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Broadway Ramp to Bridge Closing After Temporary Opening to Relieve Tie-Ups

by Robert Kimmel

Whether the closure, once again, of the ramp leading to the Tappan Zee Bridge from southbound Broadway in Tarrytown will contribute to horrific traffic jams as it did last month will likely be tested before a

substantial amount of time passes.

The ramp was temporarily re-opened in mid-December into this month to provide relief from traffic congestion on Route 9 during the holiday period. Complaints from motorists and the concerns of local officials in both Tarrytown and Sleepy Hol-

low led to the short-term ramp opening by the New York Thruway Authority.

The Authority said it had closed the ramp for the five-year period up to the completion of the new bridge to provide a "storage and staging" area for Tappan Zee Constructors, the bridge builders. "As a result, this closure will reduce the amount of construction traffic on local roadways," it maintained.

"The closure of the ramp may not have been the direct cause of the traffic tie-ups, but we want to do all we can to help travelers get to their destinations safely during the holidays," stated Brian Conybeare, Special Advisor to the Governor for the New NY Bridge Project, in a December press release following the traffic problems. He pointed out that there had been no major backups from the time the ramp was initially closed on December 5, until Friday, December 15.

Coneybeare blamed the subsequent de-

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Closure of ramp to bridge has created much frustration for local motorists.

Eating Disorder Clinic Proposed for Irvington Estate

by Barrett Seaman

For many years, the elegant home on a 10.5-acre hillcrest bordered by Broadway, Dows Lane, the Old Croton Aqueduct and Clinton Avenue was unoccupied and known only as the Murray-Griffin Estate. But the sylvan property that also embraces the historic Odell Tavern has long been cherished by Irvingtonians.

In the late 1980s, former owner David H. Griffin offered to sell it to the village, which was in need of a place to build a new library and a municipal pool but couldn't afford it. A decade later, the Marriott Corporation made a bid to turn it into an assisted living facility and was pursuing that goal when Steven and Carolyn Niemczyk of Bedford stepped in and bought it as their private residence, eliciting sighs of relief throughout Irvington. After their marriage ended, Steven Niemczyk retained ownership, but the 12,000-square foot, 23-room mansion was something more than he needed. And so it was discreetly placed on the market.

Then just before Thanksgiving, Mayor Brian Smith received a hand-delivered letter from White Plains-based land use attorney David Steinmetz, announcing that a client, Monte Nido & Associates of Malibu, California, intended to buy the estate, known by its address at 100 South Broadway, for use as a residential eating disorder clinic.

Citing a section of New York State Mental Hygiene Law, known as the Padavan Law, Steinmetz informed the mayor that Monte Nido's plans to turn the house into a residence for no more than 14 patients at a time made it "exempt from local zoning." The sale, he suggested, was a legal fait accompli.

Enacted in 1978 and named for Queen's Republican State Senator Frank Padavan, the law was intended to circumvent local community opposition to the establishment of halfway houses and thus help to disperse the state's vastly overcrowded mental institution population.

Continued on page 5



Photo by Sunny McLean

Decorative Talent: Members of the Philipse Manor Garden Club made wreaths last month for the holiday season at the Sleepy Hollow Senior Center.

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Protecting Historical Properties Through Landmark Status

by Richard Rose

The streets of our community are filled with wonderful buildings that reflect our unique heritage. The private residences and commercial structures that have been built over the last 300 years provide great character and charm to the villages of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow. Residents and visitors enjoy delving into the history of these buildings.

Over the last year, The Historical Society has published a series of articles dealing with some of our landmark structures. Each was selected for their role in significant historical events or they are examples of architectural styles that represent the changing nature of design over time. The Historical Society is presently reviewing the current list of landmarked buildings and we are planning to replace lost or damaged plaques on these important structures. Landmarking a property helps to preserve its history and maintain the character of our village, so time and weather don't destroy our heritage. The Society's Landmarks Committee will be working to help identify additional buildings of significance for the Villages of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow, in particular private residences.

On our main streets and countless back roads is a treasure trove of beautiful buildings that are privately owned. Some of them are large and stately while others reflect the

needs of the average person. Regardless of the size of the structure, its historic nature is important and deserves recognition. Some of these private residences have already been landmarked, while others are certainly deserving of this recognition.

One of Tarrytown's privately owned treasures is the Wunderlich House, located at 111 Neperan Road at the corner of Hamilton Place. Originally built as a private residence over 100 years ago, it stands as a stately reminder of the beauty of bygone architectural features. It is a combination of High Victorian style and the French Second Empire period with some Oriental Temple influence. Its prominent location makes it easy to find and appreciate. The curved mansard roof is slate and the porch decoration and elaborately framed doors are distinctive features. Although it is located near the Grove Street Historic District, its architectural features do not reflect the Italianate style of some of the Grove Street houses.

On the corner of Depeyster and North Washington Streets is another gem. The Bird-Galella House was built in 1851. One hundred years later it was purchased by the Galella family and remains their home today. While it was originally a small house with two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs, it was expanded in 1855 with a wing that has a mansard roof and wrap around porch. Like so many houses built in the 18th and 19th centuries, the kitchen

was in the basement. Only seven families have lived within its walls for its entire history. The high ceilings, carved moldings and corner cabinets still grace the interior and fireplaces exist in each room, although they are no longer used. Its preservation and appearance earned it landmark status in 1974.

The Historical Society has researched the history of many houses in our community and we are always looking for additional

material about buildings of distinction. Local residents can help expand our archives with information about these village gems. We invite you to identify houses that you would like to see recognized because of their historic nature and provide any information or artifacts, which would support such recognition. In the past we have lost some gems and hope to avoid losing any others in the future.



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Much Delayed Route 9 Improvement Project to Begin

by Elaine Marranzano

A \$1 million Route 9 improvement project that was slated to begin three years ago may finally get underway this spring. The planned overhaul of the sidewalks and landscaping along a half mile section of Route 9 in Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown was delayed when the federal government withheld grants from Westchester County because it failed to comply with affordable housing regulations.

Sleepy Hollow lost a \$200,000 Community Block Grant, a federal program for the revitalization of low to moderate income neighborhoods.

"Since we are not getting the money from the federal government, we decided to scale-down the project and move ahead," said Sleepy Hollow Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio. "We basically took away the frills, less decorative lighting, fewer trees, less granite curbing."

The project will replace broken sidewalks, add new street lights, trees and enhanced grassy areas beginning at Wildey Street near the Warner Library and extending north to Gordon Avenue near the

Sleepy Hollow Animal Hospital. Curb lines and pedestrian ramps will also be restructured to better accommodate the handicapped and new "way-finder" signs for tourists will be added.

Approximately \$730,000 of the project funding comes from a New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) grant, a huge win for the Village of Sleepy Hollow which applied for the grant eight years ago. Sleepy Hollow is providing \$150,000 for the project while Tarrytown has allocated \$35,000.

In order to get the project underway, Sleepy Hollow hired an engineer at a cost of \$60,000 to finish the design work begun by the county, a service that would have been free if the federal government had not withheld the promised grant money.

The project is expected to go out to bid January and be completed in the fall of 2014.

In addition, Sleepy Hollow has also received a \$157,000 grant from New York State to install a bathroom at Sykes Park, located adjacent to McDonald's at the bottom of Wildey Street.



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Tarrytown Turf Fields Planned to be Installed by Fall 2015

by Rick Pezzullo

Now that residents in the Tarrytown Union Free School District have approved \$9.7 million in bonds for a variety of projects, school officials are preparing all the necessary paperwork to submit to the state for approval.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Christopher Clouet said the district hopes to have all the plans in the hands of the state Education Department by March and receive the go-ahead by late summer or September.

"We will not drag out feet by any means,"

Clouet said. "There is a process in terms of working with the state Department of Education and a process of complying with the law and bidding. We want to achieve a quality of work that will last for many years."

Last month, by a margin of 678-437, voters approved proposition one, totaling \$8.05 million, to pay for a multi-purpose synthetic turf field at the high school, an elevator and lift system at Winfield Morse

School, roof replacements, ventilation system upgrades, and other work.

Proposition Two, totaling \$1.65 million, which passed 635-484, will fund the installation of a turf field on the lower field at Washington Irving School.

With the utilization of \$800,000 from district reserves and \$70,000 in private donations, including a donation from the family of the late Howard Godwin, husband of Board of Education President Mimi Godwin, the district will only be looking to borrow \$8.84 million of 15 years, with an expected interest rate of about 4.5%.

Clouet said the synthetic turf fields at the high school and Morse should be ready for the fall 2015 sports season.

Other construction work, such as roof replacements, will begin in the fall of 2014 and be done in phases since it can't be completed when students are in school for safety reasons.

"Some of the work, in order to get the best bargain, we'll look to do out of season," Clouet said.

"We want to achieve a quality of work that will last for many years."

—Dr. Christopher Clouet

Dr. Kor to Return as Main Street School Principal

Dr. Raina Kor, who has served as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Human Resources in the Irvington School District for the past two years, will return as principal of Main Street School on July 1, 2014.

Kor is in her 13th year of service to the school district. She served for five years as assistant principal of Irvington Middle School and six years as principal of Main Street School before the central administrative appointment that began on July 1, 2012.

"These past two years have been an extraordinary experience, but my heart is ultimately with the students and families of Main Street School," said Kor. "I am a child-centered professional, and with the future of Main Street School resolved, I am excited to return to the environment that allows me to once again work directly with elementary students and families."

During a time marked by revolutionary changes to public education—including the new Common Core Learning Standards, state mandated performance evaluations of teachers and principals, and numerous other accountability measures—Kor has worked tirelessly to

support the needs of the district's educators and families, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kristopher Harrison.

"This is a very challenging time for the state's public school educators, and Dr. Kor has demonstrated a consistent commitment to the needs of our faculty and building principals since her appointment 18 months ago," said Harrison. "Her dynamic leadership is something that we will all miss from a district-wide perspective, but we are grateful that she will continue sharing her talents when she returns to the Main Street School in July."

Harrison noted that Ms. Eileen Casey has capably led Main Street School as Interim Principal for the past two school years and her contributions to the district in that time have been greatly appreciated.

A formal search process to fill the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction position will commence in January. The schedule will call for an appointment to be made in April.

—Rick Pezzullo

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Eating Disorder Clinic

Continued from page 1

Such opposition was not likely to be an issue with eating disorder patients, who tend to be young women unlikely to suffer from the kind of mental illnesses that frighten neighborhoods. But Village Administrator Larry Schopfer nonetheless thought it prudent to ask neighbors of 100 South Broadway to comment, and the village scheduled a public hearing on Monte Nido's plans for mid-December.

In his letter to neighbors, Schopfer offered an interpretation slightly different than Steinmetz's. He outlined three choices the village had: it could accept the request, it could suggest an alternative location within the village that was more suitable for the use, or it could object on grounds that there was already too high a concentration of similar facilities in the area.

Anticipating questions about whether the addition of his client's clinic would create a concentration of mental health facilities in the area, Steinmetz provided the village with a list of four such entities, the closest of which are Children's Village and St. Christopher's in Dobbs Ferry—hardly enough to meet the standard of overconcentration.

The only remaining issue was whether Monte Nido had looked at alternate locations. Bruce Martin, the company's CEO and husband of founder Carolyn Costin, responded by recounting that over the past year, he had made seven trips to the area, meeting with real estate agents in New York, Connecticut and New Jersey and looking at 28 properties before his Westchester real estate agent, Monica Kravitt of Bedford, alerted him to the Niemczyk property. It was love at first sight.

Asked by *The Hudson Independent* if he or Kravitt had every looked at 30 South Broadway, site of the proposed but highly controversial Continuum assisted living facility, Martin said Kravitt told him she "already knew it would be a waste of time taking you to 30 South Broadway." The configuration of the estate, said Martin, "isn't desirable to us and doesn't create the essential home-like residential nature of our facilities."

Given the local sensitivity to health care facilities generated by the ongoing Contin-

uum ordeal, it was expected that the Monte Nido proposal would draw scrutiny from both village trustees and the public. Indeed, a contingent of residents from the Downingwood cluster of attached houses directly across Broadway from 100 South showed up at the December 16 public hearing.

But by the time Monte Nido founder Carolyn Costin had finished with her presentation, which included a polished video describing what the company's existing residential facilities (two in California, one in Oregon) look like and how they operate, most of the potential objections had been dispensed with.

Patients tend to stay about three months on average. They participate in individual and group therapy led by three or four psychiatric professionals. The clinic would be staffed with a physical trainer, a dietician and nurse, under the direction of a clinical director and program coordinator—all told, somewhere between seven and nine employees. Patients would stay on the grounds, except towards the end when they are encouraged to visit local restaurants as part of a re-acclimation process. "We actually run it like a family," explained Costin, herself once anorexic. "That's why we fell in love with this particular property. We don't have any intention of changing it; we love it just the way it is."

Trustees expressed more concern with Monte Nido's intentions with the Odell Tavern, an historic site built in 1693, than with traffic or structural issues. In response, Costin promised not only to protect the tavern but suggested that they might otherwise work with the village's Historical Society to maintain it.

Trustee Connie Kehoe asked about the incidence of medical emergencies, again reflecting a major issue with Continuum. Costin replied that in Monte Nido's 18 years of operation outside ambulance service had been required only twice.

About the only extant question, raised by Trustee Walter Montgomery, was whether the village had done proper due diligence on Monte Nido, which administrator Schopfer promised to pursue.

While the process is still open, Smith ended the hearing by expressing pleasure with "the tone with which you have dealt with the community."

Regeneron Named Top Employer in Industry

Tarrytown-based Regeneron Pharmaceuticals was ranked by *Science* magazine as the top employer in the global biopharmaceutical industry for the second year in a row.

"As we are a company founded on scientific excellence, it is very meaningful to us to be recognized by *Science* magazine two consecutive years now as the top place to work in the industry," said George D. Yancopoulos, chief scientific officer and president of Regeneron Laboratories.

Regeneron has more than 2,200 employees, including over 1,500 in Tarrytown. The company expects to create ap-

proximately 400 new full-time jobs with its planned expansion of 300,000 square feet of laboratory and office space, which is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2015.

"Regeneron's tremendous growth and our current expansion plans are undoubtedly thanks to our employees," said Leonard S. Schieffer, M.D., Ph.D, president and chief executive officer of Regeneron. "If we are the best place to work, it is because we have the best employees and a culture where they feel empowered and challenged."

— Rick Pezzullo



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Honor Flights Pay Tribute to World War II Veterans

by Robert Kimmel

While honors given to a group of local World War II veterans were almost seven decades in coming, they were ardently presented as though victory for the nation had just been achieved. The aging veterans were part of a group of 92 men and one woman who took part this fall in a Hudson Valley Honor Flight. “Unbelievable” was the word most used by the participants in describing the event.

The free flight, part of a nation-wide movement to pay tribute to war veterans, was an escorted door-to-door round-trip that had the group fly from Stewart International Airport to visit war memorial sites in Washington, D.C., and return home later that day. The enthusiastic cheering the veterans encountered during the September trip likely was unmatched within their long life spans. A similar outing for other WW II vets is scheduled for April, 2014.

“It was one of the greatest days I have had,” exclaimed Marty Goldfarb, 90, of Tarrytown. “The trip was put together unbelievably great.” Before leaving for Stewart Air Force Base, the group assembled in a Shop Rite parking lot in Montgomery, New York, where Goldfarb said he, “... couldn’t believe how the gathered crowd greeted us, shook our hands, and thanked us for our service. None of us had ever gone through anything like that.” Goldfarb served as a navigator on a B-24 bomber on missions over Nazi territory from an airbase in Italy. On one difficult mission, his plane barely made it back after one of its two engines was disabled by flak, and the other was damaged.

Jean MacIntosh, 94, resides at Kendal on Hudson in Sleepy Hollow after having lived in Irvington for “decades.” She was a Navy Ensign and the first woman on a Hudson Valley Honor flight. “It was fantastic, unbelievable,” she said of the day. “It was a dreary, rainy day, but here were all these little kids handing out T-shirts, blankets and donuts. Hundreds of people lined up thanking us for having served, and then more cheering us at the airport. When we got to Washington, there were bands playing and more people thanking us.” Police motorcycle escorts in both New York and Washington accompanied the three buses of veterans.

“I was stunned at the outpouring of people at this little town of Walden, New York,” said Bill Lyons, 89, of Irvington. Lyons, a P-51 fighter pilot during the war who flew missions over German from England, was speaking of an earlier orientation session in that village. “So many turned out, and they were extremely kind to us. It was like a Roman triumph,” Lyons said of the trip itself. “The police motorcyclists stopped traffic right and left for our buses so we could get through. I never experienced that kind of thing. The World War II monument in Washington commemorated what was a triumph. I felt very proud.”

A member of the 10th Mountain Division and wounded during its hard fought battle to take Mount Belvedere in Italy, Frank Scallero, 88, of Elmsford, was yet another



Bill Lyons, (holding photo of his younger pilot self)



From Left to right: Bob Connick, Bill Lyons, Master Staff Sergeant MaryKay Messenger, from West Point, who sang “God Bless America” at the departure ceremony at Stewart Air Force Base; Marty Goldfarb, and Joe Calderone.



Left to right: Jean MacIntosh; MacIntosh at Washington WWII memorial; and shaking hands with children at Stewart Air Force Base.

other veteran who called the Honor Flight “unbelievable.” I can’t even explain to my friends how great it was,” he said. Arriving in Washington, Scallero was handed a letter from former Senator Bob Dole, explaining why illness prevented him from being at the airport in person to greet Scallero. Dole was a Lieutenant in his unit. “It was just so amazing to see so many people who don’t know you, and who wanted to celebrate with you,” he said. “Seeing all these children greeting us, and knowing they are free, I thought maybe that is something I helped to keep for them.”

Bob Connick, 87, was living in Irvington at age 17, when he signed up for the Navy in 1944, and then spent much of his service time on a landing craft ship in the Pacific. For Connick, the Honor Flight was “awesome.” “The excitement was everywhere we went; people waving flags, saying ‘thank you,’ and before we left, there were fire trucks spraying water in the air. “When we got down to Washington,

‘When we got down to Washington, it was the same thing. I never could have envisioned anything like this.’

—Bob Connick

it was the same thing. I never could have envisioned anything like this,” he said.

Connick, who has lived in the same house on Main Street for 60 years, joined the others in lauding a “Guardian,” one of the many people who had that position



Left: Anthony J. Russo, at Arlington Cemetery



Right: Frank Scallero, flanked by two family friends, Areina Koch and her husband Michael Koch.

assisting veterans on the trip. “They took care of you. And Deb made a photo book for me, showing everything we encountered on the way.”

The “Deb” to whom Connick referred, is Deb Field of Irvington, who made her ninth Honor Flight this past September as a Guardian. Field originally made her first trips out of Minnesota, beginning in 2011, in the state where she grew up. “Once they started a “hub” in New York, I started flying with the New York group, beginning with the April, 2013 flight.” Earlier she had travelled to Minnesota to participate in the flights. “I’ve been trying to get as many Irvington vets as possible to go,” Field said. “It has become a passion. It is such a tangible way of thanking the veterans for what they have done for this country and for all the freedoms we enjoy.”

“Each Guardian is responsible for two

veterans on the trip,” explained Marty Purdy, Veteran’s Coordinator for the Hudson Valley Honor Flights. “Guardians pay their own way,” she said. The cost is \$400. Like the Guardians, Purdy is a volunteer in the national, non-profit organization. “My daughter married a military man...and seeing the sacrifices that the people today make, I felt that I needed to do my share. It totally opened my eyes to how wonderful these men and women of World War II are,” Purdy said.

“Our policy dictates that we begin with World War II veterans, and when we have accomplished that, Korea is next on the list,” Purdy explained. WW II Veterans are being accepted now for the April 26 Honor Flight. For information, call 845-391-0076, or visit www.HVHonorFlight.com/How-To-Participate.

Village of Irvington Tinkers with its Peddling Statute

by Barrett Seaman

Since the 1930s, selling wares on the street or from a truck or cart has not been an issue in Irvington. About the only example of peddling anyone can name has been the ice cream truck that tools around from street corner to playground in summer months, sounding that familiar tinkle bell to announce the arrival of savory creamcicles and toasted almond bars.

And then along came Rachel.

Not Rachel herself, actually, but rather Rachel's Gourmet, in the form of a food truck that, since last May, has been parking down at the base of Main Street several days a week spanning the lunch hour, offering a menu of sandwiches, dogs, wraps (with a side order of waffle fries or salad) and drinks to office workers and store clerks from Main Street shops and the Bridge Street complex of businesses west of the Metro North tracks.

So successful have sales been that the presence of the Rachel's Gourmet truck prompted complaints from at least one brick-and-mortar food emporium and the owners of the old Irvington train depot, who have been trying for more than a year-and-a-half to win approval for a bakery or restaurant at that location. Their complaint: while they must pay mortgages or rent as well as upkeep to maintain their stationary establishments, Rachel's Gourmet proprietor Chris Arlotta (Rachel's husband) can just roll into town, set up shop anywhere he chooses and steal their business.

Recognizing that they had a genuine constituent conflict of interests on their hands, Irvington Village Trustees decided to revisit their more than 80-year-old statutes governing "Peddling and Soliciting" in some way that would appease the bricks-and-mortar proprietors without stifling competition from an obviously popular new food source.

Under the existing statute, a mobile purveyor may, for a daily fee of \$50 or an annual fee of \$100, sell anywhere in town, except on

Broadway, without any time limits. What the village administration proposed at a December 16 public hearing was that this basic license allow peddlers to sell their wares for no more than ten minutes in any one location, but that for \$100-a-day or \$1,000 annually, they could stay put for up to two hours in any one of four designated spaces near the intersection of Main and Astor Streets or in Scenic Hudson Park.

Why two hours? Because that is the maximum time any car is allowed in those designated parking spots. "As with all compromises," commented Mayor Brian Smith, "everyone's a little unhappy."

Happiness aside, Arlotta told the board that while he appreciated their efforts to accommodate his business, having to move his truck every two hours would probably drive him out of town. Asked by board members why it would be a problem to move his truck a few dozen yards once or twice over the course of the four or five hours he typically sets up each midday, Arlotta noted that the "350-degree hot oil (for those waffle fries) right behind the driver's seat" would make even such a short trip perilous.

As for the complaints, Arlotta said: "I'm not going to apologize for building a good business."

Board members seemed to agree and took pains to express their support not only for free enterprise but also a vision of a future in which food trucks of many and various cuisines broadened the array of choices for Irvingtonians.

As Arlotta's testimony suggested, that wasn't going to happen with a two-hour parking limit. "I don't want to give you an unfair advantage," the mayor told Arlotta, "but I want to give you a shot."

Though the board did not complete its revision of the peddling statute, it was clear that they were heading towards expanding the parking—or at least "standing" limit—under its enhanced license to five hours.

Tarrytown & SH Arts Council Dissolving

Tarrytown & Sleepy Hollow Arts Council President MaryLou Gladstone announced in late December the organization will dissolve as of January 1, 2014.

In existence since 1999, Gladstone stated the council's meetings provided a "showcase, forum, and networking opportunities" for its members, and said its "arts programs and events served to educate; showcase local talent; and provide free art-making/viewing/ participation/ education opportunities for our community."

"We are proud of the work we have done in/for/with our community of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow," Gladstone

stated.

Since Y2000, the Tarrytown & Sleepy Hollow Arts Council has won over \$80,000 in grants, matching funds and donations, all of which has gone back to the community in the form of free, accessible programs, open to all, according to Gladstone. "We hope the community has enjoyed our work as much as we have," she said.

"To the special people who have helped along the way, I will give private thanks. You have been the 'wind beneath our wings,' Gladstone said. "To the public which has supported us since 1999 we give our signature closing – 'Thank you for coming to play with us!'"



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Host Families accommodate wonderful students from all over the world who come to Tarrytown to improve their English! Few experiences can spark an interest in the world like welcoming an international student into your home. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, and enjoy learning about new cultures and sharing their own. We know the decision to host is a big one, and it starts with a conversation.

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Popeye's Expresses Interest in Tarrytown Centre Location

by Janie Rosman

Developers of a proposed "Kentucky Fried Chicken-type of food establishment" in the Tarrytown Centre received approval for a second application for the empty storefront that was formerly a dry cleaners.

Facing the same discussion as with her first application for the Dollar Dream space, Joanne Landau of Kurtsam Realty Corp., a shopping center landlord, clarified the two separate applications.

Her company agreed not to pursue the drive-thru after hearing the Planning Board and the community's feedback. Once the drive-thru option was gone, she said, the potential tenant, Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen, is thinking about both the Dollar Dream space (whose application was previously approved by the Board) and the available space at the end of the mall.

Landau reiterated her earlier statement that the center is 40 percent occupied, and that most people walk to the location

from the train. Parking is an attraction, and much easier at the mall than in town, Landau said, and people tend to view the mall as a place to come in quickly, get food, and leave.

"I won't go through all the reasons why we think this is a good idea," she said. "We walked the property to look at the garbage area with (Tarrytown Village Administrator) Michael Blau; he's comfortable with that, so basically, that's it."

KFC wants to exit because of difficulties. There may be a switching of tenants; however, the second application is still some category of fast food.

At the previous meeting, board member Ron Tedesco wanted more specifics about the meaning of "like a KFC: what is the applicant, what is the kind of establishment? We all know what a KFC is like."

"Popeye's, which we all know is like a KFC," she replied. "That's why I said it's very similar."

Little Caesars Pizza is also interested in

both available spaces. "Someone who grew up in Tarrytown is very interested in setting up this restaurant," Landau said.

Several months earlier, Village Engineer/Building Inspector Michael McGarvey thought the area "would be turned into a fast food court and a mall."

"I am not against you; a landlord, has a right to exercise options," Planning Board member Paul Birgy said more recently. "What concerns me is your philosophy

'What concerns me is your philosophy that if we do not get a national chain, then we can't rent the space.'

—Planning Board member Paul Birgy

that if we do not get a national chain, then we can't rent the space." He asked the board members if another national food retailer is right for the community. "If not, let's look at other options."

Landau said Popeye's, which understands there will be no drive-thru, is looking at both spaces, and that both spaces will not necessarily be rented by national chains. "The problem is that when you go with the tenants, people want to have a sense of this going to work or not from the tenants' perspective," she said.

Admitting the board is in a hard place, Tedesco said the applicant looked for some time for a tenant, and this is what the market wants. Member Paul Birgy asked that the landlord look at alternative retailers,

and asked the board if it had legal options regarding tenants.

Village Attorney Jeffrey Shumejda explained that it's a retail shopping center, and the village has no prohibition regarding fast food restaurants or restaurants as it does with bars, nightclubs, or delis. However, if the former dry cleaners space became a fast food eatery, it's a change of use.

Citing issues that were raised during the earlier public hearing, Landau said nearby residents had questions about the garbage set-up, which related largely to the transfer from previous owner to themselves. She changed the set-up to more frequent pickups, and secured larger containers.

"The reality is, it's a retail shopping center," Planning Board Chairman Stanley Friedlander said, citing empty storefronts on many Main Streets. "That's what the market wants; it's convenient and provides services that people want. It's a bad economy, and high unemployment, and with stiff competition among shopping malls," this would help the village by adding another business.

While he doesn't like the idea, and since the area has low traffic level, Friedlander saw no point regulating the type of eatery.

Member David Aukland agreed. "We've exercised all of the options with the last review and approval, and there was discomfort, yet it was just discomfort. In the end, the realities of the marketplace lead to fast food for the moment. Down the line, it's plausible to envision a rework of the plaza that might bring in other kinds of renters."

Broadway Ramp

Continued from page 1

lays on a "combination of events including multiple accidents and a vehicle fire on the Tappan Zee Bridge, snowy weather and emergency repairs on the George Washington Bridge that diverted extra traffic to I-87/I-287."

However, the ramp's closure for five years through the new bridge construction has left some questions unanswered. "Whether the ramp is opened or closed, we will have problems that have to be addressed," Tarrytown Administrator Michael Blau told a Chamber of Commerce meeting last month. "We heard from a lot of businesses, residents and non-residents about the traffic problems," Blau said. "Everybody blamed it on the ramp."

Tarrytown Mayor Drew Fixell addressed the issue at a Village Trustee meeting, explaining that during the worst congestion it had taken him 45 minutes to drive from Sleepy Hollow to Tarrytown, even after taking a detour off Route 9 to Route 119 which was also tied up. Sleepy Hollow Administrator Anthony Giaccio described the backup in that village as reaching all the way to Philipsburg Manor, even obstructing movement from Webber Park to Village Hall. "We voiced our concern to the state because it was really bad," Giaccio said.

"I have been receiving lots of calls from

angry residents and small business owners about the traffic congestion on Route 9," Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner commented during the tie-ups. "One business owner in Tarrytown said that his business will go under if traffic continues to be as bad as it has been." Feiner said that he, "received some calls from motorists who told me that it took over an hour to get from Irvington to Tarrytown."

Blau acknowledged that a variety of incidents likely contributed to the traffic problems, and that state studies also indicated a 7% increase in traffic during the Christmas holiday. But he contended that the existing situation is "not acceptable to residents and not acceptable for businesses. It is in the contract that the ramp will be closed for five years; however, we will be working with the Thruway Authority to address these critical issues," Blau asserted.

A Thruway Authority press release stated that, "Prior to the start of the New NY Bridge project, the Thruway conducted a comprehensive traffic study to determine the potential impact of closing Ramp E, and earlier this year TZC conducted an additional traffic study to verify its results. Findings from both studies indicated that the closure, by itself, would not have a significant impact on traffic."



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Watercooler

Around the Watercooler

by Jenifer Ross

RAISED

Girl Scout Troop 1497 ran a loose change drive involving all of the children at Washington Irving School and raised \$621 for the Community Food Pantry of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown.

RECEIVED

The Tarrytown Music Hall recently received a \$10,000 donation check from The Natural Markets Food Group, the owner of Mrs. Green's supermarkets. CEO Robin Michel explained that they want to invest in their new community as its newest corporate citizen.

CELEBRATED & HONORED

This year's **Foundation for the Public Schools of the Tarrytowns** dinner dance will mark a very important juncture in the Foundation's history. It is celebrating its 20th year anniversary, and it is wonderful to see how much it has grown and supported the students in the Tarrytown school district since its inception in 1993.

At this year's event on March 29, 2014 to be held at the Sleepy Hollow Country Club, the foundation will be recognizing the founders who established the Foundation 20 years ago, and had the foresight to ensure an education of excellence and enrichment for all our of our students.

In addition, the Kid's Club of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown will also be honored for its outstanding commitment to improving the lives of underserved children and their families. In just three short years, this all-volunteer non-profit group has touched thousands of lives in our community in the areas of education, enrichment and basic needs for those most at risk.

On November 7, 2013, Irvington attorney **Julia Santiago** was honored at a celebration at the Westchester County Courthouse for her pro bono work at the uncontested divorce clinic. Santiago has been a volunteer at the clinic since its inception in January, 2012. She worked at the clinic every Tuesday, and in the words of her supervisor, "the clinic would not have worked without her dedication."

LAUNCHED

Rumor has it that a group of local green advocates are planning to launch a new Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow farmers market slated to open as early as Memorial Day Weekend of 2014. They are planning to have many more vendors than the previous market, live music, prepared foods, chil-



dren's events, and other exciting surprises.

DONATED

The Rotary Club of the Tarrytowns does so much for our community each year. Here are some highlights: it made donations to The Community Food Pantry, RSHM Life Center and Open Door Health Center for its holiday events. The club also rang bells for the Salvation Army during the month of December and held a special bell-ringing event during one of their luncheons. Steven Byelick received his second Paul Harris pin for his contributions to Rotary. He has been a leader in our community and club and continues to be very active in Rotary with his wife Janet. The club also donated 500 meals of rice and beans to the Community Food Pantry. Lastly, its annual fruit sale raised funds once again that go back to the community in the form of grants to local non-profits and scholarships for students.

GIFTED

Friends of Jeanette Ho donated collectible toys as part of the annual Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow SantaCon held this year on December 14, to the Family YMCA at Tarrytown's Y Early Learning Center (YELC). Said Barbara Turk of the Y, "the children at the Center were thrilled to receive these presents during the YELC visit from Santa on December 20." Jeanette Ho, a lifetime resident of Sleepy Hollow who passed away in 2012 after a stoic battle with cancer, instituted the local SantaCon in 2011. Her friends and family continue the legacy in her honor each Christmas season.

ACCOMPLISHED

Area resident **David Stillman**, Executive Director of the non-profit Public-Private Alliance Foundation, reports that his team recently completed a three-month consultancy for the Inter-American Development Bank in Haiti. This furthered the Foundation's mission to help families and

Continued on page 11

Now more than ever, the Y is the place to spend your summer!

At Y Early Learning Center at Tappan Hill, 50 Ichabod Lane, Tarrytown

Mix and match half day and full day sessions to create an exciting, challenging and fun summer for your child! For more information, visit www.ymcattarrytown.org or call 914.418.5561/2 and mention this ad!



YELC Traditional Day Camp: For infant through six years. Art, physical fitness, games, sports, cheers, trips and more! One week sessions running all summer. Nicole Bernardone & Susan Barak, Co-Directors.

Y Summer Shakespeare: Celebrating our 10th Anniversary! Join this intensive, wildly fun four-week, half day program culminating in multiple outdoor performances of Shakespeare at Patriot's Park in Tarrytown the first weekend in August. Hone your craft and produce a show! Tricksters Camp for those entering grades 3 - 6 will perform Julius Caesar, Renegades Camp for those entering grades 7 - 12 will perform Romeo & Juliet. Peter Royston, Camp Director.



Y Theatre Arts Camp: Create the sets, props and costumes for the Summer Shakespeare productions during this half day camp running in July! Vera Zamdmer, Camp Director.

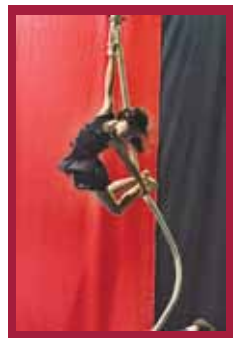


YDA Summer Dance Intensives: The Y Dance Academy offers summer dance intensive programs for ages 5-18, levels beginner to advanced. Please contact the YDA office for details and registration information: 914-631-4807 x32. Jane Alexandre, Director.



Y Improv Camp: Kids get their funny on in these week-long sessions that help them develop self-confidence, quick-thinking skills, teamwork, and public speaking abilities while getting them on their feet, laughing and being as silly as they wanna be. Weekly, half day sessions running in July. David Neilsen, Camp Director.

Y Circus Arts Camp: Enjoy and learn clowning, tumbling, fire twirling, wire-walking, balancing globes, juggling, stunt bikes, rings, trapeze, triple trapeze, spanish web, silk, ropes and other acts which all perform in an end-of-session extravaganza. Campers who just want to try new things without participating in the show also have that opportunity. Two week and one week sessions run throughout the summer. Hilary Sweeney & Carlo Pellegrini, Co-Directors.



I slam. Therefore I am!

Poetry & Story Slam / Teen Workshop - a collaboration with The Hudson Valley Writers' Center. This is a one week, full day camp, 10 am to 4 pm. Teens work with experts to write and perform original material. Tanya Moore-Barrett & HVWC instructor Dan O'Brian, Co-Directors.

Rockin' Hood Camp: This August, Sherwood Forest rocks! Students will act, sing, and rock out to popular favorites while presenting an original take on the legend of Robin Hood in this two-week, full day musical theatre program. August 4 - 15; David Neilsen & Neal Spitzer, Co-Directors.



And more, including Y Aviation Camp, Y Fashion Camp and Y Chess Camp - one week camps exploring these exciting topics!



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Irvington Resident's Son Among "Arctic 30" Protestors Granted Amnesty by Russians

by Robert Kimmel

Russia's broad amnesty, granted last month, opening the way for Dmitri Litvinov and his Greenpeace colleagues, known as the "Arctic 30," to leave that country came as no great surprise to his father, Pavel Litvinov, an Irvington resident. The Greenpeace members were arrested in September when they protested Russia's oil drilling at a rig in the Arctic's international waters.

The elder Litvinov knows firsthand how

the Russian legal system works, and he doesn't think it has changed that much from the days of the Soviet Union. As a dissident in the Soviet Union, he was sent to exile and labor in a Siberian mining town for protesting his country's invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

The Greenpeace group was first imprisoned in the port city of Murmansk and charged with "hooliganism", an offense that could result in jail terms. Their arrests brought a storm of criticism from around the world. They were later released from

jail and taken to St. Petersburg, but were still in jeopardy of standing trial and imprisonment.

However, at that point Pavel Litvinov was optimistic about his son's eventual freedom to leave Russia, "Because, with the Soviet-type machinery, when it is moved in a certain direction, it doesn't change," he noted in an early December interview. When the Russians decided to free the Arctic 30, 28 Greenpeace activists and two freelance reporters, from prison, "that was enough of a signal that they would eventually release them to leave the country," he added. "I think that they will be out very soon," he predicted then.

Some analysts see the Russian parliament's mass amnesty, which encompasses thousands of prisoners, as a means of softening Russia's human rights image prior to the 2014 Sochi Winter Games. It was presumably done to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Russian constitution.

Dmitri Litvinov has been with Greenpeace since 1989, and helped to organize the environmental group's Russian contingent soon afterwards, when he moved to Moscow for four years. He had come to the United States in 1974, at the age of 12, when his father, Pavel, was expelled from the Soviet Union. Dmitri has been living in Stockholm for the past 13 years with his Swedish born wife.

While Dmitri's activism in ecology may have been influenced by his father's role as a political dissident, it came as something of a surprise to Pavel. "We sympathized with ecology but we talked more about civil rights, human rights, and freedom of speech." Had the elder Litvinov ever thought that his son would one day also become a prisoner in Moscow's grip? "Not at all," he asserted. Dmitri had been interested in linguistics and anthropology, but also, "got interested in Greenpeace and stayed with that," his father stated. "We didn't encourage him one way or the other, but we are proud of him."

Pavel has lived in Irvington since he retired in 2006 after teaching physics and mathematics for 30 years at the Hackley School in Tarrytown where he resided. He became disillusioned with the Soviet system as a young man. "I believed in human rights and that people can speak their minds, whether right or wrong, and the state has no monopoly on people's opinions. It made me think I should speak up. I believed it was the natural thing to do," he said about his protests. However, it attracted the wrath of Soviet leadership. His activities culminated when he joined others in Red Square protesting the Czechoslovakia incursion. "We felt it was a small country unjustly invaded by a big country - ours, and we felt responsible." Pavel's arrest by the KGB and his exile to Siberia followed.

Dmitri's ancestry offers an interesting mix. He is the great grandson of Joseph Stalin's foreign minister during the 1930's, Maxim Litvinov. His mother's father was the literary scholar and dissident Lev Kopelev.



New Tappan Zee Bridge Update

by Brian Conybeare

First, I'd like to thank *The Hudson Independent* for the opportunity to write a monthly column keeping all your readers up-to-date on the progress of the New NY Bridge project. It is a very exciting time both on the Hudson River and behind the scenes.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced on Dec. 19, 2013, that the New York State Thruway Authority and the U.S. Department of Transportation closed on a record-setting \$1.6 billion low-interest loan for the New NY Bridge project. The loan, which comes from the federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program, will help finance the \$3.9 billion project; it carries an interest rate of less than 4 percent, and very favorable repayment terms that will help keep future tolls on the new bridge as low as possible. Governor Cuomo has also called for the creation of a Toll and Financing Task Force to look at possible additional sources of revenue and consider overall toll rates, as well as potential discounts for commuters and local residents.

Meanwhile, construction is starting to ramp up on this historic project. The first of about 1,000 permanent pilings are already being installed by Tappan Zee Constructors, LLC (TZC) to support the new twin-span bridge, which is designed to last 100 years or more. There are approximately four dozen TZC barges, boats and other vessels on the Hudson right now, and that number could double by this coming summer.

The year ahead will be a very big year for the project. Already, about 600 direct jobs have been created and that number will rise in the coming months as more workers join in the effort. Some 500 companies have benefitted from the project so far, with many of them calling the Hudson Valley region home.

Our goal is to keep the project on schedule and on budget while maintaining an unprecedented level of public involvement and transparency.

Here's to a successful and prosperous 2014!

Irvington Schedules Hearing on Amendments to Waterfront Law

by Robert Kimmel

Irvington's Board of Trustees is moving ahead to guarantee that the village maintains an inviting-looking and comfortable waterfront. The Board will hold a public hearing Monday, January 6 to consider the enactment of a local law amending the Industrial District Zoning regulations. As a starter, the amendment changes the district's designation from "Industrial District I" to "Waterfront District WF" on the village's zoning map.

The amendment tightens the district's use regulation, to curb pollutants and other distractions that would make the area less appealing for its general use by the public. It revises a paragraph that curbs the use of the district by any entities that create substances that, in the opinion of the Board of Appeals, in the new wording, "is noxious or offends." These include the creation of uncomfortable or dangerous effects such as waste gases, liquids, smoke, or vibrations, and, as stated in the amendment, "or radiation that presents a hazard detrimental to the public health, safety or

general welfare of the community."

To a section of the existing law that forbids the presence of junkyards or automobile wrecking yards, it adds, "landfills, or solid or liquid waste transfer or storage stations." The amendment also includes a new paragraph aimed at eliminating auto congestion: "The use of premises for the operation of any fast-food establishment or any restaurant or food service business providing curb or drive-through service or having more than 1/2 parking space for each seat therein." Waterfront construction, parking and driveway area sizes are also affected by the amendment.

In keeping with the changes, it requires that, "In the Waterfront District, the Planning Board, in considering View Preservation approval, shall take into consideration the view of the Hudson River from Main Street and from Matthiessen Park and Scenic Hudson Park, in addition to the view from other neighboring properties and adjacent public property and rights-of-way."

The amended law takes effect, if approved, immediately upon its filing with the N.Y. Secretary of State.



The Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce earlier this year recognized several business owners and officials who have devoted years of service to the community.

Computer Tech Stuff: Security

by Craig Vogel

This month we're going to focus on security. I know; security seems to be all anyone talks about these days when it comes to tech. However, it's such a critical topic, and people still aren't vigilant enough about it, that I think it's critical to keep educating everyone about it.

Backups

No excuses anymore when it comes to this. Back in the days of zip drives and CDs, I can understand if you didn't have a simple backup plan in place. However today, with online backup services and built-in backup software, there's no reason not to have a copy of your critical files somewhere. Besides, don't you want to be able to relax anyway? If your stuff is backed up, you don't have to worry about system failure,

hard drive crashes, malware attacks or even deleting something by mistake – simply restore a copy from your back-up and be on your way. Isn't that a nicer way to live?

Online backup recommendation: Mozy with 2x protect (cloud/local – Windows/Mac). Local backup recommendation: Time Machine (local, Mac only)

Viruses/Malware

Please, please, please! Do not open that unexpected attachment from a shipping service. Do not click on that link in an email from someone you know. Do not allow that automatically checked additional software to be installed along with a valid update. Do not click on that fake warning that your computer has a virus. These are all ways to infect your system and cause it to malfunction. Take your time, take a

breath and read slowly and carefully what the computer is communicating to you. If you're not sure what to do, then don't click on anything and just close the message. To remove the threats that do get through, run a malware scan at least once a month and remove whatever it finds. And please update your software, particularly the updates from Microsoft. A computer running outdated software is more likely to get infected.

Recommendations: Malwarebytes' Anti-malware

Passwords

Time to get serious with this too. No more using the same password on every site. No more dictionary words, your birthday, anniversary or child/pet's name. Time to make STRONG passwords that are different for each account. The best way to do

this is to use a password generator as part of a password management program. A password manager helps you create and store passwords securely and only require you to remember one complex password.

Recommendations: Roboform, 1Password, Dashlane

I hope you found this information valuable. Next time we'll have a conversation about email and downtime. Please email me at craig@mycomputerguy-inc.com if you have something specific you would like me to address. To be continued...

Craig Vogel is President and Chief Technologist of myComputerGuy, inc., a small business and consumer IT consulting firm based in Irvington.

Watercooler

Continued from page 9

small businesses exit the poverty cycle, less on respiratory disease, and decrease the deforestation trap of the country's heavy reliance on wood and charcoal for most cooking and heat generation needs. The Foundation is emphasizing ethanol-fueled cook stoves from Haitian-grown sugarcane,

and improvements to the many small scale distilleries there. To learn more about this group's efforts visit www.ppaoundation.org.

REACHED

Rivertown Artists Workshop (RAW) reached (and surpassed) their Indiegogo fundraising goal of \$2,000 in its effort to continue to produce innovative and thought provoking work by professional

artists living in and around our villages. The RAW community includes an impressive roster of artists, most of whom live or work in the Rivertowns. Some of their local partners include Hudson River Rising, the Warner Library, the Village of Sleepy Hollow, EF Academy and Hudson Harbor -- along with a growing core of local organizers who believe in their vision. While RAW has already reached its goal of \$2,000, support of its campaign and mission can still be realized until January 15. Kudos to

Naomi Vladeck and Sara Levine, both of Sleepy Hollow, for helping to make our community a destination for professional contemporary dance and performance. To donate, please visit: <http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/raw-startup-campaign>

Jenifer Ross owns W@tercooler, a shared workspace located in Tarrytown, NY www.watercoolerhub.com

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References available upon request.



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Saturday, February 8
9am-4pm
Snow date, Feb. 9

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Come enjoy the following free activities:

9:30-11:00am: EagleEyeView family art with Strawtown Studio & Garden

11:30am: Lore of Roar and Soar, Jonathan Kruk, storyteller

1:00pm: Birds of Prey, Teatown Lake Reservation

Ongoing arts and crafts with Scenic Hudson. Eagle Spotter.

Visit Eagle Headquarters for a full day of activities at Croton Point Park
For a full event schedule, visit www.teatown.org

SPRING IS COMING!

Keep an eye out for the Intervillage Continuing Education brochure coming from Westchester Community College in January, classes begin in February.

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Remember When: Alter's Bakery

by Elaine Marranzano

Remember when you could buy the best sour-dough rye bread in the New York (some say in the world) at Alter's Bakery at 144 Cortlandt Street in Sleepy Hollow? Alter's was in business for 73 years before it closed in 2000, but memories of it are as fresh today as rolls hot-out-of-the-oven.

"I could smell that fresh-baked bread down on Valley Street. I loved going down in the back where the bakers were to get my fresh pizza dough. I miss that place. It was a great part of my childhood."

— Antoinette Gambel Adams

"Alter's!!!Pumpnickel with raisins!!!, Fresh out-of-the-oven--steamed up all the windows in the car on the way home in winter!!!"

— Tom Conway

Alter's dates back to 1931 when Abraham Alter and his cousin bought a bakery at 91 Cortlandt Street (now home to Viana Pizza). As a young man, Alter immigrated to the United States from Poland and by 1928, he was a citizen. His wife and two daughters, ages eight and 10, soon joined him to live Tarrytown.

In 1949 Alter bought the three-story brick building at 144 Cortlandt which was built as a bakery in 1896. The word "Bakery," stamped in tin on the cornice, is still visible, and the original ovens remain in the basement under the street. (Locals

recall that snow and ice would never stick on the sidewalk over the ovens.) One employee, named Leo Schwartz, caught the eye of Alter's younger daughter.

"I met my husband because he worked

a Tarrytownner."

After the death of his father-in-law, Leo ran the business. "My father worked from 1949 to 1955 without a single day off," recalled Martin Schwartz, 64. "On the weekends he would work 25 to 30 hours. My father used to say

the brown bag with the warm rolls would be sitting on the kitchen counter."

— Christina Chalmers Spieles

"My mother would have me and my brother go get the Sunday newspapers and then go to Alters Bakery, stand on that long line and get salt sticks, onion rolls, hard rolls and anything else we wanted!"

— Mark Cobb



(left) Alter's Bakery on Cortlandt Street in Sleepy Hollow today;(above) deliveries being made years ago.

"The smell of bread is sweet to everyone but the baker.' It was a tough business."

Leo's hard work guaranteed Alter's was a neighborhood fixture and a Sunday ritual.

"My Dad went to Alter's Bakery for rolls on Sunday. EVERY Sunday. I'd wake up and

Memories of the people who worked at Alter's are equally sweet.

"I remember the nice ladies who worked behind the counter, especially Mary," said Peter Homolya.

Mary Russo Pastell, aka "Cookie Mary" is a local legend who worked at Alters' as a "shop girl" for 50 years.

Mary befriended generations of children by doling out cookies with a wink and a smile while their parents bought bread. "I guess it's my nature. I love children," said Mary, 102. "Now they are men and grandparents, but they still remember it."

"I used to think — I guess I can suffer through this nine o'clock mass, 'cause the next stop is crumb buns, seed rolls and a free cookie from Mary."

— Mark Carroll

Continued on page 20



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Viewfinder



Photo by Alexa Brandenberg



Photo by Katharine Swibold



Top left:
The fourth and fifth chorus performed at the Washington Irving Elementary School concert.

Top right:
Blue Angels flew over the Hudson River in early December.

Center left:
The Salvation Army distributed hundreds of turkeys during Thanksgiving.

Center right:
The opening of the Kumon center in Tarrytown was attended by village officials and others.

Bottom left:
Kids' Club of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow helped fund the expansion of the newly opened RSHM Life Center after school program on Valley Street, Sleepy Hollow. Sr. Susan Gardella and a Life Center student celebrate at the November open house.

Bottom right:
A ribbon cutting ceremony was recently held for the THANN Sanctuary at Castle Hotel & Spa in Tarrytown.



Photo by Sunny McLean



Business News

Mrs. Green's Natural Market Opens in Tarrytown

by Janie Rosman

Tarrytown Third Friday came early last month when Mrs. Green's Natural Market held a neighborhood celebration party for its new store at 45 N. Broadway on Thursday, December 19.

Hundreds of prospective shoppers crowded the packed aisles of the store sampling food, inspecting its abundant stock, and listening to live music and caroling. The store opened officially the following day.

The double-decker, 13,000-square-foot market has been warmly welcomed by village and local officials, residents, friends and customers. "I am truly thrilled to have Mrs. Green's join our wonderful community and wish them much success," Tarrytown Mayor Drew Fixell said.

A few weeks later than planned yet still on schedule, its December 19 preview party was followed by a weekend of family activities, live music, pictures with Santa Claus, and Winter Wonderland-themed storytelling for the little ones.

"I'm pleased we have a new anchor store that will attract people to our community, plus it will be a great asset," agreed Village Administrator Michael Blau.



Above: Store Manager Pat MacAvoy with Trustee Mary McGee, Village Manager Michael Blau and Trustee Tom Basher; (right) Jenna McLean and Katie Conners of Sleepy Hollow.

Built with sustainable equipment, from the lighting to the shelves and floor, "The new store will preserve the heritage of the village and preserve the history of the building," Natural Markets Food Group Chief Information Officer Josh Sigel said prior to opening.

"Our focus is on natural living, with 100 percent organic foods, and will include general merchandise and clothing. We also partnered with a company to sell mattresses, off-site, that have organic stuffing and contents," Sigel said.

"I'm pleased we have a new anchor store that will attract people to our community, plus it will be a great asset."

—Michael Blau

Not only will the company hire locally for the new store, Sigel said, "One of our core focuses is engaging the community and local vendors on multiple levels."

No more wheeling grocery-laden shopping carts from the storefront, past CVS, and down the side alley/active driveway — the store's back entrance solves the problem. "It's something we're all going to be happy with," building owner Edward Coco told The Hudson Independent last summer.

Mrs. Green's Corporate Office is located at 1 Bridge Street in Irvington.



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Food for Thought

Slow-Roasted Pork Shoulder a Satisfying Comfort Food

by Linda Viertel

Winter-time calls for comfort food: pancakes or waffles slathered with real maple syrup at breakfast, grilled cheese sandwiches for lunch, pasta Bolognese for dinner. Calories get burned up shoveling snow, skiing or skating, hauling in wood. Having friends over to dine on a frosty winter's eve is one of the joys of cool weather, but prepping a dinner party or feeding a large extended family can be time-consuming. So, here's a foolproof and divine shoulder pork roast whose origin stems from Italian wood-burning oven cookery. When the 800+ degree oven had finished baking the ciabattas, focaccias and filones for the day, no heat was ever wasted. So, seasoning a large roast, placing it in the oven at a high temperature, and letting it sit there as the oven cooled for 8 hours, or overnight, took advantage of the cooking heat source with little or no effort. The next day, or that evening, a juicy, crisp roast emerged from the oven. Here's a version from London's River Café that is so good — don't expect any leftovers.

Slow-Roasted Pork Shoulder

1 small whole pork shoulder, skin on weighing 7-8 pounds
10 peeled garlic cloves
¼ cup fennel seeds
5-6 small dried red chilies, crumbled
Juice of 5 lemons
5 tablespoons olive oil
Salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Using a small, sharp knife, score the whole skin of the shoulder with deep parallel-lined cuts. Smash the garlic with the fennel seeds, then mix with salt, pepper and chilies

to taste — should be the consistency of a paste. Rub and push this mixture into and over the skin and all surfaces of the meat. Place shoulder on a rack in a roasting pan with low sides and roast for 30 minutes or until the skin begins to crackle up, blister and brown. Pour half the lemon juice and two tablespoons of the olive oil over the roast. Turn oven down to 250 degrees and leave the meat to roast overnight or all day (about eight hours). Baste with extra lemon juice and a little more olive oil (if this isn't an overnight project) occasionally.

The shoulder is done when it is completely soft under the crisp skin. You can tell by pushing with your finger; the meat will give way and might even fall off the bone. (You may even be able to pull the bone out.) After placing roast on a serving platter, add extra lemon juice to deglaze the pan and spoon this over the whole roast. Or, you may wish to pour the gravy over the meat once carved. Serve each person some of the crisp skin and meat from different parts of the shoulder.



Sports

Sleepy Hollow Boys Win Annual Howard Godwin Tourney

By Katy Kachnowski

On December 7, the Sleepy Hollow boys' basketball team won the 22nd annual Howard Godwin tournament for the first time since 2009. The team clinched the championship by beating Tuckahoe 75 to 68.

The Godwin Tournament is held annually in the first week of December at Sleepy Hollow High School. Each year, four girls' teams and four boys' teams compete in preliminary rounds and move on to either the championship or consolation game. Founded in 1992 by Howard and Mimi Godwin, the event was originally for girls only and was called the Sleepy Hollow Holiday Tournament. It expanded to include the boys' teams in 1995. After Howard Godwin died in 2012, the tournament was renamed in his honor.

This year, the boys hosted Gorton, Edgemont and Tuckahoe. The Horsemen's first round win on Friday, December 6, was against Gorton, earning them the opportunity to compete in the championship round against Tuckahoe.

"The win versus Tuckahoe was extremely hard fought," said head coach

Rob Rizzo. "They gave us a lot of trouble with their speed and aggressiveness, but we persevered and pulled out the victory. Winning the tournament was one of the team's goals at the start of the season. I was happy for our seniors, who had never won the tournament."

Senior captain Alex Laub, who plays forward, agreed. "It feels good to finally win the championship game. It's a good way to start of the season and it is a great step in the right direction."

Laub was awarded MVP by the tournament committee. The captain accepted his award graciously, saying "MVP is an honor, but it is really a team effort. We all rose to the challenge and each of us did our job." Laub and his fellow senior captain, guard Nick Arduino, were also named to the All-Tournament team.

Rizzo had hoped that the impressive start to the season would carry over into regular league play. However the team has struggled in recent weeks against stiff competition such as Pelham, Blind Brook and Ramapo. The team will be back on its home court January 14, where they will face off against Eastchester at 4:45 p.m.



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Arts & Entertainment

Purple Crayon to Host Band Red Baraat

by Zak Shusterman

Driving down Main St. in Hastings-On-Hudson, you could be forgiven for overlooking the pretty old church now painted a subdued purple. But, housed in the former church's upper level, below a soaring peaked roof, is one of the River towns' most promising small performance venues.

Operating in the building is the Purple Crayon Center, a non-profit that aims to enlighten and enliven all who enter with a range of educational, professional and entertainment programming. Much of in this happens in the Sanctuary, as the event space is called. According to executive director Sarah Silbert Hanawi, the Center focuses on the quality of the experience and looks for performers who are able to captivate and engage audiences.

The Center's music series — Live!@TPC — has been delighting audiences since March 2011, when a Brooklyn-based band called Red Baraat played Purple Crayon's opening party. The band's front man, Sunny Jain, explained that it was the first venue they played in Westchester and won the band new fans that now jump at the chance to catch their performances in New York City. That also turned out to be a breakout year for the group and their big band style that combines Indian bhangra, jazz, go-go, brass funk, and hip-hop. From Hastings,



the band went on to play such notable venues as the White House, Google HQ, and a TED talk stage, along with countless other stages and festivals around the globe.

The band is looking forward to its return to Hastings-On-Hudson and the Purple Crayon on Saturday, January 25, at 8 p.m. Admission is \$18. You can get a sample of their performance at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kQD1P0_KUs.

Meeting an annual touring schedule of about 150 dates, Red Baraat can only get to play New York venues three or four times. With a space as intimate as the Purple Crayon, the band has more control over the room's sound and the audience's energy, according to Jain. The band gets to "create something you can't in a festival," he says. The musicians are especially looking forward to mixing with their audience immediately after the music stops, an option that's just not available at larger concert venues.

World-renowned musicians such as Jill Sobule and Dar Williams have been drawn to the Hastings-On-Hudson venue for similar reasons but they're not the only ones. As a policy, all performances open with talent from the local community. Many of these openers were "discovered" at the monthly open mic nights and for some, their turn as opening act is also their premier on a public stage.

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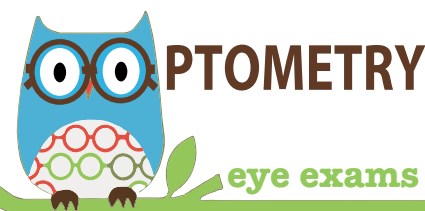
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First Full-Length Feature in the Works from Hastings Writer/Director

by Morey Storck

Peilin Kuo, born and raised in Taiwan, received her master's degree in drama and art from the Taipei National University of the Arts in Taiwan - her first tentative step toward the art of filmmaking.

"What I enjoyed most about my acting and writing courses was that I was making up something from inside myself that was, in itself, not real...but it was still a part of me. I was creating a whole new fantasy world that was absorbing me." Now the Hastings resident is at work on her first feature film, *A Thousand Deaths, The Story of Anna May Wong*.

In 1997, after receiving her degree, she worked for four years with production companies, first training as a production assistant and then as a director. During that period, she contributed her energies to commercials, music videos and television programming. However, not finding the professional satisfaction she was expecting, she decided to come to the United States in 2002. She first attended the Art Students League in New York to study

painting and drawing. At the same time, she began writing scripts and making plans to embark on the risky, yet exciting, career of filmmaking.

"New York was everything I expected," she said. "Everything is compacted into a small space, everything you would want or need. All you have to do is reach out."

Everyday, her first short film, won the Someone to Watch 2005 Award from CineWomen, New York. Broadcast by PBS's Reel New York in 2007, it was a study in free-form, stop-motion photography. The film was not pre-scripted; actors were individually photographed and deliberately given very wide latitude in their movements. The photos were then meshed into stop-motion format. "Therefore," as Peilin smiles and comments, "the title, *Everyday*."

Her second short film "A.K.A.08494####" was awarded the First Runner-Up and Most Original commendations from the "72 Hours Film Shoot-out" competition presented by MTV World, Asian CineVision (ACV) and Asian American Film Lab (AAFL). Kuo

explains the title: "just a number, an outsider," her ongoing cinematic theme. Her following films continued to be screened at national and international festivals, and winning awards.

In 2010, Kuo completed *Prescott Place*, a 23-minute film in black and white, with a 1940's stylized setting, coupled with part post-modern fantasy. With echoes of *Sunset Boulevard* and *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane*, this outsider story involves a long-forgotten child star who, after a disfiguring on-set accident, relinquishes the sparkle of Hollywood for a self-inflicted retreat of her own making. Her only friend is Baby Doll, who in turn, bullies the fragile has-been child star.

After *Prescott Place* garnered a prestigious premiere and multiple selections in international and national film festivals, Kuo moved on to her first full-length feature film: *A Thousand Deaths, The Story of Anna May Wong*. Kuo concedes that she spent much of her first years in New York consumed by watching the Turner Movie Classics channel and became captivated by the '40s noir homage. That image of the

outsider, who is constantly disrespected, coupled with the character's ability to get back up against all odds, remains Kuo's dramatic foundation.

With Anna May Wong, she has found a perfect study. Wong was the first Chinese American movie star, and the first Asian American actress to gain international recognition, spanning both silent and sound film, television, stage, and radio. But her success was not without frequent ups and downs endured under the strain of accepting stereotypical roles she reluctantly played. Another outsider! Perhaps, her greatest frustration was being refused the leading role of the Chinese character Olan in the film version of Pearl S. Buck's *The Good Earth*. The role went instead to the German actress, Luise Rainer.

Her script has been written, the cinematic stage is set to go. "Money? I'll try here, first. Then, if necessary, I'll go to Taiwan and China." And, then she adds with a wink and a knowing smile, "Things have changed a lot there. Money talks and capitalism speaks loudly." It seems that Kuo is not quite the outsider she claims.

January 11 "Beers, Bands, and Burgers" to Benefit SHHS Performing Arts Boosters

by Morey Storck

Captain Lawrence Brewery, the award-winning craft brewery, located at 444 Saw Mill River Road, Elmsford, will host an evening fundraiser in support of the Sleepy Hollow Performing Arts Boosters, on January 11, 2014, from 7 to 11 p.m. (food by Village Dog).

Billed as "Winter Blues", the fun-filled evening will include an open bar, featuring Captain Lawrence's famous locally brewed beers, burgers, raffles, a live auction, and an imposing line-up of local bands including Juke Joint with The Tarrytown Horns, All Banged Up and Four Piece Racket, plus special attractions: Losing Our Faculties (teacher's band) and Local Alums.

The brewery is owned and run by head brewer Scott Vaccaro, a home-brewer since 1995, trained in brewing science at UC Davis. The facility in Elmsford is open for tastings, visits and retail sales. It takes its name from Captain Lawrence Drive in South Salem, NY, Vaccaro's childhood home. The street is named after Samuel Lawrence

(1733-1796) who was a Captain in the Westchester County Militia, 3rd Regiment. Many Captain Lawrence beers are strongly influenced by traditional Belgian ale styles, yet often with an American twist. Barrel-aging and ales with sourness or flavors are also part of their repertoire. What better a place than the Captain Lawrence Brewery for a social rendezvous plus beer-bash booster benefit!

The Sleepy Hollow Performing Arts Boosters is a volunteer-run organization that benefits children's participation in the Middle School and High School performing arts programs. It is made up of volunteer parents, faculty and student representatives. The Boosters sponsor such activities as breakfasts, car washes, the Variety Show and manage the concession stands at school plays and concerts. The funds raised at these activities help support the performing arts program and enable the students to defray costs of music trips and the year-end awards dinner.

Advance Tickets: \$60.00 (½ price for teachers and students over 21)
\$75.00 at door



Santa Claus made several visits to Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown to spread some holiday cheer to children and adults.



Photos by Sunny McLean

What's Happening

Saturday 4

WINTER MARKET IN HASTINGS: From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main St. Call 478-8068 or visit www.hastingsfarmersmarket.org. Also Jan. 18.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES –MUSKY MUSTELIDS: At 11 a.m. meet a few ambassador animals in this program featuring odiferous animals at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

WILD MOSAICS: At 2 p.m. make your own mosaic using natural materials at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

WINTER GALA: At 7:30 p.m. “Baby” will be presented by the Broadway Training Center at the Irvington Town Hall Theater. Call 591-6602 or visit www.IrvingtonTheater.com.

Sunday 5

TEACHING TRAILS: At 11:30 a.m. join a guided trail experience through the woodland forest at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org. Also Jan. 12, 19 & 26.

Monday 6

ACTIVE RETIREMENT LECTURE SERIES: 10:30 a.m. at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jcconthehudson.org for topic. Also Jan. 20.

SHAKESPEARE READING GROUP: At 7 p.m. the group will read “The Merchant of Venice” at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Tuesday 7

ROSH CHODESH: At 7:30 p.m. women’s discussion group based on life experiences and Jewish topics at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jcconthehudson.org.

“CABARET”: Performed by the Clocktower Players Teen Troupe at 7:30 p.m. at the Irvington Town Hall Theater. Call 591-6602 or visit www.IrvingtonTheater.com. Also Jan.8.

Wednesday 8

REDESIGNING OUR REGIONAL ENERGY AND TRANSPORTATION STRUCTURE: At 7:30 p.m. learn about some of the most exciting sustainability initiatives in our region at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Program co-sponsored by the Sierra Club Lower Hudson Group. Call 723-3470 or visit www.newyork.sierraclub.org/LHG.

“FOLLOWING THE 9TH: In the Footsteps of Beethoven’s Final Symphony”: Program at 7:30 p.m. featuring piano performance before the film and interview with coproducer Greg Mitchell afterwards at the Nyack Center, Broadway at Depew. Call (845) 353-2568 or visit www.rivertownfilm.org.

Thursday 9

BOOK DISCUSSION: At 7 p.m. the Warner Library Book Group discusses “The End of the Affair” by Graham Greene. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

AFTER DARK: “+1” will be shown at 7:45 p.m. at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

CONCERT: Marc Cohn and Paula Cole perform at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Friday 10

BOOK CLUB: At 10 a.m. the group discusses “Jacob’s Folly” by Rebecca Miller at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. Call 631-1770 or visit www.tba-nj.org.

ROCK & ROLL CONCERT: Trigger Hippy performs at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

“BEST OF” FILM SERIES: “All is Lost” will be shown at 8 p.m. at Irvington Town Hall Theatre. Call 591-6602 or visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

Saturday 11

“FANCY NANCY THE MUSICAL”: Performances at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

LITERARY AFTERNOON: At 2 p.m. enjoy poetry and prose with the authors of the Westchester Review at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

CONCERT: The Northern Westchester Flutes perform at 2:30 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

WHOO’S THERE?: At 6 p.m. learn about the unique behaviors of owls and hike through the forest looking for our nocturnal neighbors at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

MOVIE MAVENS: At 7 p.m. watch “A Journey of Spirit” as part of a special Shabbbat service at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulted@tba-nj.org to RSVP.

Sunday 12

WARM UP WITH MAMMALS: At 11 a.m. see how mammals cope with winter’s frosty temperatures at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

WINTER FARM MARKET: From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Hay Barn at Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills. Call 366-6200 or visit www.stonebarnscenter.org.

JAZZ CONCERT: Too Human, the singer/songwriter duo of Ellen Schwartz and Roger Bruno, per-

form at 2 p.m. with special guest Bryan Rizzuto on upright bass at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

CELEBRATING WINTER TREES AND ANIMALS: At 2 p.m. learn how they survive and thrive at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

COLLABORATION: At 4 p.m. the work of Columbian composer Pablo Mayor and choreographer Daniel Fetecua will be performed at Sleepy Hollow Central Fire Headquarters, 28 Beekman Ave. sponsored by RAW (Rivertown Artists Workshop). E-mail Naomi@rivertownartistsworkshop.org or visit www.rivertownartistsworkshop.org.

Monday 13

AN EVENING WITH PAUL GALLAY: At 7 p.m. the President of Riverkeeper speaks on protecting water at the local level, presented by Tarrytown Environmental Advisory Council, at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or e-mail savvypalates@optonline.net to sign up.

Tuesday 14

CRAFTS WITH KEVIN: At 3:45 p.m. children 4-8 make cotton ball snowmen at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

TEEN HENNA: At 7 p.m. learn about Henna/Mehndi decorations at the Irvington Public Library and come home wearing a temporary design. Parental permission required. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

Wednesday 15

“ALABAMA 1965”: Leon Guthertz shares the story of this historic period in our country’s history at 9:45 a.m. at the Men’s Club meeting at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jcconthehudson.org.

CRAFTERNOONS: At 4 p.m. children 8-12 design their own box with different Washi tapes at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

COOKING UNDER PRESSURE: At 7:30 p.m. learn how to adapt existing recipes for use with a pressure cooker at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jcconthehudson.org.

Thursday 16

THURSDAY EVENING BOOK CLUB: Meeting at 7:30 p.m. to discuss “Defending Jacob” by William Landay at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

CONCERT: Big Bad Voodoo Daddy performs at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Friday 17

“BEST OF” FILM SERIES: “Aka Doc Pomus” will be shown at 8 p.m. at Irvington Town Hall Theatre. Call 591-6602 or visit www.irvingtontheater.com.

CONCERT: Greg Brown & Steve Forbert perform at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.



Saturday 18

BRONX, THE WAY IT WAS: Powerpoint presentation by Steven Santur at 2 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library. Preregistration requested. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

WILDLIFE IN WINTER: Come at 2 p.m. for an hour of fun as a naturalist shows off some of the favorite animals at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Sunday 19

ACOUSTIC GUITAR CONCERT: Lyle Lovett & John Hiatt perform at 7 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Monday 20



WINTER WATER: At 2 p.m. hike to the pond to explore what is going on beneath the surface at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

MEATLESS MEALS: At 7:30 p.m. learn how to make plant-based meals everyone will love at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jcconthehudson.org

Tuesday 21

ROBERT THE GUITAR GUY: Songs, movement and lots of fun at 1 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

AFTER DARK: “The Visitor” will be shown at 7:45 p.m. at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Thursday 23

AUTHOR VISIT: At 7 p.m. Richard R. Binkle

SENIORS

SENIOR BENEFITS INFORMATION CENTER: Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. a representative from the Medicare Rights Center is on hand at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Sign up at the Reference Desk or call 631-7734. To ask questions outside regular counseling hours call 269-7765.

SENIOR VAN: Beginning at 9 a.m. Monday through Friday, a van is available for seniors who need transportation. Call the Tarrytown Village Hall at 631-7873 or the Sleepy Hollow Recreation Dept. at 366-5109.

HOT LUNCH: Available Monday to Friday 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for \$2.50 donation at Knights of

Columbus Hall in Tarrytown. Call 631-2717.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

43 Wildey St., Tarrytown, 631-0205

MEMOIR WRITING: 1 p.m. Jan. 7.

YOGA ON THE CHAIR: 11:15 a.m. Wednesdays.

ART WORKSHOP: 1 p.m. Wednesdays.

TAI CHI: 11 a.m. Thursdays.

SENIOR CANTEEN: informal social group, 1 p.m. Thursdays.

YOGA ON THE CHAIR: 11:15 a.m. Fridays.

MOVIES: 1 p.m. Fridays.
BRIDGE AND CARD CLUB: 1 p.m. Fridays.

TARRYTOWN SENIOR CENTER

Pierson Park, 631-2304. Annual donation is \$15.

MEETINGS: 1 p.m. Jan. 7 and 21, followed by games.

EXERCISE: 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

LUNCHEON: noon at Baptist Church, Jan. 27.

NICKEL BINGO: 12:30 p.m. Mondays.

SWIMMING: 11 a.m. Tuesdays at Kendal-on-Hudson.

GAMES: 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

TRIP TO EMPIRE CASINO: Jan. 8

YOGA: 10 a.m. Thursdays.

MOVIES: 1 p.m. Jan. 10.

BOOK CLUB: 1 p.m. Jan. 24.

OTHER CLASSES: Check bulletin board.

POOL TABLES: Available any time.

CLOSED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY, JAN 20

JAMES F. GALGANO SENIOR CENTER

55 Elm St., Sleepy Hollow, 631-0390. Annual donation is \$10, due before March 1.

MEETINGS: 1 p.m. Jan. 6 and 21, followed by bingo.

YOGA: 8:30 a.m. Mondays.

SWIMMING: 10 a.m. Tuesdays at Kendal-on-Hudson.

EXERCISE CLASS: 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays.

NICKEL BINGO: 1 p.m. Wednesdays.

MOVIES: 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays.

CERAMICS: 1 p.m. alternate Thursdays.

EXERCISE CLASS: 10:15 a.m. Fridays.

KNITTING: 1 p.m. Fridays.

OPEN WEEKDAYS FOR SOCIALIZING, CARD PLAYING, ETC.: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CLOSED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY, JAN 20



Thursday January 9 - Concert: Marc Cohn and Paula Cole perform at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall.

discusses his book "Harvey's Robot" at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

ART ON FILM: "Waste Land" about artist Vik Muniz's collaboration with the residents of the world's largest garbage dump, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville, followed by Q&A with Lesley Martin and Ellen Keiter. Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

Friday 24

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: At 5:30 p.m. see "Despicable Me 2" at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE: From 5:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. celebrate, study and explore Jewish women's issues at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulter@tba-nj.org to RSVP.

"GODSPELL, JR.": Performed by the Clocktower Players Junior Teen Troupe at 7:30 p.m. at the Irvington Town Hall Theater. Call 591-6602 or visit www.IrvingtonTheater.com. Also Jan. 25.

Saturday 25

It's A HOOT!: At 10 a.m. meet an owl and dissect an owl pellet to find what is hidden inside at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

MUSIC: Brooklyn-based group Red Baraat performs at 8 p.m. at The Purple Crayon, 52 Main St. Hastings-on-Hudson. Call 231-9077 or visit www.purplecrayoncenter.org.

"PROS(E) OF PIE": At 8 p.m. join a monthly storytelling forum and bring a pie to share at W@tercooler, 21 N. Broadway, Tarrytown. This month's theme is the Big Chill (rescheduled from Dec.). Call 332-1400 or visit www.prosofpie.com.

Sunday 26

A CONVERSATION WITH RABBI URI REGEV: Special guest lecture and brunch at 10:30 a.m. at Wood-

lands Community Temple in Greenburgh. To register call 592-7070 or visit www.wct.org.

TRACKS AND SCATS: At 1 p.m. hike in the woods and return to the nature center to match animal droppings and tracks at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

POETRY READINGS: At 1:30 p.m. prominent local poets read from their work, facilitated by Dr. George Kraus, at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jccontheudson.org.

WINTER WALK: At 2 p.m. join a naturalist to see what animals need to survive in the cold at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Monday 27

AUTHOR LECTURE: At 7 p.m. psychotherapist Sharon K. Farber discusses her book "In Hungry for Ecstasy: Trauma, the Brain and the Influence of the Sixties" at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

FOURTH MONDAY KNITTING GROUP: Meets at 7 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Bring your projects and join the group. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Tuesday 28

GAME NIGHT: At 5 p.m. ages 8 and up play Magic the Gathering card game at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

"THE MUSIC MAN JUNIOR": Presented by Random Farms Youth Theater at 7 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org. Also Jan. 29 & 30 at 7 p.m., Jan. 31 at 10 a.m. & 7 p.m., Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., Feb. 2 at 2 p.m.

Wednesday 29

"WHAT THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS TELL US TODAY: Talk by Bob Zinman at 9:45 a.m. at the Men's Club meeting at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.jccontheudson.org.

Thursday 30

HIGH SCHOOL BOOK CLUB: Meets at 7 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library. Find out more at www.irvingtonlibrary.org/ya.htm.

Friday 31

8TH ANNUAL SPELLING BEE: Presented by Friends of the Irvington Library at 7 p.m. at Irvington Town Hall Theater. Call 591-6602 or visit www.IrvingtonTheater.com.

Saturday February 1

DANCE PERFORMANCE: Shared evening of new work by Joel

Sherry with dancer Cynthia Bueschel Svigals and choreographer Kate Vincek at EF Academy, 100 Marymount Ave., Tarrytown sponsored by RAW (Rivertown Artists Workshop). E-mail Naomi@rivertownartistsworkshop.org or visit www.rivertownartistsworkshop.org.

Sunday February 2

BLOOD DRIVE: From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Greenburgh Hebrew Center in Dobbs Ferry. For appointments e-mail blooddrive@g-h-c.org. Walk-ins also welcome.

Ongoing

JCC ON THE HUDSON: General registration for the Winter/Spring Semester begins online on Jan. 6 (members) and Jan. 13 (non-members); in-person or phone registration the following day. Register online @ www.jccontheudson.org or call 366-7898.

"WHITE CHRISTMAS": Through Jan. 12 at the Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. & show at 8 p.m. Call 592-2222 or visit www.broadwaytheatre.com.

JAZZ WEDNESDAYS @THE PRIME: Starting Jan. 8 Mark Morganelli, Vic Juris & Nilson Matta play jazz and Brazilian jazz from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at 19 Main St., Hastings-on-Hudson. Call 478-1147 or visit www.jazzforumarts.org.

WE GOT GAME: Sports on film Jan. 16-19 at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

"TITANIC": Jan. 16 - Feb. 23 at the Westchester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. & show at 8 p.m. Call 592-2222 or visit www.broadwaytheatre.com.

USED BOOKS: Friends of the Irvington Library is partnering with Curious-on-Hudson Bookshop, 145 Palisade St., Dobbs Ferry to offer used books year round. Proceeds go directly to the Library. Call 412-8393 or e-mail friends.irvingtonlibrary@gmail.com.

SKATING ON THE TARRYTOWN LAKES: Opening depends on the weather. Call Tarrytown Rec. at 631-8347 for information about conditions and hours.

ART AS GIFT: Through Jan. 31, display of unique holiday gifts at reasonable prices at Studio A Gallery, 52 Main St., Tarrytown. Call 347-755-6069 or e-mail studioAgallery@gmail.com.

EXHIBIT: "Life Lines", pen and ink drawings by William F. Stifel, are on display at the Irvington Public Library. Reception Jan. 11 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

EXHIBIT: Pauline Bruno is displaying her artwork featuring oils acrylics and mixed media at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

RED CIRCLE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT: On view Jan. 1-30 at the Ossining Public Library. Artist reception Jan. 5 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

HOMEBOUND SERVICES @ YOUR LIBRARY: If you are unable to leave your home due to illness or disability, a Warner Library staff member or volunteer will bring library materials to you. Call the Reference Desk at 631-7734.

MAH JONGG: Play Mondays at 1 p.m. at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulter@tba-nj.org to ensure there are enough players for a game.

TORAH STUDY: Rabbi Holtz leads a class every Wed. at 10 a.m. at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. No previous knowledge required. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulter@tba-nj.org.

FRIDAY NIGHT JAZZ JAM: Featuring Jay Azzolina and Friends from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Hastings Station Café in Hastings on Hudson. Call 693-3175.

OSSINING DOWN-TO-EARTH FARMERS' MARKET: Open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. all year at Spring and Main Sts. Call 923-4837.

STONE BARNS' PROGRAMS: A series of produce-related talks and tours are offered on Saturdays and family programs on Sundays at Stone Barns in Pocantico Hills. Call 366-9606 or visit www.stonebarnscenter.org.

HEALTHY LIFE SERIES: Phelps Memorial Hospital

Center in Sleepy Hollow offers the community a wide range of programs on health-related subjects as well as health screenings and support groups. Visit www.phelpshospital.org.

FILMS FOR CHILDREN: Weekends at noon at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARIES: Stories, rhymes and songs for children of various ages at Tarrytown's Warner Library and Irvington Public Library. For Warner, call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org. For Irvington, call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

CHESSE CLUB: The Warner Library Chess Club meets on the second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

The Listings are compiled by Sally Kellock.

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January 25: Join a monthly storytelling forum and bring a pie to share at W@tercooler, 21 N. Broadway, Tarrytown.

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Our Family Serving Yours

Obituaries

Dorothy Shore, 88

Dorothy Ann Fraser Shore, who lived in the Tarrytown area for more than 50 years, died November 21 at Kendal on Hudson in Sleepy Hollow. She was 88.

She grew up in Hastings on Hudson and attended Vassar College, then dropped out to serve in the Women's Army Corp during WW II. She earned the rank of Sergeant. After the war, she attended Sarah Lawrence College until marrying William Burton Shore (died 2009) in 1949. She was an active gardener and frequent volunteer serving as an ambulance driver and EMT for the Tarrytown Ambulance Corps., Girl Scout leader, teacher with Literacy Volunteers and was on the board of St. Faith's House.

Muriel Brown, 91

Muriel K. Brown, a lifelong resident of Irvington, died November 27. She was 91.

She started out working for the New York Central Railroad and later for the Foundation for Economic Education in Irvington. She retired from The American Can Co. in Armonk. She was an active member of Irvington Presbyterian Church.

Adrianne Benuscak, 71

Adrianne Frances Benuscak, a lifelong

resident of Sleepy Hollow (North Tarrytown), died November 28. She was 71.

She graduated from Katherine Gibbs School in New York City and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles-Aerie 1042 Women's Auxiliary. She worked at the RSHM (Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary) in Tarrytown as a business manager for 33 years. She loved cooking and caring for her family, and she cherished the times she spent with them, especially her granddaughters.

James Brown, Sr., 65

James "Jim" Brown Sr., a lifelong resident of Tarrytown, died November 28.

He graduated from Sleepy Hollow High School in 1966 and worked for many years at Ciba Geigy. He was married for 42 years to Theresa Passariello Brown and had three children. Although his family was his first love, his involvement with the Tarrytown Fire Department was a close second. For 49 years, he was a member of Riverside Hose Company #4 and served as Fire Chief in 1990 and 1996. He was active in the Westchester County Parade Judges Association, as well as a member of Fireman's Association of the State of New York (FASNY) and The Westchester County Fire Chiefs Association.

Remember When

Continued from page 12

Mary, who never had children of her own, still lives in the house on Elm Street in Tarrytown where she was born.

Irene Schwartz and Yetta also worked at the bakery. Yetta kept the books and Irene took orders, among other things. "My mother took the orders under maiden names because she went to high school with everyone and that's how she knew them," said Martin. "It could get a little confusing."

While both Martin and his older brother were involved in the family business, it was Martin who took over after his father retired when he was nearly 80. Leo passed away in 2004.

"We were the only people who made rolls by hand," said Martin. "I remember five or six guys sitting on a bench on Sat-

urday night making rolls because Sunday was the big day. We didn't get a roll machine until 1985 and my mother was upset. She said, "If we can't make it right we shouldn't make it all."

In the end Martin said Alter's closed because he couldn't find legal workers, and, in the ultimate irony, he was allergic to rye flour used to make the bakery's internationally recognized sour-dough rye bread. The building was sold and Alter's store is now vacant. Martin now lives in Florida and works for a commercial bakery.

But a little bit of Alter's lives on. Stanley Schwartz, 73, owns Noah's Restaurant in Connecticut where he bakes rye bread made with Alter's original sour-dough rye starter from 1931.

Dementia Training Provided at Kendal on Hudson

"People are living longer and we are seeing an increase in dementia and how it affects the person, family members and care givers," said Patricia A. Doyle, Kendal on Hudson Executive Director. Doyle was explaining the reasons behind two dementia care training and education sessions Kendal was providing early this month for its staff and family caregivers.

Heading up the training, is Teepa Snow, who is an occupational therapist and currently a dementia care and dementia education specialist, nationally recognized

with over 33 years of experience in geriatrics. Kendal invited "colleagues from Open Door, Phelps, Sleepy Hollow EMS and friends from Neighborhood House and Sleepy Hollow Seniors," to the sessions, according to Gemma Maver, Director of Marketing for the continuing care retirement community.

The dementia training includes a look at "How life-long personality traits and preferences affect behavior and needs as the disease progresses."

Letters

Outdoor Pool Probably Won't Be Family-Friendly

To the Editor:

I read the article about the subject swimming pool in the Independent. It comes as no surprise that the town government has been first dazzled by a developer's proposals and promises, then forced into reductions, compromises or total failures, only to realize that they have to settle for crumbs when it comes to concessions and give-backs to the town. First promised a two-pool, covered structure, with a recreational facility and a small restaurant (perhaps open year-round?), it is now reduced to a single six-lane pool and a fitness facility, not covered, which I suppose would be open days in the summer.

This begs the question: Doesn't this begin to sound like the facility will prob-

ably not be truly family-friendly? More an adult-oriented lap-pool-nordic-track health club? I suspect that the upscale, upper-class denizens of Hudson Harbor want as little noise, confusion, and/or young children anywhere near them. They are closer to the developer's heart than Tarrytown's needs are. By the way, you cite its location to be "behind the railroad station" and "West of the Senior Center." Don't we even call it Pierson Park anymore?

All this is nothing new to Tarrytown. Look at how the Toll Brothers have about driven the Town Board nuts! Doesn't anyone read the fine print, and look at "Trust Me" with a little skepticism??

Robert A. Rowton
Tarrytown



Editorial

Looking Back and Ahead

As we enter our ninth year of publishing *The Hudson Independent*, we want both to thank our many constituent groups for their support and to pledge a continuation of our obligation to provide an independent, reliable source of news and

information about our communities and the people who live within them. We have a responsibility to you, our readers, whom we thank for placing your trust in what appears on our pages. We thank our advertisers, without whom we could not exist. We thank our many local shareholders whose initial belief in our purpose helped to get us started, and within our organization, our appreciation goes to the volunteers who provide our corporate guidance and the Editorial Board and staff which together produce our monthly issues. Our aim has always been to support our communities, while independently monitoring the variety of activities that affect the lives of the people within our villages. We believe we present the news straightforwardly, free of opinionated reporting, while providing a forum for different viewpoints. Our opinions are properly labeled as editorials or commentary. In brief, we believe we adhere to the principles of ethical journalism and will do so in the coming years. And as we look to the future, we also want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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Inquiring Photographer

by Alexa Brandenburg

"Do You Feel Less Safe Riding the Train Since the Derailment?"



Ryo Sasaki, 20
Tarrytown
(EF Student from Japan)

"This is my first ride after the crash. I think it's okay but I feel sadness."



Pedro Vazquez, 55
Haverstraw

"Sometimes you gotta do what you gotta do and take your chances."



Diana Rowley, 46
(with Brooke Rowley (Left) and Julie Dornseif (Right))
Valley Cottage, NY

"No, I think it was a one time thing. You drive a car and you take your chances, too."



Clare Lane, 38
Ossining

"Yes I do. It has affected me. I feel unsafe traveling on the train and I won't do it with my (16-month-old) son."

Harvest on the Hudson

Swittens: Making Something Out of Nothing

by Marcie Cuff

Winter. It's in full swing. And if, like me, you've spent the last month in front of the wood stove in an attempt to thaw your benumbed hands, or if you are simply looking for a practical way to shamelessly debut your crafty genius, you should consider making sweater mittens—in our house, they're called Swittens.

This project requires a medium-weight 100% wool sweater. I'm often partial to snazzy colors for Switten-making—luminous greens or saucy oranges—although, surprisingly, humble grays and browns can be just as powerful. You will also need soft fleece for the Switten lining. If you have nimble fingers and minimal time constraints, feel free to hand sew this project with needle and thread. If your normally dexterous digits have been stymied by winter weather and you yearn for a speedy outcome, use a sewing machine. You will also need a few random buttons for flare.

Choose an old wool sweater that you've unintentionally washed and shrunk, or select a shabby unshrunk one that you're willing to retire. It should be a medium-weight sweater—not too thick or too thin. Grab a load of laundry and add your sweater to the batch. Wash the load in hot water and dry thoroughly in the dryer. Afterward, your sweater will be slightly smaller and thicker than it was previously. You've felted it. And, look at that! You've

done the laundry!

The sweater can now be cut into a mitten pattern. Though the pattern size is up to you, don't start out too teeny. You should probably size your first Switten pair to be gifted to (or kept for) larger hands. Lie

within the pattern. For adult hands, Piece 3 should measure approximately 10 inches long and 5 inches wide. Mark pattern notches on the fabric. Be certain to cut out two of each pattern piece so that one hand does not get gypped.



the felted sweater out flat and cut away all seams. With right sides of fabric together, cut both the sweater and the fleece lining to look like pattern pieces 1, 2 and 3, making sure the intended hands will fit

“Making Swittens in the midst of winter is not unlike making lemonade out of lemons.”

With right sides of the sweater fabric together, match thumbs from Piece 1 and 2. Sew along thumb from notch to notch with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam allowance. With right sides together, pin Piece 3 to sewn pieces 1 and 2. Sew edges together, leaving the bottom unsewn. Trim excess wool around the edges as close to the seam as possible. Turn everything right side out. For the fleece lining, follow the same instructions as the felted sweater fabric. Turn each fleece lin-

ing inside out and place inside each Switten with wrong sides together.

With scissors, remove both cuffs from the original felted sweater sleeves. These sweater “tubes” should measure $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Turn the tubes inside out and slide the raw end (the end that you've cut) about an inch into each Switten, inside both the lining and the sweater layers. Starting at one of the side seams, hand sew around the cuff, through all three layers, securely fastening the cuff to the inside of the Switten. Turn each cuff up and over each Switten. Stitch around the top edge of the cuff or sew a button to the top of each cuff to secure. Chop-chop you're done, with an impressive finish.

It's been said that life's mistakes are like pebbles that make a good road, meaning that unfortunate accidents in life can often be used as stepping-stones to a new idea that might not have otherwise been discovered. Swittens are like that. They often begin with an unfortunate laundry mishap and there's really no way to mess up the outcome. Making Swittens in the midst of winter is not unlike making lemonade out of lemons. Few things are as satisfying as using sheer ingenuity to turn a bad situation into a good one. In the end, you wind up with something significantly more amazing than what you start with. And, you've given an old sweater a long, happy life.

Marcie Cuff lives in Irvington and is the author of the blog Mossy (<http://mossymossy.com>). She is also the author of the upcoming book “This Book Was a Tree” to be released April 2014 by Perigee, an imprint of Penguin Random House.

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Our People

Tarrytown Parent Hopes Math Help Adds Up for Students

by Janie Rosman

One Tarrytown parent aims to reverse what he calls a “zero push for math after eighth grade.”

“I’m not an activist, and I’m not saying that our kids are lacking,” Noah Zamdmer clarified. “Fundamentally, I love math, and its power to exercise young minds. In this Internet age, information is more accessible, the kinds of math problems are more complex, and communities that network are passionate about this stuff.”

The Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and father of two Sleepy Hollow Middle School students, analyzes electrical data from transistors at IBM’s semiconductor factory in East Fishkill, and became increasingly fascinated with math during the past two years.

In September, he began “The Math Workout: A Math Workshop for Middle Schoolers,” a free, biweekly workshop at Warner Library that draws upon the Eastern European tradition of the math circle: students meet with experienced students or teachers to tackle math problems outside the school curriculum.

Preparation for each workshop starts at <http://www.artofproblemsolving.com/>, where he chooses a math problem for kids

who show up that night. Another website, <http://brilliant.org/>, offers competitive problems with a “find your level” kind of learning, he said. Seven students, including two from Cortlandt, were at the first session; three, including his 12-year-old son, Sammy, attended the December 19 workshop.

Although Zamdmer helps his son with English more than with math, the seventh-grader has it covered. “There are many math practice areas available in Tarrytown,” Sammy Zamdmer said, citing Kumon (Math and Reading Center of Tarrytown) and the Math Club in school.

“Mathematics has a long way to grow in popularity in the Tarrytown public schools,” Zamdmer reflected, citing his website, Sleepy Hollow Math, on the district’s website, <http://www.tufsd.org/>. “Perhaps we’ll look forward to the Math Olympiad contests each November, much as we anticipate the homecoming game, and the winter concerts and plays.”

Together with Math Department Chair Jennifer Walsh, Zamdmer applied for, and won, a grant from the Foundation for the Tarrytown Schools for \$600 for a set of middle school and high school-level math problem-solving textbooks.

“Here, it will take me one minute to



Noah Zamdmer, math workshop creator.

show you how beautiful math is. Just listen to this problem,” he said. “What is the probability that three points chosen at random on a circle will form an acute triangle? The problem brings together two branches of math not usually seen together: probability and geometry.”

Fog surrounding Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) and school reform boils down to the state administration jumping the gun “in testing to a curriculum that isn’t even taught,” he maintained.

While they agreed to Common Core three years ago, courses didn’t change until last year, “and tests were centralized al-

though curriculum was decentralized,” he said. “Common Core math seems to be puzzles, and puzzles are good; given the rise of non-rote Common Core. Maybe the Math Olympiad, offered in grades 6 and 7, will get more attention.”

Each February, the Mathematical Association of America’s volunteer contest (AMC) attracts students nationwide; all district students in grades 3 through 12 are eligible to enter. As incentive, Zamdmer offers a \$100 prize to any students who perform well enough to qualify for the American Invitational Mathematics Exam (a three-hour integer answer contest).

Last year, three district students competed in the pre-qualifying AMC 10 and AMC 12 math competitions, which can lead to additional competitions and scholarships. “A tiny number of students volunteer to take the international math contests after seventh grade,” he said. “Extracurricular sports references dwarf references to extracurricular math and science in our local and school websites and publications.”

Vowing to continue to help increase participation in extracurricular math, he mused, “With all the math resources that are now in place in the Tarrytowns, it will be exciting to see what happens over the next few years.”



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