

Homeowner Sewer Service Contract Announced

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Harrison Mayor/Supervisor Richard Dionisio convened the Thursday, April 20th Board meeting, introducing Attorney Albert J. Pirro, Jr., Esq., Partner, Abrams Fensterman, LLP, representing Pipelogix LMS, Inc.

"You may remember, a few months ago, the Town of Harrison entered into a contract with Pipelogix," Pirro began. "Essentially, Town authorized Westchester Joint Water Works (WJWW) to send notices to residents on sewer service that if they like, for \$14.95 a month on an annual basis, have their entire sewer lateral from their house out to the sewer main inspected, maintained and repaired at no cost to them.

"It is a Service Contract without any 'deducts.' If there is a problem, it is totally repaired. In accordance with that arrangement the Town entered into, WJWW prepared a statement to go out to everybody. The \$14.95 fee would be on their water bill after May with opportunity to 'opt out.'"

Pirro then introduced Elliott Bloom, Pipelogix Vice President of Operations, who said that they immediately will send out notices to 1700 West Har-



Mayor/Supervisor Richard Dionisio

rison homeowners, including form to opt out and extending the time period from May 15th to May 31st.

Then, to much acclaim, Dionisio announced that Comptroller/Treasurer Maureen MacKenzie received the 2023 Woman of Distinction Award. Acknowledging April Volunteer Appreciation Month,

Dionisio also thanked Harrison Food Pantry volunteers. "Through your efforts, every Thursday we are able to provide food to residents in need. We thank you for your dedication and loyalty," Dionisio stated.

Next, a Public Hearing was opened Local Law 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law, pertaining to property owned by an enrolled member of an incorporated fire company, department or incorporated volunteer ambulance service or any such enrolled member and spouse residing in any County having a population to 261,000 inhabitants but less than 270,000 inhabitants in accordance with the 1990 federal census, shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of 10% of the assessed value of such property.

However, such exemption shall not exceed \$3,000 multiplied by the latest state equalization rate.

The measure was approved by Roll Call Vote, carried over to the Village Board Agenda.

Savor Delectable Fare and Show Support for the Public Library



Over 30 Harrison restaurants and merchants are preparing their offerings for a Taste of Harrison scheduled for Sunday, May 7. Library supporters who make a modest donation to the library will receive wristbands enabling them to savor the delectable fare offered by restaurants in downtown Harrison.

"We're very excited to bring back Taste of Harrison for 2023," says Harrison Public Library {HPL} Foundation co-president and event chair Raymond Villani. "It's a fun way to raise money for the Harrison Public Library while drawing attention to the many great restaurants in town."

"It's a family friendly event and a wonderful way to support our library," says Fran Brescia Coniglio, HPL Foundation co-president. "Many thanks to our sponsors, the restaurants, volunteers and residents who come together to make the day a success! All proceeds go to support the Library through the Harrison Public Library Foundation. The Avalon Harrison is the lead sponsor for Taste of Harrison. Also sponsoring are Harrison PBA, DeCicco & Sons and Harrison Meadows Country Club. A cadre of HPLF volunteers makes it all possible.

Taste of Harrison is scheduled from 12 to 3 PM on Sunday, May 7, in downtown Harrison. To join the fun, library supporters purchase wristbands that identify them to the participating restaurants.

Buy tickets in advance and save. Wristbands can be ordered online at www.TOH2023.com or at the downtown Halperin Library. Wristbands can be picked up at the HPLF information table at the Avalon Courtyard.

Plenty of parking is available at the new parking garages on Halstead Avenue.

For more information or to volunteer to help at the event, email harrisonlibraryfoundation@gmail.com.

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HOULIHAN LAWRENCE

Source: OKMLS, 2020, 2021, 2022, individual years, total dollar volume of single family homes sold by agent, Harrison School District.

Broadview's New Director of Food and Beverage is Top Chef

Broadview at Purchase has hired Stephen V. Mandracchia, a chef who has worked in some of the most prestigious clubs, hotels and restaurants, as its new Director of Food and Beverage.

The Mamaroneck native, who started his career in the family's commercial seafood business, has more than 25 years of experience as an executive chef and director of food and beverage.

"We are excited to welcome Chef Stephen Mandracchia to Broadview at Purchase where our residents will enjoy his culinary talents," said Purchase at Broadview Executive Director Ashley Wade. "Stephen is an amazing chef who has worked in some of the top kitchens. We are very lucky to have him."

Broadview at Purchase is a university-based retirement community on the campus of the State University of New York at Purchase. Scheduled to open in the fall, Broadview at Purchase champions intergenerational connections and lifelong learning.

Located on a 40-acre site on campus with walking and exercise trails, Broadview will offer a wealth of amenities, including a swimming pool, fitness center, movie theatre, spa and salon, dining venues, and on-site health center, among other features. Mandracchia's expertise is reflective of the experience Broadview residents will receive.



Stephen V. Mandracchia

Introduced at an early age to some extraordinary chefs including the late Anthony Bourdain, Mandracchia said his passion for food, hospitality, and service led him to work at The Mayflower and Watergate Hotels in Washington DC, where he apprenticed under Chefs Agostino Buggio and the Late Chef Jean Louis Paladin.

Upon returning to New York, he became known for his progressive cuisine and business acumen. He was granted membership to the prestigious formal French culinary societies Les amis D' Escoffier and La chaine de Rotisseurs. There he was also ranked

as one of the top 25 Ice Sculptors and Food Artists in America. He has appeared on The Apprentice, Good Day New York and Good Morning America and has been featured in numerous culinary and print media. He is a recipient of three *NY Times* stars, The Star Diamond Award from the American Academy of Hospitality Sciences, and Michelin Designation.

Broadview is being co-developed by Senior Care Development, LLC and LCS Development, LLC, and will be operated by Life Care Services®. LCS has over 50 years of senior living and housing experience and manages over 140 senior living communities nationwide.

For more information about the College, visit www.purchase.edu.

Pavement Improvement and Bridge Rehabilitation Project on I-95

Governor Kathy Hochul has announced the start of a \$61.8 million pavement improvement project on a four-mile stretch of the New England Thruway I-95 in the Bronx and Westchester County. The majority of the work will take place in the Bronx and includes the rehabilitation of 11 bridges and the replacement of the superstructures - concrete decks and steel beams - of two pedestrian bridges. Approximately 120,000 vehicles use this heavily traveled corridor each day.

"New York State is committed to rehabilitating aging infrastructure in communities that have gone overlooked for far too long," Governor Hochul said. "This project will make critical safety improvements to I-95 in the Bronx and Westchester County and provide not only a safer driving experience for the millions of New Yorkers who drive on the highway every year, but also modernize the state's transportation infrastructure."

The I-95 project will begin with full-depth pavement repairs, meaning crews will remove and replace the most deteriorated portions on a four-mile stretch of roadway (milepost 0 to 4.0), down to its subbase in both the northbound and southbound direction. Covering more than 24 total lane miles, the repairs will improve the roadway's structural integrity. After the concrete pavement



Assemblymember Amy Paulin

is repaired, a two-course asphalt overlay will be installed to provide a smoother ride for motorists.

Paving operations and the majority of work will take place overnight to reduce impacts to motorists.

The other major component of the project is extensive bridge work. Crews will rehabilitate 10 vehicular bridges/ramps and one pedestrian bridge and remove and replace the superstructure on two pedestrian bridges over I-95 in the Bronx (one at 222nd Street and another at Dyre Avenue). Each bridge superstructure replacement will occur over

a 48-hour period on a weekend with free shuttle bus service provided during the closures. Those dates and further details will be announced at a later date.


In addition, safety improvements will include new guiderail, additional reflective line striping and upgrades to concrete barriers and curbs. All work is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

Restani Construction Corp., of Queens, N.Y., is the project contractor following a competitive bidding process.

Thruway Authority Interim Executive Director Frank G. Hoare said, "Interstate 95 is a vital continued on page 4

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May Calendar



On May 7, A Taste of Harrison will be happening in the Town to benefit The Harrison Public Library from 12-3pm, as participants enjoy samples from dozens of Harrison restaurants and shops. Tickets are available at the Information Booth at Avalon Plaza, 338 Halstead Avenue, Harrison or go to harrisonpl.org/taste-of-harrison for tickets. Call 914-835-0324 for details. Tickets are \$35 adults and \$15 above 5 years old. Kids under 5, free.

On May 6, from 11am-1pm, the Women's Club of Larchmont, Inc., will collect food for Hope Food Pantry at Larchmont Avenue Church, Larchmont and Forest Avenues. Needed items include cereals, rice, snacks, drinks, diapers in large size, cookies and candies. Checks accepted made payable to Women's Club of Larchmont.

On May 20, The Village of Mamaroneck announces the Grand Opening of the Harbor Island Dog Park.

Friends of Larchmont Parks will sponsor Franklin Shire for Yoga in Constitution Park, Larchmont, at 11am on Fridays through June 30.

Purchase College Commencement Will Honor Author Edwidge Danticat and Arts

Purchase College, SUNY will hold its 51st annual commencement ceremony on Friday, May 12, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. at the Westchester County Center in White Plains. Degrees will be conferred upon nearly 800 graduating scholars representing dozens of majors and several countries.

This year, acclaimed author and poet Edwidge Danticat will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree and award-winning producer, director, and arts activist Gina Belafonte '83 (acting) will receive the President's Award for Distinguished Alumni.

Frankie Kadir Bademci-Vaughan, a New Media and Theatre and Performance graduate will offer remarks on behalf of the senior class. Oliver Zerouali, a Vocal Performance major from the Conservatory of Music, will perform the National Anthem. Top Shelf Party Band, which is comprised of alumni from 2003 to 2009, will perform throughout the ceremony as well.

President Milagros "Milly" Peña said, "I look forward to honoring our students, who have achieved remarkable academic and artistic success in this very challenging time. I have no doubt that the intellectual curiosity, creativity, adaptability, flexibility, and resilience that they have shown during their academic careers will serve them well upon graduation and throughout their



Gina Belafonte

lives.

We are also pleased to welcome our honorary degree and distinguished alumni award recipients, for what I am sure will be a truly inspiring day for students and their families."

Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Edwidge Danticat is the author of many books, including *Breath, Eyes, Memory* (1994), an Oprah Book Club selection, *Krik? Krak!* (1996), a finalist for the National Book Award; and *Everything Inside*, named the best book of 2019 by NPR, Time, and BuzzFeed.

Her 2007 memoir, *Brother, I'm Dying*, was a finalist for the National Book Award and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Autobiography. Her many recognitions include a MacArthur Fellowship, honorary degrees from Smith College, Yale University, and the University of the West Indies Open Campus, and the 2017 Neustadt International Prize for Literature.

During the 2019-20 academic year, Ms. Danticat was honored with the Durst Distinguished Chair for Literature at Purchase College.

Social justice leader, change maker, and activist Gina Belafonte has spent her life at the intersection of arts and activism. As Co-Founder and Executive Director of Sankofa, she embodies her father Harry Belafonte's work to educate, motivate, and activate artists and allies in service of

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St. Vincent's Hospital to Hold Spring Sprint

St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester, a division of the Saint Joseph's Medical Center, will hold its Annual Spring Sprint Run/Walk for Mental Health on Saturday, May 13. Hosted by the St. Vincent's Hospital Auxiliary, the event start will start at 9:00 am at the St. Vincent's Harrison campus. Check-in starts at 8:00 am. Participation fee is \$35. The event supports mental health and addiction recovery services at St. Vincent's.

St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester division of Saint Joseph's Medical Center offers inpatient and outpatient mental health and addiction treatment services at its campus in Harrison and at off-site locations in White Plains, Tuckahoe, and

Port Chester. St. Vincent's also provides mobile crisis services for Westchester County, manages residential services for more than 1,200 individuals in Westchester County and New York City and operates three opioid treatment centers in New York City.

To register visit https://www.saintjosephs.org/docs/default-source/events/registration-formb3a1403bdecf4478ac25fe4b361c4a37.pdf?sfvrsn=936e0474_0

Sponsorship opportunities are available. https://www.saintjosephs.org/docs/default-source/events/2023-sponsorships-and-registration-form.pdf?sfvrsn=cbbbo803_0

Westchester DA Cracks Down on Recent Robberies and Burglaries

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah has announced a crackdown on burglaries and robberies across Westchester County

highlighting a string of felony charges for defendants arrested in connection with recent alleged break-ins and theft at homes and local businesses.

"Ensuring residents feel safe at home or when doing business in Westchester is an important priority for the DA's Office. The latest indictments and charges for recent incidents across Westchester should send a strong message that my Office and the 42 police departments we work with on a daily basis across this county remain committed to protecting Westchester residents and businesses," DA Rocah said.

The following case of interest note indictments and arraignments of defendants between January 1 to April 12 of 2023 charged with felonies connected to home or business burglaries and robberies:



DA Mimi Rocah

Harrison and North Castle police arrested four men, Oscar Dario Nino Franco, 42, Andres Felipe Albarracin Rodriguez, 34, and Jonathan Alejandro Cogua Osuna, 40, on March 10 and Javier Nino-Franco, 44, on March 28, for allegedly using force to enter a North Castle home and stealing approximately \$4,000 in coins. Franco, Rodriguez and Osuna were arraigned on March 10 and Nino-Franco on March 28 in North Castle Justice Court on the felony charge of Burglary in the Second Degree. Bail was set for all four defendants at \$100,000 cash/\$250,000 bond/\$500,000 partially-secured bond; after a review by a Westchester County Court judge the bail was increased for Nino-Franco to \$200,000 cash/\$500,000 bond/\$1 million partially-secured bond.

Charges against the defendants are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Pavement Improvement and Bridge Rehabilitation Project on I-95

continued from page 3

link for residents and commerce between New York City and New England, and rehabilitating this section will bring long-term improvements, improve community connections, and enhance the driving surface for the more than 40 million passenger and commercial vehicles who travel the corridor each year. This project is another example of strategically investing our toll revenue to meet the evolving needs of motorists and commerce across the tri-state region."

Assemblymember Amy Paulin said, "The I-95 pavement improvement project, which goes through my district in New Rochelle and Pelham and includes on and off ramps which badly need repair, is welcome news for the thousands of residents who rely on I-95 each day. I will continue

to advocate for state infrastructure improvement projects like this which help residents and support our economy."

Motorists may encounter lane closures on the New England Thruway along with traffic shifts and stoppages while construction is underway. Motorists should follow the posted work zone speed limits and are reminded that fines are doubled for speeding in a work zone. In accordance with the Work Zone Safety Act of 2005, convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual's driver license.

The Authority's approved 2023 Budget invests a total of \$413 million to support its Capital Program, which is scheduled to invest \$1.9 billion into capital projects through 2027.

Purchase Free Library May Events and More

The Purchase Free Library has announced their May schedule starting with a Knitting Circle on the second and fourth Thursday of every month, May 11 and 25 at 12:00 pm. Beginners and experienced knitters are welcome. A possible spring project might include knitting for charity. In person for adults.

A Meditation and Women's Well-Being program will take place on Saturday, May 13 at 1:00 pm. The importance of women's mental health

and well-being through meditation will be the focus of the hour. In person for adults.

The Real Book Club will convene on Thursday, May 25 at 6:00 pm. The selection for May is *Hello, Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano. An exquisite homage to Louisa May Alcott's timeless classic, *Little Women*. *Hello Beautiful*, is a profoundly moving portrait of what is possible when we choose to love someone not in spite of who they are, but because of it. (Dial Press 2023) Zoom and

in person for adults.

Drawing with Caren will be held on Friday, June 2, 6:00 pm. For an art class that is terrifically simple and relaxing, look no further. You provide the imagination, Caren provides paper, markers, and frames. In person for adults.

Also, coming up in early June, keep watch on the library's website for the 2023 Summer Reading Program registration page. This year's summer reading theme is "All Together Now." All reading groups will be invited to register, from infants to

adults. Register early for the adult summer reading program. When June arrives, the library will send a reminder. Participating will be as easy as 1, 2, 3: One: read three books from July to August. Two: log into the program at your convenience to tell which titles you've read. Three: receive a goodie bag for grown-ups at the end of the summer.

Register for these events at www.purchasefreelibrary.org or call (914) 948-0550..

All library programs are free. The library will be closed on May 29 in observance of Memorial Day.

White Plains Hospital Ranks in the Top 10% of U.S. Hospitals for Outstanding Patient Experience

White Plains Hospital has announced that it has been awarded the Outstanding Patient Experience Award™ from Healthgrades for the eighth time. This honor places White Plains Hospital among the top 10 percent of hospitals nationwide for patient experience, making it one of just eight hospitals in the state to receive the honor this year.

For its annual patient experience analysis, Healthgrades evaluated Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) patient survey data against 10 patient experience benchmarks to identify the institutions displaying what it calls "an unwavering commitment to prioritizing positive patient experience during a short-term, acute care visit." Of the 3,138 hospitals evaluated, only 419 hospitals achieved the Healthgrades award.

"With these awards, we are helping consumers identify the highest quality care in their community by celebrating the hospitals that consistently deliver better-than-expected clinical outcomes," said Burt Kann, EVP and Head of Product at Healthgrades. "Our mission is to provide patients with the resources and knowledge they need to make the best decisions based on trusted information, not just instinct."

White Plains Hospital is a proud member of

the Montefiore Health System, serving as its tertiary hub of advanced care in the Hudson Valley. The Hospital is a 292-bed not-for-profit health care organization with the primary mission of providing exceptional acute and preventive medical care to all people who live in, work in or visit Westchester County and its surrounding areas. White Plains Hospital has outpatient medical facilities across Westchester, including multispecialty practices in Armonk, Larchmont, New Rochelle, Rye Brook, Somers and Yorktown Heights; and Scarsdale Medical Group locations in Harrison and Scarsdale.

The Hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission and in 2022, White Plains Hospital received a 5-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) — the highest distinction offered by that federal agency. In addition, the Hospital received its third Magnet® designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a distinction held by only two percent of hospitals in the country. White Plains Hospital has consistently received the Outstanding Patient Experience Award from Healthgrades®, and in 2022 became the only Hospital in Westchester to be awarded with an A Safety Grade from the Leapfrog Group for the 8th time.

12th Annual 'I Love My Park' Day

Governor Kathy Hochul has announced that registration is now open for the 12th annual I Love My Park Day, which will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023 at State parks, historic sites and public lands all across New York State. The event, a partnership between Parks & Trails New York, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the Department of Environmental Conservation, is the largest statewide volunteer event to enhance parks, historic sites and public lands and raise awareness and visibility to the state outdoor recreation assets and their needs.

"I Love My Park Day is a great opportunity for New Yorkers to give back to our incredible parks and public lands," Governor Hochul said. "I encourage New Yorkers to sign up and volunteer at a participating park, historic site or trail in their area to ensure future generations can continue to enjoy these amazing natural resources."

Volunteers will have the opportunity to participate in cleanup events at over 120 state parks, historic sites and public lands from Long Island to Western New York and covering all regions in between, including sites operated by the Department of Environmental Conservation and municipal parks.

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Commissioner Erik Kulleseid said, "Thank you to our partners at Parks & Trails New York for organizing this event and expanding the opportunities to give back and promote responsible stewardship. Our volunteers are crucial in making our state park system the very best in the nation and we look forward to welcoming the thousands of volunteers for I Love My Park Day again this year."

Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "Public lands belong to all of us, our families, and our neighbors, and working together we can all take part in the stewardship of these special places for future generations to cherish and enjoy. I Love My Park Day is an excellent opportunity for New Yorkers to join DEC and our State Parks partners to get outside and inspire the next generation of environmental stewards by helping to maintain and preserve the natural beauty of our State lands."

Parks & Trails New York Executive Director Paul Steely White said, "New Yorkers are head



Governor Kathy Hochul

over hiking boots for their parks. Indeed, our beloved park system embraced and nurtured us during the pandemic, accommodating over 200 million unique visits (not to mention many recurring rendezvous). But love is a two-way trail, and healthy long-term relationships require maintenance. Now is the time to prove to your favorite park or open space that it was more than just a pandemic fling. Let's show our parks, trails and open spaces all the love on I Love My Park Day!"

Volunteers will celebrate New York's public lands by cleaning up debris, planting trees and gardens, restoring trails and wildlife habitats, removing invasive species and working on various site improvement projects.

To encourage year-round stewardship, PTNY, State Parks and DEC will launch additional volunteer opportunities throughout the summer and fall as part of the Love Our NY Lands campaign. The campaign goal is to help protect our natural resources by providing visitors with the knowledge necessary to reduce their impact, engage users to practice sustainable and safe recreation, and help all visitors feel welcome while visiting state lands.

Parks & Trails New York is New York's leading statewide advocate for parks and trails, dedicated since 1985 to improving our health, economy, and quality of life through the use and enjoyment of green space for all. With thousands of members and supporters across the state, PTNY is a leading voice in the protection of New York's magnificent state park system and the creation and promotion of more than 1,500 miles of greenways, bike paths, river walks, and trails.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which were visited by a record 79.5 million people in 2022. For more information on any of these recreation areas, visit www.parks.ny.gov, download the free NY State Parks Explorer mobile app or call 518.474.0456.

Under the Adventure NY initiative, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is making strategic investments to expand access to healthy, active, outdoor recreation; connect more New Yorkers and visitors to nature and the outdoors; protect natural resources; and boost local economies.

Annual Autism Acceptance Celebration



Cerebral Palsy of Westchester {CPW} United Preschool Center (UPC) hosted its 11th Annual Autism Acceptance Celebration on April 14, 2023, as part of National Autism Acceptance Month. The day's festivities included the unveiling of the Tree of Friendship and Acceptance, an outdoor parade in the sunshine, and interactive music and movement led by UPC music teacher Mark Pethel, a teaching artist from Westchester's Shake, Rattle & Roll. Representatives from NYS Senator Shelley Mayer's office and TD Bank were on hand for this year's event, which was underwritten in part by TD Bank, a strong supporter of CPW's educational enrichment programs.

Hard Return: 9 Experiments for this Moment at Neuberger Museum of Art

The Neuberger Museum of Art celebrates the dynamic performance art exhibition *Hard Return: 9 Experiments for this Moment*. Over the course of the spring semester, this nine-part series of experiences, environments, and interactions posed fundamental questions about art and life.

On Saturday, May 6, 2023, at 2:00pm to 7:00pm, the culminating performance of *Hard Return* features the work of Jesus Benavente. During *The Sad Party*, the artist invites attendees to join as performers by engaging in a dance party. The gallery will be filled with colorful flashing lights, balloons, and music. While visitors dance, have fun, and enjoy themselves, they become aware that the festive sights and sounds of the party resemble the sights and sounds of policing—flashing lights, popping, and music with lyrics like “Get Down” and “Hands in the Air.”

The *Sad Party* creates awareness of how traditional party elements can call to mind themes of danger, safety, and the carceral state. This appropriation offers a space for both light-hearted escapism and sincere reflection.

Expect flashing lights and loud sounds. *Hard Return: 9 Experiments for this Moment* is organized by the Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, SUNY, and co-curated by Purchase College faculty members Kate Gilmore,



Jesus Benavente, Performance Installation, *I'm Not Dancing, I'm Struggling to Survive* (2017)

a renowned performance artist, and Jonah Westerman, an art historian who specializes in performance art.

Generous financial support for this exhibition has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Friends of the Neuberger Museum of Art, and the Purchase College Foundation. Additional support of the student participation in *Hard Return* has been provided by Ivan Bart and Grant Greenberg and Ava and Paul Zukowsky.

The Neuberger Museum of Art, SUNY Purchase, is located at 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase. To RSVP go to www.neuberger.org

County Parks Will Host Pickleball Tournament



Join the Pickleball craze! Registration is now open for the Westchester County Parks Pickleball Tournament to be held on Saturday, June 3, at 9 a.m. at Tibbetts Brook Park in Yonkers.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, “Pickleball is sweeping the nation and becoming America’s fastest growing sport. All you need to play is a paddle, a ball and a good pair of sneakers. This is a sport for residents of all abilities and ages; young and old alike are becoming picklers.”

Westchester County Parks Commissioner, Kathy O'Connor said, “Our mission includes provid-

ing safe, clean and affordable parks and programs that benefit Westchester County residents. We are happy to offer this tournament and four new pickleball courts at Tibbetts Brook Park.”

The mixed doubles tournament is open to men and women, levels 2.5 to 3.5 (no beginners). Rain date is Sunday, June 4.

The fee is \$30 per team, with a maximum of 12 teams. Deadline for registration is Friday, May 19.

To register, call 914-231-4645 (Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Tibbetts Brook Park, 355 Midland Avenue, Yonkers.

Harrison Library is Offering Exciting Programs in May



The New York Metropolitan Flute Trio will perform Live at The Harrison Public Library on Sunday, May 7, 3 pm on site in the Community Room. After you enjoy *A Taste of Harrison*, come by the library for lively chamber music featuring internationally acclaimed flutists from Paris and New York performing on piccolo, flute, alto flute and bass flute. Music of Bach, Bizet, Mozart and more. The New York Metropolitan Flute Trio is comprised of Amy Cohen, April Klavins, and Paul Kulka.

A Baking Workshop with Tina Zaccardi will be held on Monday, May 8, 7 pm, on site in the library. Westchester's own award-winning baker Tina Zaccardi will be showing how to make Chocolate Zucchini Hazelnut Bread. A tasting will follow the workshop. Registration is required to reserve a seat.

Containing Multitudes: Night of Poetry & Prose will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 7 pm, Online via Zoom or on site. Whether you are a professional writer or just dab in poetry and prose, you are welcome to present a reading. Each reader will have 5 minutes. You are welcome to attend and listen as well. This program is co-hosted with Manhattanville College, Mercy College, Dobbs Ferry Public Library, Hastings Public Library, and Mamaroneck Public Library. Register to receive the Zoom link.

Collage Workshop in Honor of World Collage Day on Saturday, May 13, 2 pm, will be held on site in the Learning Center. Westchester art instructor extraordinaire Doreen Grozinger will be helping celebrate World Collage Day at the library. World Collage Day occurs the second Saturday of May and was initiated by Kolaj magazine in 2018 to connect artists across borders and celebrate an art medium that brings different things together in order to create new forms. All materials will be provided. Teens are welcome to join.

Meet Jim Frawley, Author of *Adapting in Motion*, on Monday, May 15, 7 pm in the Com-

munity Room. Local author Jim Frawley will discuss his book, *Adapting in Motion: Finding Your Place in the New Economy*. A Q&A session will follow the talk. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

A Japanese Tea Ceremony will be held at the library on Saturday, May 20, 3:30 pm in the Community Room. Join for a special ceremony featuring the way green tea is traditionally prepared. Beyond just serving and receiving tea, one of the main purposes of the tea ceremony is for the guests to enjoy the hospitality of the host in an atmosphere distinct from the fast pace of everyday life. Registration is required to reserve

your spot.

Sumi-e Watercolor Painting Workshop Series with Art Instructor Joan Lok will take place on Tuesday, May 23, 3:30 pm ET, Virtual via Zoom. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Back by popular demand! Instructor Joan Lok will teach how to paint the classic four gentlemen using watercolors in a new series. In May, part 2 of 4, captures the grace of grass orchid in fluid brushwork with Joan Lok. She will cover depicting a twisted leaf by varying the pressure of the brush, and the asymmetry in classic orchid composition. The orchid is a symbol of elegance and gentleness. No experience required.

For a Mental Health Month Talk: Women's Wellness and Positive Steps in Self-Care will be discussed on Wednesday, May 24, 7 pm, on site in the Community Room. This month's Health and Wellness workshop will feature “Women's Wellness and Positive Steps in Self-Care” in honor of Mental Health Month. Integrated Nutrition Health Coach Leigh Bochiechio will cover Common Health Concerns for Women; Warning signs for women; Nourishing our body, mind, and soul; and the food we eat and the choices we make. Leigh Bochiechio has attended the Institute for Integrative Nutrition and is certified in holistic nutrition, GUT health, health coaching, and disease prevention.

On May 31, 7 pm, Meet the Authors: Allison Gilbert, Janice Kaplan, and Betsy Prioleau in the Community Room. This program was rescheduled from Monday, March 13. The authors will be discussing their latest books and taking questions from the audience. A Q&A and book signing will follow the presentation. Copies of their books will be available for purchase from The Village Bookstore of Pleasantville, who will be selling books during the event.

For more information or to register for these programs, call 914-835-0324 or visit harrisonpl.org

Harrison High School Students Earn Top Awards at Science Symposia

Harrison Science Research students earned multiple awards at the Westchester Junior Science and Humanities Symposium. The symposium is an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to present original research in science, technology, engineering or mathematics as they pursue a chance to compete at the regional, state and national level.

The following Harrison High School Students earned awards: Ariella Blackman - 1st Place, Plant / Earth & Environmental Sciences, Lauren Davidson - 1st Place, Medicine & Health, Lauren Schnapp - 3rd Place, Medicine & Health, Zaynab Faisal - 5th Place, Animal Science. Ariella Blackman and Lauren Davidson earned the opportunity to compete in the Upstate Speaker Competition and Lauren Schnapp competed in the Upstate Poster Competition, where she took 1st place. Additionally, Latini and Bora Kose submitted de-



HHS student Lauren Schnapp took 1st place in the Upstate Junior Science and Humanities Symposium Poster Competition

signs for the JSJS Journal Cover Design Contest and earned Runner-Up. Their designs were displayed work on the day of the competition.

DECA Business Club Students Among Best in New York



Harrison High School DECA Business Club at the New York State competition.

Harrison High School DECA Business team competed at the 63rd New York State DECA competition in Rochester; thirty-five HHS students competed at the statewide event. Three students, Stella Perini, Cate Ansel and Addison Valente, placed within the top 5 of New York State in their events and will

be competing at the National competition in Orlando, Florida. Overall, the Harrison team made an impressive showing at the NYS DECA Business Competition. Nine students placed in the top 10 in the NY State competition and 8 students placed in the top ten in the multiple choice or role play portion.

Brae Burn Country Club Names Veteran Hospitality Executive CEO and General Manager

Gary S. Merjian, a veteran hospitality leader with deep experience in hotel and country club operations, was recently named General Manager and the first Chief Executive Officer of Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase.

A New York native, he brings four decades of luxury experience in hotel and restaurant management and corporate events to the Westchester County country club with its full-service restaurant and lounge, ballroom, fitness center, pool, tennis and paddle courts, and Francis Duane-designed 18-hole golf course.

Throughout his career, Merjian earned a reputation among members, clients, and industry peers for leading high-performance teams, delivering exceptional service, driving strong financial results, and building strong relationships among clients, members, and employees.

He says personal attention to members' needs, a vision shaped by extensive experience, and a focus on supporting employees with best-in-class operating practices result in memorable events that exceed guest expectations and business goals.

Merjian enjoyed a 22-year career at New York

City's legendary St. Regis Hotel, where he served on the executive committee and as the director

of catering, food and beverage, and event management. While at the St. Regis, he volunteered as president and vice president of operations at the New Canaan Field Club, Inc., a premier tennis, paddle, and swim club. When the St. Regis was shuttered during the pandemic, Merjian joined Pelham Country Club as general manager and chief operating officer. He began his career at the world-renowned Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, where he spent 14 years in a range of roles, including assistant director of catering.

A resident of New Canaan, CT, he earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, from its widely respected Hotel, Restaurant, and Travel Administration program.

"I am extremely proud to be Brae Burn's new GM and its first CEO," says Merjian. "I look forward to working with the Board of Directors, and members as the 2023 season gets underway. "From the fairways to the ballroom, my priorities are to lead a team of 120 talented staff that delivers Five Star service and that exceeds our members expectation."



Gary S. Merjian

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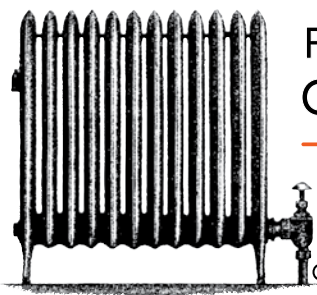
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Special Needs Trusts: A Different Perspective



BY: BERNARD A. KROOKS, CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

If someone is the beneficiary of a Special Needs Trust {SNT}, the question is, 'Do I have to ask the trustee for everything?'

Let's start by pointing out that the trustee might be a bank or trust company, or perhaps, a relative or

close associate. If the trustee is a corporate fiduciary, that could be intimidating for the beneficiary who might not feel comfortable making requests to the trustee. Alternatively, If the trustee is someone the beneficiary knows, then that might create additional tension for the beneficiary, who might not enjoy having to ask a relative for assistance. This is one of the reasons why we caution clients to think very carefully about who they select as trustee of an SNT. Sometimes, it is best to allow siblings to be siblings and not complicate things by appointing one of them as a trustee.

In either case, though, the beneficiary (or someone on behalf of the beneficiary, if the beneficiary does not have capacity) will need to make requests to the trustee. The trust is a separate legal entity, whose assets are managed and controlled by the trustee. If the beneficiary has concerns about asking for help, perhaps some expenses can be paid automatically each month. In any event, working closely with the trustee will make things easier for all. If that is not possible, perhaps a change in trustees is appropriate. The beneficiary might not have the authority to change trustees,

however; the SNT may contain other provisions which could give others the power to change trustees.

Sometimes, a good trustee is forced to say "no" to a beneficiary's request for a distribution. A variety of factors can go into that decision, including the amount of money in the trust, the language of the trust document, the life expectancy of the special needs beneficiary, the interests of the remainder beneficiaries, among many others. Being the trustee of an SNT is not an easy job. It is usually best for everyone if the trustee and the beneficiary can work things out amicably.

While there are many restrictions on what an SNT can pay for without jeopardizing the beneficiary's eligibility for means-tested government benefits, there are still many items that the trustee may pay for, including home internet connection, cell phone, travel and transportation, clothing, education, household furnishings, entertainment, and medical equipment and needs, just to name a few. However, it is very important that the trustee not make a cash distribution to the beneficiary since this could adversely affect the beneficiary's eligibility for some government benefits programs. Best to have the trustee pay for what the beneficiary wants directly to the provider of those benefits.

If the onset of the beneficiary's disability oc-

curred before age 26 (scheduled to increase to age 46 in a couple of years), you might be eligible to set up an ABLE account. That can make a real difference for some beneficiaries. ABLE accounts, similar to an SNT, do not count as an asset for means-tested government benefits. Moreover, amounts in ABLE accounts can grow tax-free and distributions for qualified disability expenses are not taxable. Most importantly, the beneficiary does not have to ask a trustee for a distribution.

In closing, the relationship between the beneficiary and the trustee of an SNT can be complicated. However, if both parties work together, the arrangement can significantly improve the quality of life of the beneficiary.

Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP. He was named 2021 "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America® for excellence in Elder Law and has been honored as one of the "Best Lawyers" in America since 2008. He was elected to the Estate Planning Hall of Fame by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils (NAEPC). Krooks is past Chair of the Elder Law Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). Mr. Krooks may be reached at (914-684-2100) or by visiting the firm's website at www.lit-tmankrooks.com.

TABLE HOPPING with Morris Gut SOFT SHELL CRAB SEASON HAS ARRIVED: WHERE TO ENJOY THEM!

The season for fresh soft-shell crab runs thru September and there are legions who crave this delicacy simply sautéed or fried with some lemon and butter. Nothing like a crispy soft-shell crab sandwich with the proper condiments. I am a big fan. They first show up from Florida and the Gulf Coast followed by the popular bounty from the Chesapeake. As the season wears on more venues will be serving them. Here's where to seek them out locally...

Trattoria Vivolo, 301 Halstead Ave., Harrison (914-835-6199) It is a solid Italian restaurant housed in a vintage diner. Chef/Owner Dean Vivolo will have soft shells on the menu. www.trattoriavivolo.com

The 808 Bistro, 808 Scarsdale Ave., Scarsdale (914-722-0808) Chef Salvatore Cucullo Jr. will be serving soft shells with creamy polenta and cheese & spinach stuffed tomatoes on the side. Sounds yummy! www.the808bistro.com

KEE Oyster House, 128 E. Post Road, White Plains (914-437-8535), Owner Ekren & Elvi offer a daily raw bar. The blackboard lists the daily catch and will soon include Soft Shell Crab. And they are pristine. www.keeoysterhouse.com

Saltire Oyster Bar and Fish House, 55 Abendroth Ave., Port Chester (914-939-2425) Happy Hours have returned to the handsome bar-room. Soft Shells will be available. www.saltire-oysterbar.com

Harbour Fish & Company, 576 Mamaroneck Ave., Mamaroneck (914-630-4790) Naldo Morales and Nelson Lopez moved their fresh fish and seafood market/restaurant last year and it offers plenty of dine-in and take-out options. <https://harbourfishandcompany.com>

X2o Xavier's on the Hudson, 71 Water Grant Street, Yonkers (914-965-1111) Chef Peter X. Kelly and company do a fine job with soft shell crab every year. Enjoy them along with expansive views of the Hudson River. www.xaviars.com

Artie's Steak & Seafood, 394 City Island Ave., City Island, Bronx (718-885-9885) The blackboard lists the weekly specialties served with all the trimmings. Jumbo soft shells simply sautéed. Wash it all down with one of the house specialty cocktails or craft beers. Indoors and al fresco. www.artiescityisland.com

Dubrovnik, 721 Main Street, New Rochelle (914-637-3777) This restaurant, the first to specialize in Croatian/Adriatic cuisine in the metro area, excels in fish and seafood so you won't go wrong here. Indoor, al fresco, takeout & delivery. www.dubrovnikny.com

Caffe Regatta, 133 Wolf's Lane, Pelham (914-738-8686) Veteran chef/proprietor Anthony Labriola offers an eclectic contemporary mix of pristinely fresh fish and seafood specialties along with a daily Raw Bar. Soft shells will be on hand. www.cafferegatta.com

Magno's Grill, 108 Centre Ave., New Rochelle (914-235-0008) Chef Angel Magno offers soft shell crabs piccata with caper berries over sautéed corn, tomatoes, spinach, with a lemon wine sauce. Take-out & delivery. www.magnosgrill.com

(Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. E-mail: gutreactions@optonline.net)

HHS Students Recognized for Original Choreography and Dance

Rachel Kindler and Kieran Flores placed among the top 5 in New York State in the PTA Reflections National Choreography Competition, among 563 entries from New York. Rachel and Kieran submitted original pieces of choreography for the 2022-23 competition, "Show Your Voice," and were recognized at the local and regional divisions before receiving awards at the state level with an award of Merit in the senior division. Kieran's piece, "All or Nothing," was choreographed as a trio danced by HHS sophomores, Lucy Short, Chanelle Vargas and Sophie Munzer. Rachel's piece, "Shoah," was a duet she danced with HHS student Lauren Davidson.

Harrison High School students, Rachel Kindler and Kieran Flores, earned New York State PTA award for choreography.



Purchase College Commencement Will Honor Author Edwidge Danticat and Arts

continued from page 4

grassroots movements and equitable change. Belafonte and Sankofa enlist the support of today's most celebrated artists and influential individuals, in collaboration with grassroots partners, to elevate the voices of the disenfranchised and promote peace, justice, and quality, as well as cultural and civic engagement. She is also the Lead Producer of the award-winning and internationally acclaimed documentary Sing Your Song, among countless other projects. Most recently, Belafonte expanded her work for equity rights by launching a virtual reality mental health program, expanding access to this vital care using cutting edge VR/AR technology.

Belafonte and her work have been profiled in *Elle*, *AfroTech*, *Essence*, for *Newsy*, and more. Her arts and activism initiatives include directing the award-winning hip-hop spoken word musical Lyrics from Lockdown, which addresses mistaken identity, mass incarceration, and police brutality, and producing the Many Rivers to Cross Social Justice Arts and Music Festival, uniting 40 artists and 50 social justice organizations to center voting rights, mass incarceration, and poverty. Her collaborations include: For Freedoms on the 50 State Initiative and the reimagining of Norman Rockwell's Four Freedoms, INTO ACT!ON, and many more.

The Arc Westchester Foundation Hosted 17th Annual “A Matter of Taste”

The Arc Westchester Foundation, which raises public awareness and financial resources for The Arc Westchester's programs and services for people with developmental disabilities and their families, has announced that its 17th annual “A Matter of Taste” fundraiser, which took place on Wednesday, April 19, at Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle, raised over \$550,000 to benefit people with developmental disabilities. The event, which is back in-person for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began, was emceed by actor Kevin Kilner and featured signature cuisine prepared by the finest chefs in the area, accompanied by a wide assortment of fine wines, specialty cocktails and craft beers.

“The funds raised at A Matter of Taste are critical for ensuring people with developmental disabilities have access to a suite of innovative services and enjoy a high quality of life,” said Nancy Patota, Executive Director, The Arc Westchester Foundation. “We are grateful to the generous sponsors and donors for their support of this event, and to the 23 chefs and 5 beverage sponsors who treated our guests to an evening of fine food paired with fine wine and craft beer.”

This year's event honored the Masket Family with the Family Partner Award and Zaro's Family Bakery with the Corporate Partner Award.

The Masket Family's involvement with The Arc Westchester began in 2011, when Alex, who is autistic, moved into a group home. Focusing on long-term financial stability for the organization, Steve and

Elaine have been exemplary ambassadors, donors, and fundraisers. In 2011, Elaine forged a pivotal and ongoing connection with The Taft Foundation, which has resulted in millions of dollars donated towards cutting edge programs. Elaine and Steve have also devoted themselves to A Matter of Taste, and with their friends, family, and colleagues, have taken the event to a whole new level.

With 11 stores in the most competitive market in the world, Zaro's Family Bakery is a household name in the New York Metropolitan area, known for its unsurpassed quality of baked goods including the iconic black & white cookie, challah bread, and rugelach. The fourth generation of this family-owned and operated business, Zaro brothers Michael, Brian, and Scott, are also committed to giving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities a chance to be contributing members of the workforce. Their enlightened, inclusionary hiring practices are changing the lives of all their employees, while inspiring other businesses to provide career opportunities for individuals supported by The Arc Westchester. Currently, six individuals are working at Zaro's with plans to add more.

To learn more about the impact of The Arc Westchester Foundation, and the suite of innovative programs and services The Arc Westchester offers to support people with developmental disabilities, visit: ArcWestchester.org.

The Arc Westchester is a chapter of The Arc USA and The Arc New York.



The Masket Family was presented with the Family Partner Award at The Arc Westchester Foundation's 17th Annual “A Matter of Taste” event on April 19 at Glen Island Harbour Club. The Masket Family's involvement with The Arc Westchester began in 2011 and has been transformational for the organization. Pictured, from left to right, are Steve, Alex, Elaine and Will Masket. Photo Credit: Erica Kapin Photography.

Manhattanville College Has Record-Breaking Class of Admitted Students for Fall 2023

With a record-breaking number of applications, Manhattanville College has admitted its largest and most diverse group of future Valiants in history, with 3,250 first-year students for the Class of 2027 receiving acceptance letters for this fall.

This is the largest class of admitted students since record keeping began 25 years ago representing a 15.6% increase from last year and a 31.8% increase from 2021. This year, Manhattanville had the highest number of applications since 2017. The admitted Class of 2027 is nearly half first-generation and is more diverse with increases in international students and in students who are Asian, Black or African American, and Hispanic.

During the first few weeks of April, the college welcomed approximately 800 guests to campus for Admitted Student Days, where admitted students had their first opportunity to meet each other, enjoy fun activities, while also touring campus, and meeting with faculty and administrators. This May, Manhattanville will welcome admitted students back to campus for “Valiant Up Days,” a new series of events designed to provide greater 1-1 support for students and families as they finalize their enrollment with the college. The college



Troy Cogburn

will also host newly enrolled students and their families for New Student and Family Orientation sessions this summer.

“We are delighted to see such a strong interest in our academic programs, which are designed to prepare students for successful careers and meaningful lives in a rapidly changing world,” said Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing, Troy Cogburn.

Popular programs among admitted students include Nursing, Biology, Computer Science, Business Management, Criminal Justice & Law, Education, Psychology, and programs in the Fine and Performing Arts. Manhattanville operates on a rolling admission basis, so students can still apply for the fall semester through August 2023.

“We are thrilled to welcome this exceptional class of students to Manhattanville College,” said Interim President Louise Feroe, Ph.D. “Their enthusiasm and passion for learning will undoubtedly enrich our campus community and contribute to our continued growth and success. We look forward to supporting them as they pursue their academic and personal goals.”

For more information about Manhattanville College and our programs, visit www.mville.edu.

Harrison Republican Town Committee Gives Endorsement

On April 24, The Harrison Republican Town Committee Chair, Tom Scappaticci, along with Committee members, have announced the endorsement of The Dionisio Team for election this November.

Richard Dionisio, current Supervisor/Mayor, along with Robert Baker and Michael DiCostanzo for Town Board, round out the team on the Republican ballot, along with Town Clerk Jackie Baker Greer, who has served in that position for the past 12 years, and Judge Pasquale Gizzo, current Town Justice, running for his third term.

Dionisio, a lifelong resident of Harrison, running for his second term, wants to continue the work he started with the Harrison Meadows Country Club and now, the construction of the recreation center. Along with maintaining Harrison's AAA rating and facilitating a \$2.6 million grant from New York State to launch a town-wide restoration project, town taxes have remained under the two percent tax cap at 1.5 percent.

Robert Baker, who lives in the Park Lane area, will be the first nominee to represent this area of town. Michael DiCostanzo, living in West Harrison, will replace out-going Town Board member and West Harrison resident Fred Sciliano, who represented Harrison for the past 16 years with honor and distinction.

“It is my belief that the Town Board should have members from various areas of town and, with our newly nominated candidates, along with our current Mayor and Town Board members Liz Brown and Gina Evangelista, all residents can feel their voices will be heard and interests represent-

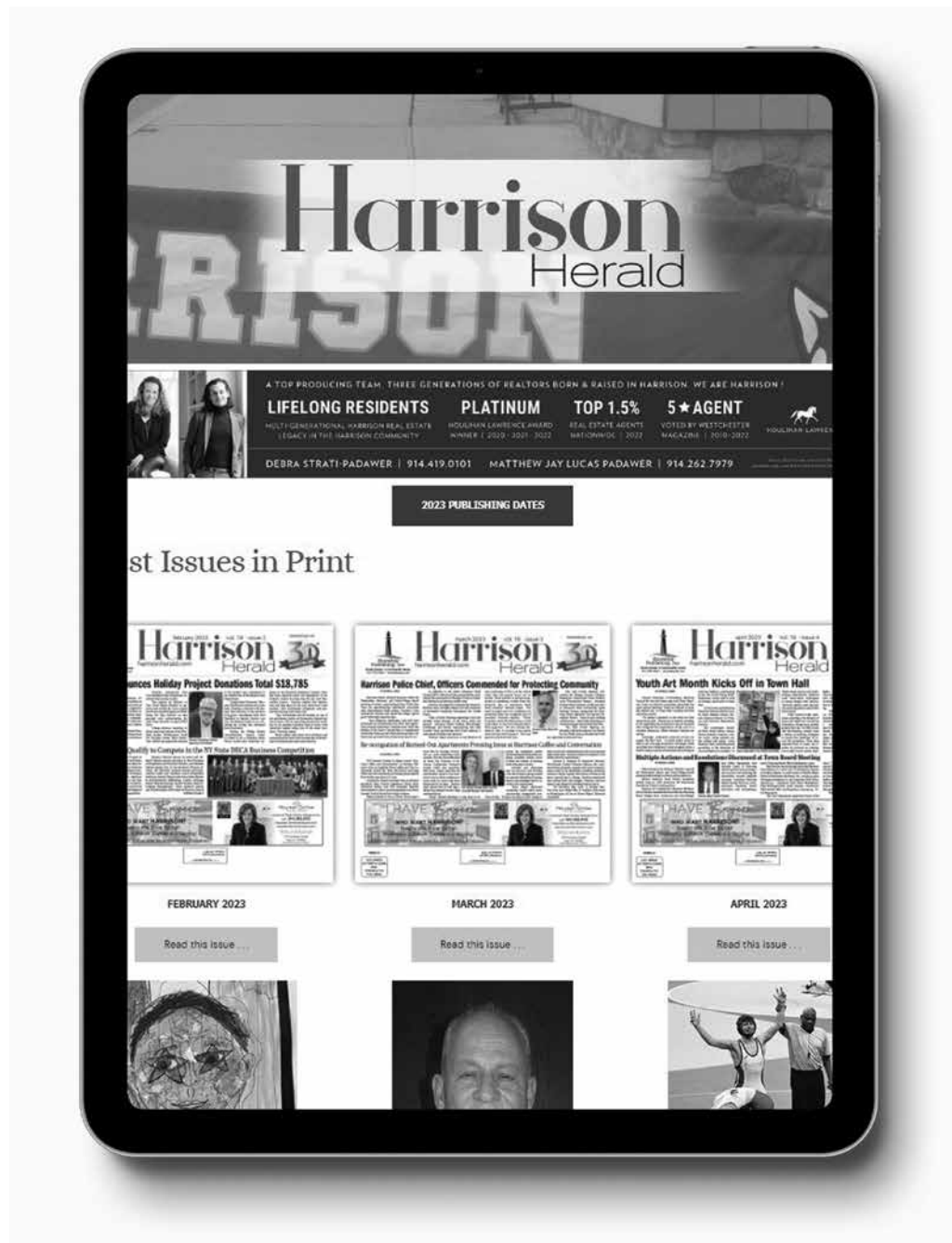
ed,” said Scappaticci, formerly a town board member for 12 years.

Baker, a 23-year resident of Harrison, is committed to Republican values, and wants to support the good management and fiscal practices of the current town board. A physician in eye surgery, Dr. Baker is an alumnus of the U.S. Naval Academy, and a graduate of Brandeis University and the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He has participated in various activities in Harrison, including Harrison Little League, Rec and CYO basketball, and assisted in Harrison Lions Club fundraising. He and his wife Melissa have two children who attend Harrison schools.

Michael DiCostanzo, a relative newcomer in town, came to Harrison for low taxes, good town services and amenities, and above-all, a close-knit neighborhood along with conservative and family values. A graduate of Fordham University, he is a Certified Public Accountant with Midco Accounting Services. He is a volunteer coach for Harrison Youth Flag Football and Harrison Youth Tackle Football. He and his wife Lauren have three children who also attend schools in Harrison.

Scappaticci ended, saying, “Your town government affects your everyday life from police and fire protection, emergency ambulance services, senior and recreation programs, the food pantry, building and zoning, as well as highway and sanitation services. We want to keep our town the best in Westchester, using sound budgetary practices and Republican ideals, while electing representatives who have your best interests at heart.”

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Harrison Herald



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The Bronxville Bulletin
www.thebronxvillebulletin.com

Westchester Jewish Life
www.westchesterjewishlife.com

Works from Westchester Artists Guild on Display at Harrison Public Library



Harrison Public Library presents "Works from WAG" {Westchester Artists Guild} by Norma Foege, Brighita Weinberg, Naomi Shriber-Kitt, and Susan Phillips on view May 7-June 2.

Norma Foege noted, "As we slowly came out of the COVID pandemic this year, I began to paint butterflies as a symbol of rebirth and hope. A friend gifted me a dead black swallowtail butterfly she had found inspiring me to paint "Black Swallowtail." I also participated in the Rye Art Center's "Rye's Above" exhibit/auction during the summer of 2022 which was a big motivation to move ahead. Depicting the beauty of the natural world is a theme I've explored over the years."

"I began pursuing my interest in art and painting when I retired as a physician," said Brighita Weinberg. "My early paintings were anchored in realism, depicting people, objects, and scenes from my travels. Over the years, I tried to break from my routine by experimenting with different painting styles. This process brought new excitement and interest in my art."

"Painting water and sky environments have always been areas I like to explore because I grew up in Coney Island," mentioned Naomi Shriber-Kitt. "As a contrast to the blues of water and sky, painting landscapes inspire me with the varied greens interspersed with trees and flowers. Since my favorite theme is the environment, I'm never without my camera and I love to take photos of skies, rocks, trees, an old staircase or an old building for inspiration. After retiring from teaching art in Huntington Schools, I continued to teach art at the Scarsdale Adult Ed Center."

"I have done quite a bit of fine arts as well as crafts since my retirement 11 years ago," explained Susan Phillips. "Formerly, I had mostly painted and done fabric collage as a hobby. Taking courses in pastels introduced me to a world I had not previously explored. Working from my photographs, I try to capture the essence of each scene, be it floral, landscape, or portrait."

A meet the artists reception will take place May 14 at 2:00pm at the Harrison Public Library, 2 Bruce Avenue. Call 914-835-0324 for information.

Adoptable Animals Now Available at Pet Rescue

A lifesaving rescue transport of precious dogs and puppies from Louisiana is soon on its way to Pet Rescue in Harrison where these previously Lab Mixes, Spaniel-Mixes, homeless dogs will be greeted and cared for by the volunteer staff, given medical care, treats galore and love aplenty.

Chosen for their cheery temperament and wagging tails, these dogs and others available at Pet Rescue, all receive the best medical care and often some training as well. Known for more than four decades as a premiere Westchester rescue, Pet Rescue continues to shine as a Sound Shore gem, saving lives and adding loving family members to homes in the community.

The dedicated volunteers work their magic as they match dogs and cats with their new family. In ad-



dition to the 11:30 am-1:30pm, Saturday hours for dog meet and greets, the cat open houses are Thursday 4-6pm, Saturday 1-3pm and Sunday 1-3pm.

For more information or a behind the scenes tour, contact Caroline Walker at 917-691-0581.

Pet Rescue is located at 7 Harrison Avenue, Harrison. They are a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal rescue organization founded in 1982, whose mission is to aid homeless and abused cats and dogs, provide necessary medical care and find them loving, forever homes. Since its beginning, the group has rescued more than 15,000 animals and has earned a GuideStar Exchange Seal listing. Pet Rescue also works to decrease the population of homeless dogs and cats through its spay/neuter programs.



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