

The Gazette

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75 Cents

Croton eyes renting former Gouveia residence

“For rent: house in a park.”

That could be the short-term future of the former residence of the late Laurel Gouveia, located in the Village of Croton-on-Hudson’s newest park, named after her and her late husband.

Last July—two years after taking title to the 16-acre property at 1300 Albany Post Road and undertaking various work on the grounds—Gouveia Park was opened as a village park. The former residence of Laurel and John Gouveia has remained dormant, however, due to it lacking various features village officials have been advised are needed for it to be a municipally-owned building able to be legally and safely occupied by the public. But, after certain and less extensive work is undertaken, it could be rented as a private residence and become an income producer, Village Manager Janine King told the Board of Trustees Monday night.

that could fund various upgrades.

Then-Mayor Leo Wiegman offered financial projections that Croton could generate revenues exceeding its maintenance, management and improvements costs (including upgrades needed to make it compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act) through the charging of fees to public and private entities for its use.

Detractors of the acceptance, including Dr. Gregory Schmidt, who succeeded Mr. Wiegman as mayor later in the year, said it was uncertain if future uses would entitle the property to be fully tax-exempt—total property taxes were reported to be about \$40,000—and that even if it is, and with the \$1 million donation from the Gouveia estate taken into account, the property could prove to be a “money pit” for Croton’s coffers. Dr. Schmidt, whose reelection bid was turned



An August 2015 file photo of the northeast corner of the former Gouveia residence

In 2014, an ad hoc village committee compiled numerous ideas for future use of the property, ranging from development of hiking trails and creation of a sort of amphitheatre for public performances to utilizing the 2,000-square-foot, glass-walled residence as a conference center and/or for a variety of educational and social events.

Acquisition of the property, which offers magnificent views of the Hudson River and beyond, has been a political football in Croton since Mrs. Gouveia—who died in June of 2014 at the age of 72—renewed a previous offer of the property, with the intent it be “preserved,” in 2011.

Croton’s Board of Trustees formally agreed to accept the property in January 2015 along with a \$1 million irrevocable trust

back last November by Trustee Brian Pugh, said his position might be different if the property had been accompanied by a larger monetary donation, such as \$5 million.

Now three years after taking title to the property, it hasn’t generated a dime in revenue, but it has consumed more than one-third of the \$1 million trust fund, plus various overhead costs to village taxpayers.

The most expensive project undertaken—\$218,600—was a widening of the eastern end of the property’s former private driveway to two lanes, and installation of an approximately 40-space gravel-based parking lot. With the earlier removal of various hazardous tall tree, this upgrade was deemed to make the grounds suitable for use as a village park—open dawn to dusk, to village residents and their guests.

On Monday night, Village Manager King told the trustees that after various work on the former residence, a local realtor has advised her it could fetch as much as \$5,500 a month in rent.

The total of work—\$44,000—includes various projects not specifically related to the building, such as \$6,000 for installing a new gate with “key code” access so that renters can drive onto and exit the property at such times the park is closed to the public; \$7,000 for fencing to delineate the perimeter of the grounds surrounding the house; and \$4,000 for new asphalt on the driveway leading to the former premises. Work on the building itself includes items such as new carpeting,

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Holy Name of Mary Church Pastor Brian Brennan is seen Sunday morning as he offered a blessing to area first-responders at a special mass. A fundamental message from God is, ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself,’ said Fr. Brennan. ‘Love is giving of yourself for another... In their own way, they [first-responders] are showing love for their neighbor.’ ‘I was always in awe of first-responders,’ he continued. ‘They do it to serve others’ and demonstrate ‘empathy (as they) help others through hard times.’ Fr. Brennan said that when he hears sirens passing in the middle of the night, he prays, ‘Lord, help them, and help the people they are going to help.’ Below, congregants, family members and friends stand during the blessing and the individual presentation to firefighters of medallions of St. Florian, the patron saint of firefighters. Each police officer and EMT/paramedic received a medallion of St. Michael, protector of the people and the sick.



Briarcliff to continue hearing on ‘noise law’ revisions

Briarcliff Manor trustees have adjourned to Wednesday, March 21 their public hearing on proposed revisions to the village’s “noise ordinance.”

The hearing, which opened at the board’s February 7 public meeting, was continued at its February 21 meeting and was expected to be continued at its next meeting on Wednesday, March 7.

However, the board last week opted to push forward the second adjournment date as a result of the now planned appearance of Matt Phillips, CEO of The Club seniors residence under construction at the former 58-acre campus of The King’s College, at the board’s March 7 work session.

Mr. Phillips is expected to comment on the proposed revisions as they relate to construction activity at the project site—which spurred village officials last summer to begin a review of the “noise ordinance.” Residents had complained about noise (and dust) resulting from rock excavation and crushing activities related to site preparation for building foundations and the project’s internal road network.

Mr. Phillips will appear before the board on March 7 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Subsequently, he will reportedly be available to meet in a separate area of the

building with residents to address their questions and concerns.

All the of meetings have taken place and will continue to be held at the William J. Vescio Community Center, 1 Library Road at Law Memorial Park. The March 21 meeting will begin at 8 p.m.

The hearing opener on February 7 brought forward residents’ complaints relating to other types of noise; mostly, the use of power golf course grooming equipment at the Trump National Golf Club. Under a village-issued special permit for Trump National’s operation of the 18-hole golf course and clubhouse on residentially-zoned land, such activity can begin as early as 6 a.m., seven days a week.

At last week’s (February 21) second session of the hearing, residents continued to call for no exclusion of the golf course from existing or more restrictive proposed regulations covering “maintenance of grounds.”

Currently, the ordinance allows such work in the village from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. The proposed revision to the law would reduce hours to 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays

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Where you are front page news!

Letters

To the editor:

In regard to last week's article, "Latimer promises 'sit-down' on Sunshine Home, other 'cross-border' project impact issues":

To clarify, my primary remarks at this meeting were to thank Ms. Borgia for her support of Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and to request support from Mr. Latimer. As I stated, the federal attacks on science and the environment warrant greater support for these on the local level.

CCE brings science-based info into our county from the land grant university system established by Abraham Lincoln. He established this program along with the United States Department of Agriculture to ensure scientific study and research in agriculture and home sciences for the betterment of our nation. The National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA), a division of USDA, was created after 9/11 to address food security issues. CCE now works directly with NIFA. Our nation's food supply should be protected! CCE should be adequately funded in our county.

In regard to scientific information, I also stated that Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) should be required during the planning process for large developments with the potential to pose threats to our community. The Town of New Castle did not require an EIS for the Sunshine Home project, even though the project proposes to cut down hundreds of trees on a property with abandoned and contaminated wells – and the property is located above the municipal water supply for the Town and Village of Ossining residents. This is unconscionable. It begs the question if this project would have required an EIS if it had been proposed in the vicinity of New Castle's water supply. Cutting down this amount of trees should have triggered an EIS regardless of the proximity to a water supply, especially on a high elevation property. The property is directly above wetlands which feed Hudson River tributaries. An accurate EIS would allow potential problems to be addressed and possibly mitigated. It is much easier to prevent problems than to fix them.

For the record, I stated that the Westchester Planning Board is understaffed due to budget cuts. I did not state that they are responsible for the lack of an EIS for Sunshine Home. In my opinion that onus is squarely on the Town of New Castle. I never commented on traffic impacts. While I am not a member of the Greater Teatown Defense Alliance, I am reliant on the Ossining municipal water supply. And I am very concerned.

Donna Sharrett, Town of Ossining

An open letter to Croton-on-Hudson residents

It gives me tremendous pleasure to inform you that the Croton Village Board voted unanimously Tuesday evening (February 20) to join the Community Choice Aggregation Program (CCA).

This is an historic decision that puts our village squarely on the path towards more reliance on renewable energy sources and less dependence on fossil fuels. Our entry into CCA will also open the door to many future best environmental practices going forward. It's a real victory for Croton;

a major step in the right direction.

I have been a staunch supporter of CCA since I first heard about it two years ago. In fact, it was the issue that motivated me to run for election to the Village Board.

I am especially proud that the village did such a magnificent job in reaching out to educate residents about the CCA program. On behalf of the Village, I would like to thank the Croton Sustainability Committee for endorsing CCA for Croton at the green level. Thanks also to both Lindsay Audin, chairperson of the Sustainability Committee, and Dan Welsh of Sustainable Westchester for their masterful Power Point presentations during the two public informational sessions, and for their willingness and ability to answer every single question asked of them during the closing Q and A's.

Thanks to Eva Thaddeus of Mothers Out Front for sponsoring one of the public forums, thanks to the Croton Free Library for graciously allowing us to hold these informational sessions, thanks to the many folks who came out to become educated and thanks to the many folks who educated themselves through the information posted on the village website and the NYSEDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) mailing sent out to all residents.

At the end of each public forum, attendees reported 6:1 in favor of joining CCA. We feel extremely gratified to have such strong community support behind the board's decision.

Sincerely,

**Sherry Horowitz, Trustee,
Village of Croton-on-Hudson**

To the editor:

Energy Secretary Rick Perry will not be happy with Croton's decision to join the CCA! Scott is a big proponent of expanding nuclear and coal-fueled energy use.

Last week *The Gazette* reported that Croton's Village Board unanimously moved Croton from brown to green electrical power through the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program. It took over two years to resume the work Leo Wiegman started when he was mayor. Now we have joined many of the other Westchester communities in reducing our carbon footprint. Our mayor, Brian Pugh, and the Village Board are to be congratulated for moving this forward on CCA.

The next village-supported energy program will be "Solarize, Part 2." Seventy Croton/Cortlandt residents lowered or eliminated their electric bills two years ago under the first "Solarize" program. I was one of them. "Solarize" informational programs are planned for March 8, 14, Earth Day (April 28) and other dates that will describe what you need to consider to become your own power producer. Solar Liberty was selected by several residents to provide the best value for our community installations. They have completed 2,400 solar installations in New York State.

The first of three New York State Community Solar installations has been completed in Montrose. Building canopy-mounted solar collectors at the Metro-North parking lot has the potential of bringing Croton additional revenue and enable homes with shading or roof issues to also benefit financially from the incentives. As the village garage is dismantled the canopies can be installed without parking interruptions.

More green things are coming to Croton!

**Carl Grimm,
Croton-on-Hudson**

collaborating with the Croton Free Library on a special event about Benedict Arnold's betrayal and the capture and execution of British Major John André. The event is part of Croton Reads—a village-wide reading program where the community shares the experience of exploring a common book and then gets to meet the author. This year's selection is "The Traitor's Wife: The Woman Behind Benedict Arnold and the Plan to Betray America" by Allison Pataki. Ms. Pataki will speak at the library on Tuesday, March 20. (Tickets are required for the Pataki event! See the library website for more information.)

On March 14 we're co-sponsoring a Rago Arts and Auction Center Appraisal Event with the Croton Free Library. Rago will donate a portion of its commission on property consigned from the appraisal day to both organizations. See our website for details on how to submit items for appraisal.

We hope to see you at one of our events. If you would like to support us, see the website for details on becoming a member.

**Carl Oechsner, President,
Croton Friends of History**

To the editor:

Last week the trustees and I approved funding for rehabilitation of the Broadway Bridge—the lower portion of Ossining's iconic Double Arch.

Each time you cross the Broadway Bridge, you are simultaneously passing underneath the historic Old Croton Aqueduct, and above the Sing Sing Kill, a tributary to the Hudson River.

New York State has issued a "yellow flag" on the Broadway Bridge. This spring we will begin the necessary repairs to prevent it from becoming a "red flag." During construction the bridge will be closed to traffic. This is scheduled largely over the summer months to minimize traffic interruption, particularly for school buses.

We will employ the engineering technology of today to ensure the Broadway Bridge's stability and safety for generations to come. But it is the historically appropriate face that will be most often appreciated by the community. These details will be visible to pedestrians on the Sing Sing Kill Greenway, as well as drivers and pedestrians using the Broadway Bridge itself.

Among the improvements will be new decorative lighting, and replacing the chain link fence with black metal fencing, echoing an historic detail of the Old Croton Aqueduct Bridge above. The brick arch underneath will be restored, including its original keystone.

You'll recall that in 2015, we cut the ribbon on the Sing Sing Kill Greenway—welcoming pedestrians to enjoy the glorious gorge that meanders through the heart of downtown Ossining. Despite its popularity as an inviting walking path, this was primarily a major infrastructure project undertaken to encase a sanitary sewer line that passes through the Kill. We are excited for the next major infrastructure project in the neighborhood.

Greenway visitors have certainly noticed the large black netting in place to protect them from falling bricks. The village has been holding on to these bricks, and in a matter of months they will be restored to their rightful place on the face of the bridge.

Regards,

**Victoria Gearity, Mayor,
Village of Ossining**

To the editor:

The Village Board of Trustees work session Monday night included discussion on a proposed affordable housing law modeled on the county's model housing ordinance. The proposal we discussed was an outgrowth of a similar work session conducted in 2016 with the previous board majority.

Under the proposed local law, for all residential developments of 10 or more units created by subdivision or site plan approval, at least 10% of the total number of units would have to be affordable units.

The proposed law would consider a rental unit to be affordable if the annual housing cost of the unit does not exceed 30% of the income of a household earning 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI). A for-purchase housing unit would be affordable if the annual housing cost does not exceed 33% of the income of a household earning 80% of the AMI.

AMI for Westchester is defined annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is adjusted by family size. Under the 2017 HUD Income Guidelines for Westchester County, 60% of Area Median Income for a one-person household would be \$46,800 (with a maximum monthly housing cost of \$1,170) and \$60,180 for a three-person household (with a maximum rent of \$1,504).

Municipalities around the county have adopted affordable housing laws based on the model ordinance. This includes the following villages, all of whom have had such a law since at least 2013: Ardsley, Hastings, Irvington, Pleasantville, Rye Brook and Scarsdale.

The proposed legislation is not final and there are many steps to go to its adoption (including the scheduling of a public hearing, the holding of a public hearing, etc.). The model ordinance, which would only cover new construction and only projects involving subdivision or site plan approval, may have only a modest impact on our largely mature housing market.

But if we fail to act we will have foreclosed on an affordable future for many Croton families.

**Brian Pugh, Mayor,
Village of Croton-on-Hudson**

To the editor:

I believe that this is a national crisis in this country and it is not being analyzed deep enough. For example, we should know the complete history of Nicholas Cruz in his school system starting with grade school and going forward to the last days he was in high school. Was he bullied because he has odd looks including big ears or because of different views, etc.?

If so, was he mounting a resentment toward his fellow schoolmates and the school system itself for not protecting him? Was his fight in his senior year due to this growing resentment from bullying over his many years in the school system?

If this is so, one of the big tragedies of the present school systems around the country is that bullying has never really been effectively addressed. Schools need to enact strict no-tolerance policy on bullying to the extent that the student, even a wealthy, intelligent, popular student, who is caught bullying will be expelled from the school, no exceptions. This may help solve the problem.

What is being talked about is banning assault weapons and I believe they are also unnecessary in today's society but we must realize one thing. If the shooter had a bag full of six-shot semi-automatic pistols, he could've done the same damage. In fact if he had the old-fashioned six-shooter from the wild west days, he could've learned how to fan the gun and gotten off six shots rapidly and then exchange for the next gun, etc., etc. In fact, if the student had a six-shooter and killed six students, this would've been a tragedy worth noting. It didn't have to be 17 students to grab attention. One recent incident had a girl merely stabbing a girl to death. This should've been prevented but it wasn't.

And we know about the failures of the FBI and the local police to zero in on this boy with weird ideas about violence and so forth and did nothing about it; no follow-up, etc. The fact that he was on meds was not known by the list of people excluded from buying guns.

I think that this case and many other should be analyzed going deep into the person's history to determine why the resentment was built up to the extent of grabbing a gun and shooting people. We need to determine the failures in our present systems of law-enforcement such as not following up on legitimate leads, the medical community in which confidentiality sometimes bans vital information to be forwarded to the proper authorities, anti-bullying policies at schools, etc., etc.

Unless an in-depth discussion and investigation of the situations is conducted, we will never solve the problem. The times we are living in are much different from when I was growing up. Kids were bullied in my school system back in the 50s but the targets covered and did nothing about it. Now society has bred the grab-a-gun solution to these problems. Unless we address the causes of the gun violence, it will continue.

Pete Drexler, Croton-on-Hudson
'Letters' continues on page 4

The Gazette

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Croton offers second round for 'affordable' solar program

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson has been selected to participate in a second round of offering a discount program intended to make installing photovoltaic solar systems simpler and more affordable for homeowners and businesses.

Homeowners and commercial property owners are invited to an informational workshop about the latest campaign—called “Solarize Croton”—to be held on Thursday, March 8 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building, 1 Van Wyck Street, Croton. Croton last participated in a similar program three years ago.

The program is offered through Solarize Westchester, an off-shoot of Sustainable Westchester, the not-for-profit consortium of more than 40 Westchester municipalities which seeks to lower residential and commercial energy costs while also reducing the county’s carbon footprint.

Solarize Croton is intended to further encourage increased adoption of quality solar systems by offering lower installation costs through economies of scale, according to an announcement Monday from Croton’s village manager’s office. The campaign claims discounts of up to 30 percent can be expected.

A clear end date for the opportunity is intended to motivate residents and business people alike to act sooner than later.

Interested homeowners will reportedly have to sign up by June 4. Commercial property owners can sign up for site visits until June 4 and have until October to sign a contract.

Following a pre-qualification and competitive application process, representatives of Croton, with the assistance of Solarize Westchester, selected Buffalo, N.Y.-based Solar Liberty as the contractor for Solarize Croton. “Attractive financing options” will be offered, according to the release.

“I am proud that the Village of Croton-on-Hudson has been selected for a second time to participate in the Solarize Westchester program,” stated Mayor Brian Pugh. “This is a great opportunity for our residents to take advantage of affordable solar power and add to the value of their homes. As we are asked to think globally and act locally, I urge our community to join in this grassroots effort against climate change.”

Prior Solarize Westchester campaigns have reportedly averaged 45 signed contracts each.

The number of solar installations in Croton during the previous campaign in 2015 was not available at press time.

Data provided Tuesday by Solarize Westchester for Solarize Croton was combined with that for the separate but related campaign, Solarize Cortlandt, which covered the much larger geographic and population area of unincorporated portions of the Town of Cortlandt.

For Croton and Cortlandt, Solarize Westchester reported that three years ago there were 69 residential and three commercial contracts for installations.

In three previous rounds, Solarize Westchester ran a total of 11 Solarize campaigns in partnership with 20 municipalities. So far, the program has reportedly resulted in close to 500 solar installations totaling almost 5 megawatts of installed capacity.

Technical support is provided by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) under Governor Andrew Cuomo’s NY-Sun initiative, which is a \$1 billion investment in solar power through 2023 to significantly expand solar installations. The program is to be administered by Abundant Efficiency LLC, the company that has led all prior Solarize Westchester campaigns, in partnership with Sustainable Westchester.

More information about Solarize Croton can be found by visiting www.solarizewestchester.com/croton/ or by contacting Solar Liberty at 866-807-3639.

For more information on Solarize Westchester in general, visit its website at www.solarizewestchester.com.

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Briarcliff chemistry teacher recognized by ACS

Briarcliff High School science teacher Carol Conti is the recipient of the Nichols Foundation Chemistry Teacher Award.

Presented annually to an outstanding high school chemistry teacher in the American Chemical Society’s (ACS) New York Section, the award recognizes highly effective teaching and inspirational leadership to students in chemistry.

The award was established in 1902 by Dr. William H. Nichols, a president of the ACS.

Ms. Conti was selected because of a combination of high quality teaching, an ability to challenge and inspire students, extracurricular work in chemistry (including science fairs, science clubs, and other activities



Carol Conti

that stimulate the interest of young people in chemistry and related science, and a willingness to keep up-to-date in the field of chemistry (as evidenced by publications, enrollment in courses and summer institutes, attendance at scientific meetings), according to the awards’ selection committee.

BHS Principal Debora French, who nominated Ms. Conti, wrote, “Ms. Conti represents the qualities that have contributed to Briarcliff’s educational standards of excellence. Her high aspirations for all students have enabled her to integrate current science related issues and connections into the curriculum to engage, inspire and challenge students’ intellectual curiosity in science. She had a successful career as a chemical engineer with Union Carbide and was a senior consultant at Nexant from 1995 to 2007. Her professional experience has enabled her to bring excellent organizational, communication, and leadership skills, along with her exceptional expertise in science to Briarcliff where she provides a nurturing and educationally rich environment for all Briarcliff students. Ms. Conti is extremely dedicated to her students and she devotes countless hours providing additional support for her students to be successful. She offers an ‘enrichment’ program for Regents Chemistry students who love the subject and are interested in studying AP Chemistry or the SAT II in Chemistry. In addition, she has served on the Professional Development Committee for five years and assists in maintaining the Flinn Chemical Database and chemical stockroom.”

In response to being selected, said Ms. Conti, “It’s a wonderful recognition and I am honored to represent our school.”

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SEAMLESS GUTTERS LEADERS REPAIRS

Croton blotter

TUESDAY, February 26

--At about 11 a.m. detectives charged Pasquale DeNome, 23, of Croton with "misapplication of property" for allegedly possessing a tire-changing machine that should have been returned to the supplier. The operator of a former auto repair business, he was subsequently released on his own recognizance pending an appearance date in village court.

Cortlandt blotter

WEDNESDAY, February 21

--Westchester County police arrested a Lake Allendale, Cortlandt man this evening and seized 17 pounds of marijuana and four illegal handguns after executing a search warrant at his home. The investigation by detectives came after county police received a tip about illegal activity at the residence. Detectives from the General Investigations Unit entered the home this afternoon and discovered a marijuana grow operation in the basement. In addition, four handguns were seized. Thomas Corrigan, 53, of 4 Richmond Place, was charged with Criminal Possession of Marijuana in the first degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the third degree, both felonies, as well as Endangering the Welfare of a Child residing at the home, a misdemeanor. The defendant was booked at county police headquarters in Hawthorne and held overnight for arraignment in Town of Cortlandt Justice Court. He was arraigned before Justice Daniel F. McCarthy who set bail at \$2,000 cash or \$5,000 bond. Mr. Corrigan was transported to the Westchester County Jail in Valhalla in lieu of bail. His next court appearance is scheduled for March 29.

Croton okays Teamsters pact

Croton-on-Hudson trustees have approved a new contract with the Teamsters Union affecting 38 blue- and white-collar employees.

The pact, approved by the Board of Trustees at its February 20 public meeting, follows union members' ratification earlier in February of a successor agreement to their contract which expired May 31, 2016.

Under the new agreement, members will receive 1.25 percent pay increases for each of the first two years—June 1, 2016 through this coming May 31. For each of the last three years of the pact, members will receive two percent increases.

Village Manager Janine King said the new contract will help lower the village's cost of medical and dental insurance in future years.

Employees hired since last June 1—to date there has been just one—will pay 20 percent of their premiums.

Employees hired before June 1, 2013 pay 10 percent of premiums; those hired between June 1, 2013 and May 31, 2016 pay 15 percent.

For retirees, employees hired prior to June 1, 1996 will pay 10 percent of the premium fixed at the time of retirement for both individual and family coverage.

Employees hired after June 1, 1996 will pay 10% of the premium for individual coverage and 25 percent for family coverage. Previously, the premiums these retirees paid were fixed at their levels as of the dates of their retirement.

'Housing expo' Saturday

Westchester County's annual Fair & Affordable Housing Expo will take place Saturday, March 10 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Westchester County Center, 198 Central Avenue, White Plains. The event is free and open to the public.

The event provides information on a variety of issues when it comes to potential first-time homebuyers, including whether it makes sense to rent or own, rights with respect to equal housing and lending opportunities, the amount of down payment needed and how to obtain assistance in making a down payment.

Information is also provided on how to select a not-for-profit counselor as well as selection of an attorney, realtor and lender. For more information, go on-line to: hac@affordablehomes.org.

'Letters'

from page 2

To the editor:

First, I want to thank Ms. Godoy for catching my error regarding the number of MS-13 gang members and to apologize to any readers for my mistake. It was not intentional. As she stated, the correct number was 14,000... not 140,000. Regardless, 14,000 violent thugs in one gang remains a lot especially since they are concentrated in pockets of the east/west coasts and the southwest U.S.A.

Second, this gang was not singled out by me but by the mainstream media. There are dozens of other gangs that make the total number of thugs greater but the media has America focused on MS-13 violence. Readers can verify the existence of many of these other violent gangs by linking to: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_gangs_in_the_United_States.

Third, why is it that liberals like Ms. Godoy tend to use the term "racism" or other "isms" whenever someone opposes their position? That's an old game to try to silence their opponents and meaningful discourse. It doesn't work anymore.

Unlike those who complain about "isms," my experience and religion taught me to respect all genders, races, and creeds so don't play that game with me! I'm all American and proud of it! I even try to avoid the use of any hyphenated "isms" with the word American and refuse to wave/salute any banner other than an American flag.

Fourth, I expect any immigrant to meet our legal requirements and obey our laws if they want to enter the U.S.A. lawfully. That means they need to get in line and wait like those before them. There are always special cases like DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), genocide, etc. but they can be handled as in the past. I expect the process to continue in these dire circumstances. President Trump wants to admit somewhere between 800,000 and 3,000,000 DACA immigrants. I expect that number to be on the high end and have no problem with the number if they do it legally!

Fifth, I lock my doors and windows when I leave home or at night to avoid unwelcome guests. I'll bet Ms. Godoy does the same. That's why I support a border wall. Of course, there's always a few who want to "resist" common sense and leave their doors/windows open but that's their problem. It's hypocritical to complain about a wall if you lock up your home and possessions to hide behind a barrier of doors and windows.

Sixth, Ms. Godoy's letter shows her disdain for President Trump despite his support for DACA. Unfortunately, her dislike for him is based on "fake news" (a.k.a. propaganda). While I'm not happy with some of his language or conduct at times, his actions speak louder than his words. In fact, they reflect why I voted for him.

She's also wrong to compare Trump to tyrants like Hitler, Stalin, Somoza and Pinochet. That's more "fake news" that can't be substantiated. Those animals murdered and tortured millions of people. I'm unaware of any similar Trump horrors! If you have such proof, please let the rest of us know, so I can discuss horrors like Benghazi, Fast and Furious, etc. with you in a future exchange.

Seventh, is she unhappy with his tax cut? If so, donate it to charity. How about his support for Israel and recognizing Jerusalem as its capital? Maybe it's his Wall? Like Ms. Godoy, the Palestinians call it a racist wall but like me, the Israelis refer to it as a security barrier. Israeli officials even claim that in areas where the barrier was complete, the number of hostile infiltrations has decreased to almost zero. That's what we need to stem the invasion of our nation from abroad! No nation can long exist without its borders and reasonable vetting of its immigrants!

Could she be upset by rising employment, declining unemployment, or the minimum wage increase? How about the rising stock market or the decline in bureaucratic Executive Orders? Perhaps she's unhappy by the Obama-Care mandate repeal? What about North Korea? In my opinion, Trump's accomplishments in just over a year are a lot to brag about!

Finally, if she wants mutual respect, she can start by respecting our President. It's her type of disingenuous rhetoric and fake news that creates discord in our nation. For better or worse, he's her President too. I almost voted for her candidate until he told Joe the plumber

he was going to redistribute our wealth. That's pure communism/socialism. I didn't whine and create fake news when my candidate lost. I lived with her gang for eight years. I'm sure she can handle at least the next three and try to make America great again. That's the American way of picking ourselves up by our bootstraps! If he fails, vote for a better candidate next time.

**Robert Wintermeier,
Croton-on-Hudson**

To the editor:

The subject of Ms. Gallelli being paid for writing the Village Newsletter has been a controversial matter in Croton for many years, and has been a matter of public discussion for more than 10 years.

My letter was in response to the narrow issue of a recent Village Board resolution and subsequent discussion in *The Gazette*, but since Mr. Masur (*The Gazette*, Week of Feb 22/28) wishes to discuss the 14-year backstory I will address Mr. Masur's points at this time.

Mr. Masur is correct that Ms. Gallelli was the sole author of the Newsletter for 14 years, and that this continued across the tenures of three village managers. But as I stated in my original letter (*The Gazette*, Week of February 8/14) this does not mean that the practice was compliant with Village Code nor that the practice should continue.

Mr. Masur says that "the village owes Ms. Gallelli our respect and gratitude." The taxpayers of Croton expressed that "gratitude" in the form of a check. At roughly \$4,000 per year for 14 years (plus \$3,000 per annum for the years as an elected official), I would say that Ms. Gallelli should not be complaining about a lack of taxpayer "gratitude." If Ms. Gallelli feels that she is not given sufficient honor and acclaim for her efforts by the residents of Croton, then she should reconsider why she is a politician.

Mr. Masur complains about "continued libelous attacks on her character for political leverage."

If Mr. Masur or Ms. Gallelli feel that mere discussion of a municipal official's compensation is "libelous" they might want to consider that Ms. Gallelli is—at least by titled position—a public servant. Failing that, Mr. Masur and Ms. Gallelli have their recourse and I urge them to pursue it in the appropriate judicial venue. Since the days of John Peter Zenger, New York politicians have tried to intimidate the citizens and the media. I am grateful for this newspaper and the on-line outlets which give the residents of Croton a forum for speech.

A few months ago there was an article in this newspaper, and a subsequent letter from Amy Ferrara. I disagreed with the article and the letter, and wrote in response to that. Such action is hardly continuous nor is it for "political leverage."

In fact, one of the earliest public criticisms of the payments to Ms. Gallelli was from a loyal member of Mr. Masur's own (Democrat) organization. Those comments were prompted by a comment at the Village Board meeting of June 18, 2007 by a (Republican) resident suggesting that Ms. Gallelli include a particular item in her next Village Newsletter. This prompted an inquiry by a (Democrat) resident who uncovered the details of payments which had been going on for five years at that point.

For many residents, the first time they heard of the payments to Ms. Gallelli was on July 2, 2007 when the blog authored by the (Democrat) resident posted a tart comment wondering whether there had been any competitive bidding process and whether there were other "sweetheart" deals undisclosed to the public.

By 2010, the village briefly attempted to go "green" with on-line publication commencing with the June issue: the village would only print a limited run for distribution at the library and Muni Building. Estimated printing and postage savings were \$12,000 per year. This is an often overlooked aspect of the Newsletter: the environmental damage and distribution costs of hard-copy media. At the time, this change was viewed favorably by the same local (Democrat) blogger who authored the 2007 criticism of Ms. Gallelli's compensation.

When a payment practice is a matter of public controversy for more than a decade and is condemned by Croton taxpayers of all political stripes, the time for change is long past-due. That is what was finally done on November 20, 2017 with passage of the Board of Trustees'

resolution by a vote of 4-1.

Mr. Masur makes much of the period from 2002 through 2006, and his observation does highlight the narrow scope of the 2017 board resolution. I would have liked to see a broader scope, but the resolution does prevent recurrence of the 2006 through 2016 situation and that is better than doing nothing.

One key point which was never addressed by either Mr. Masur or Ms. Gallelli is the applicability of Village Code chapter 54. This omission is as understandable as it is telling: even after 14 years the classification(s) of those tens of thousands of dollars in payments remains unclear. Apart from possible violation of Village Code, classification of both pecuniary benefit and hours expended would affect the treatment of Ms. Gallelli under the NYSLRS pension formula.

Mr. Masur says that there could never be any political spin to the Newsletter because each issue was reviewed by the village manager. This implies that for those 14 years Ms. Gallelli either acted as an independent contractor or as a village non-elected employee (in addition to being a paid elected official for 10 of those years).

Mr. Masur's letter is to my knowledge the first time that anyone has claimed that for 14 years the village manager reviewed each Newsletter prior to publication. Even if Mr. Masur is correct in his implication, most of us in Croton are aware that the village manager serves at the pleasure of the board. More to the point, the village manager is aware of that fact.

At one point, a village resident (a registered Democrat) asked Ms. Gallelli whether the "Got a Question?" feature of the Newsletter was based on actual resident questions. After a cagy response from Ms. Gallelli, the resident FOILED and the official response of the village FOIL officer was that there was nothing responsive to the FOIL request—in other words, Ms. Gallelli was astroturfing: no actual questions had been submitted to the village for answer in the Newsletter.

In November 2015 every household in the village received the Newsletter with an above-the-fold "Got a Question?" segment discussing how "many residents" were still "understandably unhappy" with Verizon for a decision made five years previously.

But since cessation of FiOS expansion had been announced in 2010, why *after five years* was it suddenly so important to make sure that municipal tax money and resources were used to denounce a specific company *four days* before a village election?

In fact, has the Village of Croton-on-Hudson ever before or since sent a village-wide mailing to denounce a specific company?

For those who did not live in Croton at the time, I would point out that the arrival of the Newsletter occurred four days before Election Day, and one of the challengers was a well-liked Croton resident who is a Verizon executive. At the time, Verizon had 178,000 employees and the Croton resident had nothing to do with the FiOS rollout.

No doubt Mr. Masur and Ms. Gallelli would claim that it was simply coincidence, and perhaps it was all just due to Ms. Gallelli being five years behind in clearing out her inbox. I was not aware until Mr. Masur's letter this month that for 14 years the village manager was personally involved in a formal review "process" but based on Mr. Masur's new information I am less certain of my previous view that the current village manager is "non-political."

I understand that as a Croton political boss, Mr. Masur is privy to more knowledge of the "process" than the rest of us here in Croton, and so it would have been helpful if Mr. Masur had disclosed back in 2015 that the village manager had—personally and after a review "process"—approved this inappropriate political use of municipal resources.

There is a sharp distinction between what individuals and political groups do versus what is done by the municipality; it is that distinction which separates Village Hall from Tammany Hall.

My letter in this newspaper a few weeks ago was addressed to the positive ethical standard that was set by that 4-1 board resolution vote of November 2017. After reading Mr. Masur's new information it appears that the resolution was more necessary than we residents knew at the time.

Paul Steinberg, Croton-on-Hudson
'Letters' concludes on page 9

On the Beat

Thomas Staudter

Mala Waldron: Women in Jazz

The 16th annual Lady Got Chops Women's History Month Music & Arts Festival is now underway, with events almost nightly through the entire month of March at nearly two dozen different venues around New York City and New Jersey. (The festival has expanded to Boston and Los Angeles this year as well.) Here in Westchester, the BeanRunner Café in Peekskill is participating, once again, in the festival. For the whole schedule, visit ladygotchops.com.

In the meantime, a tip of the cap to BeanRunner Café owners Ted Bitter and Drew Claxton for recognizing the importance of regularly presenting 'live' music in their community, and for ensuring that a wide spectrum of artists and performers alight the stage in the snug confines of their popular café.

Through March, most of the Saturday nights at the BeanRunner are dedicated to the Lady Got Chops Festival, although it opens this Friday, March 2 with the Latin jazz band Anaïsa. The following evening, pianist-vocalist Mala Waldron's La Bella Quartet is performing; then all-women jazz ensemble SAGE, with crowd-pleasing saxophonist Lakecia Benjamin on March 10; Brazilian-Latin jazz percussionist Annette A. Aguilar and the Stringbean 5tet on March 24; and the soul-jazz and funk band Paying It Forward

on March 31. Make reservations and arrive earlier than the 8 p.m. hits in order to get a seat.

It always makes me smile to see Mala Waldron back on the BeanRunner bill. Back in the 1990s and through a good part of the 2000s, Waldron had steady gigs at various venues around Westchester, often with saxophonist Milt Harris. Also, for many years she was part of the First Night celebration in White Plains.

Whenever I talk with Waldron we reminisce and share laughs about the circuit of jazz gigs she used to land around Westchester (she lived in Yonkers for five years until 2008, now she lives in Queens) and some of the local purveyors of the Improviser's Art who are no longer with us, like the wonderful saxophonist Jimmy Hill.

Throughout her career, Waldron has traversed the boundaries between jazz and R&B, without any specific genre to call her own.

"All my life I've felt like I've been in the wrong place," Waldron remarked to me a while back. "I've got the jazz DNA—both my parents were jazz pianists—but then I got my start in a R&B band. I always loved listening to Motown with my older brothers, and thanks to the radio I was influenced by different kinds of music. But once I got serious and started



Mala Waldron

making recordings, the R&B people said I sounded 'too jazzy,' and yet my music didn't sound 'authentic' to hardcore jazz listeners. So, it took me a while to find a niche and be comfortable with the realization that musical artists like myself are combinations of all of the sounds and great music we have experienced in our lives, and that's something we can't lose or run away from."

Waldron's a gifted composer—on her 2006 CD *Always There* there's ten originals and a lone cover, a sensuous take on The Doors' "Light My Fire." She leans toward catchy melodies and harmonic sophistication in her music, with lyrics that broadly chronicle matters of the heart. The arrangements bounce among funk, smooth jazz balladry and pop-inflected R&B rhythms, but the vocals stand out the most. Waldron possesses a strong, classy voice, which she overdubs on her recordings to create a textured vocal background on most tracks which can lift in dizzying scat figures.

And when it's time for a piano solo, she lets it rip, piling ideas on top of each other so quickly that it makes you forget that this is the same individual making you smile with her silvery voice. The last time I saw Waldron perform, in fact, she was showcasing her piano work, and it was obvious that she'd internalized swing and pop fully.

As many musical artists reliant on local gigs will tell you, the scene changed a great deal after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and finding work got harder. Luckily, Waldron found a booking agent about ten years ago who began placing her in festivals and tours around the world. She recently performed seven concerts in Russia, and was also the featured vocalist in three concerts in Italy with the 45-member Magna Grecia Symphony.

"I don't feel like I have a choice to do anything except make music," said Waldron. "It's as if my legs will only let me walk down one path. There's so much music inside of me, I feel I have to get it out every way I can and share it with as many people possible."

In 2016, Waldron released her third solo album, *Deep Resonance*, which took her two-and-a-half years to complete.

"It's a project that I was moving between the front and back burner because of the touring, working on it whenever I

could find the time," she told me.

Named after her father, Mal Waldron, the pioneering modern jazz pianist who played with many of the jazz greats and composed the jazz standard "Soul Eyes," Waldron was born in New York City and raised in its jazz circles; Billie Holiday (who Mal Waldron accompanied for many years) was her godmother. After her parents divorced (her father eventually moved to Europe and lived there for the rest of his life), Waldron lived with her mother out on Long Island, where she graduated from high school before attending SUNY Old Westbury to study music. By then, she was working in a R&B band called Liquid Pleasure that was signed to RCA Records.

Although her mom raised her, Waldron remarked that her father's piano playing was her biggest musical influence while growing up.

"My dad had left by the time I was seven, but my mom always played his records; she wanted me and my younger sister to know him that way. When I first started playing piano I didn't really understand improvisation, but just copied my dad's playing off the records. Today, I can still hear my dad in my playing. He also told me to keep writing. We worked together and even made a record together. He always made a point of playing one of my songs, and that meant so much to me.

"Being a woman in the music industry has gotten better over the years simply because there are more of us now. But going into the business didn't seem strange to me because I come from a musical family. My maternal grandmother played piano and accompanied silent films in theaters to make a living, and, of course, my mother Elaine Waldron supported us with piano playing and singing."

Waldron noted that she tries to hire women to work with her on gigs, and at the BeanRunner on Saturday night she will be leading her La Bella Quartet, which features "Sweet" Lee Odom on saxophone, Sue Williams on bass and Lucianna Padmore on drums.

Mala Waldron's La Bella Quartet will perform as part of the Lady Got Chops Women's History Month Arts & Music Festival on Saturday, March 3 at the BeanRunner Café, 201 South Division Street, Peekskill. The music begins at 8 p.m. For reservations and more info, call 737-1701 or visit beanrunnercafe.com.

Ossining seeks sponsors for concert series, may expand dates

The Town of Ossining is seeking sponsors for its 2018 Summer Waterfront Concert Series at Louis Engel Park on the banks of the Hudson River.

What has become a summertime Friday evening tradition, the series offers the public the ability to listen for free to musical performances by local artists and regional performers, many of whom have a large following beyond just the region. Each year, the Independence Day Fireworks display kicks off the Summer Concert Series (which will take place on Tuesday, July 3 this year), with at least 6,000 people in attendance. The following Fridays bring hundreds of people to the park to enjoy the beautiful Hudson River, while listening to music, choosing from a variety of food vendors and witnessing the breathtaking sunsets with neighbors, family and friends every week until Labor Day.

For the past two summers, concessions have been provided by some of Westchester's best food trucks, and during summer 2017, Ossining welcomed a new local favorite, Good Choice Kitchen of Ossining.

The Summer Concert Series schedule is advertised locally and regionally, with listings in ArtsWestchester, Historic Hudson River Towns—which reaches visitors throughout the Hudson River Valley—and the weekly Town of Ossining Supervisor's Update, which reaches nearly 2,000 subscribers and through the related social media pages associated with these organizations.

Given its popularity, the Town

of Ossining is exploring the possibility of expanding the Summer Concert Series to Saturday nights as well, while also increasing publicity of the weekly events, and both of these efforts will necessitate additional funding, according to the supervisor's office.

Expanding the Summer Concert Series will certainly bring more visitors to the Hudson River each week, and specifically to Ossining, supporting local businesses, artists, and restaurants, and enhancing Ossining's overall appeal, according to a press release.

The town is requesting sponsors to support the growth of this popular showcase of musical talent. All sponsorships \$500 and over will be thanked and mentioned at concerts, and their businesses will be recognized in the weekly Supervisor's Updates leading up to the event, in postings on external websites including ArtsWestchester and Historic Hudson River Towns, and in all social media postings.

For more information on sponsorships, contact the Ossining supervisor's office via e-mail at dlevenberg@townofossining.com or phone, 762-6001.

Bands or performance groups still interested in applying to perform for the Summer Concert Series may do so on-line at: <https://www.townofossining.com/cms/resources/summer-concert-series-band-application>. The deadline for applications is today (Thursday, March 1).

'Celebrating differences'

The White Plains Performing Arts Center will present Lightwire Theatre's "Moon Mouse: A Space Odyssey," at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 4.

Family entertainment geared for children ages five through 10, New Orleans, La.-based Lightwire Theatre's original production is described as a "cosmic adventure" featuring puppetry-based figures highlighted by electroluminescent technology in this story about celebrating differences.

According to the production's narrative, "Marvin the Mouse wants to be popular. Constantly bullied and picked on by the 'cool' rats, he is labeled as a loser and a geek. As respite from the continuous badgering, Marvin retreats into his science books and a world of fantasy. He longs to have adventures and to be the hero. Join Marvin on the space adventure of a lifetime: a trip to the surface of the moon on his homemade rocket where he meets a strange cast of misfit creatures, learns of infinite peril, and views awesome beauty." Tickets are \$20 to \$25. For tickets and more information, go on-line to: wppac.com or call 328-1600.



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Sports

Croton-Harmon wrestlers put in award-winning season

by Rob Caluori

Dual meets and tournament competitions are different things to different teams, but when it came to the Croton-Harmon High School wrestlers, it was individual efforts that identified which kind of squad they were this season.

And without a doubt, the Tigers were supremely better at tournament play than they were in dual meets, primarily because the influence of forfeits on the outcome of the competition was completely left out of the equation.

Paolo Vargas, Sean Martin, Jake Dominello, Nathan Parker, Kris Maksuti and Alex Julian learned this lesson quickly and adopted their efforts towards making a statement in the tournaments and the outcome proved successful as all six wrestlers were honored with All-league awards.

Dominello and Parker stood out on team, not only with their second place finishes in the sectional championships, but with their selection to the All-section team.

This was not much of a shock (Dominello's success)," Croton-Harmon head coach Sam Occhipinti said of his 160-pound wrestler. "He did well in dual meets, but not so much in tournaments. But then he really put it together this season and wrestled well."

In addition to placing second in the section title tournament, Dominello also amassed an impressive winning record as he finished the season with an overall mark of 18-9.

When it came to putting together an impressive record, it was Parker who stood above all the rest, with a team best 23-8 record. At 170 pounds Parker just awed his coaches with his effort and is going to be one of the wrestlers to beat next season as he enters his senior year.

"We thought he was going to be the big guy on the team this year," Occhipinti said. "And he fulfilled our expectations. He was the mainstay of the team and did everything we asked him to do."

With one wrestler returning, the Tigers will also be saying farewell to another as 160-pound, with Julian having competed in his final season. The Croton-Harmon senior put together a winning mark of 13-11 and leaves Croton-Harmon competition with a career record of 43-56. More importantly, he impressed his coaches with a bounce back performance after starting the season slow.

"At one point early in the season he was 2-9," Occhipinti said. "But after some coaching, he went on a tear, winning matches and doing an outstanding job in his final season."

As the team bounces between wrestlers

departing, and there will be five of them this season, the Tigers do look forward to the return of Maksuti, who at 182 pounds holds real promise for a championship season.

"Kris was a bright spot for us this year," Occhipinti said. "He was a pleasant surprise for us because he came out of nowhere and really exploded."

Indeed he did, finishing the season with an overall mark of 22-11, and more importantly emerging as a real tournament wrestler. Maksuti was the champion in the Pearl River tournament and took a third place finish in the sectional championships. Overall, Maksuti placed in four tournaments, a remarkable feat in its own right.

Then there is the lightweight contender on the team in Vargas, who did a little experimenting this year by trying out the 106-pound weight class. As it turned out, the change was not perfect and Vargas had a rocky start before settling in back at 99 pounds. Vargas posted a 19-15 overall mark and finished sixth in the sectional tournament, but more importantly his coaches see a bright future for the second-year wrestler.

"If he can come back at 99 pound next year, he would have a shot at this thing (a sectional title)," Occhipinti said.

Finally, there is Martin, who at 138 pounds has 82 career wins despite posting an 18-19 mark this season in what is a very competitive weight class.

"Pound for pound, Sean is our best wrestler," Occhipinti said. "He was fourth in the sections after not placing at all last year. He is a hard working kid, who made all-league again this year, and finally got on the podium in a very tough weight class. He is going to be one of the mainstays for us next year."

When it comes to next year, Occhipinti expects that it will be another challenging time where he has to work hard to fill out the weight classes, especially in light of losing a lot of wrestlers to graduation.

"I am kind of in trouble next year," Occhipinti said. "I have to do a lot of recruiting with five graduating from the team. We are at a cross roads with the program and will have to see where we are at. "Fortunately for us, there is a flipside to this." Occhipinti said. "If you have 4, 5 or 6 six good kids, you will do well in the tournaments. We will try to recruit and get kids to join the team."

The good news is that the Tigers are not going to be without talent, and like this year, it will be tournament play that defines the team.

Ossining beats the Tigers for a repeat trip to County Center

by Rob Caluori

The battle for the chance to play in Section 1's premier championship venue once again was not lost on the Ossining High School girls basketball team as it embarked on the quarterfinal round of the Class AA title tournament.

Vying for their eighth consecutive appearance at the Westchester County Center in White Plains, the Pride dismantled the team that harkened from that very locale, beating the Tigers, 97-54, to earn a return trip to the semifinals.

Playing at home on Feb. 23, the top ranked Pride wasted no time in establishing the tone of the play by taking a 14-6 lead over the No. 8 seeded White Plains team after the first quarter of play. The explosive nature of the Ossining offense showed itself in the third quarter, where the Pride left the Tigers in the dust with a 40-17 run to take a 41-point lead going into the final period of play.

Ossining was led by the brilliant efforts of Aubrey Griffin, who was virtually unstoppable as she posted a double-double. Griffin scored a game-high 37 points while pulling down 12 rebounds. She also had four steals, three assists and one blocked shot.

When it came to controlling the boards, the Pride dominated in a big way, collecting 41 rebounds. And it was not just the total of rebounds, it was the balance that made all the difference, with 21 boards coming

from the defensive side and 20 from the offensive glass. Then there were the six blocked shots, which came from five different players.

Ossining clearly put in another team effort as the squad vies for its chance to add another gold ball to the school's trophy case. Kelsey Quain put on another long distance shooting clinic, hitting four 3-point baskets for 12 of her 16 points.

Kailah Harris provided the best all-around performance of the day by notching a double-double, with 30 points and 16 rebounds. Harris then added five assists and six steals to her stat total. Ossining Julia Iorio was as solid contributor to the win as well, with eight points, six of which came by way of two 3-point baskets.

The most telling example of the dominance of the Ossining offense came in the third quarter, where Harris, Griffin and Quain all posted double figures in scoring as part of their total on the day.

Adrianna McFadden and Brooke Weeks took advantage of their time on the foul line, where they scored two points apiece. McFadden also had a case of the threes, with three rebounds, assists and steals.

The win over White Plains propelled the Pride to the semifinal round of play, which took place last night. The results of that game were not available at press time, but will be reported in the next issue.

continued on page 7



Holy Name of Mary Knights of Columbus Council had eight shooters win their division in the District Free Throw competition which took place at Saint Columbanus, Cortlandt Manor, on Saturday, February 10. The winners in the girls group were Cara Moore, 9, Kayla McCarthy, 10, Ava Andrews, 11 and Francesca Sarcone, 12. The winners in the boys group were Conor Choy, 9, Sean Grimes, 11, Martin Andrews, 13, and Jake Sharkey, 14. These sharpshooters will now advance to shoot in the Conference Championship at Saint Columbanus on Saturday, March 3. Pictured (l.-r.) are Conor Choy, Sean Grimes, Martin Andrews, Jake Sharkey, Ava Andrews and Cara Moore.

Bears rout North Salem to advance in title tournament

by Rob Caluori

Call it good timing, opportunity and just the wings of fate, but a strange twist of events in the Section 1 Class B quarterfinal gave the Briarcliff High School boys basketball team its chance to return to the Westchester County Center in White Plains.

On Feb. 21, the No. 3 seeded Bears took on the No. 6 seeded North Salem Tigers in a quarterfinal match up that had Briarcliff primed and ready to defend against Kendrick Toucha. However, the confrontation never materialized as the Bears romped to an 80-34 victory to advance to the semifinal round of play.

While the final score clearly indicated a profound advantage of talent on the side of the Bears, the competition might have been different had Toucha been present in the North Salem line up. As it turns out, Toucha represented the lion's share of the attack of North Salem's offense and his absence left a huge void.

As the Tigers big man, Toucha, who towered at 6-4, is a huge presence off the boards and was the primary scorer, averaging 36 point per game for North Salem. So his absence, while strange, impacted not only the scoring quotient, but the psyche of the North Salem players. And just to remove the mystery, Toucha's absence was not because of punitive issues, but more a personal family matter.

Despite the player issue, Briarcliff came to play, and play the Bears did, with 13 members of the team hitting the floor at various times of the game. And they all made a difference, with 10 of them putting points on the board, or adding support with a steal, rebound or an assist.

The scoring was spread around, with four Briarcliff players scoring in double figures. Bears junior Miles Jones had the biggest impact, scoring a game-high 20 points, in addition to making five assists. Jones, who scored nine of his points on three 3-point baskets, also grabbed three rebounds, made three steals and blocked one shot.

Jack Ryan helped spread the basketball around for the Bears and finished with a team-high six assists. Ryan, who had one rebound, also scored in double figures,

adding 14 points to the total, along with making three steals.

As the game progressed, the Bears accelerated the rate of play, going from a 12-9 advantage with 1:59 left to play in the first quarter to a 30-9 lead with six minutes left to play in the first half. At one point, Briarcliff had gone on an 18-0 run to help establish a 38-point lead at the halftime break.

Taijon Tribble, who had one rebound and one assist, scored 11 points, while Jackson Gonseth was part of offensive attack for the Bears and was the fourth player to finish in double figures in scoring with 10 points. Gonseth also had four rebounds and two steals. Henry Anderson did a nice job off the boards, with six rebounds while scoring six points.

Nick Reish, who had two rebounds and one assist, also scored six points. Spencer McCann made his presence known under the basket, where he blocked three shots and pulled down six rebounds. He scored four points, as did A.J Panarese. Kyle Harris hit one 3-point basket for his points in the game, while Tucker Wexler rounded out the total with a basket from the field for two points.

The win over North Salem improved Briarcliff overall record to 18-4. The Bears were slated to play No. 2 seeded Irvington on Feb. 26 at the Westchester County Center. The game was scheduled for a 4:45 tip off. The results of the contest were not available at press time, but will be reported in the next issue.

Girls advance to County Center too

After a first round bye in the Section 1 Class championship tournament, the No. 2 seeded Briarcliff High School girls basketball team took on the Dobbs Ferry Eagles in the quarterfinals on Feb. 21. The Bears secured a berth in the semifinals after beating the Eagles 70-57.

Briarcliff was matched up against the No. 4 seeded Valhalla Vikings in what was a 6:30 game. The results of the contest were not available at press time, but will be reported in the next issue.

Sailors season continues after beating Byram Hills

by Rob Caluori

The run continues for the Hendrick Hudson High School boys basketball team. Yes, the Sailors sensational season is soaring to new heights, with the team making an appearance at the Westchester County Center in White Plains for the first time since 1991.

After collecting their first league title in 30 years, the Sailors prepped for the Section 1 Class A championship season by sticking to the fundamentals and playing solid basketball. The result was immediate, with Hen Hud winning its first round game against the No. 13 seeded Beacon Bulldogs.

And then came the match up that would decide who would get the chance to head

to the semifinals and hallowed hardwood of the Westchester County Center. The game for the Sailors would provide an even match up, with the No. 5 seeded Byram Hills Bobcats pitted against the No. 4 seeded Hen Hud squad.

The Feb. 24 quarterfinal game would be played on the Sailors home court, and that advantage would prove valuable, especially since the outcome would be a nail biter and would require all the partisan support Hen Hud could muster.

In the end, the clutch foul shooting of Dylan Fraser in the overtime session would make all the difference as the Sailors

continued on page 7

Chervokas named county board Democrats' communications chief

Jason Chervokas, a journalist, educator and entrepreneur with more than two decades of experience in the news business, is the new coordinator of communication efforts on behalf of the Westchester County Board of Legislators' chairman and Democratic Majority Caucus. His appointment was effective Monday.



Jason Chervokas

Mr. Chervokas comes to county government from ABC Radio, the national network radio arm of ABC News. As part of the team at ABC Radio, he was a two-time recipient of the Edward R. Murrow for Overall Excellence from the Radio Television Digital News Association.

During his long career, Mr. Chervokas, 54, has served as reporter, editor and investor in print, broadcast and digital news ventures, covering politics, business, media technology and the arts while working with major news organizations like The New York Times and top news talents such as National public Radio's Kurt Andersen.

As an internet entrepreneur, Mr. Chervokas was co-founder and co-editor of @NY, a pioneering early on-line publication and the first publication of any sort to cover the internet and new media industries in New York. During his stint running @NY, Mr. Chervokas directed coverage, developed new products, hired staff and completed deals with a range of other news organizations and ultimately negotiated the successful sale of the company to Internet.com. During this period, he served on the Board of Directors of the New York New Media Association and on a Silicon Alley advisory group for the Diebold Institute for Public Policy Studies and was a frequent speaker at industry events.

"Jason is an excellent choice to direct our multi-faceted communications strategy," said Legislator Ben Boykin (D-White Plains), who became chair of the 17-member Board of Legislators last month. "He is a seasoned and creative professional who will enhance our abilities to improve all aspects of our messaging using diversified media platforms."

Mr. Chervokas is a graduate of the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism where he won the Emily Genaur Prize in Arts Criticism, and has taught journalism to undergraduates.

A lifelong Westchester resident raised in Briarcliff Manor, his involvement in local political and community affairs began with volunteering for Jimmy Carter's New York presidential primary run and continued through the formation of a community advocacy group, the Hastings Community Coalition, and volunteer work on various town and county campaigns. He and his wife Leslie reside in Hastings-on-Hudson.

He is the son of Roseanna Chervokas of Briarcliff Manor and the late John Chervokas, a former Town of Ossining supervisor and retired Madison Avenue advertising executive who also served as executive director of the Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce.

Annatje Ludlum of Ossining earned Dean's List honors at Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, Pa., for the fall 2017 semester.

Ms. Ludlum studies Elementary Education Pre K-4th Grade in the university's College of Arts and Sciences.

Ossining sports

from page 6

After opening round thriller, Rivertown eliminated by North Rockland

The Rivertown Legends, Ossining's high school varsity ice hockey team, has been thrilling fans all season long with its comeback performances and lightning quick responses on offense. And now that the playoffs were under way, the Legends continued to play the same style of hockey exhibited all season.

On Feb. 16, Rivertown, the No. 3 seed in the Section 1 Division I championship tournament, went up against No. 14 seeded Carmel on the opening round of play. Typical of the Legends, they made the contest a thriller by falling behind 2-0, requiring another miracle finish if they were to advance in the competition.

True to the team's pattern of play, Rivertown went on to score three unanswered goals, including the game winner by Ben Birkhahn in the overtime period for a 3-2 victory. While Birkhahn played the hero with the overtime goal, it was the score by Jacob Brooks that made all the difference. With Rivertown trailing 2-1 with 42 seconds left to play, Brooks fired home the game-tying goal that sent the contest into overtime.

Rivertown's Jack Pfeffer scored the first goal of the contest for the Legends, while Jonas Davidowitz was in goal and made 13 saves for the win.

After the overtime victory over Carmel, the Legends took on another underdog in the tournament in No. 6 seeded North Rockland. The only difference this time was that Rivertown ran out of pixie dust and was eliminated by a 9-1 score.

Kevin Kern provided the lone score for the Legends, while five different North Rockland players posted goals in the match. Luke MacMillan and Colin Callanan stood out for North Rockland, scoring two goals apiece.

Hen Hud sports

from page 6

squeaked by the Bobcats, winning 59-52 to advance to the semifinals and a match up against No. 8 seeded Ardsley on Feb. 27.

Ardsley is playing the Cinderella of the tournament and advanced to play the Sailors by knocking off the top ranked Rye team on Feb. 23. Ardsley made it look easy, and after taking a 17-15 halftime lead, the underdogs put the game away by a comfortable margin, winning 53-42 for a date with the Sailors.

The results of the semifinals between Hen Hud and Ardsley were not available at press time, but will be reported in the next issue.

Prior to the trip the County Center, Hen Hud had to work hard for the right to play Ardsley, falling behind Byram Hills 15-12 after the first quarter of play. Skylor Simon proved to a tough challenge for the Hen Hud defense. Despite losing to the Sailors, Simon was the best offensive player on the court, scoring a game-high 23 points.

And while Simon proved to be a formidable presence, the Sailors played tough and by the end of the third quarter, they owned a 33-32 lead. Kyle James led the offense for Hen Hud and scored a team-high 21 points as the two teams played a final period of play in a nip and tuck fashion.

At the end of regulation, the two teams ended up tied, forcing overtime. In the overtime period, the Sailors, Fraser locked up the win for the home team by draining two foul shots with just 23 seconds left to play to make the score 56-52. Hen Hud's defense then kicked into gear and Byram Hills would not score the rest of the way.

Mekhi Gray had a huge influence on the game for the Sailors, collecting the double-double, scoring 12 points while pulling down 10 rebounds. For Byram Hills, Willy Samsen also scored in double figures with 12 points.

Hen Hud went into the semifinals with an overall mark of 18-4, while the Bobcats fell to 16-6 for the season.

Staudt named board chair of United Hebrew/New Rochelle

James Staudt, a partner in the law firm of McCullough, Goldberger & Staudt, LLP in White Plains, has been named the chair of United Hebrew of New Rochelle's Board of Directors.

In his new role, Mr. Staudt will provide leadership to the board and help to ensure United Hebrew remains a vital organization that is true to its mission by being responsive to the wide-ranging needs of today's seniors and an evolving healthcare environment, according to the organization.

Converging trends—healthcare reform, advances in medicine and technology, and an aging population with more complex and chronic conditions, are resulting in a growing demand for the services United Hebrew provides, notes Mr. Staudt.

"We're in a hugely dynamic moment for eldercare," said Mr. Staudt, who serves as counsel to various municipalities, including the Village of Croton-on-Hudson. "People are living longer, they want to stay active and vibrant, and we know more about how to help them do that. With the increased need for services, United Hebrew is well-positioned to remain a leader in the industry."

United Hebrew meets the daily health and medical needs of over 1,000 seniors across its continuing care community, from those who are living independently to those with advanced healthcare needs. It encompasses a 296-bed nursing home, a seven-story assisted living facility, a low-income senior citizen apartment residence, an Alzheimer/Dementia facility, and facilities supporting community health outreach programs.

Mr. Staudt, a resident of Larchmont, has been a member of United Hebrew's board since 2013.

He says he was drawn to serving on the board after providing legal services to the organization. Each time he visited the campus, Mr. Staudt said he noticed that every staff member—from the CEO to the custodians—stopped to engage with every resident they encountered over the course of a day. And on every floor he visited, he saw residents involved in an array of activities, such as art, music, or pet therapy. The level of engagement was significant, he explained.

Coming from a large family, Mr. Staudt says his parents were fortunate to have many individuals to help care for them in their final years. "Not every senior is so fortunate. So, it is critical for families to have access to quality caregivers and healthcare providers as they age," he said.

Mr. Staudt continued to say that he expected to have a smooth transition from board member to board chair, because of the extraordinary leadership

and commitment of the board's previous leaders—some of whom served for many years, following generations of family members before them. "I can't take their place, but I will stand on their shoulders and carry on their work," he said.

Mr. Staudt has practiced land use and real estate law throughout eastern New



James Staudt

York including representation of lenders in complex building loan transactions and representation of private and public entities in land use matters. He has represented religious institutions and municipalities in cases regarding the U.S. Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000, which protects individuals and religious institutions from discrimination in zoning and landmarking laws, and has regularly lectured on RLUIPA and other land use topics. He was general Counsel to the former Sound Federal Savings and a member of their board of directors.

He is a past-president of the Westchester County Bar Association Foundation, a past member of the Westchester County Bar Association Attorney Client Economic Dispute Committee, and former co-chair of the Westchester County Bar, Real Property Section.

Mr. Staudt received his Juris Doctor from Villanova University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, from Boston College.

"Jim Staudt has the experience, and the heart, to help guide United Hebrew as we continue to expand our reach in the region," said Rita Mabli, president and CEO of United Hebrew of New Rochelle. "We are fortunate to have someone of his caliber at the helm."

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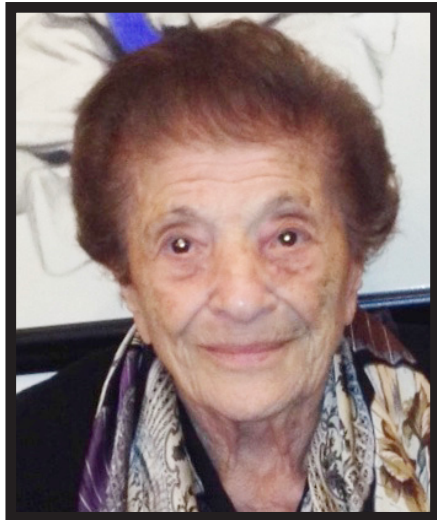
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Obituaries

Clara Fontana

Clara Fontana, 108, passed away on Wednesday, February 21, 2018. She lived a beautiful life dedicated to her family and friends.



Clara was born on December 1, 1909 in Mount Vernon. Decades of hard work, and her passion for family and friends kept her young at heart.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband Phillip and son Frank.

Clara is survived by her loving son John and his wife Linda and daughter Lucille and her husband Anthony. She is also survived by 10 loving grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She always credited her longevity to hard work and clean living.

On Clara's 108th birthday, she received a special Proclamation from the County of Westchester naming December 1, 2017 "Clara Fontana Day."

A celebration of Clara's life was held Sunday afternoon at the Waterbury and Kelly Funeral Home, Briarcliff Manor. A funeral service was held Monday morning at the funeral home followed by interment at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, New Rochelle.

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Charles H. Braun

Charles H. Braun of Carmel passed away on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, two days before his 81st birthday after a long, brave battle with cancer.

He was born in Philadelphia, Pa. on February 22, 1937, the son of Herman and Helen Brennan Braun.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara; son Charles and his wife Marianne of Cortlandt Manor; daughters Barbara Koob and her husband James of Apex, N.C., Julie Carpenter and her husband Marcus of Redding, Conn. and Tara Walitynski and her husband Jon of New Milford, Conn.; his brother Richard of Churchville, Pa.; his sister Helen Walker of Zephyr Hills, Fla.; eight grandchildren, Daniel, Charlie, Christopher, Anika, Michael, Anna, Amanda and Zachary; and two great-grandchildren, Roman and Skye.

Charles graduated from Northeast Catholic High School. He retired as a senior computer scientist with ITT in Nutley, N.J.

Charles loved building model airplanes, fishing, skiing and playing with electronics.

He will be sadly missed by his family and friends though his persistence to live will continue on with all of us.

A memorial mass was celebrated Saturday morning at St. John the Evangelist Church, Mahopac.

Memorial donations to St. John's Church, 221 East Lake Boulevard, Mahopac, NY 10541 or the American Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

Arrangements were handled by the Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home, Mahopac.

Judith E. Varian

Judith E. Varian of Remsen, N.Y., wife of George E., passed away while surrounded by her loving family on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at St. Luke's Memorial Hospital, New Hartford, N.Y. She was 79 years of age.

Judy was born on February 20, 1939, in Peekskill, a daughter of Richard C. and Dorothy Collard Horne. She grew up in Mohegan Lake and graduated from Lakeland High School with the Class of 1956.

On August 15, 1956, Judy married the love of her life, George E. Varian, at St. Mary's Church, Mohegan Lake. Thereafter the couple lived in the Peekskill area where Mrs. Varian was employed in the insurance business for her father at The Horne Insurance Agency and later for many years at Spadaccia, Ryan & Haas Insurance Agency in Yorktown Heights.

In 2000 the couple retired to their present home in Remsen, which has been family-owned since 1965.

Judy greatly enjoyed being a loving wife and homemaker. She possessed a keen interest in bird-watching and bird feeding, with a great intrigue for hummingbirds and eagles. She found much joy and satisfaction from gardening and identifying wild flowers.

In addition to her loving husband of over 60 years, Judy is survived by three daughters and sons in law, Lynn Tecchio (John) of Mahopac, Patricia Chany (Chris) of Lago Vista, Tex. and Elizabeth Gleason (Patrick) of Putnam Valley; beloved grandchildren James Hunt, Sara O'Reilly (Jeremy Foley), Joshua Tecchio, Christopher Chany (Normandy), Kathryn Altmann (Michael), Caitlin Morgan (Peter), Tara Gleason, Patrick Gleason and Brian Gleason; three great-grandchildren, James, Jaxson and Parker; and her sister Meredith Dale of Illinois.

A funeral service was held at noon Saturday at the Trainor Funeral Home, Inc., Boonville, N.Y.

Memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society, 100 Lomond Court, Utica, NY 13502 would be appreciated by the family.



Frances A. Dawson

Frances A. Dawson of Cortlandt Manor passed away on Monday, February 26, 2018. She was 77 years of age.

She was born on July 23, 1940 in Mount Vernon to Vincent J. Berardi and Anna M. Sciancalepore Berardi.



Frances received her Bachelor of Science in Education in 1961 from SUNY New Paltz and was in the sorority Alpha Kappa Phi. She received her Master of Science in Education in 1988 from Fordham University.

She was a teacher at Yonkers city schools for two years, the Hendrick Hudson School district for four years and the Haldane school district for 20 years. After retiring in 2002 she wrote educational material for Brain Worx and taught creative writing at SummerArts in Katonah.

She was on the Executive Board of the New York Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital Auxiliary as recording secretary and editor of the Auxiliary Newsletter. She was a volunteer in the hospital gift shop for seven years and served various fundraising organizations, including the NYP/HVH Auxiliary Scholarship Committee.

She was predeceased by her husband of 53 years, William H. Dawson, Sr.

She is survived by her three children, William H. Dawson, Jr. of Hyde

Phelps unveils Reflux Center

Physicians from Phelps Hospital's departments of otolaryngology (ear, nose & throat or ENT) and gastroenterology (GI) have joined together to establish the Phelps Hospital Reflux Center.

At the center, the physicians work together to coordinate care of patients who suffer from acid reflux and its related symptoms. The team is led by Dr. Craig H. Zalvan, a laryngologist and Medical Director of the Institute for Voice and Swallowing Disorders; Dr. Diana Winston-Comartin, a gastroenterologist who specializes in women's health as related to GI and motility; and Dr. Peter H. Stein, Director Of Advanced Endoscopy, who specializes in advanced and therapeutic endoscopy, the procedure commonly used to examine the esophagus (swallowing tube), stomach, and duodenum (first portion of small bowel).

Acid reflux, which occurs when acidic stomach contents rise up into the esophagus, can cause symptoms in both the esophagus and upper digestive tract as far as the vocal cords. A gastroenterologist treats patients who are affected by the reoccurrence of acidic stomach contents. An ENT treats patients experiencing symptoms from acidic stomach contents advancing further upward. Heartburn, regurgitation, cough, a hoarse voice, and the sensation of something stuck in the throat could all be symptoms of acid-related disease.

ENT and GI physicians normally work separately and often refer patients to each other when appropriate. The benefit of the Phelps Reflux Center is that the GIs and ENTs work together to quickly identify and treat the cause of the reflux symptoms, according to a Phelps spokesperson.

One treatment focus for patients at the Reflux Center will be diet, which directly impacts the stomach and digestive systems. Dr. Zalvan recently released a report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* that showed a plant-based diet can reduce the reliance on PPIs – proton pump inhibitors –

Rosina Palombo Santucci

Rosina "Rose" Palombo Santucci died on Saturday February 24, 2018 at the age of 82.

She lived a beautiful life dedicated to her family and friends.

Rosina was born on June 7, 1935 in Sassinoro, Italy.

She was a well-respected employee of the Cedar Manor Nursing Home for 28 years.

She is survived by her loving husband Celestino Santucci. They were married for 64 years.

They raised three children, Michael (Tracy), Gino (Kathleen) and Michelina (Mickie). Rosina is also survived by her brother Donato Palombo and sister Christina Parthemore and was a devoted grandmother to seven loving grandchildren, Mathew, Peter, Kyle, Celeste, Josh, Sarah and Alicia.

She was predeceased by a son, Larry, and by a sister, Michelina Conte.

Rose was widely known as a woman with a generous spirit and a welcoming smile.

A funeral mass was celebrated Wednesday morning at St. Ann's Church, Ossining. Interment followed at St. Augustine Cemetery, Ossining.

Memorial donations to the Alzheimer's Association of Westchester would be appreciated by the family.

Arrangements were handled by Leach & Thomas, Inc., Ossining.

Park, N.Y., Elizabeth A. Dawson Vaculik (William) of Wappingers Falls, N.Y. and Jonathan P. Dawson (Melissa) of Hopewell Junction, N.Y.; nine grandchildren, Michael Kraus (Courtney), Nicole, Lourdes and Adam Dawson, Anna and Grace Vaculik, and Julia, Samantha and Katelyn Dawson; and one great-grandchild, Kelsey Kraus. Also surviving is her sister-in-law Mary Jane Murray (Calvin) of Rye Brook.

Her family will be receiving friends today (Thursday, March 1) at the Joseph F. Nardone Funeral Home, 414 Washington Street, Peekskill from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. A funeral mass will be held at Church of the Holy Spirit, 1969 Crompond Road, Cortlandt Manor, at 11 a.m. Friday, March 2. Private cremation will follow.

which are commonly prescribed to treat reflux. One PPI, Nexium, is the second most prescribed medication in the United States. That means that for all medical conditions for which medications are prescribed in the country, there is only one drug prescribed more often than Nexium.

The possible long-term side effects for these types of medications remain unclear; however, potentially they can include infections of the GI tract, pneumonia, stomach infections, osteoporosis, kidney disease and dementia. They may also increase the risk of stroke.

The goal of the new center is to get patients off medicines traditionally used to treat reflux through diet and lifestyle-based approaches, said Dr. Stein.

"The more that is learned about this class of meds, the more it is becoming evident that there are potentially some serious long-term, harmful side effects," Dr. Stein explained. "We want to change the standard approach to reflux."

The center is located at 777 North Broadway on the Phelps campus where the two departments are already office neighbors. For more information, call 1-833-XREFLUX (973-3589).





Girls' Night Out, a heartwarming evening on Friday, February 9 at the Westchester Marriott, Tarrytown featuring tributes to heart disease survivors and their supporters, raised \$80,000 for the Westchester Medical Center Health Network's Heart and Vascular Institute. The women were joined on stage by hospital team members who supported them through their care and recovery. Pictured are Cardiologist Dr. Chhaya Aggarwal, heart transplant recipient Maria Quizhpi of Montrose and WCBS TV anchor and the evening's emcee, Mary Calvi. The Heart and Vascular Institute offers a wide range of cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery and vascular surgery services to patients of all ages.

State Senator Terrence Murphy (R-40) is pictured (right) with students at Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School, Buchanan, where the students instituted their own version of 'Valentines 4 Vets' as a way to say thank you to local veterans. The senator collected the cards from the students, distributing them to appreciative patients at the New York State Veterans Home in Montrose. 'There are no words that can adequately express what our veterans' sacrifices have meant to our nation. However, we can take time to express our personal thanks and show our appreciation. No one should be alone on Valentine's Day, and with the help of the thoughtful students from Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School, these veterans have not been forgotten.' 'We are fortunate to partner with the senator's office on this initiative to recognize and bring cheer and smiles to our veterans, said Hendrick Hudson schools Superintendent Joseph Hochreiter. 'The lessons our students learned were invaluable, and I know they were proud to send Valentine's Day cards to brighten the day for those who have served our country with dignity and honor.' The valentines were distributed during National Salute to Veterans Patients Week, celebrated this year from February 11 through 17. Individuals and families are encouraged during the annual event to pay tribute and express appreciation to veterans, increase community awareness of the role of Veterans Administration medical centers, and to visit hospitalized veterans and become regularly involved as volunteers.



Gouveia

from page 1

installation of various railings; and \$2,200 for new window shades or blinds. Ms. King said that if the village rented the premises for a couple of years, it could end up generating revenue while giving the trustees more time to consider the long-term uses. Board members indicated they need more time to consider the rental option. Ms. King said she needed more time nonetheless to see if the list of work could be fine-tuned and the projected cost decreased. Trustee Sherry Horowitz appeared skeptical that the house could generate as much as \$5,500 a month in rent, considering its location, surrounded by a park with people walking about. But Trustee Ann Gallelli said she believes there is a demand for leases of a year or two by persons not wishing to become permanent residents but whose jobs have them working in the area. There was no discussion as to whether renting the house could result in the Town of Cortlandt partially decreasing the overall property's tax-exempt status. The town assesses property in the village for town, county and Croton-Harmon

school district property tax calculations. The philanthropy of Laurel and John Gouveia in terms of local real property is also evident in the Village of Ossining, which acquired the 6,500 square foot former Bank for Savings building at 200 Main Street in January 2004 for one dollar from Mr. Gouveia. The retired limousine company owner, who died at age 79 two years later, had acquired it in 2001 with the vision of transforming the structure, built in 1908, into an art gallery/cultural arts center. But after spending tens of thousands of dollars on repairs, he turned it over to the village. Ossining officials had estimates as late as 2007 of \$2.5 million-plus in needed repairs and renovations costs, give or take \$100,000 or so for removal of extensive mold in the basement--very possibly caused by the same natural spring that fed a long-gone water trough for horses in the intersection of Main Street and North Highland Avenue (Route 9). The building remains literally a vacant shell. Several proposals for the village selling off the property for re-use have come and gone over the years, lastly in 2017 when a proposal for a food hall fell through.

'Letters'

from page 4

To the editor:
The essence of democracy is the free and open interaction between the citizenry and its representatives. At town hall meetings, citizens express their concerns and hopes for the future and officeholders explain their positions and plans. Sounds simple, doesn't it?
But, in New York's 40th Senate District, it's not that simple at all. Senator Terrence Murphy has not held such a town hall in living memory, and none has been scheduled for the foreseeable future. When asked, his staff can shed no light on when Mr. Murphy might meet with his constituents. Even worse, when questioned about his positions on various issues, his staffers, paid by us taxpayers, either claim ignorance or provide only vague generalizations. Either the staff is hopelessly uninformed about Mr. Murphy's positions or they have been instructed not to provide any information to his constituents.
By contrast, Assemblywoman Sandy Galef held five town halls in her district over the recent recess, and Robert Kesten, who is challenging Mr. Murphy in S.D. 40, has held four such sessions, with more on the schedule.
One can only conclude that either Mr. Murphy feels disdain for his constituents and doesn't care what they think, or he lives in dread of meeting with them. Is he hiding something? Does he fear that there is something untoward that will be unearthed in the record that he flaunts in his slick mailings (many paid for by the taxpayers)?
C'mon, Mr. Murphy. Sit down and talk with us. Really, your constituents are good people. And, if you meet us, you might actually like us. And we promise not to bite.
Sincerely,
Joel E. Gingold, Croton-on-Hudson

To the editor:
I was devastated by the latest round of mass gun violence at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14. Seventeen lives taken in six minutes.
Wanting to take a positive step, I reached out to our local New York State Senator Terence Murphy to find out his views and actions on gun violence. I asked his representative what was Mr. Murphy's position on the NY SAFE Act (New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act of 2013) which requires universal background checks that are designed to keep guns out of the hands of people with dangerous mental illness and criminals while not restricting guns to hunters and people who want a gun to defend themselves. The representative on the phone was not sure what Mr. Murphy's stance on the NY SAFE Act was. I find this very troubling as the last

written documentation I could find on Mr. Murphy's record on the NY SAFE Act was a debate he had in October 2016 where Mr. Murphy said he wanted to weaken or repeal the NY SAFE Act.
I shared with the staff member that I found this lack of a clear stance from Mr. Murphy on gun issues very troubling. I went on to ask if there were plans for Mr. Murphy to hold a town hall to give constituents an opportunity to engage in a dialogue about this issue. The representative did not know when a town hall would be scheduled and advised me to check the website to see if one would be held.
In this day and age of random violence and an increasing lack of civility, I use this letter to respectfully ask Mr. Murphy to schedule a town hall to give his constituents an opportunity to engage with him in conversation about issues of concern to all of us. We should expect no less from our elected officials.
Sincerely,
Bettina Mayer, Croton-on-Hudson

To the editor:
Ever since the first library opened its door in the colonial period libraries have been centers of community and learning. The library stands as a great equalizer, sharing information regardless of ability to pay.
A lot has changed since our colonial days, but libraries have remained a cornerstone of our lives and a cherished resource for many in our community. Over 51% of New Yorkers are registered library users. While there are so many ways to use and benefit from our libraries, there have been few ways to return the favor and give back to libraries.
The Love Your Library Fund allows for people to give to libraries on their income tax return form, thereby funding summer reading programs for students. These summer reading programs help over two million students retain reading skills over summer breaks and develop a love for reading and libraries, helping teachers reduce the time spent re-teaching skills that are lost over the summer. On average, teachers spend four to six weeks reminding students of material they have forgotten. Summer reading programs help to reduce that time.
There is no better time or easier way to help fund a library program that benefits the next generation of leaders than by making their continued success a priority while filling out your tax returns. I encourage you all to make a donation to the program through a tax check off on your tax return forms this year and to support our libraries, our communities, and our students. Thank you.
Sincerely,
Sandy Galef, Ossining, Assemblywoman, 95th District

Briarcliff/noise

from page 1

and federal holidays. The board also continued to hear complaints from residents about private carters serving commercial customers as early as 3 a.m. As well, a representative of the residents association for the 66-unit Copley Court condominium on North State Road asked the board to look into possible provisions that would address the sound of pre-dawn truck idling and the shifting of heavy dumpsters during late-night and early morning hours at the nearby A.T.N.M. Corp. carting company yard. Former village Mayor Keith Austin, whose Hawthorn Place home abuts the former Elm Road campus of

Pace University, complained about the sound of a generator that he said has been running continuously since mid-January. The generator was brought to the site after electricity was turned off by Con Edison. The 37-acre former college campus, which has nine low-rise buildings, was purchased in December 2016 for \$17.35 million by a Chinese-backed non-profit, the Research Center on Natural Conservation. While Briarcliff Manor officials say there has been no dialogue with the new owner on their future intentions for the property, the village has several building, safety and fire code violations pending against the organization in village court.

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Send your check to:
**The Gazette, P.O. Box 810
Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520-0810**



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Board of Trustees of the Village of Briarcliff Manor** will hold a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter on the 7th day of March, 2018 in the William J. Vescio Community Center located at 1 Library Road, Briarcliff Manor, New York to hear and consider an application for the renewal of a Special Use Permit issued to the **American Anglican Church (Holy Innocents)** to operate a church in a residential zone.

Christine Dennett,
Village Clerk

Dated: February 27, 2018



VILLAGE OF OSSINING

Planning Department

John Paul Rodrigues Ossining Operations Center
101 Route 9A
Ossining, N.Y. 10562
Tel: (914)762-6232

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

AGENDA NO. 3

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018
7:00 PM

ZBA 21-16

William Baker, Owner, Croton Ave., 89.19-2-17 in an MF-2 zoned district

Applicant Request: *Applicant is seeking to construct on an existing non-conforming lot.*

Date Originally Submitted: November 7, 2016

Comments: The Planning Board has declared lead agency.

ZBA 27-17

Walter Guerrero, Owner, 182 Spring St., 97.07-5-55 in a T zoned district

Applicant Request: *Applicant is seeking a use variance to re-establish a laundromat on the first floor in a two-family zone.*

Date Originally Submitted: December 12, 2017

Comments: Application previously adjourned pending submission of additional information.

ZBA 01-18

Hudson Point LLC, Owner, 65 North Malcolm St., 89.15-4-68 in a T zoned district

Applicant Request: *Applicant is seeking variances to renovate an existing single-family residence and convert it into a two-family residence.*

Date Originally Submitted: March 13, 2018

Comments: New Application

Additional Business of the Board

- Approval of minutes from the February 13th, 2018 meeting.

**THE NEXT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON:
TUESDAY, APRIL 10th, 2018**

LEGAL NOTICE

SEALED BIDS will be received and publicly opened at the Office of the Purchasing Director of the Town of Cortlandt, Town Hall, One Heady Street, Cortlandt Manor, New York at **2:00PM, March 20, 2018**, for bidding on **Camp Bus Transportation, Bid #18-02**.

Those interested in submitting bids may secure copies of the specifications and proposals at the above address during business hours weekdays.

Peter H. McMillan
Purchasing Director

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Commissioners of the Montrose Improvement District, an Improvement District located in the Town of Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York until Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. E.S.T. for Bid# 2017.1, Chester Harrison Drive Water Main Replacement. The bid opening will be held on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. E.S.T.

All pertinent documents, information and specifications may be obtained at the office of said Commissioners beginning February 26, 2018 at 2065 East Main Street in the Town of Cortlandt, Westchester County, NY 10567. To request a bid specification package, please call 914-737-5380 extension 121.

Pre-bid site visits may be made up to and including March 12, 2018, by appointment only. Please call 914-403-8485 to make your appointment.

The bidder assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or in handling of mail by the Montrose Improvement District or its agent(s). The bidder assumes the responsibility for having bids on time at the place specified above.

Every bid shall be accompanied by a Non-Collusion Affidavit and Hold Harmless Statement properly executed by the bidder. Proposals shall be accompanied by cash, a bid bond or a certified check payable to the Montrose Improvement District in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid.

This Contract is subject to the prevailing wage determination made by the New York State Department of Labor.

All bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"MID Bid# 2017.1, Chester Harrison Drive Water Main Replacement."**

The Montrose Improvement District reserves the right to waive any informality in the bids, to reject any or all bids and reserves the right to accept that bid which it deems most favorable to the interests of the Montrose Improvement District. No bidder may withdraw his bid within (90) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Sealed proposals must be addressed to the Montrose Improvement District, in care of the Business Director of the Northern Westchester Joint Water Works at the above address.

Catherine Paget
Business Director, NWJWW

Board of Commissioners –
William Dalton
Robert Pesik
Raymond Reber

LOCAL LAW NO. 2 of 2018

A Local Law known and cited as Amendment to Town Code to Remove Ten-Year Limitation on Residential Real Property Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at the Regularly Scheduled meeting of the **Town Board of the Town of Ossining**, which was held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, the Town Board did adopt Local Law No. 2 of 2018.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Ossining as follows:

SECTION 1. Purpose and Intent. New York Real Property Tax Law ("RPTL") § 458-b was enacted by the New York State Legislature in 2007 and authorizes municipalities to adopt local legislation to provide a residential real property tax exemption for qualifying property owners who are Cold War veterans. The Town Board enacted such legislation in Chapter 180, Article VIII of the Town Code ("Real Property Exemption for Cold War Veterans") by Local Law No. 1-2008 on April 22, 2008. When RPTL § 458-b was first enacted, the statute stated that the exemption could only be granted for a period of ten years and that ten-year limitation is set forth in Town Code § 180-30, entitled "Duration of Exemption." In September 2017, the State Legislature amended RPTL § 458-b to authorize municipalities that had enacted the exemption to adopt local legislation removing the ten-year limitation. If the Town Board does not adopt such legislation, the exemption will expire in or about April 2018. This Board recognizes the invaluable service that has been provided by all veterans and believes it is important to assist veterans in those ways authorized by law. Therefore, this Board is considering amending Town Code § 180-30 to remove the ten-year limitation and allow those eligible residential real property owners who are Cold War veterans to continue to utilize the exemption so long as it is authorized by State law.

SECTION 2. Town Code § 180-30 is hereby amended to incorporate the italicized text and delete the strikethrough text to read as follows:

In accordance with the provisions of § 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law as amended by Chapter 290 of the Laws of 2017, the exemption provided by Subsection A of § 180-29 of this article shall apply to qualified owners of qualified residential real property for as long as they remain qualified owners.

SECTION 3. Validity. The invalidity of any provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other portion of this Local Law which can be given effect without such invalid provision.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State, and is subject to review and renewal by resolution of the Town Board for an additional period of time, effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF OSSINING

Mary Ann Roberts
Town Clerk
February 28, 2018

LOCAL LAW 2-2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the **Village Board of the Village of Ossining**, which was held on February 21, 2018 the Village Board of Trustees did adopt Local Law No. 2-2018 A Local Law amending Chapter 241, Article IV (Taxation, Cold War Veterans Exemption) section 241-23 (Duration) of the Village of Ossining Code.

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ossining as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 241, Article IV, section 241-23 (Duration) is amended as follows with deleted matter in [brackets] and new matter underlined.

§ 241-23 Duration.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law as amended by Chapter 290 of the Laws of 2017, the exemption authorized pursuant to section 241-22A of this Article shall apply to qualifying owners of qualifying real property for as long as they remain qualifying owners, without regard to the ten year limitation.

[The exemption provided by § 241-22A of this article shall be granted for a period of 10 years. The commencement of such ten-year period shall be governed pursuant to this section. Where a qualified owner owns qualifying residential real property on the effective date of this article, or such other date as may be set forth in § 458-b, Subdivision 2(c), of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, such ten-year period shall be measured from the assessment roll prepared pursuant to the first taxable status date occurring on or after the effective date of this article, or such other date as may be set forth in § 458-b, Subdivision 2(c), of the New York State Real Property Tax Law. Where a qualified owner does not own qualifying residential real property on the effective date of this article, or such other date as may be set forth in § 458-b, Subdivision 2(c), of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, such ten-year period shall be measured from the assessment roll prepared pursuant to the first taxable status date occurring at least 60 days after the date of purchase of qualifying residential real property; provided, however, that should the veteran apply for and be granted an exemption on the assessment roll prepared pursuant to a taxable status date occurring within 60 days after the date of purchase of residential real property, such ten-year period shall be measured from the first assessment roll in which the exemption occurs. If, before the expiration of such ten-year period, such exempt property is sold and replaced with other residential real property, such exemption may be granted pursuant to this section for the unexpired portion of the ten-year exemption period.]

Section 2. Effective Date
This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

BY ORDER OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mary Ann Roberts
Village Clerk
Dated: February 22, 2018
Ossining, NY 10562

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ossining, Westchester County New York, at a meeting held on the 21st day of February, 2018, duly adopted the resolution published herewith **SUBJECT TO A PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM**.

Dated: Ossining, New York,
February 21, 2018.

Mary Ann Roberts Village Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 21,
2018.

The Gazette Classified

Place one Classified Ad of up to 20 words for only \$8.00; additional words 40 cents each. All subsequent insertions half price. Mail, e-mail or fax. Copy to The Gazette, with follow-up payment by mail. Contact information is located on the bottom of page 2. Deadline: Tuesday noon prior to Thursday publication.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

COLLEGE CONSULTANT -- Don't stress about evaluating colleges and getting the applications completed! Ivy Lewis can help you and your high school junior/senior through this difficult process. Contact www.crotoncollegeconsulting.com -- 914-645-2664.

FINE ART APPRAISALS AND ADVISORY SERVICES

-- for individual objects and collections. Appraisers Association of America and Christie's London-trained, 27 years museum experience, USPAP compliant to August 2019. Mobile (860) 450-6445, office (914) 862-0406.

PIANO TECHNICIAN SINCE 1975 – Thorough, precise, honest. NYS authorized. Tuning: \$150 plus tax. Louis Pelosi, M. Mus. 271-6487.

Legal Notice

Notice of formation of 175 Valley Street, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/10/2003. Office loc. Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to the LLC, 175 Valley Street, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Legal Notice

NOTICE of FORMATION of a DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LLC Name: DB707 LLC. Filing date w/ New York Department of State: 1-02-2018. LLC office: Westchester City 370 Elwood Ave Hawthorne, NY 10532. The NY Sec of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful purpose. Duration: 20 years.

Legal Notice

Notice of formation of 423 CENTRAL LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State (SSNY) on 01/17/18. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process against the LLC to: 423 Central Avenue, Peekskill, NY 10566. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC). Name: Beauty by Juls, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 1/17/2018. The LLC is located in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 7014 13th Ave., Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful business activity.

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Sense of Hope Mental Health Counseling, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/5/2018. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 2125 Albany Post Road, Suite 304, Montrose, NY, 10548. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Legal Notice

Notice of Formation of Sweet Living, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/16/2018. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Sweet Living, 12 Ridgeview Drive, Ossining, New York 10562. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: WSI VITAL MARKETING LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/1/18. Office: Westchester County. Legalinc Corporate Services Inc designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Legalinc Corporate Services Inc at 1967 Wehrle Drive, Suite 1 #086, Buffalo, NY 14221. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: Hair by Jessica, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/21/18. LLC Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: Gary Ajello, Esq. PO Box One, Yorktown, NY 10598. Purpose: LLC may engage in any lawful act or activity for which a limited liability company may be formed.

Legal Notice

Notice of formation of MSF GARAGE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/01/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to PO BOX 872, Verplanck, NY 10596. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BROADWAY BRIDGE IN AND FOR THE VILLAGE OF OSSINING, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,811,000 AND AUTHORIZING, **SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM**, THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,600,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID VILLAGE TO PAY PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ossining, Westchester County, New York, as follows:

continued on page 11



from page 10

Section 1. The reconstruction of the Broadway Bridge in and for the Village of Ossining, Westchester County, New York, is hereby authorized, subject to permissive referendum, at a maximum estimated cost of \$2,811,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of the aforesaid maximum estimated cost is as follows:

- (a) By the issuance of \$2,600,000 serial bonds of said Village, hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law; and
- (b) By the expenditure of \$211,000 available funds.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is twenty years pursuant to subdivision 10 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. It is hereby further determined that the maximum maturity of the serial bonds herein authorized will exceed five years.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said Village of Ossining, Westchester County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. To the extent not paid from other sources, there shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said Village, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the serial bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Village Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Village Treasurer, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the serial bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue serial bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the Village Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer of such Village. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Village Treasurer shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- 1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Village is not authorized to expend money, or
- 2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
- 3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.1502. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a longterm basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 9. Upon this resolution taking effect, the same shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said Village for such purpose, together with a notice of the Village Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 10. THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM.

Briarcliff library calendar

The following free programs for adults are being offered in March at the Briarcliff Manor Public Library, 1 Library Road at Law Memorial Park, Briarcliff Manor.

Registration is recommended for all programs, except as noted. To register, e-mail sglick@wlsmail.org or call the library at 941-7072.

-SPORT OF A LIFETIME: AUTHOR TALK, Sunday, the 4th at 2 p.m. Author Judy Aydelott discusses her book written after she met and interviewed many super senior tennis players including Rod Laver, John Newcombe, Katrina Adams and Briarcliff Manor's own Tony Franco. Her book includes stories of their lives, their passion for tennis and their uplifting attitudes about life. She will sign copies of the book, which will be available to buy.

-FRIDAY NIGHT AND SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES: MARSHALL (PG-13), on the 9th at 7 p.m. and the 10th at 1 p.m. This new-to-dvd movie revisits an early episode from the life of Thurgood Marshall, the civil rights lawyer who became the first African-American to hold a seat on the Supreme Court. People attending may bring their own snacks.

-GET STARTED WITH GOOGLE DRIVE, on Thursday, the 8th at 6:30 p.m. Learn the basics of using Google Drive, a cloud-based service that allows you to store and share files on-line. Google Drive provides tools for sharing files and collaborating on projects with other users over the web.

-RENOIR: THE WORLD'S MOST BELOVED ARTIST, Sunday, the 11th at 2 p.m. Pierre-Auguste Renoir was a French Impressionist painter whose eye for beauty made him one of the movement's most popular practitioners. In this program, Dr. Jill Kiefer will survey Renoir's art and life--to discover why he is so beloved. Dr. Kiefer is a teaching artist and art historian. To learn more about her, visit www.whataboutart.org

-ON FOOD AND COOKING: COOKBOOK MEETUP, Tuesday, the 13th, 12:30-1:30 p.m. The theme for this meeting is Mediterranean cooking. Choose and make a recipe from the Mediterranean region. A variety of cookbooks are available to borrow from the library - just ask at the front desk. The club will sample each other's dishes during the meeting. Bring the cookbook with you to discuss with the group, which is led by Andrea Vladimir and Joanne Witmyer.

-BANNERMAN ISLAND: THE MYSTERIOUS PLACE ON THE HUDSON, Sunday, the 18th at 2 p.m. Thom Johnson, one of the founders of the Bannerman Castle Trust and co-author of the book on the castle, will present a slide lecture on the history of the island and the arsenal that Francis Bannerman, VI built there. This program is co-sponsored with the Briarcliff Manor-Scarborough Historical Society.

-THE COLLEGE APPLICATION ESSAY: 10 SURVIVAL TIPS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS, Thursday, the 22nd at 6:30 p.m. This program will help students learn how to write a common application essay that answers the latest prompts and highlights each student's strengths. Included will be a Q & A session and summary of essay writing tips and strategies. Freddi Greenberg, who has over 30 years of experience in magazine publishing and is a member of IECA (Independent Educational Consultants Association) and NACAC (National Association of College Admissions Counselors), will present this program.

-ADULT COLORING, Mondays from 1 - 2:30 p.m. Coloring has been proven to enhance concentration, relieve stress and help reduce anxiety. Come and explore your artistic side, meet new people, and have some fun, all while listening to soft relaxing music. Colored pencils, gel pens and coloring sheets will be provided or you may bring your own. Drop-In, no registration or artistic skills required. This program is co-sponsored with the Briarcliff Manor Recreation Department.

-BOOK DISCUSSIONS: BOOKS THAT WILL KEEP YOU READING: BROWN BAG LUNCH BOOK GROUP - Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly, Tuesday, the 20th, 12:30 - 2 p.m. Copies of the book to borrow are now available at the library. Registration is required.

-CONTEMPORARY FICTION BY AWARD-WINNING AUTHORS: The Little Red Chairs by Edna O'Brien, Wednesday, the 21st, 7:30-9 p.m. Copies of the book to borrow are now available at the library. Registration is required.

-BRIARCLIFF MIDDLE SCHOOL ART SHOW, on display on the second floor of the library through the end of the month.

Ossining library calendar

The following free programs for adults are scheduled for March at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Avenue, Ossining.

The library also has a variety of on-going programs on computer instruction, yoga, mindfulness, memoir writing, Citizenship Preparation, a Spanish Conversation Group, a Breaking News Discussion Group, an English Conversation Group for second language learners, an English as a Second Language class; assistance for small businesses, seniors services and obtaining a high school equivalency diploma; and meet-ups for mah jongg and chess. For more information call the library at 941-2146 or go on-line to ossininglibrary.org

--Art Exhibits:

Main Gallery - 125th Anniversary Special Art Show, through the 30th. This show will consist of fifth grade artwork depicting the Ossining Public Library. The fifth-graders are from Roosevelt Elementary School.

Hallway Gallery - The Girl Scouts Annual Art Show, through the 30th.

--Imagination: Fignments of Reality Workshop (two sessions), Saturdays, the 3rd and 10th at 10 a.m. in the second floor conference room. In these workshops, Psychotherapist Scott Thompson will explore the imagination's deep and varied capacity for our on-going development. The process will be largely experiential combined with small group sharing and large group discussion. Current research has taught us a great deal about this underused capacity. Imagery is the blueprint to what happens to our body, mind and spirit. Registration is required. To register call 941-2416, ext. 327 or e-mail jtrapasso@wlsmail.org.

--Classical Piano Concert featuring Hui-Mei Lin, Sunday, the 4th at 2 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. Hear the OPL's Steinway Grand piano being played by the talented Taiwanese Pianist, Hui-Mei Lin, a soloist, chamber musician and teacher. As the winner of the Artists International Auditions, she made her solo debut at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall.

--Linoleum Block Printing Workshop (four sessions), Tuesdays, the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th at 2 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. Linoleum block printing is an exceptional art form, captivating for all skill levels. Adults will learn how to draw intricate decorative designs and become skilled at using tools for carving detailed relief images into linoleum. A motivating and thought-provoking rhythmic design theme will be the focus of this art workshop. For inspiration during the workshop, a selection of photographs with design patterns will be available. All materials will be provided. Each workshop is 2 1/2 hours. For adults only. Registration is required; a maximum of 15 participants. To register call 941-2416, ext. 327 or e-mail jtrapasso@wlsmail.org.

--Health & Wellness Series Presentation, Wednesday, the 7th at 7 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. "Food Changes Everything!" Nutrition health coaches will discuss the newest in 21st century disease prevention. Topics will include: leading causes of mortality, standard American diet, auto-immune diseases, chronic diseases, the immune system/epigenetics, whole food plan-based diets. Food choices are the single most important factor in determining your long-term health, according to the presenters. Learn why. Shanti Urreta is the author of "Dear World, See What I See" and Ken Goldfarb is an executive chef and speaker.

--Women in Islam Presentation, Wednesday, the 14th at 7 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. In celebration of Women's History Month, local Islamic speaker and presenter Ola Nosseir will present on the historical facts of women in Islam. In this presentation, Ms. Nosseir will also cover the rights and high status of women in Islam.

--The Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series, Thursday, the 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. The film to be shown is "The Empowerment Project." A panel discussion will follow. For more information on the film and series visit www.ossiningdocumentaries.org.

--Spring Film Series: Resistance in the Streets - Three Visionary Directors, Wednesday, the 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. The first film in this series is "Open City" (1945), directed by Roberto Rossellini (1 hour and 43 minutes). This series is curated and moderated by Bonnie Katz.

--"First Ladies Coalition" Theater Production, Thursday, the 22nd at 7 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. An interactive performance revolving around the life of Colleen McCracken, an ex-convict and survivor of domestic violence. She designs a project while in prison inspired by the stories of her favorite first ladies: Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, and Mary Todd Lincoln. Mysteries and secrets are unveiled; hers and theirs. Created and performed by actress Ginger Grace. Directed by Austin Pendleton.

--Brian Conway & Friends Fiddle Concert, Sunday, the 25th at 2 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. Irish fiddle music with world-renowned fiddle player Brian Conway. He will be accompanied by some of his students and other guests.

--Home Staging Workshop, Wednesday, the 28th at 7 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. Ever wonder how home-stagers they do it? Come and hear from a professional on how they make home-staging look so beautiful and easy. Presenting will be home-stager Marie Graham. She will discuss how buyers buy, virtual staging, showing guidelines, listing photos and more. Registration is preferred--941-2416, ext. 327 or e-mail jtrapasso@wlsmail.org--but not required.

--Integrated Marketing Workshop for Your Small Business, Thursday, the 29th at 7 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. Are you a small business owner and need some tips and pointers on marketing? Have your questions and concerns answered by professionals. Registration is preferred--941-2416, ext. 327 or e-mail jtrapasso@wlsmail.org--but not required.

--Butterfly & Moth Presentation, Saturday, the 31st at 2 p.m. in the Budarz Theater. Fun for the whole family! Come to the library and see presenter Steven Fratello present his "Rainforest Butterflies Program." Mr. Fratello is from Sublime Nature which brings rainforest exploration, research and education to local communities.

VILLAGE OF CROTON-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK INVITATION TO BID BID No. 01-2018

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY is accepting sealed bids for the **High Street and Hillside Avenue Storm Water Improvements** project. Bids will be accepted by the Village Manager in the main office, on the second floor of the Municipal Building, at 1 Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY until **10:00 AM on March 20, 2017** which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. No proposals will be accepted after said time and date. **All prospective bidders must attend a pre-bid meeting at the Municipal Building on Thursday March 8, 2018 at 10:00 AM.**

The work is comprised of one (1) contract. The scope of the work shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the replacement of one existing drainage system (High Street) and the installation of a new drainage system (Hillside Avenue).

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson has partnered with BidNet as part of the Empire State Purchasing Group and will post all bid opportunities to this site. As a vendor, you can register with Empire State Purchasing Group and be sure that you see all of the Village's available bids and opportunities. Detailed specifications for said bid may be obtained through the Empire State Purchasing Group at the following link on March 2, 2018:

http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/public_documents/crotonhudsonny_webdocs/bids/bids.

Bidders must print, bind and submit the entire bid specification document. The Village of Croton on Hudson reserves the right to reject any bids not submitted as specified.

The successful bidder will be required to start work within **ten (10)** days of the Notice to Proceed, unless otherwise agreed, and to maintain in full force and effect during the performance of the work policies of Worker's Compensation Insurance and Public Liability and Property Damage Insurance covering the operations of the Contractor and the use of all motor vehicles utilized by the Contractor.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid bond or certified check in the amount of 5% of the total amount bid as a guarantee that in the event the contract is awarded to the bidder, he will execute such contract and furnish a satisfactory Performance Bond and a Labor and Materials Bond.

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality, or to accept the bid which in its judgment will be for the best interests of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson. Non-Collusive Bidding Certification must be attached to the bid.

Dated: March 1, 2018
Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y

Paula DiSanto
Village Clerk

Local author is winner of 2018 Rip Van Winkle Award

Susanna Reich has been chosen by the School Library Media Specialists of Southeastern New York as the winner of its 2018 Rip Van Winkle Award for outstanding contributions to the world of children's literature.

The award is given to a children's book author who resides in the region and will be presented at the organization's Annual Spring Symposium on May 19.

Ms. Reich, of Briarcliff Manor, writes fiction and biography for children and young adults. Her most recent works include *Stand Up and Sing! Pete Seeger, Folk Music and the Path to Justice*; *Fab Four Friends: The Boys Who Became the Beatles*; and *Minette's Feast: The Delicious Story of Julia Child and Her Cat*.

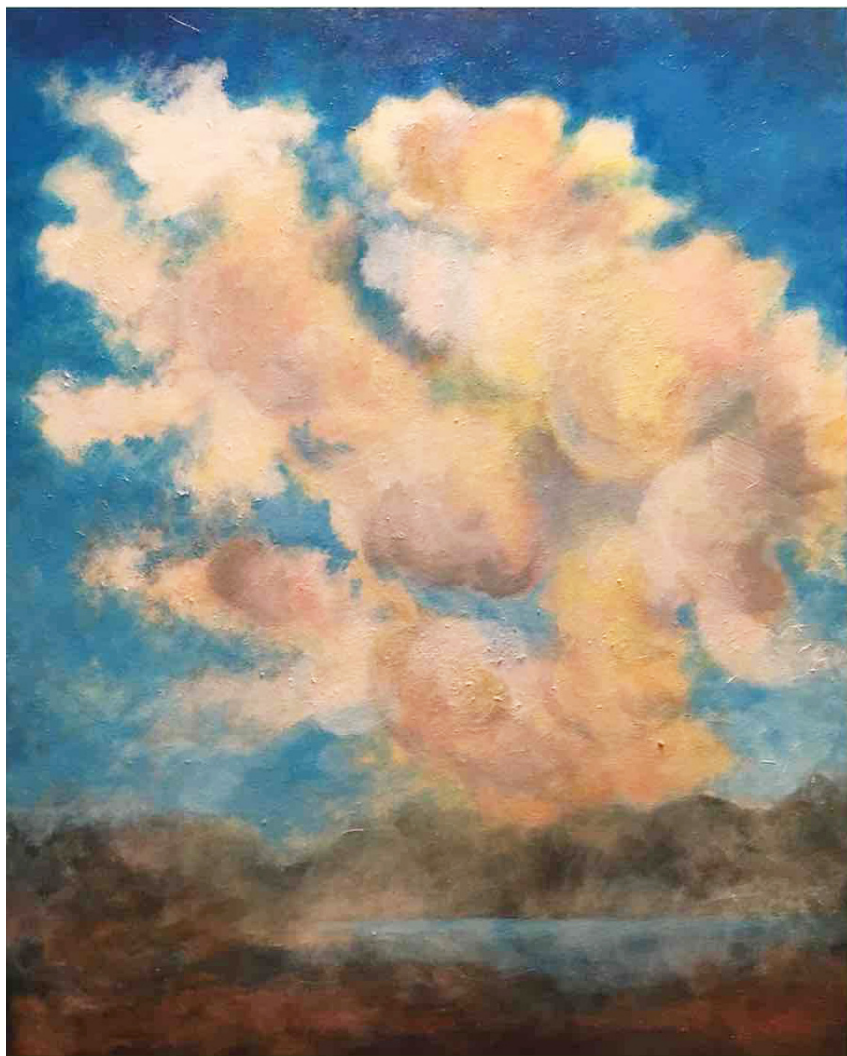
She received the Tomás Rivera Mexican-American Children's Book Award and an International Latino Book Award for *José! Born to Dance* and the National Council of Teachers of English Orbis Pictus Honor for *Clara Schumann: Piano Virtuoso*. Ms. Reich is immediate past-chair of PEN America's Children's & Young Adult Book Committee.

The Rip Van Winkle Award has been presented annually since 1980. Recent winners include Bryan Collier,



Susanna Reich

Nick Bruel, Sarah Weeks and Ed Young. School Library Media Specialists of Southeastern New York is a professional organization comprised of school library media specialists in southeastern New York and is one of eight regional affiliates comprising the School Librarians Section of the New York Library Association. It advocates for and promotes the interests of school library media specialists in Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester counties.



Above: Jeanne-Noel Mahoney's 'Atmospheric, Number 8,' 2017, 16" by 20" acrylic/canvas.
Right: John Toth's 'Geo Three Musicians,' 2017, 48" by 54", acrylic/canvas

Mother-in-law, son-in-law exhibit at CFL

An exhibit of paintings by the mother-in-law/son-in-law team of Jeanne-Noel Mahoney and John Toth will be featured in the Ottinger Room of the Croton Free Library, 171 Cleveland Drive,

Croton-on-Hudson, from March 2 through April 28.

An opening reception will be held Saturday, March 3 from 2 to 4 p.m.

'The Brain,' after-school

"Understanding the Brain" is an eight-session after-school pre-college course being offered for youth from March 5 until April 23 at the Ossining Extension Center of Westchester Community College, 22 Rockledge Avenue, Ossining.

"Discover the exciting world of the brain. Explore the anatomy of the brain, the nervous system, and the senses. Students will conduct experiments, and participate in activities and games centered on how the brain works," according to a course description.

Hours for the course are 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Mondays. The cost is \$160. For more information and an application, go on-line to: Ossining@SUNYWCC.edu or call 606-7400.

Job-seekers of all ages are invited to the annual Playland Job Fair, to be held on Saturday, March 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Westchester County Center, 198 Central Avenue, White Plains.

On-the-spot interviews will be conducted at this event for the first 300 candidates to arrive.

Positions to be filled include cashiers, ride operators, lifeguards, EMTs, mechanics, custodial staff, I.T. technician and graphic designer. The county-owned Playland Amusement Park in Rye's seasonal employment runs from April through September.

"I want to remind job-seekers that we continuously recruit for part-time and seasonal jobs at Playland and many of

DW Design & Decor named 'Best of Houzz' for seventh year

DW Design & Decor llc of Croton-on-Hudson has won "Best of Customer Service" on Houzz, a leading on-line platform for home remodeling and design.

The award-winning interior design firm was chosen by the more than 40 million monthly unique users that comprise the Houzz community from among more than one million active home building, remodeling and design industry professionals.

The "Best of Houzz" is awarded annually in three categories: Design, Customer Service and Photography. Design award winners' work was the most popular among the more than 40 million monthly users on Houzz.

Customer Service honors are based on several factors, including the number and quality of client reviews a professional received in 2017. A "Best of Houzz 2018" badge will appear on winners' profiles as a sign of their commitment to excellence. These badges help homeowners identify popular and top-rated home professionals in every metro area on Houzz.

"The Houzz community selected a phenomenal group of Best of Houzz 2018 award winners, so this year's recipients should be very proud," said Liza Hausman, vice-president of Industry Marketing at Houzz. "Best of Houzz winners represent some of the most talented and customer-focused professionals in our industry, and we are extremely pleased to give them both this recognition and a platform on which to showcase their expertise."

Houzz connects millions of homeowners, home design enthusiasts and home improvement professionals across the country and around the world. With the largest residential design database and a vibrant community empowered by technology, Houzz is the easiest way for people to find inspiration, get advice, buy products and hire the professionals they need to help turn their ideas into reality, said Ms. Hausman.

Follow DW Design & Décor can be followed on Houzz at <http://www.houzz.com/pro/denisewenacur>.



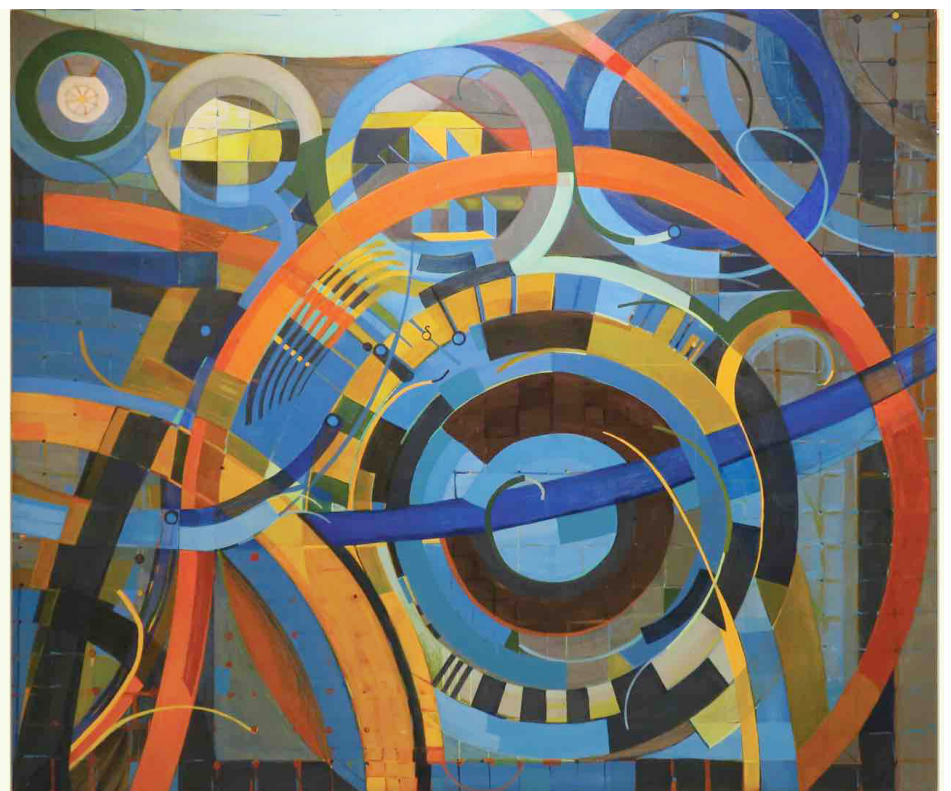
Denise Wenacur

With over 30 years in the design profession, DW Design & Decor provides customized interior design services for residential and commercial projects throughout Westchester and surrounding areas, from concept to completion. Led by Principal Denise Wenacur, the team at DW Design & Decor partner their clients with top industry trade professionals to ensure successful results for all design and renovation projects.

"We are so honored that our clients have once again singled us out for our commitment to customer service and we are equally honored that we have won this distinction for the seventh consecutive year," said Ms. Wenacur. "The team at DW Design & Decor llc strives to meet the unique vision of each individual project along the way and continually enhances the personal experience for each and every one of our clients."

Ms. Wenacur, a resident of Croton and active member of the community, is a graduate of the New York School of Interior Design and has had her design work published in several books and trade magazines. The local mom of two has also served as an on-line color expert for Benjamin Moore paints and has participated as a judge in the Architectural Digest Home Show in New York City.

She is an active member of the American Society of Interior Designers, International Interior Design Association and is a Certified WBE (Women in Business Enterprise).



Playland job fair March 10

our other beautiful parks all season long, so if you can't make it to the job fair, all is not lost," said County Executive George Latimer.

Although no prior experience is required for most positions, prospective employees should have a positive attitude, enthusiasm, good communication skills and the ability to work a flexible schedule.

Applicants must be a minimum of 16 years of age; some positions require applicants to be a minimum of 18 years of age. Applicants under 18 who plan to complete their application prior to the job fair must have the form signed by a parent or guardian to be considered for an interview. Those under 18 who wish to complete their application on-site at the

job fair must bring a parent or guardian to the event to sign the form in order for an interview to take place.

Eligible applicants who may wish to enroll for direct deposit must bring a voided blank check or a bank-issued direct deposit setup form that includes routing number and account number printed on the document.

To apply during the job fair, bring a completed application, a valid photo identification, Social Security card plus contact information for three references. Applications can be obtained by calling 813-7010, or at PlaylandPark.org, where an application can be downloaded or submitted on-line.