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# The Hudson Independent

February 2018

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Vol. XIII No. 2

## Riverfront Homeowners Decry FDNY Fireboat Moored in Sleepy Hollow

by Rick Pezullo

A fireboat that was utilized in rescue efforts following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in Manhattan and the "Miracle on the Hudson" emergency airplane landing on January 15, 2009 suddenly appeared on Thanksgiving weekend outside the windows of riverfront homeowners in Sleepy Hollow. And, it has created waves.

A group of residents from River Street expressed their displeasure with the "gigantic" water craft to the Board of Trustees in late November, complaining they should have received some advanced notice that the retired FDNY fireboat, called the John D. McKean, would be moored at the end of a pier, blocking their scenic views.

"I'm shocked by it," said Paul Viboch, a 12-year resident. "I didn't expect it to be in my living room. I didn't expect to be eye to eye with this towering structure."

"I woke up and saw a ship. This doesn't



FDNY Fireboat John D. McKean that was used in rescue efforts following 9/11 and Miracle on the Hudson.

—Photo by Alexa Brandenburg

belong here," said Michael Savitsky, a resident since August 2016. "We pay a lot of taxes. We don't want to be looking at that."

Residents further maintained the 129 feet long, nearly 50 feet high fireboat did not fit

with the residential/park-like environment of Horan's Landing and the RiverWalk, but others have disagreed.

At a Board of Trustees meeting in Decem-

*Continued on page 7*

## From El Salvador to Westchester: An Immigrant's Journey

by Charlene Weigel

Camila and her son Paul crouched silently behind the door. Camila's husband pounded and kicked. "Open the door. You're going to pay for this." The attack followed a domestic violence report that Camila filed with the San Salvador police. Their response was to tell her to change the locks on her door.

Camila had nowhere to turn. Third in the world for femicide, El Salvador is in a "generalized state of violence" against women, according to the United Nations Human Rights Council. In Salvadoran culture, domestic violence stays within the family. Camila's parents told her to be more respectful when they saw the marks on her arms. Only self-reliance supported her journey from victim to refugee to undocumented immigrant to asylum recipient in Westchester County.

In El Salvador, Camila was isolated, forbidden from working by her husband. Paul remembers, "I heard him yelling, 'Shut up girl.' I knew he was going to hurt her. My father broke my mother's right foot. I would often hear my father hurt my mother when they thought I was asleep." Camila was hospitalized three times, her husband hovering nearby to be sure she reported "an accident."

One day Paul saw his father choking his mother. He pulled on his father's shirt, begging him to stop. His father hit Paul with his belt. That night, Camila and Paul fled, returning only after she borrowed money to change the locks.

Camila hoped the door would keep out a second danger. Gangs control much of El Salvador, with the heavily tattooed faces of MS-13 dominating Camila's neighborhood. In 2016, El Salvador was second only to Syria in violent death rates due to MS-13 and their rival gang, Barrio 18. Paul remembers mareros (gang members) walking "on the roof of my house at all hours of the day and night." When Camila finally found

*Continued on page 2*

## EF Campus Plays Host to a Boot Camp for Au Pairs

by Barrett Seaman

Maria and Sophia need help. They are due at a lecture on personal safety, but they don't know how to get to the lecture hall in one of the many buildings that make up the sprawling Education First (EF) campus perched on the hilltop overlooking Tarrytown and the Hudson. Their English is not perfect, but they manage to get across what it is they're after—and that's all part of the process. While they're here, it's English only all the time.

The two young women are from Mexico and here for only five days as students at Cultural Care Au Pair Training School. At the weekend, they will head out to meet with the families that will be their hosts and employers for the next year and possibly more. Maria is on her way to San Francisco; Sophia is going to Boston. They have already communicated, including via Skype, with their respective families and the young children they



A bumper crop of cultural care au pairs.

—Photo Credit: Skye McIvor

will soon be caring for. They are excited about the opportunity.

Eventually they find the lecture hall, where they join dozens of other young women between the ages of 18 and 26 (there are a few men in the pro-

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## Immigrant's Journey

Continued from page 1

work in a small store, a marero burned her arm with a cigarette for selling matches to a police officer.

Camila and Paul tried to be invisible. She explained, "We refer to us who stay at home as 'civilized people.'" When Paul went to school, "I would tell him not to reveal his address or speak negatively against those who sold drugs. At home, he lived inside the whole time." In seventh grade, Paul's two best friends became mareros. "It's just easier to be part of the gang," he said. "For boys my age in El Salvador, you either join the mareros or you die."

Despite Camila's efforts, Paul was targeted. MS-13 passed a message to Camila's employer that Paul was old enough to start delivering packages for drug deals. They demanded she "pay \$3,000 or else they would kill my son. The police didn't help." Camila decided to flee.

Camila secretly sold her house and used the \$11,000 to pay seven different "coyotes" (human smugglers). Over 28 days, she and Paul walked, rode buses and trains, and were cargoed in trailers through Guatemala and Mexico. Camila paid the "special" rate for a faster journey and better food, only to find that the trip was the same for everyone. The coyotes were willing to leave behind children who were sick or could not keep up; Camila and others cared for those children. She constantly begged Paul for forgiveness. He said he understood.

After crossing the Rio Grande, immigra-

tion officials found them in 10 minutes. "They were not aggressive. They asked us where we were from and our age. I was asked if I was fearful to return to El Salvador. I said 'yes.'"

Camila and Paul were separated in detention. "He cried a lot and was very afraid," she said. "An officer told him to remain calm. The problems were for the adults and not for them." An attorney advised Camila to apply for asylum. After three days, she was fitted with the ankle bracelet that was to brand her for the next three months.

Camila and Paul were released to a relative in Houston. Camila applied for a divorce. Her husband refused to sign the papers, but a judge in El Salvador accepted the decree. She decided to join her family in Westchester County despite concern that her ex-husband could find her. She started English classes and contacted a local attorney to apply for asylum.

The Migration Policy Institute estimates that, as of 2014, there were 61,000 people without documentation in Westchester County. The odds are stacked against those seeking asylum. Camila was fortunate to have skilled attorneys at Pace University's John Jay Legal Services. The Court found that the torture, rape, and persecution of Salvadoran authorities were grounds to grant asylum. Many cases are not even heard, adding to an over 650,000 immigration case backlog (November 2017). Only 17% of the 52,109 asylum cases completed in 2016 shared Camila's success.

Camila fears discovery by her ex-hus-

band and a change in immigration laws that could send her back to El Salvador. She worries about the 200,000 El Salvadorans whose Temporary Protected Status was revoked in January. "A small percentage will return," she said. "The rest will decide to live in shadow. To return to El Salvador would be going to a cemetery."

She knows that MS-13 and other gangs operate in the greater New York City area, but she has confidence in the police and legal system. "If something bad would happen to me or my son here," she said, "that person would be held accountable." Camila knows women in Westchester County who are undocumented and suffering domestic abuse. She encourages them to contact the Westchester police "because here laws are respected."

Camila's asylum grant allowed her to

obtain a work permit. She supports Paul with her job packaging beauty supplies and takes English and driving classes. She is proud that Paul, now 15, gets good grades in mathematics, English and science. He dreams of becoming a policeman or a marine.

What does she want people to know? The words spill out in a rush. "It can be done. To leave a hellish life is possible. Don't feel embarrassed to seek help. If we are in this country, it is solely to protect our lives. We are not animals. Our work also bears fruit."

Look carefully at that next box of beauty supplies arriving at your door. It may have been packed with pride and care by Camila.

(Note: Camila and Paul reside in Westchester County. She was interviewed over the phone to hide her location. Their names have been changed for their protection.)

## Study Recommends Re-Opening Broadway Ramp to New Bridge

by Robert Kimmel

An analysis by an independent traffic consulting firm has recommended that the temporarily closed ramp to the new Governor Mario Cuomo Bridge on South Broadway in Tarrytown be re-opened. The report was under review this week by the village's Board of Trustees which will decide whether or not to request that the New York Thruway Authority permanently close the northbound ramp.

The ramp used to access the Tappan Zee Bridge and the Thruway had been closed since March 2014 to facilitate the construction of the new bridge across the Hudson.

In making its recommendation, Simco Engineering of New York City took into consideration a variety of situations, "benefits and drawback," including past studies, the comparison of existing traffic conges-

tion and flow prior to and following Ramp E's closing, both on South Broadway and the detour entrance off Rt. 119 to the Thruway, and the number of accidents that have occurred. Among its studies, it determined the amount of time required by southbound motorists on Broadway to reach the bridge via its detour as opposed to using the ramp; more than three minutes during the peak evening rush hours.

The study also analyzed a "Limited Access Only Scenario" suggested by the village, whereby the Broadway ramp would be opened only when there was severe traffic congestion in the vicinity and throughout the village. However, it stated, "In light of the impracticality of implementing the Limited Access Only Scenario," it is recommended that Ramp E be reopened to traffic upon completion of the Tappan Zee Bridge as currently planned.



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# Sleepy Hollow Fire Chief Rescues Deer from Frozen Pocantico Lake

by Barrett Seaman

Not every call to the fire department is about a fire. Certainly the one Sleepy Hollow Fire Chief John Korzelius took January 16 was anything but. The call was from a friend in Pocantico Hills, who wanted to know if the SHFD could lend a hand in an attempt to rescue a deer that had apparently fallen through a soft patch in the otherwise frozen Pocantico Lake. The Chief grabbed some ropes, packed up a special wet suit and brought along the SH Ambulance Corps truck—just in case something happened to a human rescuer.

Donning the wet suit secured with a lifeline, and with the help of about 20 other firemen from both Sleepy Hollow and other area departments, he got down on his belly

and started a long crawl out to where the deer was partly submerged about 150-to-200-feet out in the lake.

“As I was getting close, he started popping up,” said Korzelius. The animal no doubt feared he was destined to become someone’s venison dinner and was trying to move further away as the Chief drew nearer. Even when the deer managed to pull himself out of the freezing water, recalled Korzelius, “he couldn’t stand up and kept slipping on the ice—all four legs going in different directions.”

Korzelius had brought an extra rope out on the ice with him. “I’m thinking I’m going to lasso him, like a cowboy,” he said. It became apparent, however, that that wasn’t going to happen.

“Grab its leg,” shouted his colleagues

from the shore, even as the deer was trying to move even further away. That didn’t seem like a great idea either. “Please do not buck me,” the Chief said to the deer (though as much to himself). Yet eventually, that’s what Korzelius did. The others started to pull the pair back using the lifeline.

In the beginning, the deer wanted nothing to do with the rescue effort, said Korzelius, “but as we got close to shore, I think he figured out that we weren’t going to eat him.”

Once on land, the deer flopped down on the banks of the lake for a while, obviously

exhausted from what must have been hours in the frozen lake. Others more knowledgeable about deer assured the chief that the deer was a stag, maybe 200 lbs., though without antlers, as they said stags tend to shed their antlers at this time of year. Korzelius thought that was just as well.

Eventually, the deer rose and hobbled off into the woods. “Do you think he’s broken a leg?” asked the chief of his deer expert colleagues. No, he was assured, just a little stiff.

Who wouldn’t be?

Visit [www.thehudsonindependent.com](http://www.thehudsonindependent.com) to view a video of the rescue.

## SH Resident on U.S. Women’s World Cup Qualifying U-20 National Soccer Team

Samantha Coffey, a resident of Sleepy Hollow and 2017 Master’s School graduate, is a member of the United States’ 20-player team for the 2018 Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) Women’s Under-20 Championship which took place in Trinidad and Tobago.

Coffey, 19, a midfielder, who is a freshman at Boston College, is one of 16 collegiate players on the squad.

The United States won all three of its group stage games to top Group B and advance to the tournament semifinals.

In a thrilling January 26 tied 1-1 match against Haiti, the U.S. Under-20 Women’s National Team qualified on penalty kicks (3-0) for the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) U-20 Women’s World Cup, which will be played this August in France.

Coffey is the daughter of *The Hudson Independent’s* former Editorial Board member Wayne Coffey.



**Irvington Attorney Appointed Greenburgh Judge:** Irvington attorney Christie D’Alessio, a Mercy College and Pace Law School grad, was appointed Greenburgh Town Judge by the Town Board. Supervisor Paul Feiner called her “a highly qualified candidate who has dedicated her legal career as a public servant.” She previously spent 13 years with the Westchester County Attorney’s office as a litigator handling cases in local, state and federal court.



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# Where, Oh Where, Should the New Bridge's Toll Gantry Be?

by Barrett Seaman

You may recall the Norwegian fairytale of the Three Billy Goats Gruff, featuring an ugly troll that threatened to devour any creature that dared cross over his bridge. In the end, the three billy goats vanquished the troll but not without considerable delay and a great deal of angst.

Bridge crossing has become decidedly more civilized since then: ugly trolls have given way to mere monetary tolls, albeit expensive ones, that are not only less threatening but also far less obtrusive. The old manned toll collection plaza that often backed up traffic as it exited the eastern end of the Tappan Zee Bridge is gone, replaced by an overhead gantry supporting cameras and EZ-Pass readers that identify vehicles and bill them later. With no booths or gates to impede them and cameras that can cap-

ture information from a vehicle traveling beneath them at 55-miles-per-hour,\* motorists using the bridge can now collectively save up to 310,000 hours a year, according to the Thruway Authority.

At present, the toll gantry resides in South Nyack on the Rockland County side of the new bridge. According to the New York State Thruway Authority (NYSTA), it was moved west temporarily as part of bridge construction staging. The plan has always been to move it back to Tarrytown as soon as the second, south-bound span of the bridge opens in late summer.



The gantry holding EZ-Pass and license plate reading cameras on the Rockland side—for now.

— Photo Credit: Barrett Seaman

Greenburgh/Mt. Pleasant State Assemblyman Tom Abinanti thinks that's a bad idea. He is calling on the Thruway Authority to leave the gantry where it is, asserting that moving it to Rockland in the first place cost

approximately \$1 million and that "the cost of moving the gantry and equipment to the Westchester side could cost twice as much."

"The money saved should be added to the monies already allocated in a Community Benefits Fund to the riverfront communities impacted by construction and the new motor vehicle/bicycle/pedestrian traffic patterns," he said. NYSTA originally allocated \$20 million to be distributed as grants under its Community Needs Fund. To date, 50 such grants, valued at more than \$9 million have been distributed.

One of those grants (worth \$250,000) was awarded to the Village of South Nyack for the purpose of exploring ways to reunite this small, residential community (population 3,500) that was rent asunder when the Thruway and Tappan Zee Bridge were built more than 50 years ago. In their feasibility study, the village's hired consultants suggested, in effect, that while the Thruway Authority was in the process of reconfiguring aspects of the Tappan Zee corridor, it should revisit early proposals to re-design Exit #10, a sprawling complex of entrance and exit roads connecting I-87/287 with Route 9W that chews up 33 acres that once belonged to South Nyack. The study proposed a far tighter "dumbbell" configuration that would free up land that might better be used for some combination of parklands, commercial districts and/or housing.

Anticipating that the presence of the toll-reading gantry might somehow get in the way of those ambitious (and very long-term) plans, the Village of South Nyack asked the Thruway Authority to make sure to move the gantry back to Westchester, as planned. Mayor Bonnie Christian recalled being upset when they were moved there temporarily last year and let NYSTA know that they wanted them gone. "We don't want to have those gantries here," she told *The Hudson Independent*. "We do want to get those 33

*Continued on page 7*

## Thruway Authority Offers One-Month Amnesty for Unpaid TZ Bridge Tolls

by Barrett Seaman

Sometime during the past two years, you might have crossed the Tappan Zee Bridge (or since October, its replacement, the Mario C. Cuomo Bridge), slipped under the overhead cameras that read license plates and/or mounted EZPass tags but neglected to pay the bill. You're not alone: hundreds of thousands of people are guilty of the same offense.

Under the current system, if you haven't paid your toll after 70 days, \$5 will be added to your bill; after 100 days, the fine will go to \$100, plus the original toll. Still not paying? New York State will move to revoke your registration—wherever you are.

As of January 22 and through February 26, the New York Thruway Authority (NYTA) will allow motorists to remit those unpaid tolls without having to pay the additional fines. The amnesty program will cover debts going back to April 24, 2016. The goal is to clear the books of \$8 million in total debt--\$5.2 million of it in unpaid tolls, with the rest representing subsequent fines.

At a February 17 press conference held at the TA's Tarrytown offices. Executive Director Matthew J. Driscoll described the amnesty program, offered instructions on how to comply, touted the virtues of cashless tolls and EZPass, and unveiled new signage near the bridge toll plaza that has been designed to clarify the billing

process, whether through EZPass or the Tolls by Mail system that relies on license plate reading cameras.

To facilitate the amnesty program, the NYTA is launching a new web site, [www.thruway.ny.gov/amnesty](http://www.thruway.ny.gov/amnesty), that allows motorists to check to see whether their license plates carry any unpaid tolls and fines. If they do, vehicle owners can either pay on the spot using a credit card or print out a coupon to be mailed in along with a check or money order.

Driscoll also stressed the importance of keeping one's Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) address current. The law requires license holders to register a new address within 10 days of a move. That can be done on [www.dmv.ny.gov/mydmv](http://www.dmv.ny.gov/mydmv).

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# Experts Call Vaping by Children a Looming Health Crisis

by Elaine Marranzano

The skyrocketing popularity of vaping among young people is alarming experts who warn the popular fad is addicting a whole new generation to nicotine.

"This is a nasty, nasty thing happening to our youth," said Richard Stumacher, MD, Chief, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Northern Westchester Hospital. "It is going really fast and parents don't even know about it."

Vaping is the popular term for using battery-powered electronic cigarettes or vaporizers which convert a liquid known as "vape juice" into a vapor inhaled by the user. The chemical-laced vape juice may contain flavorings, nicotine and/or marijuana oil.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, vaping among middle and high school students tripled from 2013 to 2014. At Sleepy Hollow High School, "a lot of kids are doing it by ducking into bathrooms," according to one student who did not want to be identified. "They don't think there is really anything wrong with it."

Promoted as a safer nicotine delivery device than cigarettes, vaping has an ironic dual role of helping smokers quit and non-smokers become addicted to nicotine.

"For people who have failed smoking cessation programs, I would rather you smoke this than a pack of cigarettes," said Stumacher. "But parents should not buy these

products for their kids – ever."

The part of the brain which controls cognition, emotion, and drug reward is actively maturing during adolescence. Exposure to nicotine at this time disrupts its normal development leaving children with emotional difficulties, attention deficit disorder and a greater chance of becoming addicted to other substances.

While vapes can be used without nicotine, last fall New York State put e-cigarettes into the same category as regular tobacco cigarettes and banned vaping anywhere smoking is prohibited, including schools. In most local municipalities, including those in Westchester County, the legal age to vape is 18 – the same as purchasing cigarettes. In New York City, the age is 21. However, one study showed that minors had no trouble buying vape juice containing nicotine and devices online.

"Nicotine is one of the most addictive substances of all time," said Stumacher. "If these kids start using it in the seventh or eighth grade – by the time they get to high school it's all done."

Teens and children (as young as middle school) can be seen on the Internet compet-



A modified vaping device shaped like a Pokéball to appeal to children.

brand of electronic cigarette delivers the same amount of nicotine found in a whole pack of cigarettes. While the smell of cigarette smoke gave away generations of furtive teenage smokers, vaping easily goes undetected. The JUUL device looks like a computer thumb-drive and produces no odor.

"To catch them, you would almost have to be there the moment they inhale," said Chris Borsari, Tarrytown Schools Superintendent, who added there have only been "one or two" incidents at Sleepy Hollow High School where vaping devices have been confiscated.

Until last year when the law was enacted to stop retailers from selling e-cigarettes to people under age 18, vaping devices were completely unregulated. Even now the FDA notes that "regulation of these products does not mean they are safe to use."

"It is not really known what chemicals or how much are in these things, the government is just now trying to catch up," said Stumacher.

The vapor producing liquid is known to contain benzene (found in car exhaust), ultrafine particles, and heavy metals such as nickel, tin and lead. One vape flavoring known as diacetyl is linked to a potentially fatal lung disease called "popcorn lung."

"Make no mistake, this is a looming health crisis," said Stumacher. "Ten to 20 years from now, this is going to get really ugly."

ing to produce the most interesting vapor clouds using e-cigs. Some kids estimate that half their peers are vaping. Fruity or bubble gum flavors and modified vaping devices shaped like Pokéballs or Game Boys, known as "mods," are intended to appeal to children and draw them into the "nicotine addiction industry," according to Dr. Stumacher.

One juice-flavored pod in the JUUL

**"Nicotine is one of the most addictive substances of all time. If these kids start using it in the seventh or eighth grade – by the time they get to high school it's all done."**

— Dr. Richard Stumacher

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# Toll Brothers Selected as Builder of Phase One on Edge-on-Hudson Project

by Robert Kimmel

The first structures to be built within Edge-on-Hudson, the mixed-use development at Sleepy Hollow's riverfront are expected to be 11 free-standing homes, constructed by Toll Brothers, a luxury home builder whose work is known locally and nationwide.

The company has signed an agreement with the developers, SunCal and Diversified Realty Advisors to purchase the lots and build all the residential units planned for Phase One of the project. Toll Brothers is also the builder of Westchester Estates, a 14-luxury home project in the Wilson Park area of Tarrytown, where construction began in 2011.

Within the next few months, the company will provide Sleepy Hollow's Planning Board with more detailed architectural drawings of the proposed buildings for the Phase One start-ups, expected to begin this spring, based on the board's authorization.

A special permit issued by the village has already approved the phase's site layout, the number of units, their heights and other aspects. In all, 306 units of housing are designated for Phase One, including condominium and "loft style" construction. Among them will be 61 affordable workforce and

senior housing units.

"After an 18-year journey, I'm thrilled to see this project reach fruition. It will be gratifying to see the first residents move in to this extraordinary location along the Hudson," said Jonathan Stein, Founding Partner of Diversified Realty Advisors. Stein had



Paved roadway leading to Edge-on-Hudson parcel in Sleepy Hollow.

been with a different real estate developer whose original effort years ago to acquire the entire property from General Motors was not successful. GM closed its manufacturing plant in 1996, approximately 100 years after it was first built as an auto plant by other companies.

Toll Brothers drew praise from David

Soyka, Senior Vice President of SunCal. He described the company as "the ideal builder for a project that demands world-class design and construction expertise. Edge-on-Hudson will be a premier transit-oriented, waterfront community poised at the gateway to the Hudson Valley," Soyka added.

develops and improves," as they have been described.

When completed, the Edge-on-Hudson development incorporating several phases on its 67 acres, will have 1,177 housing units, a 140-room boutique hotel, 135 square feet of retail space, 30,000 square

Photo by: Sunny McLean

A 50-year-old, Fortune 500 company headquartered in Pennsylvania, Toll Brothers has construction projects ongoing in 20 states. It has received several building industry honors and is known for "luxury residential single-family detached and attached homes, resort-style golf, and urban low, mid, and high-rise communities on land it

feet of office space, and 16 acres of parkland, including a waterfront promenade.

Valued at \$1 billion when completed, SunCal and Diversified Realty Advisors bought the property as a joint venture from GM for \$39.5 million.

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## Fireboat

Continued from page 1

ber, Sleepy Hollow Volunteer Fire Chief John Korzelius and firefighter Bill Ryan, both of whom helped out at Ground Zero after September 11, said the fireboat had historical significance and would be a great asset to the village.

"The village has an opportunity to do something good here," Ryan said.

"For this fire department, that fireboat has special meaning to us," Korzelius said. "I don't think it's a rust bucket. I don't think it's an eyesore. I don't see a downside to this. I see it as the beginning of the turnaround of the riverfront. This village needs to grow. We need something to bring people here."

One of the owners of the fireboat, Edward Taylor, who purchased it at an auction in March 2016 with Michael Kaphan, told trustees it would not be permanently moored in Sleepy Hollow. He said the fireboat would set sail for educational and social trips.

"We can move under our own power," said Taylor, who noted the boat might be added to the historical registry. "We're not

commercial. It's for the enjoyment of the people on the river."

Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio emphasized that, while the village has received some complaints about the vessel, it has also gotten many favorable comments from residents.

"It's an unusual situation," he said. "A lot of people like the idea of having a 9/11, 'Miracle on the Hudson' boat in the village as an amenity to the RiverWalk."

Giaccio explained the village has no control over the river, but the pier where the boat is docked is under Sleepy Hollow's authority as part of the site plan that was approved for River House. As a result, the village is reviewing if any violations occurred and what steps need to be taken to correct them.

"It's (the fireboat) been there and we're trying to iron out the details," said Giaccio, who noted village officials have been talking to the fireboat owners about moving the vessel so it's more parallel to the pier and "less of a visual" to residents.

"This is really not an issue of the boat itself," said Deputy Mayor Glenn Rosenbloom. "It's an issue of where the boat is placed."

## Gantry

Continued from page 4

acres back."

Officially, Tarrytown has no objection to taking the gantry back. It will be located entirely on state-owned property and poses neither expense to the village nor any obvious environmental impact. "From our perspective, as far as I know, there's no particular reason to object to its presence," said Tarrytown Mayor Drew Fixell. Yet he agrees with Abinanti's point about the costs involved. "It's just a seemingly poor use of scarce resources," added the mayor.

Whether because they want to avoid a conflict with South Nyack or simply because the cost of moving the gantry back to Tarrytown is already baked into their budget, Thruway Authority officials are sticking with their plan to move it later this year. "We made a commitment to move it back," said NYTA's Acting Executive Director Matthew J. Driscoll. "That's what we're going to do."

*\*Speed limits at cashless toll plazas in New York State vary from as low as five mph up to "at highway speed," where vehicles can pass through without slowing down beyond the posted speed limit.*

## Au Pair Boot Camp

Continued from page 1

gram as well) listening to a retired New York City Police Detective work through a PowerPoint checklist of things to do and not do to keep themselves and the children in their charge out of harm's way in America. The detective's presentation is rapid-fire, covering topics ranging from how and when to use 911 and how not to leave young children unattended in a car to what the consequences will be if they are caught using drugs or stopped on a DUI.

During their hectic week in Tarrytown, they will have classes in CPR and first aid, child nutrition and child development, the American culture of child-rearing, household safety and stress management, among others. They'll have a one-day trip into New York City before they go, and they are free to head into Tarrytown in the late afternoons and evenings.

The term au pair, French for "on a par with" or "equal to," is an old European concept of providing families with child care using (mostly) girls who come from families of similar social stature and are thus considered more part of the family than a hired nanny. Their term of employment is usually a year, but extensions can be negotiated.

Maria and Sophia are part of a particularly large class of au pairs: there are 380 of them

during this week in early January. Last year, nearly 9,000 came through the program, which is housed at Tarrytown's EF most of the year but also at Hofstra University on Long Island during the summer. They come from all over the world and go out to families all over the U.S. Germany, Colombia and Brazil typically lead the list of feeder countries, but the au pairs come from dozens of countries where Cultural Care Au Pair, the agency that runs the program, has employees who screen applicants with help from the U.S. State Department.

The connection to Cultural Care, one of dozens of similar placement agencies brokering au pair contracts in the U.S., doesn't end when the au pairs move on to their respective families. Each one has access to a local or at least regional childcare consultant, or LCC, within 30 miles of their location—someone they can turn to for advice or help in case of a problem. Cultural Care has over 900 LCCs around the country.

Tuition, room and board for the five-day school is rolled into an overall fee of \$8,695 entirely paid for by the host family. That fee covers everything from the initial recruitment and screening, round-trip airfare, travel insurance and the support provided by the LCCs in the field. The agency also requires host families to pay their au pairs a weekly stipend of \$195.75.



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## Point/Counterpoint

### Let's Move Forward on Bike Lanes for Broadway

by Daniel Convissor

The rivertowns are collaborating on the Route 9 Active Transportation study. This process has stimulated discussion in Tarrytown on how to make Broadway work for everybody, thereby bolstering our businesses and safety.

Tarrytown has been held back by Broadway being all about cars. Pedestrians crossing it worry they'll become one of the four people injured doing so each year. Most bikers are too scared to ride on it.

But now residents and merchants are clamoring for change. A recent survey found that 53% of respondents favor a "protected bike lane" on Broadway in Tarrytown. Only 5% said they want things to stay the same, and 15% suggested the Old Croton Aqueduct (OCA) would be a better bike route.

While the OCA is a fantastic recreational resource, it doesn't work for transportation. In downtown Tarrytown, it's up steep narrow streets from destinations; the trail gets muddy; it isn't plowed when it snows and is "closed" at night. Nor is there direct access to the Aqueduct from most of Sleepy Hollow. Similarly, Washington Street is hampered by hills and some busy stretches, and it's out of the way. Broadway is where people want to go. It's where the bike lane needs to be.

Broadway is also where most of the schools are. The vast majority of high school kids don't get bussed. A safe bike lane means kids can bike to school, taking cars off the road and freeing their chauffeurs... er, parents.

Providing a dedicated lane to bike in actually makes driving easier, by freeing up the remaining lanes and eliminating

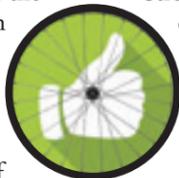
uncomfortable passing maneuvers. This will be important once the Tappan Zee Bridge bike path opens, bringing over some of the 5,000 people who ride bikes up Route 9W on nice Sundays. Without the bike lane, people driving will end up stuck behind people biking.

Parking in town can be challenging, to be sure. And yet in the central shopping district (Broadway from Elizabeth to Wildey Streets), some 200 off-street spaces sit empty during peak times. Yes, many of them are private, but deals are possible, like Jazz Forum Arts did for Chase Bank's lots. Plus, technology can be used to indicate where open spaces are in real time.

Folks say how valuable parking is. If it's so valuable, why are we giving it away? Seriously, 75-cents an hour is nothing. And it's free overnight and Sundays. A thorough examination of parking management is long overdue. Refining the system will free up the 37 spots along Broadway's eastern curb in the commercial core, making space for the two-way bike lane on that side.

The arguments against this bike lane are the same ones raised against every bike lane proposal. Fortunately, when proposals get built, opponents become supporters. Tarrytown needs to move forward now with strategies proven around the world to increase mobility and improve economic, climate and health outcomes.

*Daniel Convissor is the Director of Bike Tarrytown. Their mission is improving the economy and health of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown by fostering bike culture and infrastructure. <https://biketarrytown.org/>*



### Let's Go Slow on Bike Lanes Before Acting

by Philip Johnson and Glen Taylor

"The bikers are coming; the bikers are coming!" – a cry heard frequently throughout the rivertowns these days! The topic is greeted with equal parts enthusiasm, curiosity and trepidation depending on the forum and the stakeholders involved. Make no mistake, the bikers are coming, and we all have a vital interest in engaging in a broad-based dialogue to ensure solutions that benefit everyone, including cyclists, visitors, residents and local businesses.

The bike lobby is well-organized, passionate and pushing their cause on the web and in public forums. There are several studies in progress backed by funding from the New NY Bridge Agency and the State of New York, with a particular focus on bike lanes along Routes 9A and 119. Both are busy and vital transportation corridors in the area and both are contiguous to the new bridge and the "shared use" pedestrian/bikeway scheduled to open later this year. It is the belief of both the bridge's designers and metro area, and bike aficionados that weekend cyclists will come up the Hudson from the city by the thousands, over the bridge and back down again on the other side, passing through our villages as they go.

So why the curiosity and the trepidation, which sometimes verges on outright hostility? Traffic safety, street space, pedestrian access and parking (for visitors and residents) are just a few of the concerns that have made this a "lightning rod" issue in our towns. Fortunately, several villages including Sleepy Hollow, Irvington and Tarrytown, are currently updating their Comprehensive Plans and looking at all kinds of initiatives to reduce congestion, create more

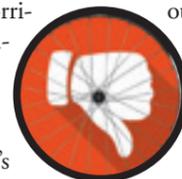
accessible streetscapes and address parking needs. All of this is being done with the intention of enhancing the unique character of our towns and maintaining vibrant business communities supported by both residents and visitors alike.

In Tarrytown in particular, however, residents and business owners have voiced serious and legitimate concerns. Merchants, especially on Main Street, are particularly worried about a bike lane taking away valuable customer parking and impeding vital deliveries, as well as pick-ups. The Village of Tarrytown, Tarrytown Connected and the Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce are all engaged in this dialogue.

No one is opposed to more and improved access for bikers, but all are agreed this should be accomplished without increasing over-crowding on our busiest streets, without reducing available parking and in a manner that supports the needs of local residents and businesses. We need to focus on solutions to parking and traffic flow, encourage more transit-oriented development, while embracing the health and wellness benefits of welcoming more biking to our growing communities.

Building a clear path toward solving these issues – parking in particular – before we commit to carving off a swath of an already-busy Broadway to accommodate cyclists, should allow us to create a "win" for all stakeholders and communities.

*Philip Johnson is Executive Director at EF Education First in Tarrytown and Glen Taylor is Vice President Support Services at Phelps Hospital-Northwell Health in Sleepy Hollow. Both are local residents and current co-Presidents of the Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce.*



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# Sleepy Hollow Seeks Public Input as it Kicks Off Comp Plan

by Rick Pezullo

More than 150 residents turned out January 11 at the James Galgano Senior Center in Sleepy Hollow at the kickoff meeting for the village's comprehensive plan.

Mayor Ken Wray stressed it was vital for residents to participate in the estimated 18-month process since Sleepy Hollow's population of 10,000 is expected to grow by a third in the next five or six years.

"Huge changes will come to this village.

We want to plan for those changes," Wray said. "The only way this is going to work is with your input and the input of everyone in the village. I like to look at it as a new master plan; what the folks who live here now want to see in the village in the future."

Sleepy Hollow received a \$65,000 grant from New York State's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) and will have to match one-quarter of those funds. However, the village's financial stake in the comprehensive plan will exceed the grant,

according to Village Administrator Anthony Giaccio.

It has been more than 20 years since Sleepy Hollow adopted a comprehensive plan, a document that also has to be approved by federal and state agencies.

"We want to know what you care about. We want to know what's important to you. We want you to get involved," said Sleepy Hollow Planning Board chairperson Lisa Santo. "This is just the beginning. There is a lot of work to be done."

The village will be hiring a consultant to assist during the comprehensive plan process. The Board of Trustees will also be establishing a steering committee of residents to work closely with the consultant.

Trustee Rachelle Gebler noted village officials will be reaching out to the Hispanic community to ensure all residents in the community are represented. "The only way this is going to work is if we hear from everyone in the community," she said. "We want to make sure their voices are heard."

# Third Public Workshop Set for Tarrytown's Comprehensive Plan

by Robert Kimmel

With the completion of Tarrytown's new Comprehensive Plan expected by May, the village is providing another opportunity for residents to offer their input toward its advancement. The Plan's consulting team has scheduled its third Public Workshop for Tuesday, February 27, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Warner Library.

As a starter, attendees will hear a formal presentation reviewing the progress of the work that is designed to provide guidelines for Tarrytown's future development. The planning encompasses topics such as mobility within the village, land use, including waterfront development, economic growth, local business opportunities, main-

taining its cultural characteristics, population diversity, tourism and more. Following the presentation, there will be an open house during which residents can contribute their ideas.

The workshop will be hosted by the professional consulting team established by the village to work with its committees and Board of Trustees. The team consists of representatives from WXY architecture + urban design, the Land Use Law Center-Pace Law School, Regional Plan Association, Sam Schwartz Engineering and Westchester County Planning.

Public input from Tarrytown's residents at the first two workshops has formed the basis for progress toward the Comprehensive Plan's goals, according to Tiffany Ze-

zula, the Deputy Director for the Land Use Center at Pace University School of Law. At the February workshop, "Participants will also vote on strategies and actions that help implement the goals of the Comprehensive Plan," Zezula said. "Facilitators will be on hand to record feedback and engage citizens in conversation."

During the workshop there will also be a presentation regarding the zoning opportunities for the train station area. Tarrytown has been working since 2014 to frame concepts for the area around its Metro North Station. That pursuit, led by a committee jointly headed by David Aukland and Joan Raiselis, both members of the village Planning Board, has been blended into the overall Comprehensive Plan, and the two

head a Steering Committee for the plan.

Future changes in the station area would be designed to improve its welcoming environment and link it more easily to the village's business area and other locales. The waterfront would "retain its public parkland, sports and boating amenities, and will be enhanced to make it a more vibrant year-round destination," according to the planners.

Two other committees, the Comprehensive Plan Working Group and the Zoning Working Group, comprise the team that reports to the village's officers and Board of Trustees. More detailed information about the full project, as well as the opportunity to offer comments can be found on the website, [www.tarrytownconnected.com](http://www.tarrytownconnected.com).

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# Irvington: Late in Coming with Comp Plan, but Getting There

by Barrett Seaman

The draft report from Irvington's Comprehensive Planning Committee is late by five months, and it's still only just a draft. But a copy obtained by *The Hudson Independent* offers a generally clear picture of the direction the eight-member committee wants the village to take going forward—and it's not a lot different from what village officials outlined when their work began almost a year ago.

The process, launched last February with an ambitious goal of finishing up by Christmas, was slowed mid-summer when committee members realized that they needed more community input. As a result, they launched an email survey and solicited opinions from neighborhood associations, builders, developers and merchants that helped unpack some of the thornier issues.

The plan is organized around five categories: how to guide development of the Broadway corridor; how to improve Main Street; how to protect the character of the village, including its historic buildings; how to modernize the zoning codes, and how to encourage sustainability in the process. Here are some of the key points, as contained in the draft final report:

► **Broadway corridor:** Observing that the stretch of Broadway north of Strawberry Lane contains most of the remaining undeveloped or underdeveloped land in the village, the committee's stated goal is to "have the Broadway corridor remain much as it is now in appearance." To facilitate that, the committee recommends revising zoning so that it reflects the current mixed use of the land, leaving open the approval of commercial (though not retail) enterprises, as well as non-profits (like Abbott House), private clubs and bed

and breakfast venues. The report speaks favorably of allowing more B&Bs in the village, but only on the Broadway corridor and along Main Street.

► **Code modernization:** Acknowledging "a 21st century reality" as well as the high cost of ownership, the report will recommend permitting homeowners to offer short-term rentals beyond the current limitation of one room. However, it will recommend setting a cap on the number of rentals at any given time, a registration process and a fee to offset village expenses for monitoring rentals. Recommended also will be a loosening of restrictions on home-based businesses, though with a requirement to register any business that brings in clients, as would be the case with a therapist. Homeowners who want to use their garages for offices or studios, currently prohibited, could do so, provided they do not impinge on the residential character of the surrounding neighborhood. Bee-keeping would be allowed on single-family lots—but not chicken-raising.

► **Downtown:** The report will encourage pursuit of the village's ongoing Streetscape project goals, which involves the creation of curb cuts and more visible crosswalks for the protection of pedestrians, as well as improved lighting. The report will endorse building electric vehicle (EV) charging stations around the village and a public jitney service from Broadway to Bridge Street. Small breweries would be permitted in the Business and Waterfront Zones.

► **Sustainability:** The report will recommend amending the village's building codes to encourage environmentally friendly construction. It also favors reducing the minimum lot size for cluster housing projects. The report further proposes a program to educate homeowners on watercourse management—how to deal



with vegetation and debris along stream beds that run through private property. It suggests further study of how other villages manage construction on steep slopes. And in addition to adding EV charging stations, the report will call for more bike racks as a further incentive to move away from combustible engine vehicles.

► **Use of Village-owned properties:** At the beginning of the process, there was much enthusiasm expressed for moving the firehouse and the Department of Public Works (DPW) complex elsewhere, freeing their current prime locations for better uses. The two big challenges for the committee were to find new homes for each and to reach consensus on what to use

the old sites for. So far, the comprehensive planners have not come up with either.

Since both services need to be centrally located, there are no obvious choices for relocation in a downtown district that is close to fully occupied. As for re-use of the vacated firehouse property, the committee's survey indicated close to an even split between those who favored additional parking—even a multi-story garage (currently banned under village law)—and those who wanted to build more commercial, residential or park space.

As for the DPW complex, east of Astor Street and south of the village library, survey respondents seem to agree that some combination of residential and commercial zoning, with some much-needed parking thrown in is needed. Looking at the entire Astor Street corridor, paralleling the Metro North tracks and the riverfront, the committee recognizes the need for further study of how best to encourage development that exploits the proximity of mass transit. That might eventually lead the village to bring in outside experts.

Still on the table will be aspirational goals, like a riverfront marina with dockage for tour boats, underground parking garages and a pedestrian bridge across the railroad tracks to facilitate access to Scenic Hudson Park.

With the delay, a final report is not expected until May, but Village Administrator Larry Schopfer believes the pause will prove itself to be "a wise investment of time."

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# Water Usage Curbs Sought by Tarrytown Officials

by Robert Kimmel

Tarrytown has signed on to a proposal developed by its water supplier, New York City, to cut down on water consumption. The Water Demand Management Plan, approved by the Board of Trustees last month, calls for the village to work with the city to reduce water use by five percent, from its 2013 levels with a focus on curbing “unmetered water.”

The city’s plan actually goes back to 2016 and was revised after village talks with New York’s Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and its Water Control Board. New York is pursuing similar reductions among all of its wholesale municipal customers.

Through its control of a wide system of aqueducts, reservoirs and tunnels, from the Catskill, Delaware and Croton watersheds upstate, New York City daily provides more than one billion gallons of water not only to its own population, but to municipalities in four counties north of the city, including Westchester.

Tarrytown regularly gets its water from the Catskill Aqueduct System, but if repairs or emergencies interrupt that flow, it can obtain its water from the Croton Aqueduct.

The city’s water use reduction pursuit was prompted by concerns about population increases, aging infrastructure requiring repairs, and emergency situations such as droughts. When the original plans were conceived, it was estimated that there would be an additional one million customers in the city’s system by 2020. The plan was also driven by concerns about the unmetered water being wasted through leakage and other problems, reducing water consumption revenue.

About 11,500 consumers in Tarrytown were provided with water through 2,506 service connections in 2013, according to municipal records. From 2013 to 2015, New York’s Plan states that there was an almost 20% increase in the amount of water purchased by the village, attributed mostly to hot and dry weather conditions. It also reported an increased use of about 35% in unmetered, non-revenue-producing water during those years. Some of that loss is incurred when customer water consumption

is not measured properly for billing. The city’s representatives have indicated ways they “could help the village reduce consumption of our unmetered water,” Village Administrator Richard Slingerland said.

“Tarrytown has many challenges in regard to water loss control, including that it is an elderly system providing water service over a diverse topography,” the Plan stated. From evaluating the village’s system, it provided a series of options for Tarrytown. They included additional leak detection and line repair, a transition to monthly billing for customers, and an upgraded voucher program for residential customers that could help pay for retrofitting fixtures such as toilets, showers, and faucets. It also called for auditing and upgrading commercial and institutional customers and advanced metering leak detection and customer “leak alerts,” as well as expanded metering.

Referring to those measures, Slingerland said, “They would be looking for us to establish a new law local law within the Village Code for water conservation. Obviously, they want all the municipalities that buy water from them to reduce our ‘lost’ water.” There is no indication yet that the village would have to raise water rates to meet the requirements; however, there was a recommendation that a two or three tier rate structure be devised before any infrastructure work begins. The loss of revenue from Tarrytown’s unmetered usage was more than \$140,000 in 2015, according to the city’s evaluation.

Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow and Briarcliff Manor have an agreement to share the expenses of operating a 30-inch water transmission main delivering water from the Catskill Aqueduct, and the villages are studying further consolidation of water supplies, pumping stations and storage facilities as well as water loss control. That could result in further savings for all three villages.

Potential water supply problems are looming because of “major rehabilitation” of the main that brings water from the Catskill reserve, according to Slingerland. “At times they are going to be shutting down that pipe anywhere from 24 to 48 hours to as much as weeks at a time if not months if necessary,” he explained. “We

**“They would be looking for us to establish a new law local law within the Village Code for water conservation. Obviously, they want all the municipalities that buy water from them to reduce our ‘lost’ water.”**

— Richard Slingerland

would have to switch our water from the Catskill Reservoir, and we are going to see if we can receive water from the Delaware system and we also may have to draw down the water from the Croton System. If that becomes necessary, we (our residents), would be subject to a boil water requirement or all drinking water consumed from that because of lack of treatment on the Croton supply.”

New York City is also altering The Catskill Reserve to provide more water while a major new tunnel is being constructed to renovate the Delaware system, and the three villages are working to mitigate any water problems from that construction.

An upcoming infrastructure change involving a traffic rotary to be constructed by New York State is also a concern for Tarrytown, Sleepy Hollow and Briarcliff Manor. The planned rotary where 9A, Old Saw Mill River Road, and 100 C intersect, is “exactly over our 30 inch, 45-year-old water main, serving the three villages, about 30,000 people,” Slingerland said. “It is only

four feet deep, and the last thing we want is for them to damage it during construction. They are going to place seven to nine feet of fill on top of that which would triple the depth it is currently at and complicate repair of the pipe.”

“We notified the state about this, and they agreed to work with us to fund a relocation for the main, out from under the footprint of that traffic rotary,” Slingerland stated. “Working together, we will retain an engineer and expedite the process, and New York State is going to reimburse all of our expenses.”

The Town of Greenburgh began discussions with New York’s DEP in 2014, in a move to cut its water consumption by five percent by 2019. Last month, the town’s Commissioner of Public Works, Victor Carosi stated, “The water advisory committee is engaged with the NYC DEP on this matter. We have met recently and are expecting a draft report action plan in the next few months.”

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# Viewfinder

1. Congresswoman Nita Lowey presented five overdue service medals to Mario DiFelice, a resident and former Deputy Mayor of Sleepy Hollow and a Navy veteran of the Korean War, at a recent ceremony.
2. First-grade students at Dows Lane Elementary School in Irvington experienced a science enrichment program on magnets.
3. Sleepy Hollow Middle School students performed in *Newsies Jr.* in late January.
4. A group of local residents traveled to the Women's March in New York City on January 20.

—Photo courtesy of Irvington School District

—Photo by Alexa Brandenburg

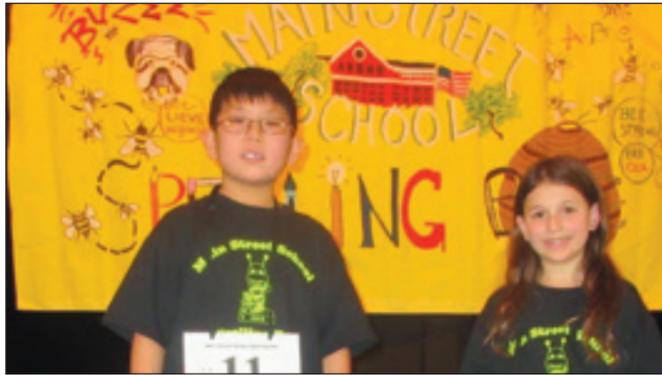


# Watercooler

by Maria Ann Roglieri

## Irvington Spelling Bee Champions

Main Street School hosted its 11th annual Spelling Bee championship for fourth- and fifth-graders on Jan. 10. A total of 83 fourth-graders and 93 fifth-graders participated in the pre-bee qualifying round, which took place on Dec. 19. The students were provided with an overview of the competition and a list of approximately 500 target words prior to the written pre-bee test. The top scorers from each grade – 22 fourth-graders and



(L to R:) Main Street 4th grade Spelling Bee winner Chunghyun Kawata, runner-up Jordana Laks; 5th grade Spelling Bee winner Shalin Chang, runner-up Wilson Lark.

24 fifth-graders – were named finalists and earned a spot in the schoolwide spelling bee competition. After 10 rounds, the fourth-grade winning title went to Chunghyun Kawata, while Jordana Laks was named runner-up. The winner of the fifth-



## Elizabeth Mascia Childcare Center Celebrates 50 Years

The childcare center, located on Sheldon Avenue in Tarrytown, was founded in 1967 by Elizabeth Libby Scarborough Mascia. It was originally called the Day Care Center of the Tarrytowns and was later renamed the Elizabeth Mascia Child Care Center in her honor. Ms. Mascia dedicated herself to securing educational opportunities for all children and was committed to sharing with others her firm commitment that everyone is a person of value. She had a passion for giving back to her community and was an active supporter of numerous organizations, charities, and philanthropic endeavors in Westchester County. The 50-year-old Center has vitally impacted the lives of generations of families and provided peace of mind and generous support to working families and will continue to do so for many years to come. For more information about the Center go to <http://www.masciachildcare.org/>.

## News from Phelps

### Dr. Emil Nigro is now President of Medical Staff

Phelps Hospital announced that Dr. Emil Nigro, formerly the Medical Director of Emergency Services, has been appointed President of the Medical Staff. In this role, Dr. Nigro will preside over the governing body for the medical practitioners at Phelps and will also serve as the Chairman of the Medical Board. During his residency, Dr. Nigro worked per-diem in the Emergency Department at Phelps Hospital and accepted a full-time posi-

tion there in 1979. In 1984, Dr. Nigro was appointed Phelps' Director of Emergency Medicine.

### New Aspiring Leaders Graduates

Phelps' Aspiring Leaders Program is designed to enhance the knowledge and skills of individuals interested in exploring future management or leadership positions. The fourth such cohort graduated last month and worked on projects such as community gardens, patient education and an advisory council for patients and families.

### Phelps Prepares to Become a Magnet Hospital

Judy Dilworth has joined Phelps as the Magnet Program Director. In 2020, Phelps intends to apply for certification as a Magnet Hospital, an accreditation by the American Nurses' Credentialing Center that recognizes hospitals' attainment of nursing excellence. To date, only 7 percent of hospitals in the country achieved this performance-driven level. Ms. Dilworth has over 20 years of experience with hospitals that have achieved Magnet status.



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# SH/TT Chamber of Commerce Elects New Leadership

by Robert Kimmel

The two newly elected co-presidents of the Greater Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown (SH/TT) Chamber of Commerce see the organization increasing its commitment to both communities it represents. The two, Philip Johnson and Glen Taylor, were elected to their leadership roles at the Chamber's January meeting.

Johnson is Executive Director at Education First (EF) in Tarrytown, overseeing its International Language Center and EF Academy since 2012, and has been serving on the Chamber's Board of Directors. He brings to the Chamber senior managerial experience gained in both Europe and Asia working with EF. Speaking about the Chamber's goals, Johnson said, "What we would like to do is to expand the membership, so we have a broader representation from both villages, and we want to support and work toward the growth of both villages."

"We should be looking at the Chamber's board and ensuring that, as we recruit membership, we are getting representation and support, from across all of the businesses we have in the villages," Johnson stated. "We ought to strengthen our relationship with the Merchants Council to make sure that the Chamber and the Merchants' Council are working hand-in-hand."



Newly elected Chamber of Commerce Co-President Philip Johnson (right) addresses Chamber members as Co-President Glen Taylor looks on.

— Photo Credit: Sunny McLean

Johnson noted that he had lived in many large cities, but that he liked living in "this much smaller community, and one of the reasons we chose to live here in Tarrytown is the access to stores by walking around. I think that is one of its charms and its strength, and we should work hard to retain that character."

Taylor is Vice President of Support Services at Phelps Hospital in Sleepy Hollow. His supervisory position is defined as "overseeing the departments of facility services, environmental services, food and nutrition services, information technology, pharmacy services and telecommunications," at the Northwell Health Hospi-

tal. He came to Phelps in 2015 following an administrative position at Greenwich Hospital.

"From what we have been hearing in our communities, from the Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown administrations," Taylor stated, "is the excitement about the building that is happening on the riverfront and the comprehensive plans being developed in both villages. It seems we are in a very interesting and innovative period. So the work that we are looking to do is to support all of those efforts and get the business community aware of everything that is going on so we can get everyone involved to support and participate in

the events that make these communities thrive."

Also elected at the Chamber's January session was Annie Cauthren, Co-Vice President, representing Tarrytown. The Co-Vice President for Sleepy Hollow position remains open. Directors elected to two-year terms were Cheryl Fladung, Andrew Monachelli, and Burns Patterson. Kevin Kaye, who had been a Co-President with Niel Ricchuiti, will serve as Interim Treasurer. Stephanie Rodnick is the chamber's new Executive Director, replacing Tina Zagrobelny.

**"We should be looking at the Chamber's board and ensuring that, as we recruit membership, we are getting representation and support, from across all of the businesses we have in the villages."**

—Philip Johnson

## Parking Proposal for Tarrytown's Downtown Dissolves

by Robert Kimmel

A proposal that would have helped to ease parking problems on certain nights in Tarrytown's business district has collapsed. The plan was to have used the lot behind the CVS store on North Broadway for valet parking Thursday through Sunday from 6 p.m. to midnight.

The plan was originally conceived last year by Edward Coco Jr., whose company, COCO Management, owns the parking lot which for years has been restricted basically to shoppers at CVS and several other stores on Broadway. Coco

had worked out the proposal with Pro-Park Valet.

Word of the plans' dismissal by Coco came in a letter last month to Tarrytown's merchants from Theresa McCarthy, former Chairperson of the Chamber of Commerce's Merchant's Council. McCarthy had discussed the proposal last year with Coco and had secured the support of the village's Board of Trustees which had agreed to amend the Village Code to permit the valet service to operate. McCarthy quoted Village Administrator Richard Slingerland as saying, "We did not want to delay it from happening

in order to benefit the downtown."

However, when there was no word late last year from Coco, McCarthy said she reached out to him, only to find that, "after all the months of communicating, planning and developing the valet proposal, Coco has had a change of heart," as she described it. "He decided that valet does not make sense for him economically and observed while present in the village that the services were unnecessary when nothing was happening at the Music Hall."

"Coco expressed that he has been generous in allowing some to use the CVS

lot without towing until a solution can be reached," McCarthy noted. "He mentioned that he is very sincere in wanting to assist us with our parking woes, but is unable to execute the valet proposal for the lot."

McCarthy quoted Coco as saying that he is working with the Kaufman Organization (the other property owner of that site) on plans to develop the property between Central and Dixon Street with a multi-use structure that will include a parking garage. There is no word on its size or use.

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## Sports

# Irvington's Female Core Four Motivated by Unfinished Business

by Tom Pedulla

Seniors Mary Brereton, Kelly Degnan, Heather Hall and Olivia Valdes have won so many girls basketball games for Irvington High School that there is only one thing left to accomplish – win it all.

Their remarkable on- and off-court chemistry, developed since they started competing together in the third grade, has helped the Bulldogs earn six consecutive Gold Balls as Section 1 Class B champions.

They fell short in the state championship game as freshmen and again last year, when they bowed to high-powered Seton Catholic for only their second defeat in 27 games.

They have been driven since that loss to complete their only unfinished business. “We’ve been playing together for so long,” said Degnan, a 5-8 forward. “We can’t



(Top row:) Heather Hall and Mary Brereton and (front row) Olivia Valdes and Kelly Degnan have great chemistry on and off the court.

—Photo by Suzy Allman opener. Their success is all the more impressive since they are adjusting to the absence of Lindsay Halpin, the stellar point guard who was their offensive catalyst. Halpin graduated and has been succeeded by Abby Conklin, a promising sophomore.

Gina Maher, in her 42nd season as coach, has overseen many teams that enjoyed good chemistry. But, the cohesion that Brereton, Degnan, Hall and Valdes enjoy is something special. “They absolutely complement each other and they know each other so well, it makes it a little easier to coach,” Maher said.

Learning the strengths and weaknesses of

a teammate and how that player is most effective offensively can be challenging. Not for Irvington's Core Four. “All of my basketball career, I’ve had that luxury of knowing where they are on the court, where my teammates want to be, and they know where I want to be,” said Hall. “It makes it fun.”

Hall, a 5-6 guard, knows that Valdes, her 5-6 backcourt mate, possesses abundant speed and often beats opponents down-court on the fast break. Hall has a knack for finding Valdes in stride with long passes that lead to easy baskets. Passes to the long-armed 5-9 Brereton are typically thrown high to capitalize on her reach. Degnan prefers to receive the ball down low, where she is known for crisp post moves.

For Maher, the closeness the four players enjoy away from basketball counts at least as much, and probably more, than the winning they have done together. “They really are very, very close,” she said. “They are like sisters.” They are helping each other through a challenging time in their lives, a time of self-discovery as they learn who they are and what they want for themselves after high school.

“We’ve all had our share of personal stuff,” Brereton said, “and we’ve all helped each other pull through.”

They are keenly aware that their time together is running out. “It’s definitely starting to hit us,” Brereton said. “We’re spending as much time together as we can and doing everything we can to play together as long as we can.” Degnan plans to continue her basketball career in college. She will attend SUNY Plattsburgh. Valdes signed a letter of intent to play lacrosse at Merrimack College.

Maher constantly urges her players to take the season in stages and not look too far ahead. She said of a possible bid for a state championship, “We try not to look at that.” But for Brereton, Degnan, Hall and Valdes, it is the only way they want their incredible journey together to end.

# SH Native Overcame Obstacles to Play Professional Women's Hockey

by Tom Pedulla

Keira Goin was 10 years old or so when she reached a breaking point.

The Sleepy Hollow native was doing everything possible to show that she possessed the skills and grit necessary to belong as the only girl on an all-boys hockey team. When a boy who had previously mistreated her told her at the end of a post-game handshake line that “a girl could never play boys hockey,” she responded in a most unladylike manner.

Goin reached back and slugged him.

She is not particularly proud of that moment, even if it speaks to determination that ultimately led her to become a standout at Utica College and now to play professionally as a 23-year-old goaltender for the Connecticut Whale of the National Women's Hockey League.

“In hindsight, it wasn't the best course of action,” Goin said of the incident. “But it was a testament to how badly I wanted to prove to everyone that said I couldn't play hockey that I not only could, but that I could be the best.”

Goin's mother, Elizabeth Merrill, was not

Continued on page 16



Keira Goin is a goaltender in the National Women's Hockey League.

— Photo Credit: Matthew Rainey

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# Shames JCC on the Hudson Offers Multiple Summer Camps

It may not feel like it, but summer will eventually get here. And when it does, the place for youngsters to grow, explore and just have fun in the sun (and shade) is at the Shames JCC Summer Camps. Whether it's at the J'S state of the art campus in Tarrytown or the expansive outdoor campgrounds in Rockland County, kids and teens from 2 to 17 will have an experience of a lifetime.

For children ages 2 to 6, River Friends Day Camp offers all the adventure and ex-

citement of a "big kids" camp, but is geared to the "little ones." Located at the Shames JCC's Tarrytown campus, River Friends' staff of early childhood educators packs the day with hands-on age appropriate activities including sports, arts and crafts, music, dance, nature, gymnastics and karate. There is also swimming in the J's training pool where older children will get swimming lessons. For more information on River Friends go to [www.shamesjcc.org/summercamps](http://www.shamesjcc.org/summercamps).

For kids and teens up to 7th grade, Camp Twelve Trails combines a traditional and specialty day camp for youngsters who want it all. Along with swimming and sing-alongs, kids choose what they are interested in from rocketry to theatre; from sports to cooking, from high ropes to crafts. The kids decide.

For teens in grades 7-10, their camping experience goes to the next level with overnight trips to out-of-the-way destinations, day trips like white water rafting

or working with local farmers, to learning how to succeed from mentors in sports or theatre.

For older teens who want to be counselors in training, Twelve Trails offers specialized CIT programs.

And for teens who want to be certified life guards, there's a program in our aquatic center. For more information about all Twelve Trails camps, go to [www.twelve-trails.org](http://www.twelve-trails.org).

## Hockey

Continued from page 15

sure how to respond after an intended handshake turned hostile.

"Part of me wanted to say, 'Keira, that's an awful thing,'" Merrill recalled. "And part of me wanted to say, 'You go, girl!'"

Goin's drive to overcome all obstacles led her to earn a full scholarship to The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn. She went on

to set Utica career records for save percentage (.932), goals-against average (1.75), victories (41) and shutouts (12), while excelling academically as a Dean's List student. In a phenomenal performance in February 2016, she made 55 saves to lead Utica to a 4-2 upset of top-ranked SUNY Plattsburgh.

Her love of hockey – and her determination to lift all women's sports – also helped her to withstand personal tragedy. Her father, Daniel, who had driven her to early-morning practices and to distant games,

who had encouraged her at every difficult turn, died of a heart attack when she was a teenager.

"She really lost her hockey mentor," her mother said.

Still, Goin persevered, exactly as her father would have wanted. In a strange way, she may have benefitted from the need to cope with sometimes being a target for especially hard checks on the ice while facing endless skepticism off it.

"It was not uncommon to grow up aware of the fact that people would sort of look for a ponytail," Goin said. "That's how my dad used to put it. Being in a situation like that, in an environment like that, allowed me to grow up sooner than most girls my age."

Despite requiring hip and knee surgery, Goin continues her involvement with hockey for the noblest of reasons. She works

as an assistant coach at Wesleyan University when she is not suiting up for games and practices for the Whale.

Neither opportunity pays well. Goin is one of three goaltenders on the Whale roster; only two suit up for games. She is not paid for practices preceding games in which she does not dress, meaning it sometimes costs her to be part of the National Women's Hockey League because she must drive an hour-and-a-half from Wesleyan. When she is in uniform, she receives \$25 per practice, \$300 per game.

For Goin, it is all worth it.

"I do everything I can to further this team and women's hockey in general," she said. "More young girls are starting to play hockey than ever. It's important for them to have someone to look up to and connect with that is a professional athlete."

Her father would be proud.



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## Food for Thought

# Cantonese Cooking Comes to Irvington

by Linda Viertel

**M**r. Koo's Kitchen, chef/owner Ben Pope's exceptional creation, features an homage to his family's Cantonese roots; his menu is neither traditional nor modern, but a delicate blending of Chinese and Western elements.

Born in Hong Kong, Pope moved to New Caledonia, a French colony, where he experienced a remarkable fusion cuisine: a complex mélange of Asian, French and native dishes. So if the name "Mr. Koo's" makes you think "Chinese food" – think again. Yes, there is China, but so many other influences and cooking styles contribute to the result that you can only marvel at the sheer inventiveness of it all, and how it all comes together. Growing up close to his grandparents, whose culinary skills inspired and nourished him from his earliest years, he arrived in New York City where he was educated and then began his culinary training at age 30 at the French Culinary Institute (now the International Culinary Center).

Former executive chef and partner at the award-winning 2 Duck Goose in Gowanus, he and his wife, Erika Hunter, co-owner of Heart to Hand Healing Center in Tarrytown, decided to make the leap from Brooklyn to Westchester and settled in Tarrytown. Pope opened Mr. Koo's Kitchen in October, 2017, in the former site of The Cupcake Kitchen and Woolfert's Roost. He brought with him his love of native Cantonese cuisine, enhanced by his serious culinary training and deft cooking skills, all inspired by his grandfather, the original Mr. Koo.

Pope's traditional Cantonese food concept, successfully realized at 2 Duck Goose, has now been transported to the rivertowns, and what a rare treat it is to experience his innovative talents and fresh interpretations. Chinese family-style dining, with small appetizer plates and then larger plates for the table to share (tapas style), creates a community feeling at the table, one of Pope's goals in creating Mr. Koo's.

His menu changes weekly and seasonally with fresh clean foods, herbs and micro-greens (courtesy of Blue Moon Acres in New Jersey) giving a delicate hint of complexity to each dish he prepares. With an open kitchen, it's fun to watch him and his kitchen partner, Scott Campion, prep, assemble, and granish each individual dish for his customers. A favorite – hot and sour soup becomes a complex amalgam of



made-to-order tastes: his house-made stock is enhanced with aromatics, smoked tofu, wood ears and mushrooms, then deglazed with Shaoxing cooking wine, soy and black vinegars, a shot of rice wine vinegar and fresh pepper, with a final fresh egg swirled into strands. Topped with frizzled/fried parsnip skins, golden and green pea shoots for added nutrients, it's divine! And a real tour de force.

Pope keeps 20 different house-made pickles on hand to complement his dishes: pears, plums persimmons, kohlrabi, golden beets, chilies, lotus root, daikon and more to brighten up every menu choice. Brooklyn Brine's ketchup and his own chutneys: kumquat, persimmon, plum compote (when in season), or tomato jam might also enhance any given dish.

One of his popular signature dishes, succulent grass fed-short ribs, is accompanied by "pico de gallo" purple treviso slaw, gently flavored with minced garlic and lemon juice, and tiny Granny Smith apple dices for an added crunch. Another favorite, his Soy Sauce Chicken, braised and flash-fried chicken thighs, is served in an aromatic soy sauce broth with pickled daikon. As Pope says, "I want to bring that element of sweetness and acidity to the kitchen."

Weekly Fried Dumplings and Char Sui Meatballs, made with Berkshire pork, five spice, apple glaze with beet ginger and apple puree for dipping are also signatures for the table to share. Vegan and gluten free specialties are on hand as well, such as the Twice-cooked Cauliflower, House Fried Rice (mixed mushrooms, spiced tofu, crispy vegetable skins and farm egg), and the Twice-Cooked Sunchoke "Potatoes Bravas" (with pickled celery hearts and red sambal aoli). Pope wants to offer every diner a choice. So, whether customers are diving into the Seared Duck Breast, Chicken with Black Bean Sauce or the Smoked Tofu, Mr. Koo's provides ample tastes for



## Mr. Koo's Kitchen

Right: Ben Pope, owner and chef of Mr. Koo's Kitchen; Top left: Seared Crescent Farms Duck Breast with purple sweet potato purée, pickled vegetables (radishes, snow peas, golden beets, kohlrabi) and kumquat chutney. Bottom left: House Fried Rice (version in picture) fennel stems and fronds, wood ear mushroom, micro red amaranth.

—Food photos courtesy: Ben Pope. Exterior image: Jon Marshall

everyone at the table.

The décor, thanks to Erika Hunter's design sense, harkens back to Pope's time in New Caledonia along the lagoon where he spent his youth. Palm trees, soft green walls, photos of Pope's mother and grandparents come together to give a welcoming, soothing atmosphere to the 35 seat restaurant. The informality of an open kitchen is complemented nicely by white tablecloths and Pope's artisanal wine list. Craft beers are also available.

Authentic Cantonese dining is rare in Westchester, so to have Mr. Koo's inventive bistro located closeby is a culinary gift. Chef

Pope will welcome you with his gracious, youthful smile. He wants you to "...hold on to a menu in case you want to try some other dishes, stay awhile and enjoy yourself." You will.

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### A Chorus Line Is One Singular Sensational Blast at WBT



by Morey Storck

*A Chorus Line* opened on Broadway at the Shubert Theatre on July 25, 1975, with music by Marvin Hamlisch, lyrics by Edward Kleban, and a book by James Kirkwood Jr. and Nicholas Dante. The musical was conceived, choreographed and directed by Michael Bennett, and for the first time,

effective control moved from the creators to the director. The production ran for 6,137 performances on Broadway. The story is based on taped backgrounds and ambitions from all the auditions of everyone who tried out for the show. The idea was to identify the typical Broadway “gypsy” chorus line of dancers with a new and different “stream-of-consciousness in dance dialogue.”

Originally, this very fast-paced production was framed and shaped at the off-Broadway Joseph Papp Public Theatre, and there, at its downstairs 299-seat theatre, *A Chorus Line* gave its first try-out performance, reportedly, before a wildly, cheering audience. The Westchester Broadway Theatre’s brilliant production holds closely to the final Broadway show.

It opens during a vigorous weeding-out audition with a song entitled “I Hope I Get It.” The task-master in charge of the audition, choreographer and dance-master, Zack (David Elder) plays this role “my-way tough,” exacting, critical, at times encouraging, but always authentic. Zack runs groups of dancers through the same routines multiple times. And, he is supported by his very able assistant Larry (Brian Dillon), an excellent dancer who could be given more exposure.

One by one the gypsy dancers step out front from the long auditioning chorus line to clarify to the audience their previous experiences, attitudes and ambitions. Mike, (Drew Carr) is the first to tell his story as a

Bronx kid who fills in for his sister at dance class with a terrific rendition of “I Can Do That,” employing most of the then-current multi-beat dance routines performed during auditions. He gets the WBT applause meter exploding first, but the rest of the “line” soon get their time to blast out, one by one.

Sheila, Bebe, Maggie (Lauren Sprague, Kelsey Walston, Emily Kelly) realize their unhappy family life was relieved by experiencing the rigors and beauty of ballet. “At the Ballet” is danced stunningly and expressively. Kristine (Ashley Linkger), tone-deaf and scatter-brained but a very effective dancer, delivers “Sing,” with her dutifully supportive husband Al (Tim Fuchs) assuring and complementing her all the way. Mark (PJ Palmer) recalls memories of his first adolescent wet dream in “Hello Twelve, Hello Thirteen, Hello Love.” An intimate revelation.

In “Nothing,” Connie (Tiffany Chalothorn) presents a fantastic choreographic bio of what it feels like to be extra short, and Diana (Alexandra Matteo) describes with humor what she didn’t get in her high school acting class. “Dance Ten, Looks Three” gives Emma Degerstedt, as Val, a rousing opportunity to command the stage with “Tits and Ass,” and she certainly takes advantage of it. In the same section, Richie (Kevin Curtis) demonstrates his powerhouse moves to a delighted and enthusiastic audience.

Now we come to the soul of the show. Cassie (Erica Mansfield), dressed in a red leotard, with a rich red spotlight bathing her in front of the signature mirrored backdrop and dramatically alone on stage, gives a sensational performance full of manicured nuances conveying feelings of joy and loss, of need and courage. Hers is a struggle of being on the crest of her career’s end, but her grit to continue to prove that she still has it, makes her go on. She was never really on top, never a star. But, she was a dancer, a gypsy. Cassie didn’t want to act. Didn’t want to sing. She wanted to dance. “Just give me the music and the mirror and the chance to dance for you.”

The play’s action then builds dramatically  
*Continued on page 22*

### Hamlet and I HATE Hamlet to be Staged at Lyndhurst

by Morey Storck

M&M Performing Arts Company will bring *I Hate Hamlet* by Paul Rudnick, a comedy with a ghost, to the Lyndhurst mansion for four consecutive weekends, opening February 10 and running through March 4. The plot revolves around the character Andrew Rally, an actor who seems to have it all: a hit television series, a beautiful girlfriend, the perfect New York apartment, and the chance to play Hamlet in Central Park. However, Andy’s TV series has been canceled, his girlfriend is eccentric, his apartment is haunted and he HATES Hamlet. A perfect comic scenario. It will be directed by the Artistic Director of M&M, Melinda O’Brien. The cast will be Tal Aviezer, Keith Erik Brown, Amy Frey, Elizabeth Mialaret, Leslie Smithy and Mikel Von Brodbeck. The production will be stage managed by Nancy Weiss and Emmy Schwartz.

M&M Performing Arts Company is the resident theater company of Lyndhurst. It has been producing quality theater in the Hudson Valley since 2000. Recently, *The Hudson Independent* stated that M&M was “adept at stretching the imagination of an audience and then capturing it.”

In repertory with *I Hate Hamlet* will be a co-production with Red Monkey Theater Group (RMTG) of, perhaps, Shakespeare’s greatest tragedy, *Hamlet*...but with a twist. The play, as adapted by Tal Aviezer, is a fast-paced, 90-minute version! It is intense and condensed. “My aim is to remove as many barriers as possible between the Bard’s words and the audience. We hope our production will still convey a sense of emotional, intellectual truth and spiritual homecoming to our audience,” he said. The production will be directed by Aviezer and features: Kate Berg, Germainne Lebron, Nick Leshi, Melinda O’Brien, Lawrence J.

Reina, Gregg Shults and Mikel Von Brodbeck. Only six weekend performances of *Hamlet* will be presented, from February 17 through March 4.

Red Monkey Theater Group was founded in 1999. In the Fall of 2012, Red Monkey began a residency on the campus of the College of Mount Saint Vincent in the Riverdale neighborhood of the Bronx. The Grand Picture Gallery at Lyndhurst will be ideally suited to the company’s performance style and intimate staging, both of which are RMTG’s hallmarks.

*(A note to readers: The unusual juxtaposition of these two plays was first suggested by M&M’s Melinda O’Brien. She felt the dramatic concept was worth exploring, adding new definition to both plays’ cross-over boundaries and the ensuing discussion. It should also be noted that several actors will participate in both casts.)*



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# Camp Defines and Develops Character in Youth

Merriam-Webster's online dictionary defines character as one of the attributes or features that makes up and distinguishes an individual. Character development is tricky. It isn't something that can be learned from a textbook or in a lecture — it is learned through teachable moments and experiences. So where can families turn to help provide the right environment for character development? Families can go to camp.

For over a century, millions of families

have been benefiting from the positive, supportive environment provided by the camp experience. Camp develops character when:

- Children and youth feel safe and nurtured, allowing them to take healthy risks and develop character organically;
- Supporting mentors model positive character traits and lead by example; and
- Camp provides teachable moments — for example, a disagreement about the rules of a field game becomes a lesson on integrity,

honesty, and fair play.

In a study of youth development outcomes conducted by Philliber Research Associates and ACA, campers noted the following:

- Abigail, nine, said, "I learned how to be honest about stuff."
- "I learned a lot about respect and my real values in life, what they really should be," said Louise, 14.
- Sam, 12, said, "At camp I learned how to be part of a team . . . sometimes you have to rely on someone to do a task or goal. You have to trust each other."

10,000 individual members and nearly 3,000-member camps. ACA is committed to collaborating with those who believe in quality camp and outdoor experiences for children, youth, and adults. ACA provides advocacy and evidence-based education and professional development, and is the only national accrediting body for the organized camp experience. ACA accredits approximately 2,400 diverse camps nationally. ACA-Accredited® Camps meet up to 300 health and safety standards. Accreditation provides public evidence of a camp's commitment to the health, safety, and overall well-being of both campers and staff. For more information, visit [www.ACAcamps.org](http://www.ACAcamps.org).

**"Camp provides opportunities for youth to learn new skills and gain new experiences, including teamwork, collaboration, cooperation, problem solving, resilience, and self-esteem. Children will grow and carry these qualities for the rest of their lives."**

— Tom Rosenberg, President/CEO of the American Camp Association

## About ACA

The American Camp Association® (ACA) is a national organization with more than

# Eileen Fisher Leadership Institute Accepting Applications for Summer Programs

The Eileen Fisher Leadership Institute offers yearlong and summer programs to adults and youth in grades 8-12.

"Now more than ever we believe it's time to offer young women the tools they need to become the next generation of leaders we see in the world," said Antoinette Klatzky, Executive Director, Eileen Fisher Leadership Institute.

The Eileen Fisher Leadership Institute brings young people together to explore their passions, learn from pioneers of industry, the arts and beyond, and discover their unique leadership style. Now in its eighth year, and having supported over 4,000 participants in their own leadership development, EFLI continues to expand its award-winning programs to reach many more people of all ages.

Throughout 2018, EFLI will offer programs to adults and young people interested in the unique, community-based approach to leadership training based on the EILEEN FISHER Inc. practices of creativity, confidence, connection and community. In ad-

dition to six weeks of youth leadership summer programs, EFLI will offer two programs for adults. Train-the Trainer (March 2-4) is a 3-day workshop for adult coaches, trainers, facilitators, and educators interested in learning how to practice EFLI's transformative education methods, hosted at the EILEEN FISHER Learning Lab in Irvington. The second program is EFLI NYC (April 1-7), a residential program for young adults ages 18-20 interested in an immersive educational experience in New York City that will focus on the importance of sustainable fashion and the inner workings of the EILEEN FISHER Inc. business model. These programs allow participants from across the country to explore creativity, confidence, connection and community and discover their own leadership styles.

All of EFLI's summer programs for young women and young men will be held at the EILEEN FISHER Learning Lab in Irvington, NY. In 2018, the non-residential summer program offerings for young women in grades 9-12 include two sessions of Ac-

tivating Leadership (July 16-20 and August 6-10) and Awakening Leadership, a program open to young women entering grade 9 (August 13-17). Activating Leadership National (July 30 - August 3) is a residential program for young women in grades 10-12.

EFLI's summer program offerings for young men include Leading from Within, open to young men in grades 9-11 (July 9-July 13) and Leading with Impact, a co-ed program for young women and young men in grades 9-11 (July 23-July 27). The LiFe Fellowship will continue to be open to young women and young men who are recent high school graduates or early stage

college students. Fellows will receive a stipend for their work with EFLI from June 27-August 22.

Please register for Train-the-Trainer no later than February 15, and for EFLI NYC no later than March 2. Applications for adult and all youth summer programs can be found online at <http://www.efli-life.org/2018-programs-page/>. Applications to summer programs are accepted on a rolling basis. There are no academic requirements for participation in EFLI programs. For any questions, please contact EFLI at 914-487-3354 or [info@efli-life.org](mailto:info@efli-life.org).



Advertising in the Hudson Independent has been great for The Rotary Club of the Tarrytowns. The art department was so creative when developing our ad for The Wine & Jazz event.

We also run the ads for The Duck Derby in the paper. Advertising in The Hudson Independent has helped get the word out for our events and improved attendance at our fundraisers.

And working with the HI staff is easy!

**Margaret Black,**  
President Elect, Rotary Club of the Tarrytowns

## The Hudson Independent

Your Trusted Source for Local News and Events [thehudsonindependent.com](http://thehudsonindependent.com)



Advertising in the Hudson Independent has been a great marketing tool to get the word out about the addition of new gifts and cards to what had been strictly known as an antique shop.

Keep up the good work!

**Stephanie Leggio**

## The Hudson Independent

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**FEATURING CAMP FAIR**  
**Westchester Parents Day**  
A NYMetroParents Event  
[WestchesterParentsDay.com](http://WestchesterParentsDay.com)

**BEST SUNDAY WITH THE FAMILY**  
Sunday, Feb. 4th 11AM-2:30PM  
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Meet Live Animals • Dance & Enjoy Live Music • Play in Sports Demos  
Create Arts & Crafts • Find the Perfect Camp & Get a FREE Goodie Bag!

Use code "HUD" on [WestchesterParentsDay.com](http://WestchesterParentsDay.com) for a FREE family ticket!



**Wednesday 7** Israeli Folk Dancing: Israeli Folk Dancing with Leng will be held on Feb. 7 and 21 and March 7, 21 and 28 at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown.



**Saturday 10**  
*I Hate Hamlet*: M&M Performing Arts Company brings another fast-paced show to Lyndhurst, a comedy with a ghost, *I Hate Hamlet*. Performances are in the Grand Picture Gallery of Lyndhurst Mansion.



**Saturday 17** Movie Mavens: The Movie Mavens series continues at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown, at 7 p.m. with a screening of *Septembers of Shiraz*.

# What's Happening

Check out the complete issue for February at [www.thehudsonindependent.com](http://www.thehudsonindependent.com)



## Friday 2

**ROCK THE WINTER BLUES**: Screening of blues documentary film "Two Trains Runnin'" narrated by Oscar winner Common, followed by live performance by blues singer, guitarist, songwriter, and historian Jim Koeppel. 7:30 at Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main Street. General admission, \$10. Tickets and info.: [www.irvingtontheater.com](http://www.irvingtontheater.com).

## Saturday 3

**COMEDY NIGHT**: Comedy Night will be held at 8 p.m. (doors open at 7:30 p.m.) at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown. Everyone is welcome to hear comedians Jon Fisch, Ophira Eisenberg, and Andy Pitz. There will be beer, wine, snacks served and a joke-telling contest. Tickets are \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to: [bit.ly/TBAComedyNight](http://bit.ly/TBAComedyNight).

**BIRDS OF CHICAGO**: Americana roots/gospel performance featuring Allison Russel and JT Nero. Presented by Common Ground Concerts at Irvington Town Hall Theater, 85 Main St., at 8 p.m. Reserved seating \$20-\$30. [www.irvingtontheater.com](http://www.irvingtontheater.com).

## Wednesday 7

**ISRAELI FOLK DANCING**: Israeli Folk Dancing with Leng will be held on Feb. 7 and 21 and March 7, 21 and 28 at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown. No prior experience is required. Join us for an enjoyable evening of dance, light refreshments and fun. Beginners 7-8 p.m.; open dance and instruction 8: to 10 p.m. The cost is \$10 for Temple Beth Abraham members; \$15 for visitors and guests and \$5 for junior high, high school and university students. For more information about Leng, visit <http://ctisraelidance.com>. To RSVP, which is required, send an e-mail to [adulted@tba-nj.org](mailto:adulted@tba-nj.org) or call the temple office at 631-1770.

## Thursday 8

**BINGO NIGHTS**: The Sleepy Hollow Fire Depart-

ment sponsors bingo nights every second and fourth Saturday of the month at 55 Elm St., Sleepy Hollow. Doors open at 5 p.m.; games start at 7 p.m. You must be 18 or older to play.

## Saturday 10

**I HATE HAMLET**: M&M Performing Arts Company brings another fast-paced show to Lyndhurst, a comedy with a ghost, *I Hate Hamlet*. Performances are in the Grand Picture Gallery of Lyndhurst Mansion. Opening February 10 and running through March 4. <http://lyndhurst.org/events/i-hate-hamlet/>. Visitor Information at Lyndhurst is available by calling 631-4481. Free parking.

**HEBREW CENTER CELEBRATION**: Celebrate the end of Shabbat and the beginning of a new week with Havdalah, stories and songs, with Bobby Doowah, crafts and a pasta dinner. The PJ Library/Greenburgh Hebrew Center event will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Hebrew Center, 515 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry. The event is geared for children up to the age of eight and their grown-ups. Gluten free pasta will be available upon request. RSVP [pjlibrary@g-h-c.org](mailto:pjlibrary@g-h-c.org).

## Monday 12

**ARCHIVAL PROJECT**: In collaboration with the Rockefeller Archive Center, students at the Washington Irving Intermediate School will be presenting the results of a long-term archival project on immigration at a Town Hall meeting that will take place at the Washington Irving Intermediate School at 6 p.m.

## Tuesday 13

**BOOK TALK**: TBA Books @ Night at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown, will continue at 7 p.m. with a discussion of *Pumpkinflowers* by Matti Friedman. Friedman, an Israeli journalist and writer, recounts the history of a hilltop bunker in southern Lebanon that was held by the Israeli army during the 1990s, beginning with the biography of a young soldier stationed there and transitioning into a memoir of his own time on the hill and his post-war visit

as a tourist. Light refreshments will be served. A \$2 donation per guest is suggested. RSVP: by calling 631-1770 or sending an e-mail to [adulted@tba-nj.org](mailto:adulted@tba-nj.org).

## Saturday 17

**HAMLET**: Red Monkey Theater Group and M&M Performing Arts Company present Shakespeare's greatest tragedy in a fast-paced, 90-minute adaptation presented with intimate staging. *Hamlet*, in the Grand Picture Gallery of Lyndhurst Mansion. Only six performances of *Hamlet* will be presented from Feb. through March 4.

**MOVIE MAVENS**: The Movie Mavens series continues at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown, at 7 p.m. with a screening of *Septembers of Shiraz*. The film stars Salma Hayek and Adrien Brody. Every month, Temple Beth Abraham presents movies with Jewish themes or content. A moderated discussion immediately follows with coffee and dessert. The program is free for members, and \$5 for guests to offset the cost of refreshments.

## Friday 23

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE**: A Women's Circle program will be held at 5:45 p.m. at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown. Celebrate study and explore Jewish women's issues and history. Members and guests are welcome. There is no charge for this program. Please call the Temple office at (631-1770) or e-mail [tbawomenscircle@gmail.com](mailto:tbawomenscircle@gmail.com) for more information.

## Saturday 24

**4TH WALL THEATER**: *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*. In celebration of Black History Month. Fully staged reading. 7:30 p.m., Irvington Town Hall Theater. General Admission: \$20/\$22. [www.irvingtontheater.com](http://www.irvingtontheater.com).

## Wednesday 28

**PURIM SERVICE AND SHPIEL**: Join Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown at 7 p.m.

for another year of excitement, fun and laughter. Temple Beth Abraham's annual Shpiel-A-Long returns with "Monster Monster Shpiel." Hear both a traditional and a comical retelling of the story of Purim. Bring a box of elbow pasta or bow ties to the service. Shake, Rattle, and Roll your pasta box in place of a grogger (noisemaker). The pasta boxes will be donated to those in need. Call the temple office at 631-1770 for more information.

## Sunday, March 4

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH BRUNCH**: Church of the Magdalene, 525 Bedford Rd., Sleepy Hollow, will host a brunch immediately following the 11 a.m. mass. Join us for the mass and stay for a great brunch. For inquiries call 631-0529 or visit <http://churchofthemagdalene.org/>.

**THEATER PRODUCTION**: *TRYMESTER*, a devised theater production in three acts designed to offer solidarity, spark dialogue and insight into the subject of infertility, will be performed one time only at the Shames Jewish Community Center on the Hudson in Tarrytown at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18. Through music, monologues, and movement these are stories of people wrestling with the subject's physical, emotional and financial challenges. But it is not a downbeat story — it is more of a rollercoaster of joy and triumph; hope and longing. For more information go to [www.shamesjcc.org](http://www.shamesjcc.org).

## Ongoing

**FREE TAI CHI**: Drop-in Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., Mondays from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at Shames JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Call 366-7898 or visit [www.ShamesJCC.org](http://www.ShamesJCC.org).

**JAZZ FORUM CLUB**: Shows Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., Sundays at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. at One Dixon Lane in Tarrytown. Call 631-1000 or visit <http://jazzforumarts.org/>.

**PIRATE QUEST**: On Saturdays and Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. children ages 5-8 hunt through the grounds to load precious cargo onto their digital pirate ships at Philipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow. Call 366-6900 or visit [www.hudsonvalley.org](http://www.hudsonvalley.org).

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

**WINE AND JAZZ WEDNESDAYS**: From 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. featuring bassist John Lang at La Chinita Poblana in Irvington. Visit [www.chinitapoblana.com](http://www.chinitapoblana.com).

**OSSINING FARMERS' MARKET**: Open Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. through Dec. 17 at Spring and Main Sts. Call 923-4837 or visit [www.downtoearthmarkets.com](http://www.downtoearthmarkets.com).

**IRVINGTON FARMERS MARKET**: Winter market every second and fourth Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Main St. School Auditorium. Free parking. 25 vendors. visit [www.irvmtk.org](http://www.irvmtk.org).

**IRVINGTON RUNNING MEETUP**: Group meets

## SENIORS

**SENIOR BENEFITS INFORMATION CENTER (SBIC)**: Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. a trained counselor from SBIC is on hand at the Warner Library in Tarrytown. Sign up at the Reference Desk or call 631-7734. To ask questions outside regular counseling hours call 231-3260.

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

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

## THE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

43 Wildey St., Tarrytown, 631-0205

**GREENBURGH NUTRITION PROGRAM**: See Hot Lunch above.

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

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

**TAI CHI**: 11 a.m. Thursdays.

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

**MOVIES**: 1 p.m. Fridays.

**MAH JONGG**: 1 p.m. Fridays

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

## TARRYTOWN SENIOR CENTER

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

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

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

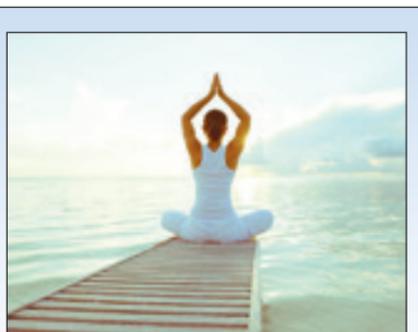
**BOOK CLUB**: Mondays 3 to 5 p.m.

## Ongoing

**It Takes a Village 10591**: Seniors meet every second Tuesday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at The Reformed Church of the Tarrytowns, 42 N. Broadway. The program includes a speaker, conversation, and refreshments. All are welcome. Call 914-222-5116 or visit [www.itav10591.org](http://www.itav10591.org).



**Thursday 1** A job search workshop with Carlos Barreto will be held at 7 p.m. at the Warner Library, 121 Broadway, Tarrytown.



**Monday 5** Morning Yoga: Morning Yoga with Nicole will be held at the Irvington Public Library on Feb. 5, 12 and 26, from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.



**Saturday 10**  
African-American Patriots: The Irvington Historical Society presents *Standing in Their Own Light: African American Patriots in the American Revolution*, presented by Dr. Judith Van Buskirk, at 3 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library.

multiple times per week to keep fit, keep in touch and have fun. Beginning runners always welcome. Visit [www.meetup.com/Irvington-running-Meetup/](http://www.meetup.com/Irvington-running-Meetup/).

**MAH JONGG:** Mondays at 1 p.m. at Temple Beth Abraham in Tarrytown. Call 631-1770 or e-mail [adulted@tba-ny.org](mailto:adulted@tba-ny.org) to ensure there are enough players for a game.

**MEN'S CLUB:** Meets every Wednesday at 9:45 a.m. at JCC on the Hudson in Tarrytown. Meetings have varied speakers and are open to the public free of charge. Call 366-7898 or visit [www.ShamesJCC.org](http://www.ShamesJCC.org).

**HEALTHY LIFE SERIES:** Phelps Memorial Hospital Center in Sleepy Hollow offers the community a wide range of programs on health-related subjects

as well as health screenings and support groups. Visit [www.phelpshospital.org](http://www.phelpshospital.org).

**TORAH STUDY:** Torah Study is held on Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. at Temple Beth Abraham, 25 Leroy Ave., Tarrytown. Classes are also conducted on Saturdays at 9 a.m. for a discussion of this week's Torah reading during conservative services. Info: 631-1770.

## In Our Libraries

### Thursday 1

**JOB SEARCH WORKSHOP:** A job search workshop with Carlos Barreto will be held at 7 p.m. at the Warner Library, 121 Broadway, Tarrytown. Learn how projects on a rocky path or clients looking to identify their pain points can identify issues and work towards more predictable and stable outcomes. Please sign up at circulation desk: 631-7734.

### Friday 2

**STUDENT EXHIBIT:** Irvington High School will feature the work of five art students in the Martucci Gallery at the Irvington Public Library from February 2 to February 28. Visit the gallery on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Tuesdays and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**MEMOIR WRITING:** Memoir Writing with Catherine Wald will be held on Feb. 2, 9 and 23 at the Irvington Public Library from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Telephone the library at 591-7840 or register for each date you plan to attend by visiting <http://irvingtonlibrary.evanced.info/signup/>

### Saturday 3

**HISTORY DISCUSSION:** Toni McKeen will describe the history and show photos of the celebration of Carnevale in Venice, Italy from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library. Registration is requested. Telephone the library at 591-7840 or register online at: <http://irvingtonlibrary.evanced.info/signup/>

### Monday 5

**MORNING YOGA:** Morning Yoga with Nicole will be held at the Irvington Public Library on Feb. 5, 12 and 26, from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Start your mornings with gentle yoga. Telephone the library at 591-7840 to register.

### Thursday 8

**SECOND THURSDAY BOOK CLUB:** The February Warner Library Second Thursday Book Club program will be held at 7 p.m. in the Reading Room at the library, 121 Broadway, Tarrytown. The book that will be discussed is *Embers* by Sandor Marai. Books are available at the circulation desk one month prior to the meeting. All are welcome. Info: call 631-7734 or visit <http://www.warnerlibrary.org>.

**HELPING INTROVERTS FLOURISH:** Michael Alcee, Ph.D. will share what introversion is, how it is misunderstood in our culture and what are the secret powers of being an introvert at 7 p.m. at the Warner Library.

### Saturday 10

**SINGING WORKSHOPS:** Professional singer and voice coach Dominique Helsten will offer free singing workshops on Saturdays Feb. 10 and 24 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and Thursday, March 1 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library, 12 S. Astor St. Wear comfortable clothing to the workshops. To register, telephone the library at 591-7840 or register online at: <http://irvingtonlibrary.evanced.info/signup>

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN PATRIOTS:** The Irvington Historical Society presents *Standing in Their Own Light: African American Patriots in the American Revolution*, presented by Dr. Judith Van Buskirk, at 3 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library, 12 So. Astor St. Visit [www.irvingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.irvingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

### Sunday 11

**FAMILY JAZZ:** An afternoon of family jazz with Darr Lilly will be held at 3 p.m. at Warner Library. Bring the entire family or just yourself to learn what jazz is and how you can enjoy it. Lilly will play the clarinet, saxophone and cello.

### Thursday 15

**FIRST MILLIONAIRES:** The story of Madam C. J. Walker, one of the first millionaires of the Hudson Valley -- presented by Dr. Leon Di Martino of Westchester Community College will be held from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at 3 p.m. at the Warner Library. Learn how Madam Walker developed and ran a cosmetic industry for African American women long before the modern era, and how she created wealth at a time when women were not recognized as either millionaires or leaders of business in the early part of the 1900's. Please sign up at the reference desk at 631-7734.

**THURSDAY BOOK CLUB:** The February meeting of the Thursday Evening Book Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Irvington Public Library. This month's discussion will focus on *The Last Painting of Sara De Vos*. Copies of the book are available for checkout at the library.

### Saturday 17

**TEEN ARTS PROGRAMS:** Two arts programs for youths 11 and older have been scheduled for the Warner Library. On Feb. 17 at 2 p.m. Learn to Code with Scratch. Scratch allows you to make games and animations by working with "building blocks" like programming with Legos. Sign up at reference or call 631-7734. On Feb. 20 at 3:30 p.m. Origami for Teens will be presented. Practice the ancient craft of Japanese paper folding with Yoshimi Arai. Sign up at the reference desk.

**MAN FOR ALL TIMES:** Brian Richardson will portray W.E.B. Du Bois in *W.E.B. Du Bois, a Man*

*for All Times*, a play to be performed at the Irvington Public Library, 12 S. Astor St., at 2 p.m. W.E.B. Du Bois was born in 1865, just after the Civil War, and was the first Black American to be accepted to and receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University. He lived almost 100 years and in that time he wrote the seminal work, *The Souls of Black Folk*, and co-founded the NAACP. Advance registration is requested. Info: 591-7840 or [www.irvingtonlibrary.org/adult](http://www.irvingtonlibrary.org/adult).

### Tuesday 20

**TWEEN YOGA:** Certified yoga instructor, Leslie Seery will lead 8 - 12-year-olds in the physical and mental practice of yoga on Feb. 20 and 24 at 11 a.m. at the Warner Library. Classes will be fun and relaxing. Remember to wear comfortable clothes. Register at the reference desk or call 631-7734.

### Thursday 22

**AIRBNB TALK:** To Airbnb or Not to Airbnb - accommodation for your next vacation, will be the topic at 7 p.m. at the Warner Library. Learn the ins and outs of renting via Airbnb or other online platforms. Find out how to judge whether an accommodation will be right for you at this talk by Travellati Tours founder Elizabeth Kemble.

### Saturday 24

**TUTOR TRAINING WORKSHOPS:** Spring 2018 Literacy Volunteers ESOL Tutor Training Workshops will be held at Warner Library, on Feb. 24, March 3, 10 17 and 24 and April 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. The materials fee: of \$25 will be collected at the first meeting. The fee can be waived upon request. To register or to request additional information call 488-4250 or visit <http://www.lvtarrytown.org>.

### Monday 26

**COLLEGE PLANNING:** College Planning Mondays - "A Parent's Must Have Guide to College Planning", with Toni Di Giacomo, Ph.D., will be held at 7 p.m. at Warner Library.

### Tuesday 27

**WINE PAIRING WORKSHOP:** The Irvington Public Library, 12 S. Astor St., will host a Wine Pair Workshop from 7 to 8:45 p.m. The program will be led by Andrea Kish, a certified oenologist and owner of Aries Fine Wine & Spirits in White Plains. She will teach you how to smell, taste and recognize the subtleties of flavors in a selection of wines. She will also show some tips for food and wine pairings. Registration is required and no one under the age of 21 will be admitted. Register online at <http://bit.ly/2D7cXnh> or telephone the library at 914-591-7840.

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## Obituaries

### William Maguire, 90

William J. Maguire, a lifelong resident of Sleepy Hollow, died January 10. He was 90.

He attended Saint Teresa Elementary School in North Tarrytown and graduated from North Tarrytown High School. Immediately after his high school graduation in 1945, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served his country during World War II. He was most proud of his service as one of the original crew members of the USS Damato, a navy destroyer commissioned in 1946. After his honorable discharge from active service he remained in the Navy reserves until 1954.

Mr. Maguire attended Packard Business School in New York City and then worked in the accounting offices of General Motors in North Tarrytown for over 30 years. During the early years of his working life, to make ends meet, he also worked at many secondary jobs while working full time at

General Motors. These jobs included driving a school bus for the Hackley School in Tarrytown in the evenings and caddying at Sleepy Hollow Country Club on weekends.

He loved his hometown of North Tarrytown and served his local community throughout his life. He was a dedicated volunteer fireman and an active member of Rescue Hose Company Number One for more than 50 years. During the 1950's, he served as the Village Chairman of the North Tarrytown Democratic Party. He loved all sports and coached Little League Baseball in North Tarrytown for many years. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and a member of the Sleepy Hollow Seniors Club. He also served on the North Tarrytown High School Reunion Committee. During his entire life, he was a faithful parishioner of Saint Teresa Church.

### Lucy DiMuro, 88

Lucy A. DiMuro, a lifelong resident of Sleepy Hollow, died January 13. She was 88.

Born in Tarrytown, she was a graduate of North Tarrytown High School Class of 1948. She worked in the accounting department of Kraft General Foods in Tarrytown for more than 30 years. She was a devoted parishioner of St. Teresa of Avila Church and she was a member of the Sleepy Hollow Seniors.

She will always be remembered for her great love of her family. She enjoyed spending time with them and loved to cook and bake their favorite foods for them.

### Jack Hulse, 76

J. Blyer Hulse (Jack) of Dania Beach, FL, formerly of Tarrytown, died January 16. He was 76.

He was born in NYC on September 10, 1941. He was well known in Tarrytown as

the neighborhood pharmacist and restaurateur for many years until he relocated to Florida in 1988 where he established and ran a successful business for 30 years.

Throughout his life, he enjoyed the excitement of boating, traveling, and fine culinary experiences, yet found much joy in the quiet moments shared at home with his beloved pets and his vast collectibles.

### Mark Vizvary, 67

Mark Andrew Vizvary, a Sleepy Hollow High School graduate, died January 3. He was 67.

He was born in North Tarrytown on September 24, 1950 to Mary and Emil Vizvary. After high school he went on to graduate with a B.S. in Forestry at Syracuse University. He furthered his education at Purdue University, obtaining a M.S. in Plant Pathology. He then pursued his Doctorate from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.



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## A Chorus Line

Continued from page 18

to "One," a thumping vamp that is identified, even today, with *A Chorus Line*. Its vibrancy and spirit is contagious with cast and audience alike. "One singular sensation with every little step she takes" seems, at first, to select an anonymous "one" to represent the many. But, as Donna McKechnie, the show's original Cassie and the show's star comments: "We found we didn't need to make Everyman the One. Every person in that line was the One."

"What I Did for Love" is acknowledged to be Hamlish's reach for the only real commercial hit of the show. It is. Sung by Diana and company, the potent yet lovely song describes what they will do when they

can no longer dance. Whatever happens, they agree, there will be no regrets. What they did, they did for love. Alexandra Matteo gives an extraordinary, show-stopping performance, and an appreciative audience responds with resounding applause.

And then the eagerly awaited brash and beautifully costumed chorus line dramatically lines up on stage. Their precision Rockette-like high kick routine brings on a roar, building a momentum which reveals a robust recognition of the true and beloved glitz historic Broadway musicals deliver. Represented on stage are not only the audition winners but the entire cast. Michael Bennett sums it up: "There are no bows. I don't believe in bows, just fade-outs. That's what a dancer's life is."

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# “From where did your ancestors immigrate, and what are your feelings about the immigration issue?”



**Dylan Smith**  
Tarrytown

“Peru and Ireland. There should be more freedom to immigrate because I feel it is helpful to grow our economy.”



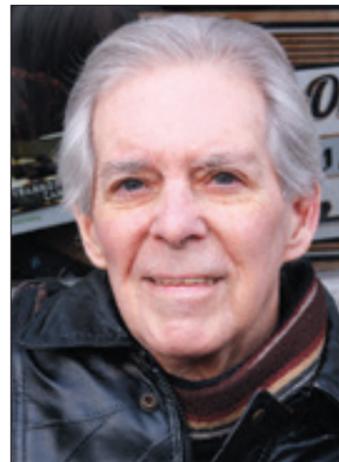
**Ralph Levey**  
Tarrytown

“Poland and Russia. There should be full immigration. No limits or controls, because that’s what we are.”



**Ann Neilsen**  
Tarrytown

“Ireland and Italy. We need leaders in all parts of our country to model inclusiveness.”



**Christopher Reising**  
Tarrytown

“Germany and England. The immigration policy sucks.”



**Mia Hernandez**  
Sleepy Hollow

“Cuba and Europe. I know that my father worked very hard to get to this country and become a citizen so while I don’t frown upon illegals, I think it’s unfair if they don’t have to do all the same work.”

## Letters

### Interests of Irvington’s Residents Should Be First with Astorbuck

**To the Editor:**

Thank you for your recent article concerning the Astorbuck corporation’s proposal to re-zone a residential neighborhood in the heart of Irvington into a 44-car commercial parking lot. There is no benefit to Irvington residents from this project - only increased traffic, noise, air and light pollution. The Trent building is literally adjacent to a train station. Irving-

ton should encourage use of public transportation, not create more traffic. Astorbuck’s principals concede more and more of its tenants are telecommuting. There is simply no justification to meet the “high bar” set by the Village Code for a zoning change and gift of Village owned land. Last year, Irvington’s own Planning Board recommended against building a parking lot at this location, warning it would increase traffic and congestion in our Village.

A petition opposing the parking lot has over 130 signatures. The initial application to re-zone these lots was filed in 2009, and after considering this matter for years, the Mayor says we are “not even in the first inning of the process.” How many more years will this slog along before the Vil-

lage finally decides to put the interests of Irvington residents first?

**Cheryl and David Brandwein**  
Irvington

### Article on SALT Deduction was Misleading

**To the Editor:**

Your lead article in January’s edition is misleading in one important respect. While it is true that the limitation of the SALT deduction to \$10,000 disproportionately affects high-income taxpayers in high tax states, like New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, the same Tax Reform Act eliminated the AMT (Alternative Minimum TAX), disproportionately benefiting those same taxpayers. The net effect if any therefore is much less than envisioned in your article. The AMT elimination should substantially mitigate the effects of the SALT reduction on Westchester real estate prices.

*Editor’s Note: While the writer is correct that the new tax law raises the threshold for the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), thus mitigating the effects of the elimination of SALT deductions for high income earners, it is our understanding that it does not affect those with modest incomes who happen to live in homes that have increased in value--hence in their assessments. There are homeowners of modest incomes along the side streets of Irvington, for example, whose property tax bills have doubled this past year while their incomes have remained unchanged. They’re the ones who will suffer for lack of a SALT deduction.*

**Fred Salek**  
Tarrytown

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