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The Hudson Independent

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As Completion of the New Bridge Nears, Changes Are Coming Along Roadways in the Rivertowns

by Barrett Seaman

The trend is clear: biking and walking are in; driving—especially at high speed—is frowned upon in the rivertowns. Encouraged by state transportation authorities in anticipation of the major changes in traffic patterns that will come with the opening of the new bridge, local municipalities are making plans to encourage the former and crack down on the latter.

Meetings scheduled for June in Hastings and Tarrytown will invite public opinion on the plans to create a seamless bike route down Broadway, from Sleepy Hollow to Hastings. Separately, Sleepy Hollow's Environmental Advisory Committee is planning an "Inner Village Walkability Workshop" on Saturday, June 10.

In Irvington, the Traffic Calming Committee (pioneer of the Slowdown Rivertowns campaign) has invited 6th to 12th graders to produce short Public Service videos (60 seconds max) on "Crosswalk Safety – Stop, Look, Wave" or "Nighttime Visibility". The deadline for submissions will be June 5, and the winner (of a cash prize, no less) will be announced on Celebrate Irvington Day, June 18, and aired alongside one produced by the police department on the village's government access channel.

As for those who continue to rely on combustible engines to get around, all the village police departments have been stepping up speeding enforcement. As of April 3, Irvington assigned one of its own to concentrate on traffic enforcement. Since then, Officer Patrick Crisci has issued 198 citations—about triple the number typically issued in that time frame.

Creating a well-defined, continuous bike lane from the area around Phelps Hospital all the way down Route 9 to the Yonkers border (see map, right) presents both logistical and, at least historically, jurisdictional challenges. The timing may be auspicious, however, given the interest shown by the New York State Department of Transportation and the New York Bridge Authority in keeping

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Teen Drinking Parties Put Parents at Risk

by Krista Madsen

As the school year ends and summer parties flourish, so too does underage drinking. Local police anticipate being busy issuing summonses to teens, but the underlying problem, according to experts, is with some parents.

"I see this shift in parenting where they want to be friends, and they give their kids so much freedom that they frankly can't handle," said Irvington-based therapist Amber DaSilva LCSW, who works with a number of area families in her private practice and hears many extreme stories she finds shocking. She believes parents take pride in their child being popular and "cool," allowing drinking parties to occur, because, they assume it's "safer" under their own roof.

But this perception of one teen's safety doesn't account for all the other teens present who have to get home eventually, walking or driving drunk. And for all the risks at play in the home itself.

DaSilva noted that teens simply don't have the mental capacity yet to manage this level of responsibility. "The adolescent brain is not developed and the pre-frontal cortex, which is responsible for executive functioning and making good decisions, is not fully up and running – at all," she explained, "so teens make really poor decisions, specifically around drugs, alcohol and sex, which is then an issue when they are taking drugs and alcohol, since they are much more likely to have sex."

There's also the risk of addiction, if not now then later. DaSilva said the younger youths start consuming drugs and alcohol the more likely they are to become addicts in the future. "It primes the developing brain to crave that substance," she said.

A deeper exploration of this condoned-drinking issue was prompted by a concerned mother of a Tarrytown teen who

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Lowey Presents Overdue Medals to Tarrytown WWII Veteran

by Morey Storck

Tarrytown resident Leon Gutherz was awarded five medals, due to a neighbor's interest and initiative, albeit 70 years late. It was during an outside gab session one afternoon that Gutherz happened to mention his war record to one of the group. She immediately picked up on it, felt he definitely deserved recognition, copied his discharge papers, put the request in writing, and sent the package to Congresswoman Nita Lowey.

On May 12 in her White Plains office, the congresswoman presented five awards to Gutherz, saying, "I am so proud to be a citizen of the United States of America and present these medals to a person who has served with distinction so that we can live in liberty here."

Gutherz, 91, joined the Army right after his high school graduation. During his senior year he was approached by a U.S. Army recruiter. He was offered the opportunity



Tarrytown resident Leon Gutherz, 91, enjoys moment with Congresswoman Nita Lowey.

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Traffic

Continued from page 1

the communities near the upgraded Tappan Zee Bridge happy. Under the watchful eye of Governor Cuomo, the DOT has indicated a willingness to streamline the approval processes and cut down on red tape. "The bikeway," observed Irvington Trustee Mark Gilliland, "is one such nod to address impacts on quality of life."

In 2015, Sustainable Westchester applied for and won a \$150,000 grant from the state to pursue the bikeway idea. That commitment, said Andrew Ratzkin, who chairs the steering committee organizing the June forums, "is an indicator that the state is not out of the box opposed to this." Altogether, some \$1.5 million in grants have been awarded to communities affected by the

Tappan Zee replacement project.

The public is invited to attend a June 15 session on the bikeway concept at the Hastings Community Center, 44 Main Street in that village, from 7 to 9 p.m. A second session is scheduled between 1 and 3 p.m. the following Saturday, June 17, at Tarrytown's Warner Library.

Under the rubric of the "Route 9 Active Transportation Conceptual Design Plan," these meetings aim to bring together residents, merchants and government officials, along with transportation professionals to look at ways to provide a continuous bike lane that will make it safe and fun to get to shops and schools as well as to the cross-Hudson bike path that will be part of the new Tappan Zee Bridge. Public input is also requested on ways to improve sidewalks, crosswalks and intersections to make things

safer for pedestrians. The addition of the bike lane will squeeze an already busy traffic corridor; those old four-lane stretches may well be a thing of the past.

With the similar intent of promoting more and safer foot traffic, the Sleepy Hollow workshop on June 10 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. will offer a brief orientation session at Village Hall, to be followed by a walking tour, with stops at key intersections along Valley St, Cortlandt Street and Beekman Avenue. Participants will be invited to offer ideas at a granular level on how to encourage walking.

Irvington's department is the latest along the river to dedicate an officer to traffic enforcement. In his new role, Crisci has widened his hunting ground for speeders and stop sign avoiders. In addition to the four-lane speedways along Broadway on both

ends of the village, he has been prowling up and down Harriman Road, Station Road, and, at rush hour, on Main Street, where the new limit is a snail-paced 15 miles per hour. Areas of enforcement will vary according to the results of electronic monitoring. "This will definitely be data-driven," said Police Chief Michael Cerone.

Because the village employs diagonal parking, Irvington pedestrians are at particularly high risk when attempting to cross Main Street. The Stop, Look and Wave public service campaign aims to encourage pedestrians tempted to dart out from between cars to stick to the crosswalks, make eye contact with approaching drivers and exchange waves so that both parties know their intent to cross. "You have the right of way as a pedestrian," acknowledged Cerone, "but do you want to be dead right?"

WWII Medals

Continued from page 1

of a college education and, in return, would be required to join the Army, much like the ROTC program today. "I just had to take an exam and they'd put me into college. So, I took the exam. Did well, and just like that I started at Alfred University in Engineering," Gutherz said. "I was there until the Battle of the Bulge broke out in Europe."

At that point, the Army felt they needed all the manpower they could get right away. Once more Gutherz was approached by the Army. While having completed just one year at Alfred, he was asked if he wanted

to become a paratrooper. "Hey, what did I know? I was just a little Jewish kid from the Bronx, so I said okay."

He left college and entered infantry training. With that completed, Gutherz was transferred to Ft. Benning, Georgia, and then to the 11th Airborne Division and the Army Airborne Pathfinders (Angels), an elite intensively trained and selective unit, for which Gutherz also volunteered.

The Pathfinders would set up visual and electronic navigational aids to mark the parachute drop zones and allow the pilots to "home in" on the correct location to drop the airborne soldiers in a concentrated pattern. Their battle cry was 'First In - Last

Out', never leaving the scene of combat until all are safe.

The division was held in reserve in the United States for the first half of 1944. In June, the division was transferred to the Pacific Theater of Operations. The division's first airborne operation was a combat drop on the Tagaytay Ridge, February 3, 1945, with the drop zone around the Manila Hotel Annex. Later, the division participated in the Liberation of Manila, and after that, divisional paratroopers conducted a raid on the Los Banos internment camp, liberating more than 2000 civilians. The 11th Airborne and Pathfinders' last WWII combat operation was in the north of Luzon aiding

combined American and Philippine forces who were battling to subdue the remaining Japanese resistance on the island.

General MacArthur had made plans to use the 11th Airborne Division in the invasion of Japan, but after the detonation of two nuclear bombs, the division was instead selected to lead the forces that would occupy Japan. "Whew! Just missed that little invasion party," joyfully commented Gutherz. The 11th Airborne had been stationed on Okinawa following their last combat operation, waiting for MacArthur, but on August 28th it was ordered to Yokohama, Japan as part of the occupation force. Four years later it was recalled to the U.S.



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The New Bridge Name Contest Continues

by Robert Kimmel

What name would you like to see on the New NY Bridge which will be replacing the existing Governor Malcolm Wilson Tappan Zee Bridge in 2018? Specific word has yet to come from the N.Y. Thruway Authority or officials in Albany as to whether the name will remain or will be changed.

The Hudson Independent is giving readers an opportunity to suggest a name for the new bridge and possibly win a prize by doing so. While your proposals will not have any official standing with the Thruway Authority, we would like to know your sentiments about what name the new span should acquire, possibly honoring a person or a location.

As an incentive for participation, a \$100 dining certificate will be given to an entry selected in a random drawing from the entries who are among the leader of names submitted before the June 12 deadline. A submission drawn randomly from all the entries will receive a \$50 dining certificate.

While it is being built, the new span has the temporary tag, the New NY Bridge. The present Tappan Zee Bridge got its name when it was completed in 1955. Tappan Zee refers to the Dutch term given to the wide area of the Hudson River the bridge crosses. A native American tribe in the area was called "Tappan." "Zee" is Dutch for sea.

The "Governor Malcolm Wilson" addition was added in 1994 to honor the 50th governor of New York State who served briefly, from 1973 to 1974. Wilson, who was Lieutenant Governor, moved into New York State's top post when Governor Nelson Rockefeller left Albany, after a long term, to serve as Vice President under Gerald Ford. Most everyone omits the Governor Wilson portion of its name when referring to the existing bridge, and many rivertown residents are unaware that it is part of the bridge's name.

To enter the contest, submit your suggestion for the bridge's name, along with one sentence as to why you believe it should have that label, in an email to letters@

thehudsonindependent.com. Include your name, email address and phone number. Submissions will be accepted through June 19. Winners will be disclosed in *The Hud-*

son Independent's July issue, and contacted prior to that issue's publication.

The contest, initiated in this paper's May issue, has drawn a steady flow of responses.

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Tarrytown Honda Service Center Soon to Break Ground

by W.B. King

Since 1908, there has been a car dealership in operation at 480 South Broadway in Tarrytown. Today the address is home to Tarrytown Honda. Dwight Dachnowicz, who bought the dealership in 2006, announced last month that a new Honda Service Center will be built across the street on the parcel previously occupied by El Dorado West diner.

"We acquired the property the first of May and have submitted our demolition permit to the town," said Dachnowicz who added that the town's planning and zoning board have approved a 23,168-square-foot, state-of-the-art service center facility complete with 23 service bays.

"There will be a nine-car service ride up, which means it's a modern facility where customers drive into a covered entrance," he said. "As it stands on the current property, customers pull up outside of the building, which is one of the things neighbors complained about for years. And to be fair, there was a backlog of cars that were getting close to the street."

The service center will be a solar ready facility featuring low voltage, LED lighting and rock gardens for water retention to minimize water use. "Honda is one of the most environmentally friendly manufacturer in the world, and they have an environmental leadership program," said

Dachnowicz. "The service facility will be built to at least their silver standard, but my goal is to achieve their gold standard."

Dachnowicz explained that he worked closely with the town for eight years trying to mediate concerns regarding the 480 South Broadway property and two years on the service facility plans. He wanted to ensure that all boxes were checked.

"It was paramount to the village that any new building blends with that area of town, so, for example, it will be extremely similar to DoubleTree's knee stonewall in the front," said Dachnowicz. "This building will look more like historic Tarrytown than a prototypical Honda dealership."

Tarrytown Honda Receives High Marks

One reason, among many, for the new facility is that, of the approximate 1,000 Honda dealerships nationally, Tarrytown Honda usually ranks in the top 100 (and usually top 10 state-wide). Dachnowicz sells, on average, 2,500 cars per year. As a result, he said that he simply needed more space to service his customer's vehicles. The dealership, which currently employs 100 people, will hire an additional 25 employees for the service center.

And while Dachnowicz said he never likes to see a business "displaced," as was the case for El Dorado West, he noted that



Rendering of the new Honda Service Center on South Broadway

the diner has many locations in Westchester, including one about a mile away.

"I know the diner was there for a long time, but that was an issue between the diner and the land owner, and from what I heard, the diner had planned on exiting for some time," he said adding that he signed a 20-year lease with an option to buy the land. "I don't want to discuss a dollar amount, but our lease term is marginally more than the diner was paying—from the records I have."

With groundbreaking of the service

center planned for later this year, the 480 South Broadway location will eventually be reconfigured to feature the sales of new and used cars. There will no longer be parts sold at this location or automotive service. And in the coming years, this building will receive a facelift.

"Once I finish the service project, my intention is to jump over to the sales facility," said Dachnowicz. "The exterior will look near-identical to the service facility—as a business owner, it would be senseless not to do that."

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New Tarrytown Administrator Sees Much Work Ahead

by Robert Kimmel

"It is all positive." That's how Tarrytown's new Village Administrator, Richard Slingerland, described the many developing projects in which the village is engaged. Returning to a post he held 15 years ago, from 1999 to 2002, he sees busy days ahead.

Slingerland pointed to the Village's Comprehensive Plan and Station Area Study as "immediate priorities," along with the waterfront revitalization plan.

He listed a series of additional projects on the village's agenda that add up to his current work challenges: fixing the H-bridge over the Metro Railroad tracks, acquiring a new fire boat, improving Tarrytown's docking area, countering flooding in Losee Park, RiverWalk landscape restoration, upgrading Patriot's Park, and the purchase of new fire engines, were just some of them.

"There are several grant projects which we are working on that will take a lot of



Photo Credit: Robert Kimmel

Richard Slingerland

time and effort," Slingerland predicted.

It has been two months since the tall, youthful looking administrator took over for Mike Blau, who headed for semi-re-

tirement in North Carolina after working in Tarrytown during two separate terms totaling 17 years. Slingerland, 51, originally followed Blau into other administrative posts after his first village administrator's job in Tarrytown. Blau had gone from Tarrytown to work as administrator in Mamaroneck and then to Briarcliff before returning to Tarrytown. Slingerland's path went from Tarrytown to Pelham, then to Mamaroneck, and now, back to Tarrytown.

"I always looked up to Mike as a role model," Slingerland said. "He was very well respected as a professional, a good colleague, and I consider him a friend. It is a privilege to follow after him."

While the administrator sees some similarities in Tarrytown compared to the other villages where he worked, Slingerland perceives Tarrytown as "being more mainstream America. The community gets along very well, and that is one of the great things about it. You always have differences of opinion, and difference in politics, but, regardless of that, the officials and residents of the community get along well. They see the vision and the future that can be accomplished by working together." He added, "Mayor Fixell and all the board members have a great working relationship."

"I look at Tarrytown as the western gateway to Westchester," Slingerland said, "With traffic and people coming from Rockland and upstate New York, as well as New York City, we are a real hub of activity."

Slingerland recalled the discussions dur-

ing his initial tenure in the village about the value of the waterfront and "getting people back to the river and the importance of maintaining access to the waterways and scenic vistas. It is exciting to see all the pathways and walkways around the village...for people to get out and enjoy the views and parks," he said. "I have always been a huge fan of recreation and walking."

"It is interesting to see how things have moved along the lines that were starting back then," he said, referring again to his past work in the village. It included a referendum for funding a new Village Hall. "It's nice to see a beautiful municipal building that is an asset for the community. It is all pleasant to come back to and to see some of the people with whom I worked before."

Slingerland remembered the old Village Hall on Wildey Street, with its "tilted stairs, low ceilings and that, during a walk up from a mid-level lavatory, you could knock your block off."

'I look at Tarrytown as the western gateway to Westchester.'

— Village Administrator Richard Slingerland

While he sees Main Street as having some subtle changes, he noted, "There are great restaurants...and it is nice to see the Music Hall still viable and bringing in concert-goers, and its effect on restaurants and businesses downtown. Some great businesses are still there such as Goldberg Hardware."

Slingerland said he is prepared "to work hard and into the late hours," and hopes that "this will be a nice long tenure." The administrator lives in Ossining with his wife and daughter, a senior in high school. He added, "I might even ride my bike to work once in a while."

PayByPhone for Parking Available in Tarrytown



Motorists now have a new way to pay for parking in the Village of Tarrytown. PayByPhone is an app that allows drivers to pay for or extend a parking session from anywhere and will even send a reminder when time is set to expire.

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Fundraising Campaign Launched to Support Immigrant Community

by Seth Dellon

According to recently-released statistics by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), immigration arrests are up 38% from 2016, proving that fears about the Trump administration's anti-immigration rhetoric were well-founded. But, throughout the early presidency of Donald Trump, energies have been focused locally to protect and support Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow's most vulnerable residents. For many activists, those efforts are coming together with the launch of Community For All: a campaign to support residents of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown impacted by the threat of deportation.

Community For All encourages local residents to make the campaign part of their summer plans by hosting dinners to build relationships with neighbors, while at the same time fundraising for the overall campaign. Organizers have set a goal of 25 dinners hosted to raise \$10,000 and will provide hosts with toolkits for organizing, fundraising, and programming. Jan Kaderly, who has spearheaded the Community for All fundraising effort states "Now more than ever, it is up to us as neighbors acting in our community to come together, support each other, and stand up for our values of inclusion and respect."

One leader in the campaign's is a Sleepy Hollow-based Latina activist who asked to be referred to simply as "Ana." She describes the current climate in Sleepy Hol-

low as "a very difficult time for our community." Ana, herself an immigrant who has worked to promote diversity and inclusion throughout Westchester and Putnam counties for nearly two decades says, "We need to find ways to create communities that care for each other," adding that it's important to build neighborly relationships because when there's human connection involved, "You learn about the reason behind the issues and work on solving the cause rather than providing a band aid."

Community for All will build local capacity and mobilize resources in support of families facing the threat of deportation. All funds raised will be directed to the most urgent needs facing families impacted by the threat of deportation including: passports for children of parents in danger of deportation, legal council, legal aid clinics, and emergency relief funds. Community Voices Heard will provide strategic support and lead organizing efforts throughout the campaign. Community Voices Heard is a 23-year-old organization whose mission is to "build power to secure social, economic and racial justice for all." Local activist group WESPAC (Westchester Peace Action Committee) is acting as Community For All's administrative partner, which will ensure that money raised is kept and allocated specifically to serve Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown's vulnerable residents. Those wishing to donate can do so at <https://communityforall10591.org>.

CELEBRATE

Irvington Day, Sunday, June 18

A free shuttle bus will carry you up and down Main Street, from Broadway to the riverfront as shops, restaurants and local interest groups show their wares. There will be activities for all ages, including an Historic Trolley Tour; a Classic Car meet-up; guided history walks and Tiffany Room docent tours; vintage film festival; face painting; tips from genealogy researchers; street food and Father's Day brunches, plus music on Main Street, Astor Street and in the two waterfront parks.



Donate to Snack-Stash

Help Tarrytown Rotarians create a stash of snacks as comfort food for families staying at Ronald McDonald House, a home-away-from-home for parents visiting their critically ill child at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital.

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Lowey, Holocaust Survivor Honored by Jewish Identity Group

by Kevin Brown

Holocaust survivor Roman Kent, who has been a leading voice for the rights of Holocaust survivors, was honored last month in Westchester by an organization that promotes Jewish identity and education among young Jews from the former Soviet Union.

Kent, a survivor of the Lodz ghetto and four Nazi camps, including



Roman Kent (second from right) was honored last month in Westchester.

—Photo by Kevin Brown

Auschwitz, was honored for his unceasing work in fighting on behalf of Jewish Holocaust victims and ensuring that their legacies are not forgotten. He was presented with the Honorary Elie Wiesel Award for Jewish Continuity and Holocaust Remembrance by Limmud

FSU, an organization which brings together Jews from the former Soviet Union for weekends of Jewish culture, seminars and discussion.

As a young boy of 10 in Poland, Kent was sent, along with his family, into the Lodz Ghetto. In 1944, they were transported to Auschwitz, where he and his brother convinced the Nazis they were tradesmen, and were transferred to the Flossenburg concentration camp, ensuring their survival. He was liberated in April 1945, and came to the U.S. in June 1946.

Limmud FSU, which stands for Former Soviet Union, is an international organization that seeks to strengthen Jewish identity by providing Russian-speaking Jews around the world, ages 23–40, with interactive workshops, panel discussions, religious celebrations, and cultural performances. Approximately 1,000 people participated in about 100 sessions during its weekend conference in Rye Brook.

U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey opened the event and was presented with the Limmud FSU Honorary Elie Wiesel Award for Jewish Continuity and Enduring Commitment to the State of Israel. She spoke about the importance of restoring Jewish traditions and community throughout the former Soviet Union, where Judaism was repressed for decades under Communism. Cantor Azi Schwartz, who is featured in the movie *Norman*, starring Richard Gere, and the cantor of Park Avenue Synagogue in New York, performed.

Consul General of Israel in New York Dani Dayan spoke at the conference. Also featured was Yoel Rappel, the founder and former director of the Elie Wiesel Archive at Boston University, and who curated an exhibition for Limmud FSU conferences

Continued on page 10

Tarrytown Merchants' Council Sees Change in Leadership

by Robert Kimmel

After eight years as Chair of the Tarrytown Merchants' Council, longtime village resident and business owner Theresa McCarthy has stepped down from that role within the organization. A person familiar to village residents, former Mayor Paul Janos, has taken over leadership of the Council.

"Serving on the Council has been an incredibly rewarding experience enabling me to foster significant relationships in the village and to make lasting changes for the betterment of the business community," McCarthy commented.

She had held the post since 2009. McCarthy said she took over as Chair at the urging of another local business leader, JoAnne Murray, whom she said, "I hold in high regard and consider my mentor regarding community leadership and service." McCarthy was part owner, with David Starkey, of the Sweet Grass Grill on Main Street. Coincidentally, they purchased the restaurant from Janos in 2008.

McCarthy stated she "especially enjoyed advocating for the merchants with the village administrator, the Building Department and the Village Board of Trustees. Michael Blau and recently, Richard Slingerland, new Village Administrator, have always taken the time to sit down with me and discuss various pressing concerns."

While McCarthy is no longer Chair of the Council, she stated, "I am pleased to continue with my work on parking in the village to keep the positive momentum going and to see things through to completion." She has had recent discussions with one of the owners of a large segment of the parking lot space behind CVS on Main Street, Edward Coco, Jr., and has reported that he is moving toward making the location more available to the general public, perhaps initially with valet parking.

During McCarthy's tenure, there have been successful pursuits by the Merchants' Council she said: "The Village Code was adapted regarding filming in the Village, including the recent raise in fees for pro-

ductions. Outdoor Dining and Sandwich Board Permits were adapted to adjust fees and accommodate more months of outdoor dining; parking issues have been examined, and parking lots created." She added that village signage has been posted in various locations; village beautification was extended to support flowering baskets along Main Street and Broadway; new holiday decorations were purchased and tree lights installed; and new garbage receptacles were placed throughout the village.

As for her successor Janos, McCarthy said, "His past connections with fellow merchants, his high profile in the village and his engaging people skills make him ideal for the role. I wish him as positive an experience as I have had and any support I can offer." Janos was Tarrytown's Mayor and a Trustee for a total of 10 years. His experience also includes real estate, and he has been in charge of marketing and sales at Hudson Harbor since its completion.

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Phelps President Touts Hospital's Latest Advances

by Robert Kimmel

In assessing the past year at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center, its President and CEO Daniel Blum had a good number of successes to report. The account of those achievements came recently at the Hospital's Annual Community Breakfast at the DoubleTree Hotel, attended by local political and business leaders.

Blum noted that a recent statewide hospital survey of patients' satisfaction resulted in Phelps' placement in the 96 percentile. "That means that with over 225 hospitals in New York State, only four percent of the hospitals received patient satisfactory scores better than Phelps," Blum explained. "We have made tremendous progress," he added, while crediting the hospital's staff for its part in that attainment.

The hospital is quite selective in hiring its medical force, according to Blum. "We hire about 10% of those who submit applications seeking jobs; we are very choosy. We engage in a lot of education internally trying to develop a certain kind of culture," he said, adding that, "We have become a much more sophisticated organization."

Among its other accomplishments in 2016, Phelps has been designated as a "Baby-Friendly" hospital, Blum stated. A world-wide program, it signifies that Phelps provides top care and support for new mothers. Phelps is among 18 hospitals in New York State which have that label, and is the second to attain it in the Hudson Valley. Throughout the nation, 420 hospitals and birthing centers have it. A four-year pursuit at the hospital in Sleepy Hollow earned the designation.

Blum also described the hospital as having twice passed what were termed "rigorous and unannounced inspections." The initial inspection was by the federal government Joint Commission which accred-

its thousands of hospitals and healthcare program facilities nationwide. "They come in for a surprise inspection once every three years, scour the hospital, its medical records and engage staff members," he said.

"They go into the operating room and with gloves wipe surfaces and check sanitary conditions," Blum noted. "The standards are phenomenal, and it one of the most thorough surveys that Phelps has gone through. It is a strong validation of quality, a measure of operational performance. You can't cram for the test," he added.

That inspection, Blum said, was followed by another surprise survey visit, this time by the federal centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, which does a random sampling of hospitals. The results were termed "exceptional."

"The Phelps Board has a sense of mission and purpose of treating our patients as a whole," Blum commented. He noted that the hospital serves a "challenging population...in large measure a charity population...and many services are not compensated." He mentioned the hospital as "bringing in people for health education."

The hospital's latest achievement came last month when its Hyperbaric Medicine Department received Accreditation with Distinction for its program from the Undersea & Hyperbaric Medical Society. Phelps' claims the largest state-of-the-art hyperbaric chamber in the northeast. The department's initial four-year accreditation came in 2013.

Another point of progress, is the establishment at Phelps of the Northwell Health Cancer Institute, which will offer comprehensive cancer services, from prevention, and diagnosis to a variety of treatments. Much of the expansion of resources at Phelps has been attributed to its becoming, in January 2015, part of Northwell Health, the largest provider of health services in

New York State.

The non-profit hospital has undertaken medical equipment advances over the past year or so, with an additional focus on technology, according to Blum. He described new CAT scan equipment and the purchase of the da Vinci Xi Surgical System, a robotic apparatus that offers major progress in minimally invasive surgery. "The hospital is also in the process of installing a very hi-tech radiology lab," Blum related.

During the past year, 88 "carefully selected" physicians have been added to the hospital's medical staff, and its outreach has

expanded to 15 locations in the community, according to Blum.

The hospital's president was careful to avoid commenting about the political healthcare issues that have been the focus of disputes in Washington; however, when asked, Blum said that the Affordable Care Act was better than the proposed, revised legislation that did not pass Congress in terms of the hospital's accessibility for all who needed healthcare. He emphasized; however, that regardless of whatever legislation prevails, Phelps would continue to provide care for those in need.



Sleepy Hollow Seniors celebrated their 90-year-old members during Annual Luncheon at Sunset Cove on May 21.

— Photo by Sunny McLean



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Public notice is hereby given that a permit has been filed with the Village of Tarrytown Building Department to demolish the existing single-family dwelling located on property at 112 Wilson Park Drive and identified on the Tax Map as Sheet 1.50, Block 20, Lot 60.2. By order of the Village of Tarrytown Planning Board, interested parties shall have 60 days from the date of publication of this notice to remove or relocate the existing single-family dwelling in whole or in part prior to its demolition. Interested parties should contact Greg Otis c/o Toll Brothers, Inc., 42 Old Ridgebury Road, 2nd Flr, Danbury, CT 06810, Telephone: 203-616-4900.

Hosting Teen Parties

Continued from page 1

reported that the local house party invites are escalating in her daughter's life – parties that often happen with parental blessing whether or not the parents are home to monitor the situation.

This parent, who didn't want to reveal her name since her teenager is in the school system, believed that privilege is at play here. "These are 'good kids,'" she said, "parents with nice homes, hot tubs, pools, and funds for the parents to leave for a well-deserved nice weeklong/weekend getaway, leaving teens home alone whom they trust."

But, like DaSilva, this mother wants other parents to know there are real consequences if something goes wrong and that teens aren't ready for this level of trust. "I see this as a public service," she said of her need to talk about the topic.

If the physical risks aren't compelling enough, consider the criminal and financial.

To curb this sort of parent-sanctioned teenage drinking, the county in 2008 enacted its own Social Hosting Law, whereby adults can be held liable, both criminally and in civil lawsuits, for knowingly hosting underage drinking parties. Parents can get fined or even jail time just for being caught, whether or not something goes wrong. And, of course, they can be sued. That said, these two local women believe offenders – both underage and adult – may get off too easy now in our communities with a "slap on the wrist."

Tarrytown Police Lieutenant John Barbelet said the force "takes this issue very seriously and is constantly looking to see if incidents are occurring and how can we address them." Tarrytown has had a full-time officer assigned to the Greenburgh Drug and Alcohol Task Force since 2004. The task force responds to calls and tries to "take a proactive approach" in their patrolling.

Though Barbelet thinks this issue crosses class, and race, lines and strongly opposes the idea that teens (and their parents) are getting a pass from the police, he said house parties might often fall under their radar. In Tarrytown over the last two years, he counted one arrest under the County Social Hosting Law, two arrests for Unlawfully Dealing with a minor, and 40 summonses or juvenile references for incidents of individuals under the age of 21 consuming alcohol.

"The issues of underage drinking is one that parents should take seriously as it not only can be a safety issue for the children but there are of course legal implications associated with minors consuming alcohol," Barbelet said.

The Tarrytown mother said parents could lose their home when the property insurance policy won't help you if you get sued. You trust your kid, "but what about the rest of the kids who come who you don't know about?" she asked. "And how litigious are those other kids' parents if someone gets hurt?"

A *New York Times* article a few years back begins with this strong warning: "Parents of teens: If you think a drinking disaster at your kid's party can't happen at your house, not with your kid, because he's a good kid, it's time to wake up and smell the whiskey

"The issues of underage drinking is one that parents should take seriously as it not only can be a safety issue for the children but there are of course legal implications associated with minors consuming alcohol."

—Lt. John Barbelet

bottle tossed on your lawn."

In the *Times* article, SADD advisor Stephen Wallace commented, "Parents need to say to kids, 'You shouldn't be drinking at all, and you certainly can't do it here because we can be put in jail.'"

SADD used to be called Students Against Driving Drunk. Now it's called Students Against Destructive Decisions. But if the possibility of making "decisions" itself may be questionable, perhaps some tough love is in order instead.

"I have no qualms about banging on the door and dragging her out," said the Tarrytown mother. "I'm not shy about saying, this is how I'm parenting... Kids are meant to attempt risky behaviors so they can learn and figure out how things work in the world. They are like toddlers bumping into things. It's our job to keep them safe."

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Holocaust Survivor Honored

Continued from page 8

about the life of Elie Wiesel.

Kent is special advisor to the president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference), which supports Limmud FSU workshops around the world. For more than 65 years,

the Claims Conference has represented world Jewry in negotiating for compensation and restitution for Holocaust victims. The Claims Conference administers compensation funds, recovers unclaimed Jewish property, and allocates funds to institu-

tions that provide social welfare services to Holocaust survivors and that preserve the memory and lessons of the Holocaust.

As Co-Chairman of the Claims Conference's negotiating committee, Kent meets frequently with German government officials in his never-ending mission to support Holocaust survivors. For decades, he has exhorted the German government that it has a financial obligation to the Jews who survived the Nazi genocide, who suffered indescribable torments, and who lost their entire families and had to start their lives anew after WWII.

"The Claims Conference is thrilled that Roman has been recognized by Limmud FSU for his life's work – helping elderly and frail survivors of the Holocaust live the rest of their lives in dignity, which was so cruelly taken from them in their youth," said Claims Conference Executive Vice President Greg Schneider.

Limmud FSU was co-founded by Chaim Chesler, also a member of the Claims Conference board, and New York philanthropist Sandra Cahn. "Limmud FSU's mission is to help rebuild Jewish intellectual and cultural traditions that were wiped out by the Holocaust and decades of Soviet oppression," Chesler said. "We want to strengthen the Jewish identity of young adults and to encourage them to participate in the revival of Jewish communities and culture, which will create a sustainable Jewish future."



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Irvington High Class of 2017 Leaders Relish Recognition



Irvington High School seniors Ryan Meng-Killeen and Zoe Mermelstein, valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the Class of 2017, said it was validating to receive the recognition.

Meng-Killeen and Mermelstein said they have worked incredibly hard throughout their high school career, but were surprised to receive the school's top honors. They attributed their success to their friends and family and being given the opportunity to pursue their passions both in school and outside of school.

"Being the valedictorian means that I have some very supportive friends who have always helped me do the best that I can do," Meng-Killeen said. "You should try to be the best you can be because when you have opportunities and resources that maybe other people don't have, there's a responsibility to make sure you make the most of it."

Meng-Killeen is a member of the varsity cross-country and track teams. He has also completed extensive and challenging independent research as part of the school's Science Research Program and was awarded second place in the Cellular and Molecular Biology category at the Westchester Science and Engineering Fair. He is the recipient of the Peter K. Oley Historian's Award and was named an AP Scholar for completing challenging college-level courses. In addition, he was inducted into the school's Cum Laude Society for his outstanding academic achievements and pursuing the most rigorous coursework. Meng-Killeen was also named National Merit Scholarship finalist this spring.

Mermelstein said it's an honor to represent her class and recognized that everyone worked hard throughout their high school careers.

Continued on page 20

SH High Val and Sal Attribute Success to Hard Work

by Julia Ann Friedman

► Diego Arias

Diego Arias will finish his high school career at the top of his class, having come a long way from where he started. His family came to the United States from Uruguay when Arias was six years old, and the only English he spoke was "hello."

In a third-grade reading enrichment program, Arias recalled feeling very frustrated when his class was assigned to read a challenging book at home. The teacher told the students to seek help from their parents, but Arias did not have English-speaking parents who could help him. He remembers trying to read the book, and having the desire to improve his English, but struggling having to do it on his own.

So how did Arias get to where he is today? He explained that his parents constantly motivated him to work hard and do his best. What his parents value more than him getting into college or being valedictorian is that he has worked hard for everything he has and that he has never given up. Arias described himself as self-motivated, learning this idea from his parents.

Arias' hard work will pay off, as he will be attending Harvard University in the fall. He is unsure of what he will be studying, but nonetheless, he is extremely excited to go to college.



◀ Sofia Guarnieri

This year's salutatorian, Sofia Guarnieri, reflected upon her high school experience, extremely satisfied with the close-knit and spirited community at Sleepy Hollow High School. Guarnieri admires the diversity at Sleepy Hollow, and enjoyed being a part of the dual language program starting in kindergarten.

Even from a young age, Guarnieri recalled challenging herself academically, always taking the hardest classes she could. She experienced moments of panic at the beginning of each year, worrying that she would not be able to handle all of her schoolwork, but her organization and dedication allowed her to manage her work and pass with flying colors.

Guarnieri said her motivation comes from herself, and that she always set high standards and high expectations. Her parents also played a role in pushing her, but it was mainly her personal drive that shaped her academic career. Surprisingly, it was never her goal to be salutatorian, but she very much appreciates the honor and recognition that comes along with it.

Guarnieri will be attending the University of Rochester in the fall, and will be majoring in biomedical engineering.

Ampil, Garcia Lead Hackley School's Class of 2017



◀ **Isabella (Izzy) Ampil** is the valedictorian of Hackley's Class of 2017. She came to Hackley in kindergarten and has been an outstanding member of the Hackley community ever since. She is a brilliant student, having taken and excelled in incredibly challenging courses. She's just as adept in the STEM courses such as AP Physics C, AP Biology, and Multivariable Calculus as she is in humanities courses like English and History. This year, she's also taking an independent study with an English teacher to work on an original manuscript. She is also a musician who is a major presence in Hackley's Chorus and female a cappella group, someone who taught herself guitar, ukulele and piano and has emerged as a talented songwriter too. She is an accomplished performer, having won Hackley's Poetry Out Loud recitation contest three times. Her artwork is of the highest caliber, according to her art teacher. In short, she is the quintessential Renaissance young woman. Ampil will take her many talents, her unquenchable love of learning, and impeccable character to Stanford University in the fall of 2017.

▶ **Uriel Garcia** is the salutatorian for Hackley's Class of 2017. He came to Hackley in Middle School and quickly found a home. He actively pursues challenges, as evidenced by his course of study. He has challenged himself with AP or Post-AP courses in French, Chemistry, Calculus and Biology, and even in academic departments that don't offer AP courses such as English and History. He is a gifted linguist. In addition to his native Spanish and his French studies, Garcia has also studied some Dutch, German, Portuguese and Arabic. On top of this very heavy academic load, he manages to find time to become involved in the community, both at Hackley and in New Rochelle. He plays alto sax in three different groups at Hackley. He plays soccer and runs track for the spring track and field team. During the summers, he volunteers for Habitat for Humanity, where he picks up and re-sells donated materials for the organization's Re-store. Garcia will be the first in his family to attend college when he enters Williams College in the fall of 2017.



Irvington, Sleepy Hollow High Schools Achieve National Medal Ranking

by Robert Kimmel

Within its annual ranking of more than 20,000 public high schools in the nation, U.S. News and World Report placed Irvington High School at number 337, and awarded it a gold medal, a status only the top 500 schools received. The school was ranked 45th in New York, among the State's 1,252 eligible schools measured.

Sleepy Hollow High School came in at number 559 nationally and was credited with a silver medal. Within the New York State rankings, it achieved 57th place. Thirteen schools in Westchester were within the state's top 50, with gold medals going to 55 schools state-wide. The silver medal goes to "high-performing schools based on lower college readiness."

Three categories of medals, gold, silver and bronze are awarded, and among the national rankings, 6,041 high schools received those medals, according to U.S. News. Nationally, 2.4% of the schools had gold medals, 10.3% silver, 16.8% bronze and 70.5% received no medal at all. As its measurements, the media company writes that it evaluates "...students' performance on required state tests, their graduation rates and their college readiness." To be listed, a school had to have a 75% or more graduation rate.

For the high school to receive a gold medal, "...students at those schools show the highest level of college readiness, based on "Advanced Placement participation rates and the proportion of students who do well on those exams." A high school also must show that it is "...serving all of its students and not just those who are college bound," to be rated among the best. Overall, within the national rankings, New York State's high schools placed 12th. The state had 16.5 percent of those schools achieving gold or silver medals.

The report indicated that Irvington High School had a 97% graduation rate, and that 74% percent of the students are participating in Advanced Placement course work and exams. It noted that total minority enrollment is 24%. It also listed 9% of the student body as constituting the "Total Economically Disadvantaged"

and of that group, 64% as "Proficient" on state exams, as opposed to those who were "Non-Disadvantaged" with a proficiency rate of 91.2%.

Sleepy Hollow High School had a graduation rate of 90%. Its total minority rate was listed as 67% of the student body, and the "Total Economically Disadvantaged" were listed at 55%. The "Percentage of Disadvantaged Students Who Are Proficient" stood at 70.1%, while those who were "Non-disadvantaged" and were "Proficient" was 85.4%.

US News states that its graduation rates used for the 2017 rankings, "reflects the 2015 cohort-students who entered ninth grade in the 2011-2012 school year."

(For Rankings of other Westchester High Schools, see our website, TheHudsonIndependent.com.)

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U.S. News and World Report ranks Irvington High School 337 in the nation and awarded it a gold medal.

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Sleepy Hollow High School came in at number 559 nationally and was credited with a silver medal.

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WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?

The Hudson Independent is looking for some good stories from area middle and high school students about what you're doing over the summer break. It could be as dramatic as helping villagers in El Salvador build houses or as straightforward as working as a camp counselor here at home or in a nearby state. Send us a brief, informal summary of what you are doing and what you're getting out of it to editor@thehudsonindependent.com. Don't worry about how polished your submission is. If you are selected, we'll get back to you and ask you to write it up more formally at about 200 to 300 words, and we'll publish it either in a summer or early fall issue, or on *The Hudson Independent* website.

Dobbs Ferry High Seniors Surprised by Being Valedictorian, Salutatorian

by Neal Rentz

Graduating Dobbs Ferry High School seniors Blake Hord and Justin Cohen have been a large presence at the school for the past four years, and their achievements have been recognized.

Hord is this year's Dobbs Ferry High School valedictorian, and Cohen is the school's salutatorian.

Hord recalled that he and Cohen unexpectedly received the news of their honors during a recent breakfast event held at the school. "We were actually told together," Hord said during an interview conducted at the school in May, adding he and Cohen were surprised by the announcement. "It was completely unexpected," Cohen said. They will be recognized on graduation day, which is scheduled for June 17.

Both students have been active both inside and outside the high school. Both are taking part in internship programs. Hord is interning at the Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining as a program aide. Cohen is interning at an advertising agency in New York City.

One of the issues Hord said he has researched in the internship is Climate Change, which he said is real, not a myth. "It was such a great opportunity," he said.

Hord has won several awards from science competitions, including a contest sponsored by International Baccalaureate and was named a finalist in the highly respected Siemens Competition. According to its website, the Siemens Competition "fosters intensive research that improves students' understanding of the value of scientific study and informs their consider-



ation of future careers in these disciplines."

Both graduating seniors will be continuing their education at prestigious universities next fall. Hord has enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania, and Cohen will be attending Stanford University. Both stu-

Continued on page 19

This year's Dobbs Ferry High School valedictorian is Blake Hord (left) and Justin Cohen is the school's salutatorian.

—Photo credit: Neal Rentz

Masters School Co-Presidents Reflect on Lessons Learned

by Anna Young

The Masters School co-presidents of the senior class, Kevin McGuire and Nina Hylton, are anxious and excited to deliver their graduation speeches during the June 10 ceremony.

In lieu of honoring students with titles such as valedictorian and salutatorian, the Dobbs Ferry school allows the two class presidents to deliver a speech during graduation.

► Nina Hylton

Nina Hylton is appreciating every moment with her family, friends and teachers before graduating from The Masters Upper School on June 10.

Attending the Dobbs Ferry school since sixth grade, Hylton, 17, said she has continually made school her priority, stating that academics have always been an important part of her life.

"I have a natural love for learning and education will always be important to me,"



Hylton said. "All the hard work has paid off in my eyes."

During her time at Masters, the Mount Vernon resident has led the school's varsity softball team as an accomplished pitcher, while serving as co-president of the senior class, president of the black culture and

empowerment club, diversity ambassador, yearbook editor, and gold key ambassador.

In addition to her achievements on the field, Hylton will graduate on the honor roll maintaining a 3.5 GPA.

"This will be a fulfilling moment for me, something truly unforgettable," Hylton said. "Speaking in front of my friends, classmates, teachers and family means a lot to me and I'm looking forward to graduation."

Hylton's impressive work in the classroom and on the field earned her both a full academic scholarship and softball scholarship to Tuskegee University, where she will be attending in the fall after signing her letter of intent in May.

Hylton, who has been playing softball since she was 10, said her collegiate goal was to commit to a school that challenged her academically, while playing on a softball team that would push her to her full potential.

While Hylton admits she probably won't start as a freshman, she is excited to compete for the school's Division II level team in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Confer-

ence.

"I believe I will be an asset and an influential person on Tuskegee University's team," said Hylton, who noted that her grandfather also served with the Tuskegee Airmen.

At Tuskegee, Hylton plans to major in political science with the hope of pursuing a life as an activist.

"Activism is very important to me and I want to find a career that will involve that passion," Hylton said. "I want to fight for systematic change, I want to do more than be voice."

Hylton will also minor in African American studies.

While Hylton credits her family's constant encouragement for her success, she said attending The Masters School has taught her the importance of taking accountability for her education and ownership in her school experience.

"The most transformational period of my life has happened on this campus and the community has shaped me into the person I am today," Hylton said. "It's been an unforgettable experience."

► Kevin McGuire

Kevin McGuire is looking forward to the college experience following his June 10 graduation from The Masters' Upper School.

McGuire, 18, has been an active part of the Masters School community, stating that he's discovered himself during the four years he's attended the Dobbs Ferry school.

"I've learned to be more open about myself," McGuire said. "I want to be able to be myself and people will accept that, if they don't, I'm not the one who has to regret anything because I'm doing something that makes me honest about myself."

During his time at Masters, the Greenwich, Conn. resident has been a member of the soccer, ultimate frisbee and fencing team, while also contributing his time to

community service, serving as co-president of the senior class, and assisting on theater crew, where he was involved with set design, building and group coordination preparation for school shows.

"Sometimes you feel in high school that you can't do what you want because you're too busy, but that hasn't been my experience," McGuire said.

McGuire will be taking those experiences with him as he attends the College of William and Mary in the fall, where he plans to study history, government and film, while also discovering what career path he wants to pursue.

"I'm not sure exactly what I want to be once I'm out of college, I just love learning about stuff that interests me and I like being creative," McGuire said. "I don't know



where those interests will take me."

McGuire credits his mother for helping him keep an open mind about his career post college, stating that her encouragement to take a bunch of courses and enjoy college has relieved the pressure of choosing a career.

As co-president, McGuire will have the honor of speaking at graduation representing his senior class, expressing his excitement to do something huge for his graduating class.

"For four years now I've been surrounded by a lot of really amazing, talented classmates, I'd say that being class president is a way for me to live up to being at this school," he said. "I learned a lot about myself and Masters during my time here and it's been awesome."

Viewfinder

- 1. Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Board Council led a recent cleanup at Douglas Park.
- 2. Emily Pilkington of Tarrytown won a car on a recent edition of The Price is Right with Drew Carey. She also made the showcase final but she and her opponent both bid too much.
- 3. Neighborhood House celebration of Armed Forces Day was held at the Tarrytown Senior Center.
- 4. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held May 23 for Tarrytown's new outdoor swimming pool.

— Photo by: Rita Wexler



Photo by: Sunny McLean

SH Performing Arts Boosters Celebrate and Support Young Performers

by Clare Johnson

One of the many attributes that make the Tarrytown Union Free School district special is the Performing Arts Boosters program in the middle and high schools. Founded in the 1990's by the music teachers and a hardworking board of parent volunteers, the program raises funds for almost all programs in the music and drama departments. These funds help supply the arts program with new state-of-the-art equipment and allow music students to go on trips that they may not be able to afford.

The Performing Arts Boosters parent board is very dedicated to preserving the magic of the arts for middle and high school students. The current parent board consists of Mary Kohrherr and Jan Atkinson (co-presidents), Rachelle Gebler (secretary), and Leslie Vachon (treasurer). All parent volunteers have students that participate in the performing arts, which prompted their involvement. This spring, co-presidents Kohrherr and Atkinson and treasurer Vachon will be graduating from the program along with their high school seniors. They have donated years of service and time to the performing arts that have greatly benefitted the lives of hundreds of arts students. The boosters are able to sup-

port these projects with the help and coordination of music teacher liaisons, Micah Sprague (band teacher) and Brittney Trenzcer (orchestra teacher), who assist in organizing fundraising events such as the Santa Breakfast and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny.

The music boosters program has been tremendously successful, and the program now plays an integral role in the middle and high school performing arts department.

"I noticed right when I got here that a large number of my students couldn't afford to rent instruments, and therefore couldn't go on the trips. I wanted them to be able to afford the trip and be able to participate. Sleepy Hollow is the best example of what a public school has to offer," Trenzcer said.

Kohrherr added, "The most rewarding aspect of participating in this organization is the success of the Winter Blues concert. With money raised from that, we were able to spend \$1,500 to renovate the grand piano in the high school auditorium."

Atkinson, who has been involved in the program for six years, said, "It's great to have such a big community that supports the arts in our school district, including even families whose kids are not involved."



Left to right : Mary Kohrherr, Micah Sprague, Jan Atkinson

tion status (501(c)3) by the IRS, which means the group will now be able to apply for grants and scholarships.

"It's really fun to see the kids in a different environment outside the classroom," said Sprague.

"The kids really are the ones who run these events. And, to see how responsible they can be running them is quite impressive. All the growth that the Performing Arts Boosters program has experienced throughout the years - with students, staff, and parent volunteers - would not have been possible without Mary and Jan. They make it a very rewarding place for music teachers to work."

"We are very sorry to be leaving, but it's been absolutely rewarding and we're so glad to have done it," Kohrherr said.

The new parent board will consist of Alexa Brandenburg and Amy White (co-presidents), Mary Lazin and Rebecca Scarpati (co vice-presidents), and Rachelle Gebler, who will continue as secretary. For more information and to join the Performing Arts Boosters, go to: <http://shhs-arts-boosters.weebly.com/>.

The Boosters host two annual concerts: Winter Blues (a jazz fundraiser) and Spring Harmony (a classical music fundraiser in collaboration with the Hudson Valley Wind Ensemble). Proceeds from the concerts have provided a great deal of money to invest in various types of new musical equipment, replacement equipment, and scholarships for students.

"We've raised about \$100,000 for new equipment since I've joined the program," said Sprague. These funds have also gone toward both the drama department and the music department.

"We've been able to provide a wish-list for the departments. We also renovated the costume department. We have been able to give a lot to the middle and high school shows," Kohrherr said.

Performing Arts Boosters has recently been granted a not-for-profit organiza-



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Our Neighbors

Rockefeller Preserve Administrative Director Jessika Creedon

by Stefanie Sears

Rockefeller State Park Preserve, a 1,600-acre ever-growing haven of open space, provides numerous outdoor opportunities for hiking, biking, equestrian activities and carriage rides. The Preserve's current success is thanks to Jessika Creedon, the Friends of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve's Administrative Director. She has been in this role for a year now and works closely with the Friends of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve's President Clare Pierson and the volunteer Board of Directors.

"I am the only person manning day-to-day operations and administrative details," said Creedon. "And, I have truly enjoyed working within my community while getting to know everyone. What I have been most surprised by is how much I enjoy the trail meetings and board meetings, learning about the complexities of managing and maintaining the preserve. The carriage roads we enjoy so much require proper drainage, the fields need mowing and the leaves blown, in addition to the year-round tree and vegetation care – so much is happening behind the scenes to keep it safe and enjoyable for everyone. While we all know this on some level, understanding the bud-



Jessika Creedon

get, time limitations, and just how hard everyone is working puts it all in perspective."

The Friends of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve's goal is to support educational programs and exhibits at the visitors' center, provide for habitat restoration projects and preserve the carriage roads' unique trail system. Additionally, discovering the world of

horses through the equestrian Amble and Gamble has been "an exciting new frontier" for Creedon. She is also looking forward to the Preserve's website's makeover.

"I envision the website as being a resource that Preserve visitors can turn to not only for information, but for a deeper understanding of the Preserve and how the Friends support shapes its care," she explained.

But, Creedon's main personal aim is planning the races with race director Lauren Fitzgerald. "I look forward to growing the races and Amble & Gamble," Creedon said. "They are such wonderful community events and all proceeds go directly toward carriage road maintenance. Our annual Rockwood Ramble 10k and Rocky's 5k have been a tremendous amount of fun."

Creedon is a runner herself. In fact, her running activity is what introduced her to the Preserve. Originally from Brooklyn, in 2009 she and her husband, Rire Nakpodia, were training for the 2010 New York City Marathon and longed for scenery other than Prospect Park to log their miles. Inspired by an article about the Old Croton Aqueduct, they decided to take a day trip to visit the Old Croton Aqueduct and Rockwood Hall, an early favorite spot of theirs.

They did a long run and had lunch in the village. From that point on, Creedon and her husband would continue to venture back on the weekends to repeat the joy of that day. Eventually, with twin toddlers, Remi and Tega, in tow, they decided to pursue finding a home outside of the city in 2015. While searching, they took into account proximity to the Preserve, so Sleepy Hollow was their first choice.

"The house may be a fixer upper, but the location is perfect. My runs began to cover more and more miles, as I learned to link trails and only occasionally refer to the map at unknown intersections. I was able to ditch the headphones that had accompanied every run for over six years and instead listen to the water in the brooks, the birds chirping and my own footsteps," Creedon said of the Preserve in the Friends of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve's Fall 2016 issue of the Preserve Observer newsletter.

However, throughout her first year as a Sleepy Hollow resident, Creedon was still commuting to work as an in-house photographer and design studio manager for Zenith Products in New York City, where she had been employed for about two years. But she hoped for a job opening nearby,

Continued on page 26



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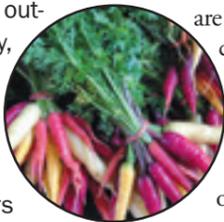
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Food for Thought

A Delicious New Season at The Irvington Farmer's Market

by Linda Viertel

For those who love to cook, reconnect with farmers, friends, fishmongers, artisanal bread bakers and cheese purveyors, and who delight in joining our diverse community – kids and dogs included - celebrating the start of summer at a farmer's market is one of life's most enjoyable experiences. While TaSH's first seasonal outdoor market opened Saturday, May 27th in Tarrytown's Patriot's Park, Irvington's Farmer's Market opens on Sunday, June 4th at the Main Street School with a number of new vendors as well as returning favorites.



This year, the market will be offering a "veggie valet service." Market manager Pascale Le Draoulec explained, "Since we moved to Sundays, some of our churchgoing fans say it can be difficult to get to the market. Parishioners said that it's too tight in the morning to get there at 9, shop, and then run home and put groceries away before the 10 a.m. service. And, since there is always a coffee hour at church after the service, they get to market too late when all the best produce is gone. So we are starting a veggie valet service: folks can come in the morning, buy the pick of the greens, and we will hold everything on ice for them until



Clockwise from Top left: Berry Brook Farm organic cherry tomatoes and ground cherries; Ernie from Berry Brook Farm (farmers Patrick and Eleanor's son); Stone & Thistle Eggs; Mangalitsa by Mosefund's artisanal charcuterie; Asian Farmer Dumplings; Madura's famous cauliflower; Wright's Farm Preserves; Bien Cuit breads from Brooklyn, NY

they come out of church."

Irvington's Market was voted "Best in Westchester" for children; having a large grass expanse and multiple activities has been the hallmark of the market from its inception. "Scribble Art and YogaLabs for kids will be making several appearances. And we are working with a local artist/psychologist on craft projects that are still being ironed out," said Le Draoulec.

Music never stops at this market since there are always two sets of performers. Cooking demonstrations are also a feature, and this year demos will be focusing on Marti Wolfson's many talents. Le Draoulec described Wolfson as "a personal wellness chef who has a knack for walking the market, grabbing what catches her eye and whipping up not one but two or three dishes on the fly."

David diBari's Dough Nation Pizza truck will be serving up his delectable seasonal pies once again, graced with Stone and Thistle Farms fresh eggs depending upon your pizza choice. Breakfast pies will be a new feature. Pura Vida will be on hand to provide the high quality, fresh varieties of fish and shellfish the fishery is known for. Another market favorite, Berry Brook Farm, a NOFA-NY certified organic Catskill grower, will

be returning as well as many other familiar providers.

But, look for these new purveyors starting June 4th:

- **Custom Bold Brew** a premier micro batch cold brew coffee and tea company. (Mount Vernon)
- **McGrath Cheese Co.** hand-crafted artisanal cheeses made in the Hudson Valley by award-winning Colin McGrath. (Poughkeepsie)
- **Mangalitsa by Mosefund** specializing in charcuterie made from the Mangalitsa pig - considered the "kobe beef of pork." Artisanal spicy sopresatta, cacciatoreni - made with red wine, and bacon will be on sale plus unusual collar steak cuts. (Branchville, New Jersey)
- **Deep Roots Farm** their mason jars are filled with pickled beets (orange/scarlet) plus pickled turnips. They also sell salad greens, sprouts and flowers galore. (Hudson)
- **Stone and Thistle Farm** produces meadow raised lamb, kid goat, chickens, turkeys, eggs, milk-fed pork, beef and dairy goats. Check out the names of their artisanal sausages. (a family farm in the Hudson Valley)
- **Climax Cooperative Farm** a no-till organic farm offering organic salads, tomatoes and greens. (Greene County)
- **Homegrown Nurseries** "We are grow-

ing using OMRI (Organic Material Review Institute) approved materials and practices in the potting sheds at the Lyndhurst mansion...our transplants will be primarily marketed in 6-packs and 4" pots...highlighting heirloom plants," said owner Nick Storrs. (Tarrytown)

• **Chef Lucero** makes authentic fresh salsas, pepito pesto, home-made tortillas and tamales. "Trained" in her grandmother's kitchen, Mexican native, Lucero, was the executive chef at Pablo Casal's restaurant.

Wherever you are this summer or fall, experiencing the community-spirit of a farmer's market and purchasing sustainably produced whole foods from hard-working farmers is a gift to yourself, the earth, and those who toil to provide good food for all of us.

(Visit: thehudsonindependent.org for easy recipes featuring market produce.)

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Demeter's Tavern and Sports Bar to Celebrate Anniversary with Renovations

by Tom Pedulla

Change is coming to Demeter's Tavern and Sports Bar. And that is not easy for customers who feel so at home at a cozy spot owned by the same family since 1947.

Stephen Demeter, who took over the operation with his brother, Donald in 1990, as the third generation, finds himself reassuring customers that they will ultimately welcome the extensive renovation once it is completed.

"A lot of people say, 'Don't change this. Don't change this,'" said Demeter. "We're going to keep the same feel. The same people have been with us forever. It's still going to be the same charm. It's just going to be newer."

The business closed on May 20. The projected re-opening date is July 7 with the intention of celebrating the 70th anniversary in style.

A new roof, new air conditioning, larger high-definition televisions and a gleaming mahogany bar that will have outlets for laptops are among the improvements.

Outlets for laptops?

The founders, Frank and Elizabeth, would never have seen that coming. And it is jolting to patrons who have counted on the place for decades for nothing more complicated than lunch or dinner with a home-cooked touch, a drink or two after work, and conversations with fellow customers who quickly become friends.

Trish Pozzi, one of the bartenders, finds herself doing more hand-holding than usual these days. She promises that, although Demeter's will be different, it will not be all that different.

"Some of these guys have been coming here for 20 or 30 years, so change is scary for them," Pozzi said. "It's still going to be that homey, ski-lodge feel."

Perhaps there could be no greater compliment to Demeter's – and to what it represents to the community – than customers who would want to cling to a roof that leaks and an air conditioning system that remains balky despite frequent repairs.

Locally, Demeter's is the closest thing imaginable to a real-world Cheers.

"It was, and still is, the most wonderful place you could go," said Melanie Clish, a

customer since she moved from her hometown of Pittsburgh to Tarrytown in 1997.

In a sense, Demeter's was her salvation then. The change had been wrenching for her as she left behind family and friends to relocate to an area where she knew no one. She desperately sought a friendly face.

Then she walked into Demeter's -- where there are always friendly faces.

"They make you feel totally welcome," Clish said. "They are the nicest people you could ever meet."

That goes for the owners, staff and customers, an engaging mix of blue-collar workers, corporate types, families and guests at nearby hotels.

"We play music. We sing. You can be goofy there. You can be sad. Whatever you want to be," said Clish, adding, "There have been joys and sorrows, births and deaths, and everything in between."

Michael Mahonec has been a regular since the early 1980's. There is no place he would rather be, especially on NFL Sundays.

"It's comfortable," he said. "That's the best word to use."

"We're going to keep the same feel. The same people have been with us forever. It's still going to be the same charm. It's just going to be newer."

—Stephen Demeter

So comfortable that Allison Montovelli continues to work as a waitress on Friday nights as she has since 1990 despite having a full-time position as an office manager.

"It's like a big family," she said. "I just could never give it up."

When Pozzi moved from Yorktown to Tarrytown two years ago, customers did the heavy lifting. Many of those same people were high on her guest list when she planned her wedding.

As if this place wasn't special enough, Demeter said no price increases will accompany the facelift. Even more comforting to devotees, he emphasized that his family remains as committed as it always has been.

"We're not going anywhere," he said.

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A 'Thin Space' Thick with History: The Old Dutch Church

by Krista Madsen

Borrowing a Celtic reference, Pastor Jeff Gargano refers to the Old Dutch Church as a "thin place," where Heaven and Earth almost touch. This thin space where the spiritual infuses a great variety of life-and-death celebrations is actually very thick of wall – three-feet at the base, in fact, thick enough to withstand over 300 years of history as New York's oldest, and, perhaps, most iconic church.

The trio gathered for this fact-filled Warner Oral History session had two major things in common: a profound connection to/obsession with this legendary chapel and an amazing capacity to rattle off centuries of names and dates. Please take the time to listen to the full audio at www.SoundCloud.com/warnerlibraryorallhistories – you'll learn plenty from this group and surely develop your own love affair with the ODC if you haven't already.



Aubrey Hawes

As fascinating as this history is – which began even before Frederick Philipse's slaves built the church in 1685 at what was previously a Native American stomping ground – it's also amazing to hear how this group grew such a relationship with it.

Aubrey Hawes' American ancestors date back to the colonists, but though there are still Hawes around here, they aren't his direct family. He's been in town since 1974 when he joined what was then the Second Reformed Church of 1836, which had branched off from the First Reformed Church (now the ODC) when people didn't want to travel that far up the road.

In 1851, the congregations officially separated with their own pastors so one pastor no longer had to travel between both. They returned to their roots, combining congregations again in 1991 when church attendance across the country had dropped dramatically. Gargano, "an incredible find," said Hawes, was hired in 2009, just in time for the 325th anniversary of the ODC in 2010, for which they pulled out all the stops.

Gargano immediately recognized what a special thing the Reformed Church had in the then underutilized ODC. "This is a treasure, you really must pay more attention to it," he said. He got us recharged about Old Dutch," Hawes recalled. The

newly formed Friends of the Old Dutch Burying Ground took up the cause of tending to the old broken gravestones and fallen trees of what is still an operational cemetery with about 20 remaining plots, including one reserved for Hawes and his wife. Recently, the church celebrated a groundbreaking for the complicated and expensive task of making the historic building accessible, a project they started talking about a decade ago.

Deb McCue doesn't live here, but "stumbled upon" the ODC for an organ concert after Gargano just got installed. She got pulled in by the choir, for which she sings alto. Two years ago, she started her own mission of hospitality here, serving as a docent on Saturdays to welcome visitors with some of the many stories of the place and



Deb McCue

its people.

"I feel this attraction to this congregation and the history here, the deep history of this place," McCue said. She also answers a lot of questions about Washington Irving, buried on the slope of the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery overlooking the church that he made famous in the "Legend of the Sleepy Hollow." "They know Irving because of the 'Legend' but they don't know a lot about him. He was a real American; he really ushered in an American age. And I think the 'Legend of Sleepy Hollow' is just his calling card," McCue said.

Finally, there's Janie Allen, who used to live here in 1999 and found the Reformed Church very convenient to attend. But when she moved, first to Chappaqua and then to Yorktown, she found herself still pulled back despite the commute. "I just couldn't leave this church. The people I think drew me here and helped keep me here."

With a background as an editor at Reader's Digest, Allen was commissioned with a colleague to write a history of the ODC on time for the anniversary, an involved project she spent a year on. For the celebration, she recalls the outdoor screening of the 1922 silent black and white "Legend" film starring Will Rogers to about 300 people among the cemetery stones. A reception across the street at Philipsburg Manor, the smaller version of the estate that once stretched 50,000 acres, showcased the Philipse's original "glittering" collection of

silver bequeathed to the church. Two engraved communion beakers and the original baptism bowl are still in regular use.

Allen found ample documentation to write from, but didn't necessarily trust Irving's version of things, a man who famously blurred the line between fact and fiction. "Washington Irving himself said, 'I don't believe a word I say myself,' so we took that to heart."

Among the notable visitors here, besides Irving of course (who actually was a member of Christ Church in Tarrytown), was Theodore Roosevelt, keynote speaker in 1897 of the ODC's 200th anniversary. Before that, there was George Washington, Irving's namesake, who led the Continental Army through the area.

The question always comes up for Mc-

And after the Revolution, these experts note a rush of baptisms.

Despite the ravages on the ODC through the years (fire in 1835, powder post beetle infestation in the 1980s), the original structure remains remarkably intact, with a few new roofs needed along the way. Though the church only conducts services occasionally (summertime, Christmas), it is alive with all sorts of events, lectures and weddings of all denominations.

"We want to keep it in shape for the community and more accessible to programming year-round," McCue said.

Finally, you can't help but ask, are there any ghost stories? (Besides that Headless Horseman trotting through the Old Dutch Festival every October, of course). "I do feel a presence in our cemetery," McCue



Janie Allen

Cue of who's buried here. "They're people like you and me," she tells visitors. "They are the regular people who were living in the area at the time the Revolution broke out. At some point, they had to choose a side. I'd say we have Patriots buried in our burial ground. But they were your regular folk that took on extraordinary tasks of commanding militias...the Liberty Boys that would go and harass the British, all of the Van Tassels... They weren't the most famous but they were a part of this community and fought for this community. We have citizens there."

The earliest stone is a child's from 1755.

said. "I don't know how much of that is my projection. When you think of all of the weddings, all of the prayers, all of the baptisms, all of the burials, the highlights of life that have happened on that hill, they leave an echo. When people come up there they walk into it and they feel it."

"We've each learned our stories. We each have our own reason why that space is so significant to us, so sacred," McCue added. "And why we want to keep it in perpetuity for the whole community, if not internationally. That little church is known not just here in New York but around the whole world."

Dobbs Ferry Grads

Continued from page 13

dents are not certain which areas of concentration they will focus on in their college years, although Cohen said he may major in computer science or physics. Cohen said he is looking forward to living on the west coast during his college years, but "I'm sure my parents will not be too happy," he quipped.

Both students have been active in student government, known as the Legislative Branch. Hord has been active in the Legislative Branch for four years, while Cohen has been involved for two years.

Hord and Cohen said they have been helped in their high school career with

small class sizes that have provided more individualized instruction that a school with a much higher enrollment could not provide. Cohen said he has been instructed by several teachers for three or four years. During the 2017/18 school year there have been 103 seniors at Dobbs Ferry High School.

Hord and Cohen have both taken part in the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) academic program at the high school. The program includes a requirement that students provide 150 hours of community service. Cohen said he and Hord were particularly grateful to one of his IB teachers, Neil Abbatiello, who teaches a two-year IB math course. "He has been such important teacher in our high school careers," Cohen said.

Business News

Riverrun Books & Manuscripts Provides Literary Portal into the Past

by W.B. King

With a revolving inventory of more than 30,000 volumes of rare, antiquarian, unusual books and manuscripts from all time periods, Hastings-on-Hudson's Riverrun Books & Manuscripts is tantamount to a literary time machine.

"Since 1978, it has been an antiquarian book store focusing on fine books and first editions," said owner Tom Lecky. "Until I took over in June of 2016, the focus was on modern material because that was the strength of the previous owners."

Prior to buying the book store, Lecky spent 17 years working for Christie's auction house. During his last 10 years of employment, he headed the company's Printed Books & Manuscripts Department.

"Given my background and experience, I have handled a lot more earlier material," said Lecky. His current catalog project, for example, features more than 120 books that reflect the entire history of book illustration—from the 15th century to early 20th century.

"The stock we have now tends to reflect more of that (older titles) as well as the whole scope of books throughout printed history," said Lecky.

Bound and Determined

A Hastings resident since 2001, Lecky often passed the book store on his way to and from the train when he commuted to Manhattan. He would stop in on occasion to see what new titles were on display or just to have a chat.

"The store has the same name as it did in 1978. I knew the previous owner and bought things from him," said Lecky. "Last

year the opportunity arose for me to take over the business, and I ended up purchasing it."

With an extensive list of books, customers could purchase a first edition, first issue of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* for \$7,000. On average, Lecky said book

novel."

And while his list of books sits around 30,000 titles, only 15,000 are catalogued on the store's website (www.riverrunbookshop.com). "There is a tremendous amount of material that hasn't been processed yet or is of more modest value and doesn't war-

to market, including the Fox-Bute set of Audubon's *Birds of America*, which holds the world record for price of a printed book (\$10 million). And while this example is the exception rather than the rule, rare, valuable books continually pop up, he said.

"Most of the books that are here and that I purchase are books that have been passed down in families going back one or two generations," said Lecky. "The overwhelming number of books are of nominal value, but that is true of any area whether it is silver, porcelain or a painting. Every once in a while you find a real gem."

"I am not what you would call a used book store, I sell first edition, scholarly books and unusual books."

—Tom Lecky



Riverrun Books & Manuscripts Owner Tom Lecky.

prices range from \$5 to \$150,000.

"I am not what you would call a used book store," said Lecky. "I sell first edition, scholarly books and unusual books. This doesn't necessarily mean they are expensive but it means they have a unique or interesting feature to them rather than, say, a paperback version of a Charles Dickens

novel." "I want to spend the time and detail it takes to catalog," said Lecky. "So there is a lot to discover in the store."

Turning the Page

Lecky, who has been a featured appraiser on PBS's *Antique Roadshow*, has worked on various literary collections that went

Lecky purchased Riverrun Books & Manuscripts, in part, to support the literary community in and around Hastings-on-Hudson. The store regularly holds readings and receptions. He is also happy to field general questions from customers on the lineage and history of a book. For a fee, he offers professional estate and insurance appraisals.

"There are fewer and fewer book stores people can visit," said Lecky. "This store is a place where people can come and feel comfortable. They can browse, ask questions and make discoveries on their own of really interesting material that ranges across centuries and subjects. It's a pleasure to share my love of books with people."

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Irvington Grads

Continued from page 11

"I always tried to pursue things that I liked," she said. "I never took every single Advanced Placement class that I had to take. I did a lot of history and language, and I really enjoyed what I was doing and I studied a lot. It was easy for me to do the work if it was something I was passionate to be doing."

Mermelstein is the captain of the varsity cross-country and track teams. She is the co-president of the Latin Club and a four-time National Latin Exam gold medalist. She is a National Merit Scholarship winner and a U.S. Presidential Scholarship nominee, as well as the recipient of the Yale Book Award and National Greek Exam Blue Ribbon. In addition, she was named an AP Scholar with Distinction for completing challenging college-level courses. Mermelstein was also inducted into the school's Cum Laude Society for her outstanding academic achievements and pursuing the most rigorous coursework.

The soon-to-be graduates said if they could give any piece of advice to the incoming freshmen, it would be to pursue

their passions and push themselves in the areas they're strong at.

"They should do what they're passionate about and interested in and not worry too much," Meng-Killeen said. "I think a lot of the freshmen can be stressed out about starting high school and try to be perfect and make the perfect resume, but I think it's good to keep things in perspective. School is important but it's not everything. They should cultivate friendships and spend time with their families."

As far as his speech, Meng-Killeen said he will reflect on the year and everything that makes their grade unique.

"Everyone is very passionate about what they do, and I think that makes us a less competitive and more collaborative grade," he said. "Irvington is a very special place and we have a pretty tight-knit community, which is nice."

In the fall, Meng-Killeen will attend Cornell University, where he plans to major in biology. Mermelstein will be attending Brown University, where she plans to pursue a Classics and Middle Eastern Studies major.



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Watercooler

Heard Around the Watercooler

by Maria Ann Roglieri

Babies Born

Congratulations to Sabina and Cézanne Huq of Ardsley on the birth of their baby girl, Ana, on April 2, 2017. Congratulations also to Charlie and Danielle Reda of Tarrytown on the birth of their baby girl, Kyleigh Angela, on April 4, 2017.

Art Exhibit

Award-winning plein air artist and Tarrytown resident, Doris Mady, will be displaying 20 or more of her oil paintings at the Warner Library's Main Gallery for the month of June. The theme: "My Favorite Places" and perhaps some other things as well. An Artist Reception is scheduled in the library's Main Gallery on Saturday, June 3 from 1-3 p.m.

Honored

Sleepy Hollow resident Jane Dubin, Tony-winning Broadway producer, will be honored by Westchester's Axial Theatre at their annual gala on June 10 at The Gallery at Arts Westchester in White Plains. Jane's Broadway projects include the original swing musical *Bandstand*, nominated for two Tony Awards, currently playing at the Bernard Jacobs Theater, and *An American in Paris*, winner of four Tony Awards, now in London and touring around the country. For tickets and more information about Axial Theatre, go to www.AxialTheatre.org.

New Appointments

Family medicine physician Robbins Gottlock, MD, of Sleepy Hollow has been appointed VP and Associate Medical Director at Phelps Hospital. Joshua R. Whitham has been appointed as Sleepy Hollow Middle School principal effective July 1.

Local National Merit Scholarship Winners (\$2500)

Congratulations to our local winners:

- David J. Friedman, Sleepy Hollow High School
- Alexander Popov (Tarrytown), Hackley School
- Zoe E. Mermelstein, Irvington High School
- Clara Montgomery, Irvington High School



- Jay R. Shenoy (Irvington), Fordham Preparatory School.
- Blake R. Hord, Dobbs Ferry High School
- Adriana Scanteianu, Ossining High School

Congratulations to Science Competition Winners

Katie Miles from Sleepy Hollow High School won several awards at the Intel/ISEF competition in Los Angeles in May: the Anti-Vivisection Award, and third place in Cell and Molecular Biology and she also won a research trip to the Weitzman Institute in Israel.

Fourth-grader Shaleen Thaker, and eighth graders Esha Thaker and Esha Shenoy from Irvington had outstanding performances at the 2017 Tri-County Science and Technology Fair, held on April 22 at White Plains High School.

Grand Opening

The Shames JCC on Hudson will celebrate its grand opening with five days of fun activities beginning on June 7. Activities include a ribbon cutting and ceremony, a donor cocktail party, Shehecheyanu Shabbat, a member guest day, and a family fun day. For more information see www.shamesjcc.org.

Featured TEDx Talk

The National Bullying Prevention Center has selected Tarrytown resident Sherry Saturno's TEDx Talk "Use Your Broken Heart to Find Your Greatness" as an anti-bullying message for their website and feature story.

Any potential news items for Watercooler can be emailed to mroglier@yahoo.com

Check our Complete

"Happenings"

directory for **JUNE** at
www.thehudsonindependent.com

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JUNE 1: Lincoln Center on Screen: At 2:30 p.m. performance of *Show Boat* at the Warner Library in Tarrytown



JUNE 4: Rose Day - From 12 noon - 3 p.m. see the Rose Garden in full bloom and talk with experts from the Garden Club of Irvington at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown



JUNE 13: Healing Meditation: At 10 a.m. non-denominational spiritual group at the United Methodist Church of the Tarrytowns.

What's Happening

Check out the complete directory for JUNE at www.thehudsonindependent.com

Thursday 1

LINCOLN CENTER ON SCREEN: At 2:30 p.m. performance of *Show Boat* at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

AUTHOR VISIT: At 7 p.m. Thomas Heany talks about his book *First, Learn to Practice*, a guide for music students and teachers, at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

TAMING ANXIETY: At 7 p.m. workshop for teens and their parents at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Sign up at the Reference Desk or call 631-7734.

Friday 2

CONCERT: At 8 p.m. Donovan: Sunshine Superman 50th Anniversary Tour at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Saturday 3

TRACK SAFETY: At 11 a.m. presentation by Allison Lester of Metro-North Railroad at the Ossining Public Library. Registration required. Call 941-2416, ext. 327 or e-mail jtrapasso@wlsmail.org.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF THE TARRYTOWNS: From 6 p.m. - 6 a.m. at Sleepy Hollow High School to benefit the American Cancer Society. Call 397-8865 or visit www.relayforlife.org/tarrytownny.

WINE GLASS PAINTING NIGHT: From 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Paws Crossed Animal Rescue, 100 Warehouse Lane South, Elmsford. Visit www.pawscrossedny.org.

Sunday 4

TARRYTOWN CRAFT, FOOD AND STREET FAIR: From 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Main St. Call 631-1705 or visit www.sleepyhollowtarrytownchamber.com.

ROSE DAY: From 12 noon - 3 p.m. see the Rose Garden in full bloom and talk with experts from the Garden Club of Irvington at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org.

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

ALL SEASONS CHAMBER PLAYERS CONCERT: At 2 p.m. featuring works for piano, flute and strings at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

FARM TO TABLE FUNDRAISER: From 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. celebrate local products at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Monday 5

CHOREOGRAPHER HERMES PAN: Presentation at 10 a.m. by Edith Glass at Shames JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.ShamesJCC.org.

PHELPS GOLF CLASSIC: Tournament to benefit Phelps Memorial Hospital Center at 11 a.m. at

Sleepy Hollow Country Club, Scarborough. Call 366-3104 or e-mail mcoratti@pmhc.us.

HISTORY BOOK GROUP: Meets at 7 p.m. to discuss *Eleanor and Hick* by Susan Quinn at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Wednesday 7

MOVIE: *The Shack* showing at 2 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

ART WORKSHOP: From 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. create art in a relaxed environment at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. To register call 631-1770 or e-mail TBAArtWorkshop@tba-ny.org.

LOCAL LIGHTHOUSES: At 7 p.m. presentation by historian Scott Craven at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

CONCERT: At 8 p.m. George Thorogood and The Destroyers Rock Party Tour at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Thursday 8

"SUMMER IS FOR READING" BOOK SALE: From 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org. Also June 9 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. & June 10 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

OSSINING DOCUMENTARY & DISCUSSION SERIES: At 6:30 p.m. *Kiki* will be screened at the Ossining Public Library, followed by a panel discussion. Visit www.ossiningdocumentaries.org.

WARNER LIBRARY BOOK GROUP: Meets at 7 p.m. to discuss *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Saturday 10

TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP: From 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. 25 arborists compete in scaling trees at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org.

LAUGHTER HIKE: At 10 a.m. join Linda Parker on an easy nature hike enjoying Laughter Yoga exercises along the way. To register visit www.SoulisticAdventures.com or e-mail Linda@SoulisticAdventures.com.

POLLINATION STATION: At 11 a.m. learn about the roles that flowers and animals play in pollination at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining. Preregistration required. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

YOGA WORKSHOP: At 1:30 p.m. "Sweat to Bliss" with Luke Ketterhagen at Club Fit in Briarcliff Manor. Register at www.YTAYoga.com or call 582-7816 for information.

CONCERT: At 8 p.m. The Machine performs Pink Floyd at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Sunday 11

MANSIONS OF THE GILDED AGE SYMPOSIUM: From 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. hear five esteemed speakers followed by a reception at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org.

HASTINGS FLEA MARKET: From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Metro North train station parking lot. Also food and entertainment. Call (646) 709-4308 or visit www.hastingsflea.com.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL: Enjoy strawberry shortcake, music and fun from 12 noon- 3 p.m. at the Historical Society, 1 Grove St., Tarrytown. Call 631-8374.

THE AMAZING INTELLIGENCE OF CORVIDS: At 1 p.m. learn interesting facts about ravens and crows at

the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

BALLET DES AMERIQUES: At 2 p.m. performance of Peter and the Wolf at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

FAMILY FUN DAY: From 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. at Shames JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-789 or register at <https://jccfamilyfunday.Eventbrite.com>.

Monday 12

JAZZ STANDARDS OF THE AMERICAN SONGBOOK: Concert at 10 a.m. with Glenda Davenport and Hiroshi Yamazaki at Shames JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.ShamesJCC.org.

TAI CHI: Free class at 10:30 a.m. at Shames JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit www.ShamesJCC.org. Also Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. & Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

ADULT CRAFTS: At 6:30 p.m. make unique beaded earrings and donate a pair to a Women's Shelter at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Sign up at the Reference Desk or call 631-7734.

Tuesday 13

HEALING MEDITATION: At 10 a.m. non-denominational spiritual group at the United Methodist Church of the Tarrytowns, 27 S. Washington St. Call 831-9812 or e-mail Diana@dianamuenzchen.com. Also June 20 at 7 p.m.

Wednesday 14

MOVIE: *The Sense of an Ending* showing at 2 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

SENIORS

SENIOR BENEFITS INFORMATION CENTER (SBIC): Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. a trained counselor from SBIC 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 231-3260.

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: Plus other activities Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Neighborhood House in Tarrytown. Suggested contribution \$3. Call 330-3855.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

43 Wildey St., Tarrytown, 631-0205

GREENBURGH NUTRITION PROGRAM: See Hot Lunch above.

COMPUTER CLASS: 11a.m. Tuesdays (please call).

LOSS SUPPORT GROUP: 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. June 13 & 27.

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

ART WORKSHOP: 1 p.m. Wednesdays.

TAI CHI: 11 a.m. Thursdays.

Senior canteen: informal social group, 1 p.m. Thursdays.

MOVIES: 1 p.m. Fridays.

MAH JONGG: 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. June 6 and 20, followed by games.

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

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

YOGA: 10 a.m. Thursdays.

BOOK CLUB: 1 p.m. June 30.

OTHER CLASSES: Check bulletin board.

POOL TABLES: Available any time.

JAMES F. GALGANO SENIOR CENTER

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

MEETINGS: 1 p.m. June 5 and 19, followed by bingo.

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

NICKEL BINGO: 1 p.m. Tuesdays.

YOGA: 9 a.m. June 14 and 28.

TRIP TO CITY ISLAND: June 1.

CERAMICS: 1:15 p.m. June 8 and 22.

EXERCISE CLASS: 10:30 a.m. Fridays.

KNITTING: 1 p.m. Fridays.

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



JUNE 24: At 8 p.m. Aimee Mann performs at the Tarrytown Music Hall.



JUNE 25: Coyotes: At 2 p.m. presentation by Frank Vincent of the Wild Dog Foundation at the Ossining Public Library.



ONGOING: Guided Kayak Tours: Weekends from 9 a.m. – 12 noon, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Kingsland Point Park, Sleepy Hollow

BLOCK OIL ANCHORAGES ON THE HUDSON: At 7:30 p.m. join experts to talk about current ecological issues 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.

OPEN MIC NIGHT: At 7 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library, moderated by writer Catherine Wald. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

Thursday 15

LINCOLN CENTER ON SCREEN: At 2:30 p.m. showing of the *Harlem Renaissance Orchestra Midsummer Night Swing* at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

THURSDAY EVENING BOOK CLUB: Meets at 7:30 p.m. to discuss *Persuasion* by Jane Austen at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

HOME BREW HOW-TO: At 7 p.m. talk by nano-brewery owner Justin DiNino at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Friday 16

CONCERT: At 8 p.m. Nick Lowe performs with special guest Alejandro Escovedo at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusicall.org.

Saturday 17

ORGANIC GARDEN WORKDAY: From 9 a.m. - 12 noon help cultivate the teaching garden at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

FRIENDS OF THE RIVERWALK WORK DAY: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Meet at the end of West Main St., Tarrytown with hand tools for weeding and clipping. Call 419-7229

FOOD CHANGES EVERYTHING: Presentation at 10:30 a.m. on how our daily food choices affect our health at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

MIGHTY METAMORPHOSIS: At 11 a.m. scoop the pond for tadpoles and dragonfly nymphs and learn about their metamorphosis at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining. Preregistration required. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

MOVIE MAVENS: At 7 p.m. *The Human Resources Manager* will be shown at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown, followed by a moderated discussion. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulted@tba-ny.org to RSVP.

Sunday 18

GARDENING WITH NICK: From 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. learn how to fertilize and irrigate your garden at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org. Other workshops July 23, Aug. 13 & Sept. 24.

WESTCHESTER PHILHARMONIC: Concert at 3 p.m. features pianist Conrad Tao at Purchase College on Anderson Hill Rd. Call 682-3707 or visit www.westchesterphil.org.

CONCERT: At 7 p.m. Happy Together Tour starring the Turtles at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusicall.org.

Tuesday 20

Mystery Book Club: Meets at 3:30 p.m. to discuss *Auntie Lee's Delights* by Ovidia Yu at the

Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Wednesday 21

MOVIE: *Get Out* showing at 2 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

BUZZWORTHY FILMS: *Sully* will be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

FILM: At 7 p.m. *Jaws* will be shown at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusicall.org.

Friday 23

SUMMER BOOK SALE: From 12 noon - 5 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org. Also June 24 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE: At 5:45 p.m. explore Jewish women's issues at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulted@tba-ny.org to RSVP.

CONCERT: At 8 p.m. The Smithereens & Willie Nile Band perform at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusicall.org.

Saturday 24

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY: At 1 p.m. learn about the life cycle of a butterfly and discover the epic Monarch migration at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

SCIENCETELLERS: At 3 p.m. children in grades K-5 participate in an action packed adventure at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

CONCERT: At 8 p.m. Aimee Mann performs at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusicall.org.

Sunday 25

ROCK 'N' RODS AUTOMOBILE SHOW: From 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. see classic and vintage cars at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org.

COYOTES: At 2 p.m. presentation by Frank Vincent of the Wild Dog Foundation at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

Wednesday 28

MOVIE: *A Monster Calls* showing at 2 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Friday 30

A NIGHT ON FIRE: At 8:30 p.m. enjoy fire juggling and comedy troupe A Different Spin in a live display of fire arts at Phillipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow. Advance tickets required. Call 366-6900 or visit www.hudsonvalley.org. Also July 1 at 8 p.m. & 9:30 p.m., July 2 at 8 p.m.

Ongoing

ROMANCE IN THE MOVIES: At 2 p.m. series presented by Charles Goldman starting June 14 with *Two for the Road*, June 17 *Far From the Madding Crowd* and June 22 *Love Affair* at the Irvington Public Library. Registration required. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.evanced.info/signup/

Calendar. Continues in July & August.

'DROP YOUR PANTS' DENIM RECYCLING INITIATIVE: Bring your worn denim clothes to the Tarrytown Music Hall lobby collection box for recycling into insulation and keep textile waste out of landfills. Visit <http://bluejeansgogreen.org>.

SUMMER READING GAME: For young readers starting June 19 at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

TEEN SUMMER READING PROGRAM: June 26 - Aug. 30 win prizes for reading books at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Sign up at the Reference Desk to get your Reading Log.

ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM: June 1- Sept. 1 for ages 18 and older at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES: From June 21 - Aug. 25 free jazz concerts in Dobbs Ferry, Lyndhurst, Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow & Ossining. Full schedule at www.jazzforumarts.org.

GUIDED KAYAK TOURS: Weekends from 9 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Kingsland Point Park, Sleepy Hollow. Call 682-5135 or visit www.KayakHudson.com.

KAYAKING: Rent a kayak between 12 noon and 5 p.m. on the Tarrytown Lakes Saturdays and Sundays. Call 682-5135 or visit www.KayakHudson.com.

EXHIBIT: Works by Selene Smerling and Zoe Brotman Denahy on display June 2 - 29 at the Irvington Public Library. Reception June 3 from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

OSSINING ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERS SHOW: June 1-30 at the Ossining Public Library. Reception June 15 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

EXHIBITS: Oil paintings by Doris Mady and various scenes and portraits by IAHD Group Artists at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

"DEFYING LABELS: NEW ROLE, NEW CLOTHES: June 15 - Sept. 24 fashion exhibition at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org.

WESTCHESTER BROADWAY THEATRE: *Mamma Mia*

on stage through June 25; *Annie* from June 29 - Sept. 10 in Elmsford. Dinner at 6:15 p.m. & show at 8 p.m. Call 592-2222 or visit www.broadway-theatre.com.

WINE AND JAZZ WEDNESDAYS: From 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. featuring bassist John Lang at La Chinita Poblana in Irvington. Visit www.chinitapoblanany.com.

LATIN DANCE LESSONS: Classes by Josie Lariccia on various dates through August 19 at the Irvington Public Library. To register call 591-7840 or visit <http://irvingtonlibrary.evanced.info/signup/Calendar>.

JAZZ SESSIONS 2017: The greats on camera through June 22 at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville. Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

FREE LYNDHURST TOURS: Through September Tarrytown residents receive free Classic Tour admission on Thursdays and Fridays. Call 631-4481 or visit www.lyndhurst.org.

TARRYTOWN SLEEPY HOLLOW FARMERS MARKET: Open 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 18 in Patriot's Park. E-mail TaSHFarmersMarket@gmail.com or visit www.TaSHFarmersMarket.org.

OSSINING FARMERS' MARKET: Open Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. through Dec. 17 at Spring & Main Sts. Call 923-4837 or visit www.downtoearthmarkets.com.

IRVINGTON FARMERS MARKET: Open Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Main St. School. Visit www.irvingtonfarmersmarket.net.

STONE BARNS' CENTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN POCANTICO HILLS: Open Wed. - Sun. from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Produce, meat and eggs available in Farm Store. Call 366-6200 or visit www.stonebarnscenter.org.

IRVINGTON RUNNING MEETUP: Group meets multiple times per week to keep fit, keep in touch and have fun. Beginning runners always welcome. Visit www.meetup.com/Irvington-running-Meetup/.

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Dramatic Changes Are Being Made at Lyndhurst with Interior, Exterior and Landscaping Restoration

by Morey Storck

Lyndhurst, the Gothic Revival “country house” designed by Alexander Jackson Davis in 1838 for New York City mayor William Paulding, Jr., was originally named The Knoll. Aptly termed, it is situated on a 67-acre park-like setting beside the Hudson River, spanning an idyllic, beautifully landscaped area rambling from Route 9 to the water’s edge. There is abundant open space utilized now for concerts and exhibitions, and for tourists and locals to just walk the area, discover smaller, outbuildings, and comprehend the grandeur of what it was like in 1838 (if you had that kind of money) to live in this little castle in the country. The structure, from the outside, had a somewhat storybook quality. The interior was essentially dark with tall, dramatic stained glass window styling and high vaulted ceilings. The rooms were small, but richly furnished.

The second owner was merchant George Merritt who doubled the house-size in 1864-1865 and renamed it “Lyndenhurst” for the estate’s linden trees. The new north wing included an impressive four-story tower that added to the castle’s classic silhouette, plus a new dining room, two bedrooms, and servants’ quarters. The overall picturesque structure was viewed, by some, as the only perfect example of Gothic Revival architecture in the U.S., and by others, as a brooding, mysterious castle inspiring the romantic intrigue of which novels and scripts are born. And they were. Hollywood and T.V. have utilized the property for many years, even up to the present time.

Railroad tycoon Jay Gould purchased the property in 1880 for use as his country house, shortened its name to Lyndhurst and lived there until his death in 1892, leaving it to his youngest daughter, Anna. In 1881, he

contracted with Lord & Burnham, an Irvington boiler and greenhouse manufacturer, and builders of major public conservatories in the U.S., to construct the first steel-framed curvilinear greenhouse in the country. In 1961, Anna Gould, the Duchess of Tallyrand, donated Lyndhurst to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Howard Zar, the current Executive Director of Lyndhurst, came to the position with an extremely impressive resume, a mission and a vision. Since the end of 2012, he has steadfastly pursued the restoration of the estate to its original state in 1842, through the changing years of decorative style, household needs, industrial pace, taste and fashion. “Our goal is to show what it was like for them (the very wealthy) to live during those times, as accurately as possible. The mansion is well-documented by death inventories and is extensively photographed from 1870 through the 1960’s,” Zar said.

Because Lyndhurst holds prominent collections of A.J. Davis furniture, 19th century French academic paintings, 18th century French furniture and decorations, Tiffany windows and extensive Herter Brothers furniture, that realistic accounting exists today. As restorations are completed, more and more furniture and furnishings are taken out of storage and placed where they were originally used.

The following is just a partial list of restorations that have been completed recently: The overhead heating pipes of the main storage rooms, previously not open to the public, have been completely taken out and restored to their original use and look. The third, fourth, and fifth floors leading to the tower are now useable, allowing visitors to explore attic spaces up to the tower and see



Lyndhurst Executive Director Howard Zar

the magnificent views of the Hudson River from there.

There is now a “backstairs tour” providing more than just a glimpse of the inner workings of the estate. The stairs lead to

the butler’s bedroom and office; to the butler pantry alongside the dining room, and still further, to the two revisions of the basement kitchen, including pots and pans stemming from the 1860’s to Helen Gould’s revisions in 1915; a beehive root cellar, scullery, meat room, zinc-top tables, ice-box and refrigerator that Ms. Gould brought in, all adding to a sense of what it was like 100 years ago.

She had married Finley Shephard in 1913, and with the possibility of children on the wayshe needed more useable space for them and a larger household. Keeping servants, domestic or immigrant unskilled laborer, was particularly difficult because there were many more possibilities in New York City. Gould had to put together a beautiful workspace for them or they would just leave for city sweatshops and what they thought would be more money.

Also, Zar has completed renovation on the new bowling alley, the first completely codified in the U.S., with two 1895 parlors, the south veranda for tea and the north veranda where sewing classes were open to women of the community; he curated the fashion exhibition featuring Anna Gould’s designer clothes and accessories evidencing how styles changed through the years, and has reinstated the kitchen garden, cherry orchard, and rockeries. But still, it’s the landscaping, a work still in progress, that is the crown jewel of Lyndhurst as far as Zar is concerned. The specimen trees and shrubs, the magnificent display of roses, the rolling lawns, and the many vantage points from which the Hudson River can be viewed provide a serene, idyllic comfort zone to be treasured. The Lyndhurst grounds are an outstanding example of 19th century landscaping, designed in the English naturalistic style, by Ferdinand Mangold.

“So, when the ultra-wealthy abandoned ‘not so fancy’ Westchester for the even loftier Newport compound to build their grand summer retreats, they made sure to take the esthetics, those signature Mangold landscape plans for Lyndhurst, with them,” Zar said.

Happenings

Continued from page 23

at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Meetings have varied speakers and are open to the public free of charge. Call 366-7898 or visit www.ShamesJCC.org.

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

CHESS 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.

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, crafts 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.

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“What Concerns You Most About the Current Political Climate in the U.S.?”



Mini Rajwar
Tarrytown

“Being an immigrant.”



David Barnett
Tarrytown

“I don’t trust that Trump’s motives are in the best interest of our country.”



Sharon Rynn
Tarrytown

“I wish there was more unity in the country.”



Charles Riley
Sleepy Hollow

“If over 50% of the country are completely against Trump and his decisions, then I don’t see how he is keeping the country united.”

Obituaries

Jerry Eimbinder, 84

Jerry (Jerome) Eimbinder, a resident of Tarrytown, died May 19 following a courageous fight with pancreatic cancer. He was 84.



He is survived by his three children, Jill, Eric and Richard, and their spouses Howard, Lisa and Beth; and seven grandchildren. After 53 years of marriage, his wife, Dorothy, died of ovarian cancer in 2013.

Mr. Eimbinder held a Bachelor’s Degree in Engineering from Pratt Institute and a Masters Degree in Business Management from Fairleigh Dickinson University. In his early years, he worked in the electronics publishing field, writing about the micro-electronics industry and advances in semiconductors. Later, he served as publisher for more than 20 magazines and business newspapers and organized conferences with prominent speakers to help educate engineers on circuit design.

In his later years, Mr. Eimbinder wrote human interest articles and restaurant reviews for several local publications, including *The Hudson Independent*, and prided himself on always knowing the best places to eat. He enjoyed meeting with restaurant owners and chefs to discuss their menus and special events. Always retaining his passion for writing, he also enjoyed working with local writers and colleges on ideas and programs they could run.

An avid baseball and football fan, Mr. Eimbinder never missed a game when the

Mets or Jets were playing, although family was always his first priority.

A private burial was held on May 22. Donations in memory of Jerry Eimbinder may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes foundation or the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research.

Victor Rizzi, Jr., 88

Victor Anthony Rizzi, Jr., who was born in raised in North Tarrytown (now Sleepy Hollow), died May 14 at home in Spring Lake Heights. He was 88.



Mr. Rizzi graduated from North Tarrytown High School in 1947. A star athlete, he Captained the 1946 ‘Headless Horseman’ football squad and was selected to the All-Westchester County and All Metropolitan All-Star teams. In 1946, he was the winner of the Jack Small Trophy awarded to the outstanding player in the annual clash between North Tarrytown and arch rival Washington Irving High Schools. In 2012, North Tarrytown High School Alumni Association honored him with a special trophy in tribute to ‘His School Spirit and Generous Support’.

When a teenager, Mr. Rizzi worked as a reporter for the *Tarrytown Daily News*. In recent years he contributed numerous pieces to a series of books edited by Mario Togliola containing stories of immigrants from his family’s ancestral home in Calitri, Italy. He also enjoyed authoring features for the North Tarrytown, Washington Ir-

ving and Sleepy Hollow Alumni Newsletter.

Mr. Rizzi graduated with an A.B. degree in Economics from Princeton University in 1951. A scholar athlete, he played on Tiger football teams led by the legendary coach, Charlie Caldwell.

The year following graduation found Mr. Rizzi teaching and coaching at Governor Dummer Academy in Massachusetts. The subsequent two years he performed similar duties at the Hun School of Princeton where he also served as Athletic Di-

rector. Mr. Rizzi would ultimately change direction, earning an MBA degree from the NYU Graduate School of Business Administration and embarking on a long and successful commercial banking career, beginning at Chemical Bank in New York before retiring as a Senior Executive Vice President of the National State Bank in New Jersey. He even found time to teach financial courses for 15 years in the evening division of Fairleigh Dickinson University (Madison).

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Sports

Three-Sport Sleepy Hollow Athlete Excelling on Diamond

by Tom Pedulla

Sleepy Hollow High School trailed Yonkers 2-1 in the fifth inning in the Nyack Tournament earlier this season when Sleepy Hollow Coach Rob Spirelli checked with right-hander Sean McCarthy.

Despite being set back by an unearned run, McCarthy was pitching well. Spirelli was concerned that his pitch count was building. He wanted to make sure he felt well enough to continue.

McCarthy's answer was as strong as his pitching performance. He looked his coach in the eye and said forcefully, "You're not taking me out of this game until we have the lead."

McCarthy went on to pitch six innings with six strikeouts. Unfortunately for him, he reached 105 pitches, the limit set by state regulations intended to protect young

arms. Spirelli was forced to make a pitching change. Worse still, Sleepy Hollow never overtook Yonkers, bowing 2-1 in a season marked by narrow defeats.

Spirelli told the anecdote not to lament defeats but to emphasize the ferocity of McCarthy's approach.

"He's one of the fiercest competitors I have on the team and I've had in a while," Spirelli said. "He's one of those kids who gets in the zone. He gets locked into a game and he's able to shoulder a lot of the load."

McCarthy, a 6-1, 185-pound junior, is still exasperated by that Yonkers loss. "I was really feeling it that day," he said. "I wanted that game so bad."

McCarthy has always looked up to his father, Sean, a standout hitter and pitcher at Archbishop Stepinac in White Plains. "I think I get that fire from him," he said.

Whatever the source, Spirelli wishes



Sean McCarthy hit well over .400 this season.

that fire burned as brightly in every athlete. "You can't teach that," he said. "That's someone who wants it so bad."

McCarthy's extraordinary competitive spirit is not limited to the diamond. He threw for 1,400 yards with 17 touchdowns last autumn for Sleepy Hollow. He developed a reputation for tenacious defense as a valuable sixth man in basketball.

Few players care more than McCarthy about winning and performing well. "He takes losing very personally," his father said. "He puts a lot of pressure on his shoulders. It takes him awhile to recover."

Whenever possible, he uses social media to study pitchers he expects to face, learning what they throw and how hard. He ramps up his intensity several notches whenever he has two strikes against him. Remarkably, he struck out only twice through the first 18 games.

"It's not fun striking out," he said. "I hate that."

More than a few major leaguers could learn from the adjustments he makes when he has two strikes against him. "I'm go-

ing to really crowd the plate and make the pitcher uncomfortable," he said. "It's not so much about putting a hurting on the ball as putting it in play and doing the job."

McCarthy is unusually versatile. After playing in the outfield last season, he is being used this spring primarily at shortstop. He can man virtually every position. He is a mainstay offensively, hitting third in the order and fashioning a gaudy .443 batting average with three home runs and 22 RBI through 18 games. The left-handed hitter boasted a .493 on-base percentage with a .739 slugging percentage.

"He's our best all-around hitter. He's the toughest out in our lineup," Spirelli said. "He hits the ball to all fields. He hits for power. He hits for average. In a big spot, you want Sean up. He can battle."

More than anything, McCarthy loves whatever game is in season. For now, that means baseball.

"There is nothing like going out on a hot day and playing baseball with my friends and competing," he said.

Our Neighbors

Continued from page 16

and she was soon in luck.

"When I learned that the Friends board was hiring, it felt like a perfect fit. A position so perfectly suited to my passion for the Preserve, I couldn't respond quickly enough. I joined the Friends in March 2016," she said. "Having just passed the one-year mark, I look forward to year two. Now that I have seen each event first hand, I can move forward with further supporting and advocating for the Preserve."

Creedon majored in Architecture at Syracuse University, but found her calling with photography. Upon graduation, she moved to New York City and worked as a studio manager and first assistant to a still life photographer and then started working as

a studio manager and assistant for architectural photographer Michael Moran for 10 years, "which was a wonderful way of marrying my two interests," said Creedon.

"I realized my love for photography when I developed my very first roll of black and white film in my college dark room – photographs I took while sailing in Martha's Vineyard. Everything is digital now, but I'll be forever grateful to have learned the old-fashioned way in a dark room," she said.

Creedon still continues to photograph and contributes her management skills to her current position. She encourages everyone to visit the Preserve at least once, particularly during a specific time of day – at dawn.

"It feels almost magical as the sun comes up and the fog is still hanging low," she said.

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Rotary's Duck Derby, Y's Healthy Kids Day Draws Crowds

by Robert Kimmel

Hundreds of little rubber ducks floating down Andre Brook in the Rotary Club's annual Duck Derby, and crowds of children participating in the Family YMCA Healthy Kids' Day activities in Tarrytown's Patriot's Park spelled success for the collaborative annual event in late April.

"Overall, it was a huge success and we were so pleased with the turnout," confirmed JoAnne Murray, one of the Rotary Club's organizers of the event.

An estimated 1,300 people showed up for the dual events, according to Barbara Turk, the Y's Vice President for Marketing and Community Development. Healthy Kids Day netted the YMCA about \$8,500 for the Strong Kids Community Impact Fund, Turk said. She explained that about 500 \$10 ride bracelets were bought, permitting children to participate in many of the Y's activities.

Murray said that the Rotary raised \$23,000 from the Duck Derby's hundreds of duck adoptions, and sponsorships and grants. "We are so grateful to everyone that adopted rubber ducks and to our many sponsors and supporters," she added. More than \$3,000 was awarded to those who had adopted winning ducks in the various race heats and Grand Final race.

The Derby this year honored Gerry Barbelet who passed away last year. Barbelet

was a Rotary member, and had been a longtime Tarrytown Treasurer, and president of the Village's Conquerer Hook and Ladder Company #1.

The day's activities were the 10th annual collaborative event staged by the Family YMCA and Rotary Club of the Tarrytowns, and the bright, sunny skies also



Children and adults watched ducks race down Andre Brook, while others enjoyed posing with the large ducks.

—Photos by Rick Pezzullo

brought with them about the warmest weather experienced during the history of the events.

Murray and Rotary Derby co-organizer, Mimi Godwin, appeared in large duck costumes during the day. "While the temperature was a little hot for the costumes," Murray explained, "we survived with the help of the Tarrytown Ambulance Corps members, who ice packed us between

each race, made sure we were hydrated, and came looking for us if we were out in the heat too long."

"It seemed there were more children than ever that wanted pictures with us, but maybe it felt like that because we were so warm in the costumes," Murray said. "We didn't want to disappoint any children but, at the same time, we needed to get back to the ambulance to cool down."

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