Sleepy Hollow Mayor Ken Wray was re-elected to a fourth term last month with a convincing win over Trustee Karin Wompa. The three trustee candidates on Wray’s Unite Sleepy Hollow ticket also won handily, giving the mayor a 5-2 edge on the village board.

“The voters listened to what our positions were in general and agreed with what we were saying,” Wray said March 18 from J.P. Doyle’s. “I don’t think we will agree on everything, but we’ll be able to move forward in a way that the village will be best represented.”

According to unofficial results from the Westchester Board of Elections, Wray received 882 votes to 418 for Wompa.

“I think we ran an honest and above board campaign,” said Wompa at Santorini Restaurant. “It’s unfortunate most of the residents accepted what his campaign claimed as facts. I hope this campaign has humbled him (Wray), and he lives up to the responsibilities of his mayor duties.”

The results of the trustee race for three Tarrytown Mayor Drew Fixell wasn’t sure what to expect in his bid for a sixth term. Despite helping keep the village on solid financial footing and running against an opponent who he unseated 10 years ago, Fixell admitted he had a few butterflies when residents went to the polls on March 18.

As it turned out, Fixell had little to worry about, as he soundly defeated challenger Paul Janos. According to results from the Westchester County Board of Elections, Fixell, running on the Democratic and Tarrytown United Party lines, received 885 votes (62%) to 554 (38%) for Janos, who ran alone on the Our Village Party line.

“That was a pretty solid win,” Fixell said. “It’s substantial support for what we have done the last 10 years. You go into an election like this nervous because you don’t have any polling or surveys about what resonates with people. It helps to have a slate. In this case it probably worked to my advantage.”

Also reelected to the Board of Trustees was the unopposed Democratic and Tarrytown United Party team of Tom Butler, Becky McGovern and Doug Zollo, along with Village Justice Kyle McGovern.

Butler, a project manager for Tishman Construction Corporation of New York, has been on the board for 10 years. McGovern, a retired teacher, has served since 2007. Zollo, owner and operator of a manufacturers’ representative and property management firm, has been a trustee since 2005 after serving a previous two-year term. All three trustees have been village residents for more than 30 years.

Fixell, a financial analyst who served five years as a trustee before being elected mayor, credited the board with accomplishing a lot as a cohesive unit. He said one of the first priorities in his new term would be tackling the 2015-16 budget.

“We’re looking to do things better,” he said. “There’s plenty to focus on.”

None of that skepticism was evident at the March 16 Irvington Board of Trustees meeting, where a standing- (and floor-sitting-) room only crowd that included many of the village’s civic leaders had come to beg their government to stop the demolition of a gracious and historic home at 116 Main Street. Their fear was that the new owners of the house, developer Joseph DeNardo and his wife Sylvia, would go through with

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Rotary’s Duck Derby, Y’s Healthy Kids Day Preparations Underway

by Robert Kimmel

For the eighth consecutive year, the Rotary Club and the Family YMCA at Tarrytown combine their resources for a day of fun, entertainment and excitement at Patriot’s Park, Saturday, April 25. Kids and grownups will be able to enjoy both the Y’s Healthy Kids Day activities and the Rotary Club of the Tarrytown’s Duck Derby.

The events begin at 11 a.m., with the YMCA offering rides and carnival games, among their always inviting offerings. There will be live music and plenty of food available from local restaurants and cafes. Local Kids Bands will rock the locale and keep the atmosphere lively at the Park off North Broadway.

More excitement starts at 11:45 a.m., with the first of six preliminary heats in the Ducky Derby leading up to the final, seventh race. Every 30 minutes in the following heats, hundreds more Duckies will compete for a heat race winner’s prize of $100 as they race down Andres Brook to the finish line. The winners of each heat will be competing in the scheduled final race at 2:45 p.m. for a chance to collect the day’s big, first place prize of $1,500, for the adopter of that winning Ducky.

Last year’s Derby saw 1,601 adopted Duckies compete, helping to raise more than $14,000 which the Rotary distributes back into the community in the form of grants and scholarships.

Heralding the Derby, the two people-sized Ducky mascots have been making their pre-Derby promotional appearances around the villages of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow. They are, in real life, Rotary’s Derby organizers, JoAnne Murray and Mimi Godwin. The pair marched in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade last month and can be seen working out - but not in the water - at the DoubleTree Hotel’s pool on YouTube, at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFliqoDmipY.

“With the help of Hope Hose Company, from Tarrytown’s Fire Department, and the Village Recreation Department, Andres Brook will be cleaned up and readyed for the races,” explained Murray. Hope Hose has been on hand at each Derby to keep the current moving swiftly to propel the Duckies downstream to the races’ finish. A host of other volunteers from various organizations are expected to help out. They include the Girls Scouts of the Tarrytowns, teens from the Irvington Immaculate Conception Church, the Sleepy Hollow High School Rotary Interact students, Tarrytown’s Conquer Hook and Ladder Company, and Tarrytown’s DPW, and Ambulance Corps.

Duckies are available for adoption up to and during most of the day’s Derby. Adoptions can be obtained by going to the Rotary’s website at www.TarrytownRotary.org. Adoption Applications are also available at many local retail establishments in Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow and at the Chamber of Commerce office at 2 Nepersan Road, Tarrytown. They may also be secured by calling Mimi Godwin at 631-0675. The charge for adopting one ducky is $10. A six Quack of Duckies costs $50, while a Tub of 13 Ducks can be had for $100.

Sponsors for the Duck Derby, as of this issue’s publication, include: Tarrytown Honda, The DoubleTree Hotel, On Track Sports Center, Sam’s Club, Allan Block Insurance, Tompkins Mahopac Bank, Martin’s, Capri Pizza and Pasta and The Hudson Independent.

While many of the Y’s attractions are free, full access to participate in sponsored Y rides requires the purchase of a $10 bracelet, which will be available at Y booths at the Park or before the event at the Y’s Early Learning Center at Tappan Hill, 50 Ichabod Lane, Tarrytown. Profits collected by the Y will help fund the scholarships it offers to children and adults who otherwise would not be able to participate in many of its activities and programs. Among the new participants in Healthy Kids Day are the Gotham Girls Roller Derby, Pace University Lacrosse/Hockey, and a vendor, Sleepy Hollow Physical Therapy, and for the hungry Tain Falafel Stack, Stop&Shop returns as a Healthy Kids Day event sponsor.

Winners of a question contest conducted by The Hudson Independent during the event will receive a pair of tickets to a Yankee game. It all adds up to a fun-filled day for the entire family.
They met in a secluded field that, for obvious reasons, cannot be named. It was just past dawn, and after some preliminary roughhousing, some stick and squirrel chasing and...well, tending to personal matters, they left their minders shivering in the morning chill while they, the dogs of Irvington, got down to business.

“When are we going to get a place of our own?” whined Chloe. “Some field where we’ve got the run of the place,” growled Finnegan “—a place where they (nodding toward the clutch of owners up the hill) aren’t constantly calling us back, bribing us with treats to stay away from the roads, or each other.”

“Yeah,” piped up Kava, still a kid, “a place where I can learn the ropes from guys like Lyle, or Nelson, or Blue—so I can learn how to socialize.”

“How about just working off a little steam before spending the day stuck in a house?” asked Zoe, a boxer not known for her patience. “What’s wrong with that hillside below the tennis courts at Memorial Park?” asked Laila. “You know, behind the big white sign that says "NO DOGS ALLOWED." They all grunted wryly.

“Or Marthiessen Park, down on the river—lots of geese to chase,” offered Seamus with enthusiasm.

“Or that other park with all the ball fields. What do they call it? Scenic Hudson or something?” asked Oreo, a black lab with a prematurely gray chin.

Ella, like many, a rescue dog, drew them in conspiratorially: “I’ve overheard people talking about this,” she whispered. “Something’s going on. She then spoke of “hearings,” something dogs didn’t get to (or have to) do. There had been several, she gathered in recent months, where owners had gone to tell village officials that they too wanted what they were calling a “dog park.”

“From what I gather,” she continued, continued on page 12

Oh Where, Oh Where Should The Dog Park Be?

Irvington Struggles to Find Common Ground for a Location that Offends the Least Number of People

by Barrett Seaman

Highly Respected Company Serving Families for 15 Years. Now Coming to Tarrytown.

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Wrecking Ball

Continued from page 1

a proposed plan to tear down the nearly 120-year-old yellow clapboard colonial and replace it with a mixed-use structure—all before pending Historic District restrictions went into effect.

As it turns out, the trustees were a step ahead of them. Prompted by recommendations from the IHDC, the Board was already entertaining a series of new laws that would require approval from the village’s Architectural Review Board before any building within a newly created Historic Overlay District could be demolished. Because it was scheduled as an official public hearing on the proposed legislation, the March 16 meeting triggered a 90-day moratorium during which no contravening action could be taken, even though the measures had not yet been enacted.

And as it further turns out, in early March, the DeNardos’ attorneys had asked the village’s Planning Board to “adjourn,” or effectively table the application indefinitely.

Neither of these developments stopped the assembly of Historic District supporters from speaking out against the destruction of 116 Main. Not long after the DeNardo plan was first submitted to the Planning Board in mid-February, e-mail alarms were sounded throughout the village. A Facebook page, “116 Main Street IRV—For Demolition?” drew nearly 500 “likes” (signaling dislike of the plan).

Rutgers University environmental and political historian Dr. Neil Maher (better known locally as the son of Irvington political historian Dr. Neil Maher) presented the Board with a petition signed by more than 450 Irvingtonians in protest against the plan. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Massie rhetorically asked the assembled: “What house in our village has more personality?”

Irvington Historical Society president Pat Ryan, a former village trustee herself, applauded the proposed laws, drawing applause herself.

Supporters of the Historic District could hardly have asked for a better test case. As architect and Octagon House owner Joseph Pell Lombardi wrote in a letter (read to the hearing by resident Amy Sherwood), the “elegant, unspoiled 19th century Colonial Revival residence” was the home and office of Dr. Evan Jones Smith, the village’s first resident physician, who built the house at the turn of the 19th century. Dr. Smith ceded his practice to his son, Chesley Evan Smith, who also used 116 Main as both home and office. So too did Dr. Mario Dolan, who with his wife Judy raised nine children there as patients came and went during the sixties, seventies and eighties. “The destruction of 116 Main Street would be tragic,” wrote Lombardi, “allowing only our memories and photos to remind us of the loss. We must do everything in our power to retain this venerable and important village landmark.”

The proposed laws were not written specifically to protect 116 Main, Village Attorney Marianne Stecich assured the meeting. They were drafted after IHDC chair Deb Hargraves, along with fellow members, all architects, John Malone, Earl Ferguson and Douglas McClure, warned the Board in January that existing law allowed buildings, even those in the Historic District, to be demolished with a simple permit and no oversight. Under the new laws, which Mayor Brian Smith predicted would come to a vote in April, developers like Mr. DeNardo would have to win approval from the Architectural Review Board (ARB) first for the demolition and then for whatever replacement was proposed.

Comments made by trustees strongly suggested passage, and most villagers expect the ARB would reject any application to demolish 116 Main, leaving the DeNardos to come up with an alternative use for the house, which they bought last summer for $1.35 million. According to their attorneys, lawyer Cooper of Zarin & Steinmetz, the DeNardos are “evaluating all options, adding: ‘Anything they do would be sensitive to the concerns of the community.’

Home at 116 Main St. is nearly 120 years old.

Photo by Barrett Seaman
Snow Removal Busts Budgets
Pothole Killer Gets Good Reviews in Trial Project

by Robert Kimmel

Combating the ills of wintry weather on village roadways has held the attention of local officials through the past several months. The war on potholes took on a new dimension with the arrival of a mobile mechanized device shared by the villages on a trial basis, the Pothole Killer. While that apparatus was pressed into intermittent action within Irvington, Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow, and four other villages, DPW crews were called upon frequently to deal with the snowfalls that made driving hazardous.

As described by Tarrytown Administrator Michael Blau at a trustee meeting early last month, “The Pothole Killer is designed to provide a permanent repair of potholes during the winter months as opposed to using cold mix asphalt, which based upon weather, has very limited effectiveness in the repair of potholes.” The trial equipment uses a hot mix injected as a spray to patch holes in the roads.

Operated by one person, the truck-mounted Pothole Killer was also jointly used by Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Ardsley and Elmsford as part of a lease arrangement pilot project with a Pennsylvania company to determine its effectiveness and cost as compared with having a two or three man crew working to repair potholes with traditional mix. At the end of last month, village administrators were to meet to compare notes about its usefulness. It has gotten mostly good reviews separately from village authorities.

“So far, our experience with it has been very good,” Irvington Administrator Lawrence Schopfer told The Hudson Independent. He said the fixes seem to have held up much better than the traditional material used during the trial would hold up, but it turned out to be cumbersome to share among seven villages, “he said.

“Pothole Killer appeared to be ‘fairly effective.” It will take some time to see how much more long-lasting the patches themselves are than cold-patch, though my sense is that they’ll be significantly better,” he added. Sleepy Hollow Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio was affirmative about the device’s work within the two-week, (80 hour), trial period, and also predicted that the material used during the trial would hold up much better than the traditional mix. “We would like to have it in use again, but it turned out to be cumbersome to share among seven villages,” he said.

He anticipated reaching out to two other villages for sharing it in a possible future arrangement.

Continued on page 10
Heard Around the Watercooler

WON

Irvington High School science research student Ethan Tardio won first place in the molecular biology poster session category at the 30th Annual Upstate New York Junior Science and Humanities Symposium at the University at Albany on March 12. This symposium represented 41 high schools across New York State. Ethan presented his research on “The Role of Macrophages in Metastatic Dissemination and Growth.” Congratulations to Ethan on this prestigious honor.

Sleepy Hollow High School science research instructors, Janet Longo-Abinati and Michele Zielinski, spent countless hours preparing their students to compete at the March 7 Westchester Science and Engineering Fair (WSEF). 420 students from 33 schools in Westchester and Putnam counties participated in the event, with two of Sleepy Hollow’s students being named finalists and grand-prize winners in the competition. Junior Dominique Marchini, and senior Elizabeth Sobolik, will present their work at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) 2015 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this May. Dominique, Elizabeth, and fellow senior, Austen Paris, were each awarded first place at WSEF along with a $100.00 prize. Finalist Dobbs Ferry High School senior Evan Cain also earned first place (and will present at ISEF in May), and Irvington High School senior Ethan Tardio earned third place in the cell and molecular biology category. WSEF is the largest and most competitive science fair in the region. The family medicine residency program at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center will graduate its first class of residents this June. One of the members of the inaugural class, Anesh Badwala, MD, has accepted a position with Phelps Medical Associates, the hospital’s primary and specialty care medical group. This achieves one of the program’s key goals: to cultivate the best and brightest family physician leaders who will train at Phelps and stay to serve the Phelps community. The new residency program in Family Medicine received national accreditation in 2011 and was designed to help meet the growing shortage of primary care physicians in the U.S. and in Westchester County. The first such program to be established in New York State since 1995, the NYMC Phelps Family Medicine Residency Program is a collaboration between three major health institutions in Westchester County: New York Medical College, Phelps Memorial Hospital Center and Open Door Family Medical Centers. To learn more about the NYMC–Phelps Family Medicine Residency Program, please visit: www.nymcphelpresidency.org.

Congratulations to all of our region’s amazing participants along with their families and teachers!

ACCEPTED

The family medicine residency program at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center will graduate its first class of residents this June. One of the members of the inaugural class, Anesh Badwala, MD, has accepted a position with Phelps Medical Associates, the hospital’s primary and specialty care medical group. This achieves one of the program’s key goals: to cultivate the best and brightest family physician leaders who will train at Phelps and stay to serve the Phelps community. The new residency program in Family Medicine received national accreditation in 2011 and was designed to help meet the growing shortage of primary care physicians in the U.S. and in Westchester County. The first such program to be established in New York State since 1995, the NYMC Phelps Family Medicine Residency Program is a collaboration between three major health institutions in Westchester County: New York Medical College, Phelps Memorial Hospital Center and Open Door Family Medical Centers. To learn more about the NYMC–Phelps Family Medicine Residency Program, please visit: www.nymcphelpresidency.org.

Please send submissions about distinctions, honors, and awards given to local community members, students, and organizations to: thwatercooler@thehudsonindependent.com
Uncertain State Aid Leaves
Irvington School Budget In Flux

by Janie Rosman

Uncertainty about state aid has left the Irvington School District with a lot of unanswered questions, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kristopher Harrison. The absence of state aid and unknown savings associated with the refinancing of a bond means there are going to be a few more adjustments than usual.

The 2015-2016 push-ahead budget, which looks at current programs and the cost of maintaining them in the future, is $56,751,717. This is an increase of $45,717 and 0.81 percent above the 2014-2015 budget of $56,294,000. The proposed 2015-2016 budget of $57,954,435 reflects a $1,660,435 variance and a 2.95% increase.

“We have the good fortune to have a bond refinance and a sale on March 25, which means we’ll have good numbers the next time we meet,” he told the Board of Education. This will save the community $5 million in the remaining years the bond is used.

“We’re looking at a large bond from the original construction at the middle school and high school that has a balance of $26,615,000,” Harrison later explained. “We’re refinancing that debt for the same terms for 17 years and looking at obvious savings and better interest rates.”

The district will know within one week of the March 25 sale the benefits of refinancing. “Our bond council realized that over the course of 17 years, the district would save $5 million,” Harrison said.

He cited the Irvington Education Foundation and its efforts to complement the district’s budget. “The budget looks at increasing student opportunity, investing in our facilities, and planning for the future. We’re thinking about infrastructure. The district is in the top five percent in the state of New York, and we worked toward this budget with a process. But it’s a different process this year.”

One disappointment comes with the State Education Department’s (SED) backlog of applications, and this delay means the district is unable to begin work on the new field until the spring of 2016.

“The vote was Tuesday, and by that Friday, only three days later, the district, our engineers and architects, fulfilled all obligations, and all applications were in the SED’s possession,” he said, citing last fall’s bond vote. “Approval time is usually 22 to 24 weeks, so we followed that guidance and built into it cushion time for delays.”

Assistant Superintendent of Business Beverly Miller tracked the applications, Harrison said, and most recently learned there were 300 applications in ahead of theirs.

“We reached out to the facilities division of the SED and learned the volume of applications and limited staff meant less turn-around time,” Harrison said.

Since the school can’t begin construction when it is in session, due to the volume of vehicles on campus and student and personnel safety, he said that it will have to wait until next year. “We can do other work like replace the heating in Dows Lane Elementary School, and roof replacement can be done sooner than next summer,” Harrison noted.

Another project this summer is building the new main office and nurse’s office at Dows Lane, and moving the district office into Dows Lane temporarily (they are now in modular buildings). The district awarded a bid at its March 10 meeting.

“We’re looking to expand programs at

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Sleepy Hollow Exceeds Cap Rule

Villages’ Tentative Budgets Vary With Adhering to Tax Cap

by Robert Kimmel

Tentative budgets prepared by the financial officers and administrators of Irvington, and Tarrytown, will fall within the state’s tax freeze requirements, making it likely that many homeowners will receive small tax rebate checks later this year. However, Sleepy Hollow’s tentative budget places that village over the tax levy cap, Albany’s incentive to have local municipalities hold down tax hikes, which has played an important role in budget planning for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

The checks received from New York State would be equal to the tax increase set for each homeowner as required by village budgets that keep tax rates below the cap.

In order to get the tax credit, the villages must also develop a Government Efficiency Plan that projects savings of at least one percent for the following three years. The plans, which should include the sharing of services or consolidated projects with other municipalities or school districts, are being developed by all three villages. They must be presented to the State’s Division of the Budget by June 1 and then approved by that body.

Sleepy Hollow homeowners will probably experience the unusual; a decrease in their tax rate. “The tax rate is going to go down, because assessments have gone up significantly, thanks mostly to the sale of the General Motors property,” Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio said. That sale returned approximately $700,000 to the village’s assessable property tax total. While the tax rate drops the tax levy, the proposed budget will increase by about $1.6 million to nearly $12 million in collected taxes, which represents 67% of village revenues.

Despite the assessable increase, Sleepy Hollow homeowners, in one to three family homes, will likely not receive the tax rebate check this year if the tentative budget is maintained, because it exceeds the complicated tax cap freeze requirements.

Potential rebates would not have applied to commercial properties, which represent a smaller part of the village’s assessable total. To qualify for a rebate, as part of the state’s two-year tax relief program, a property must fall within the Star Tax Exemption; it must be the homeowner’s primary residence, and total household income can be no more than $500,000.

The tax rate for 2015/16 in Sleepy Hollow was tentatively set at $34.28 per thousand dollars of a property’s assessment value, which is usually a small percentage of the actual market value of a home, set by each taxing jurisdiction. That rate represents a reversal of an upward trend annually over the past nine years. Non-Homestead properties, however, may see a rate nearly double that number.

Mayor Ken Wray wrote in a message to residents that the budget maintains his “...focus on four areas: property tax relief, ensuring that Village staffing needs are properly being met, beginning a comprehensive master plan, and enhancing programs for our seniors. I added full time positions in Public Works, the Police Department and in Village Hall; $100,000 in funding for the initial phase of the master plan; and funding for senior programs has been doubled.” The Mayor urged residents to “...attend Board meetings on April 7 and April 14, so that the Board of Trustees and I will have your input as we work to adopt this budget.”

Tarrytown faces a situation opposite to that of Sleepy Hollow in that its tax assessable

Continued on page 26

Sleepy Hollow Educators Make Requests in New District Budget

by Janie Rosman

Educators from the Tarrytown Union Free School District’s elementary, secondary, middle school and high school discussed needs for next year at last month’s budget workshop.

Assistant Superintendent for Business John Stagner said the proposed budget is $72,986,834, a 1.82 percent change from last year. The new budget will not affect raises, and nothing will be cut from tech-

ology. It also comes in under the governor’s mandated 2 percent tax cap levy. Although the operational budget is status quo, Sleepy Hollow High School Principal Carol Conklin-Spillane “looks forward to doing exciting things next year.”

“We have leaders who are content experts, and we’re requesting resources for a technical chairperson at the secondary level,” Conklin-Spillane said. “With all the money we invest in technology, it’s important to have someone who stays on the cutting age and who is also a teacher practitioner.”

“We’re also looking at STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and technology) to continue the part-time person and make the position full-time to keep this initiative moving forward,” she said.

A third initiative would expand the school’s dual enrollment course via Advanced Placement or by having faculty certify as adjunct college professors so students can earn college credit for advanced work.

The middle school asked for a reallocation of a .4 (part-time) foreign language teacher whose position was assigned to the high school about two years ago when the middle school was required to offer more Academic Intervention Services (AIS). Since then the state lowered its requirement for AIS.

The middle school asked that Read 180 be moved back to the 7th grade, and while the biggest cost is moving the class, once moved, the only cost to the district is licensing. A math curriculum is needed since right now the district relies solely on Common Core; the school has appropriated $30,000 if it finds a program appropriate for students. The “Digits” and “Big Ideas” math programs did not have enough differentiation.

When the Board asked why the school needs a 4 teacher, it learned they had 7 and 8th grades programs are year-long with between 30 and 34 students in each of the foreign language classes. The 6th grade foreign language class swelled from 1/28 students last year to 196 students this year.

Pupil Personnel Services Director Scott Dorn’s department is considering another speech therapist. “We’re servicing some of the district’s most needy kids at home,” he said.

Board President Mimi Godwin cited one day at Winfield L. Morse school where training dogs were brought in to play with autistic children. “It just took your breath away, the reaction of the little ones to the dogs, and the reaction of the dogs,” she said. “What Dorn is doing in the schools, and for the district, is a credit to the department.”

For the 2015-16 school year, Dorn said, “Looking forward, we’re going to need a classroom at Washington Irving; we have room at the high school.” He cited the unique programs at the Neighborhood House and thanked the district and JCC on the Hudson for their support.

Director of Athletics, Chuck Scarpulla, said students asked about a ski team and want the district to consider that request in terms of the athletic budget, which includes support for girls’ tennis.

Recently four or five female students tried out for the boys’ tennis team. “It seems like the Board is interested, so I came up with a figure,” Scarpulla said. With an okay to use the village’s tennis courts in the fall, he said, “I set up a budget for the district business office to review.”

Scarpulla proposed the school start a ski team. “Two years ago three students said they were interested and raised money through donations and fundraisers to compete,” he said. It worked out so well, he said, that this year the number tripled, “And about nine kids wanted a team and again did fundraising.”

“I think more kids will be interested in it, and a ski team is not as expensive as most sports. We only ski about 20 or 22 days of the winter, depending on the amount of snow on hills.”

More information will be forthcoming at the board’s third and final budget work-
shop on Saturday, April 11.
Greenburgh Nutrition Program Reopens at Neighborhood House

by Rick Pezzullo

Seniors in Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow and the surrounding area are enjoying nutritious, hot lunches daily in the refurbished dining area at the Neighborhood House in Tarrytown.

Last month, village officials, members of the Neighborhood House Board of Directors and local service organizations celebrated the Greenburgh Nutrition Program relocating to the Neighborhood House, located at the corner of Washington and Wildey streets, after the Knights of Columbus, where the program was formerly held, closed suddenly before Christmas.

“We all made a commitment to the seniors over the winter so the nutrition program could remain a vital program in the community,” said Francesca Spinner, president of the Neighborhood House Board of Directors. “We wanted seniors to have access to a nutritious lunch every day. We want to show it’s a vibrant program and well worth the support of the community.”

The federally funded program, which is administered by Greenburgh through Westchester County, is partially subsidized by some municipalities. Gerry Byrne, commissioner of Parks and Recreation for Greenburgh, said more than 300 meals are served daily at sites in Tarrytown, Dobbs Ferry and Fairview.

He noted the town was only given three weeks notice that the Knights of Columbus was closing and was grateful the Neighborhood House opened its doors to house the program.

“We’re just delighted to be here,” Byrne said. “It’s a really vital program. It’s an opportunity for seniors to get together and enjoy a nutritious meal.”

The suggested donation for meals is $3, but no one is turned away and it is not limited to local residents.

“It works well with our mission and how we serve our community. All are welcome,” said Gemma Mauer, a member of the Board of Directors.

Mauer was instrumental in getting Kendal-on-Hudson to donate cabinets and kitchen appliances to the Neighbor- hood House. The Tarrytown, Ossining and Elmsford Rotary Clubs also donated $1,250 and manpower to give the kitchen and dining area a fresh coat of paint.

“It’s open to everyone. That’s what we liked,” said Ossining Rotary member Matt Gulotta, whose daughter, Amilia, also volunteered.

The Neighborhood House, which has served the community for more than 100 years, will be having its annual Fundraising Supper on Tuesday, April 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. with wine tasting, dinner, musical entertainment and a raffle drawing. The theme will be celebrating Shakespeare’s 451st birthday. For further information, call (914) 651-0205 or visit www.the-neighborhoodhouse.org.

Irvington Budget

Continued from page 7

the high school and introduce new experiences at the elementary and middle schools to better prepare students for their futures and enhance technology across the district,” he said.

Harrison said the first year’s payment for a five-year lease purchase of Wi-Fi at the elementary schools is imbedded into the 2015-2016 budget. The district wants to buy 180 Chromebooks that will be housed in six mobile charging carts, and 50 new desktop computers to replace those more than six years old at Main Street School.

“The state said students need to be prepared for computer-based assessment next year,” he explained, and new technology will help.

“We’re not looking for a huge amount of money — approximately $11,000 — to add clubs and restore opportunities for kids,” Harrison said. The district once had a community aide, but was unable to replace that position and will not replace the community aide,” he said.

A perfect example of an unfunded/under-funded mandate is the updated state regulations for students who speak languages other than English. The state requires the district meet a new model for ESL (English as a Second Language), now called ENL (English as a New Language), which intensifies the level of services and requires additional staffing.

He noted that, while another ESL/ENL teacher is needed at a cost of $70,000 or more, the district receives $8,000 or $9,000 in funding to offset these costs.

“The district is truly motivated to maintain critical programs and valued services for our students and to enhance their opportunities,” he said, but with increased state mandates and without knowing the amount of aid the district will receive, “it’s difficult to maintain a fiscally-responsible balance.”
available seats were equally dominating for the Unite Sleepy Hollow team. Trustee Glenn Rosenbloom was elected to a second term as the leading vote getter with 873 votes (23%). Finishing close behind were running mates John Leavy (826 votes) and Denise Scaglione (814 votes).

The top vote getter for the unsuccessful Democratic and Responsive Government Party team was former trustee Jose Chevere with 460 votes. Trustee Bruce Campbell, who was seeking a fourth term, picked up 442 votes, while Mary Linder had 431 votes.

“I’m disappointed in the results,” Campbell said. “I think our team had the best solutions for the future of the village but I wish them luck and good judgment for the benefit of all of us who live in Sleepy Hollow.”

“During my time as a trustee I’ve met an untold number of residents that I wouldn’t have met otherwise, and I’m grateful for the opportunity to serve,” he added.

Wray, who lives in Webber Park, first joined the board in 2007 as a trustee. He is executive director of the Parochial Foundation, a New York City non-profit that provides affordable housing and services for people of low and moderate income. He has also worked on programs for disabled veterans, seniors, victims of domestic vio-

what longer for the Pothole Killer to fill road

lation. Giaccio noted that it does, “in just a couple

hopes to fill roadways with snow out of which only

all seven villages

months that the DPW uses “approximately

low Mayor Ken Wray stated, adding that it

“...had not yet come in,” so those would add

The top vote getter for the unsuccessful

Continued from page 1

enous amount, Schopfer said.

“arately over budget,” Giaccio said of Sleepy Hollow’s expenses for snow cleaning, indicating that financial figures

Tarrytown’s snow removal budget was hov-

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Robert Wray pointed proudly to his role in getting

for veterans, seniors, victims of domestic vio-

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The real proof of its effectiveness will be to

over time, for example, we had budgeted $41,000, and we spent $122,000.” Expens-

to meet an untold number of residents that I wouldn’t

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We are definitely over budget,” Giaccio said of Sleepy Hollow’s expenses for snow

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Continued from page 5

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What did turn out to be more costly than

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Fixell said the village was looking at

Fixell continued from page 1

ard. “The village has truly shed a huge

the map of the world. “I have a feeling that

Karin Wompa (center) and her team

sidered loss.

Continued from page 5

The Village of Sleepy Hollow had experienced a

In Celebration of William Shakespeare’s 451st Birthday

If music be the food of love, play on.

Fixell continued from page 1

the former General Motors site back on the

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For National RE/Sources at Hudson Har-

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Thomas Janos had served as mayor from 1999 to

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Tarrytown’s snow removal budget was hov-

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of minutes.”

The real proof of its effectiveness will be to
Peter Devito and Michele Savino wanted to expand their food service business—121 Inflight Catering—to serve commercial airlines. But their former bank wasn’t interested.

“They just wished us luck” says Michele. “So we talked to Tompkins Mahopac Bank.”

The partners got the funding they needed to renovate a 45,000 square foot facility. With three brand new state-of-the-art kitchens, it gave them an immediate advantage over more established caterers.

“Tompkins Mahopac Bank not only backed us, they took a genuine interest in our progress,” says Michele. “Without them, this wouldn’t have been possible.”

The Irvington Education Foundation — Partnering for Enriched Learning

by Janie Rosman

For the past four years, Irvington Education Foundation (IEF) board member Bob Firpo-Cappiello has been one of the foundation’s biggest boos — in the community and beyond. IEF was formed in 1997 by several parents after a school play was cancelled due to a budget crunch, Firpo-Cappiello explained. “Parents got together to go above and beyond the school budget.” Since then, raising funds has been a goal that has grown exponentially over the years.

Last month’s IEF fundraising event “was a huge success,” he said of the “Back to the 80s Party.” More than 250 supporters turned out for dinner, a silent auction, dancing, a 1980’s cover band and a lip sync battle. At press, funds received had not been tallied.

“I was at the door greeting people and thanking them for their support, and everyone said it was the best fundraiser event of its kind,” he said. “We thank the team of volunteers who worked hard to make it successful.”

The non-profit 501c3 organization has raised more than $80,000 to fund enrichment programs, materials, class trips, and bringing in experts for seminars, he said. “It’s great that the teachers and administration and students have ideas for programs.”

Firpo-Cappiello has been revamping IEF’s website and handles its communications and marketing efforts. “We used to have one big fundraiser each year, and now we have one in the fall and one in the spring,” he said.

When students were asked their ideas for future programs, Sunnyside Federal Savings & Loan stepped up and offered the district a contribution, which was matched by an anonymous donor, thereby creating IEF’s exciting new venture — the Innovation Fund.

During the fund’s January 16 launch, students were given a “WHAT IF?” situation and asked to present their ideas to be considered for grants, introducing new opportunities to the school district and complementing its sponsored programs.

“The Irvington Education Foundation has been a great partner to the school district,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kristopher Harrison. “Over the years, it has funded a multitude of ideas generated by teachers in the district to enhance the educational program in Irvington. I look forward to seeing what the students now propose. The future is in their hands!”

Money raised by the IEF is distributed as grants to fund education enrichment programs, encouraging parents and the community to participate. “It funds ideas that are too expensive even if the school budget was twice the amount it is,” he said. “It’s the icing on the cake. There’s always something that can be added.”

IEF is now in the midst of a pilot program in the high school and will vote on students’ ideas next week. Its board of directors, which includes Kristopher Harrison, reviews grant applications and proposals, submitting its funding recommendations to the Board of Education for approval.

“This is a unique opportunity for students to explore their passions and interests while being able to place a personal stamp on their learning experience and school community,” Harrison said. “Our objective was to empower students to enrich learning while exposing them to the application and proposal-writing process. We are very excited for our students to influence studies in our school community.”

Those wishing to donate can visit http://iefonline.org/ for information or email info@iefonline.org.

Dog Park

Continued from page 3

“there’s always somebody that’s got a problem with every place that makes sense. The natural place in Memorial Park is too close to someone’s house. If you rule out the playing fields, there isn’t enough open space left at Scenic Park. And I guess there are other groups besides Irvington that have a say-so there. Matthiessen Park has been eavesdropping at home about a new location. There were new-comers, with new information. Maggie, a Golden, and Brenda, a Yorkshire Terrier, had been eavesdropping at home about a meeting where some place new had come up...”

Weeks later, they met again—at another undisclosed location. There were new-comers, with new information. Maggie, a Golden, and Brenda, a Yorkshire Terrier, had been eavesdropping at home about a meeting where some place new had come up...

“Ever been taken up to that big pond in the woods?” interjected Will, a miniature poodle who tends to think bigger than he is. “It’s a shit...”

“Look,” said Mocha, “there’s not much we can do except do our business off in the woods or hope that our minds pick up afterwards. My guess is that if everyone bought into the idea of a self-policed park, people would be more conscientious than they might be out here.”

Another is “hold the rope,” which reinvented by Rick Pezzullo

“With all the way from the village to those woods, do you?”

“Yeah,” said Jasper. “From what I heard, most of the people at the meeting were on board with that location—infact after two meetings.”

The snow was finally beginning to melt when they met again. There had been another meeting—this time in front of the Board of Trustees, in which Director of Parks & Recreation Joe Archino made a big pitch for the spot in the woods. He had reviewed all the other options and concluded that the place in the woods had the least number of problems. He had shown drawings and a large overhead photo. He recounted how he and some others had even attended three-and-a-half hours of county-wide seminars on all the various municipalities had to deal with when establishing a dog park: special fencing to prevent dogs from digging their way out; poop bag dispensers; maintenance; usage...
One of the battle cries of the Irvington High School girls' basketball team is "play hard and good things will happen."

Another is "hold the rope," which reinforces the need for every player to contribute for the team to be successful.

This year's Lady Bulldogs' squad wholeheartedly bought in to both philosophies and added to the unparalleled achievements of the program under the leadership of iconic coach Gina Maher in her 39th season the sidelines.

Posting a remarkable 23-2 record, which included an 18-game winning streak, Irvington captured its seventh straight league title and fifth Section 1 Class B championship in the last six years before running into a sharpshooting 24-1 Hoosick Falls team in the Final Four of the State Class B tournament.

It took an unstoppable 19-0 run in the third quarter by Hoosick Falls, which buried six three-pointers, to send a scrappy Irvington team packing.

"My kids never gave up. I think our team is better than what that score (55-36) showed. My girls were very upset. They were very sad it was over," Maher said. "Nobody expected us to do what we did. We got to the state Final Four, which is huge. It's one of the hardest working teams I have ever coached."

Last year, Irvington was devastated after being bounced in the semifinals at the County Center by Dobbs Ferry. With four seniors in the starting lineup this season, Maher said her team was determined, from the opening tipoff of game one, to have a better ending.

The Lady Bulldogs lost only one regular season game to Eastchester and were ranked as the top team in Class B, which Maher noted was astounding given the target put on Irvington by each opponent.

"The kids knew that and they used it to help motivate team," she said. "Every team is different. The personality of this year's team was very different. Nobody wanted to be a superstar. Everyone had a role and everyone assumed a role. It was hard work that won all those games. They played their hearts out. I didn't score one point. It was all the girls."

To win its Section 1 Class B crown, Irvington rallied from a three-point halftime deficit to knock off second seeded Ardsley 50-48 in a thrilling contest. Sophomore point guard Lindsay Halpin scored a team-high 17 points and was named the tournament MVP.

Halpin will be one of only six players, and the only starter, from this year's team to be returning as five seniors will be graduating.

"It takes a village. It takes a team," Maher said while recognizing Halpin as one of the top point guards dishing the ball in high school girls' basketball. "A different person stepped up each time. The girls found a way."

Over the last six seasons, Irvington has amassed a stunning 146-11 record. Besides Halpin, the starters for Irvington this season were seniors Catherine Hoy, Laura DiCampli, Roxy Trama and Havanna Hall. Coming off the bench with valuable contributions were seniors Olivia Rose, juniors Lindsay Chafizadeh and Nina Valdes, sophomore Katri McMahon, and freshmen Kelly Degnan and Zoe Maxwell.

In her 39th season, coach Gina Maher led her squad to a 23-2 season.

RivertownRunners held its 5th Annual Sleepy Hollow Half Marathon on March 21.

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2. Headless Horseman made an appearance down Beekman Ave.

3. Parade Committee and honorees, including Grand Marshal Eileen Kennedy of Irvington (right).

4. Zoe Kaplan of SH High ran the NYC half marathon as part of a fundraiser for Katie’s Crew.

5. RSHM Life Center children, parents and staff march.

6. SH Tarrytown Chamber Induction Ceremony (L-R): Kevin Kay, newly elected Chamber co-president, Theresa McCarthy, past co-president, Tina Zagrobelny, Chamber executive director and Neil Richiutti, newly elected Chamber co-president.

7. Immaculate Conception Church and the Village of Sleepy Hollow held a “Mayor for a Day” event honoring (L-R:) Nick Bell, Chick Galella and Brian Doyle.

— Photos by Sunny Mclean
EQUESTRIAN AND GOLF LIFESTYLE
Sleepy Hollow Country Club: Grounds $3,375,000 This quintessential Hudson Valley estate borders Sleepy Hollow Stables – Full Service Equestrian Center and Riding Academy, with direct access to 55 miles of iconic riding on the Rockefeller Preserve. Enjoy panoramic Hudson River views from this 7000+ sq ft brilliantly designed residence beautifully sited on 2+ acres. C.S. Mcdonald Championship Golf on grounds by membership. Web#: 4436514 Dan Bucci O: 914.238.3988; C: 845.507.2555

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"Dan is extremely professional, knowledgeable and experienced. He is equally at ease selling modest homes as he is multimillion dollar estates. Dan’s prior background in finance and accounting gives him the analytical tools to creatively list, market and close home sales. In addition, he has earned the respect of his peers at other brokerages and this provides him with contacts and market penetration. Dan demonstrated his ability to interact well with everyone we came in contact with throughout the whole process. This included real estate professionals, prospective buyers and family members (including children) and put them all at ease. We believe that this is a distinctive skill that sets Dan apart from other real estate professionals we have met and contributes to his ongoing success. We found him to be readily available to answer questions no matter the day or the hour. We highly recommend him and would use his services again."

- March 2015 testimonial from Kevin, a Tarrytown client

To learn more about Dan, Douglas Elliman, Zillow and Knight Frank partnerships, and much more, visit Dan’s website below.

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Castle Hotel & Spa: A Place of Peace and Tranquility

By Fabienne Schneuwly

On a Tarrytown hilltop, with a breathtaking view of the Hudson River and surrounding area of manicured gardens, sits a picturesque castle built in the 19th century. The majestic building, formerly belonging to General Howard Carroll, a respected playwright and businessman, known as "The Castle," has been newly renovated and refurbished. Continuing its tradition of providing a deluxe hotel destination for international travelers, Manhattanites seeking a luxurious getaway and discerning guests who enjoy superior service and accommodations, The Castle is now offering the lavish Thann Sanctuary Spa on-site. A true haven of tranquility, the spa is the first of its kind in the United States.

Ryoko Ado, Spa Operations Manager, explained Thann's uniqueness. "Thann is a concept generally known and practiced throughout Asia. The word literally means rice, which is the main ingredient of the oils and lotions we use," she said. "THANN involves more than just a simple massage or body scrub. Every movement is focused on the energy lines in the body and dedicated to help the guest find inner harmony. Our staff went to Bangkok, Thailand for six months to participate in a course about the method. They learned how to follow the rules of Zen which are really important for the right practice of THANN.

"We are the only spa of this kind in the whole United States," Ado added. "Therefore, people were a little bit reluctant about trying out this exotic way of relaxation in the first couple of months after the opening. Nowadays, the spa has numerous guests, Ado confirmed. "The busiest time is definitely around Christmas when everybody is looking for a little bit of peace and tranquility," she said. "On a normal day we have about 20 people and for this reason a reservation for our treatments is mandatory."

The innovative THANN Sanctuary Spa differs from many other spas because it takes a holistic approach to wellness. "Through our treatments and the special ambience of the facilities, we help our guests awake every one of their five senses," she said.

Guests will enjoy the gender-segregated, 8,000 square foot, architecturally calming space which includes, among other services, a sprawling whirlpool, relaxation lounges offering teas and healthy snacks, steam rooms, and a VIP lounge.

"We advise people to come for at least one hour. This is the minimum of time it takes for the body and mind to unwind and calm down," Ado said. "Most guests stay for several hours or even a whole day. Our THANN Sanctuary Spa is especially nice for people from the area because they do not have to go far, but once they come to our place they will feel like being in a whole different world."

If You Go:
The Castle Hotel & Spa
400 Benedict Avenue
Thann Sanctuary Spa
For reservations:
914-524-6392
thanssanctuaryspany.com

Spring Into NaturalFit Pharmacy in Irvington

By Dylan Etzel

It’s been almost eight months since NaturalFit Pharmacy opened at 104 Main Street in Irvington. Spacious shelves now brim with new products, ranging from cold remedies to locally crafted candles. Customers fill and refill prescriptions, as NaturalFit serves the health requirements of not only Irvington but also patrons of not only Irvington but also patrons of Irvington to restaurants and cafes. As the seasons changed, opportunities to be involved in community events, such as the village Chanukah celebration, cropped up. NaturalFit featured snow globe making for kids, welcome facials into the store with holiday joy and merriment.

Even now, as we slip into spring, NaturalFit is preparing another adjustment. The store has stocked up on locally produced honeys as well as Botanist sunscreens and balms. New men’s products, such as deodorants and hair styling materials, are filling the shelves. Looking around NaturalFit, one sees more and more typical pharmacy goods like cough drops and cold medicine in the center shelves, and more unique, specialized vitamin mixtures and pet foods lining the outside shelves.

The store’s diverse product offerings still serve as a fresh take on a traditional pharmacy. As returning customers fill prescriptions, Donkin takes note of new customers, even if they just stop in. She knew that starting a new pharmacy would mean gaining the trust of local residents, and that process is fully underway.
King Garden Designs Transforms Landscapes into Paradise
by Dorothy Conigliaro

Just when you thought there would be no end to winter, along comes an early breath of spring. Since it first opened its doors in 2012, King Garden Designs has become a staple in the community, a full service garden design and care practice founded by Irvington resident Charles King Sadler, a leader in the landscape industry. Sadler’s extensive knowledge of plants is derived from ongoing study, world travel and expansive plant experience that helps him in choosing the perfect plants for each garden design - creating successful and beautiful vistas for years to come.

“I’m particularly interested in the river-town communities,” said Sadler. “They each have their own distinct flavor of architecture, landscapes and Hudson River vistas which call for unique garden designs.”

He pointed out, for example, the riverside lanes of Scarborough, Philippe Mannon’s ordered street layout, the high hillside homes in Tarrytown overlooking Haverstraw Bay, the wooded hillside streets and lanes in Irvington overlooking Pierrmont Marsh and the Tappan Zee and beyond to Dobbs Ferry and Hastings. “They’re all different and that’s why I truly love living and working in the Hudson Valley,” he said.

Creating beautiful landscape designs goes hand in hand with providing top-shelf customer service—whether it’s for residential or commercial clients. Said Sadler, “We personally design and supervise planting construction; creating seamless outdoor living spaces for your property. We hand select materials and supervise all phases of construction and garden care.

First meetings involve a landscape consultation to discuss the client’s goals, timing and budget, and a formal proposal follows. Key Garden Designs services include expert handling of the entire process—planning and site design, installation and expert pruning of shrubs and trees, specialized garden care, collaboration with other design professionals such as architects, interior designers and engineers. “Our goal is not only to meet—but exceed—our customer’s expectations,” said Sadler. They include many other special garden needs you may or may not have thought of: hedge trimming, training and pruning of espalier and bonsai, care of perennials and the things that complete a garden’s site - the masonry of walls, walks and patios, and all manner of fencing for pergolas, arbors and gates.

Helping him accomplish his customer’s landscape design goals is in the wealth of experience Sadler brings to the table. He began his professional horticulture career at the John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden in Mill Neck on Long Island’s north shore. From 2004-2007 Sadler did his Masters studies in Landscape Architecture at Syracuse University’s College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF). Beginning in 2007 and until 2012, Sadler joined talented landscape architectural and garden design practices in northern New Jersey, Fairfield County, and Westchester County. Each design practice offered a unique learning experience. In New Jersey, Sadler learned the Japanese art of setting stones, pruning techniques and creating traditional Japanese fencing. In Westchester, Sadler gained exceptional plant knowledge working closely with nurseries, and began long-term relationships in the region with masons, stone suppliers, fencing companies and arborists. In Connecticut, Sadler worked on large-scale estate commissions, overseeing landscape construction and sourcing unique specimen plants throughout the Northeast.

Sadler draws artistic inspiration and his company name from his King family legacy dating to the 1700’s in the greater Hudson region. The King family ventured from England to extend its manufacturing operation to the new world, harnessing the power of the Passaic River in Patterson, New Jersey. Alexander Hamilton facilitated this business development in 1791.

At home in Irvington, Sadler lives with Lesla, and their cocker spaniel, Freckles. “I truly enjoy the local community, taking bike rides along the Old Croton Aqueduct, going to Historical Society events and spending time at the Irvington Library,” said Sadler, who is also a member of the Village Tree Preservation Commission. For more information, visit King Garden Designs at kinggardendesigns.com. Call 914-907-0246. “Like” King Garden Designs on Facebook.
Local Author Pens Matter•ness — Fearless Leadership for a Social World
by Linda Viertel

Allison Fine grew up in Philipse Manor High School, the 1982 Athlete of the Year. At age 21, she became a Sleepy Hollow trustee (1986-9), the youngest official elected in New York State. After receiving her M.A. in non-profit management, creating and running her own non-profit in Washington D. C. for 12 years (Innovation Network — an organization to help other non-profits evaluate their outcomes), she missed the river towns and moved back. “I wanted to bring up my kids here,” she said. “I missed the Hudson River.”

Looking for something new when she returned, she watched “how campaigns began using blogs and email — a revelation,” she noted. “We have this tool that moves power through instructions to individuals, so what happens as a result?” she asked herself. Her first book, the award-winning Momentum: Igniting Social Change in the Connected Age (2005), discusses how to use social media tools to effect social change.

As a co-author of the bestselling The Networked Non-Profit, (2010), she created a resource of guiding principles to help non-profit leaders navigate the transition from top-down organizations to a networked approach enabled by technology. She is also co-editor of Rebooting America and writes about the intersection of social media and social change on her blog, AFineBlog.

But, her third book on the social media revolution, Matter•ness: Fearless Leadership for a Social World was born out of her frustration “after seeing huge shifts as to what individual people can really do, even as institutions double down on command and control systems.” Her point is that “people and organizations where each is heard, their unique needs met, and a greater whole is formed.” This isn’t always easy, of course. “Matterness” entails a willingness for CEOs to listen to employee and client criticisms, problem-solve creatively, and use social media to connect on-line. It means allowing employees to play multiple roles, leaders to reveal their humanity and be less prone to self-protection.

Matterness creates accountability for what employees, leadership and citizens say and do in their professional and civil lives. And Fine makes the case for the best uses of technology as a tool to connect in helping others through business crowd-sourcing, raising funds for those in need, and sharing narratives. Front Page Forum, a site that enables neighborhood residents to share news and connect with one another, has countless sites throughout the nation: a new way to connect on-line, not on-land.

Fine begins her chapter, “Living in Big Small Towns”: “I grew up in Sleepy Hollow, New York. Yes, that Sleepy Hollow — with the famous cemetery, and the Old Dutch Church with its stained-glass windows painted by Mark Chagall. The majestic Hudson River was outside our window and the Headless Horseman was still roaming about, at least according to rumor.” She goes on to de-scribe a village we all recognize still, but segue into how the World Wide Web, Yelp, and Angie’s List have altered connectivity. We can share news, connect, discuss, dissent, help one another on-line as well as on land now. She emphasizes that it is our responsibility to do so with civility and collective responsibility.

But, Fine’s main focus is on institutional “matterness,” and she decries outmoded 20th century organizational structures which she calls “fortresses — hard to get in, hard to get out of, declarative. They tell you what to do, whom to support, how to support them. People have too many choices and opportunities nowadays to settle for old-school style organizations.” She notes that, for young people coming out of college who go into these workplaces, the experience is discouraging. Because they are used to being collaborative, having their voices heard; for them “the experience is soul-sucking.”

Success for a 21st century organization should be based not as Fine writes, “on serving a lot of people but making those they do serve feel that they matter.” Her book cites a number of successful organizations and how they achieved their “matterness”: The Container Store’s intentional communication of fundamental values derived from employee input makes it one of the highest rated businesses in terms of employee satisfaction and retention; Volkswagen’s pro-active directive that all employees go off-line, forget technological multi-tasking after work to enjoy family, friends, social time has similarly created a high level of employee respect. Productivity in both companies has soared.

Fear of change, of losing control, the threat of technological connectivity for executives, boards, for-profit and not-for-profit institutions is palpable, Fine acknowledges. But once organizations learn how to “spread out the work, energize their external and internal actors instead of keeping them couch potatoes, feeling like anti-matter,” productivity, profitability, staff energy and mutual respect begin to thrive. And that, according to Matterness, is what matters. (Fine’s book is available at The Village Bookstore in Pleasantville 914-769-8322)
New Tarrytown, SH Farmers Market Wants to Collaborate with Community

by Linda Viertel

A heavy snowstorm blanketing our river towns was not the harbinger of spring most of us expected. But, soon the snow will melt, buds will bloom, and the first delicious spring vegetables will be on sale, bringing variety, fresh tastes and the long-missed bounty of farm produce to our tables. And, what better way to welcome spring than by supporting local farmers with community engagement in a rejuvenated farmers’ market?

Organizers of the Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow Farmers Market (TaSH) have been meeting over the winter to organize Tarrytown’s new and improved farmers’ market. They are committed to having their brand new market serve the community as a true Village Green.

Having already signed up close to triple the number of farmers and producers of farm-fresh foods than in past seasons, the non-profit Rivertowns Village Green (RVG) is now turning to the community to get engaged.

“We envision the farmers market as a place where, first and foremost, our community can shop for locally grown and produced wholesome foods while supporting local agriculture,” said Suzanne Sorrentino, co-president of Rivertowns Village Green the non-profit that has taken over operation of the market this year.

“At the same time, it has always been our vision that the market will also serve as a way to bring the community together. Residents, as well as visitors to our beautiful villages, can meet on a Saturday to enjoy beautiful Patriots Park while visiting with their neighbors, maybe having breakfast or lunch, listening to music, possibly taking a free Tai Chi class, meeting a local chef and maybe signing up for Little League,” Sorrentino added.

At this stage in the planning, RVG is reaching out to the community in order to create this vision.

The organization has begun a so-called crowd-funding campaign on indiegogo.com and is looking for literal buy-in to the market from the community. “We are kind of like public radio,” Sorrentino said. “We need your support to make this happen.”

RVG, which was formed in 2013 for the sole purpose of running the farmers market, is entirely run by volunteers from Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown. The non-profit needs to raise funds to pay a market manager as farmers’ mail is beginning to arrive and operating costs such as purchasing tents and tables, insurance, advertising, paying musicians and many more details.

“Even the smallest donations from residents are welcome,” Sorrentino said, adding that fund-raising is one way RVG hopes to keep rates low for vendors in hopes that they will pass savings on to customers.

In addition to individual support, RVG is also seeking business and corporate sponsors for the new TaSH Farmers Market, says Tammy Abraham, co-president of RVG.

“We are currently looking for and talking to launch sponsors who will come on board to help make the full vision of the market possible,” Abraham says. “We think this is an incredible opportunity for local businesses and organizations to invest in the community and show their support. We’re so thrilled to have Mrs. Green’s sign on as our first sponsor. They’ve been incredibly supportive since the beginning and have really committed to helping us make this a success.”

In addition to financial support, RVG is also in the process of signing up musicians and entertainers, chefs for demonstrations, plus individuals and organizations to provide children’s activities, educational activities and mind-body activities.

“RVG is also working on finding creative ways to collaborate with many other local nonprofits and community organizations so that we all help each other,” Sorrentino said. RVG board members are already signed up to participate in the Y’s Healthy Kids Day on April 25 and upcoming Third Friday events.

“Our hope is that other community groups will think outside the box about how they can use this weekly community gathering place to reach their constituencies and bring them to the market,” Sorrentino said.

“We can imagine the local senior organizations competing against each other in a pie making contest, or the police or fire departments sponsoring a bike helmet safety day at the new TaSH market. Wouldn’t it be great if the two villages’ Recreation Departments held signups for their programs at the market, or if the schools integrated environmental, nutritional or community service projects with the market?” Sorrentino added.

RVG has already begun speaking to the Board of Education about such ideas and is in the process of reaching out to other community groups. The final piece RVG is working on is engaging the business community so that the market benefits them as well, the co-presidents say.

Abraham notes that in surveys RVG did about the market last winter, more than 60 percent of respondents said they were leaving Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow on Saturdays to go to other nearby communities’ farmers markets.

“We want to keep those people in our villages and shopping at our stores,” Abraham says.

The Village Green will come together when the whole community feels connected to the market, Sorrentino says. “Of course, you will still be able to simply stop in and purchase your beautiful, healthy produce, meats, cheese and breads, and go on your way. But we think you’ll want to stay.”

The TaSH Farmers Market opens Saturday, May 23 in Patriots Park and runs through the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Anyone who wants to reach the market to get involved in any way, can email at tashfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

“We envision the farmers market as a place where, first and foremost, our community can shop for locally grown and produced wholesome foods while supporting local agriculture.”

—Suzanne Sorrentino, co-president of Rivertowns Village Green
Thursday 2
JEWELRY AND BEADING WORKSHOP: At 3 p.m. for teens at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. To register call 631-7734 or the Reference Desk.

Saturday 4
“SOMEONE MUST WASH THE DISHES!”. At 2 p.m. across Michelle Lather performs this anti-authoritarian satire at the Irvington Public Library. To register call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

CONCERT: Bobby Kriger of The Doors performs at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

CONCERT: Joan Osborne performs at 8 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. To register call 631-7734.

CONCERT: The Midtown Men perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Saturday 11
ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE DEMONSTRATION: At 1 p.m. get instruction in this pain and stress relief program at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. To register call 631-7734.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE JUNGLE RIVERS OF SOUTH AMERICA: At 2 p.m. slide presentation by Lima and Bob Mandel at the Irvington Public Library. To register call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org/adults.htm.

“PROKOCIMAL THE MUSICAL!”. Performance at 2 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

“LOST & FOUND”: At 8 p.m. a night of music & comedy featuring Scott Horwich & Michael Sabath at the Irvington Town Hall Theater. E-mail boxoffice@irvingtonny.gov or visit www.irvington.theatre.

CONCERT: “Dead on Live – Celebrating 50 Years of the Grand Old Deaf” at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Sunday 12
WINTER FARM MARKET: From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Farm Store at Stone Barn Center for Food and Agriculture in Pocantico Hills. Call 966-6200 or visit www.stonebarnscenter.org.

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

OPEN WIDE: At 1 p.m. learn all about snakes and lizards at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

VERNAL POOL VISITORS: At 1 p.m. see what’s “happening” at Peetean Lake Reservation in Ossining. Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

DISINFECTING MEDICARE: Presentation at 1:30 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

“BRING IT ON”: At 2 p.m. hear a variety of original music by both new and older artists at the Irvington Town Hall Theater. E-mail boxoffice@irvingtonny.gov or visit www.irvingtontheatre.com.

AUTHOR EVENT/ANNUAL MEETING: At 2 p.m. Sidney Harman discusses “Large Cats and the Natural World” at the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct meeting at the Irvington Public Library. Visit www.aqueduct.org.

ARTIST CONVERSATIONS: At 3 p.m. with Mansheug Wang at Estherwood Mansion, The Masters School, Dobbs Ferry, moderated by Charles Osgood. For reservations call 412-5128 or visit www.rivertours.org.

Monday 13
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR VIABLE PUBLIC SPACE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: Presentation at 3 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

CABARET ON THE HUNGER: At 5 p.m. enjoy an evening of song mixed with wonderful stories at Irvington Town Hall Theatre. E-mail boxoffice@irvingtonny.gov or visit www.irvington-theatre.com.

Wednesday 15
“A HARD DAY’S NIGHT”**: 85 film at 7 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY: At 7:30 p.m. Ruth Buchner will talk about her experiences on Kristallnacht at Temple Beth Abraham in Irvington. Call 631-1770 or e-mail adulated@nyu.edu.

Thursday 16
THIRD THURSDAY: Network with local leaders and business owners from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at Sunnyside Federal in Irvington. Call 591-8000, ext. 116 or visit www.sunnysidefederal.com.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN: At 7 p.m. presentation by local historian John Maruffi at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.osssininglibrary.org.

SAT TEST CHANGES: Workshop for parents and teens at 7 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 to register.

Friday 17
THIRD FRIDAY IN TARRYTOWN: Come to Main St. & S. Washington from 5 p.m. and turn in town with live music, food and treats. Call 631-8347 or visit www.tarrytownwithfriday.com.

PESSI’S SOCIAL: Doors open at 6-30 p.m., calling begins at 8 p.m. at Transfiguration Church Hall in Tarrytown, sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of The Hebrews Division 11. Call 631-4986 or 631-4137.

JAZZ CONCERT: Fourplay performs at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Saturday 18
BOOK SALE: From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org. Also April 19.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION: From 10 a.m. to 12 noon join the Tarrytown Environmental Advisory Council clean-up at either Patrons Park, the skating rink at the Lake or Néperan Park. Call 752-1991 or visit www.tarrytownenvironmental.org.

SIGNS OF SPRING: At 1 p.m. explore the trails and see who is awake at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

MOONEY TABLES: At 2 p.m. presentation on how to be financially successful at the Ossining Public Library. To register call 941-2416, ext. 527.

CHASSIE MUSIC: At 8 p.m. Friends of Music present the Midgoliath Quartet at Briarcliff High School in Briarcliff Manor. Call 861-5000 or visit www.friendsofmusicconcerts.org.

CONCERT: Lera Lynn performs at 8 p.m. at the Purple Crayon Center in Hastings-on-Hudson. Call 231-0977 or visit www.purplecrayoncenter.org.

JCC BAND NIGHT: At 7 p.m. enjoy the music of the JCC Band at Set Back Inn in Tarrytown. RSVP to https://eventbrite.com/e/15949813321 or www.jcconthehudson.org.

CONCERT: Over the Rhine performs at 8 p.m. at Irvington Town Hall Theatre. E-mail boxoffice@irvingtonny.gov or visit www.irvington-theatre.com.

CONCERT: David Bromberg & Larry Campbell and Bela Fleck & Abigail Washburn perform at 8 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Call 877-840-0457 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.org.

Sunday 19
EARTH DAY & ABRIDged CELEBRATION: From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Greenwich Nature Center in Scarsdale. Call 723-3470 or visit www.greatersleepyhollowtarrytown.com.

MEET YOUR Elected offiCials: At 2 p.m. come face to face with your representatives in govern- ment at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or 775-0774.

HUDSON HARP CONCERT: From 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. selection of Elizabethan music and scenes from Shakespeare at Neighborhood House in Tar- ryytown. Call 631-0205 or visit www.thenegh- borhoodhouse.org.

“THE YELLOW TICKET”**: At 4 p.m. Alicia Svigis performs her original score to this 1918 silent film, followed by Q&A, at the Irvington Town Hall Theatre. Visit www.irvingtontheatre.com.

CHASSIE MUSIK: At 4 p.m. The Carved String Trio performs at the Irvington Public Library. Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

Monday 20 to Friday 24
ECO-KIDS WEEK: Celebrate Earth Day with stories, songs and recycled crafts at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

Monday 20
SENIOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING: At 10 a.m. learn about housing for seniors in Westchester Country at the Ossining Public Library. Call 941-2416 or visit www.osssininglibrary.org.

IN WORDS AND MUSIC: The Story of the Yiddish Theater: At 10:30 a.m. presentation by Dr. Diane Cypkin and pianist Lena Pandilova at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 866-7898 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.


ARTIST EQUALITY/”Queering” Jewish Theology: Presentation by Dr. Jay Michaelson at Greenwich Hebrew Center in Dobbs Ferry. Registration required. Call 866-7898 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

Tuesday 21
WEB RESOURCES Demonstration: At 2 p.m. ref-
俐些资源的探索。

**Seniors**

**AARP Lifeline Assistance:**
- Available every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- until April 14 at the Warner Library in Tarrytown.
- Sign up at the Reference Desk or call 631-7734.

**Senior Benefits Information Center:**
- Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Warner Library in Tarrytown.
- Sign up at the Reference Desk or call 631-7734.

**YMCA Health Kids Day & Rotary Duck Derby:**
- 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Patriot’s Park in Tarrytown.
- Also sponsored by The Hudson Independent.
- Call 418-5561 or 631-0675.

**River Arts Studio Tour:**
- From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. take a self-guided tour of private studios featuring work of renowned and emerging artists in Hastings, Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry and Irvington.
- Call 412-5120, e-mail studiotour@riverarts.org or visit www.riverarts.org.

**Nature Art:**
- At 1 p.m. explore nature’s wonder and create your own piece of beauty to take home at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale.
- Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

**The Music Man Jr.:**
- Presented by Clockwork Players Kids Theatre at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Irvington Town Hall Theater.
- E-mail boxoffice@irvingtonyny.gov or visit www.irvingtontheatres.com.
- Also at 2 p.m. on April 16th.

**Concert:**
- At 2:30 p.m. enjoy singer/songwriter Dylan Haim and his band at the Warner Library in Tarrytown.
- Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

**Arthritis Dance Project’s Spring Gala:**
- At 7 p.m. at the Tarrytown Music Hall.
- Call 877-840-2615 or visit www.tarrytownmusichall.com.

**Blood Drive:**
- From 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown.
- For appointment call 631-1770.

**Gem Hunt:**
- At 11 a.m. for ages 5-7 and 1 p.m. for ages 8 and older at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale.
- Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

**Colors of Nature:**
- At 1 p.m. meet at the River Walk Center in Kingsland Point Park, Sleepy Hollow and see the colors of spring on a walk to the Tappan Zee Bridge.
- Call 762-2912, ext. 130 or visit www.teatown.org.

**DeaM Mom and Dad?:**
- At 3 p.m., a theatrical reading created and performed by Catherine Cul-
- siere at Lyndhurst in Tarrytown.
- Call 636-8798 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

**Stop at the Red Apple Rest:**
- At 10:30 a.m. give the drive to the Catskills with author Elaine Freed Lindblatt at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown.
- Call 366-7898 or visit www.jcconthehudson.org.

**Children’s Day:**
- At 6:30 p.m. dancer Rebeca Thomas with guitarist David Castellano demonstrates Flamenco at the Warner Library in Tarrytown.
- Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

**Assassination of Abraham Lincoln:**
- At 7 p.m. illustrated lecture by local historian John Mu- 
- radelli at the Warner Library in Tarrytown.
- Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

**Paperback Book Sale:**
- From 10 a.m. at the Ossining Public Library.
- Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

**Yiddish Class with Maddy Simon:**
- At 12:30 p.m. at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown.
- Call 366-7898 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

**Wednesday 29**

**Spanish Book Club:**
- At 7 p.m. discusses “Vuelo del Cane” by Rosario Ferrer at the Ossining Public Library.
- Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

**Comedy Night:**
- Joel Chasnoff performs at 7:30 p.m. Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown.
- Call 636-7898 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

**Thursday 30**

**Student Fashion Show:**
- At 6 p.m. at Westchester Community College Academic Arts building in Valhalla.
- E-mail erry@ysneoenergygmail.com.

**Greenburgh Nature Center:**
- At 4 p.m. at the Greenburgh Nature Center in Scarsdale.
- Call 723-3470 or visit www.greenburghnaturecenter.org.

**April in Tarrytown:**
- Meet up at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Call 631-7734 or visit www.warnerlibrary.org.

**Connecticut:**
- Joel Chasnoff performs at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown.
- Call 636-7898 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

**Ongoing**

**FCM Works:**
- Art on Film: April 1-7 at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville.
- Call 941-2416 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

**Six-Stop and the Art of Inner Tracking:**
- Four Saturdays at 10 a.m. starting April 4 at 4 Lynn Trota of Saghar Institute teaches two ancient and uni-
- versal core routines of awareness at Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining.
- Call 762-2912, ext. 110 or visit www.teatown.org.

**Westchester Jewish Film Festival:**
- April 8-30 at Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville.
- Call 747-5555 or visit www.burnsfilmcenter.org.

**“West Side Story”:**
- April 9 – July 5 at the West- 
- chester Broadway Theatre in Elmsford.
- Dinner at 6:15 p.m. and show at 8 p.m.
- Call 592-2222 or visit www.westsidebwaytheatre.com.

**Exhibit:**
- View the watercolors of Linda Pfeffer- 
- and her students at the Warner Library in Tarrytown.
- Call 631-7734 or visit www.warner-
- library.org.

**Exhibit:**
- Representational works by area artists 
- involved in the RiverArts Studio Tour on display at the Irvington Public Library.
- Reception April 6 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Call 591-7840 or visit www.irvingtonlibrary.org.

**Exhibit:**
- Photographs by Winsted Boyd and 
- fabric display by Anita Sklar at the Ossining 
- Public Library.
- Reception April 4 at 2 p.m. for Boyd.
- Call 941-2416 or visit www.ossininglibrary.org.

**Exhibit:**
- The work of Taja Owen will be shown 
- April 25 – May 17 at the Canfin Gallery, 39 Main St., Tarrytown.
- Call 532-4545 or visit www.canfinart.com.

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**Women’s Circle:**
- At 9:45 p.m. explore Jewish Women’s issues and discuss the story of Inezbel at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown.
- Call 631-7734 or visit www.jconthehudson.org.

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**April 2015 The Hudson Independent 21**
Anything Goes Aboard The SHHS Ocean Liner

by Morey Stocker

Anything Goes, is a classic 1930’s Broadway musical comedy; the audience came to the theater to be entertained and to escape, at least for one evening. It was The Depression, after all. Theatre-goers expected campy jokes, convoluted romance, singable songs, and happy endings. Seque to 2015: Julie Colangelo-Dore, who is directing this month’s Sleepy Hollow High School Production of Anything Goes, chose the show’s 1962 off-Broadway revival of the show because “it has more funny stuff that gives the cast more opportunities to have fun, to experiment, and to broaden its talents.”

Tap dancing is a case in point. “The cast readily agreed to learn how to tap, actually asked for lessons. The revival also has less of speaking parts which is always a good thing in a high school show,” Colangelo-Dore added. And, there is something else evident with this production of Anything Goes. Everyone involved is in love with the show. For some, it is their fifth SHHS production, having started the process of auditions in their freshman year, they have stayed together for each show. “We look forward to each day of rehearsals,” commented cast member Peter Moriaty. “We all get along well and enjoy the esprit de corps. Many, at least for now, plan to continue with theater as a possible livelihood.”

The 1962 revival of Cole Porter’s show, as well as the 1934 original, is set aboard the ocean liner S.S. American. Included are two song and dance numbers that were not in the original production, yet today are considered Broadway standards and are often performed on the cabaret circuit, as they will be in the Sleepy Hollow High School production. “Friendship” (sung by Francis Pace-Nunez as Moon Martin, Henry Tictomb as Billy Crocker and Zoe Kaplan as Reno Sweeney) was originally written for DuBarry Was a Lady and “It’s De-Lovely” (sung by Henry Tictomb and Sara Friedman (as Billy Crocker and Hope Harcourt) was originally written for Red, Hot and Blue. (It must be comforting for a producer of a Cole Porter show to know that there is such a wealth of top-notch Porter material to draw upon as the situation warrants.) This production also features “You’re the Top.”


For the most part, the action takes place on the aforementioned S.S. American as it sails to England. Reno Sweeney is an evangelist turned nightclub singer and, perhaps, more than just a friend to Billy Crocker who is a young Wall Street banker who is in love with Hope Harcourt, an American debutante who is the unhappy suance of Lord Evelyn Oakleigh, (Peter Moriaty). Mrs. Evangeline Harcourt (Clare Johnson) is Hope’s overhearing mother who becomes involved with Elvis J. Whitney (Alexander Bassett), a Wall Street banker and Billy’s boss. And, folded into the mix is Moonface Martin, a second-rate gangster (Public Enemy Number 13), as played by Francis Pace-Nunez and his conspiratorial girlfriend Bonnie Letour, as Bing, who captivates audiences with his soothing tones (and has performed with many acclaimed jazz artists) and our feature performer, Carole Demas, who is no stranger to the ITHT stage. Demas, who originated the role of Sandy on Broadway in “Grease” (for which she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame) and starred in the longtime children’s television show, “The Magic Garden,” has dazzled audiences on Broadway, in concerts, and on television. Known throughout Westchester, Demas is a local favorite, and we are honored to have her close our first cabaret season and celebrate the series with us.

Tickets can be purchased in advance (online tickets are always less expensive than at the door) at http://bit.ly/COTH_April. Theater-goers are encouraged to arrive early and dine at one of Irvington’s many restaurants; some offer cabaret dinner specials for patrons who present their cabaret tickets. I look forward to seeing devoted supporters of this unique series as well as new faces in the audience on April 13th.

For more information about the ITHT events, visit www.irvingtonontheater.com
Sleepy Hollow High Students Compete in Science Fair

by Katy Kachnowski

On March 7, high school students from all across Westchester gathered in the Sleepy Hollow High School gymnasiums to compete in the annual Westchester Science and Engineering Fair (WESEF). This year's event hosted 423 projects from a total of 35 schools.

Science research is a three-year elective in the high school. Students pick an area of science, read journal articles and other sources of literature on their topic, and finally search for a mentor who will help them conduct a study. The researchers typically finish the experiments as juniors and enter competitions in the spring of their junior and senior year. These events range from local to regional levels. For the projects of the highest caliber, there are international contests that are as competitive as the Olympics.

This year, 25 Sleepy Hollow students competed under the guidance of teachers Mrs. Janet Longo-Abinanti and Mrs. Michelle Zielinski. Projects were entered in 14 different categories that ranged from studying the behavioral traits of service dogs as puppies, to creating algorithms predicting stock market trends, to using powdered sugar in treating honey bee colony collapse disorder. While Sleepy Hollow did not have the most competitors, or the most winners, nearly every Horseman was presented with an award at some level.

Seniors Daniel Moriarty, Clare Johnson, Colton Akinjosi, Javier Morales, and Heather Brown placed fourth in their respective categories, while seniors Katie Brennan and Julia Komorowski and junior Elizabeth Silver placed second in theirs. Seniors Elizabeth Sobolik and Austen Paris, and junior Dominique Marchini each placed first, for projects in cell and molecular biology, engineering, and environmental science, respectively.

Sobolik was also named as an Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) finalist. She will move forward and present her research internationally at the Olympics of science fairs in May. This competition hosts 1,700 finalists from over 70 countries annually. Sobolik's project was entitled "Protein Gene Therapy: Correcting Juvenile Hemochromatosis Using Targeted Delivery of the BMP Co-receptor HJV."

"I developed a protein-based therapy to treat an autosomal-recessive iron overload disorder (juvenile hemochromatosis) that is potentially safer and more targeted -which means fewer side effects- than gene editing," she said.

Sobolik attended Intel ISEF last year in Los Angeles, California, where she won the Anti-Vivisection Award along with a monetary award for her project, "Generating iPSCs from Human Adipocyte Tissue for Differentiation in Nociceptors. " When asked about returning to this prestigious event, Sobolik replied, "It's an absolute honor to get to go back. Last year everything was new and huge and intimidating but also really fun. I think this year will be the same."

Marchini will also be traveling to Intel ISEF as a finalist. She will be presenting her project, "Recycling Hair: Flocculation as an Alternative Method of Assembling Hair Fibers for the Recovery and Recycle of Crude Oil." She studied the effect of hair on extracting crude oil from the environment. "It's an honor to be able to compete," said Marchini.

Sobolik and Marchini will be attending the Intel ISEF in Pittsburgh from May 10 to May 15.

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Dog Park

Continued from page 12

frees; how to police the parks; handicap access. Nothing is simple.

Some of the trustees asked questions, as did a few residents, but there had been a lack of real enthusiasm—mostly because the site was so far from the village center. Some asked for a reassessment of some of the other sites.

Ella and Otto and Maggie and Brendan shared as much as they could remember from conversations overheard at home, where Peter Agavino and Steven Schneider, their respective owners, had been deeply involved in the quest for a dog park for months on end. They could tell that Parks & Rec chief Archino felt he was tippetoing along a very fine line. "I'm trying to keep everybody playing nice," he had said to someone.


"Why can't they do what they do in New York City," asked Bailey, "and just say Columbia doesn't seem to care?"

"I don't know, 6 a.m. until 9 a.m.?"

They apparently tried that approach in Rye," responded Maggie, "and it just got the dog owners and non-owners at each others' throats."

"How about they try to do a deal with Columbia University and put the park in that big field south of Octagon House?" asked Nelson, who conveniently lives not too far away. "Columbia doesn't seem to want to play nice," responded Otro, having heard as much from somewhere.

Word was that Archino would go back to the Board in April with more detailed drawings and maybe more of an idea of how dog owners themselves could get involved in the management of a dog park—whatever it ends up (though the focus now remains on the woods above the reservoir).

"No matter what we do, where we go, there's going to be opposition," Archino had once said (in earshot of a dog, apparently). He also is said to have said: "Nothing is simple."
Harriet Edwards Gamper died peacefully at home in Irvington, on March 10, days after celebrating her 101st birthday with her family and many friends. She was born at home in Leipsic, Ohio, on March 5, 1914. She enjoyed a loving, carefree childhood with family and friends, climbing trees, riding her pony and playing basketball. After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University, she worked as a dietician at Christ Hospital, Cincinnati and, on a blind date, met and later married Charles E. Gamper (Chuck). During World War II, they lived in Washington, D.C., where Chuck worked for the U.S. Department (and was known to chat with Eleanor Roosevelt on the Mall). After the war, Harriet and Chuck were posted to the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica with their two small children, Jo Ann and David. After their return to the states and quite a few moves and positions, they settled in Irvington, where they raised their children and became involved residents of the village. Harriet fondly recalled great times in the courtyard of her residence (“the Gulch”), such as summer square dances and the Twelfth Night bon fires “mit grog.”

When Chuck died unexpectedly at age 64, Harriet determined to continue her full and involved life. At age 65, she returned to college to obtain a degree in archeology, her passion. Always a student of history, she found projects dear to her heart in preserving open space in the Irvington surrounds, advocating for a clean and environmentally safe Hudson River, playing an active role in the restoration project at Philipsburg Manor, as well as many other causes that helped keep Irvington a “country village.” Harriet was proud to be a founding board member of the O.P. and W.E. Edwards Foundation (and still an active board member until age 100) and a founding board member of the Donald Reed Speech and Hearing Center at Phelps Hospital. She enjoyed the rich cultural life of Irvington and New York City, especially the Fortnightly Club, the Town Hall Theater, the Irvington Historical Society, the Irvington Library, and the Irvington Presbyterian Church.

She attributed her long and rich life to a grateful, positive attitude (“Go with the flow!” was a favorite motto), to wonderful family, friends and neighbors, to healthy living with good food (especially chocolate!), and regular exercise (she did yoga until just recently). Her last few years were greatly improved by her exceptional caregivers and friends, Marie Duran, Nicole Campbell, Helen Gounga, Waldina Pineda, Steve Gallo and Pat Malvey and in the end, Jenser Hospice and the loving therapy dog, Andy. All of them allowed her to live an active life in her own home. A celebration of Harriet’s life will be held later this spring at the Irvington Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Scenic Hudson (1 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601) or to the Irvington Historical Society (PO Box 23, Irvington, NY 10533).

Barbara Ann Harasymiw, 80

Barbara Ann Harasymiw, a resident of Irvington, died on March 17. She was 80.

She was born in Ossining on January 12, 1927. On September 13, 1947 she married Joseph F. McCarthy in St. Ann’s Church and the couple settled in North Tarrytown where they raised their family. Mrs. McCarthy was a member of the Sleepy Hollow Seniors and the Transfiguration Seniors. She was also a member of ITALO, the Eagles Ladies Auxiliary, the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

Mary McCarthy, 88

Mary E. McCarthy, a longtime Sleepy Hollow resident, died March 12. She was 88.

She was born in Ossining on January 12, 1927. On September 13, 1947 she married Joseph F. McCarthy in St. Ann’s Church and the couple settled in North Tarrytown where they raised their family. Mrs. McCarthy was a member of the Sleepy Hollow Seniors and the Transfiguration Seniors. She was also a member of ITALO, the Eagles Ladies Auxiliary, the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

Katie Nordhoff, 28

Inquiring Photographer

“What do you look forward to most about Spring?”
Like Second-Hand Smoke, Idling Engines Harm Our Children

by Greg Galloway
Tarrytown Environmental Advisory Council

When it comes to idling in your car or truck, what you don’t know can definitely hurt you, your car, and your pocket book. Not to mention potentially get you in trouble with the law.

There was a time when engines worked more efficiently after warming up for a few minutes, but that time has passed. Today’s cars and trucks (models built after 1988 which have fuel-injector systems versus carburetors) are ready to move after running for only a few seconds. Similarly, gone are the days when starting an engine consumed an inordinate amount of gas. Today’s engines start up with such efficiency that, if you’re not going to be moving for more than 10 seconds, you’ll save gas (and money) by turning the engine off. In fact, in almost all cases, idling a modern engine creates a less efficient operating environment, resulting in excess fuel residue, further reducing engine efficiency and shortening the life of the engine.

In a busy parking lot, on a crowded street, or at a pick-up point at a train or bus station or school, a few minutes of comfort inside your vehicle may create a serious health hazard for those outside your vehicle. Idling engines produce toxic gases associated with severe health risks. Vehicle exhaust contains tiny particles that travel right past your nose and throat’s natural filters to reach the lungs. Common ill-effects can include irritation to the eyes, nose, and throat; cough, nausea, worsening of pre-existing asthma, irregular heartbeat, heart attacks, and damage to the immune system. Scientific studies have shown that inhaling particle pollution can lead to illness, hospitalization, and even premature death. Particle pollution has also been linked to risk of cancer, adverse birth outcomes, and stunted childhood lung development. Idling your engine for just one minute produces as much carbon monoxide—a toxic gas—as smoking three packs of cigarettes.

For several reasons, the youngest among us are most at risk from the dangers of idling vehicles and the fine particulate matter they generate. These fine particulars are so minuscule that several thousand of them could fit on the period at the end of this sentence, and some ultra-fine particles may even enter the bloodstream. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, “Children are more susceptible to air pollution than healthy adults because their respiratory systems are still developing and they have a faster breathing rate.” The risk to children is heightened by their increased potential for exposure during the school year; idling buses and passenger vehicles present a danger to those in and around them. Even students in the classroom are at jeopardy when vehicles idle outside entranceways, under school windows, and outside of school grounds. Children can encounter idling vehicles waiting for the arrival of the school bus at the beginning or end of the day. Vehicle exhaust contains air toxics, such as benzene and formaldehyde, which are known carcinogens. Potential short-term effects of exposure include developmental delays; reduced immunity, which can result in missed days of school and increased hospital visits; dizziness; diziness; headaches; and eye, skin and respiratory irritation. Chronic effects can include cancer, birth defects, reproductive effects and challenges. (American Lung Association)

Westchester County’s anti-idling law, which became effective February 10, 2009, prohibits non-emergency vehicles from idling their engines in excess of 3 minutes, unless the temperature outside is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. There is no temperature exception for diesel-powered vehicles. Certain commercial vehicles, such as those dependent on their engines for product refrigeration or for trucks loading or discharging vehicles, and electric vehicles are exempted from the law.

The Village of Tarrytown has recently added anti-idling signage to remind drivers of the law, part of Westchester County’s Sanitary code. A first offense may carry a fine of $250, up to 15 days in jail, or both. Repeat violators of the law can potentially face a fine of up to $500 and/or 15 days in jail.

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April 2015

The Hudson Independent
A Sheepish Festival in Sleepy Hollow at Historic HV

by Fabienne Schneuwly

Hats and gloves keep us warm during every winter. Why not welcome spring by learning more about everything woolly and sheepish?

Historic Hudson Valley invites everyone to Philipsburg Manor, in Sleepy Hollow for the annual Sheep-to-Shawl Festival on April 18-19. Visitors can explore the exact process of turning wool into cloth using techniques from the 18th century and even try out their own skill by participating in hands-on activities such as weaving. Scottish border collies will show their immense talent at sheep-herding on the grounds. They are definitely going to be a highlight for all the kids who are encouraged to reproduce a piece of clothing from 300 years ago for a great photo opportunity. There will also be a fashion show complete with critiques from Historic Hudson Valley’s expert costume designer, as well as, entertaining tales brought to life by master storyteller Jonathan Kruk.

Visitors will have the possibility to enjoy a remarkable exhibit in the Visitor Center Auditorium entitled Art of the Productions – Recreating Period Textiles. This unique display of textile pieces from the Historic Hudson Valley’s collection, along with a variety from other modern venues, will help people appreciate this often neglected area of expertise. The exhibit highlights the skills, techniques and materials which are necessary to reproduce period textile. It also takes a look at the importance of costume reproduction culturally. Among the pieces on display, there will be a quilted coverlet from Sunnyside, the romantic homestead of Washington Irving, several petticoats from the collection of Philipsburg Manor and one hand-sewn shirt from a private collection. Visitors will also be able to see tools relating to reproducing textile pieces and samples of patterns. Since period fabrics play a key role in many modern television shows and theater productions, there will be a display board showing images of historical costumes in use on Downtown Abbey on PBS and in Game of Thrones on HBO.

Another offering this year, in conjunction with the exhibit, will be a series of talks and workshops for visitors who want to learn more about knitting, sewing, quilting and how to care for family heirlooms. The workshops and talks will be held in the Visitor Center Greenhouse on both days of the weekend.

Irvington’s Geordane’s market will be providing a freshly prepared lunch menu and locally sourced homemade ice cream will be courtesy of Croton’s The Blue Pig.

The festival takes place on the weekend of April 18th and 19th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Schedule and tickets can be found at: www.hudsonvalley.org/events/sheep-shawl.

Tax Cap

Continued from page 8

able property total has dropped, mainly because of two factors, according to the Village Administrator and Budget Officer Mike Blau. In a message to the Mayor and Trustees accompanying his budget, he noted that the decrease was “...due to tax certioraris and the granting of a partial tax exemption to a property that had been fully taxable in 2014-15.” The South Broadway property he referenced was purchased by Montefiore Medical Center, which is tax exempt, from Kraft Foods, which is not.

The proposed tax rate is $312.94 per thousand of assessed value as compared to the current rate of $294.61 per thousand of assessed value of a home represented an increase of 2.45% over the tax rate in the fiscal year. “In order to be where we are in a new budget, we had to generate an additional $653,000,” Blau said. “Recouping this loss of tax dollars in the tentative budget increases the tax rate by 4.48 % but has no effect on the tax levy,” he continued. “Tarrytown could have increased the amount of tax levy it is collecting by $464,800 and remained within the cap; however, the increase amounts to $194,157.”

The proposed tax rate is $312.94 per thousand of assessed value as compared to the current rate of $294.61. The average assessed value of houses in Tarrytown is about $15,000.

Village Treasurer James Hart, who partnered with Blau in developing the budget, put it succinctly, “...a large part of the increase in the tax rate is due to the loss of assessables, not expenses.” However, Blau noted an increase in the cost of health insurance as part of employee benefits, and added that the budget does call for one additional person for maintenance work in the parks and recreational facilities which are expanding. An increase of $25 for parking permits is included in the tentative budget to make up for some of the revenue loss.

The Board of Trustees can modify the tentative budget, and a public hearing on it will be set before April 15. Village Budgets must be approved by May 1.

Irvington’s Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on its 2015-16 tentative budget on Monday, April 6, at which time it will also consider proposed water rate changes, as announced by its Clerk Treasurer, Brenda Jeselnik. That village’s proposed tax rate of $294.61 per thousand dollars of the assessed value of a home represents an increase of 2.45% over the tax rate set last year.

Administrator Lawrence Schopfer indicated that, the Village has a small growth in property tax assessables over last year, and that its tax levy would remain under the cap set by New York State, based on the preliminary budget.

The village would be collecting $13,519,493, a hike of about $433,000 over the prior year’s tax revenues, but under the permitted tax cap amount by approximately $164,000. Some of the more hefty increases in its budget related to medical and health insurance.

All three villages are collaborating on the installation of LED street lighting to replace the current systems as part of their Government Efficiency Plans. Blau anticipated a large savings in the projected budgets from LED lighting, as did Schopfer and Anthony Giaccio, Sleepy Hollow’s Administrator. Giaccio also noted the collaboration among the villagers in the Pothole Killer Pilot Program, and indicated Sleepy Hollow was looking at the potential sharing of a snow melting device, which he stated could result in “big savings.” The Village, he added, was also looking toward an energy audit shortly and the installation of automated water meters to check leakage.
Bees have long been known as the angels of agriculture. They provide honey and beeswax, and pollinate wildflowers and crops, including the really great stuff like blueberries and apricots and almonds and melons. Bees are small creatures that carry a heavy load. Their cross-pollination is essential to at least 30% of the world’s crops and 90% of our wild plants. It’s likely you are most familiar with Apis mellifera, social hive-making honeybees—imported to the U.S. from Europe centuries ago and now workhorses for a $15 billion business.

But surprisingly, 90% of wild bees are not so-social, and most likely you don’t think much about them. They live alone and lay just a few eggs in a lifetime. They are solitary bees. Some solitary bees are ground nesting, and some make nests in pre-existing cavities such as hollow twigs and stems, holes in old trees or wood, or abandoned mouse holes, woodpecker holes, seashells or insect burrows. Each one needs its very own room. They are not destructive insects. They do not excavate holes in wood. They merely clean out loose debris from these cavities. Since they do not defend a stockpile of little darlings, most of these shy solitary native bees are sweet, harmless and not aggressive. They rarely if ever sting unless trodden between your fingers, or trapped between your flip-flop and your foot. Yowch!

These small bee-ings have the same basic needs as humans—food and a healthy living environment. And yet many of them find it increasingly difficult to find a place to call home. To celebrate Earth Day this month (April 20th!), let’s encourage solitary bees and provide a seasonal nesting site for them—a sort of bee apartment complex. You can make a bee nursery, or Bee Block, using only a drill and a small log. The Bee Block can be used as a seasonal bee nursery for nine months as eggs develop through a larval stage into adulthood.

Using a drill, make holes in untreated scrap timber or logs. Drill a selection of varying diameters between about ¼ inch and ½ inch, but no larger. Holes drilled ¼ inch or smaller should be 2 to 5 inches deep. Holes larger than ¼ inch should be deeper than 5 inches. Use sandpaper to smooth any splinters and rough edges. Remove any sawdust from the holes and position the log holes facing outward.

The ideal bee block location is on the south or east side of a building—a spot that faces the morning sun. It should be sheltered somewhat from the rain—either add an overhanging “roof” of wood, or place the coop under the eaves of a building. And, blocks containing dormant bee pupae should be brought into a shed or barn for protection during the winter and then placed outside again in early spring. This Bee Block is the bee’s knees!

Marcie Cuff lives in Irvington and is the author of the blog Mossy. She is also the author of the book “This Book Was a Tree” by Perigee, an imprint of Penguin Books. For more hands-on projects like this, visit http://mossymossy.com.
Feel the River

LIKE NEVER BEFORE

Fifteen years ago, circumstances came together to create a waterfront community that would forever alter what it meant to live on the Hudson. Fast forward to present day and Hudson Harbor is closer to realizing that vision than ever before.

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This is the River House at Hudson Harbor. Coming Spring 2015

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