’s general election ballot. If approved, the change would be effective Jan. 1, 2020.

Town officials were prompted to schedule the referendum following the retirement of longtime highway superintendent Peter Sciliano. The position is now being filled on an interim basis by Richard Benkwitt, who the board appointed last year.

Board members said they saw this as an opportunity to follow a local trend by taking a position that requires a specific set of skills and expertise but can currently attract nearly any town resident if he or she can get on the ballot and making that position an appointed post.

“The only qualification of the elected highway superintendent is that the person (lives within) the town, nothing else,” said Councilman Nicholas J. DiPaolo. “With someone who is appointed, we can set parameters and qualifications and therefore increase accountability.”

He explained that as an appointed position the board would be able to do their due diligence in who they select for the post.

No. Castle Planners Issue Positive Recommendation for Mariani Gardens

By Martin Wilbur

The North Castle Planning Board last week agreed to send a positive recommendation to the Town Board for Mariani Gardens’ latest residential plan while highlighting several key issues connected to the project.

The recommendation came a few weeks after the Town Board referred the application to the planners that requests a zoning change for the 43-unit residential proposal on four acres at 45 Bedford Rd. in Armonk despite two council members voicing reservations about density and whether the plan is in character with the area.

Mariani Gardens is seeking to change the zoning from Nursery Business (NB) to a new Residential-Multifamily-Downtown Armonk (R-MF-DA) district to accommodate the change in use. The Town Board must decide whether to rezone the property and to amend the town code to be amended, will be effective Jan. 1, 2020.

The referendum, which will require the town code to be amended, will be on November’s general election ballot. If approved, the change would be effective Jan. 1, 2020.

The latest revised Mariani Gardens proposal was given a positive recommendation last week by the North Castle Planning Board.

Downtown Armonk (R-MF-DA) district to accommodate the change in use. The Town Board must decide whether to rezone the property and to amend the Comprehensive Plan for the project to accommodate the change in use.

Working Group Begins Task of Revising Chappaqua Hamlet Zoning

By Martin Wilbur

A group of New Castle officials and residents are working to craft revised zoning for downtown Chappaqua to revitalize the hamlet, one of the key goals in the town’s updated Comprehensive Plan.

The Chappaqua Hamlet Downtown Working Group met for the first time on May 23 in hopes of developing draft legislation before the end of this year and having it passed by the Town Board by the middle of 2020, said Director of Planning Sabrina Charney Hull. The group consists of the entire Town Board, three Planning Board members and three residents, two of whom are developers and one an architect.

Hull said economic revitalization, increasing pedestrian traffic and bringing a different type of housing stock to the downtown are the main thrusts of the effort.

“So, there are a couple of different objectives,” Hull said. “One is to revitalize the economics of the situation of the hamlet within the hamlet, but it’s also to introduce feet on the street (and) provide alternatives in housing type for different income levels.”

Public feedback sessions during the Comprehensive Plan update process addressed improving downtown Chappaqua, which was among the chief priorities expressed among those who participated.

Hull said the working group is scheduled to reconvene this Monday, June 10 and hopes to have a proposal in place in time for tentatively scheduled July 17 public sessions. On that date, two public sessions would be held, one in the afternoon, the second in the evening.
P’ville Assisted Living Plan

Developer Submits Zoning Request for continued from page 1

2 of the 24,000-square-foot building, as potential noise, the use and mass residents were generally skeptical about by Benchmark’s representatives. The speaking following the presentation to a dozen neighbors attended last hearing the neighbors’ concerns. Close Benchmark is adjusting its plans after in late November.

Maple Hill Road residents during an the facility’s entrance point. The updated than two months ago is the location of met. “It can be anywhere in the village," Scherer said he was happy that one major change Benchmark has concerning the neighborhood if Benchmark does on volunteers for its ambulance and concerned if Pleasantville, which relies on the jobs generated by the facility would concerns. Blaney questioned whether on the residential street, he still has other that while it was encouraging Benchmark meeting, Daniel Blaney, said afterward r o a d. “But there is a lot to be said down the chance to take a look at it, “ Scherer said.

terms of the documents they have responsiveness of Benchmark in iron out the critical issues that have

that these underlying conditions are met. ”

No alternate number of units was announced last week.

In addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, in addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, In addition to density and traffic issues, The Madonna said. Furthermore, the buildings’ height would not exceed a house that is structures, although total footprint would not exceed that of six private homes, buildings would appear to be too great. The some residents at previous forums have expressed concern that the mass of the

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Walk to Help Bring Mental Illness Out of the Shadows

By Martin Wilbur

A 2.5-mile walk at 4:30 a.m. is a ghastly time to start an event on a Sunday morning. Yet, last year about 1,000 participants who turned out for the inaugural Into the Light Walk.

That highlights the level of support that Pleasantville residents Brian and Jolina Halloran have received from the community since their 19-year-old son, Brian, took his own life in January 2018.

The second Into the Light Walk to raise awareness for mental illness is set for this Sunday morning. Brian Halloran is hopeful that turnout will be comparable to last year’s event.

Regardless of how many participants show up, the impact that Break the Hold which the Hallorans founded after their son’s death, is having in the community and throughout Westchester is unmistakable.

“Part of the idea behind the walk is to raise awareness, bring the community together and to fight against the stigma of mental health challenges and also bring a positive to the community to fight back against the negative trend of mental health issues and suicide,” Brian Halloran said.

The foundation provides a resource for those with mental health issues and their friends and family with its team of clinicians who work pro bono. It is geared mainly to serve young people 10 to 24 years old.

Break the Hold is also partnering with the Pleasantville School District to work with students on coping skills and teachers and staff to recognize the warning signs and how to deal with a youngster who may need help, Halloran said.

The training uses an evidence-based approach called dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), which provides students with skills to manage painful emotions, particularly for those with various mental health disorders. Break the Hold is sponsoring DBT training at Pleasantville High School for the upcoming school year.

Halloran said staff in all three schools will receive eight hours of training in four two-hour workshops. Children as young as fifth grade in Pleasantville will eventually go through the program so they are equipped to handle the escalating pressures at an earlier age and be prepared as they move through middle school and high school, he said.

“So getting this in the school system will allow kids like my son to identify his challenges or his issues earlier on and we may be able to get resources and help and therapy at an earlier age,” Halloran said.

Jolina Halloran said that some of their son’s friends confided in them that as early as seventh grade they noticed a change in Brian but neither he nor his friends could effectively identify or communicate what was happening, she said.

“So the reason we want to start younger is that kids don’t know what they’re feeling,” she said. “They don’t have the verbiage. So we want to give them the words and the identification skills and then the important thing is to recognize it because when he returned to college for the first few days, his roommates and friends said (they) could tell something was wrong.”

Brian Halloran said the organization is in contact with Alexander Hamilton High School in Elmsford and White Plains High School to bring similar training to those schools. He’s hopeful that the program will continue to expand.

Same-day registration for this Sunday’s Into the Light Walk begins at 4 a.m. at Pleasantville High School. The walk starts a half-hour later and returns to the school at about 6:30 a.m. All walkers will receive a light breakfast. The first 500 registrants are guaranteed a t-shirt.

Participants 13 and up pay $32.63 while those 12 and under walk for $11.58. The amount includes all service fees.

For more information and to register for the walk, visit www.racemenu.com/bth.
Mt Pleasant Voters to Decide if Highway Super Becomes Appointed Post

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such an important post.

There are four or five neighboring communities that have already made the same decision and those communities are pleased with the results, DiPaolo mentioned.

“This is something that is going on throughout the county, where the elimination of the superintendent of highways (as an elected post) is becoming quite common,” added Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi.

Mount Pleasant resident Laura Centi said she was concerned about the process surrounding how this issue was raised. She said her key concern was moving ahead with the referendum in an election year rather than an off year. Town elections are held in years ending with an odd number.

“What bothers me is that whoever runs in November and this referendum passes that person is basically null and void,” Centi said. “I am concerned why this wasn’t done last year because it seems unfair that someone runs for an elected position and then the board overrides that come January 2020.”

Fulgenzi responded that due to Sciliano’s retirement, the board was forced to act now and could not wait for a year when there was no town election. DiPaolo said he understood Centi’s concerns but if anyone was troubled by the referendum for any reason, then that person has the right to vote no in November, he said.

The highway superintendent’s job may not be the last position to go through this change. According to Fulgenzi, other officeholders in Mount Pleasant may be under consideration to be changed from an elected to appointed office.

Working Group Begins Task of Revising Chappaqua Hamlet Zoning

continued from page 1

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The opening discussion for the working group came as the Town Board is prepared to extend its downtown Chappaqua moratorium Tuesday night for another six months while the town works on the hamlet zoning. Last fall, the board invoked the moratorium for its Retail Business (B-R) and Retail Business & Parking (B-RP) zones, which takes in most of the commercial hamlet.

The latest activity also comes after the Town Board sent out a Request for Proposal to retain consultants to help the town achieve its zoning goals through a form-based zoning code. Erik Aulestia, of Torti Gallas Partners, said a well-crafted form-based code is the most effective type of code a municipality can have.

“It’s really character based,” Aulestia said. “You start and ask what’s the character. What’s the vision of this particular space that we’re trying to operate and create a set of standards that fit in with that?”

During the working group’s discussion, challenges facing downtown Chappaqua were raised, included parking, in particular the multi-acre surface parking lot at the Chappaqua train station. It was also mentioned that a large swath of the downtown is municipally owned.

Aulestia said to build surface parking costs roughly $3,000 a space, while a parking structure runs about $10,000 a space. Building an underground lot is estimated to cost about $20,000 a space.

He also said that attention must be paid to architecture. A municipality may have an excellent vision for its community but if the architecture doesn’t fit it could wreck the best plans.

“You have to believe getting enough specificity to deliver the vision but not so restrictive that it makes it difficult to administer,” Aulestia said.

Working group member William Spade, an architect, said retention of character is vital to what the town is trying to do.

“I see retaining the character of the town as a very important thing and I would like to see the guidelines reinforce that historic character,” Spade said.

Bonnie Von Ohlsen, a planner with the White Plains firm Kimley-Horn, said underst the current schedule draft legislation could be in place by September, which will start the state Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process. The environmental review would then take place over next winter, she said.
Armonk Lion’s 45th Fol-De-Rol Festival and Crafts in the Park

Wampus Brook Park
41 Wampus Avenue, Armonk, NY 10504
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Thursday, June 6 6pm-10pm
Friday, June 7 6pm-10pm
Saturday, June 8 10am-10pm
Sunday, June 9 11am-5pm

Food, Games & Rides!
Horse Carriage Rides & Bull Demonstration (Friday only)
Raffle (Online & Onsite)

Racing Pigs by F&F Production
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

VENDORS
Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday 12pm-5pm

LIVE BANDS
Orville Davis and “The Wild Bunch” Group Therapy

Free Admission & Parking

www.armonklions.org
North 60 Scoping Session Hearing Set for Thursday

The Mount Pleasant Planning Board will hold a public hearing on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIDS) scoping document for the highly anticipated $1.2 billion North 60 project this Thursday, June 6 at Town Hall.

The board declared itself lead agency last month for the review of the project located on 60 acres near the Westchester Medical Center. If approved, North 60, will include about two million square feet of biotech and medical office space, retail and a roughly 120-unit hotel.

At its May 2 meeting, the board also accepted the positive declaration under the state Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), which means there is the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts necessitating more extensive review. To review the 25-page draft scoping document in advance of the meeting, visit the town’s website at www.mtpleasantny.com.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. Mount Pleasant Town Hall is located at 1 Town Hall Plaza in Valhalla.
Local Nonprofit Addresses the Challenges Facing Foster Children

By James Anderson

Children who have grown up in the foster care system face challenges that many of their peers never have to deal with.

Last week, FosterKidsUnite, a local nonprofit organization that supports youngsters as the they age out of the system, addressed some of the challenges facing foster children and honored two who went through the system and recently graduated college.

The keynote speaker at the annual foster care awareness event, held last Thursday afternoon at the Mount Kisco Public Library, was adoption attorney Lisa Peck Goldberg, who works closely with FosterKidsUnite. Goldberg said the shortcomings of the United States’ foster care and adoption system results in 24,000 young adults who age out every year.

“That means they are hitting 21, or 18 in some states, without a family, without a permanent home, without a safety net, and that’s just inexcusable,” she said.

Goldberg works with adoptive families, foster-adoptive families and biological parents who are considering placement of their children. She addressed the misconceptions that many people have about foster children.

“There’s a lot of myths out there, and I’m here to tell you that there is no such thing as a bad child,” Goldberg said. “There’s a child that’s experienced trauma, there’s a child who needs that hug and love and someone to read to them…then they can fly and they can grow.”

Goldberg detailed the process to become a foster family. After submitting an official request, prospective families are sent a 30-page packet to complete to ensure they are serious about going through the process. Once completed, a family will undergo a home inspection and 30 hours of training about the foster system and parenting.

Once these steps are completed, the family can expect a call from an agency within 24 hours, she said.

Goldberg’s address was followed by a question-and-answer session, which turned into a discussion about trauma and perseverance. One woman shared her experience growing up with her biological mother, who opened her home to foster children in addition to taking care of her own.

“They asked her [if] she would take a 16-year-old girl with a three-month-old baby that belonged to her and we took both of them in and it worked out pretty good,” the woman said.

FosterKidsUnite founder and President Tanya Cooper and Mount Kisco Mayor Gina Picinich presented scholarships to two students. Sasha Simmonds and M’Mahawa Sylla both received the Robert Cooper Memorial Scholarship, which was named after Cooper’s late brother. Simmonds is pursuing a masters in speech pathology.

Cooper, a former foster child and Fox Lane High School and NYU graduate, is the author of a book, “Surviving Foster Care and Making it Work for You.” She recently started writing a second book.

Cooper, who works as a substance abuse counselor in Carmel, launched FosterKidsUnite after the passing of her brother in 2014. The organization began as a single scholarship in her brother’s name. She said it offers non-traditional services to foster children who are aging out of the system and continuing their education. The services include monthly care packages, individual mentoring and scholarships.

Cooper concluded the program by thanking her volunteers and the graduating students.

“People are going to be the ones that change the world, and when I see people like you, people like her, I think, okay, we have a chance here,” Cooper said.

After the awards ceremony, Picinich offered her appreciation for Cooper’s efforts.

“The work that you do is so very important, and to all of the folks receiving awards, all who have given so graciously their time and opened their hearts…on behalf of the village of Mount Kisco, thank you,” Picinich said.

Tanya Cooper, founder and president of FosterKidsUnite, is a fierce advocate for helping foster children. She and her brother were raised in a foster home.
June 4 - June 10, 2019 The Examiner

Area High School Students Participate in NWH Medical Career Day

High school students learned about medical ethics, bioelectronic medicine and engineering, sports/rehab medicine and pediatrics at Northern Westchester Hospital's (NWH) second annual Medical Career Day.

The event for students in grades 9-12 was attended by about 100 students last Wednesday from North Salem, Pleasantville, Horace Greeley, Byram Hills, Westlake, Fox Lane, Somers, Ridgefield and John Jay high schools.

After participating in two of four workshops, attendees “dined and dished” in small groups with professionals, who shared their knowledge and insight into careers in health care. Students were able to meet a variety of physicians, nurses and specialists as well as people in non-clinical careers that included social media, marketing and finance.

The event is an extension of the hospital’s activities for its 50-member President’s Junior Leadership Council (PJLC), a youth leadership opportunity for high school students in northern Westchester. PJLC builds young people’s connections to their community, promotes health and wellness among youth and engages them on issues that matter to them and affect their peers.

The council’s members also serve as liaisons between NWH and their schools; act as ambassadors to the community through outreach programs focused on prevention and wellness; meet and interact with hospital personnel; explore career opportunities in health and medicine; and gain skills to help prepare them for the challenges and responsibilities they will face as college students and beyond.

Dr. Theodoros Zanos demonstrates neural decoding and data analytics in the bioelectronic medicine and engineering workshop during Northern Westchester Hospital’s second annual Medical Career Day last week. The event attracted about 100 area high school students who are considering careers in the healthcare industry.

Board of Legislators Outlaws Use of Styrofoam Food Containers, Cups

The Westchester County Board of Legislators Monday night unanimously approved a measure that will regulate the use of expanded polystyrene takeout food containers in Westchester.

The new law will eliminate the sale or use of expanded polystyrene (EPS) coffee cups as well as other EPS containers and utensils commonly used for takeout and prepared foods, and for restaurant leftovers.

The law prohibits EPS food containers to be used by vendors and restaurants, or sold in stores. It also prohibits the sale of loose-fill EPS packing foam in Westchester. Prepackaged food that arrives sealed in EPS packaging, as well as packaging for raw eggs and butcher case packaging are exempted.

“Our neighbors in Nassau and Suffolk counties have passed legislation like this,” said Legislator Kitley Covill (D-Katonah), one of the bill’s co-sponsors. “New York City has done it. Albany County has done it. Other cities like Washington, D.C. have done it. Even an entire state, Maine, has done it. I’m proud that now Westchester County will join our responsible neighbors in this kind of proper stewardship of our shared environment.”

Julie Tighe, president of the New York League of Conservation Voters, said that polystyrene foam clogs the waste stream and pollutes waterways.

“Limiting the use of Styrofoam food containers will help keep our waterways clear, ease the burden on our landfills, and fight climate change,” Tighe said. “We commend the Westchester County Board of Legislators and Legislator Parker for joining the growing movement to reduce Styrofoam and decrease disposable products across New York.”

Edward Berry, a member of the executive committee and political chair of the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group, also applauded the board’s vote. He said chronic exposure to polystyrene can lead to depression, headaches and have minor effects on kidney function.

“This presents a serious health hazard that can’t be ignored,” Barry said.
Chappaqua to Hold Event to Fight Gun Violence This Friday

By Martin Wilbur

The Town of New Castle and Moms Demand Action will partner this Friday evening in taking a stand against gun violence with a Wear Orange Rally at the gazebo in downtown Chappaqua early Friday.

While there have been vigils in Chappaqua following many of the high-profile mass shootings around the nation in recent years, this is first time that the town has formally supported the Wear Orange effort.

Town Supervisor Robert Greenstein announced the town would be participating two weeks ago when most of the Town Board wore orange shirts during its work session and passed a resolution declaring the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness Day. The event is scheduled to get underway at 6:30 p.m.

“We face a national crisis. We must take a stand against hatred, prejudice, rage and gun violence,” Greenstein said. “Those are our national emergencies. Our voices must be heard, and we cannot stop until they are, and until our nation becomes safe and secure.”

The gazebo is illuminated in orange lights this week in support of the movement, said Naomi Morrow, a Chappaqua resident and a member of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

Throughout this week and into the weekend, marches, proclamations, gatherings and events are being scheduled across the United States to raise awareness and press for changes in gun laws, she said.

Orange has become the color of the movement after Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-girl who was killed in her hometown in Chicago in 2013, one week after she marched in President Barack Obama’s second inaugural parade. Since then, orange is the color that represents the movement.

This week’s event takes place after last Friday’s latest mass shooting at the municipal complex in Virginia Beach, Va., which killed 12 people.

For more information on this week’s event and the Wear Orange movement, visit Everytown.org or WearOrange.org.

County Takes Action

In response to the Virginia shooting, County Executive George Latimer announced Monday, he is directing Westchester’s Department of Public Safety Commissioner Thomas Gleason to lead a review and evaluation of security measures and protocols at all county facilities.

“What last week’s shooting shows us is that in these times we must work to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep those in our facilities safe,” Latimer said.

“This shooting occurred in a municipal building where residents are required to come in for various permits, receive paperwork, etc., exactly like what occurs in municipal buildings in Westchester and nearly everywhere else around the country,” Gleason said his department is committed to keeping Westchester residents and employees safe and will review update security procedures and protocols if needed.

To honor the victims of last week’s shooting – many of whom were public servants who dedicated their lives to serving their community – Latimer directed flags in municipal buildings in Westchester to fly at half-staff.

“These 12 innocent victims were everyday people who were just living their lives, he said. “This is not normal and this is not right. Our nation must act now to stop these senseless mass shootings, unless we want to see any trip to a public space become a potential nightmare.”

In recent years, the county police have conducted Civilian Response to Active Shooter (CRASE) training for hundreds of Westchester residents. CRASE training provides people with practical guidance to help them survive an active shooter event if one occurs in their workplace or other location where they are present.
Obituaries

Rui Soares

Rui George Soares of Valhalla, loving husband to Jennifer Soares and “father extraordinaire” to Fedelina and Cristiano, passed peacefully at 46 years old on June 1 surrounded by family and friends.

Soares was born May 6, 1973, in Yonkers. Having lost his father, Horacio Soares, at the age of six, he was raised by his mother, Maria Soares, of Yonkers. He experienced, learned and valued the importance of family throughout his life, which is evidenced by this article in the Wall Street Journal:


Soares graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics in 1995. The friendships he developed with his Sigma Chi fraternity brothers proved to be lifelong bonds, leading him to dedicate much of his post-college years giving back to his fraternity through volunteer projects, serving on the House Corporation and driving the growth of the fraternity.

If you were lucky enough to know Rui well, you likely thought of him as one of your closest friends. You also knew he was well, you likely thought of him as one of the kindest people you knew, always being there for his loved ones and lending a helping hand.

Soares spent most of his professional life working for Kraft and Deloitte. He was recognized for his contributions and commitment to developing others on multiple occasions.

Rui is also survived by his mother, Maria, of Yonkers; his sister, Michelle (David) Vanslette, of Wayland, Mass. and their children Eden and Reid; his brother, Horacio (Angela) Soares, of St. James, N.Y. and their children Lucas and Ava; his mother- and father-in-law, Cory and John Cucurullo; his brothers-in-law, Matthew Cucurullo and John Cucurullo; and his sister-in-law, Teresa (Paul) Barbuto and their children Natalie, Joseph and Robinson.

Visitation will be at Hawthorne Funeral Home on June 5 from 3 to 8 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held at Holy Rosary Church in Hawthorne on June 6 at 10 a.m. followed by interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne.

William Makar

William (Bill) John Makar of Hawthorne passed away peacefully in Sleepy Hollow on May 30 surrounded by his loving family.

He was 82.

Makar was the beloved husband of Rose (nee Hanna); the loving father of William Jr., Diane (Jim) and Ann Marie (Mike); and the cherished grandfather of Shannon, James, Christine and Mary.

He was a lifetime member of the Hawthorne Fire Department and professionally was a senior substation operator for Con Edison in Westchester County. Makar also served his country honorably in the United States Army from 1956 to 1958.

Visitation was at Pleasant Manor Funeral Home in Thornwood on June 2. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Holy Rosary Church on June 3. Interment followed at the family plot at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne with military honors to commemorate Bill’s service to his country.

Ervin Douglas “Doug” MacDonald II

passed away on November 3rd, 2018, at Yorktown Rehab & Nursing Center from cardiopulmonary arrest caused by coronary artery atherosclerosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

He leaves behind his wife Ruth MacDonald. He was an avid gardener, a naturalist who did research on turtles at Teatown Lake Reservation, and a member of the Pleasantville Conservation Advisory Council. There will be a memorial gathering to celebrate his life on Sunday, June 9th, at the Social Hall of St. John’s Episcopal Church, 8 Sunnyside Ave, Pleasantville, NY, 10507, from 2:00pm – 4:00pm.

Police Blotter

North Castle Police Department

May 24: A complainant reported at 10:18 a.m. that a large portion of Washington Avenue is without power after a utility wire fell onto her driveway. The responding officer confirmed the same and reported one lane was partially blocked. The officer stayed on location for traffic control. A Con Edison crew arrived to fix the issue.

May 25: A traffic stop was made on Old Orchard Street at 12:23 a.m. just south of the entrance to Rocky Ledge. The officer requested an additional unit for assistance with an investigation. The subject was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.

May 25: Valhalla Ambulance personnel reported to General Washington Place East for an intoxicated male party at 12:28 a.m. The complainant reported that the party is cooperating with them at this time and they have the ambulance on the scene. There was a request for an officer to respond. The subject was transported to Westchester Medical Center by Valhalla Ambulance.

May 26: A party arrived at headquarters at 4:27 p.m. to report that her vehicle was damaged while parked in either the DeCicco’s parking lot or the Armonk Town Center lot. She did not realize the vehicle was damaged until she returned home. The woman made a report as a matter of record.

May 27: A complainant reported loud fireworks on Windmill Road at 8:16 p.m. The responding officers reported speaking to the homeowners. Matter adjusted.

Pleasantville Police Department

May 26: A 29-year-old Ossining man was arrested at 10:32 a.m. on Bedford Road and charged with driving with a suspended license following a traffic stop.

May 29: Report of a domestic dispute on Manville Road at 7:13 a.m. Police did not release any additional information because of the nature of the incident.
Join us for a walk of hope
2nd Annual

INTO THE LIGHT WALK 2019

The BTH Organization was established in memory of Brian Thomas Halloran

Together let's "Break the Hold" on mental illness

Emotional Wellness | Suicide Prevention | Building Resilience

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019
Check-in 4:00 AM
Pleasantville H.S. Cafeteria

Register online: RACEMENU.COM/BTH
Family Donates Time, Effort to Improving Lives at the Cottage School

By Martin Wilbur

Many local residents avoid going anywhere near the Pleasantville Cottage School campus. Ellen Silberstein and her family look forward to visiting the youngsters at the residential treatment facility on a regular basis.

Silberstein, her husband Scott, and their children Olivia, Claire and Ian are among the more than 600 volunteers throughout Westchester who regularly mentor, have lunch with or engage in various discussion groups or other activities with the on-campus residents.

“I just feel a connection there,” Silberstein said. “I had some trauma in my childhood and I had friends to help. I had experienced a parent dying. I had to live with some friends for a couple of years…and I can relate to their struggle.”

Silberstein’s efforts at the Cottage School started about four years ago when she became a volunteer at The Children’s Hope Chest, a committee comprised of Westchester residents and their children that visits the middle school-age residents for Thanksgiving dinner and for other events.

Her two daughters, now 19 and 17 years old, accompanied her on the Hope Chest visits, and before long, they wanted to start a Lunch Bunch group. Then Silberstein’s son, her youngest child who is now 13 years old, also chose to become involved by participating in the campus’s teen volunteer program where he plays games, eats lunch and provides a peer-to-peer relationship with youngsters of a similar age.

Most recently, her husband and a group of his friends established the school’s first men’s Lunch Bunch, where they arrive one Saturday a month and have lunch with some of the boys.

Still, Silberstein, a Scarsdale resident, felt there was more to do about a year after starting her Lunch Bunch. She inquired about becoming a mentor to one of the resident girls. For the past three years, Silberstein has been mentoring Tamika, who will soon be turning 19, and they have forged a bond. Over these last few years, Silberstein drops by to take Tamika out to lunch or get her nails done or more recently just to let her know that she can call when she’s in need of someone to talk to.

“I just try and listen and help her, try to give her some guidelines,” Silberstein said. Given her personal loss as a child, it is easy to understand why Silberstein would be compelled to give back to youngsters in difficult situations. But she and her husband have impressed their children that it’s their responsibility to help others.

“I have to say that I just wouldn’t have it any other way,” she said. “My kids, they just need to know – and they do know – they know they need to help people who are less fortunate. That’s just something, if I’ve taught them anything, that’s the message I’ve wanted to convey since they were very little.”

And Silberstein and her family are still exploring new ways to make the lives of the Cottage School residents a little better. The family is looking to organize a fundraiser to help renovate the campus recreation center in the near future. With limited choices for a social outlet, the rec center is one place where they can congregate and be kids.

Silberstein and a group of the volunteers are looking to plan a large fundraiser in the near future. While some might see the commitment as a major responsibility, that’s not how Silberstein views it. Nor does she feel uncomfortable when she or her family visits despite the number of incidents involving residents over the years, Silberstein said.

“We just want to make it better for them,” she said. “They have a lot of sadness.”
Fun, Food and More on Tap This Weekend at Armonk Lions Fol-de-Rol

By Martin Wilbur

If you pass by Wampus Brook Park in Armonk early this week and notice some activity, including a variety of amusement park rides coming into town, that must mean it’s time for the 45th Armonk Lions Fol-de-Rol.

While the event, held in early June every year, is mostly fun and games for those who stop by the park starting Thursday evening and continuing through the weekend, it’s a serious undertaking for the Lions Club. It’s the service organization’s lone fundraiser of the year and represents the only chance for the Lions to raise money and make important contributions to local causes and organizations, said Anthony Baratta, co-chair of the Fol-de-Rol.

“We get four days to try to make our money to help the charitable causes and we do the best we can,” Baratta said.

Over the years, proceeds from the Fol-de-Rol have been contributed to organizations such as Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Autism Speaks and Meals on Wheels along with helping to fund the command center for the North Castle Citizen Corps Council (NC4) at the town’s emergency shelter at Hergenhan Recreation Center, he said.

Typically, six to 10 organizations are helped each year from the event ranging in contributions between $500 and $1,000 to several thousand dollars, Baratta said.

Scholarships for two deserving seniors from Byram Hills High School and a scholarship for children from needy families to attend the town camp are also funded, said event co-chair Anita Cozza.

In addition, contributions are made to the Lions Clubs International Foundation, which helps with disaster relief and health screenings for people in need.

Cozza said the field near Wampus Elementary School where the amusement rides, food and games are set up becomes a gathering place for youngsters and their families. However, the success of the Fol-de-Rol hinges on the weather, she said.

“We’re very, very dependent on the weather because if the weather isn’t good, we don’t make any money, and if we don’t make any money, we can’t donate to these organizations,” Cozza said.

The festivities start Thursday evening with rides, games, food, entertainment and a raffle from 6 to 10 p.m. It continues on Friday evening, when F&F Productions joins the fun with their racing pigs.

The big day is Saturday, the first of two days where visitors can browse through the craft vendors area, starting at 10 a.m., followed by the opening ceremonies at 11 a.m. At noon, the rides re-open and the fair operates until 10 p.m.

Sunday is the final day from 12 to 5 p.m. with more rides, games, food and vendors.

Baratta said that two bands will be playing on Saturday and Sunday, including the local band Group Therapy at the elementary school grounds, as well as Orville Davis and the Wild Bunch Band in Wampus Brook Park. Group Therapy will be performing from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday while Orville Davis can be seen from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The H.C. Crittenden Middle School Band will also be playing on Sunday from 12 to 1 p.m.

For those who love old cars, the Fol-de-Rol will feature an antique car show at Wampus Elementary School from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Whether young or old, there promises to be something fun for everybody at the Fol-de-Rol this weekend, but without the volunteers from the Lions Club and the community, it could never be held, Baratta said.

“I can’t say more than the people who work on this,” he said. “They step up without anybody having to ask them.”

Wampus Brook Park is located on Maple Avenue in Armonk.
Guest Column

The Top Do's and Don'ts of Client Communications

By Kim Arco

Client communication is fundamental to any business. It happens daily, whether it’s through formal meetings or quick e-mail conversations.

It’s easy, especially in an industry like banking, for client communication to become so woven into the fabric of everyday tasks that it becomes routine, mundane and even impersonal.

According to a study from the Harvard Business Review, 64 percent of consumers who say they have a positive relationship, attribute “shared values” as the primary reason. Therefore, effective communication of shared values and goals becomes crucial to client satisfaction and retention.

Throughout my 29 years in the banking industry, I’ve found that in the hustle and bustle of everyday life, business owners typically have a lot of moving parts, and it can be difficult to stay on top of all of them. Effectively communicating with our business customers gives us the opportunity to offer products and services they don’t even realize we have. When they can rely on their banker for advice or assistance, it’s a win-win.

Though a seemingly basic concept, good client communication is nuanced, personalized and cognizant of the client’s goals and needs. While there is no one-size-fits-all approach to communicating with clients, I’ve collected a few do’s and don’ts throughout my career that can help ensure you’re communicating effectively, no matter what industry you work in.

The Top Do’s of Client Communications

1. Be Knowledgeable About Your Audience

The banking industry caters to a wide variety of clients, from young adults working to pay off student loans to those saving for retirement. The same goes for many other businesses. Chances are your clients come from myriad age groups, locations and backgrounds.

In order to maintain effective communication, it’s imperative to understand your audience and how they prefer to communicate. Use a client’s initial method of communication as a model to follow until otherwise stated; in other words, if a client reaches out through e-mail, respond on the same platform rather than following up with a phone call. Different generations and demographics prefer different modes of communication. Tailoring your approach to each client will ensure effective communication as well as make the client feel valued.

2. Be Transparent

Few things frustrate clients more than being blocked by a call center. In today’s fast-paced world, clients value quick and easy access to information, as well as direct access to their business partners. Providing customers with direct ways to contact you is mutually beneficial – it allows you to remain on the same page and eliminates pulling in other employees who don’t need to be in the loop.

Transparency also applies to mistakes; when you or your business falls short, never try to sweep it under the rug, especially when a client is directly affected. It’s always better to be upfront about shortcomings and honest about the situation that transpired. Doing so will make your business more personable and respectable in the long run.

3. Be Reliable

No one likes to be promised something and subsequently let down, whether it’s in banking, business, friendships or life in general. It’s important that you keep the promises you make to clients, but it’s even more important that you clearly communicate the expectations involved on both ends. Being reliable is built on the mutual understanding of goals and values, and establishing these early on in the client relationship is imperative in building trust.

The Top Don’ts of Client Communications

1. Don’t Use Technical Jargon

One of the most common client communication mistakes is using jargon. No one likes to be promised something and subsequently let down, whether it’s in banking, business, friendships or life in general. It’s important that you keep the promises you make to clients, but it’s even more important that you clearly communicate the expectations involved on both ends. Being reliable is built on the mutual understanding of goals and values, and establishing these early on in the client relationship is imperative in building trust.

The Top Don’ts of Client Communications

1. Don’t Use Technical Jargon

Yes, your client is coming to you for your expertise, but it’s your job to think like an expert and communicate like a friend. Jargon, especially in fields like banking and healthcare, can be incredibly intimidating and even unintentionally misleading when used in excess. Using familiar language increases the effectiveness of communication and eliminates the need for lengthy lectures on unfamiliar terms. Communicating in plain language makes life a bit easier for you and your client, and ultimately allows you to operate as business partners rather than a teacher and student.

2. Don’t Be Afraid to Ask Questions

More often than not, it’s assumed that clients will be posing most of the questions. After all, they’re coming to you for knowledge, advice or expertise. While this may be true, clear communication entails asking questions on both sides of the relationship. Don’t be afraid to ask a client to clarify their goals or expectations, as it will bolster the effectiveness of your communications going forward. Similarly, encourage client questions. Know as much as you can about a given situation or project. Some of the best ideas and solutions can come from brainstorming sessions based on generating and answering questions.

3. Don’t Bad-Mouth Competitors

Although it may be tempting at times, bashing competitors makes you and your business seem unprofessional. It instantly draws away from effective communication, as the client is more likely to focus on the drama or gossip you’re dishing rather than the task at hand. The focus of your communication with your clients should always be on their goals and how you can assist in achieving them. Whenever you feel tempted, play up your business’s strengths instead. Not only will it demonstrate your maturity, but also your confidence in your business’s ability to be a great business partner.

Kim Arco has 29 years of experience in the banking industry and is currently the manager of the Mount Kisco branch of Tompkins Mahopac Bank. She has been a Mount Kisco resident for 39 years and is an active member of the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce.

Byram Hills to Hold Authentic Science Research Symposium Wednesday

Byram Hills High School will be hosting its 20th annual Dr. Robert Pavlic Authentic Science Research Symposium this Wednesday, June 5 at 7 p.m. The Authentic Science Research Program encourages students to pursue excellence in areas of original research.

This year’s symposium showcases innovative research from 86 students in the program. It highlights senior powerpoints in addition to a poster session where all student work will be displayed. The keynote address will be delivered by Eli Kosinsky, a Byram Hills alum from the Class of 2009. Refreshments will be served.

Byram Hills High School is located at 12 Tripp Lane in Armonk.
By Violet Fearon

In difficult circumstances, a taste of home can be great comfort. That was the sentiment last Saturday when Girl Scout troops throughout the lower Hudson Valley gathered in the Westchester Police Academy parking lot in Valhalla for the 18th annual Operation Cookie Drop.

Operation Cookie Drop is the brainchild of Alison Bergman of Ardsley, who wanted a way to express support for the troops following 9/11. She started the effort in 2002, and the Pleasantville-based Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson has been sending cookies to troops overseas as well as stateside ever since.

Over the years, Operation Cookie Drop has grown significantly. The first year, 20 boxes of cookies were shipped; last year, more than 107,000 boxes were packaged and sent. The Girl Scout cookies have been spread far and wide, from Afghanistan to the South Pole.

On Saturday, with the police academy grounds bustling with activity as members of dozens of Girl Scout troops gathered, boxes of cookies were arranged in huge stacks of Tagalongs, Samoas and Do-Si-Dos. In a nearby tent, attendees wrote letters to send to the troops.

The effort also reached a notable threshold: Operation Cookie Drop shipped its 1,000,000th box to troops.

Ron Tocci, director of Westchester County’s Veterans Service Agency, was presented with the milestone box of cookies before it was shipped. He remarked on the symbolic importance of the number, as one million U.S. service members have died since the founding of the country.

“It represents all the patriotism and loyalty and sacrifice,” Tocci said.

Girl Scouts from throughout the lower Hudson Valley were involved with the program.

During the ceremony, a variety of speakers expressed their gratitude for service members and Operation Cookie Drop, and the ceremony also celebrated the Girl Scouts. In a letter, U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand reflected on how the Girl Scouts “shapes a young girl’s life” and provides “core values of courage, confidence and character.”

Col. Chester B. Edwards, a Vietnam veteran, also thanked the scouts who came out on Saturday morning.

“The guys look forward to (receiving the cookies),” Edwards said. “They love it.”

Later, a soldier and former lower Hudson Valley Girl Scout spoke about the unusual experience of having both sent and received boxes from Operation Cookie Drop. The gift is always appreciated, especially on days when spirits are lifted by a surprise box of cookies.

“The service member also answered the most frequently asked question from Girl Scouts: “We do fight over the Thin Mints, but there’s hugs later.”

Dozens of Girl Scout troops from throughout the Hudson Valley organized and packaged boxes of Girl Scout cookies that are being sent to the troops stationed throughout the United States and abroad. Last Saturday, the effort, Operation Cookie Drop, shipped its 1,000,000th box of cookies since it was launched 18 years ago.
Residents lined the streets of the village last Friday to cheer on and pay tribute to the volunteers of the Pleasantville Fire Department. Not only were there volunteers from the village but personnel from many other departments throughout the area came out to participate and lend their support. It was also a good time to take out some of the antique equipment and vehicles. It's always an anticipated event but this year turned out to be special as the department is celebrating its milestone 125th anniversary.
Hopp Ground Garden Club Celebrates Civic Beautification

Hopp Ground Garden Club members celebrated last week their annual Civic Beautification Day by working in local community gardens and flower beds.

The club designs and maintains a number of area sites, including gardens near the Mount Kisco Public Library, A-HOME in Katonah, Bedford Village Town Park, John Jay Homestead, Katonah Village Library, Bedford Village Library and the Bedford Hills Town Park.

Civic Beautification Chair Alice Salvatore organizes members so that each site has enough workers to get their respective areas cultivated and planted with beautiful annuals.

“It’s quite an undertaking but it’s so worthwhile and important for our club to contribute to the beauty of our local communities and share the wealth of talent and expertise that our members have,” Salvatore said.

Every two weeks the club meets with clients of Ability Beyond Disability. Vicki Marwell and Carol Steiner plan wonderful horticultural events and projects for the organization’s clients.

Formed in 1975, the club’s mission is conserving natural heritage, adding to the surrounding communities’ beauty through appropriate plantings and increasing members’ horticultural and floral design knowledge.

The Hopp Ground Garden Club is also rich in history. It was named for a parcel of meadow and upland that native Indians called “Hopp Ground” because it was covered with wild hop vines.

Through the years, the club has celebrated many achievements and awards, one of which is the Serenity Garden at the Katonah Village Library. The garden was planned and is maintained by Victoria Wooters and her team. If you visit this garden, you’re in for a treat.

“We are a wonderful group of men and women whose focus is to learn about plant design, horticulture and its impact on our environment, along with having fun and enjoying each other’s expertise and company,” said Linda Cindrich, the club’s membership chair.

The club meets once a month. New members are always welcome.

For more information, e-mail Linda Cindrich at lcrich@att.net.

League of Women Voters Annual Luncheon Scheduled for June 11

The League of Women Voters of North East Westchester (LWVNEW) will highlight affordable housing at its annual luncheon on Tuesday, June 11. Joan Arnold, executive director of Allied Community Enterprises (ACE), will speak at the event, which will be held at the Horse & Hound Inn in South Salem.

ACE develops affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households, partners with people and organizations to elevate awareness of critical local housing needs and supports programs that enhance the capability of people to connect with jobs, schooling and healthy living conditions in their communities.

“The luncheon is open to all members of the community,” said LWVNEW Co-president Peter Rose. “Affordable housing is such an important issue and the Horse & Hound is such a charming place.”

Lunch begins at noon. The cost per person is $40 and is all-inclusive, covering salad, entrée, dessert, coffee or tea, tax and gratuity. The Horse & Hound Inn is located at 94 Spring St. in South Salem.

For reservations, contact the League at LWV.NEW@gmail.com.
Steps on How to Attract Neighbors Who ‘Tweet’

While our POTUS has given new significance to the practice of tweeting, this column deals with another source: those who chirp and have wings to fly.

Between a childhood in South Philadelphia and an early adulthood spent in Boston and Brooklyn Heights, I never had much exposure to birds or birdwatching — unless you count the sidewalk with flocks of pigeons. Now, after decades of living in a leafy suburb, the birds of our region have become a regular part of my life.

Our life with birds began in storybook fashion when my wife Margaret developed a friendship with a cardinal who would scrape its beak against our bedroom window screen every morning until she greeted it. The chickadees of the winter would make way for the robins and blue jays of spring, and the chickadees of the winter would make way for the finches like thistle and Nyjer in special vertical feeders, crows and jays enjoy peanuts and many other birds like striped shell sunflower seeds.

Once your food is laid out, you need to protect it from squirrels. You have to expect the squirrels to come at your birdseed from every conceivable direction. What seems to work best is to put cone-shaped baffles above and below your feeder, and then position it far enough away from any surface from which a squirrel can launch itself laterally.

Finally, think about protecting birds from flying into your glass windows or doors. One of the less visually obtrusive products I have found are window alert decals and UV liquid window markers. The decals and liquid are nearly transparent to us, but birds can see them clearly with their UV vision. They do have to be replaced every six months.

For all birds, select houses with at least one ventilation hole to let heat out. One of the less visually obtrusive house sparrows crowd other species non-native to this area, the millet has to be replaced every six months. But to truly help the birds, you will want to research the needs of the species you want to attract. Purple Martins, for example, want to live close together, and their birdhouses look like apartment buildings. Bluebirds, on the other hand, prefer a single birdhouse on a pole in a sunny field, preferably with a horizontal slit for an entrance. Once again, house sparrows crowd other species, but you can discourage them by looking for entrance holes no bigger than one-and-a-half inches in diameter.

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**The Weekly Feature from Entergy**

**Second Mouse Brings Artisanal Cheeses to the Local Area**

By Martin Wilbur

Ivy Ronquillo had spent most of her working life alternating between the advertising industry and serving as a pastry cook. But a discussion about two years ago with her husband about what they might want to do once they are empty-nesters helped her decide what she wanted to do in the short-term.

Ronquillo got a job for the Greenwich Cheese Company to experience the retail side of the specialty cheese business. During her time in the food industry, she had previously worked with cheeses, including under the direction of celebrated chef Terrance Brennan, who is credited with popularizing the cheese course in America.

During her time at the Greenwich Cheese Company, Ronquillo would interact with customers but when they asked her whether she was the owner, her heart sank – she wanted to say yes.

With a goal firmly in place, Ronquillo has opened her own business, Second Mouse Cheese Shop on Manville Road in Pleasantville about a month ago.

“So having my own place and being able to design what I feel is an inviting and welcoming and nurturing type of environment where people can actually learn about a pretty niche subject, I find it thrilling,” Ronquillo said.

Ronquillo typically carries about 60 different types of artisanal cheeses at any time in all categories, ranging from washed rind cheeses, which many supermarkets don’t carry, to semi-firm, firm, bleu and fresh varieties.

She will care attentively to her cheeses, taking each one out of its wrapper every day allowing it to breathe before rewrapping it.

“We know this product very, very well and we care for it,” Ronquillo said, “whereas cheeses in supermarkets, they’re out there and they start off great but once they sit in plastic for a couple of days, they taste like plastic.”

Thus far, among Ronquillo’s most popular cheeses is anything from Lazy Lady Farm in Vermont, which has been flying out of the shop, she said. Then there’s the Reypenaer cheese, a variety of gouda that has been her best seller despite it going for $37.99 a pound.

The most unusual may be Cabrales, a Spanish bleu cheese, she said.

About half of Ronquillo’s customers have been coming to buy for their own consumption while the remainder find her inventory a perfect gift.

“We tell people buying it for their own consumption buy less more often,” Ronquillo said. “That way you get to explore.”

It also is a good way to prevent those cheeses with a much shorter shelf life from going bad, she said.

Second Mouse also carries a very small prepared food menu. For lunch, you can get – what else – a grilled cheese sandwich using various types of cheeses and breads. Patrons can also stop by for a cheese plate, which contains three different cheeses by milk type often presented with a different theme, such as having an American or European cheese plate. Each plate includes a baguette or crackers and is arranged with fresh fruit.

Since Second Mouse has a tavern license, you can choose to pair your cheese plate with a wine to sip. There are also a wide range of non-alcoholic beverages.

Ronquillo caters for events, but give at least 24 hours notice if you intend to order. Come the holiday season, she will require more time than that.

We’re happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words “Happenings Calendar Submission” in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Martin Wilbur at mwilbur@theexaminernews.com.

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**Tuesday, June 4**

**Reading With Tobie and Karen.** A program for school-age children. Tobie and Karen are with The Good Dog Foundation. North Castle Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

**DIY Ladybug.** Create your own adorable ladybug out of egg cartons and pom poms. For children five to nine years old. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-864-0130.

**Italian Language and Culture.** Mara De Matteo, born and raised in Italy and passionate about her native language, combines lively conversation with grammatical instruction in her classes. She creates interactive lessons on the richness of Italian culture, past and present. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 p.m. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastlelibrary.org.

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**Wednesday, June 5**

**Baby Time.** A fun interactive lap-sit story time that includes songs, rhymes and a few very short stories. The experience gives babies an opportunity to socialize and parents a time to share. Recommended for newborns through 12 months old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Wednesday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

**Yoga for Toddlers.** Introduces children to basic yoga poses and mindfulness while keeping it fun with games. It will be taught by certified yoga instructor Karen Savir. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel or yoga mat. For children two to five years old. Caregiver supervision is required. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titticus Rd., North Salem. 10 to 11 a.m. Free. Registration required. Info and registration: 914-669-5161 or visit the library.

**New Mommy and Daddy Meet-Up.** Whether it’s your first child or your fifth, this is a great way to get out of the house, meet new friends and enjoy time with your baby. World Cup Nursery School, 160 Hunts Lane, Chappaqua. 10:25 to 11:10 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-238-9267 ext. 20.

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**Toddler Storytime.** Finger plays, action rhymes, songs and stories to encourage an enjoyment of books and to stimulate early listening, learning and speaking skills. Recommended for children one to two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

**Preschool Storytime.** Interactive story time uses picture books, songs, finger plays, action rhymes and other activities to encourage the enjoyment of books and language. Recommended for children two-and-a-half to five years old. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Monday and Friday. Info: 914-769-0548 or www.mountpleasantlibrary.org.

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Second Mouse Cheese Shop owner Ivy Ronquillo has brought an artisanal cheese shop to downtown Pleasantville. The store carries about 60 different cheeses at any time.

So far, the foot traffic on Manville Road has buoyed her business, Ronquillo said. The fact that it’s about a 40-minute trip to the closest specialty cheese shop and across the street from the Jacob Burns Film Center have been a plus.

“Things are going very well,” Ronquillo said. “They’re going much better than what I would have expected for the first few weeks. It’s been very well received.”

Second Mouse Cheese Shop is located at 351 Manville Rd. It’s open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 914-579-2909 or visit www.secondmousecheese.com or follow on Instagram and Facebook.

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**Second Mouse Cheese Shop owner Ivy Ronquillo has brought an artisanal cheese shop to downtown Pleasantville. The store carries about 60 different cheeses at any time.**

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**Bilingual Storytime.** Sing songs and read picture books in English and Spanish. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Free. Every Wednesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkslibrary.org.

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**Meditation Series: Midday Mind Break.** Benefits of meditation include increasing focus and memory; increased

continued on page 20
Happenings

continued from page 19

health; reduced stress, anxiety and
pain; and increased productivity and
happiness. Led by Alka Kaminer. North
Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill
Rd., East, Armonk. 12:15 p.m. Free. Also
northcastllebrary.com.

Chair Yoga With Alka Kaminer.
Experience the greater sense of flexibility,
discriminatory endurance and improved
balance, strengthening and toning of
muscles, better digestion, stress reduction,
mental clarity, improved breathing,
relaxation and an overall sense of well-
being. North Castle Public Library, 19
Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 1 p.m.
Free. Also June 12. Info: 914-273-3887.

Affordable Care Act Navigator. A
trained navigator provided by the county
Department of Health will be available to
help people with choosing and signing up
for health insurance under the Affordable
Care Act and the state health marketplace.
Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main
St., Mount Kisco. 2:30 to 7 p.m. Free.
Every Wednesday. Also Thursdays from
1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to
2 p.m. Appointment required. Info and
appointment for Wednesday sessions:
914-336-6026. Info and appointment for
Thursday and Saturday sessions: 914-813-
5419.

Science Lab. Become junior scientists
and learn about different science topics
through stories, crafts and experiments.
There's a new topic every week. For
children four to six years old. North
Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill
Rd. East, Armonk. 4 to 5 p.m. Free. Every
Wednesday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.
northcastllebrary.org.

Knitting at the Library. Knitters and
crocheters of all skill levels. For ages 10
and up. Mount Kisco Public Library,
100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 4 to 5:30
p.m. Free. Info: 914-864-8041 or www.
mountkiscolibrary.org.

Chess Workshop for Young Adults.
Learn chess with the help of guided
instruction and supervised play. Included
will be the study of strategy and tactics to
make you an even better player. For students
in grades 5 and up. Mount Pleasant Public
Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla. 10 to
11 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and Thursday.
Info: 914-741-0276 or www.mountainpleas-
tantlibrary.org.

Family Storytime. Stories, songs,
fingerplays and other activities. For children
to four years old and their siblings and
caregivers. Mount Pleasant Public Library,
350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 to 11 a.m.
Free. Every Tuesday. Info: 914-666-8041 or

Read to Rover. Dogs love listening
to stories. Come meet Rover and read your
favorite story. For children five years old
and up. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E.
Main St., Mount Kisco. 5 to 6 p.m. Free.
Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or

Pre-K Storytime With Craft. Stories,
songs and a take-home craft. For children
three to five years old. North Castle
Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd.
East, Armonk. 4 to 4:30 p.m. Free. Every
Thursday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.
northcastllebrary.org.

Mathematics and Science.

Authentic Science Research
Symposium. Byram Hills High School
will be hosting its 20th annual Dr. Robert
Pavlica Authentic Science Research
The Authentic Science Research Program encourages students
to pursue excellence in areas of original research. The symposium will showcase
innovative research from 86 students in the program. The keynote address will be delivered by Eli Kosinski, a Byram Hills
alum from the Class of 2009. Refreshments
will be served. Byram Hills High School,
12 Tripp Lane, Armonk. 7 p.m. Free.

Thursday, June 6

Climate Change Workshop, Part
II. Find out how climate change is
transforming farms, forests and front yards
in this second part of a series launched in
December. Includes continental breakfast and refreshments. Professional credentials
for landscape architects will be available.
County Center, 19 Central Ave., White
Plains. 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. $25. Info and
registration: Visit https://planning.
westchestergov.com/soil-and-water-
conservation.

Baby Time. A fun interactive lap-
sit story time that includes songs, rhymes
and a few very short stories. The experience
gives babies an opportunity to socialize and
parents a time to share. Recommended for
newborns through 12 months old. Mount
Pleasant Public Library, 100 E. Main St.,
Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free.
Every Saturday. Info: 914-741-0276 or

Knitting Circle. This group is open to
everyone who has an interest in knitting.
Love, love, laugh, learn and hand out
together during these creative journeys.
Come share patterns and ideas and
celebrate creative spirits together while
enjoying the ancient art of knitting.
North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill
Rd. East, Armonk. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Free. Every Monday and Thursday. Info:
914-273-3887.

Lifeline Theater Music Program.
An outlet for unlocking the potential of
children and adults with special needs
through integrated arts and life skills
programs. Drop in anytime and joint
founder Billy Ayres as he uses singing,
dancing, creating plays, artwork and
gardening to help participants realize their
strengths and potential contributions to
their communities. Ayres has created a
technique called improvisational integrated
music/drama. Mount Kisco Public Library,
100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 10 a.m. to
5 p.m. Free. Every Thursday and Friday
from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m.
to 2 p.m. Info: Visit www.lifelinetheaterinc.org/
index.html.

Bagels & Books. "The Remains of the
Day" by Kazuo Ishiguro will be discussed.
Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titticus
Rd., North Salem. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info:
914-669-5161 or www.ruthkeelerlibrary.org.

Toddlers Storytime. Firefly plays, action
rhymes, songs and stories to encourage
an enjoyment of books and to stimulate
early listening, learning and speaking
skills. Recommended for children one to
two-and-a-half years old. Mount Pleasant
Public Library, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla.
10:30 to 11 a.m. Free. Every Tuesday and
Thursday. Info: 914-741-0276 or www.
mountainpleas-tantlibrary.org.

Storytime. For children 18 months to
five years old. Mount Kisco Public Library,
100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11:15 to
11:45 a.m. Free. Every Thursday. Info: Visit
914-666-8041 or www.mountkiscollibrary.
org.

Mahjongg Club. Intermediary players
welcome. Participants must bring their
own set. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100
E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 p.m. Free.
Every Thursday. Info: 914-666-8041 or
www.mountkiscollibrary.org.

The Royal Ballet: “Flight Pattern.”
The Royal Ballet shows its contemporary side
in works from three of today's leading choreographers. Christopher Wheeldon’s “Within the Golden Hour” is based on
seven couples separating and intermingling
to music by Vivaldi and Bosso, with
rich sunset colors. Crystal Pite’s “Flight
Pattern,” danced to Gorecki’s “Symphony of
Sorrowful Songs,” is a moving reflection
on the refugee crisis. In between, there’s
a new work by Belgian artist Sidi Larbi
Cherkaoui. Jacob Burn Film Center,
364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 2 p.m.
and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.
org.

"Arabesque.” A fast-moving,
suspenseful tale of international intrigue
starring Gregory Peck as a professor who
is plunged into deciphering a high-stakes
secret message written in hieroglyphics and
Sophia Loren as an enigmatic beauty
who can – or cannot – be trusted to help.
With music by Henri Mancini, it’s full
of plot twists and red herrings. Part of
The Films of Stanley Donen series. Jacob
Burn Film Center, 364 Manville Rd.,
Pleasantville. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Members: $9.
www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Symposium. The school's Authentic Science
Research Program encourages students
to pursue excellence in areas of original
research. The symposium will showcase

continued on next page
The Heady Adventures of a Hudson Valley Locavore

‘Americans are able to expand their quest for local sources of food and wine.’

By Nick Antonaccio

In last week’s column we explored the changing landscape of the farm-to-table diet in the United States. As I’ve roamed the Pleasantville Farmers Market each week, I’ve been observing the changing season’s bounty, especially in the fare offered by Hudson Valley farmers.

More and more local produce, meats, cheeses, baked goods, spices and herbs are coming to market as the growing season advances. And, of course, there is always a Hudson Valley wine producer on the scene, completing the cycle of farm-to-dining repast.

Local products paired with local wines. If it grows together it goes together.

This was the theme of last week’s column. Over millennia, denizens of small communities experimented with producing compatible food and wine. The ancient Romans perfected this marriage of Mother Nature with man’s nature, coexisting in a symbiotic relationship, introducing the farm-to-table concept. What grows best together goes best together.

Fast forward to the late 20th century when global trading upset the concept of farm to table. Pairings of food and wine were expanded. Now Americans were able to enjoy their Hudson Valley sparkling wine with fresh strawberries from Central America in the deepest winter months and their Hudson Valley Vidal Blanc from Whitecliff Vineyard with fresh tomato-based salads from Mexico year-round.

In the last 10 years, Americans have experienced a return to basics in many parts of the country. Consumers vigorously seek out local fruits and vegetables as alternatives to those imported from other countries, even from other regions of the United States. Farm to table has gained a strong foothold in the diets and preferences of American consumers.

But in this 10-year period, I’ve also noticed a new take on the concept of pairing local ingredients and wine: if it goes together it can grow together.

American farmers and wine producers are experimenting with food and grapes rarely produced locally. As a result, Americans are able to expand their quest for local sources of food and wine.

Gourmet vegetables such as kale and arugula abound in local markets. Varieties of grapes previously grown exclusively in foreign soil now flourish in American vineyards.

I present two examples of the changing landscape of Hudson Valley wine production that enables pairings previously not available.

A grape previously grown primarily in France, Cabernet Franc, is now successfully produced by several vintners in the Hudson Valley.

An excellent, traditional pairing of Cabernet Franc has been with grilled meat. The combination goes very well together. But growing together? It had been difficult to find a top pairing within the confines of the Hudson Valley. No longer. The award-winning Cabernet Franc from Robibero Winery in New Paltz and the hormone-free, antibiotic-free, grass-fed cattle from Kiernan Farm are a locavore’s dream come true.

If it goes together it can grow together.

A grape previously grown exclusively in a small area of Northwestern Spain, Albarino, is produced to high acclaim in Marlboro, a short drive from Westchester County.

Another traditional pairing is a crisp, high minerality wine with a gazpacho produced from the abundance of locally desirable tomatoes, many of which are heirloom varieties. Such a pairing was not considered feasible due to the difficult environment in which to produce such a wine. But no longer.

The Albarino wine from Fjord Vineyard (one of only a handful available in the United States) and the tomatoes from the sustainable farm of Morgiewicz Produce in Warwick create a new flavor profile not previously available to local-centric gourmands.

Everywhere I venture in the Hudson Valley I am impressed with its growing diversity and the passion of those who work the land to create a local, self-sustaining economy for all of us to enjoy.

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

Happenings

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Armonk Lions Fol-de-Rol. The 45th annual event will feature music, face painting, live music, food trucks, craft activities and vendors as well as very cute racing pigs. Fun for the entire family. All proceeds are donated to support local community nonprofit organizations, community projects and to help people in need all over the world by donating to organizations such as Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Autism Speaks and Meals on Wheels. The Lions Club also sponsors a scholarship for two deserving seniors from Byram Hills High School, and donates to Lions Clubs International Foundation which engages in disaster relief, vision and health screening for people in need. Free admission. Tickets and unlimited wristbands are sold for the rides. Wampus Brook Park, Maple Avenue, Armonk. 6 to 10 p.m. Also June 7 from 6 to 10 p.m., June 8 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and June 9 from 12 to 5 p.m. Info: Visit www.armonklions.org or visit the Armonk Lions Fol-de-Rol Facebook page.

Creating Yourself in Retirement: The Emotional Aspect. Aimed at retirees and soon-to-be retirees, this presentation showcases various options for enhancing the quality of life in retirement. Retirement is a time of enormous change. It holds the promise of emotional rewards but also has the potential for emotional dangers, including boredom, depression and addiction. Learn what to expect in transitioning to retirement and how to successfully navigate this life change. The program will be followed with a monthly retirement discussion group. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Free. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastletibrary.org.

“IT Must Schwing: The Blue Note Story.” Blue Note Records famously dedicated itself exclusively to the recording of American jazz music and developed its own unmistakable recording style and sound. With an impressive roster of international jazz stars, including Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, John Coltrane, Sonny Rollins, Wayne Shorter, Thelonious Monk and Quincy Jones, the label provided a platform for Afro-American musicians, treating them as artists and equals at a time when they were discriminated against and ostracized. This is the surprising and moving story of two friends, émigrés from Berlin united by a passionate love for jazz and a profound belief in equality and freedom for every single human being, who founded the legendary jazz label 80 years ago. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 7:30 p.m. Members: $9. Non-members: $14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Friday, June 7

Hoff-Barthelson Music School Early Childhood Music Program Open House. Learn all that the program has to offer for children six months to five years old. Their children and their caregivers are invited to join in the fun of a music and movement class, followed by a brief Q&A with faculty and a reception where attendees can socialize with other families. Hoff-Barthelson Music School, 25 School Lane, Scarsdale. 10 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-723-1169, e-mail hb@hbms.org or visit www.hbms.org.

Miss Keila’s Jukebox. Children explore the world of music with instruments, props and even a parakeet. For children six months to four years old. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Friday. Info: 914-273-3887 or www.northcastletibrary.org.

ZUMBA With Amy. Fun cardio dance fitness workout, low-impact approach, easy learning environment. This feel-good workout is exercise in disguise. Free trial class available. Addie-Tude Dance Center, 42 Memorial Plaza, lower level, Pleasantville. 11 a.m. to noon. $14 drop-in fee. Every Friday. Also Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. Walk-ins welcome. Info: Call or text the instructor at 914-643-6162 or visit www.amyolin.zumba.com.

“Singin’ in the Rain.” Smart, funny, charming and 100 percent entertaining, it’s simply one of the greatest films ever made. With memorable songs (including “Make ‘Em Laugh” and “Good Morning”), lavish routines and Gene Kelly’s iconic song-and-dance number performed to the title song, it’s also got some thoughts on its mind as it portrays the movie business making the bumpy transition to sound. Kelly’s costars include Debbie Reynolds, Donald O’Connor and Jean Hagen as a silent movie star who has an especially hard time being in a talkie. Part of The Films of Stanley Donen series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manville Rd., Pleasantville. 12, 2:30, 5 and 7:25 p.m. Members: $9. Non-members: $14. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Explore Osmo. Children explore, learn, create and interact with digital games in continued on page 23.
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If you have information regarding alleged abuse or its cover-up involving these men, CONTACT US.

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Millionaire Rookies: How to Manage Money When You Come Into Money

It's baseball season, and in an annual ritual as reliable as robins showing up on the front lawn, baseball players — veterans and rookies alike — hope to show off their skills. There are 466 Major League players with a base salary of $1 million or more. The highest annual base salary this year is $38.3 million, going to pitcher Stephen Strasburg of the Washington Nationals. The Philadelphia Phillies signed outfielder Bryce Harper to a 13-year contract that will pay him $330 million!

The veterans, for the most part, may be accustomed to their upscale lifestyle, but for those whose careers are just beginning, there will be a lot of money in their pockets, more than they could have imagined.

Some analysts compare young pro athletes to young lottery winners, who suddenly come into a huge amount of money with little or no idea how to invest wisely or prepare a solid foundation for future fiscal security.

For those not in the MLB or who have not won the lottery, similarly-sized windfalls are still possible. Consider the individual who is selling a long-established business or a house, or receiving a sizable inheritance, or the savvy investor that has identified a "unicorn" and benefitted from the skyrocketing stock price.

A new bundle of cash will present myriad opportunities, but for rookie athletes, may come with tremendous pressure to be responsible in spending and investing, fund retirement and leave a legacy for the future.

Before doing anything, take into account that a windfall, like an athlete's years on the field, and thus their salary, can be finite. Professional athletes may find themselves earning lots of money early in their careers. But that money can disappear just as quickly as it is earned, if recipients are cavalier with their spending habits and ignore the lessons that foster intelligent investing.

First, plan for the future. Save for retirement. To have a better chance of financial success, be cognizant of the basics of personal finance – basics that I believe are often ignored when emotions overtake rationality.

Sadly, many pro athletes will be bankrupt or under financial stress within five years of entering retirement. So begin to think ahead as soon as you come into a lump sum.

Place funds into retirement accounts that are tax deferred, such as an IRA or 401(k), which can address two long-term issues at the same time: saving money and helping to reduce taxes.

By starting a retirement account early, along with accounts such as trusts for expenses like college for children, investors can build on decades of growth that may result in sizable assets when they are needed.

Plan for the unexpected. Consider how often an athlete's career is cut short by injuries. Are you prepared for a health scare or another unforeseen expense? Be sure to start building an emergency fund that can be leveraged for the unexpected.

Create a budget to stay organized and on track and try to avoid overspending and impulse purchases. This is a good way to ensure you are not spending outside of your means or spending too heavily in one sector.

For all of us, including those with a formidable throwing arm or the ability to making leaping one-handed catches, there are lessons to be learned when it comes to acquiring sudden wealth.

If we take the time to be mindful of the basics of investing, obtain solid advice from experts in financial planning and tend to our finances with the same attention that athletes give to physical fitness, we can avoid the pitfalls and make our personal finances a lifetime success story.

Kevin Peters is a financial advisor with the Wealth Management Division of Morgan Stanley in Purchase. He can be reached at 914-225-6680.

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Happenings

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Get the Led Out captures the essence of the recorded music of Led Zeppelin and brings it to the concert state. The Philadelphia-based group consists of six veteran musicians, intent on delivering Led Zeppelin live like you've never heard before. Utilizing the multi-instrumentalists at their disposal, Get the Led Out re-creates the songs in all their depth and glory with the studio overdubs that Zeppelin themselves never performed. The group brings the audience what it wants — a high-energy Zeppelin concert with an honest, heart-thumping intensity. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., Tarrytown. 8 p.m. $35, $40 and $48. Also June 8. Info and tickets: Visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Saturday, June 8

Pleasantville Farmers Market.

The market is in the heart of Westchester County and centrally located in our beautiful, historic walking village. Experience the largest, year-round farmers market in Westchester, voted "Best of Westchester" five years in a row from 2014 to 2018. With over 50 vendors and seven nearby parking lots. This week, there will be arts and crafts with Amy Salib from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and the music series will feature Euro jazz and pop with Le Nozze di Carlo from 10 a.m. to noon. Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rain or shine. Please note the market is a dog-free environment. Saturdays through Nov. 23. Info: Visit www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org.

Chappaqua Farmers Market.

Locally-registered and produced food to the community creating a connection between shoppers and small-scale food producers in the region. Chappaqua train station, Chappaqua. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through November. Info: Visit www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org.

Zumba Fitness.

Achieve long-term benefits while having a blast in one exciting hour of calorie-burning, body-energizing, awe-inspiring movements meant to engage and captivate for life. For all fitness levels. Dance Emotions, 75 S. Greeley Ave., Chappaqua. 10 a.m. Every Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. Info: Contact Peggy at 914-960-4097.

Piano Recital.

The students of Betsy Hughes perform. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Info: Contact Hughes at 914-769-2494.

Practice Tai Chi With Larry Atille.

Learn specific feldenkrais and chi kung breathing techniques for deep relaxation and apply them to tai chi movement. This is a hands-on class that will be geared to the level of experience of the class and challenge all participants. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a floor mat or towel. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday. Info: 914-273-3887.

Introduction to Babysitting.

Babysitters have the responsibility of caring for children and making important decisions while they are in charge. Parents entrust their child with the babysitter therefore, it is crucial he or she knows the basics of child care. In this course, participants will learn interviewing tips; communication skills; ages and stages of young babies and toddlers; safety and first aid tips; and feeding and caring for children, including diaper changing. A test will be administered at the completion of the course and certificates of completion will be distributed. Bring pen, paper and lunch with something to drink. For children 10 years old and up. This program is not American Red Cross certified. North Castle Public Library, 19 Whippoorwill Rd. East, Armonk. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Free. Registration required; space limited. Info and registration: 914-273-3887.

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Since the mid-1900s, the health care system’s approach to pain management has been the pharmacological masking of pain. This has resulted in a dramatic increase in opioid prescriptions, leading to misuse and addiction.

In 2014, more than 750,000 people in the United States were receiving substance abuse treatment for prescription opioids, and the number of those getting treatment for heroin was twice what it had been in 2002. In 2016, more than 42,000 people in the U.S. died from an opioid overdose. A growing percentage of more than 4 percent of people addicted to prescription opioids transition to heroin.

No one wants to live in pain and no one should put their health at risk in an effort to be pain free. Moving forward, the health care system needs to re-examine interventions for pain.

In recent years, more and more evidence has shown that physical therapists may be the answer when it comes to managing pain. Physical therapy is a dynamic profession that has been shown to be effective in managing pain and improving function. For instance, a growing body of evidence has determined physical therapists as a first-line approach to those suffering from low back pain.

Additional high-quality evidence supports the effectiveness and efficacy of physical therapy interventions in preventing and minimizing pain for fibromyalgia, hip and knee osteoarthritis. Using physical therapists as the first-line approach has been proven to lower both healthcare-related costs and the use of opioid medications.

Physical therapists engage in a comprehensive examination and evaluation process that focuses not only on pain but also the movement patterns and imbalances that contribute to painful conditions. Therapists also play a valuable role in the patient education process helping the patient understand the mechanisms of and contributors to pain. Physical therapists can provide realistic expectations for recovery, with or without opioids. With advanced understanding of how the body moves and through targeted and patient specific individualized treatment plans, physical therapists can correct the factors contributing to your pain and abnormal movement patterns.

If you or someone you know is in pain, do not wait any longer. Under New York State law, Direct Access allows you to see a physical therapist for an evaluation and treatment without a physician’s referral. In New York, a wide variety of insurance plans allow up to 10 visits, or 30 days, for treatment, whichever comes first. Feel free to contact us and our staff will be happy to verify whether your insurance plan is a participating provider with Direct Access.

In addition to physical therapy, patients can get pain relief from other conservative healthcare services such as chiropractic care, acupuncture, massage therapy, Active Release Techniques and the Graston Technique. At ProClinix, we are able to provide these services and modalities to our patients as an integrative approach to care to eliminate pain as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Dr. Christine Stathes is a physical therapist and the clinical director at ProClinix Sports Physical Therapy & Chiropractic in Pleasantville. For more information about this article or about ProClinix, Stathes can be reached at 914-202-0700 or at cstathes@proclinix.com. Also visit www.ProClinix.com.
Wolves of North America. Learn about the mythology, biology and ecology of wolf families and discover why it's a special time for packs in North America. Whether the wolves are living on the Arctic tundra or the woodlands of the southwest, wolf families are out searching for prey as they celebrate the birth of pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves as well. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 11 a.m. Adults: $14. Children (under 12): $11. Also June 9, 15, 16, 23 and 29 at 11 a.m. and June 30 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: Visit www.nywolf.org.

Exercise Workshop. Learn how the benefits of exercise and nutrition help to prevent chronic pain and discomfort. Led by trainer Ramat Deleon-Nwaha. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 11 to 11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiosclibrary.org.

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

Help Shelter Animals Craft. Come help Girl Scout Troop 1443 make dog and cat toys to donate to animal shelters. For children three years old and up. A donation of pet food is appreciated. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 12 to 1 p.m. Free. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiosclibrary.org.


Drop in for Tech Help. Receive help with any of your technology devices. PC, Google and Microsoft savvy volunteers will help with troubleshooting, downloading, Overdrive, Freegal, Hoopla or any other online service. First-comes, first-served. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Free. Every Saturday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Tuesday from 3 to 4 p.m. Info: 914-666-8041 or www.mountkiosclibrary.org.

Worldwide Knit in Public Day. Bring a chair and your knitting or crochet and sit on the front lawn in celebration of Worldwide Knit in Public Day. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be cancelled. Mount Pleasant Public Library, 350 Bedford Rd., Pleasantville. 1 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Info: E-mail rooneym@optonline.net.

Opening Reception for Katonah Art Center 22nd Annual Student Art Exhibit. This comprehensive exhibition is composed of recent work from Katonah Art Center students of all ages. Teens, adults and children from two to 12 years old are featured. Come see the artwork of talented students in a variety of media, including pastels, oils, sculpture, pottery, fused glass, jewelry and more. Includes music and light refreshments. Mount Kisco Public Library, 100 E. Main St., Mount Kisco. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through June 28 during library hours. Info: 914-232-4843 or 914-666-8041.

Yoga Teachers Association’s Workshop: Eternal Youth Through Yoga With Tao Porchon-Lynch. Yoga teachers and students will be inspired, strengthened and renewed as they experience the eternal energy of yoga with 100-years-young Porchon-Lynch, who will use the four pillars of yoga — pranayama (breath work), mudras (gestures), bandhas (energetic locks) and chakras (energy centers) — to explore the rich potential of the body to retain, heal and revitalize. She will also share her special “yoga tango” and subtle techniques that are not taught anywhere else. Club Fit, 584 N. State Rd., Briarcliff Manor. 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. In advance: YTA members—$45. Non-members—$65. Walk-ins: YTA members—$55. Non-members—$75. Registration: Visit www.ytacommunications@gmail.com.

Pack Chat for Kids. This is the best introduction to wolves for families with young children. Kids will learn about the mythology surrounding wolves and the important role they play in the natural world. This is an exciting time for wolves as they are out searching for prey as they prepare for the birth of this year’s pups. Guests will visit ambassador wolves Alawa, Nikai and Zephyr and possibly the critically endangered red wolves and Mexican gray wolves. Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem. 2 p.m. Also June 15, 23 and 29 at 2 p.m. and June 30 at 11 a.m. Adults: $14. Children (under 12): $11. Pre-registration required. Info and pre-registration: 914-763-2373 or visit www.nywolf.org.

Shavurut Service and Discussion. Rabbi Benny Marcello will lead a service about the holiday Shavuot, explaining its connection with modern humanist thinking. Local activist Diane Steinfield of New Rochelle will also present a talk about the noted writer, poet and activist Grace Paley. Paley established herself as a major voice in 20th century American literature. She was chosen as the 2018-2019 Humanistic Jewish Role Model because her values were expressed in action. Followed by refreshments and socialiety. Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 468 Rosedale Ave., White Plains. 2:30 p.m. Free; donations welcome. Info: Contact Dmirty at 718-8828 or visit wchj.org.

Opening Reception for “Urban Choreography.” A solo exhibit of paintings and pastels by artist Marion Block Schneider focuses thematically on New York City, its energy, light and color. The dynamic, colorful works in this show are observatories of the patterns or “choreography” created by the movement of people in the city. Schneider, a Larchmont resident and former senior art director at Pepsi, she now paints full-time at her studios in Larchmont and Port Chester. Mamaroneck Artists Guild, 126 Larchmont Ave., Larchmont. 3 to 5 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through June 22. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 12 to 5 p.m. Info: 914-834-1117 or visit www.mamaroneckartsguild.com.

Hoff-Barthelson’s Festival Orchestra Season Finale: Concert. The orchestra closes out its 2018-19 season with Music Director Jun Nakabayashi conducting performances of Beethoven’s “Overture to Egmont, Opus 84;” Strauss’ “Oboe Concerto in D Major, TrV292;” featuring guest artist Gerard Reuter as soloist; and concludes with Mendelssohn’s “Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Opus 56 (Scottish);” Performing Arts Center at Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase. 7 p.m. Suggested donation: $20. Students: Free. Info: 914-723-1169, visit www.hbpms.org or e-mail hbpms@hbpms.org.

CABaret Night: Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered. The Church of St. James the Less will host its second annual CABaret Night featuring Dakota Martin and Keiji Ishiguri. The cabaret will take the audience on a romantic journey in three parts, leading them to discover how love often leaves us in one of these states, if not all of them at the same time. Jazz standards and memorable musical theater tunes will be performed by mezzo-soprano Martin and Ishigura, pianist, with a few special guests thrown in. Includes hors d’oeuvres, light dinner, dessert and wine and soft drinks. Church of St. James the Less, 10 Church Lane, Scarsdale. 7 p.m. $75. Seniors and adults (35 and under): $50. Info and tickets: 914-723-6100 or visit www.stjamesscarsdale.org.

Sunday, June 9

“Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.” The naturalistic moves of this talented cast were choreographed by Michael Kidd, who fashioned rousing dance numbers out of such daily frontier tasks as chopping wood and raising a barn. The story centers on a backwoodsman (Howard Keel) who brings his new bride (Jane Powell) home to take care of his houseful of slovenly brothers. After getting over her shock, she sets about trying to help them acquire some brides of their own. There’s a lot to wince about in the plot, given today’s standards, but the unbeatable dance numbers and catchy Oscar-winning score (music by Saul Chaplin and Gene de Paul, lyrics by Johnny Mercer) live on. Part of The Films of Stanley Donen series. Jacob Burns Film Center, 364 Manvile Rd., Pleasantville. 12, 2 and 8 p.m. Members: $9. Non-members: $15. Info and tickets: Visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Raptors of Westchester. Meet birds of prey with a naturalist and discover what makes these creatures the hunters of the sky. Includes a visit to the outdoor bird aviary to feed the majestic bald eagles, red-tailed hawks and great horned owl. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: $5. Non-members: $8. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburgnaturecenter.org.


Cultivate 2019. Copland House’s cutting-edge season finale is the place to discover tomorrow’s masters. The program features the world premieres of six brand-new works created especially for Copland House’s flagship annual emerging composers’ institute. The 2019 Fellows are Flannery Cunningham, Chelsea Komschlies, Charles Peck, Igor Santos, Nina Shekhar and Sam Yulsman. Their works will be performed by Music from Copland House’s fearless CULTIVATE performers: Carol McGonnell (clarinet), Pala Garcia (vocals), Alexis Pia Gerlach (cello) and Margaret Kampmeier (piano). This concert is the culmination of an intensive, weeklong, all-scholarship creative workshop and mentoring program that is one of Copland House’s primary initiatives for championing young American composers. Followed by a reception with the artists. Merestead, 455 Byram Lake Rd., Mount Kisco. 3 p.m. $25. Friends of Copland House: $20. Students (with ID): $10. Info and tickets: Visit www.coplandhouse.org.

Short Story Reading. Freelance voice actor Alan Sklar, a real “Lady with the Lapdog” by Anton Chekov, Sklar has narrated more than 200 audiobooks and numerous documentaries, commercials, VNRs and corporate and medical video projects. Ruth Keeler Memorial Library, 276 Titicus Rd., North Salem. 3 p.m. Free. Info: 914-669-5161 or www.ruthkeelermemoriallibrary.org.
A Moment to Savor

Tom Iazzetta and the Wildcats Celebrate Their Sectional Title After a 12-Inning Thriller at Pace Against Briarcliff on Saturday

ANDY JACOBS PHOTO
Westlake Captures the Class B Title in an Extra-Inning Thriller

By Andy Jacobs

For the Westlake baseball team, the wait is over.

Nearly two decades after their last sectional title, the Wildcats finally put an end to their long drought on Saturday afternoon.

A sacrifice fly to center field by Joe Pennini in the bottom of the 12th inning brought home Steve Donato with the winning run as the Wildcats defeated Briarcliff 5-4 to capture the Section One, Class B championship at Finnerty Field on the campus of Pace University.

“I really have no words. It’s a surreal feeling,” said Westlake senior Tom Iazzetta, who earned most valuable player honors after his pitching and defense helped carry the fifth-seeded Wildcats past the Bears. “I mean, we’ve waited so long. We put in so much effort and to finally get it, I can’t put it into words.”

The two teams had begun the day with Westlake clearly in the driver’s seat since the Bears had already lost once in the double-elimination format introduced this year. Still the Wildcats had to overcome an early two-run deficit and a five-hit day at the plate by Briarcliff star Mike Hardy. They also cut down two potential runs for the Bears on close plays at the plate.

“It’s a great accomplishment just to get to this point,” said Wildcats coach John Consorti. “But to win it, and in the fashion we won it in, it’s special. We have a very talented team. They made plays when it counts. That’s the key.”

“I wouldn’t have expected anything less from Briarcliff-Westlake,” said disappointed Bears coach John Schrader. “It was a great, great game fought by both teams. Hats off to Westlake. We wish them nothing but the best of luck against (Section 9 champ) Marlboro on Thursday.”

In a tense and riveting contest that lasted nearly four hours, it was the second-seeded Bears who quickly jumped ahead on the scoreboard. In the top of the first inning, leadoff batter Jason Oppong walked, then Joe Scanga moved him to second with a single to center. After both runners advanced a base on a wild pitch, Hardy came through by ripping a double down the left-field line to give Briarcliff an early 2-0 advantage.

But Iazzetta, the veteran southpaw, immediately settled down, retiring the next three Briarcliff hitters and stranding Hardy at second base. Westlake threatened in the bottom of the second inning as Mike Mancuso led off with a single to left and Donato also reached when his bunt attempt landed perfectly just over the mound.

The Wildcat threat soon ended, though, as Briarcliff starter Brett Ostrover proceeded to strike out the next three Westlake batters. The Bears nearly added to their 2-0 lead in the third inning after two-out hits by Hardy and Pat Poggi. But Hardy was soon tagged out trying to score when a pitch bounced away from catcher Vin Spaziante, who quickly flipped the ball toward Iazzetta, racing in from the mound, for a diving tag at the plate.

“He did a great job pitching, but he did a better job defensively,” said Consorti about Iazzetta, who also made a sparkling catch when he moved to center field and threw out the potential winning run in the top of the ninth. “He saved a few runs out there. He’s been doing it all year. He’s been doing it for four years. He’s a special player. He’s always there, and always for the team.”

Ostrover was able to retire the first two Westlake batters in the bottom of the third, but then Spaziante reached on an infield hit to short and Iazzetta followed with a single to left field. Mancuso’s second hit of the game, a line single into left, brought home Spaziante with the Wildcats’ first run. The throw home got past Hardy, the Bears’ catcher, enabling a second run to score.

Westlake grabbed the lead in the bottom of the fourth inning as Sal Nardone led off with a double to left and, two outs later,
scored on a bloop hit by Richie Petrillo just past the outstretched glove of second baseman Anthony Mingoia.

But the Bears, who had to defeat both Keio and Albertus Magnus to advance to the championship round, quickly responded with two runs in the top of the fifth. Mingoia, leading off, slapped a single into right field. A pair of throwing errors by Westlake brought him home. Later in the inning, now facing Donato on the mound in relief of Iazzetta, Hardy drove in his third run of the day with a single to left.

Donato then plunked both Poggi and Ostrover with pitches, loading the bases. But he retired lefty-swinging Dan Huegel on a soft liner that Petrillo caught in left field for the final out. Ostrover, now pitching with a 4-3 lead, was able to retire the Wildcats in order in both the fifth and sixth innings. Briarcliff had a chance to add an insurance run in the top of the seventh after hits by Hardy and Poggi. But the threat ended when Nardone, the Westlake first baseman, made a nifty short-hop grab following a ground ball to short by Ostrover. That set the stage for a Westlake rally in the bottom of the inning that turned the game into a marathon.

Mike Zulli reached base leading off when his hard grounder toward third caromed off the glove of Julian Matthews. When Ostrover then walked Petrillo on four pitches, his day on the mound was over. Tom Carpenter greeted new pitcher Jared Kulman with an RBI single, tying the game.

Though Petrillo was tagged out overrunning second base, Westlake soon had the bases loaded with just one out following another infield hit by Spaziante and an intentional walk to Iazzetta. But with the Bears’ season on the brink, Kulman stepped up to strike out Mancuso and induce Donato to ground to short, sending the game to extra innings.

Westlake had another big opportunity to end the game in the eighth. But after a walk to Nardone and a single by Zulli, Schrader chose to walk Carpenter intentionally with two outs and runners on the corners. Kulman then retired the dangerous Spaziante on a ground ball to short.

"Not that we didn’t have respect for Spaziante," said Schrader, "but, you know what, I’ve watched Tommy Carpenter hit for four years now and I had a little bit more respect for him. I’ve seen him hit the ball, not just against us, I’ve watched him play against other teams. I didn’t want him to beat us."

The Bears had a chance to regain the lead in the top of the ninth with Donato back on the hill in place of Iazzetta for the second time. Alex Benson led off with a bloop single over first base and moved to second on a ground out by Oppong. Scanga followed with a single to center, but Benson was called out at home trying to score as Mancuso, now catching, scooped up Iazzetta’s throw up the first-base line and dove across the plate for the tag.

"Two great plays," said Consorti. "Tommy getting it in and Mike with his athleticism able to catch it and come back and tag him out. That’s the type of kids we have."

"I thought he did get his hand in," said Schrader about the slide by Benson. "But the plate umpire thought otherwise and you have to be respectful to the umpire and go with the call he made."

Both teams left two runners on base in the 10th inning and were retired quickly in the 11th. In the top of the 12th, Iazzetta robbed Ostrover of an extra-base hit with a diving catch in right-center field with one out. The bottom of the inning then turned out to be the decisive one.

With Poggi in his third inning of relief for the Bears, Westlake got a leadoff single from Donata. He moved to second on Nardone’s sacrifice bunt and to third on a balk. Then, on the next pitch after Poggi nearly picked Donata off of third, Pennini, the Wildcats’ designated hitter, lofted a fly ball to center field that easily scored Donata with the run that gave Westlake its first sectional title since 2000.

"To the credit of our kids, they hung in there," said Consorti, the longtime coach at Briarcliff before joining the Wildcat staff five years ago. "They played defense, they pitched and they kept battling. I knew eventually we’d get one in if we continued to pitch and play ‘D’ like we were playing."

"A really great game," said Schrader. "You know what, I’m really proud of my boys. They fought hard right to the end. Hey, in the beginning of the season Westlake was the team to beat. They did beat us, but our boys did show up today and they put up a helluva fight. And I can tell you right now we’re losing seven seniors and when we come back in 2020 we’re gonna expect to be right back here next year."

That’s a prospect that the Wildcats don’t have to worry about right now. A regional playoff game this week against the Marlboro Iron Dukes right back at Pace on Thursday is their next challenge and their steady lefthander figures to be right back on the mound once again.

"You know what," said Iazzetta, amid the postgame Wildcat celebration, "we’ve been chasing this for so long. I have no idea what we’re gonna put up there as a goal next. But I’m sure it’s a state championship. That’s gotta be it. But right now we’re gonna celebrate the sectional championship."
Pleasantville sophomore Isabelle Kapoor heads toward the finish line en route to winning the Division 2 100 meter hurdles.

With a strong kick in the last 100 meters, Pleasantville freshman Adriana Catalano came from behind to win the 1500 on Saturday.

Valhalla’s Michael Rizzuto competes in the 400 hurdles late Saturday afternoon.

Byram Hills senior Lauren Sekin runs in the 1500 at White Plains High School.

Nicole Meyer of Byram Hills was victorious in Division 2’s 400 meter race on Saturday.

Briarcliff’s Mark Rogers rounds a corner as he runs in the 1600 on Saturday afternoon.

Westlake’s Eric Nieves heads for the finish line in the 100 meters on Friday afternoon.

Pleasantville freshman Ava Horigan competes in the long jump last Friday at Arlington High School.

Horace Greeley standout Kira Lindner once again qualified for the state meet by winning in the Division 1 discus on Saturday at White Plains High School.

Aidan Lynch of Pleasantville finished second in Division 2 in the 3200 and fourth in the 1600.

Briarcliff’s Mark Rogers rounds a corner as he runs in the 1600 on Saturday afternoon.

Westlake’s Eric Nieves heads for the finish line in the 100 meters on Friday afternoon.

Pleasantville freshman Ava Horigan competes in the long jump last Friday at Arlington High School.

Nicole Meyer of Byram Hills was victorious in Division 2’s 400 meter race on Saturday.
Horace Greeley’s Rhania Aki-Bua clears a hurdle on Friday afternoon at Arlington High School.

Adrian Rippstein of Pleasantville heads for the finish in his 200 meter race on Saturday.

Lauren Rogers of Briarcliff competes in the 1500 during Saturday’s state qualifier at White Plains.

Greeley junior Joseph O’Brien ran to a third-place finish in the 1600.

Fox Lane junior Ensen Scaglio competes in Friday’s Division 1 3200 race at Arlington.

Pleasantville’s Jack Raffali shows the form that earned him a first-place finish in the Division 2 long jump.

Avery Skolnick of Fox Lane has company to his left and right as he runs midway through the Division 2 3200 at Arlington on Friday afternoon.

Wylie Troy (left) and Pietro Perez of Byram Hills run side by side in the 100 at Arlington High School.

We want to wish all our local student athletes good luck with their Sectional Games!!

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