White Plains Council Rejects FASNY Request, Lawsuit Anticipated

By Pat Casey

The “Yes” votes outweighed the “No” votes (4 to 3) on the French American School of New York’s (FASNY) request to close a portion of Hathaway Lane, but the closure of a public street and its removal from the White Plains city map requires a super majority (5 to 2) according to the city charter, and the legislation was not adopted at a Special Meeting of the Common Council Wednesday evening.

In a communication sent out after the vote and as expressed by neighbors and on Facebook, the Gedney Neighborhood Association is calling the vote a victory over FASNY.

The partial closure of Hathaway Lane and the turning over of the closed portion of the roadway to FASNY, a private institution, was an unprecedented request in White Plains.

The road closure was also key to the successful operation of a traffic management plan and the proposed Site Plan put before the White Plains Council.

Without the road closure, the Site Plan as submitted could not fly.

“Hopefully, this should finally put an end to the FASNY saga that has dragged on for almost five years. We thank everyone who contributed to the effort to reject the FASNY application including our neighborhood, the surrounding neighborhoods as well as residents across the City. We also thank the numerous municipal Boards, especially the School Board, for their invaluable input regarding the potentially devastating FASNY plan,” the message continued.

The Gedney Association release also said: “Should FASNY regretfully decide to take action against the City we believe the continued on page 3

Greenburgh Summer Interns Promote Zero Waste

In its seventh year, the Greenburgh Town Hall Summer Internship Program partnered with the Greenburgh Nature Center to engage students in a unique initiative, encouraging residents to source separate — separating food waste from trash, Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner reported in an email promoting the town’s summer internship programs.

Over the course of the eight-week program, students prepared signage designed to inform and educate the public about appropriate source separation, while demonstrating the practice for the public at special events at the Anthony Veteran Park pool and the Theodore D. Young Community Center’s Summer Camp program held on the Westchester Community College Campus, Feiner said.

The Town Supervisor’s report continued: The environmental and monetary benefits of source separation are numerous and significant. On the Initiatives trip to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Yonkers, the interns learned that every recyclable item in the materials stream possesses revenue per ton of recycled material sold back onto the market. For example, a ton of recycled glass is often represented as an egg, representing power – held carefully.

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Westchester Water Ways Identified for State Revitalization Funds

By Sarah Bonanno

Earlier this week, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed four bipartisan bills, which designate the Saw Mill River, the Bronx River, Pocantico River, Campfire Lake, Echo Lake, and Peach Lake as Inland Waterways, a status that gives local officials access to funding from the state Waterfront Revitalization Program.

Standing in front of the Kensico Dam last Wednesday, bill sponsors State Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-White Plains) and State Senator Terrance Murphy (R-Yorktown Heights) each spoke about the bills’ importance for both Westchester County and the various watersheds in New York State, including the Hudson River and Long Island Sound.

“The passage of these bills into law is an important achievement towards enhancing the overall quality of the environment in Westchester County and making sure these vital lakes and rivers are protected,” Buchwald said.

The state Waterfront Revitalization program is funded through the $177 million Environmental Protection Fund of New York State and its projects include water quality improvement, recreational use, clean transportation, flood prevention measures, and redevelopment of hamlets, continued on page 2
Westchester Water Ways Identified for State Revitalization Funds

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downtowns, and urban waterfronts. “We can be excited [because] if you care about the Hudson River, you have to care about the Saw Mill and Pocantico Rivers, tributaries to the Hudson,” Buchwald said. “If you care about Long Island Sound, then you need the Bronx River to be as clean as possible, because it flows through the Bronx and out into the Sound. That is what this accomplishment represents, making sure that these rivers are eligible for funding so that they can be cleaned up, enhanced, [and] improved.”

Called a true bipartisan effort by Buchwald, Murphy, and other county legislators, the bills passed the state Senate unanimously in a 62-0 vote. “We were all in to do the right thing for our community,” Murphy said.

State Assemblyman and former member of the County Board of Legislatures Thomas Abinanti (D-Greenburgh) applauded the state, county, and local governments for working together to ensure the passing of the bills. In particular, Abinanti cited communities pleading for help at the local level to combat flooding. “We stand in the shadow of this tremendous dam, which indicates that man has always understood the importance of water, and when properly channeled, ground water, rain water, streams, and rivers that are the life-blood of our community,” Abinanti said. “But when they burst out of their channels they are a major destructive force. Without water, civilization is withering. Too much water… and we have everything that we built wiped-out.”

Now that the bills have been signed into law, it is up to the county and local governments to take advantage of the funding available to them, Buchwald said. “In many respects, this accomplishment today represents a passing of the baton,” Buchwald explained. “We at the state level have now enacted legislation that empowers local governments to apply for state funds and it is those local governments that now will pick up the mantel of making sure we have improvements to our waterways in Westchester County.”

County Legislators Mary Jane Shimsky (D-Greenburgh) and Bernice Spreckman (R-Yonkers) both co-chair the Bronx River Advisory Board (BRAB) and the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board (SWAB). These two inter-municipal task forces take part in establishing inland waterway legislation.

Like Abinanti, Shimsky cited the recent increase of flooding in Westchester due to both infrastructure development and climate change as a critical problem. According to Spreckman, money from Waterfront Revitalization Program will in part be used to alleviate and mitigate flooding. “We have to deal with all of them [the flooding] to make sure our people and our economies can function properly and, as a result of that, we need all the help we can get,” she said. “We now have another tool, another resource for our local communities to begin to solve our many faceted problems.”

On the other hand, when the interns visited the Wheel to Energy facility at Charles Point in Peekskill, they learned how the materials that are not recycled in Westchester County are instead burned in a 62,500 sq. ft. boiler at over 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Feiner noted in his email that through the incineration of approximately 2,050 tons of “trash” waste per day, the facility generates 60 megawatts of electricity annually, enough to power 60,000 households. In addition, the steam created in the boiler is sold to the facility’s neighbor, White Plains Linen, to clean a large percentage of the restaurant linens in the county.

However, according to the facility’s manager, wet food waste has a low BTU and its presence in the boilers slows down the burning process of the entire facility. If food waste were to be removed through the implementation of curbside food waste pick-up, the efficiency and productivity of the Waste to Energy facility would increase overall.

Greenburgh Summer Interns Promote Zero Waste

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aluminum, the most valuable recyclable material, sells for a net profit of $1,400 per ton. A ton of corrugated cardboard sells for a net profit of approximately $600 per ton. In total, the MRF facility, which manages the recycled co-mingles (plastic, glass and metal) and paper recycling of 36 municipalities within Westchester County, including Greenburgh, generates an annual profit of $5 million.

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Greenburgh Music Teacher Makes Comeback with Solo Albums CD Release

By Pat Casey

Bobby Lance, a Tarrytown native and Greenburgh Middle School music teacher, has recently had two solo albums rereleased by Real Gone Music as a one disc double album entitled “First Peace/Rollin’ Man.”

Lance, a singer and songwriter, is best known for writing Aretha Franklin’s hit “The House That Jack Built” with his sister and partner Fran Robins. The song made it to the Top 10 on both the pop and R&B charts in 1968. That hit gave Lance the opportunity to record his own solo album with Atlantic Records in 1971.

Originally from Brooklyn, Lance’s music has a soulful, Southern blues and rock sound. He feels the new album will give his music a second chance with songs now to be heard by a new audience. The “First Peace/Rollin’ Man” disc has two albums that were never really heard, even though they had big names in and behind them.

A review of the new CD by online music magazine Rebeat says the content features a lineup of musicians familiar to anyone who’s studied the liner notes of the Atlantic Record label’s classic soul albums of the era. The Swampers, house band for Muscle Shoals sound Studios, serves as Lance’s core group, while legendary saxophonist King Curtis leads the horn section, and the gospel group the Sweet Inspirations provides the backing vocals. Lance, for his part, leads with a gutsy, Southern-inflected voice of surprising range and intensity, well suited for the soulful ballads and bluesy rockers comprising the album, the review said.

The review also notes that “More Than Enough Rain” is by far the best-known song on either of Lance’s LPs, due to the rumor that Duane Allman plays slide guitar on the track. “Bill Kopp’s liner notes for this reissue presents it as fact, but it’s apparently still a source of debate for avid Allman Brothers fans,” the article states.

Both “First Peace” and “Rollin Man” did not do well when they were originally released because of a legal battle between Atlantic Records and Motown Records that resulted in a lack of exposure for the albums and limited copies being released. According to Rebeat, at some point before the release of “First Peace” Lance had also managed to sign a songwriting contract with Motown Records. The legal wrangling between the two labels resulted in a decision that they would split the profits of Lance’s albums. The result was that Atlantic had little interest in promoting a record in which it had only a limited financial stake. “Rollin’ Man,” released the following year, is far more stripped down, probably due to budgetary restrictions.

Lance eventually went back to school and started a career in education. For the last 14 years he has been teaching music in Greenburgh. As Choral Director he has written many of the songs performed by his students.

Lance says that the rerelease of his albums has, “rekindled the fire to go out and perform, which I had always loved to do.” Currently, Lance is writing, arranging and recording with his son Mitch, who has his own band called Freelance.

White Plains Council Rejects FASNY Request, Lawsuit Anticipated

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City will prevail as it gave FASNY every opportunity to show how their plan was feasible. For our part we will continue to monitor the situation and any other alternative development proposed by a new owner.

However, within an hour after the negative vote, FASNY had released a statement confirming its intention to pursue litigation.

“We are deeply disappointed and disturbed by the outcome of tonight’s vote by the White Plains Common Council. While the Majority on the Council understood that the plan for our school and publicly accessible Open Space Conservancy meets all environmental and legal criteria and has been fully and thoroughly vetted, others sided with a group of neighborhood opponents and rejected the plan. This is the same group of opponents who fought the City when it sought to purchase the property for a municipal golf course and pool, “ the statement confirmed its intention to pursue litigation.

Our legal team is reviewing the decision to determine the next steps. Essentially, FASNY’s request to develop a K-12 regional school in the Gedney Neighborhood on the site of the former Ridgeway Country Club was denied. Legal action by FASNY against White Plains, would most likely result with a judge making the final decision about whether or not FASNY can go ahead with its plans and how many of the concessions the institution gave to the city during negotiations would be kept.

Councilwoman Beth Smyada was the first to comment, saying she would vote in favor of closing Hathaway Lane because FASNY had met and exceeded requirements set by adopted environmental findings in December 2013.

Councilwoman Nadine Hunt-Robinson, surprising many people in attendance, said she would vote “No” because she understood the decision to be a super majority to deny the FASNY Site Plan as proposed. Essentially, FASNY’s request to develop a K-12 regional school in the Gedney Neighborhood on the site of the former Ridgeway Country Club was denied. Legal action by FASNY against White Plains, would most likely result with a judge making the final decision about whether or not FASNY can go ahead with its plans and how many of the concessions the institution gave to the city during negotiations would be kept.

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Mayor Roach voted “Yes” because he said considering the law, it was the best thing to do in his opinion. Acknowledging that there would not be a super majority to approve the street closing, Roach said that the city’s administration would defend the interests of the city should it be sued.
Greenburgh Assemblyman Calls Kentucky Police Action Sanctioned Child Abuse

Following the release of a video purportedly showing a Kentucky school resource officer handcuffing and mistreating an eight-year-old student with disabilities, New York State Assemblyman Tom Abinanti (D-Greenburgh) is urging the state to take action to prevent a similar incident from happening in New York.

“This is appalling - it is officially sanctioned child abuse,” said Abinanti, a known advocate for protecting people with special needs. “This was false imprisonment based on a child's involuntary actions caused by the child's disability. It never should have happened,” he said in a media statement released Friday.

The video, originally recorded in the fall of 2014, raises serious issues concerning law enforcement's ability to identify an individual with disabilities and implement appropriate strategies to de-escalate the situation.

“We need police officers who are well trained in assessing the real nature of a situation, in recognizing signs of developmental disabilities or mental illness and in employing de-escalation techniques,” Abinanti said.

In response to the video, Abinanti sent a letter to State Police Superintendent Joseph D’Amico and State Division of Criminal Justice Services Executive Deputy Commissioner Michael C. Green requesting they conduct a review of their respective procedures and protocols regarding law enforcement interactions with people with disabilities.

“Unfortunately, situations like this are not uncommon in New York and throughout the country - and are often unreported,” Abinanti said in the letters. “We need to ensure what happened in Kentucky is not the norm New York.”
‘Celebrate Youth’ Rally Announces Formation of a New County Youth Initiative

Over 150 young people, parents, and youth program staff gathered on the plaza in front of the Westchester County Courthouse last week to highlight the potential of local young people and salute community-based youth programs.

Co-sponsored by Westchester Children’s Association (WCA) and the Campaign for Kids, the rally was organized to acknowledge the important role played by County-supported community youth programs, which provide positive development opportunities to young people, complementing the education and activities provided by families, schools, and faith-based organizations that are already very active in the community.

Deputy County Executive Kevin Plunkett joined Cora Greenberg, executive director of WCA and chair of the Campaign for Kids, in announcing the formation of a new Youth Services Planning Group, which will review, evaluate, and make recommendations to improve the process of assessing the needs of youth in the county by setting funding priorities and awarding contracts.

“The new planning process will help Westchester County allocate tax dollars to effective, high-quality programs that meet the greatest needs of our county’s young people,” said Plunkett, addressing the crowd.

It is expected that the planning group will convene for the first time in the fall.

Westchester Children’s Association and Campaign for Kids support all types of initiatives to enhance the lives of youth in Westchester County.
PAW Volunteers Seek Help in Keeping Legacy Dogs Safe and Happy

The Board of Pets Alive ambushed the volunteers and staff at its Westchester location in Elmsford a couple of weeks back stating that they will close the Westchester location due to financial problems and unsafe building conditions. Neither of these issues was made known before the decision was made to close. There have been no answers to many questions asked by staff and volunteers. There has been no transparency on any level.

At this point our “legacy dogs” (which are quirkv, have certain issues with people, other animals, and food etc.) are being relocated. We feel this is a terrible mistake.

The Board said if something works out as far as negotiations with other rescues, and they accept our legacy dogs, they would return them. Many of us fear this will not happen.

We need more time to get things in order.

The Board has decided what’s best for all, with no regard for the advice of dedicated staff and senior volunteers, who know these animals and have worked with them for years. Their efforts have been to make these animals more acceptable all around in hopes of perhaps one day getting them a forever home.

If these dogs are moved to a “foreign” environment, where their advocates cannot tend to them on a daily basis (some volunteers spend almost every day at the shelter with them), we feel this will be detrimental to their being adopted, or perhaps some of them might not survive.

The conditions at the Pets Alive facility in Middletown are not as ideal as what we have at PAW.

The moving has already begun. There are many unanswered questions. We need to be the voices for those who have none. Without a no kill shelter and sanctuary in Westchester, with or without the Pets Alive establishment, many animal lives will unnecessarily be lost.

–Kelly Ferguson, Pets Alive Westchester Volunteer

Free Rabies Clinic Aug. 22 at SPCA of Westchester

Westchester County residents can bring their dogs, cats and ferrets for free rabies vaccinations on Saturday, Aug. 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the SPCA of Westchester located at 590 N. State Rd. in Briarcliff Manor. Appointments are required.

Cats and ferrets must be in carriers and dogs must be on a leash. Aggressive dogs must be muzzled. No examinations will be given and all pets must be supervised by an adult.

Under New York State law, dogs and cats must receive their first rabies vaccine no later than four months after birth. A second rabies shot must be given within one year of the first vaccine, with additional booster shots given every one or three years after that, depending on the vaccine used. Owners who fail to get their pets vaccinated and keep the vaccinations up to date may be fined up to $2,000.

Rabies is a fatal disease that is spread through the bite or saliva of infected animals. Those animals most commonly infected are raccoons, skunks, bats and foxes. However, domestic animals such as cats and dogs are also at risk because they can easily contract rabies from wild or stray animals.

A pet that is up to date with its rabies vaccinations would only need to get a booster dose of vaccine within five days of the pet’s exposure to a known or suspect rabid animal. Animals not up to date with rabies vaccinations would need to be quarantined or potentially euthanized following contact with a rabid or suspect rabid animal.

A change in an animal’s behavior is often the first sign of rabies. A rabid animal may become either abnormally aggressive or unusually tame. It may lose fear of people and become docile or it may become particularly excited and irritable. Staggering, spitting and frothing at the mouth are sometimes noted in infected animals. Adults should encourage children to avoid touching unfamiliar animals and to immediately tell an adult if they have been bitten or scratched by an animal.

All animal bites or contact with animals suspected of having rabies must be reported to the Westchester County Health Department, available 24 hours a day, at 914-813-5000. After hours, callers should follow instructions in the recorded message for reporting public health emergencies. Call 914-941-2896 ext. 10 to schedule an appointment.

County Opens Immunization Clinics in White Plains by Appointment

To help families prepare for a new school year, the Westchester County Health Department will offer free immunizations to children who are uninsured or whose insurance doesn’t cover vaccines.

The vaccines will be available by appointment on a first-come, first-served basis on Fridays in August and September at health department clinics in White Plains and Yonkers.

During the clinics New York State Health Navigators will be on hand to help parents and guardians sign their children up for health insurance. Families without a regular doctor also will receive information about where to go for ongoing pediatric primary care.

To schedule an appointment for school vaccines at the health department clinic in White Plains at 134 Court Street, call 914-995-5800. The dates are Friday, Aug. 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday, Sept. 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Westchester County Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, emphasized the importance of measles vaccination. “Immunizing your children on time against vaccine-preventable diseases like measles is critical,” she said. Since January, 178 people of all ages have been diagnosed with measles nationwide, and a woman in Washington State died of this disease on July 2, the first measles-related death in 12 years.

Measles is highly contagious even before the rash starts and is easily spread when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes. If you’re not protected, you can get measles just by walking into a room where someone with the disease has been in the past couple of hours.

Children should be vaccinated with two doses of MMR vaccine, with the first dose between 12 and 15 months and the second at four-to-six years. Adults born after 1956 should have at least one measles vaccination; some people need two.

Regulations for school admissions require schools to more closely scrutinize children’s immunization records and could result in a child not being allowed to start or continue in school if immunizations are not current. These updated regulations provide increased protection against illnesses like whooping cough that have been reported in school aged children in Westchester, as well as measles and mumps, which have had recent outbreaks.

Letters Policy

We invite readers to share their thoughts by sending letters to the editor. Please limit comments to 250 words. We will do our best to print all letters, but are limited by space constraints. Letters are subject to editing and may be withheld from publication on the discretion of the editor. Please refrain from personal attacks. Email letters to pcasey@theexaminernews.com. The White Plains Examiner requires that all letter writers provide their name, address and contact information.
The club is a Rye City owned non-equity membership club.

The defendant accomplished this larceny by setting up and effectively controlling a staffing company called RM Staffing for the purposes of billing the City of Rye for services provided to the Club. The defendant submitted false bi-weekly invoices on RM Staffing stationary listing individual(s) who were falsely described as working in “Administration,” “Restaurant” and/or "Operations" at the Club, when in fact no such person(s) worked for the Club. In total, these fraudulent invoices were submitted during a span of over one hundred pay periods and the City of Rye paid out approximately $271,120 to RM Staffing for these fictional services. After RM Staffing received these stolen monies, said stolen monies were ultimately transferred back to the defendant, who used said funds for his own personal use.

The Rye Police Department became aware of financial irregularities, hired outside counsel who further investigated and forwarded those findings to the District Attorneys office.

Greenburgh Police Department
Swatting

Shortly after midnight on July 27, police responded to a call from a party in White Plains who reported he had shot his girlfriend. Upon arrival, units set up an outer perimeter around the premises. There was one-second floor light that was visible. A police vehicle was positioned at the edge of the property to illuminate the scene while officers communicated with the owner of the residence over the PA system to come to the front door. After several repeated orders, no one came to the front of the premises. Officers approached the front door and knocked on the door. Three parties came to the door and were placed in handcuffs for officer safety. One of the parties reported negative problems in the house and advised officers that she had three other children in the house that were asleep. Officers conducted an interior premise check and there were negative problems. Upon interviewing the 15-year-old son, he reported that he had been playing a computer game called “Counterstrike: Global Offensive” for the past hour and a half. He also said that while he was playing the game, he was also live-streaming his game play through the website stream.me/mrwhosnexus, and that he had approximately 20 viewers on his web stream and that he did not know how many other players were in the game with him, but they were communicating via a chat room and their headsets. He did not know any of the other people that were playing the game with him. The call came in third party to the White Plains Police Department and could not be traced.

Property Matters. On the morning of July 27, the complainant reports he was traveling east bound on Ardsley Road when he heard a loud crash and saw a cable surrounding his vehicle as he came to a stop. The cable had caused damage to multiple locations on his car. A utility worker was hanging a guide wire across the roadway. He was up in a bucket truck and had one of his two ground crew workers stopping traffic when he heard the traffic guy yell “Whoa, Whoa” as the complainant’s vehicle came quickly down the hill. When the ground crew realized the vehicle was not going to stop they ran for cover, but could not get out of the way in time. No injury was reported at time of incident. The vehicle was freed of the wire and the roadway cleared. The complainant is in contact with the owner of Highpoint Utilities for repairs.
**Boomerang**

**The Shortest Decade**

I guess it's true that time goes by fast when you are having fun. In sincere hindsight it is fair to state that we Baby Boomers undoubtedly agree this was the case for the shortest decade in history. To be historically correct the Woodstock culture did not arrive until the tail end of the sixties.

Looking back on this period with an honest perspective and free from the many myths that have now become accepted history; we can now better understand the social bi polar cultures that clashed during this time. When thinking of the sixties one of the first thoughts that comes to mind is the sexual revolution. It seemed just over night our sexual mores collapsed with the advent of rock music and long hair. We may have forgotten that sexual promiscuity did not start at Woodstock; history has given us far too much credit to us Boomers for our socially transforming powers on sexuality. At best we just eliminated some social taboos and liberalized our views of our sexual mores. Like all my Baby Boomer peers I was not conceived from a virgin birth.

Growing up amidst the pop culture of the day, the media was rife in reporting heathen sex orgies, drug induced parties, hippie communes, and youth living in a new utopian world. My intent is not to deny this, but rather to place it in a truer perspective. Or possibly I missed the entire decade either blinded by my long hair or by working my way through college.

For better or worse, I will leave the final analysis of the following observations to psychologists, social scientists, and academicians. For most of America the social mores were more traditional than reported or believed. Back in the sixties couples were getting married during their early twenties, usually right after college, the average age in 1970 was 22.8 years. This is not to deny that we went through out youthful rights of passage to some varying degree. Growing up came quick as the Woodstock experience came to a humble end. But not the end of a new Baby Boomer political and social ethos, once tossed away like a boomerang in the sixties we always return after hitting our target even up to this day.

Many of the Baby Boom generation were first generation Americans who had to work their way through college; who realized the American Dream does not come without sacrifice. The hard lessons learned by many of us Boomers shaped our social views and conduct. We brought those views with us into the workplace and into government.

In hindsight, Woodstock was not the call to revolution but a call for evolution through social change that is still occurring today. The boomerang always returns. The Baby Boomers never found comfort in passivity especially when dealing with social issues.

David Hume, an 18th century Enlightenment Philosopher, viewed mankind as lazy. Hume wrote, believing that the majority of the world’s evils could be cured if human beings were born a little more industrious: “A range of social forces - even the best of governments will find it easier to rule immature and passive subjects than active citizens.” (Neiman 2014).

This certainly was not the ethos of the Baby Boomers. If we were part of a revolution, it was not so much sparked by Woodstock but post enlightenment thinking.

Kant, also an Enlightenment Philosopher, said: “The real use of reason is to have the ability to form ideas of goodness, truth and beauty to orient our actions.” Kant’s philosophy was of the older moral ecology, known as the “crooked timber”; a tradition that emphasized our own brokenness and need to make changes to straighten ourselves out for the betterment of society.

The sixties were the rebirth of this thinking, as Baby Boomers closely looked at the crooked timbers of our society with a critical eye. This moral ecology placed more of an emphasis on solving the collective “we” problems, while not focusing on the issues of “me.”

Boomers believed they were part of a larger whole.

To place this in perspective, a 1950 Gallop poll of high school seniors asked if they considered themselves to be a very important person; 12 percent said yes. When seniors were asked the same question in 2005, the percentage was 80 percent in the positive. (Brooks 2015).

In closing, the real “generation gap” was not between Baby Boomers and their parents, but between Baby Boomers and subsequent generations who transformed our humble love of the world into self-love.

Dr. Richard Cirulli is a college professor, business consultant, writer, and an Innocent Bystander and critic at large. He can be reached at profcirulli@optonline.net.

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**Obituaries**

**Carolyn Bellom**

Carolyn Anthony Bellom, longtime resident of White Plains, died peacefully on August 7 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Carolyn was born in NYC on June 12, 1927 and grew up in the Bronx.

Carolyn loved music; she had a beautiful singing voice and was a terrific dancer. She was an avid reader and an accomplished bowler. Carolyn is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Loretta Bellom-Wolffman and Paul Wolffman; her son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Bette Bellom, her granddaughter, Angelina Wolffman, and many beloved nieces, nephews, family and friends. She was predeceased by her husband, Charles Bellom, and her sister, Lillian Kessler. Carolyn was charitable, kind and open-minded; she was loved by many and will be deeply missed.

Funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 10 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church in White Plains.

**Daniel Carey**

Daniel M. Carey, a White Plains resident, died August 5 at the age of 81. He was born November 16, 1933 in Manhattan to the late Michael and Margaret Carey. On August 30, 1960 he married his wife Margaret at the Assumption Church in White Plains.

Danny worked for 37 years as a Building Maintenance Mechanic for AT&T in White Plains, retiring in 1999. He was an usher and member of the Men’s Club at St. John the Evangelist Church for many years. He was also an avid Giants fan.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, his children Colleen Brady and Cara Forbes and his sisters Bernadette Brennan and Anne Powers. He was also Poppy to 10 Grandchildren. He is predeceased by a son John Donovan.

**Sandy Farduchi**

Sandy Farduchi, 58 of White Plains, passed away on August 5. She was born in Reggio di Calabria Italy to Rocco & Carmela Teresa (Faraone) Romeo on July 14, 1957. Sandy married Antonio Farduchi on June 25, 1978 at Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church in White Plains. He predeceased her in February 24, 2009.

Sandy is survived by her mother, Carmela Teresa, her children: Giancarlo & Daniela Farduchi, her brother Raymond, sister in law Dawn Recchia, son in law Kareem Rose, uncle Pasquale and Caterina Faraone, Aunts Maria and Angela Faraone, two nieces; Laura Marie and Olivia Anne and nephew Joseph Romeo besides many cousins in Italy, Canada and the USA. She was predeceased by her father Rocco in 2012 and her brother Dominick in 2005. She was a member of the Antonio Meucci Lodge 213. She was loved by her family and friends and will always be remembered by all.
What's Trending in Exterior House Colors? Certainly Not White!

The caller was interested in an historic Sears-Roebuck Catalogue house I have listed in North White Plains, but he wanted to make sure that it was not “purple” as he said it appeared to him online. “If it’s purple, I’m not interested,” he said. “Because to me, purple means death.”

“It’s a very nice blue-grey, and not purple, I can assure you,” I affirmed.

“It sure looks purple in the photograph,” he persisted.

This is not going to be a phone call based on objectivity, I thought, so why not go along with it and give the guy the kind of playful discourse he was obviously seeking. I continued the discussion by pointing out that some people consider purple the color of royalty; and I told him about a celebrated house in my hometown of Yorktown painted totally in shades of purple, which is owned by a retired couple who are very likely indeed.

For years I’ve wanted to get the inside story about the place, but the owners have always declined my request, saying they prefer enjoying their distinctive taste in private.

Again I thought of exterior colors for houses when I noted online a survey done by Sears Weatherbeater Paints that surprisingly revealed that 40 percent of those polled prefer white as an exterior house color. What? How could that be, I pondered, unless the survey were conducted in 1890. Either that, or it was skewed toward the Deep South or the West Coast. Certainly, around here, that couldn’t be the case. I confirmed my hunch with Miracle Home Improvements in Croton-on-Hudson, which specializes in siding with vinyl and fiber cement products. Owner Mary Sniffen told me: “The most popular exterior colors trending for siding now are the deeper browns like a shade called Timber Bark and the grey blues. Very rarely has anyone asked for white. In fact, I can remember only one case in recent memory where white was chosen.”

The same goes for house painting. I called my painter Joe Pascarelli who estimates that he’s painted 25 house exteriors over the past year and not a single homeowner has asked for white. “There are two colors from Benjamin Moore I’ve been recommending lately that my clients really like,” he said. “A lighter color called Brandy Cream is a sort of tan and a deeper color is Charcoal Slate, which I combine with a white trim called Chantilly Lace. It makes a terrific combination.”

The strongest impression this year on outdoor painting overall seems to be blue, chosen in a recent survey by House Beautiful as the favorite color of 29 percent of those polled by the magazine.

Interestingly, 77 percent of the magazine's readers say that they are now painting, have just finished painting or are planning to paint something in the next six months. This makes sense considering that a paint job is the best fixer-upper project for the least amount of money.

The “gurus” of real estate like me recommend thinking one way about exterior house paint if you plan to “stay put” and another way if you plan to market your home for sale. If you want to make a bold statement with a rich, deep color like red or plum, which might be quite daring if you’re in an Arts and Crafts or Victorian house, it is fine to express your individuality to your heart's content. But such a strong statement can thwart your chances at attracting a buyer who may be put off with so personalized a statement.

It is recommended that your color choice be more neutral when it’s time to paint for resale with lighter tones of tan, clay, cream, gray or beige, with shades of white best used on the trim. You can incorporate a splash of color by painting the door a contrasting, deeper tone, like red or deep blue.

Some years ago, I made a proclamation that every front door should be painted red for its feng shui benefits, even going so far as to recommend a particular color, Benjamin Moore Burgundy. Since then, I’ve received the most flattering feedback from readers who have followed my advice. And many times when I am called to list a house and find that its front door has been painted red, I know that I’ve found a true believer like me.

For more information about vinyl or fiber cement siding, ask for Mary Sniffen at Miracle Home Improvement at 914-271-9119. For information about house painting, call Joe Pascarelli at 914-330-3889.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Ravvis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com, and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru and his team to market your home for sale, call 914-522-2076.

An Anecdotal Discussion of Capitalism and the Wine Industry

Much has been written about the one-percenters in America as the polarization of wealth in our nation continues to get wider. However, this division of wealth is not a recent phenomenon. The one-percenters have dominated America's social, financial and economic landscape ever since the days of the Founding Fathers.

As the United States evolved from an agrarian economy to an industrial nation, this polarization continued. As the Robber Barons wielded their clout from the late 19th century through the early 20th century, distinct demographic classes arose, creating opportunities for many at the lower end of the spectrum to become entrepreneurs – all under the thumb of big business.

After World War II, a clearly defined middle class arose and the American Dream was born, affording millions of Americans the opportunity to create their own wealth through business ownership. The entrepreneurs of the late 20th century succeeded as no generation before them.

Today, it seems a new billionaire is created every month, as social media and the internet-of-things create unique opportunities.

This history of wealth creation has permeated many industries as our country emerged as a world economic and political power. From coal mining, to the building of massive production plants, to the pervasiveness of financial instruments, to the never imagined applications of sophisticated technology, the United States remains the dominant economic force in the world.

One industry where this economic surge has taken place and succeeded, is the wine industry. Most likely because there is a lack of structural mass as well as an historically influential temperance subculture, individual wineries and their owners have not garnered the interest of the wealthy, nor enjoyed the successes of other product.

Certainly there are many wealthy patrons of winemaking, but these interests are typically avocational rather than vocational.

Unlike the behemoths created by the entrepreneurial likes of John D. Rockefeller, J.P. Morgan, Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg and Larry Page, wine companies in the 21st century are monopolistic corporate machines, sans warm flesh. Many popular wineries lack the capital and/or scale to compete with the corporate aggregators that control the wine industry.

So it was with interest that I noted the finances of two winemaking operations in recent weeks. Although I have been focusing on the consolidation within the United States wine industry that has taken place over the last 10 years, the polarization within the industry seems to be growing at an accelerated pace.

Joe Wagner built a fledgling wine operation into a major force in just a few short years. Last month he sold his Meiomi brand to Constellations Brands, further solidifying their position in the top three wine companies in the United States. Ironically, the astounding $315 million his brand fetched was just that – a brand name. Meiomi owns no prized vineyards, purchasing their grapes instead. Does this sound like a stereotypical 21st century asset-challenged company? Or just another case of a promising entrepreneur selling out to the rising tide of centralized capitalism?

Sandro Boscaini is the head of Masi Agricola, a famous Italian producer of an eponymous Amarone wine. Seeing an opportunity in today's heady equity markets, last week he seized the opportunity for an initial public offering of his company's stock. As the sixth generation progenitor of his family's business, he decided to monetize a portion of the family's wealth, presumably to continue to grow the tradition and quality of Masi wines. The valuation? Over $160 million. The ownership percentage retained by the Masi family, 80 percent. The funds raised for the benefit of the family's shareholders, of course.

Here is an example of the optimization of a brand name, and the retention of the entrepreneurial spirit and control of the founding family.

Corporate behemoths and wealthy entrepreneurs. They exist in all industries. A few hearty wine souls are pursuing divergent paths to attain their financial dream; capitalism continues to thrive through it all.

Nick Antonaccio is a 40-year Pleasantville resident. For over 20 years he has conducted numerous wine tastings and lectures. He also offers personalized wine tastings and wine travel services. Nick's credo: continuous experimenting results in instinctive behavior. You can reach him at nantonaccio@theexaminernews.com or on Twitter @sharingwine.
Summer Grazing

Here are some dining venues and dishes you should try not to miss this summer.

**Mulino’s of Westchester, 99 Court Street, White Plains; 914-761-1818.** It is a multi-level dining room with flowers and outdoor fountain, which can be seen through a giant picture window. This restaurant has been lavishing itself on a discriminating upscale crowd since 1993 under the careful guidance of proprietor Louis Gigante. Let seasoned general manager ‘Gimmy’ Cavagna and has staff take you through such pleasures as the extraordinary Cold Seafood Platter, loaded with fresh chilled lobster, colossal U5 shrimp, Alaskan King Crab Legs, sweet lump crab meat, east and west coast oysters, littleneck clams, Jonah crab claws, all beautifully decorated and served over crushed ice with three dipping sauces; Black Linguine with Baby Lobster Tails;

Garganelli alla Carbonara, tossed with pancetta, eggs and parmigiano reggiano; Nudino di Vitello Valdostana, stuffed double cut veal chop; Dover Sole pan sautéed and de-boned; and the smooth sautéed and de-boned; and the smooth sautéed veal shank; occasional Roasted Bolognese al Forno; Osso Buco, tender gorgonzola and tomato sauce; Lasagna Bolognese, topped with wild mushrooms, Meatballs and Sausage; great Linguini al Forno, served Northern Italian/ Continental fare. The staff brings years of experience and a European flair to White Plains. Customers enter the multi-section dining room through the inviting bar/lounge with its black industrial ceiling, banquettes and soft lighting. The handsome dining room is split into cozy sections with white tablecloths, colorful deVelleneuve impressionist paintings and warming sconces. Mediterranean clay colored banquettes and chairs complement wooden walls and plush beige curtained windows. There is a seasonal outdoor deck facing North Broadway at the corner of Fisher Ave. Check out such summer specialties as: Pan Fried Calamari with hot cherry peppers, Linguini alla Vongole, a delicious fresh Branzano prepared tableside, classic Veal Parmigiana, grilled Filet Mignon, NY Sirloin Steak, or the Pork Chops. Save room for the house made Tiramisu or Cheesecake. Daily happy hours in the bar/lounge 4 to 7 p.m. www.alexjsbarandgrille.com.

**Sofrito, 175 Main Street, White Plains; 914-428-4740.** There is a signature Latin sushi menu and the hot happy hours and nightlife sizzle. Host-owner J R Morales and his team brought Sofrito up from Manhattan in 2011 and the place has become a must-stop on the Latin-themed dining and nightlife crawl. Try the Seafood Sancocho, Lobster & Corn Quesadilla, Grilled Rib Eye Taquitos, or Wild Mushroom & Spanish Potato Cheese Croquette; classic Mofongo, Pernil and Ropa Vieja; Spaghetti with shrimp or chicken, Broiled Lobster Tail, Cornish Hen a la Plancha, Grilled Filet Mignon with red wine cumin sauce, or Crispy Malanga Crusted Filet of Basa Fish. Save room for a dessert sampler for two or more. Check out the colorful specialty priced cocktails and appetizers at the bustling bar during the happy hours that run all afternoon to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Open seven days a week for lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch. Dancing and live entertainment schedule. Municipal and valet parking. www.sofritowhiteplains.com.

**Encore Bistro, 67 Purchase Street, Rye 914-481-8833; Encore Bistro, 22 Chatsworth Ave., Larchmont 914-833-1661.** Two of my favorite French bistros in Westchester are the original Encore Bistro in Larchmont and the newest Encore in Rye, where they have been marking their first anniversary. Proprietor David Masliah and his team offer such hearty bistro favorites as: a colorful and delicious Tartin de Tomates, Moules Provencales, a fabulous Salade Parienne, along with St. Jacques au buerre blance and Steak.

**The White Plains Examiner**
Saltaire Oyster Bar and Fish House to Open in Port Chester

By Jerry Eimbinder

Saltaire Oyster Bar and Fish House will complete a major renovation and open in late August in Port Chester, owner Leslie “Les” Barnes said during a recent interview. The restaurant is located in the Willet House Building, built by the Westchester Grain Company in 1903. “A building like this is a rare find,” Barnes pointed out.

The menu will change daily, with its offerings determined to a large extent by the seafood purchased at the Fulton Fish Market in Hunts Point each morning before the sun rises. “I speak the language of salty fishmongers and oystermen,” Barnes said. “My father would wake me up at 3 a.m. to go to the fish market.”

“The timing is right to open Saltaire,” added Barnes, 59, who at 22 took over running London Lennie’s, a seafood institution in Rego Park, Queens, founded in 1959 by his father Leonard, an ex-sailor.

Joining the venture is Chef Bobby Will, who has relocated from the New England area to head up the kitchen.

Seafood towers of lobster, shrimp, clams, mussels and crab claws will range in size from Hook (small) to Line (medium) to Sinker (large). The oyster bar will offer a rotating lineup of 10 to 12 in-season oysters.

“Select” special dishes will include fried Point Judith calamari, Palmer Island skate wing, red snapper ceviche (with charred lime, Sorrel Verde, cashew-Yuca purée) and grilled octopus.

Non-seafood items will include rib eye steak and a burger with pickled Portobello. Soup and salads will range from $9 to $12, starters from $10 to $14, entrées typically from $15 to $32, and desserts from $7 to $10.

A New England Lobster Bake, served as a special on Sundays, comes with fingerling potatoes, corn, chorizo-fennel salad, and drawn butter.

Cocktails display vivid creativity and include: The Goose is Loose (aperitif soaked kumquats poached in Sauvignon Blanc, prosecco, and orange bitters) and Saltaire #2 on tap (vodka, cucumber juice, basil, yuzu and the restaurant says “salt air”).

The mixologist is Clinton Terry. Wine director Brad Haskell’s selections represent many parts of the globe with wine by the glass priced from $10 to $18.

The beer program, the responsibility of Teagan Barnes, one of the owner’s four daughters, includes nine brews on tap and a rotating bottle list.

Chef Bobby Will grew up in Ipswich (a coastal town north of Boston), and spent many afternoons searching for clams and mussels along the town’s Cranes Beach, as well as hunting deer and small game. His father was a seafood restaurant operator and while Will was in high school, he took culinary classes.

Following graduation from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, Will spent a year as Sous Chef at Boston’s Tremont 647, and then became Chef de Tournant at Gargoyles on the Square in Somerville, MA. Next, he joined Tryst Restaurant in Beverly, MA in 2008 as Chef de Cuisine and in late 2011, moved to Atlantic Inn and Restaurant in New Shoreham, RI, as Executive Chef. Before coming to his current position, he was Executive Chef at Fathom Restaurant in Bar Harbor, ME. He plays guitar and trumpet and is a new resident of Port Chester.

The interior of the restaurant has exposed brick walls, wood beams and 30-foot ceilings. The dining room walls are decorated with photos of fishermen at sea and antique fishing maps.

The restaurant opens for dinner seven days a week at 4:30 p.m.

Saltaire Oyster Bar and Fish House is located at 55 Abendroth Avenue, Port Chester, 914-939-2425, www.saltaireoysterbar.com.

Little Drunken Chef, a Tapas Eatery and Oyster Bar, Opens in Mount Kisco

By Jerry Eimbinder

Bonnie Saran opened her fifth food venture in Mount Kisco on July 20th. “Little Drunken Chef” is a tapas restaurant and oyster bar. The menu includes chilled and warm tapas, large plates, paella, salads, and international "street vendor" food.

Many street-stall dishes were observed, tasted and studied by Saran while globetrotting through several continents. The localities whose food is represented include London, Istanbul, Korea, Morocco, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam. An expanded menu is planned for early September to include more tapas selections, sliders, and best-selling warm tapas include sautéed Palacio chorizo with fresh figs and thyme in red wine sauce ($7) and gluten-free Jamon and Manchego croquetas in Chipotle sauce ($6.50). Also popular are Moroccan wings ($8), eggplant and pulled pork buns ($6 each), falafel ($9), and lamb Shawarma ($9).

Four of Saran’s businesses are restaurants and one, Little Spice Bazaar, is a grocery with a beverage bar (including juices, smoothies and milkshakes), snacks and shelves full of loose spices, herbs, rice, beans, coffee, tea and specialty products such as health cleanses.

Saran experienced traveling to different places and tasting new food early in her life because her army-career father relocated many times with his family throughout India. She learned about food preparation when she helped her mother who operated a catering business in New Delhi.

Saran earned a degree in finance and marketing at a New Delhi college and embarked on a marketing and promotion career when her early 20s.

In 2002, Saran came to America and had a disappointing meal at a pancake eatery (an IHOP). This prompted her to think about applying her knowledge of food service to the restaurant business.

The name “Little Drunken Chef,” was chosen, Saran said, because many deep-into-the-night planning and brainstorming sessions for the new restaurant were conducted with some alcoholic sustenance.

Saran’s establishments are:

- Little Kabab Station, 31 East Main Street, Mount Kisco (914-242-7000) opened in February 2011.
- Little Spice Bazaar, 27 East Main Street, Mount Kisco (914-218-3333) introduced in February 2012.
- Little Crêpe Street, 29 East Main Street, Mount Kisco (914-242-0200) started in December 2012.
- Little Mumbai Market, 475 Bedford Road, Pleasantville (914-773-0500) opened its doors in September 2014.
- Little Drunken Chef, 36 East Main Street, Mount Kisco (914-242-8800).

Viktor Solariak, a Katonah architect and restaurant designer, is a partner at Little Drunken Chef and Little Crêpe Street.

A DJ entertains at Little Drunken Chef on Thursday through Saturday evenings from 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.
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We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words “Happenings Calendar Submission” in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Pat Casey at pcasey@theexaminernews.com.

Wednesday, Aug. 12
White Plains Outdoor Market. Fresh food and produce from local farmers, plus specialty items; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Court Street between Martine Avenue and Main Street, White Plains

TILI Shed. Take It or Leave It recycling at Gedney Yard, 87 Gedney Way, White Plains; 2 to 4 p.m.

Dancing Under the Stars. Michael Tate 3D Rhythm of Life-Latin Soul; 7 to 9 p.m. at Renaissance Plaza, White Plains


Thursday, Aug. 13

Greenburgh Concerts. If you enjoy listening to jazz, you will love the new urban jazz in the Park Concert series sponsored by the Theodore Young Community Center every Thursday through August 13. Admission is free, great food to purchase. The concerts are held outside - at Yosemite Park located behind the Theodore Young Community Center, 32 Manhattan Ave., Greenburgh. For info call 914-989-3600. Showtime: 7 p.m. Aug 13 - Salomon Hicks.


Saturday, Aug. 15
TILI Shed. Take It or Leave It recycling at Gedney Yard, 87 Gedney Way, White Plains; 9 a.m. to noon.

Teaching Trails: A Community Path for Environmental Education. Join guided trail experience through the woodland forest. Discover who left that track, which tree makes the best animal home or which plant makes its own heat to help melt through the late winter ice. Program runs about 30 minutes. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 11:30 a.m. Free. Every Saturday and Sunday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Clear the Shelters. Part of a national initiative spearheaded by the NBCUniversal-owned television stations division, the event pairs television stations with animal shelters across the country to find new homes for homeless pets. Participating animal shelters and rescue organizations, including Posh Pets Rescue, waive all adoption fees. Petsmart, 369 Tarrytown Rd., Greenburgh. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Potential adopters should fill out an online entry form at www.petspethome.org/applications.

Gem Hunt. Come discover the treasures of the earth as we learn about notable and local gems and crystals. Each participant receives a geode to take home. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. Children five to seven years old at 11 a.m. Eight years old and up at 2 p.m. Members: $8 per person. Non-members: $12 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Absolute Gold. The definitive ABBA experience! The authentic costumes, choreography and completely live stage show reflect the look and sound of ABBA’s live concerts of the 1970s and 80s. These four musical impersonators have captured the appearance, voices and mannerisms of Agnetha, Bjorn, Benny and Anni-Frid. Westchester Broadway Theatre, 1 Broadway Plaza, Elmsford. Dinner at 6:45 p.m. Show at 8:30 p.m. $90 per person (plus tax). Info and tickets: 914-592-2222 or visit www.BroadwayTheatre.com.

Sunday, Aug. 16
41st Annual Jewish Music and Arts Festival. Musical entertainment, Israeli dancing by Camp Zeke, family entertainment including face painting and balloon artistry by Maria and children’s activities with PJ Library. Kosher food will be available for purchase and vendor exhibition will consist of Jewish art and Judaica. Rain or shine. Bring blankets or chairs for seating on the lawn. Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla. 12 to 6 p.m. Free. Info: Contact the Westchester Jewish Council at 914-328-7001 or e-mail Pam@wjcouncil.org or Westchester Parks at 914-864-PARK or visit www.parks.westchestergov.com.

What’s the Buzz With Honeybees? Learn how and why honeybees are critical players in our lives and in the global economy. Includes a tasting of local honey. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 2 p.m. Members: $5 per person. Non-members: $8 per person. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Monday, Aug. 17
Wild Encounters Story Time. Nature discovery for youngsters. Enjoy a nature-themed story and discover the wonders of nature while exploring fields, forests or landscaped grounds. Dress for outdoor activity. Except in extreme weather conditions, a portion of each class is spent outdoors. For children three to five years old; with a parent or caregiver. Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Rd., Scarsdale. 1 to 2 p.m. Members: $9 per child. Non-member: $12 per child. Every Monday. Info: 914-723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

Ongoing Events
Storywalk at Bryant-Mamaroneck Park. Co-sponsored by the White Plains Recreation & Parks Dept. and the White Plains Public Library, an exciting initiative that combines a children’s story with a nature walk through White Plains’ newest park. Children follow the pages of a story as they walk along the path. The stories change every 6-8 weeks. Featured book through Monday August 31 is “Mr. King’s Things” by Genevieve Cote. Mr. King likes new things. When his stuff gets the slightest bit old, he just tosses it into the pond. But when a pond monster frightens Mr. King, he must think of new ways to deal with old messes - with delightful results. Municipal parking available at the Mamaroneck Ave. lot behind Dunkin Donuts.

Summer at Playland. Friday Night Fireworks are back, choreographed to music, beginning at 9:15 p.m. and will run every Friday through September 4. Admission for the fireworks is free for Westchester residents. Special $15 ride admission nights for those entering the park after 5 p.m. will take place every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday through Sept. 3. The price includes unlimited rides until closing. Playland’s summer daily entertainment schedule is in full swing, with the Kiddylan DJ, Katy’s Pop Princess Party, Superhero Power with Coaster the Dragon, and Funky Fairytale: Jack and the Beanstalk, all taking place in the Kiddylan section. Grab a seat in front of the Music Tower Theater stage to watch a lively song-and-dance performance, “New York Days, Broadway Nights!” Show times are posted in the park. Regular admission prices: $30 unlimited rides; $20 Junior (under 48”) - Westchester residents with acceptable proof of residency are eligible for a $5 discount on these prices. Spectator admission (no rides) is free for Westchester County residents and $10 for non-residents.

Season Passes: $95 for unlimited rides all season, with a $15 discount for Westchester residents. Purchase four or more and save 10%; $35 for spectator admission all season (no rides), for non-residents of Westchester County. Parking is $5 weekdays, $7 weekends and $10 on holidays, special events and concert days.

“Points of View From the Circle”. A group photography exhibit featuring an exciting mix of work from the members of RedCircle Photo Arts. The Upstream Gallery, 8 Main St., Hastings-on-Hudson. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Exhibit continues through Aug. 30. Info: 914-674-8548 or visit http://upstreamgallery.com.
By Albert Coqueran

You have to give Michele Kilgallen credit. Kilgallen is the manager, coach and catcher for the newly sponsored Brewskis Softball Team in the White Plains Recreation Women's Softball League.

Brewskis is the former Lazy Boy's Saloon Women's softball team, who won the White Plains Recreation Women's League Playoff Championship last season.

The Lazy Boy's Saloon on Mamaroneck Avenue was sold after last year's softball season. Consequently, the new proprietor did not follow-up and sponsor the Women's Softball team, which left Lazy Boy's Championship team in jeopardy of not being able to defend their Title this season.

Furthermore, last year's Lazy Boy's Women's team Manager and Head Coach stepped down, after having a baby during the offseason, which complicated the problem for the team to rejoin the White Plains Rec. League this year.

Nonetheless, Kilgallen, who is a die-hard softball competitor, took on the responsibility to find a sponsor and manage and coach the team. Through networking with her family and friends, Kilgallen found Brewskis Bar and Restaurant on East Tremont Avenue in the Bronx, willing to sponsor her Championship team.

"Brewskis is a great sponsor; they paid for our shirts, as well as when we go back to the bar after games they give us free food, a meal for the entire team, they have been really amazing," acknowledged Kilgallen.

It is said that "one man's loss is another man's gain." Well the same can be said for softball sponsors in the case of Lazy Boy's transition to Brewskis. The Brewskis Women's Softball Team did not only takeover from where Lazy Boy's left off last season, they stepped it up a notch.

Kilgallen is smiling at this time. After all her work to secure a new sponsor, getting her players to return to the team, while also adding new players and managing the schedule; her newly sponsored Brewskis squad is in First Place in the White Plains Recreation Women's Softball League with a 12-1 record.

In fact, Brewskis has won every game they played on the field of play this season. Their only loss came on a forfeit when a State of Emergency was issued due to a predicted rain storm, which never came to fruition. Under Kilgallen's guidance, her players opted for safety and remained home.

"The one loss is a little regrettable for our record but when it comes to a human standing, I take the priority to make sure that everyone is home safe and take the forfeit," said Kilgallen. "Whether the rains came or not, a State of Emergency is a State of Emergency and in my eyes people

Brewskis are the Queens of the White Plains Recreation Women's Softball League this season. After beating Specs Tators, 8-3, on Thursday, Aug. 6, they remain in first place with a 12-1 record.

who is hitting about .500 this season. Brewskis will not be caught this season, as the former Lazy Boy's Women's Softball team will certainly go into the playoffs as the White Plains Recreation Women's League Regular Season Champions. The only question that remains is whether Healy Electric, Vintage or Emmas will rise to the occasion and challenge Brewskis for that coveted White Plains Recreation Women's Softball League Playoff Championship.

Specs Tators second baseman Victoria Fogil (left) displays her ability to turn-two, as she executes a double-play against Brewskis. However, Fogil's defense was not enough to hold down Brewskis offense, as the former Lazy Boy's team beat Specs Tators, 8-3, on Thursday.

Despite their loss to Riemans Auto Body, 12-5, on Thursday, Aug. 6, at Delfino Park; Dunnes Pub (9-3) is staying in first place, after beating Plus 40, in a seventh inning Mercy Rule finish, 18-7.

However, it cannot be discounted that Dunne's is missing a valuable member of their team and line-up. Dunnes Manager and Pitcher Bill Davis, Jr. missed the game against Riemans on Thursday and will be out for the remainder of the season with a torn labrum.

It will be up to longtime pitcher John Price, who started the Dunne's Pub team with Bill Davis, Sr. over 15 years ago, to pitch Dunne's into the playoffs and possibly win the Men's Thursday Night Playoff Championship. Bill Davis, Sr. who plays first base for Dunne's, will take over as Manager. "We are having a great year but it is just with the rain make-ups that pushed back our season into September with vacations and a lot of our guys being football coaches, it hurts us a little towards the end of the year," said Davis. "But we are ready to play anytime," emphasized the Dunne's leader.

Brewskis Catherine Pasquale keeps her eye on the ball and slams a single against Specs Tators, on Thursday, at Gillie Park. Brewskis went on to beat Specs Tators, 8-3, and remain in first place in the White Plains Recreation Department Women's Softball League.
2015 Elton Brand Youth Day - Brand Announces Retirement from the NBA

By Albert Coqueran

Since 2003, Elton Brand, who is undoubtedly the most prestigious basketball player in Peekskill High School history, returns home each year to conduct fitness and basketball clinics for children during Elton Brand Youth Day. Brand's charitable contributions each year to support the youth in Peekskill and Westchester County was spearheaded by his late mother Daisy Brand, who passed away, on July 1, 2014.

However, Brand and his family did not miss a beat in continuing the legacy of his late mother by making certain that Elton Brand Youth Day went on as scheduled each year at his alma mater Peekskill High School.

On Saturday, Aug. 8, approximately 300 children ranging from ages seven to 15 years old participated in fitness and basketball clinics instructed by Brand, Peekskill High School Athletic Director Lou Panzanaro, members of the Peekskill H.S. Basketball Team and the Peekskill Police Department.

Elton Brand Youth Day is organized by Brand's cousin Joyce Armstrong and her brother Brent Gamble, who have taken over the reigns from Elton's beloved late mother Daisy, to make sure Elton Brand Youth Day still exists to support the youth in his hometown.

"Yeah, I miss Mom. Not seeing her here and being a part of this, it really hurts me. I miss her so much. I know this is her gig, so continuing the legacy and keeping it going just feels good," said Brand.

However, as the children enjoyed and appreciated the contributions of Brand and despite the fact that the NY Knicks contributed T-shirts to Elton Brand Youth Day; the afternoon was even more bittersweet, as after a 16-year career in the NBA, Brand announced his retirement.

"The Knicks are giving out T-shirts," Brand smiled. "I really appreciate that and I have always supported and wished the brand and despite the fact that the NY Knicks were giving out T-shirts, it is bittersweet." stated Brand.

Brand was the NBA's number one Draft Pick in 1999, after playing two years at Duke University, where he was voted the National College Player of the Year. Brand finishes his illustrious NBA career with the Atlanta Hawks, after playing with the Chicago Bulls (1999-2001), LA Clippers (2001-08), Philadelphia 76ers (2008-12) and Dallas Mavericks (2012-'13).

Besides his dear late mother Daisy, who would understand better where Brand came from and the hard work that led to his NBA accomplishments, than his high school coach, the legendary Lou Panzanaro? "It is sad to see his career come to an end. But not many people make 16 years in the NBA and it begins to take a toll on the legs and the body. I am just thankful for the 16 years he did have and if this is the end so be it," commented Panzanaro, who is presently the Red Devils Athletic Director.

Brand was accompanied to Elton Brand Youth Day by his wife Shahara, his son Elton, Jr. and his daughter Mahala. Another Peekskill High School basketball legend Mookie Jones (2008) was a guest speaker. Jones recently graduated after playing for Syracuse University.

As Elton Brand (back row center) spends time with family and friends and conducts a basketball clinic for children during the 2015 Elton Brand Day at Peekskill High School, the crowd called for one more year, as Brand announced his retirement from the NBA, after a 16-year career.

White Plains Little League Teams Setting Local Records

The Junior Division team from White Plains was one of six teams from New York that made it to the State Tournament after going undefeated and winning both the District 20 and Section 3 North Tournaments. They fought a tough battle in the State Tournament and played hard but lost the semi-final game by one run to the team from Massapequa. They finished third in the state. This team is the first Junior division team from White Plains to ever make it to the State Tournament level.

The 11U division team had a similar run. The 11U team from White Plains was one of eight teams from New York that made it to the State Tournament after going undefeated and winning both the District 20 and Section 3 North Tournaments. They fought a tough battle in the State Tournament and played hard but lost the semi-final game by one run to the team from Massapequa. They finished third in the state. This team is the first Junior division team from White Plains to ever make it to the State Tournament level.

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