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April 4, 2025

RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

Local News,
Locally Sourced

\$2⁵⁰

WWW.RIVERTOWNSDISPATCH.COM

ARDSLEY — DOBBS FERRY — HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON — IRVINGTON



Through the looking-glass

Isla Baird and Finnegan Carlsten will star as Alice and Alfred, respectively, during the Dobbs Ferry High School (DFHS) production of "Alice By Heart," which will be performed Friday, April 4, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 5, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. For additional information and photos, turn to page 7. Tickets at the door will cost \$10 for general admission and \$5 for DFHS students.

Land Trust grants fund upgrades to ecosystem

BY TIM LAMORTE

REGION — Six ecosystem improvement projects in Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, and Tarrytown will receive more than \$9,000 in total grants from the Greater Irvington Land Trust (GILT) for 2025.

The projects were selected from among the applications for GILT's second annual Community Grant Awards, which were accepted from Jan. 29 to March 14. Residents of Hastings and the East Irvington section of Greenburgh were also welcome to apply.

GILT is a nonprofit with a six-member board that consists of Chet Kerr, who serves as chair, along with Jan Blaire, Jon Elwyn, Neil Maher, Phil Whitney, and Paula Veale.

"We received applications for a number of interesting and thoughtful community projects," Kerr told the Rivertowns Dispatch, "and, while we could not provide funding for every proposal, we are confident that this year's grantees have designed projects reflecting a strong commitment by members of our community to protect and preserve open space and parkland and promote environmental sustainability."

Continued on page 17

Study sounds alarm on salty water

Road salt and more blamed for rising salinity in reservoirs

BY AMY BOCHNER

REGION — A study by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) shows that salt levels are rising in the Croton reservoirs, a part of the New York City Water Supply System that provides drinking water to 10 million people, including Westchester residents.

On March 21, a press event held by the DEP at the New Croton Dam announced the results of the study, which found that

chloride levels in the Croton system reservoirs, which provide 10% of the city's water supply, have tripled in the last 30 years. Factors include road salt runoff, wastewater treatment plant discharges, and private water-softening systems. The NYC Water Supply System consists of three separate but interconnected systems; the Catskill and Delaware systems, located west of the Hudson River, and the Croton system, located east of the Hudson. All of the Croton system's reservoirs and lakes throughout Westchester and Putnam feed into the New Croton Reservoir, which is about 22 miles north of the city line. Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry,

Hastings, and Irvington receive water from the Catskill Aqueduct.

If this trend continues, the New Croton Reservoir could exceed the State's maximum allowable chloride levels by 2108. The Amawalk Reservoir, one of the smallest in the Croton system and located in Somers, will exceed the maximum allowable levels in less than 30 years.

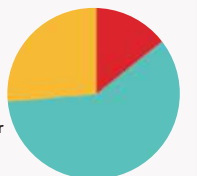
The study also found that the main reservoirs in the rural Catskills region have low levels of salinity, attributed to the lower population, pavement, and property densities in that region. These levels are also increasing,

Continued on page 19

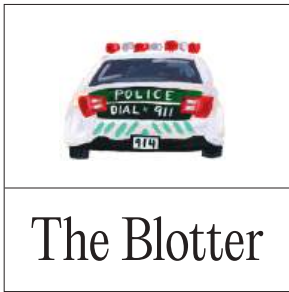
— You Answered —
Should gas-powered leaf blowers be allowed in the Rivertowns?

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The Blotter

ARDSLEY

Shoplifting arrest: A 31-year-old homeless man was arrested for shoplifting \$176.88 worth of items from CVS, 725 Saw Mill River Road (Route 9A), on the afternoon of Sunday, March 30. He was charged with petit larceny, a misdemeanor. Officer Basim Gergis made the arrest.

DOBBS FERRY

Warrant arrest: A 47-year-old resident of Oakdale, Long Island, who was wanted by the Dobbs Ferry Police Department, was apprehended by New York State Police on I-684 on Tuesday, March 25. In Dobbs Ferry, a warrant for his arrest had been issued in December 2024. He was charged with aggravated harassment in the second degree, a misde-

meanor, for contacting a Dobbs Ferry resident between November 2023 and August 2024.

Suspended license and registration: A 27-year-old Yonkers resident was arrested for a suspended driver's license and vehicle registration, both misdemeanors, on Palisade Street on the afternoon of Sunday, March 30.

FedEx driver robbed: A package was stolen from a FedEx driver on Hillside Road on the afternoon of Monday, March 31. At about 2:50 p.m., an unidentified man approached the driver, claimed to be the intended recipient of the package, pushed the driver to the ground, and took the package. He and another unidentified man fled south on Broadway (Route 9) in a black Honda Civic.

HASTINGS

Landscapers cited: Between March 25-26, three landscapers were issued summonses for using gas leaf blowers, which Hastings Village Code prohibits except for the period from Oct.

15 to Dec. 31. The landscapers were on Farragut Avenue and Washington Avenue on March 25, and on Villard Avenue on March 26. In addition, a landscaper on Whitman Street on March 25 was cited for not being registered with the Village of Hastings. Registration is free.

Suspended license and registration: A 34-year-old Scarsdale resident was arrested for a suspended driver's license and vehicle registration, both misdemeanors, on Broadway (Route 9) on the evening of Tuesday, March 25.

Unauthorized deliveries: On March 26, a Hastings resident reported that three unauthorized Instacart delivery attempts had been made to his home. Instacart delivers products from assorted retailers.

Moped violations: A 37-year-old Bronx resident on a moped was issued 10 summonses for vehicle and traffic violations on Washington Avenue on the evening of Wednesday, March 26. He was also charged with false personation, a misdemeanor, for lying to police

about his name and date of birth. Officer Wuilber Maldonado made the arrest.

Sex offender arrested: A 56-year-old sex offender was arrested on March 28 for failing to report that he had relocated to Hastings earlier this year, which he was supposed to do within 10 days of his move. Det. Sgt. Justin Bottiglieri made the arrest.

Warburton collision: A southbound vehicle on Warburton Avenue, south of Washington Avenue, struck another southbound vehicle pulling out of a parking spot on the evening of Friday, March 28. A 9-year-old child who was in the vehicle that was hit was transported to a hospital. The drivers were not charged with crimes.

Man slaps woman: On March 29, a woman reported that an unidentified man had slapped her buttocks after he asked to brush an insect off her on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 18. The incident occurred on Broadway across from Edgars Lane. He then headed north on Broadway. Similar inci-

dents happened at that spot on March 17, and in Dobbs Ferry and Irvington on March 10. The man was not apprehended.

IRVINGTON

Narcotics arrest: A 30-year-old Irvington resident was charged with six felony counts for narcotics possession and sale on Tuesday, April 1. The defendant was found in possession of cocaine, ketamine, psilocybin, and MDMA as the result of a search warrant executed at a home on Main Street. He was charged with two counts of criminal possession of a controlled substance in the third degree with intent to sell, one count of criminal possession of a controlled substance in the fourth degree, and three counts of criminal sale of a controlled substance in the third degree. The arrest was made by the Irvington Police Department and the Greenburgh Drug and Alcohol Task Force in coordination with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety Narcotics Unit and the New York State Police Canine Unit.

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COMPASS

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS

Volunteer ✨ the Month

Smith's community service spans decades of dedication

BY JANINE ANNETT

HASTINGS — Calling Sue Smith a “volunteer of the month” is an understatement, but since the Dispatch has yet to start a “volunteer of a lifetime” feature, this overview of her immeasurable contributions to the community will have to suffice.

Smith has served as a village trustee and chair of the Beautification Committee. She's given people rides to medical appointments, provided voting information, supplied meals to the hungry, and helped immigrants settle in the area. She was the key figure in bringing a farmers' market to Hastings and in building affordable housing in the village. She is a trustee of the Historical Society as well as the society's past president, and is currently the Hastings village historian. She's the embodiment of the phrase “If you want to get something done, ask a busy person.”

Smith and her husband were first drawn to the Rivertowns when she was pregnant with their first child and the couple wanted more space than they had in the city (but with a reasonable commute to Grand Central). The clock was ticking. The baby was due soon, and a two-bedroom apartment in their neighborhood would cost too much: \$250 a month. The Smiths moved to Hastings in 1967. Sue has lived in the village ever since. (She and her husband divorced in 1997.)

“I wanted to be in a place my kids could grow up with a lot of other kids around,” Smith said. Her son and his family now live in the house in which he grew up, and Smith lives nearby. Smith's daughter and her family live in California.

Born in 1939, Smith grew up on a farm in northern Ohio, where her love of gardening and renovating houses began.

“My mother was a gardener and she would make me work,” Smith recalled. “She had a greenhouse and she grew a lot of things that had to go out in the garden — she had a gorgeous formal garden as well as informal gardens.”

The family lived in a barn that had been converted into a house, giving Smith her first taste for home renovation and decorating. “We



Sue Smith at her home in Hastings

were always remodeling something in that old house, and I loved it. I would run home from school to see what happened that day. It's something that's always fascinated me.”

After graduating from Vassar College, Smith went to New York City to study interior design. When she was looking to relocate outside the city, she was drawn to Hastings by the sense of community and the closeness of neighbors, which she lacked growing up in a rural area.

Smith became involved in numerous causes in and around Hastings, joining the League of Women Voters as well as the First Reformed Church. She was one of the founders of FISH (Friends in Service Helping), an organization that offers rides to those who need transportation to medical appointments. She also volun-

teers with Hastings Helps the Hungry.

In addition, Smith became involved with the Hastings Beautification Committee, which she now chairs, and which takes care of numerous public spaces, including plants in containers.

“We have a great time,” Smith said of the committee, which also works with the Hastings Pollinator Pathway, a group that encourages the planting of pollinator-friendly gardens.

Smith played a key role in establishing a committee to save Hillside Woods in the 1990s, raising funds and awareness to help protect that forest from development. She served as a Hastings village trustee from 1990-1996.

Sometime between 1997-98, Smith took a tour of a weir along the Old Croton Aqueduct in Ossining and wandered into that vil-

lage's downtown, where she happened upon a farmers' market. “I thought, ‘That's something Hastings could have,’ so I talked to the woman [Miriam Hass] who did it there and we got a group of people together in Hastings to create a farmers' market in Hastings.”

Smith served as the chair of the Hastings Affordable Housing Committee. “We built 39 units,” she said. She also became involved in efforts to assist immigrants, helping to remodel a building to house them. That effort evolved into Smith becoming a founding member of Rivertowns for Refugees.

When she's not volunteering or spending time with her children or grandchildren, Smith enjoys yoga and traveling. She's visited Vietnam, Turkey,

Continued on page 19

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— THE DATA DISPATCH —

Repair Cafe concept takes off in Hastings

Neighbors help neighbors by volunteering to fix household items

BY CHRISTY KNELL

On Saturday, March 22, the Hastings Repair Cafe broke its own record of total number of items fixed at the volunteer-run event at the James Harmon Community Center. Twenty-three handy helpers, from teenagers to octogenarians, worked on nearly 200 household items, including small appliances, jewelry, and textiles — saving 149 goods from the incinerator.

“Rivertown residents are starting to really understand the benefits,” organizer Lindsey Jeanne Taylor of Hastings said, having served 114 guests. “We’re lucky to have the highest caliber of volunteers.”

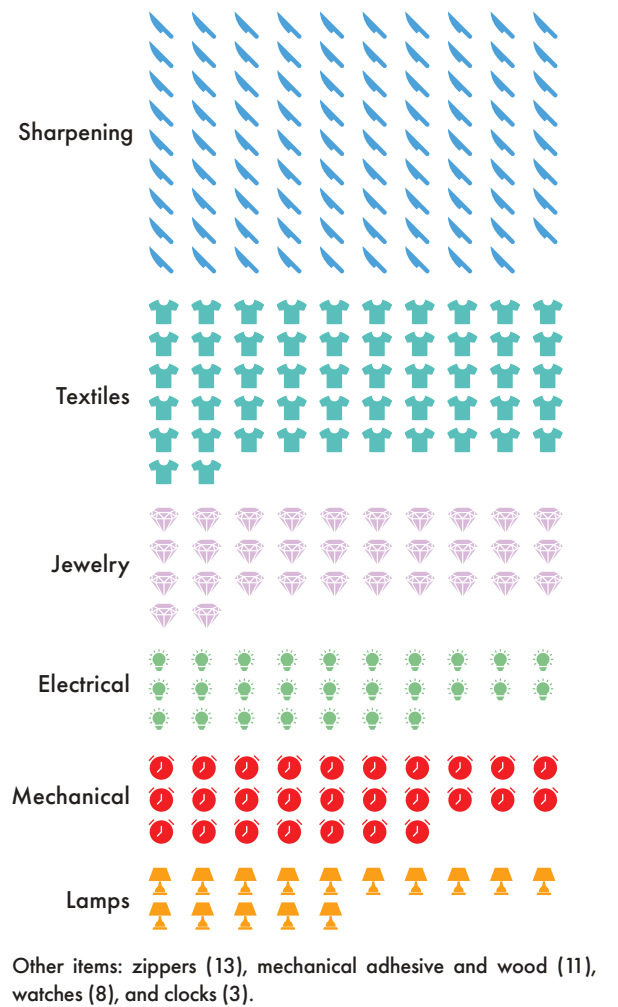
The Repair Cafe concept originated in Amsterdam in 2007 and has become a worldwide movement. The Hastings Repair Cafe is part of the Rivertowns Repair Cafe effort organized by volunteers from Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Tarrytown, and Sleepy Hollow.

The next Rivertowns Repair Cafe will be Sunday, May 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the the Sleepy Hollow Senior Center at 55 Elm Street in Sleepy Hollow. Learn more at www.repaircafehvh.org.

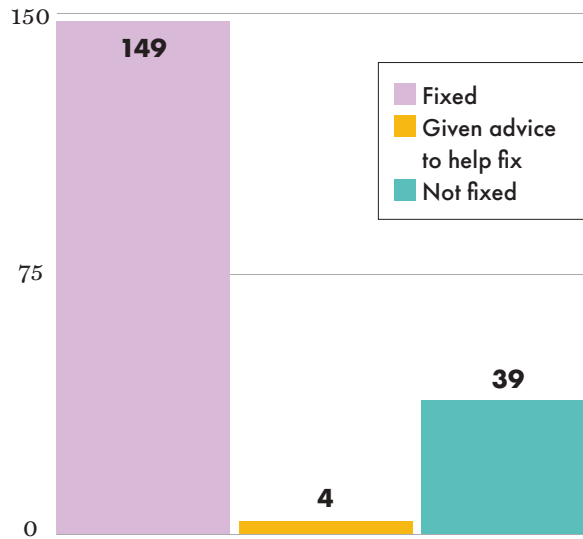
Volunteers and their roles



Breakdown of items



Item status after visit



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ARDSLEY

— Coming Up This Week —

League of Women Voters Hybrid Meeting

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.
Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave.
To participate by Zoom, email
info@lww-rivertowns.org for the link.

Pollinator Day: Free Native Plant Giveaway and Garden Consultations

Sunday, April 6, noon-4 p.m.
Ardsley Community Center, 18 Center St.
Visit ardsleypollinatorpathway.org
for more information.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, April 7, 7:30 p.m.
Village Hall
To attend via Zoom,
visit ardsleyvillage.gov for the link.

“The Moon and the Missions”

Tuesday, April 8, 11 a.m.
Ardsley Public Library
Ardsley resident and spaceflight enthusiast
Bob Kelly gives an in-depth look at eight
missions that landed on the moon.
Register by emailing peggy@wlsmail.org.

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 7 p.m.
High school library
Agenda and link to the livestream available at
ardsleyschools.org.

Senior Event: Planetarium Visit

Wednesday, April 9, noon
Hudson River Museum,
511 Warburton Ave., Yonkers
Register at ardsleyrec.com

Virtual Lecture:

Strategies for Dealing with Deer

Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.
Register for the Zoom link at
ardsleypollinatorpathway.org.

AHS Sophomore Fundraiser: Egg My Yard

Saturday, April 19; sign up by April 9
Plastic eggs filled with toys will be delivered and
hidden on your front lawn.
Sign up at eggmyyard2027.cheddarup.com:
\$30 for 25 eggs, \$45 for 50.

Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at
amy@rivertownsdispatch.com



Ardsley senior Timmy Lewis receives a high five from Noreen Degan before the homecoming game. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

Homecoming spotlights Pioneer athletes

Crowd cheers for points scored by both teams

BY AMY BOCHNER

The Ardsley High School gymnasium erupted with thunderous applause throughout the Pioneer Homecoming Game on March 27, as the community showed support for student athletes of all abilities.

The annual tradition, which took place between Ardsley and Mount Vernon, celebrates athletes in the Pioneer League, a program within Special Olympics New York that provides students with disabilities the opportunity to compete in athletics.

Throughout the year, Ardsley's Pioneer League, co-coached by Sherril Bastardi and Corsini Ciceron, plays soccer, European handball, and basketball, with games against other schools. The Pioneer Homecoming Game offers the district an opportunity to see the athletes shine, according to Bastardi.

“It’s so important because they get to see our kids in a totally different light. They get to see them excel,” she said. “[The athletes] are excited for the entire month before homecoming, knowing that everybody’s going to be there rooting them on, and proud of them. They just want to belong. This is a chance for the entire school body and community to see that they really are just like everybody else.”

The homecoming game was hosted by the Panther Booster Club, which supports all of Ardsley’s athletic teams and programs. The club’s vice president, Jodie Weaver, described how the event brings Ardsley together.

“I really believe in supporting our students across the board, and showing that we’re one community. This event exem-



Ardsley’s Eliezer Lopez drives to the basket.

plifies that. A lot of students come out to support this, not just student athletes,” she said. “There were students in the gym before the event started, sitting there waiting at 3 o’clock when school ended. It shows that we’re one Ardsley community and we support our student athletes and everyone’s ability to play.”

In addition to organizing the event, the Panther Booster Club provided the Pioneer athletes with celebratory T-shirts to wear the day of the game.

“They walked through the [high] school ready to go and be celebrated as the Pioneer team,” she said. “It’s a day to allow them to receive the recognition that they deserve.”

The event began with the more than 20 players from Ardsley and Mount Vernon running out, one by one, through a blue-and-yellow balloon arch into the gym where

they received a warm welcome from the audience.

Like at the fall homecoming, the seniors on Ardsley’s team, Ethan Merola and Timmy Lewis, offered yellow roses to their parents. The game also featured a tribute to Marisa Galloway, who worked for 20 years as a special education teacher/administrator at Ardsley Middle School. Galloway, 45, was fatally shot last summer by her former mother-in-law, with whom police said she was engaged in a child-custody dispute.

Once the game began, the gym filled with cheers every time a player on either side scored a point. Ardsley won the game 28-26, the last point earned in the final second by Eliezer Lopez. After the game, a reception was held in the cafeteria, with food provided by the Ardsley Police Benevolent Association.

Bastardi described the response the event received.

“Everybody loves it, and everybody the next day is like, ‘Oh my god, that was so special,’ because you might see the kid that never speaks, he’s out there playing ball, a huge smile on his face,” she said. “I have to say, everybody in this community is so welcoming to them... They’re all so happy to see them shine.”

She emphasized her gratitude to the Panther Booster Club and other members of the Ardsley community for helping to make the homecoming happen.

“The Booster Club, I can’t thank them enough for their continued support. The parents, our special ed teachers, just all the support that we get from the community and the district,” she said. “Corsini and I are so thankful that we get to coach these kids and spend time with them, because we really do love them.”

ARDSLEY

Two science research students qualify for ISEF

BY AMY BOCHNER

Junior Avi Medar and senior Anhad Kataria will represent Ardsley High School at this year's Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF), the world's largest STEM research competition for high school students.

On March 15 in Somers, AHS Science Research students competed against nearly 800 participants at the Westchester Science & Engineering Fair (WESEF), the largest high school science fair in the United States. Eighteen AHS students earned medals and awards, including Medar and Kataria who qualified for ISEF through their research projects. Twenty regional spots were reserved for ISEF, which will take place May 10-16 in Columbus, Ohio, with students from across the U.S. and representing more than 75 countries.

Medar credits his parents, who are doctors, for sparking his interest in science, and he hopes to follow in their footsteps. His research centered on the mass pathogen screening process in rodent colonies, inspired by his participation in the Regeneron Summer Science Program.

"My project focuses on developing a new model to test the health of rodent colonies, especially in these big pharmaceutical companies," he explained. "Before they can move on to testing drugs in clinical trials on humans, they must first validate that the drugs work appropriately on healthy mice, so it's important

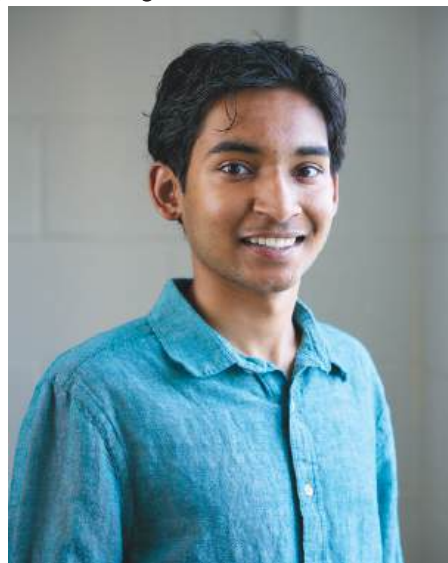


Anhad Kataria

to ensure that these mice are healthy... I was interested because it's such a small but critical step in the development of these medicines."

Along with qualifying Medar for ISEF, this project earned him second place in the Microbiology category. He described what his success at WESEF and qualification for ISEF means to him.

"When I came into this class as a sophomore, it was the one goal I had my eyes on," he said. "I told everybody over the years that I



Avi Medar

was gonna try my best to make it, so to make it a reality is one of my proudest achievements."

Like Medar, Kataria, who is returning to ISEF for his second consecutive year, is also inspired by his doctor parents. He hopes to study biophysics in college, with the ultimate goal of becoming a physician scientist.

For his project, titled "Assessing the Ability of Auxotrophic Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Strains to Trigger Trained Innate

Continued on page 16

More WESEF winners from AHS

Haley Albano

Fourth Place in Social Science

Urja Jain

First Place in Medicine & Health and Future of Medicine Award

Aayan Kapoor

Fourth Place in Chemistry

Alejandra Lebron

Teatown Young Environmentalist Award

Alex Livson

Second Place in Social Science

Mio Martin

Fourth Place in Medicine & Health

Charlotte Murray

Third Place in Medicine & Health

Julia Ostroff

Second Place in Cellular & Molecular Biology

Anshuman Parekh

Teatown Young Environmentalist Award

Kiarra Parikka

Second Place in Animal Science

Zayaan Rabbani

Excellence in the Application of Artificial Intelligence

Maya Raman

Third Place in Animal Science

Diya Sharma

Fourth Place in Cellular & Molecular Biology

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DOBBS FERRY

— Coming Up This Week —

Book Signing: “Stan Mack’s Real-Life Funnies”

Friday, April 4, 1-2 p.m.

Picture Book at HudCo,

145 Palisade St., Suite 200

DFHS Spring Musical: “Alice by Heart”

Friday, April 4, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 5, 1 and 7 p.m.

High school auditorium

Tickets: \$10, \$5 for students

**Encore Screening:
“Free for All: The Public Library”**

Friday, April 4, 7 p.m.

Dobbs Ferry Public Library

Little League Parade

Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m.

From the high school to Memorial Park

League of Women Voters Hybrid Meeting

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.

Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave.

To participate by Zoom,

email info@lww-rivertowns.org for the link.

Free Tax Preparation Services

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Sundays through April 13, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

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To schedule an appointment, dial “211” (within

Westchester County) or 1-800-899-1479,

then select menu option 8 to reach tax

assistance personnel.

Invasive Species Clearing

Sunday, April 6, 10 a.m.-noon

Juhring Preserve

Volunteer to help the Conservation Advisory Board remove invasive Japanese knotweed and barberry and plant native species. To sign up,

visit [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search for the

Dobbs Ferry Conservation Advisory Board.

Rivertowns Crop Hunger Walk

Sunday, April 6, 2 p.m.

Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 N. Broadway

“Pre-walk Palooza” features raffles and pizza.

The walk will benefit Church World Service,

Feeding Westchester, and the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry.

Sign up or donate at

events.crop hungerwalk.org.

Got news?

Email staff writer Julian Caldwell at

julian@rivertownsdispatch.com



Fellow cast members hold up Isla Baird and Finnegan Carlsten.

DFHS stages ‘Alice’ with an escapist angle

Wonderland plot unfolds during World War II

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

This weekend Dobbs Ferry High School students are staging a production of “Alice By Heart,” a relatively new work when compared to the 160-year-old classic from which it draws inspiration.

“Alice By Heart,” a musical based on Lewis Carroll’s “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland,” was first developed at London’s Royal National Theatre in 2012. The rights were made available to schools starting last year; Dobbs’ performances will be the first in the

Hudson Valley.

The story is set in London during World War II and centers around a community of people taking refuge in an underground train station. The two main characters are a girl named Alice and her best friend, a boy named Alfred, who find themselves half in reality and half in the fantasy world of “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.” According to Georgia DeFalco, the middle/high school vocal music and theater director, the wonderland at the core of the original story becomes a metaphor for escapism during the war.

“As the world around them is crumbling, she turns to her and Alfred’s favorite book

to escape the harsh reality,” DeFalco told the Dispatch. “And as she starts reading, the story starts to blend with her real life.”

In addition to suffering the turmoil of war, Alfred is gravely ill with tuberculosis, which means that he and Alice are kept away from each other while he’s in isolation. Alice still attempts to stay close to Alfred and recite their favorite story.

“All of the people in the bunker become characters from ‘Alice in Wonderland,’ and they are encouraging her forward and helping her find strength, and having her face the reality that she’s going to lose her best friend to tuberculosis,” DeFalco said.

Continued on page 17



Square dance nets \$13K

The 15th Family Square Dance hosted by SPRING Community Partners raised \$13,110 for that nonprofit at Springhurst Elementary School on Friday, March 21. Henry Chapin and the Fireflies provided the music for the event, which attracted 679 attendees. The square dance was sponsored by the Ford-Sussman Team of Coldwell Banker Realty and by Rivertowns Pediatrics. The food and beverage sponsors were Hudson Social, Sam’s Italian Restaurant, Los Ferchos, San Gennaro’s, DeCicco & Sons, Stop & Shop, Vivacity Media Group, and Scheinman Designman. The more than 50 volunteers included the Springhurst Student Government Association, parents, teachers, staff, and SPRING board members.

DOBBS FERRY

Senior advances to ISEF with celestial research

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL
 Dobbs Ferry High School senior Anabelle Shotton, who on March 15 won first place in the Physics and Astronomy category at the Regeneron Westchester Science & Engineering Fair (WESEF), is now in the running for a \$100,000 prize in the program's international competition. Her research is on the impact of new technology that will be used to detect gravitational waves in space as a means of observing different celestial bodies. Out of more than 750 projects in the Westchester competition, Shotton's is one of 20 advancing to the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) from May 10-16 in Columbus, Ohio.



Anabelle Shotton

Shotton, 17, spent the last two years on her study, titled "Large-Scale Multi-Messenger Simulation of White Dwarfs in the LISA Era," which draws on simulated data of collapsed stars. LISA — an acronym for Laser Interferometer Space Antenna — is a new detector of gravitational waves that is set to be launched into space in 2035. White dwarfs are the collapsed cores of stars, which are thought to be a final evolutionary state of stars with smaller masses — like the sun in our solar system.

"It's basically what happens to a star of small or medium mass after it's unable to do

more fusion in its core," Shotton explained. "Usually, the energy it creates by fusing hydrogen and hydrogen together to make helium, or heavier elements in larger stars — that's pushing out against its internal gravity. But when it stops fusing, the gravity wins out and it collapses and gets very dense and small, which is a white dwarf."

A white dwarf typically has the same mass as our sun but is the size of the Earth, making

it extremely dense. Stars with larger masses can turn into neutron stars, or if they're large enough, can turn into black holes. When Shotton joined Dobbs Ferry High School's Science Research program in 2023 as a sophomore, she first wanted to study black holes, and was driven by an interest in space she's had since she was a child.

"I have this very vivid memory from when I was little," Shotton recalled. "We went to the Hayden Planetarium [at the American Museum of Natural History] and I remember loving the video on dark matter. And I totally forgot about it until I was in an Earth Science class in eighth grade when we started talking about planets, and every time we talked about it, I would be so excited."

While scientists still know much less about black holes than white dwarfs, which are more commonly observed, Shotton was encouraged to focus her research on white dwarfs after connecting with her research project mentor, Lindsay DeMarchi. DeMarchi, a senior policy analyst with the Aerospace Corporation, a nonprofit based in New Jersey, was still pursuing a Ph.D. at Northwestern University when she and Shotton began meeting virtually every week to discuss Shotton's research.

Shotton's project required her to learn, with

Continued on page 19

More WESEF winners from DFHS

Delbar Afshar-Ghotli
 Third Place in Biochemistry

Mathias Cardozo-Romani
 Creative Approach to Research Award

Ava Chabert
 BASF Expanding Knowledge in Science Award

Angela Crowe
 Society for In Vitro Biology Award

Heidi Gastorn
 Fourth Place in Behavioral and Social Sciences

Nina Hankewycz
 Fourth Place in Environmental Sciences

Max Higgins
 NOAA Taking the Pulse of the Planet Award

Tessa Hunt
 Excellence in Medical Research Award

Daniel Koplik
 Excellence in Medical Research Award

Sean Lambert and Ariel Klein
 Leason Ellis Team Project Award

Eleanor Walker
 Second Place in Medicine and Health Sciences

Lyla Wallen
 NASA Earth System Science Award

Lilianne Williams-Ameen
 Third Place in Behavioral and Social Sciences

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HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

— Coming Up This Week —

HHS Musical: “Mamma Mia”

Friday, April 4, 7 p.m.
 Saturday, April 5, 1 p.m.
 High school auditorium
 Tickets: \$10, \$5 for students and seniors.

Farmers’ Market

Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue
 The winter market convenes the first and third Saturdays of each month through May. For details, visit hastingsfarmersmarket.org and follow the market on Facebook.

Rivertown Thrift Pop-up

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
 James Harmon Community Center, lower level
 Clothing donations accepted until noon.

League of Women Voters Hybrid Meeting

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.
 Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave.
 To participate by Zoom,
 email info@lwv-rivertowns.org for the link.

Artist Talk and Tour

Saturday, April 5, 1-3 p.m.
 Hastings Public Library
 Edward Bear Miller gives a brief lecture and then leads a tour of his exhibit “Icons Reconstructed and Repainted” on view at Village Hall Gallery through April 12.

Local History

Saturday, April 5, 2-4 p.m.
 Observatory Cottage, Draper Park, 407 Broadway
 See the Hastings Historical Society’s current exhibit, “Made in Hastings: Echoes of Our Industrial Past.”

Take It or Leave It Garage (TILI)

Sunday, April 6, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
 Andrus on Hudson, 185 Old Broadway
 For the schedule of festivities to celebrate TILI’s third anniversary, visit hastingszerowaste.org.

Cartoonist Stan Mack: “Time Travel to the Real NYC: 1974-95”

Sunday, April 6, 2 p.m.
 Hastings Public Library
 The former Hastings resident uses comic strips from his collection to discuss New York’s graffiti, rap sessions, phone booths, and self-expression.

Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at amy@rivertownsdispatch.com



Carlin McKinnon, Franny Kastner, and Emma Schlacter

HHS theater program turns up the light

“Mamma Mia!” performances continue April 4-5

BY AMY BOCHNER

This weekend, the Hastings High School auditorium becomes home to the fictional Greek island of Kalokairi, transporting audiences to a high-spirited world of song and dance in the theater program’s production of “Mamma Mia!”

Performances of the jukebox musical, written by Catherine Johnson and based on songs by the Swedish pop group ABBA, will take place on April 3-4 at 7 p.m. and April 5 at 1 p.m.

The story follows Sophie Sheridan (junior

Adela Mihalcescu), as she tries to discover her father’s identity on the eve of her wedding to Sky (sophomore Ben Levan). This quest to find her father leads Sophie to three possible men (seniors Ben Emtage and Nico D’Andrea and sophomore Jasper Wolferman) from her mother Donna’s past.

Directing the show is longtime district associate Laurie Walton, who described the production’s energy as “infectious.”

“They [the students] love the music and the dancing.... I’ve been directing the high school musicals for 19 years, and it’s the first time I’ve done a jukebox musical,” she said. “This has been a good show for this population of kids, because most of them have never danced in a show before. It’s been a really good growth

opportunity for them with their dancing skills.”

Senior Franny Kastner, who plays Donna, believes “Mamma Mia!” has given the students a chance to try a new type of musical.

“It is a show many people know and many people like, and if they don’t know the show, they know the music,” she said. “It is a jukebox musical, [so] we also have fake mics on stage to signify when a song starts. Integrating influences from concerts and live performances, along with telling the story, I think is pretty unique.”

For Kastner, the heart of the show is the relationship between Donna and Sophie, as well as Donna and her two friends, Tanya and Rosie, played by junior Carlin McKinnon and

Continued on page 16



Bioblitz underway

The sixth annual Hastings Bioblitz kicked off on April 1, which was the start of Earth Month. Through April 30, observations made in Hastings and uploaded to the iNaturalist app or website will become part of the Bioblitz, which documents flora and fauna. Naturalist Devon Cummings of Hastings (pictured) set up the Bioblitz. She is part of three-person teams cataloging flora at Rockefeller State Park and Ward Pound Ridge Reservation. To participate, download the app or visit www.inaturalist.org and search for the Hastings-on-Hudson 2025 Earth Month Bioblitz.

HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

Cartoonist to highlight decades of documenting 'Real Life Funnies'

BY TOM GAMBARDELLA

For over 20 years at The Village Voice, Stan Mack chronicled life in New York City “from the sidewalk up,” as he put it, observing the everyday lives of New Yorkers and writing down what he saw for a weekly comic strip titled, “Stan Mack’s Real Life Funnies.” Mack’s work ran in the Voice until 1995 and was published in an anthology last year. Now, Mack is returning to the Rivertowns for a talk at the Hastings Public Library, where he will provide audiences a behind-the-scenes look at some of his subjects and where they are now.

Born in Brooklyn and raised in Providence, Rhode Island, Mack graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1958 and served in the army until 1961, when he moved to New York City. After stints as an art director at the New York Herald-Tribune and the New York Times, Mack moved to Westchester — first to Mohegan Lake, then to Dobbs Ferry and later to Hastings. Mack’s two sons, Kenny and Peter, graduated from Hastings High School.

After his time in Mohegan Lake, Mack connected with graphic designer Milton Glaser, of the “I Love New York” campaign fame, and pitched Glaser a documentary-style comic strip, which he described as “a combination of sketching people and listening to them, or engaging with them in conversation and putting together a piece



Stan Mack’s self-portrait

that was kind of storytelling journalism.”

Glaser decided to run Mack’s comic strip, giving Mack the daunting task of covering life in the nation’s largest city on a weekly deadline — and illustrating his reporting.

“Looking for a gig, and perhaps having bigger ideas than I was capable of doing, I said, ‘Great, I’ll do it,’” Mack said. The now-Manhattan resident spent the next 20 years trying to “capture some aspect of that world, entirely by listening to people, over-

hearing their conversations, butting in, and capturing what they were saying. And, surreptitiously, sketching them while they were saying this, making sure the reader would know where they were when they said it.”

Mack’s work on his new beat evolved, particularly after an assignment to report at Bloomingdale’s from an editor who lived near that landmark department store. It ran as one of Mack’s first works for The Village Voice, but forced him to reflect on what “Stan Mack’s Real Life Funnies” would be.

“I thought to myself, ‘If I’m going to do this thing weekly, it’s got to be an adventure. That was boring. I have to go to places I don’t belong, that make me a little nervous or uncomfortable,’” Mack said. “And it was New York in the ‘70s, man, so that was, in a way, easy. My life was rather ordinary every day, and New York was filled with incredible counter-culture events. I just had to go places I didn’t belong, and pretend, basically.”

That traveling and pretending took Mack across the city, from singles’ bars on the Upper West Side to gatherings of UFO enthusiasts to former tenements-turned-warehouses on the Lower East Side, which would become the epicenter of New York City’s squatting movement in the late 1980s.

“My job was to sit among [people], or hang among them, and write down what I thought

were the pithiest moments, as accurately as I could on my little pad with my little pen, and sketch them as much as I could in the environment, then go back to the apartment and pull it all together into a comic strip,” Mack said. “I tracked every conceivable part of it, as much as I could. I’m doing a PowerPoint presentation of about 33 slides, but I have to say to these people in Hastings, there’s no way 33 events can capture what 275 different stories are doing. You’re just sampling, but don’t think that the next page I didn’t have a slide for wouldn’t blow your mind.”

The Voice discontinued “Stan Mack’s Real Life Funnies” in 1995. The cancellation of the comic strip came amid the newspaper’s switch to a free distribution model that included the jettisoning of longtime reporters, columnists, and illustrators.

Mack’s presentation will take place at the Hastings Library, 7 Maple Ave., on Sunday, April 6, at 2 p.m. In addition, Mack will appear at Picture Book in Dobbs Ferry, located at HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200, on Friday, April 4, from 1-2 p.m. For more information, visit stanmack.com.

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IRVINGTON

— Coming Up This Week —

Invasives Cleanup

Saturdays, April 5 and 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road
Volunteer to remove Japanese barberry from
Irvington Woods Park and at the same time learn best
practices for identification, removal, and tool usage.
Registration required at
register.capturepoint.com/villageofirvington.

League of Women Voters Hybrid Meeting

Saturday, April 5, 10 a.m.
Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave.
To participate by Zoom,
email info@lwv-rivertowns.org for the link.

Virtual Program: "Women Inventors"

Saturday, April 5, 2 p.m.
Visit irvingtonlibrary.org for the Zoom link.

4 in the Forest

Sunday, April 6, 9 a.m.
The 4-mile run on the Peter K. Oley trails starts
and ends at Irvington High School.
Registration (\$45, \$25 for ages 70 and up and
18 and under) closes on April 4. Limited same-
day sign-ups at the race costs \$50 cash.
Visit tinyurl.com/3e7er7ut to register.

Rivertowns Crop Hunger Walk

Sunday, April 6, 2 p.m.
Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 N. Broadway
"Pre-walk Palooza" features raffles and pizza.
The walk will benefit Church World Service, Feeding
Westchester, and the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry.
Sign up or donate at
events.crophungerwalk.org.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, April 7, 7 p.m.
Village Hall
To attend via Zoom,
visit irvingtonny.gov for the link.

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.
High school library
Agenda available at irvingtonnschools.org.

Call for Musicians: RiverArts Music Tour

Registration is open through April 18
at riverarts.org
The tour is slated for Saturday, June 14
(rain date June 15)

Got news?

Email staff writer Julian Caldwell at
julian@rivertownsdispatch.com

Developer's study targets childcare traffic

Proposal calls for rental units and an education/care facility

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

A developer is addressing traffic concerns around a proposed mixed-use project on the 4.2-acre parcel at 76 North Broadway (Route 9) in Irvington. The proposal includes demolition of the vacant mansion on the property and construction of a three-story structure with 57 residential rental units — including five moderate-income and six affordable units — and an early education and childcare facility that would support up to 180 children. The plan also includes 120 parking spaces, with 111 of them located below the new building; school drop-off and pickup would take place both above ground and in the underground garage.

During a public planning board work session on Monday, March 31, New Jersey-based Varma RE Development presented the results of a detailed study on potential traffic patterns for vehicles delivering or retrieving children. After hearing concerns during meetings in October and December about where people might be traveling from to utilize the facility, and the attendant traffic, Varma contracted engineering firm DTS Provident to identify demographic information. The firm determined that a 3-mile radius would adequately capture

where clients would potentially travel from.

Using the 3-mile radius, DTS Provident researched travel times on an arbitrary Wednesday in March from 24 different locations within that distance of 76 N. Broadway. The developer used Google Maps to analyze approximate departure and arrival travel times to and from each location during a morning peak time of 7:45 a.m., early evening peak time of 5 p.m., and a midday non-peak time of 1 p.m. DTS determined that because over 50% of the travel averages were 15 minutes or less, and four of 144 calculated times reached 20-21 minutes, the 3-mile radius is supported as a reasonable area to analyze. The longest time was a 21-minute drive to the Town of Greenburgh during morning peak time, and the shortest time was a 10-minute drive from Dobbs Ferry at midday.

The municipalities within the radius include all or parts of Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford, the Town of Greenburgh, Tarrytown, and Sleepy Hollow. DTS Provident calculated the portions of the populations of the municipalities captured within the radius to estimate that 64.5% of traffic to the school would come from the north, while 35.5% would come from the south.

In the summer and fall of 2024, the engineer and developer also submitted a pair of traffic impact studies that used a trip distribution based on 70% coming from the north

and 30% from the south, as well as 60% from the north and 40% from the south, which the most recent study falls within. As part of the studies, Varma included plans to keep the traffic impact within that allowed by village code, such as space for vehicles to go through the surface lot and circle back to the underground garage without coming back onto the street, if they're unable to find surface parking. DTS states this will eliminate the potential that cars stopped during pickup or drop-off will back up traffic on North Broadway.

DTS also explained that a survey of an unspecified educational facility that's similar to the one proposed by Varma revealed that vehicles picking up a child averaged 9 minutes and 46 seconds per pickup during the busiest time, in the peak p.m. period. Using that survey, the engineer determined that the 10 surface parking spaces proposed at 76 N. Broadway could accommodate up to 60 vehicles in an hour. Varma proposed staggering drop-off and pickup during the peak a.m. and p.m. hours so that the number of vehicles would stay below 60 an hour.

During the work session the planning board expressed interest in having Varma and DTS provide a similarly detailed study with a potential traffic distribution of 50% of traffic coming from the north and 50% from the south. Varma is expected to appear before the planning board again, but no date was scheduled.

— COMMUNITY BRIEFS —

Oneonta dean's list

Samantha Wilson was named to the dean's list at SUNY Oneonta for the fall 2024 semester.

Miami dean's list

Justin Rodnick was named to the dean's list at Miami University for the fall 2024 semester.

Buffalo dean's list

Kaitlyn Krieger was named to the dean's

list at SUNY Buffalo for the fall 2024 semester.

New Paltz dean's list

Kai Barry, Miriam Chester, Frances Sabatino, and Leonardo Sosa-Freire were named to the dean's list at SUNY New Paltz for the fall 2024 semester.

James Madison dean's list

Michael D'Alessio, who is majoring in accounting, was named to the dean's list

at James Madison University for the fall 2024 semester.

Muhlenberg dean's list

Ilan Oks was named to the dean's list at Muhlenberg College for the fall 2024 semester.

Georgia Tech faculty honors

John Neubauer received faculty honors at the Georgia Institute of Technology for earning a 4.0 academic average during the fall 2024 semester.



Musical reflections

The Angelica Women's Chamber Choir, led by Marie Caruso of Hastings, performed at Immaculate Conception Church in Irvington on Saturday, March 29. The concert included devotional songs of reflection and prayer spanning from the 9th Century to the 20th Century. Angelica's next concert in the Rivertowns will be at First Reformed Church in Hastings on Saturday, May 10, at 3 p.m. The suggested donation at the door is \$20 for general admission and \$10 for senior citizens and students.

IRVINGTON

Mayor delves into national and local issues affecting Irvington

BY TIMOTHY REUTER

Jonathan Siegel first served as mayor of Irvington from 2009-11, then stepped down due to the challenging obligations of family, career, and municipal office. He was re-elected in 2023, three years after retiring as CEO and general counsel of the communications consulting firm Walker Innovation, Inc. Siegel has opted not to run again this November as he copes with cancer.

RIVERTOWNS
Dispatch
Podcast

For the Rivertowns Dispatch Podcast, Siegel talked about the Trump administration's impact on Irvington, his goals for his final mayoral term, and about delivering value to taxpayers. To listen to the full interview, search for the Rivertowns Dispatch Podcast on apps such as Apple Podcast and Spotify, or visit the Dispatch website (www.rivertownsdispatch.com) and click on the Podcast page. Below are a few quotes from that interview.

• • •

"As far as the immediate impact on Irvington of what's going on in Washington, there are multiple ways in which that hits Irvington... I never expected to be strategizing with my village administrators how to handle ICE agents potentially coming, and what should be the policy of the police department in terms of responding to an order from an ICE agent for information."

• • •

"I think part of the process that's being used

at the federal level is intended to sow a little bit of chaos, to cause people to stop in their tracks in terms of what they're spending, and doing, and it's working, unfortunately. If I ran a budget the way they're running a budget, Irvington would shut down."

• • •

"The third [local] item that I'm going to focus on is the Streamlining Committee, which is focused on our land-use processes. How do you get approvals for construction? And how do you use or modify land and property and so on? In this committee we have architects, we have lawyers, we have residents who've been through the experience, and my hope is that they will identify ways in which we can improve the process. I think we have some excellent people in the building department, but they are burdened by the fact that the boards over the years have created more and more complex regulations that they have to administer."

• • •

"I would not want a mayor to feel like they are neglecting their family so that they can do this job. That's where the tension is, because they can't quit their day job, presumably because they're still at the stage where college is ahead, and or whatever expenditures for their children, is still ahead of them. Which means the tension is between being mayor and your family obligations."



Mayor Jon Siegel

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Opinion

The Dispatch welcomes letters to the editor about subjects related to the Rivertowns. Letters must be no more than 300 words, submitted by Monday at noon for that week's issue, and include the names, home addresses, and phone numbers of their writers. No letter is guaranteed publication. To submit a letter, visit rivertownsdispatch.com/contact-us.

Dispatch hosts essay contest for Rivertowns teenagers about misinformation

In collaboration with Dobbs Ferry High School senior Liliame Williams-Ameen, The Rivertowns Dispatch is hosting an essay contest for Rivertowns teens about the subject of misinformation.

Ardley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, and Irvington residents between ages 13-18 are welcome to submit an essay reflecting on how misinformation affects their lives, and

how they can combat misinformation.

Maybe you found a video on TikTok that seemed too good to be true, or a friend told you something without looking it up.

According to a survey by the Pew Research Center following the 2024 election, 52% of Americans found it difficult to discern true statements from misinformation in election coverage.

•Essays should be no more than 500 words.

•Please submit only one essay per person or per group.

•The submission deadline is midnight on April 30.

Essays will be evaluated by a panel of Dispatch writers and editors. The top three essays will be published in the Dispatch. The

winner will also have their photo published and receive a one-year subscription to the newspaper.

For the submission form, visit <https://tinyurl.com/355aw7y2>.

No essay is guaranteed publication. By making a submission, you are granting the Rivertowns Dispatch all rights to use the submission in print and online.

Proposed bond would fund necessary infrastructure investments in Hastings schools

To the Editor:

We write to recommend and support the bond currently proposed by the Hastings Board of Education.

The purpose of the bond is to raise money for critical building upgrades and to modernize and expand facilities. These improvements have been painstakingly considered and are necessary to provide a quality education. This bond is not about bricks and glass. The bond is a decision about investing in the infrastructure of

this community.

Even before the middle school flooded in December, there were significant unaddressed problems. Students take tests in hallways and have inadequate space to eat lunch. The Farragut Complex does not have an ADA accessible entrance. Classrooms are cramped and are not designed for modern teaching.

Historically, Hastings has spent far fewer dollars per student on capital improvements than any of the neighboring Rivertowns. This

deficit has caught up to us like water rushing down from a burst pipe in our attic. Home values are directly tied to school districts and the measurement of their performance across several axes. When public schools do not thrive, it is disastrous to communities. The bond is not about aesthetics; it's about taking proper care of our biggest investment and our own backyard — Hastings.

No one wants to pay more taxes. The average cost per taxpayer of the current bond is pro-

jected to be \$650 per year beginning in 2029. Smaller homes will pay less. For \$38 million of improvements, the price per household of \$54 per month is less than the price of a full tank of gas or a dinner out. We hope that all of us want to make at least that much of an investment in our children and in the future of our community. Please support the bond.

JENNIFER AND ADAM HALPER
Hastings

Letters continue on page 16

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The Agenda

SAT
5

Spring Musical: "Alice by Heart"

DOBBS FERRY

1 and 7 p.m. / \$10, \$5 for students. Dobbs Ferry High School, 505 Broadway. dfs.d.org

Artist Talk and Tour

HASTINGS

1-3 p.m. / Free. Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave. Edward Bear Miller gives a brief lecture and then leads a tour of his exhibit, "Icons Reconstructed and Repainted," on view at Village Hall Gallery, 7 Maple Ave., through April 12. hastingslibrary.org

"Mamma Mia"

HASTINGS

1 p.m. / \$10, \$5 for students and seniors. Hastings High School, 1 Mount Hope Blvd. The musical featuring ABBA's hits is presented by the Hastings Drama Club. hastingstheatre.com

Farmers' Market

HASTINGS

9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue. hastingsfarmersmarket.org

Rivertown Thrift Pop-up

HASTINGS

10 a.m.-3 p.m. / Free admission. James V. Harmon Community Center, 44 Main St., lower level. Clothing donations accepted until noon.

"The Little Mermaid Jr."

IRVINGTON

Noon / \$28. Irvington Theater, 85 Main St. Clocktower Players Kids Troupe presents the Disney musical. Also Sunday. irvingtontheater.com

"Shrek the Musical"

IRVINGTON

7 p.m. / \$28. Irvington Theater, 85 Main St. Clocktower Players Junior Teen/Teen Troupe presents the fairy-tale adventure. irvingtontheater.com

Historical Games and Story Time

YONKERS

Noon-2 p.m. / Free. Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, 29 Warburton Ave. No registration required. philipsemanorhall.com

Flower Show and Spring Market

TARRYTOWN

10 a.m.-5 p.m. / \$29-\$35. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Walk through the historic mansion to see floral designers' botanical displays and stroll the grounds for horticultural vendors, children's activities, and Geordanes Market's food for purchase. Timed-entry tickets required. lyndhurst.org

The Magnetic Fields

TARRYTOWN

8 p.m. / \$54-\$74. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13



The City Lore POEMobile will be at Words-on-Hudson on Friday, April 11, in Hastings.

Main St. The band plays their 69 love songs. tarrytownmusichall.org

Live Jazz: Salute to Freddie Hubbard and Cannonball Adderley

TARRYTOWN

7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$35, \$30 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. jazzforumarts.org

Washington Irving Birthday Celebration

TARRYTOWN

2 p.m. / Free. Christ Church San Marcos, 43 S. Broadway. Registration required. thehistoricalsociety.net

"Let the Poets Speak"

WHITE PLAINS

1-3 p.m. / Free. Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Ave. Poets of all ages can sign up to read their work by emailing bracey0114@aol.com.

"Box Spring": A Festival of One-Act Plays

OSSINING

2 and 8 p.m. / \$25, \$20 for members and students. Westchester Collaborative Theater, 23 Water St. Also Sunday, 3 p.m. wctheater.org

Bethany Arts Community Open House

OSSINING

11 a.m.-3 p.m. / Free. Bethany Arts Community, 40 Somerstown Road. bethanyarts.org

SUN
6

Pollinator Day: Free Native Plant Giveaway and Experts' Tips

ARDSLEY

Noon-4 p.m. / Free. Ardsley Community Center, 18 Center St. ardsleypollinatorpathway.org

Mutts and Mimosas

DOBBS FERRY

11 a.m.-2 p.m. / \$25. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. Play with adoptable puppies.

Proceeds benefit The Incredible Pups Pet Rescue. RSVP at picturebookny.com/calendar.

Cartoonist Stan Mack: "Time Travel to the Real NYC: 1974-95"

HASTINGS

2-4 p.m. / Free. Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave. The former Hastings resident uses comic strips from his collection to discuss New York's graffiti, rap sessions, phone booths, and self-expression. hastingslibrary.org

Ukrainian-style Egg Decorating Workshop

HASTINGS

1-4 p.m. / \$45. The Maker Hive, 416 Warburton Ave. Register online. makerhive.space

Kids Club: Cooking with Kate

DOBBS FERRY

10-11 a.m. / \$25, \$10 for members. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. Register online. hudco.eventbrite.com

Rivertowns Crop Hunger Walk

IRVINGTON

2 p.m. / Free. Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 N. Broadway. "Pre-walk Palooza" features raffles and pizza. The walk will benefit Church World Service, Feeding Westchester, and the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry. Sign up or donate at events.crophungerwalk.org.

4 in the Forest

IRVINGTON

9 a.m. / \$45, \$25 for ages 70 and up and 18 and under. The 4-mile run on the Peter K. Oley trails starts and ends at Irvington High School. Visit tinyurl.com/3e7er7ut to register by April 4. Limited same-day sign-ups at the race will cost \$50 cash.

Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct: Annual Meeting Lecture

TARRYTOWN

2 p.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N.

Broadway. New York City's Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Rohit Aggarwala discusses "Managing a Safe and Reliable Water Supply." aqueduct.org

The ReelAbilities Film Festival

TARRYTOWN

2:30 p.m. / \$5-\$8. Shames JCC, 371 S. Broadway. Showcase of cinema by and about people with disabilities. Purchase tickets online. shamesjcc.org

Comedy in One Act: "No Substitutes"

TARRYTOWN

11 a.m. / Free. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. Features The Music Hall Academy's middle school student performers. tarrytownmusichall.org

HYPROV: Improv under Hypnosis Starring Colin Mochrie & Asad Mecci

TARRYTOWN

7 p.m. / \$45-\$55. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. tarrytownmusichall.org

Live Jazz

TARRYTOWN

4 and 6 p.m. / \$25, \$20 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Emerging pianist/composer Jake Hart teams up with his father, legendary guitarist John Hart, and his trio. jazzforumarts.org

Open Jam Session

TARRYTOWN

8 p.m. / \$10 for listeners, \$5 for players. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Hosted by longtime Hastings resident and jazz pianist David Janeway and his trio. jazzforumarts.org

Friends of Music Concerts: Pianist Harmony Zhu

SLEEPY HOLLOW

3 p.m. / \$40. Sleepy Hollow High School, 210 N. Broadway. friendsofmusicconcerts.org

"A Painted Memoir"

OSSINING

1-3 p.m. / Free. Bethany Arts Community, 40 Somerstown Road. Opening reception for Dyan Rosenberg's new exhibition. On view through April 18. bethanyarts.org

TUES
8

Live Music: Milton with Jeff Erych

HASTINGS

7-9 p.m. / No cover charge. Uncle Lefty's, 583 Warburton Ave. uncleleftys.com

Comedy Open Mic

HASTINGS

8 p.m. / One-drink minimum for performers. Divino's Speakeasy, 524 Warburton Ave. Presented by the Dobbs Ferry Public Library. Intended for ages 18 and up. Sign up by emailing tdeery@wlsmail.org.

The Agenda

WED
9

Virtual Lecture: Strategies for Dealing with Deer

ARDSLEY
7:30 p.m. / Free. Register for the Zoom link online. ardsleypollinatorpathway.org

Seed Swap and Workshop with Flourscape Garden & Design

DOBBS FERRY
1-2 p.m. / \$20, free for members. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. Register online. hudco.eventbrite.com

“Seussical Jr.”

TARRYTOWN
7:30 p.m. / \$15. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. tarrytownmusichall.org

**“Verses and Vignettes”:
Spoken Word and Improv**

OSSINING
7:30 p.m. / \$10. Westchester Collaborative Theater, 23 Water St. wctheater.org

THURS
10

Outdoor Live Music: Cash Jacobs & Dave Blickstein

DOBBS FERRY
6-9 p.m. / No cover charge. Hudson Social, 11 Station Plaza. hudsonsocial.com

Art Exhibition of Elisa Bosse’s “Guaiba: Quiet Presence of Light”

DOBBS FERRY
9 a.m.-5 p.m. / Free. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. Also April 11 and 12. hudco.eventbrite.com

Science-on-Hudson Lecture

IRVINGTON
7 p.m. / Free. Nevis Science Center, 136 S. Broadway. Marine geophysicist Suzanne Carbotte discusses “The Hidden Giant Earthquake Fault of the Pacific Northwest.” Registration required. nevis.columbia.edu

Rivertowns Chamber: Women’s Spring Social

YONKERS
6-8 p.m. / \$35, \$25 for members. MorDance Studio, 86 Main St., 6th floor. Reserve a spot online. rivertownschamber.com

Screening and Conversation: “Unearth”

TARRYTOWN
6:30 p.m. / \$15. The Pocantico Center, 200 Lake Road. Watch Hunter Nolan’s documentary about plans for a copper mine in Alaska, followed by a panel discussion led by Nolan. Purchase tickets online. rbf.org/pocantico/events

Black Violin: Full Circle Tour

TARRYTOWN
8 p.m. / \$45-\$150. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. The Grammy-nominated duo Wil

Baptiste and Kev Marcus merge classical music and hip-hop. tarrytownmusichall.org

FRI
11

Cult Classic Movie Night: “So I Married an Axe Murderer”

DOBBS FERRY
8 p.m. / Free. Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St. dobbsferrylibrary.org

Friday Night Live: Words-on-Hudson

HASTINGS
6-9 p.m. / Free. James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main St. Author and poet readings, plus the City Lore POEMobile. DestinationHastings.org

Lez Zeppelin

TARRYTOWN
8 p.m. / \$35-\$55. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. The all-female tribute band performs Led Zeppelin’s legendary rock music. tarrytownmusichall.org

Lyndhurst Classic Mansion Tour

TARRYTOWN
10 a.m.-4 p.m. / \$10-\$26. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. The guided tour encompasses the first and second floors of the mansion, spanning approximately 16 rooms. Through Sept. 21. Timed entry tickets required. lyndhurst.org

Live Jazz: Trombonist Steve Davis

TARRYTOWN
7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$35, \$30 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. jazzforumarts.org

Stroller Tour

YONKERS
11 a.m.-noon / \$13 for adults, \$8 for ages 3-18, \$9 for students and seniors, free for members and children under 3. Hudson River Museum, 511 Warburton Ave. Gallery conversation, followed by storytime, art-making, puppetry, music, or movement for ages 2 and under with their caregivers. hrm.org

Stand-up Comedy Night

OSSINING
8 p.m. / \$30. Westchester Collaborative Theater, 23 Water St. wctheater.org

ONGOING

Greenburgh Black History Museum

VALHALLA
Westchester Community College Library, 75 Grasslands Road. The exhibit, which had been at the Greenburgh Public Library, explores the experience and impact of Black people in the Town of Greenburgh. Through May 2.

Art Exhibit

ARDSLEY
Village Hall, 507 Ashford Ave. Paintings by village resident Morry Silbiger are on view through August.



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Opinion

National Vietnam War Veterans Day offers chance to honor those who served

To the Editor:

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is observed every year on March 29. It is an opportunity for all Americans to recognize, thank, and honor our Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice during one of the longest wars in our country's history. It is also an appropriate time to pay homage to those who returned from Vietnam and have died from causes connected to the war, i.e. agent orange.

March 29 was chosen as National Vietnam War Veterans Day because it was on March 29, 1973, that the last U.S. combat troops departed the Republic of Vietnam. Though it has been 50-plus years, the similarity of our troops exit

from Vietnam and Afghanistan has been a difficult time for many veterans.

Due to the poor reception given to Vietnam veterans upon their return to the states, it is still common to hear them greet each other with a "welcome home" acknowledgment. Hats off to those who answered the call, when their country needed them, and fought bravely in a foreign land.

STEPHEN WITTENBERG
Lewes, Delaware

The writer is a former resident of Ardsley, and a member of Ardsley American Legion Post 458, who served in Vietnam from 1967-68 with the 4th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army.

Supporting Hastings public schools will benefit the whole community

To the Editor:

When it comes to school budget votes — pay it forward. In the school budget discussion, I often hear that "70% of Hastings households do not have school-aged children." However, how many of these households once had school-aged children who benefited from the community's support? Generations rely on

those before them to continue investing in the community, even after their own children have grown. Whether or not you currently benefit directly from Hastings schools, having healthy schools, supported teachers, and thriving students is a win for our entire village.

MELISSA SBREGA
Hastings

Kataria, Medar *Continued from page 6*

Immunity in Mouse Macrophages," Kataria conducted research on tuberculosis at Albert Einstein College of Medicine under Dr. William Jacobs.

"[My project] is seeing if new vaccines for tuberculosis are as good as or better than the current one," Kataria said. "I want to learn about tuberculosis, because it is the world's deadliest infectious killer."

His project earned third place in the Microbiology category and a spot at ISEF, which Kataria is excited to return to.

"I just can't wait to see all the other projects from across the world," he said. "That was my favorite part last year. They do a public view-

ing day, where it's just very cool to see so many people — just normal people — interested in all the science that we're doing. What it means to me is being able to show my research and see a lot of high-level research from kids like me across the world."

AHS is one of three high schools in Westchester sending more than one student to ISEF. The other two schools are New Rochelle and Horace Greeley, which have larger science research programs compared to Ardsley. Medar believes this is a testament to the excellence of teachers in Ardsley's Science Research program, such as James Dowd:

"It just shows that it's not really the size of the program, but it's about the people... and there's a lot of encouraging teachers in Ardsley."

Mamma Mia! *Continued from page 9*

senior Emma Schlacter.

"I really wanted to make sure that I perfected the story," Kastner explained. "A lot of times I've seen the show done, the spotlight has been taken off of the mother-and-daughter relationship and more onto the mom's relationship with the three men. The original meaning of the show — it's about these female relationships and female friendships."

Walton believes the lighthearted nature of the show can offer the audience a break from the outside world.

"With things in the country being so stressful for many people, my hope is that this show

will just give them two and a half hours of pure entertainment and silliness and fun to take away the day-to-day anxieties that everyone is feeling."

Kastner agreed:

"Something I really hope the audience will take away is just the ability to have fun. It's not the most cerebral show. I just want people to enjoy the music, connect with the lyrics, and find a way to maybe bring the positivity in the show to their own lives."

Tickets for "Mamma Mia!" are available online at hastings theatre.com and cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for students/senior citizens. On the day of the productions, the tickets can be purchased at the door for \$15 for adults and \$10 for students/senior citizens.

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GILT grants

Continued from page 1

In 2024, GILT awarded four grants totaling \$6,650 for two projects in Dobbs Ferry and two in Irvington. For 2025, the recipients are:

- \$2,000 for the Irvington Green Policy Task Force to plant deer-resistant native shrubs and trees along the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail, north of Main Street in Irvington, where the invasive Tree of Heaven has been or will be removed.

- \$2,000 for the Dobbs Ferry Conservation Advisory Board to expand a native pollinator garden at Chauncey Park, north of the Danforth Apartments at Rivertowns Square, and to install a permanent, deer-proof fence.

- \$2,000 for Irvington Girl Scout Troop 1719 to work with the Irvington High School Environmental Club on keeping the area around Split Rock in the Irvington Woods cleaner and free of glass.

- \$2,000 for Livable Tarrytowns to blaze a new trail through the woods west of the Tappan Hill School in Tarrytown, a public school for kindergartners and first graders. The trail will be used by students and teachers. Livable Tarrytowns is a group of residents dedicated to maintaining, improving, and expanding public space in Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow.

- \$515.26 for Irvington High School students in the Changing Forest Program, led by naturalist C.J. Reilly, to expand an existing sustainable shiitake mushroom cultivation program using repurposed invasive trees in the Irvington Woods.

- \$500 to plant a native woodland garden at Zion Episcopal Church in Dobbs Ferry,

adjacent to the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail and south of Cedar Street.

The mushroom cultivation program will involve Irvington High School students, including junior Max Bloom, who told the Dispatch that “Through this project, we will teach residents about the sustainability, economic benefits, and nutritional value of agroforestry and shiitake mushroom cultivation in suburban areas.”

The project to clean up Split Rock was spurred by the 12 fifth-graders in Troop 1719, who have spent time together in the Irvington Woods since kindergarten.

“The girls were upset about the amount of garbage and broken glass at Split Rock, a popular party spot, and wanted to take action,” troop leader Teresa Janevic told the Dispatch. The girls first put up signs about the need to clean up, but the signs were torn down. They then connected with the Irvington High School Environmental Club.

“They are in the process now of working together to find a sustainable solution to protect Split Rock and keep this special Irvington Woods geographic marvel clean and safe for all to enjoy,” Janevic said.

Since it was formed in 2006, GILT has also helped municipalities protect open space, including 65 acres in the Irvington Woods and around Halsey Pond that the Village of Irvington designated as parkland. GILT has been working with the Village of Dobbs Ferry to expand the 6.4-acre Chauncey Park by acquiring 8.4 acres of adjacent land owned by New York State.

‘Alice By Heart’

Continued from page 7

The idea to stage “Alice By Heart” came from contracted musical director Bret Fox, who is working with DFHS for the second time, following “Fiddler on the Roof” last spring. When Fox presented the idea to students last year, he was surprised at how many of the students not only knew of “Alice By Heart,” but were fans.

“It’s [the musical] showing that you can take something that’s fantastical that you can cope with no matter what is going on in your life,” Fox said. “No matter how difficult things can be you can hang on to something that makes you feel hopeful, and that can bring you light when there’s darkness.”

Both senior Isla Baird, who portrays Alice, and senior Finnegan Carlsten, who plays Alfred, have acted in all three previous spring musicals of their high school years. Baird fell in love with the story after hearing a recording of the songs when she was in eighth grade.

“The story of Alice finding solace in this book that she loves so much, and using it as an escape and finding all of these characters who help her get through times, that’s such a wonderful story,” Baird said. “I think we can all relate to having some sort of media or loved ones to help us get through hard times.”

Unlike the previous three spring musicals at DFHS — “Les Misérables”, “Chicago”, and “Fiddler on the Roof”, which have had global

tours and film adaptations — “Alice By Heart” is not as well known. The musical had its most significant run off-Broadway at the Robert W. Wilson MCC Theater Space in Manhattan from February to April 2019. That means students don’t have the pressure to live up to performances their prospective audience has likely already seen.

“All of us are really able to have our own fresh take on the characters,” Carlsten said. “We’re not really influenced by a movie of the thing; everybody’s their own character and having their own interpretation of their character, and it’s kind of fun in that way.”

“Alice By Heart” has a book by Steven Sater and Jessie Nelson, and lyrics by Sater. The music is composed by Duncan Sheik, the Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter who won Tony Awards for Best Original Score and Best Orchestrations in 2007 for the musical “Spring Awakening.”

“It’s good to go and see new theater because theater is alive, and it is new,” DeFalco said. “And although I love the classics, we should be supporting new singer-songwriters and new works. Duncan Sheik’s alive and he’s walking around, and so is his creative team.”

“Alice By Heart” will be performed at the Dobbs Ferry High School Auditorium, 505 Broadway, on Friday, April 4 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 5 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets at the door cost \$10 for general admission and \$5 for DFHS student. Tickets online cost \$10.80 at dfsd.org/hs.

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Experience art for yourself in the Rivertowns

Inside a playful exhibit at the Hudson River Museum

by Edie, age 10

Do you like art? Have you only seen art on a screen? Would you like to see art you can walk through in person, right here in the Rivertowns? In Yonkers, there is a museum with an art installation called The Bookstore created by an artist named Red Grooms.

I bet you're wondering who Red Grooms is. In the 1950s, he moved to New York from Nashville to make art. In New York at this time, the Pop Art movement was happening. Pop Art is bright, colorful art that symbolizes that an everyday object is something more. Grooms liked carnivals, circuses, theater, movies, cities, and everyday life. He loved making busy art with lots of details.

In 1979, the Hudson River Museum director asked Grooms to build a mock bookstore to serve as the museum gift shop. The Bookstore is a colorful



Edie walking through The Bookstore, an installation created in 1979 by the artist Red Grooms at the Hudson River Museum. © Red Grooms.

installation of mostly made-up books. Grooms mashed a fancy library with a run-down bookstore.

Laura Vookles, Chair of the Curatorial Department at the Hudson River Museum, takes care of the art and shares information about art with visitors.

She said, "I think one thing that this installation can teach kids is that art is for everyone. Art can be something that you experience on so many different levels. Grooms wants you to have an experience — and it can be a fun experience — but even when you're having fun, you can also think about serious things." Vookles adds, "When we go in there, we're all part of it, and we are part of the artwork too."



Edie and Curator Laura Vookles discussing The Bookstore. © Red Grooms. Photos courtesy of Catey Hill.

SOME PEOPLE LIKE SPRING

By Jimena, age 6 Here are pictures of Spring and how you will know it's Spring.



Got news?



Salinity study

Continued from page 1

but at a much slower rate compared to the Croton reservoirs.

In attendance at the press event were State Assemblymember MaryJane Shimsky, who represents the Rivertowns, and State Sen. Pete Harkham, who are co-sponsoring a bill to address the rising salination levels by establishing the East of Hudson Watershed Road Salt Reduction Task Force, Shimsky explained.

“It sets up a commission to study the research, conduct additional research as needed, and determine what the best practices are for taking care of the salinity problem and then doing what we have to do to implement it,” she told the Dispatch. “For example, train road crews on what techniques will result in less salt being used for the same result.”

According to Shimsky, rising salinity is a long-standing issue, and this legislation has been “kicking around for four or five years.”

“The first canaries in the coal mine were not even reservoirs... There’s a small number of people in Westchester who have historically relied on well water and not our reservoir system, and some of those wells are being closed because of excessive salinity,” she said. “Now that it seems as if we’re on a timeline to have it begin to affect the Croton Aqueduct system, we know that our reservoirs are not going to be there for us forever, unless we begin to act now.”

Although, if the trend continues, the Croton system will reach maximum allowed chloride levels in 83 years, the issue of salinity is “a developing long-term problem” and will impact people

sooner than 2108, Shimsky said.

“Increased salt in drinking water has been shown to have public health impacts. For example, people with age-related blood pressure [issues] can actually experience an elevation in blood pressure from that,” she said. “So even though, on one level it is safe to drink, on another level, even that small level of salt can cause health problems for at least certain segments of the population.”

In addition, the study notes that increased salt can have a negative impact on the environment, stating that it can “reduce populations and diversity of algae and zooplankton — a critical component of the freshwater ecosystem — allowing large populations of harmful or nuisance algae to cause blooms.” This would then lead to a cascading effect which “moves up the food chain to larger species and can cause decreases in the growth, reproductive capacity, and survival of sensitive amphibians.”

The nature of infrastructure, according to Shimsky, puts pressure on lawmakers to address this issue now.

“If we [don’t] start looking at reducing our salt diet now, we can end up in a situation where we have parts of the system going out of commission,” she said. “Then we would have to ask ourselves, how we’re going to make up for that loss of drinking water supply. Are we going to do desalination plants? Are we going to try to hook up aqueduct systems leading to another part of the state? All of these solutions involve a great deal of time to design and a great deal of investment. It makes more sense now to start planning to solve our problems so we can keep the infrastructure we have.”

Shotton

Continued from page 8

DeMarchi’s guidance, the software coding language Python. She used Python to analyze data simulating the type of data that will be detected by LISA, which is backed by the European Space Agency, when it’s launched. Shotton’s research concluded that even after LISA is aloft, scientists will need to continue to collect data from electromagnetic telescopes already in use, and combine the data from both methods in order to collect the most accurate information.

“There are a lot of people who are interested in seeing how we can prepare for that launch, how we can understand what we think we’re going to see, and how it can help us do more research, and this project that I worked on is part of that,” Shotton explained, adding that she hopes to follow up after LISA starts collecting actual data.

The valedictorian of her class, Shotton has a host of interests outside of academics. She acts in productions with Broadway Training Center in Hastings, plays violin in the DFHS orchestra, and sings in the school chorus and octet group. She plans to major

in physics and vocal performance at Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania.

Like most 10th- through 12th-graders in the high school’s Science Research program, Shotton also participated in WESEF last year, with an earlier version of her project, and placed second in Physics and Astronomy. She was unable to attend this year’s WESEF, held at Somers High School, and was shocked by her win, which she learned about remotely.

“I actually went on a call with my mentor and we watched the competition together virtually and as every place went by, we were, like, ‘OK, third place or higher, second place or higher, and then it got to first place. And then I thought, ‘I’m not going to ISEF though,’ and then they said ‘Dobbs Ferry’ and my heart exploded. I was so excited.”

Shotton will be among 1,600 students competing for a \$6,000 cash prize to the top winner in each of the 22 ISEF categories, with smaller amounts attached to second through fourth place. ISEF top awards of as much as \$100,000 will be awarded to students selected from the 22 first-place winners. All total, almost \$9 million in prizes and scholarships will be distributed.

Smith

Continued from page 3

Australia, New Zealand, Greenland, Antarctica, and South Africa, not to mention regular visits to the North Fork of Long Island.

Harkening back to her childhood in rural Ohio, Smith said she appreciates peace and quiet, but

enjoys being around people, and it’s apparent that they enjoy being around her. Clearly, there’s a common thread interlacing all of her efforts — projects that make places more beautiful and make people feel more at home.

“I appreciate the importance of friends and having people around you,” she said. “That’s part of what motivates me to do what I do.”



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Veteran Bulldogs poised for another playoff run

Girls' lacrosse preview

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Coming off a trip to the Section 1 Class D semifinals last year, Irvington is looking to take another step forward. The experienced Bulldogs, who finished 14-5 last season, fell to Albertus Magnus 11-9 in the semifinals after defeating Briarcliff 8-7 in the quarterfinals.

Senior captain Sadie McRae, who plays attack, is a returning all-section player. Fellow senior co-captain Isi Doncov, who also plays attack, was all-league last season. Senior midfielder Alexis Canfin was also all-league.

Returning seniors who were all-league honorable mention include midfielders Tessa McRae and Aly Raimondo, and goalie Mia Cantillana.

"We have a strong senior group," said Irvington coach Pat DiBenedetto, who is in his 15th season as head coach. "We expect to be competitive in our league and sectionals."

Other returners include senior attack Ella Weiss; juniors Natalie Rushford (defense), Federica Ricciardella (attack), and Lena Svigals (attack); and sophomore Petra Rancic (defense).

Newcomers to the team are juniors Daisy Hodges (defense), Leila Schneider (defense), Sophia Im (attack), Ryan Cherry (attack), Lilian Isom (midfield); and freshmen Sadie Kilbury (goalie), Hazel Kwan (defense), Emi Doncov (defense), and Peyton Clinton (attack).

DiBenedetto said the team goal is to "utilize our strengths of leadership while putting in the work day in and out.

"With a positive mindset, we'll sharpen our skills and make steady progress throughout the season," he added.

Behind a big second quarter, the Bulldogs opened the season with a 16-7 road win over Byram Hills on March 31.

Byram scored the first goal of the second quarter but Irvington responded with an 8-0 run to take a commanding 12-3 lead into halftime.

Sadie McRae sparked Irvington with a game-high five goals. Isi Doncov added three goals and two assists. Canfin, Raimondo, and Tessa McRae each tallied two goals and one assist. Clinton (one assist) and Ricciardella each had one goal. Cantillana made eight saves, including the 200th of her career.

The Bulldogs bested host Blind Brook 14-6 on April 2. Sadie McRae (four goals, two assists), Raimondo (four goals, one assist), Isi Doncov (three goals, one assist), Ricciardella (two goals), Im (first varsity goal), Canfin (one assist), Clinton (two assists), Cantillana (five saves), and Kilbury (six saves) helped stuff the stat sheet.

Irvington (2-0) returns to action in its home opener against Harrison on April 4.

Dobbs Ferry

Dobbs Ferry has a new head coach in Kiersten McGovern, who was the assistant coach for the



(Above) Irvington's Isi Doncov runs the offense in season-opening win over Byram Hills. (Below) Irvington senior Sadie McRae is a returning all-section player. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.

last three seasons.

The Eagles finished 8-9 last year and lost to Putnam Valley in the opening round of the Class D sectionals.

Dobbs returns senior captain Eleni Georgioudakis in net, an all-section player last season. Fellow senior Ella O'Connor, a co-captain, returns at attack and was all-league last year.

Other all-league returning players are senior midfielder Hope McCormack, junior defender Caileigh Doyle, junior attack Mary O'Dea, and junior midfielder Molly O'Brien.

A key newcomer noted by McGovern is Scarlett Kilroe, an eighth-grader who plays defense.

McGovern said her expectations for the team are "to have great energy and effort in every game." She added that her goal for the Eagles is to win the league championship.

The Eagles have "a lot of team chemistry" and are "hard workers" and "scholar athletes," McGovern added.

"The girls put in a lot of work during the off-season, such as showing up for workouts and participating in a winter league," McGovern said.

Dobbs began the campaign with a 15-8 road win over Valhalla on March 31. O'Dea had a big day with five goals. McCormack had three goals and three assists while O'Connor tallied three goals and two assists.

Also contributing to the win were O'Brien



(two goals), Megan Hartnett (one goal), Juliet Curanovic (first varsity goal), Hollen Peet (five draws), Doyle (seven caused turnovers), and Georgioudakis (12 saves).

The Eagles were scheduled to travel to Rye Neck on April 3 and then head to Blind Brook on April 4.

Ardasley

Ardasley is coming off an 8-8 season where it lost to Pearl River in the first round of the Sec-

tion 1 Class C playoffs. The Panthers were also co-league champions.

Key returning players for the Panthers are junior goalie Sienna Kay, junior midfielder/defender Lyla Vega, junior attack/defender Lily Tiernan, junior attack Anna Gallante, senior midfielder/defender Ryann Rosenfeld, junior midfielder Mairiad Gowran, and freshman attack Juliette An.

Rosenfeld, Tiernan, Gallante, and Kay are

Continued on page 23

Panthers start season ready to roll with youthful lineup

Softball preview

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Each season Ardsley has a competitive team that's in the mix as a contender for a Section 1 title, and 2025 will be no different under veteran head coach Noreen Degnan.

Ardsley had a young team last season, but still had a successful campaign with a 16-6 record. With a roster with seventh-graders, eighth-graders, and freshmen filling key roles, the Panthers are still youthful this season but a year more experienced and ready to build on last year's quarterfinal finish in the Class A playoffs.

Leading the way for Ardsley is junior pitcher Sofia Haber, who was all-state and all-section last season. The dual threat, who is also a captain, pitched 121 innings last season, struck out 162 batters, and had a 12-6 record. She posted an earned run average of 2.14. At the plate, Haber boasted a .403 average and had an on-base percentage of .542. She drove in 15 runs and scored 22.

"Her speed and velocity have improved a lot," Degnan said of Haber's pitching. "She's going to have a great year. This is her fourth year on varsity and she wants it. She doesn't like to lose."

Haley Albano, a junior captain, is a center fielder and catcher. She was all-section honorable mention last season and had a .341 batting average with 11 RBIs and 23 runs scored.

Emma Philp, an eighth-grader, is the team's

shortstop and was all-section last year. She had a .389 average, .555 on-base percentage, 17 RBIs, 24 runs scored, and stole 12 bases. "She's a complete player that plays with a lot of heart and hustle," Degnan said. "She loves the game."

Sophomore Tessa Guernah will play left field for the Panthers and was all-section honorable mention last season. She had a .371 average, .500 OBP, 14 RBIs, and 17 runs scored.

Freshman Bella Feldman, who plays first base and is the backup pitcher, was all-section honorable mention last year. She batted .406 with .578 OBP to go with 21 RBIs and two home runs. She also went 3-0 on the mound. "I expect big things from her this year," Degnan said.

Senior Heather Rixon, a team captain and outfielder, missed last season due to injury and hurt her shoulder during volleyball season this past fall. She is cleared to run and hit now, but cannot throw for a few weeks. Degnan said Rixon is "very fast and athletic. She'll be a big help in the outfield."

Sophomore Sofia Ramirez returns at third base. Maddy Bennett is a returning senior who plays first base.

Two newcomers expected to make an impact are catcher Mia King, a seventh-grader, and Noemi Ippolito, an eighth-grader who plays second base.

Ardsley dropped its season opener to visiting Eastchester 9-6 on April 1. The Panthers com-

Continued on page 23



Ardsley's Haley Albano puts the ball in play against Eastchester. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

Lax teams hope to improve upon playoff appearances last season

Boys' lacrosse preview

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Dobbs Ferry's boys' lacrosse squad is coming off an 11-7 season in which it fell to Westlake 14-5 in the Section 1 Class D quarterfinals after besting Briarcliff 8-6 in the opening round.

"Our goals for this season are to reach sectionals and advance into the semifinal round and beyond," Dobbs Ferry coach Drew Maier said. "Additional goals include beating local Rivertown rivals like Irvington during their Lax for Lupus event [on May 3]. It's a great event they host every season, which we are privileged to participate in for a good cause."

The team returns a dynamic duo at attack in senior captain Jake Broccoli and sophomore Jackson Kearns. Broccoli had 33 goals and 15 assists last season while Kearns tallied 43 goals and 18 assists. Maier believes the offense will be a strength this season; two players returning that combined for 76 goals last year certainly helps.

Senior co-captain Kevin Hartnett leads the defense. He scooped up 66 ground balls last year. Killian O'Connor, a sophomore midfielder, won 54% of face-offs last campaign.

Key newcomers for the Eagles are freshman Peter Kilroe at attack and sophomore goalie Kola Rukaj. "Both are expected to make immediate impacts," said Maier, who enters his eighth season.

With a young team with just three seniors on the roster, Maier said the Eagles "will look to build and improve as the season goes along."

Dobbs dropped its opener 11-10 to host Har-

ison on April 1. Kearns (four goals) and Broccoli (three goals, two assists) paced the Eagles in the loss. Kilroe tallied two goals and two assists. Ryan Mohl had one goal and one assist. O'Connor won 15 of 21 face-offs and corralled seven ground balls. J.P. Kessin and Hartnett picked up eight and seven ground balls, respectively. Rukaj made 19 saves.

The Eagles rebounded with a 15-9 win over host Albertus Magnus on April 2. Kearns (six goals, two assists), Broccoli (three goals, one assist), O'Connor (three goals, 15 of 20 face-offs), Dylan Ravage (one goal, one assist, seven ground balls), and Rukaj (14 saves) led the team.

Dobbs Ferry's next game is at Rye Neck on April 4.

Irvington

Irvington finished 11-7 last season under coach Mike Schaefer, who is entering his eighth season. The Bulldogs defeated Putnam Valley 14-11 in the opening round of the Class D sectionals before falling to Pleasantville 17-3 in the quarterfinals.

"We expect to improve over the course of the season," Schaefer said of the team's goals in 2025. "We expect to trust one another and remain coachable."

Junior attackman Nick Grados, junior midfielder/attackman Alex Zinman, sophomore goalie Harrison Malakoff, and senior defenseman Jack van der Spuy are key returning players for the Bulldogs. The trio of Grados, van der Spuy, and Zinman are team captains.

A pair of freshman midfielders in D.J. Ufer

and Liam Wade are newcomers to the team who should make an impact.

The Bulldogs opened the season with a 10-7 win over New Rochelle on March 29 at West Point.

Grados sparked Irvington with five goals and two assists. Zinman dished out five assists. Bowie Frank (one assist) and Saxon Frank each scored two goals. Ufer added one goal. Malakoff made eight saves in net.

Irvington improved to 2-0 with a 14-1 rout of visiting Rye Neck on April 2. Grados (four goals, four assists), Bowie Frank (three goals, three assists), Saxon Frank (three goals, three assists), Soren Deyonker (two goals), Grant Malakoff (first varsity goal), and Josh Tatz (first varsity goal) helped stuff the stat sheet.

The Bulldogs next take the field when they host Eastchester on April 8.

Ardsley

Ardsley went 7-10 last season and fell to Pelham 16-1 in the first round of the Class B sectionals. The Panthers are coached by Brendan Curran, who took over the head coaching role this season from Seth Thornton. Thornton is now the assistant coach.

Playing attack for the Panthers are Shahz Naqvi, Noah Laglenne, Liam Gallante, Brodi Kessler, Reyad Issa, and Dylan Stricker. Midfielders include Tristen Roberts, Robbie Miele, Tyler DeCosta, Eric Ozdova, Lucas Mazur, Mason Slater, Ryan Rende, Jacob Kowalsky, and Ahmyr Dolcine.

Shane Speckman, Robert Sanchez, Kieran Phelan, Trent Schlosser, Fintan McGourty, and Conor Lenihan are defensemen for Ardsley. Jackson Rosenfeld is the team's goalie.

In a season-opening 12-4 loss to host Ossining on March 29, Roberts had two goals and an assist. Gallante and Miele scored one goal each. Laglenne dished out two assists. Lenihan had one assist.

Ardsley was scheduled to travel to Hastings on April 3. The Panthers then head to North Salem on April 5.

Hastings

Hastings, which is coached by Matt Valentin, finished 2-14 last season and did not qualify for sectionals.

The Yellow Jackets' roster features seniors Anthony Laboy, Royal Peterson, Brandon Pineda, Liam Fingleton, Anthony Roldan, Aidan Fromm, Adam Hatim, Luka Kamladze, and Calum Feeney.

Juniors on the squad are Jack Reynolds, David Caramanica, Shaun Young, and Ian Lee. Max Meisner, Paul Consorte, Nate Fallon, and William Tenthoff are the four sophomores on the Jackets. Five freshmen are on the roster in Romeo Casano, Luca Chen, Zach Brower, Sam Kastner, and Ryan Lee.

Hastings lost a pair of road games to Ossining (16-3, March 27) and Eastchester (8-3, April 1) to open the season.

The Jackets were scheduled to host Ardsley on April 3.

Hastings aims to build upon their success from 2024

Baseball preview

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Hastings has not been known as a powerhouse on Section 1 baseball diamonds over the years, but under coach Dom Cecere the Yellow Jackets have had a recent surge.

Last season, the Jackets finished the regular season with a 15-5 record and gained the No. 3 seed in the Section 1 Class A playoffs. They defeated Irvington 10-0 in the first round before falling to John Jay-Cross River 7-4 in the quarterfinals to end their campaign at 16-6.

In 2025, Hastings is hoping to build on last year's success.

"We are in a tough, new league in Class B with rival Dobbs Ferry, Valhalla, Tuckahoe, Briarcliff, and Blind Brook," Cecere said. "We are looking to compete for the league championship, Section 1 championship, and beyond."

Senior captain Kieran McGrath, a shortstop, was all-section honorable mention last season. McGrath, who will play at Vassar College next year, batted .344 with 10 doubles, 10 stolen bases, 20 runs scored, and 20 RBIs in 2024.

Jackson Acree, a senior captain, leads the Yellow Jackets on the mound and is committed to St. Anselm. He went 3-1 with 30 strikeouts and a 2.63 earned run average last year. Acree was also a big bat for Hastings as he hit .420, drove in 19 runs, scored 19 runs, and stole 12 bases on his way to all-league honors.

Other returning talent includes junior Johnny Sbraga, a centerfielder who was all-league last season. Sbraga batted .324 with 27 runs scored, 16 RBIs, and 12 steals. James Doherty, a senior first baseman, is described by Cecere as a "defensive stalwart." Senior Charlie Richardson is a utility player "with great speed on the bases," Cecere said. Richardson had six steals and nine runs scored last season. Senior pitcher Nathan Krampf was 2-0 on the mound with 12 strikeouts last year. Junior pitcher Andrew Ciszewski picked up one win.

Newcomers to the squad who are expected to make an impact are junior pitcher/outfielder Aidan Curtis, junior pitcher/first baseman Matt Corbo, sophomore catcher/pitcher/infielder Avi Rothstein, and junior infielder/outfielder Andrew Rizzo.

When asked what the team's strengths are, Cecere cited "chemistry, power hitting, and defense."

"Our pitching will be young but with great potential," said Cecere, who coached Hastings from 2000-03 and returned to the team in 2022.

Hastings opened the season with a 3-1 loss to host Nanuet on March 29. Curtis went two for three and pitched three innings. Ciszewski tossed three innings and struck out four. Corbo had a double.

The Jackets fell to 0-2 after a 14-4 loss to host Putnam Valley on April 2. Corbo clocked a grand slam to trim Put Valley's lead to 5-4, but the Tigers scored nine un-



(Left) Hastings' shortstop Kieran McGrath tries to turn a double play. (Right) Hastings' Matt Corbo is congratulated by teammates following a grand slam in a loss to Putnam Valley. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.

answered runs. Curtis added two hits.

Hastings hosts Irvington on April 4 and then travels to Pawling the next day.

Dobbs Ferry

Dobbs Ferry went 14-8 under coach Frank Adamo last season and lost to Croton-Harmon 9-1 in the quarterfinals of the Section 1 Class B playoffs.

The Eagles have a large group of 12 seniors and what Adamo calls "a team full of leaders." First baseman/pitcher Sam Sellitti, outfielder/pitcher Jack Mastin, outfielder/pitcher Logan Sullivan, outfielder Colin Dubilier, and third baseman Matthew Rodriguez are five seniors who should make a substantial impact.

"We have a deep lineup that can produce runs throughout the order," Adamo said. "We have a number of experienced players that can move around the field and provide some lineup flexibility."

Pitcher/first baseman Jatin Costa is the lone junior on the roster and a key newcomer to the team. Other newcomers Adamo expects to make waves this season include sophomore catcher/infielder Brendan Maron, sophomore third baseman/pitcher Andrew Zendel, and freshman second baseman Jake Evan.

Adamo, who started his 13th season as head coach, said the team's goal is "to play clean, high-energy baseball."

The Eagles had their March 31 season opener against Ardsley postponed — as they were trailing 9-5 — due to lightning.

Dobbs defeated visiting Leffell School 4-1 on April 1. Sullivan pitched four innings and allowed two hits and one earned run for the win. Costa came on in relief and

pitched the final three innings; he allowed one hit and no runs. Dubilier had a double and scored twice. Rodriguez doubled and scored a run. Mastin, Sullivan, and Evan drove in one run each.

Dobbs Ferry (1-0) hosts Edgemont on April 4, then welcomes Irvington on April 7.

Ardsley

Ardsley went 9-12 last season and fell to Rye 3-2 in the opening round of the Section 1 Class A playoffs.

The Panthers' roster features a trio of senior captains in catcher Leo Blank, third baseman Mike DePasquale, and second baseman Nate Moskowitz. Outfielder Ryan Adams is another senior who is a key returner.

Key juniors include shortstop Nate Caldara, pitcher Carter Bucci, outfielder Jess Jaeger, pitcher Ryan Lockwood, and pitcher Jonah Kleinman. Sophomore Hunter Hamlet plays first base and outfield.

"We're a very inexperienced team," said veteran Ardsley coach Jeff Caldara, who is in his 28th season. "We're looking for guys to grow at a rapid pace and to make sectionals."

The Panthers were leading Dobbs Ferry 9-5 in their season opener when the game was called due to lightning on March 31. Caldara said they are hoping to reschedule the game and play out the remaining innings.

Ardsley (1-0) cruised past host Rye Neck 14-2 on April 2. The Panthers return to the diamond when they host Byram Hills on April 4.

Irvington

Irvington finished 5-14 last season and lost to Hastings in the first round of the Class A sectionals.

"My goal is to ensure that we compete

at a high level in every game and establish ourselves as a tough team to beat," said Irvington coach Rocco Cipriano, who started his third season as head coach.

Key returning players for the Bulldogs are senior outfielder Scott Edwards, senior pitcher/shortstop Sawyer Chalsen, and junior catcher/outfielder Brian Kim. Edwards batted .298 last season and drove in 11 runs. Chalsen boasted a .316 average and had a 3.98 ERA. Kim hit .314 with four doubles and 10 RBIs.

Newcomers to the squad who Cipriano expects to make an impact are junior pitcher/utility player Navy Minkoff and sophomore third baseman Justin Corniel.

Cipriano wants to see consistency from the Bulldogs "to position the team for the playoffs." He added that "team chemistry" is one of Irvington's strengths this year.

"If our players communicate and trust each other, it will make our team goals much more attainable," Cipriano said. "Our senior leaders play a crucial role in fostering team chemistry by setting the tone both on and off the field."

Irvington opened the season with a 13-4 loss to visiting Croton-Harmon on March 29. Kim had two hits and an RBI. Minkoff and Ben Epple each drove in one run.

The Bulldogs bounced back with a 12-3 win over host Edgemont on April 1. Edwards (RBI), Kim (triple, two RBIs), Chalsen (two RBIs), and Epple (RBI) each had two hits. Chalsen pitched 4.1 innings of two-run ball with five strikeouts.

Irvington (1-2) lost to host Sleepy Hollow 13-7 on April 2. Edwards had a double and two RBIs. Massimo Ferrari drove in one run.

The Bulldogs have road games with Hastings (April 4) and Dobbs Ferry (April 7) upcoming.

Softball preview

Continued from page 21

mitted seven errors in the loss.

Ippolito shined in her varsity debut, going three for three with a double. Haber allowed three earned runs. At the plate, she had a two-run double and a sacrifice fly. Albano had two hits and scored three runs.

The Panthers were scheduled to travel to Walter Panas on April 3 and then head to Pelham on April 5.

“We have to correct our mistakes defensively,” Degnan said after the loss to Eastchester. “We just have to take one game at a time and go from there.”

Dobbs Ferry

With an all-state catcher behind the plate and lots of other talent returning, Dobbs Ferry has high hopes heading into the season.

“If there’s ever been a season when my expectations are higher, it’s this one,” said Eagles coach Kim Reznicek, who begins her 10th season at the helm. “We graduated just one player in 2024, two in 2023, and two in 2022. This allowed younger players to step into key roles much earlier than expected. Where lack of experience was once our biggest challenge, [experience] has now become one of our greatest strengths.”

The Eagles went 11-8-1 last season and lost to Valhalla 5-1 in the quarterfinals of the Class B sectionals.

Senior Maysin Kannapin is that all-state catcher, who was also all-section and league MVP last season. She had a .606 batting average, 40 hits, 26 RBIs, six home runs, and a .671 OBP last season. Kannapin is committed to Walters State in Morristown, Tennessee.

“Every time she steps up to the plate, there’s a sense that something big is about to happen,” Reznicek said. “Defensively, she’s a game changer. Her ability to keep runners close to the bag and her quick reflexes make her a nightmare for opponents. She has set the standard for what it means to be a leader and a competitor.”

Nicolette Giorgio, a sophomore, moves to third base this season and plays “fundamentally sound defense,” Reznicek said. She was honorable mention all-section last season. Reznicek calls her a leader both “in the lineup and on the field.” She batted .400 with 19 RBIs and 75 runs scored last season. “She’s poised for an incredible season,” the coach added.

Abby Dann is a senior pitcher and plays second base. She was all-league last year. “Abby has grown



Bella Feldman makes the catch in Ardsley’s season opener. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

tremendously since her freshman year, emerging as a true leader and dominant presence in the circle,” Reznicek said.

Alexa Vicchio, another senior, returns at first base and is coming off an all-league season. She hit .400 with 19 RBIs and had a 95% fielding percentage. Reznicek noted that Vicchio has a knack for “delivering in clutch moments,” citing her walk-off hits in two games last year.

Junior Kamryn Addis has the potential to be one of the “top center fielders in our class,” Reznicek said. She brings “exceptional range” and has a “fearless approach to making big plays,” the coach added.

Senior shortstop Madison Piacentino is the “cornerstone of the defense,” Reznicek said. Junior left fielder Gianna Stone and senior outfielder Kim Gregorio are two other returners.

The five seniors in Kannapin, Piacentino, Dann, Vicchio, and Gregorio are team captains.

Four newcomers to the squad are freshman pitcher/outfielder Ella Rizzo, sophomore outfielder Sophia Maltby, freshman utility player Emily Marron, and utility player Riley Sullivan, an eighth-grader.

Reznicek said that the team’s keys to success this season will be “a strong desire to be the best, playing a clean game, and winning close games.”

The Eagles opened the season with a 13-10 win over visiting Croton-Harmon on March 26. Giorgio (three for four, two RBIs), Sullivan (three for five, RBI), Kannapin (two for four, RBI), and Victoria Baron (winning pitcher, six

to grow” as a program. The team is “very coachable,” Miele added. “They’re always positive and a tight-knit group,” he said.

Ardsley opened the season with a 14-3 road loss to Briarcliff on March 28. Vega, Gowran, and Fitzsimmons had a goal apiece. Dillon and Gallante each had an assist.

Behind five goals and an assist from An, the Panthers rebounded with an 11-7 win over visiting Rye Neck on March 31. Gallante and Tiernan each had a goal and two assists. Lyvia Pulver and Gowran (six draws) had a goal and an assist apiece. Vega and Krista Kelly also scored a goal. Pecora and Champion had one assist each. Kay made 10 saves in net.

Ardsley (1-2) fell to visiting Putnam Val-

strikeouts) led the way.

Dobbs defeated host Sleepy Hollow 16-1 on March 29. Marron (four for four, two doubles, three RBIs), Vicchio (two for three, RBI), Piacentino (two for three, two RBIs), Giorgio (two for four, two RBIs), Addis (two for four, RBI), Stone (three RBIs), Dann (two hits, three RBIs, winning pitcher), and Bela Abraham (first varsity hit) sparked the team.

The Eagles (2-1) fell to host Albertus Magnus 15-3 in five innings on April 1. Kannapin was three for three with two doubles and an RBI. Marron and Dann added one RBI each.

Dobbs was scheduled to host North Salem on April 3.

Hastings

Hastings finished 10-10-1 in 2024 and fell to Lakeland 9-4 in the opening round of the Class A sectionals.

Junior catcher Lola Norlander, a team captain, is a returning all-section player. Siri Rosenberg, a junior pitcher/outfielder, was all-league last season and is a team captain. Sophomore pitcher/outfielder Hazel Sabella was all-league last year. Senior captain Kylie Vulpone returns at second base.

Other key returners for Hastings are sophomore infielder Abby Weiss, junior infielder Lexie Schur, senior designated player Abby Foster, and junior outfielder Sophia Pereira.

Newcomers to the Jackets who are expected to contribute are sophomore pitcher/infielder/

ley 17-11 on April 2. Vega had six goals and one assist to lead the team. Gallante added two goals and one assist. Gowran (one assist), Dillon, and An scored a goal each. Kay made 10 saves.

The Panthers return to the field when they host Valhalla on April 4.

Hastings

Hastings, which is coached by Shaun Mullen, came up short of qualifying for sectionals last season, finishing with a 3-12 record.

The Yellow Jackets have a quartet of team captains in senior attack/midfielder Sophia Ballard, senior defender Penelope Krapf, senior attack Sienna Radley, and junior attack/midfielder Mila Angoff.

outfielder Izzy Doherty, sophomore catcher/third baseman Ruby Wallace, sophomore first baseman Haley Ehrlich, and eighth-grader Ella Rizzo, a catcher/infielder.

Kaitlin Degnan, who enters her 13th season as head coach, said the team goals are “to get better every day, increase our win total from last season, and compete to the best of our abilities.”

Degnan noted that the pitching staff is “seasoned and put in a tremendous amount of work in the offseason.”

“We will look to our three pitchers to set the tone for us this season,” she said. “We graduated four key players so our infield and outfield will have some shifts but we have 12 players ready to compete and work together to reach our common goals.”

Hastings opened the season 2-0 with wins over visiting Blind Brook (16-2, April 1) and host Valhalla (15-2, April 2).

Against Blind Brook, Norlander had two triples and four RBIs. Vulpone socked a triple and drove in four runs. Rizzo and Ehrlich had their first varsity hits. Sabella struck out six and got the win.

In the win over Valhalla, Rosenberg earned the win, striking out 10. She also had three hits. Norlander went five for six with five RBIs.

Hastings travels to Putnam Valley on April 5.

Irvington

Irvington, which finished 4-13 last season, is coached by James Madison, who enters his second season with the Bulldogs.

“The expectation is to improve our record by six games and also work to make sectionals and get past the first round,” Madison said. “Our team is strong and has improved both defensively and offensively. Another goal is to improve our standing in the league and contend for a league championship.”

Junior pitcher/center fielder Nia Kilbury was all-section last season. Other key returners include junior catcher/infielder Maddy Maldonado (all-league), junior shortstop/pitcher Kayla Clinton (all-league), senior infielder/outfielder Hannah Blanco, senior infielder Emily O’Donnell, and senior outfielder/catcher Aniya Walker. Kilbury, Maldonado, Blanco, and Clinton are the team’s captains.

Newcomers to the squad are two freshmen, outfielder/pitcher Alex Barth and infielder Ashley Shapiro.

Irvington dropped its season opener 15-3 to host Putnam Valley on April 1. The Bulldogs were scheduled to welcome Croton-Harmon on April 3 and then host Valhalla on April 4.

Other seniors on the squad are defender Lacie Brady, midfielder Sofia Dufour, defender Alex Erez, midfielder Michaela Heinlein, goalie Teresa Kalaj, attack Ynadi Robinson, and midfielder Julia Serbee.

Juniors include defender Nika Karell, attack Ava Luke, defender Sam Nicholson, defender Peyton Sutherland, and defender Micaela Wisnivesky. The team has two sophomores in Olivia Huang, who plays attack and midfield.

Hastings started the season 2-0 with wins over visiting Valhalla (12-8, March 27) and host Keio Academy (16-7, April 2).

The Jackets take the field again when they travel to Pelham on April 4.

Girls’ lacrosse preview

Continued from page 20

the team captains.

Newcomers include sophomore attack/defender Hazel McGourty, freshman midfielder Helene Dillon, freshman midfielder Sophia Pecora, freshman midfielder Lili-ana Champion, and sophomore midfielder/defender Alexis Fitzsimmons. With a small roster, all of the Panthers’ newcomers will play a key role this season, said Scott Miele, who just began his third season as head coach.

Miele said the team’s goal this season is “to compete in our league and return to sectionals.” The Panthers also want to “continue

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