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Mutual Aid
Irvington task force aims
to set up network
p 12

Vol 1. Issue 30.

April 11, 2025

RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

Local News,
Locally Sourced
~

\$2⁵⁰

WWW.RIVERTOWNSDISPATCH.COM

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



Protestors fill VFW Plaza and Park on the afternoon of April 5.

‘Hands Off’ packs plaza and park

*Protest coincides with
events nationwide*

BY AMY BOCHNER

HASTINGS — More than 1,000 people flooded downtown Hastings to express opposition to the Trump administration in one of the over 1,200 nationwide “Hands Off” protests on Saturday, April 5.

Concerned Families of Westchester (CFOW), which holds protests at VFW Plaza, at the top of Spring Street, every Saturday at noon, organized the event. Two other “Hands Off” rallies took place in Westchester — in Mamaroneck and Mount Kisco.

In Hastings, the crowd filled VFW Plaza and Park and spilled onto Spring Street and Warburton Avenue, causing police to close off those

streets. The turnout for the “Hands Off” rally exceeded CFOW’s expectations, according to the organization’s founder, Frank Brodhead of Hastings.

“We were ready for a rally of about 500 people,” he said. “We thought we could handle that... It was just very overwhelming, and of course, a great thing is that this was the experience all across the country, that all the rallies had twice as many people as had been expected. This indicates the state of people’s anger, fear, and mobilization.”

According to the “Hands off” website, the protests were a nationwide mobilization against President Trump, Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) overseer Elon Musk, and “their billionaire cronies... orchestrating an all-out assault on our government, our economy, and our basic rights.” Issues they cite include “shuttering Social Security offices, firing essen-

tial workers, eliminating consumer protections, and gutting Medicaid.”

The Hastings rally featured nearly 20 speakers, interspersed with the protesters’ chants and singing. Many speakers, like Samantha Rosado-Ciriello, who is the president of the Yonkers Federation of Teachers, denounced the president’s cuts to the federal government.

“For generations, Americans have trusted that if you work hard, pay your dues, and do your part, you’ll have a safe retirement. Your kids will have access to education, your community will have access to services it needs to thrive. But now that trust is under attack,” she said. “Some in power want to slash Social Security, gut Medicare, shut down the Department of Education, and cripple the post office. But let me say this

Continued on page 15

Coalition opposed to rate hikes grows to 38

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL
REGION — Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Irvington, and the Town of Greenburgh are among the 38 Westchester County municipalities that are collaboratively hiring a lawyer to challenge Con Edison’s proposal to hike rates, starting Jan. 1, 2026. That total is nearly double the 20 municipalities needed to begin an agreement with attorney Joel Dichter of Dichter Law LLC, for a total fee of \$100,000. It’s still possible for Westchester municipalities to join, sharing the cost.

The cities, towns, and villages included in the agreement are collectively hiring Dichter, who specializes in utility law, to represent them in rate increase hearings throughout the year between Con Edison and the New York Public Service Commission (PSC). Each of the 38 municipalities will share the cost equally, which comes to \$2,631.58. The cost would have been \$5,000 each if 20 municipalities participated.

On Jan. 31, Con Edison filed a petition with the PSC to increase electric delivery rates for residential customers in Westchester by 25.1% and natural gas delivery rates for residential

Continued on page 16

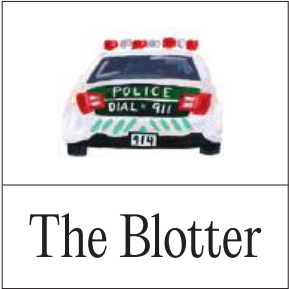
— You Answered —

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The Blotter

DOBBS FERRY

Shoplifting attempt arrest: A 31-year-old Yonkers resident was arrested for attempted petit larceny, a misdemeanor, from the Ulta Beauty at Rivertowns Square on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 2.

Mischief to BMW: The passenger side of a 2024 BMW SUV was scratched while parked at Stop & Shop, 390 Broadway, on the evening of Wednesday, April 2.

Theft of packages: FedEx packages containing an 11-inch Apple iPad and an Apple Magic Keyboard were stolen by an unidentified man outside a home on Bellewood Avenue on Friday, April 4,

at 12:55 p.m. The theft was recorded by a security camera.

Theft of wallet: A staff member at the St. Cabrini Nursing Home, 115 Broadway, reported that her wallet was stolen from her handbag inside a patient's room on the afternoon of Friday, April 4. The wallet contained a credit card, a debit card, a checkbook, a driver's license, an insurance card, and \$43 cash.

HASTINGS

Leaf blower violation: A landscaper was issued a summons for using a gas leaf blower on Euclid Avenue on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 1. Hastings Village Code prohibits the use of gas leaf blowers except from Oct. 15 to Dec. 31.

Suspended license: A 42-year-old Bronx resident was arrested for a suspended driver's license, a misdemeanor, and issued a summons for an expired

vehicle registration, a violation, on Rosedale Avenue on the evening of Tuesday, April 1.

Suspended license and registration: A 38-year-old Carmel resident was arrested for a suspended driver's license and vehicle registration, both misdemeanors, on Broadway on the morning of Friday, April 4.

Assault arrest: A 21-year-old Hastings resident was arrested for assaulting a 41-year-old Hastings resident with a knife on the evening of Saturday, April 5. The defendant was charged with assault in the second degree, a felony, and remanded to the Westchester County Jail. Bail was set at \$500.

Theft of package: A FedEx package containing bicycle parts was stolen by an unidentified man outside a home on Stanley Avenue on Friday, April 4, at 10:13 a.m. The theft was recorded by a security camera.



Officer Denis Brucciani, EMT Michael Marron, Mayor Vincent Rossillo, EMT Alessandro Cocking, and EMT Chris Graves

Nine lifesavers honored

DOBBS FERRY — Nine people who helped revive a 36-year-old poll worker on Feb. 11, during the special election for Westchester County executive, received certificates of appreciation during the Dobbs Ferry Board of Trustees meeting on April 8. Fellow poll worker Elizabeth Sweeting of Dobbs Ferry was recognized for administering CPR to the man at the firehouse for the Odgen Engine Company. He was then shocked with an automated external defibrillator — once by members of the Dobbs Ferry Police Department and twice by members of the Dobbs Ferry Volunteer Ambulance Corps. The poll worker was later discharged from the Westchester Medical Center. The remaining honorees were Sgt. John Broccoli, Officer Denis Brucciani, Officer Julius Derevanik, and Officer Anthony Muratore of the police department; EMTs Alessandro Cocking, Chris Graves, and Michael Marron of the ambulance corps; and Chief Joseph Giuliano of the fire department. Marron is also a member of the fire and police departments.

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Local Curiosities

— FOUR QUESTIONS WITH —

Steve Zeitlin

'There's an artistry to life that we can all tune into.'

BY JANINE ANNETT

Hastings resident Steve Zeitlin is the founding director of City Lore, an organization that seeks to foster the living cultural heritage of New York City and beyond through education and public programs. He is the author of "JEWels: Teasing Out the Poetry in Jewish Humor and Storytelling," and editor of "Because God Loves Stories: An Anthology of Jewish Storytelling." Zeitlin will participate in the Words-on-Hudson event this Friday, April 11, from 6-9 p.m. at the James Harmon Community Center in Hastings, which also features local writers Jared Beasley, Jennifer Godrich, Kirsten Oerke, Richard Schotter, Roni Schotter, David Simon, and Rachel Wineberg. Here, the Dispatch asks Zeitlin about the distinctive vehicle passers-by often see parked outside his Calumet Avenue home and all the language, verse, and enthusiasm behind it.

What is the Words-on-Hudson event, and what's your role in it this year?

Words-on-Hudson is the brainchild of Barbara Prisament [Hastings' Downtown Advocate]. She's a great lover of songs, song lyrics, and poetry. There's a lot of writers here in our tiny village, and this is a tradition of getting them together to celebrate their love of words.

One of my interests is Jewish humor and storytelling. I'm giving a talk as part of the Words-on-Hudson event called "I'm right, you're right, he's right, too," featuring many of my favorite Jewish jokes. It's always fun for me to revisit those stories and that humor. We need that badly right now.

We're also going to bring the POEMobile out as part of the Words-on-Hudson celebration.

What is the POEMobile?

The POEMobile is a wildly painted art truck with about 100 poems inscribed on both the out-



Steve Zeitlin and the POEMobile

side and interior. It was originally funded in 2010 by the Rockefeller Foundation. They were looking for projects that utilized new technologies. The idea was that we would take it out and project poems onto walls and buildings in tandem with live readings in different neighborhoods. For instance, we did a program where we projected poems onto a bridge in Astoria, Queens, using ancient poems by Sappho, as well as contemporary Greek poets. We used special software so that the poems morphed from English into Greek and vice versa. We did similar programs with the Korean, Haitian, Persian, and Portuguese communities, among others, always using poets and musicians from the neighborhood. One of our favorite POEMobile programs projected poems about the evanescence of life on the steam that rises out of the sidewalks in those cones that city

puts up everywhere. You can watch it on YouTube.

The dream of the POEMobile is to travel to places and bring poetry to people. We have a number of endangered languages inscribed on the POEMobile and people come up to us saying, "My grandmother spoke that language. That's the language of my ancestors, and I'm so glad it's represented here." Another person once came up and asked if we were selling hot dogs. All in all, it's a traveling piece of art. We recently delivered 32 boxes of imagery about New York City's cultural life to the Library of Congress in the POEMobile.

We love having the POEMobile here in our driveway in Hastings. We hope it's a kind of village landmark.

What is City Lore?

City Lore does programs in a number of dif-

ferent areas, including poetry. We staged the People's Poetry Gathering in the '90s and early 2000s and then it morphed into other kinds of programs, including the POEMobile. This is the 40th anniversary of City Lore and, coincidentally, the 400th birthday of New York City. Our tagline is "the art of everyday life" and we use that idea in all of our programs. Our education initiatives — which, until recently, were run by my wife, folklorist Amanda Dargan — brought a diverse group of artists into schools and provided professional development for teachers. We also work to expand the boundaries of preservation to include different kinds of community-centered sites. We've been able to put Bohemian Hall in Astoria and Casita Rincón Criollo, a Puerto Rican social club [in the Bronx] which has been vital for

Continued on page 16

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RiverArts

RiverArts.org/summerarts/

Halpern Café brings cuisine and connection to the Shames JCC

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL
TARRYTOWN — The Shames Jewish Community Center (Shames JCC) on the Hudson is offering a taste of Levantine culture with the Halpern Cafe, which opened in February. The eatery showcases the cuisine of the region that includes Lebanon, Syria, Israel, and Yemen, under the direction of chef Noam Zabari.

The Shames JCC, a nonsectarian center established in 1929, has been in its current location since 1995, and opened The Ark event space and Cohen Family Atrium in 2024. The Halpern Cafe gets its name after donors Allen and Arleen Halpern, who contributed to the cafe.

Zabari, 35, has been working in the food industry since he was 15, cooking at several restaurants, including Glassery in Brooklyn and Mezze in Queens, and was a sous chef for a catering business in Los Angeles. He has spent the last three years primarily as a personal chef, preparing meals for parties of around 15 people.

“Growing up in Los Angeles and being of Yemeni background, I grew up around a lot of Persians, Lebanese, and Armenians,” Zabari, who lives in Queens, told the Dispatch. “My mom would do Yemeni henna parties, which is basically a Yemeni wedding ceremony, and since I was the older child, part of my chores was to help her prepare for these big parties.”

Zabari’s love for participating in the

events led to him spending summers learning from Lebanese and Persians chefs. At Halpern, the menu includes kebabs, a “Tahini Dream” smoothie, a Jewish-Iraqi sabiche sandwich (served in a wrap, as opposed to a pita), and a Lebanese-inspired olive oil-based lentil soup. He also has his own signature-branded Zabari Hummus.

“I try to have a clean and healthy approach toward food,” Zabari explained. “There’s only extra virgin olive oil from Morocco, Lebanon, and Israel in this kitchen. You find a lot of fake olive oil in the United States, but this is legitimate stuff.”

Zabari was first introduced to the Shames JCC through a couple of pop-ups there last year that featured his falafels — also on the Halpern menu. Jamie Weiss-Yagoda, director of community outreach and communications, was among the Shames staff interested in adding a restaurant to the space.

“Every time he did [the pop-up], he sold out immediately,” Weiss-Yagoda said. “The line would be wrapped around our yard and people were just raving about his food.”

The Halpern Café has a service window in The Ark where visitors can order food, then eat at the tables in the Cohen Family Atrium.

“It’s a really special service for the community, and we’ve seen the way it has brought people here in huge numbers already,” Weiss-Yagoda said. “It’s a great way to engage

Continued on page 15



Chef Noam Zabari



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ARDSLEY

— Coming Up This Week —

Lifeguard Training Course

April 14-17, 12:30-6 p.m.

Middle school pool

For ages 15 and up

Fee: \$399 for Ardsley students,

\$527 for out-of-district students

To register, visit ardsleyschools.org and go to the Families/Community tab.

Planning Board Meeting

Monday, April 14, 8 p.m.

Village Hall

Agenda available at ardsleyvillage.gov.

World Art Day Celebration

Tuesday, April 15, 2 p.m.

Ardsley Public Library

Kids in kindergarten and up create a project with recycled materials. Register at ardsleypubliclibrary.org.

Architectural Review Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 15, 8 p.m.

Village Hall

Agenda available at ardsleyvillage.gov.

Senior Event: Easter Basket Making

Wednesday, April 16, noon

Ardsley Community Center

Register at ardsleyrec.com

Magic Evan

Wednesday, April 16, 2 p.m.

Ardsley Public Library

No registration required.

Ardsley Natural Resource Inventory “Bioblitz”

Thursday, April 17, 10 a.m.-noon

Macy Park

Sign up to volunteer to record plant and animal observations at ardsleyvillage.gov/stormwater-project.

Municipal Office Closure

Friday, April 18

In observance of Good Friday

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 Amy Bochner at amy@rivertownsdispatch.com



Sara Joy Annapolen stands alongside the snack bar she painted at McDowell Park.

Muralist's colorful work enlivens spaces

Snack bar joins growing list of commissions

BY AMY BOCHNER

A new mural brightening the snack bar at McDowell Park is the work of Sara Joy Annapolen, an Ardsley resident who seeks to bring whimsy and “intentional joy” to community settings through her art.

Upon graduating from Syracuse University in 2008, Annapolen began her career in fashion design, during the course of which she worked for Jump Apparel, Ranjana Khan, City Prints, and Dressbarn.

“I loved working in the city for a variety of different fashion companies, and most of the focus was on print design,” she told the Dispatch. “Prints and patterns take up most of my brain space.”

After the birth of her second child, and just before the Covid-19 pandemic, Annapolen was laid off from her job, leading her to take a chance and start her own business. The result was “Sara Joy,” a collection of resort wear featured at Bloomingdale’s. Annapolen created her own prints and fabric, tying in her professional background.

Then, last year she reevaluated and decided to make a change.

“The fashion industry is such a beast,” she said. “I had to admit to myself that I didn’t want that lifestyle anymore. It’s so draining. My kids are little, and I really didn’t want to waste my life away being stressed. I had to step back and admit that I didn’t love it, even though I thought it was a dream come true.”

A collaboration with Terez, an activewear company for which Annapolen embellished

vintage Levi’s denim jackets, made her realize she wanted her art to be on “a true canvas.” This led to her first gallery exhibit last summer at the Idea Kitchen in Larchmont.

Under the same name as her resort brand, Annapolen’s new business has three components: murals, Judaica, and commissioned paintings. She describes her art style as “modern, fun, and playful,” with elements of graffiti and spray paint.

The rebranding of “Sara Joy” was difficult, she said, but worth it.

“I emerged on the other side a completely new person... It’s really cool to watch this part of my career come to life,” she said. “I have notebooks from when I was 6, 7, 8 years old, saying, ‘When I grow up, I want to be an artist. I learned so much from the resort wear part of my business, and I feel so happy doing this part now.’”

The first mural she painted was for The Lark, the women’s fitness studio and social space on South Buckhout Street in Irvington that’s owned by fellow Ardsley resident Lindsay Gerspach. Annapolen described that project, which covers a 25-foot-long and 12-foot-high wall, as a turning point for her.

“That mural was insane to work on because it was so big and so much planning,” she said. “I used a projector to trace the design for two days, and then I had to learn how to stand on a construction scaffolding to do it. It was amazing.”

Working on a large piece also served as a learning experience.

“Commercial projects versus a custom, smaller painting, are a chance to exercise a different skill, like intentional design and

color editing,” she said. “[It’s] different skills versus something that’s more of a stream of consciousness, like flow-state expressionistic painting.”

In December, she painted a mural for oHhO, the botanical wellness shop on Main Street in Irvington. That piece features a leafy, floral arch.

Most recently, and closer to home, is the McDowell Park project. In the fall, board members of the Ardsley Little League asked if she would be interested in helping them upgrade the snack bar. The opportunity was immediately appealing.

“McDowell is such a huge part of our town,” she said. “Both of my children [Hazel, 6, and Liam, 8] play Little League. The snack bar’s where everyone hangs out. It’s a beautiful, safe place to be as families, as a town.”

Annapolen consulted with the Ardsley Arts Commission and Mayor Nancy Kaboolian on the design and logistics of the mural, which features baseball gloves, bats, and helmets. She finished painting it in mid-March, with some assistance from Liam.

“From all the fields, the parking lot, and when you’re driving by, you get to see this artwork, so the idea is positive quotes. Liam, who loves Babe Ruth, helped me with some of the quotes,” she said. “We brainstormed together... inspirational, child friendly, cute quotes... It has a pop-y, comic-y feeling. It’s the new selfie backdrop.”

Next up for Annapolen is a mural at a pool in northern Westchester, the specifics of which she has yet to share. Having her work shown around the county, she said, makes her “heart sing.”

ARDSLEY

Pollinator Day attracts swarm of gardeners with plants and more

BY TIM LAMORTE

Outside the community center on Center Street, gardeners lined up before the start of the Village of Ardsley's Pollinator Day on Sunday, April 6. Inside the building, volunteers wore assorted pollinator paraphernalia, such as bee antennae and butterfly wings.

Starting at noon, and lasting for four hours, attendees filed past five stations at which volunteers handed out free native plants suitable for conditions ranging from full shade to full sun. Two different plants were offered at each station.

In addition, four varieties of milkweed were available at a station devoted to monarch butterflies, which only lay their eggs on milkweed. There was also a room full of native plants from the garden the Ardsley Pollinator Pathway Committee maintains at Anthony Veteran Park, which the Town of Greenburgh owns and operates off Heatherdell Road.

The chair of the Pollinator Pathway Committee, Carol Sommerfield, wore a head-to-toe bee outfit for the event, which was funded by her and by the Village of Ardsley. Four hundred and thirty plants were from Zoe's Native Plants of Dobbs Ferry, while 130 were from Veteran Park. Sommerfield supplied the milkweed as well as packets of seeds.



Catherine McCarron of Hartsdale talks with volunteer Dae Levy, also of Hartsdale.

Members of the Pollinator Pathway Committee and the Ardsley Garden Club offered advice on subjects from designing gardens to growing natives without pesticides.

Linda Azif of Ardsley fielded questions about groundcovers and recommended one of the free plants available (golden groundsel).

Kathy Evers of Edgemont was asked about shrubs, which she knows about from first-hand experience. In her yard, she replaced dozens of burning bush (an invasive) with an assortment of native shrubs and trees.

To celebrate Arbor Day, the Ardsley Pollinator Pathway Committee and the Green-

burgh Public Library will host a native shrub and tree giveaway at the library on Tuesday, April 29, from 5-7:30 p.m.

The Pollinator Pathway Committee needs volunteers to help maintain gardens at Veteran Park, Hart's Brook Park and Preserve, and the Ardsley Public Library. To sign up, and for information about the committee, visit www.ardsleypollinatorpathway.org.

— COMMUNITY BRIEFS —

All-County Jazz Band

Ardsley High School students Evan Matt and Vyas Mishra performed in the Westchester School Music Association's annual All-County Jazz Band Concert at Hommocks Middle School in Mamaroneck on March 21. The event featured two 17-member bands made up of top high school musicians from the region. Matt and Mishra earned spots in the ensembles through a competitive audition process.

Oneonta dean's list

Jaden Coleman, Jason Cramer, Daniel Esteves, Tara Herbert, and Joshua Ippolito were named to the dean's list at SUNY Oneonta for the fall 2024 semester.

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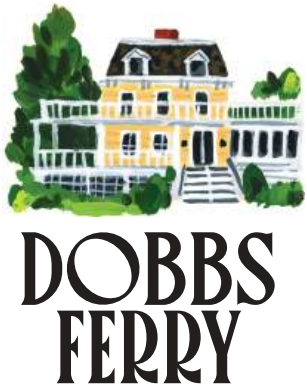
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— Coming Up This Week —

**Artist Reception:
Rick Weaver's "Views of Nature"**

Saturday, April 12, 2-4:30 p.m.

Dobbs Ferry Public Library

On view through May 17

—

Free Tax Preparation Services

Saturday, April 12, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

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

Mercy University, 555 Broadway, Victory Hall,
Room 100

To schedule an appointment, dial "211"

(within Westchester County) or

1-800-899-1479, then select menu option 8 to
reach tax assistance personnel.

—

Spring Cleanup

Sunday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.

Waterfront Park

RSVP by emailing dfwaterfrontpark@gmail.com.

—

Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 13, 3 p.m.

High school turf field

For children pre-K through grade 2

—

Library Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.

Dobbs Ferry Public Library

—

Readers' Circle

Thursday, April 17, 2 p.m.

Dobbs Ferry Public Library

Discuss "Absolution" by Alice McDermott.

Register by emailing

reference@dobbsferrylibrary.org.

—

Municipal Office Closure

Friday, April 18

In observance of Good Friday

—

Storytime at the Keepers' House

Friday, April 18, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

15 Walnut St.

Nature-themed storytime and craft activity
for ages 2-4

—

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

Artist records landscapes facing change

Donald Gallery features 'Fleeting Light' through May 11

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Visual artist and environmental activist Rachel Weatherford Whitlow is following in the footsteps of her grandmother Mary Rankin, becoming the second person in her family to exhibit at the Donald Gallery at South Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry.

Whitlow's exhibit, titled "Fleeting Light," includes scenes from winter, watersheds, and Downeast Maine, where she has a home. One painting captures the impact that the 2023 Canadian wildfires had hundreds of miles away, here in New York.

"I'm interested in the transitions when you have climate disruptions, or the transitional moments," said Whitlow, who lives in Beacon. "That's why it's 'Fleeting Light' — it's the things that are fleeting in nature and capturing them. So, I'm painting a lot of winter now because we don't really see a lot of snow [anymore] due to climate change. I'm just capturing the things that might not exist in a couple years."

"Canada Fires," a mixed media piece, is based on a scene Whitlow saw firsthand as she passed a bird sanctuary, Iona Island in Rockland County. She stopped, took photos, and drafted an idea in a notebook before creating the final work later. The piece depicts green hills and grass juxtaposed between a yellow-orange sky and water below reflecting a similar color.

"The light being that yellow cast, it just completely changed the perspective of everything around it," Whitlow recalled. "So that particular day I was driving home and I just had to get out of my car and get it all as quickly as I could."

Not shown in Whitlow's painting is a pair of swans she saw, looking out of place, huddled, with their white feathers appearing yellow because of the reflected light. She chose not to depict them because she "really wanted to get the feeling versus the objects"



"Canada Fire" by Rachel Weatherford Whitlow

in the scene.

As with many of the paintings in the exhibit, Whitlow's image isn't an exact representation of what she sees. She enhances the elements of a setting that stand out most to her in order to tell a story.

"The mood, the energy is that dark feeling," Whitlow explained. "The Canadian fires actually created this smoke haze and this filtered feeling that made it feel very soft, and it's almost like I took that filter off. Almost apocalyptic was what I was going for, where it's just scary."

Whitlow's work "Route 3 Sunset" similarly exaggerates the contrast between the sunset and the foliage right after a storm passed over a vineyard in Maine. The artist eschewed fine details for an overall atmosphere.

Nature is not only Whitlow's primary muse, but also her abiding cause. She is an environmental activist who was among the thousands who volunteered their time

to build public awareness, and send letters to elected officials, in support of the New York State Climate Community Protection Act, passed in 2019. The measure aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent by 2030.

After growing up in New Rochelle and attending the High School of Music and Art (now LaGuardia High School) in Manhattan, Whitlow studied lithography, a form of printmaking, at The Cooper Union, from which she graduated in 1994. Since 2014 Whitlow has had five solo shows at Upstream Gallery in Hastings, where her mother, Jo Meer, is also a resident artist, and her grandmother, Rankin, was before them.

Currently the executive director of the Haverstraw Brick Museum, Whitlow worked for more than three decades in the textile industry, which is where she was given rolls of silk for free — a windfall that inspired the artmaking technique she uses today.

Continued on page 8



Yoga for ALS

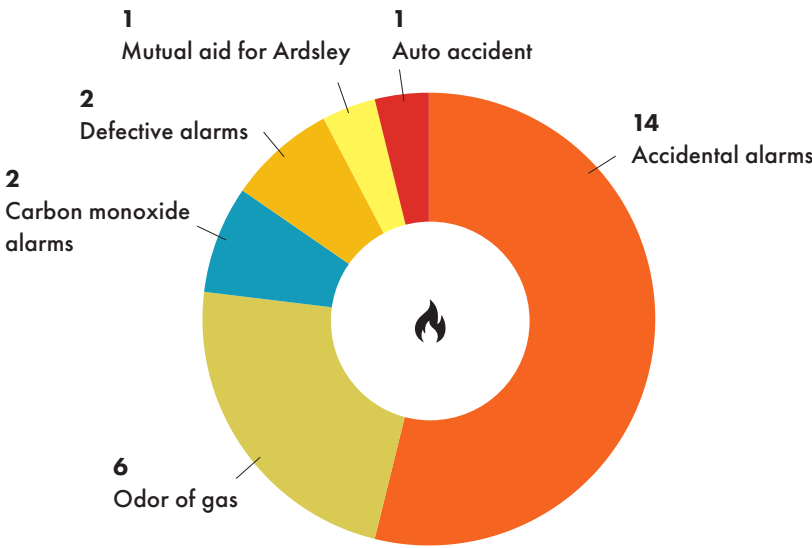
Former Hastings resident Sarah Knox (second from the left) was the guest of honor during a yoga fundraiser at the HudCo co-working and event space on Sunday, March 30. The fundraiser, which benefited Project ALS, was led by Betsy Kase of Dobbs Ferry, the founder of YogaHaven, where Knox used to teach, and by YogaHaven teacher Jill Gnassi. Knox, who has ALS, was joined by her husband, David, their sons, Ben and Rory, and Rory's fiancé, Kim Phomphun.

DOBBS FERRY

— THE DATA DISPATCH —

Dobbs Ferry Volunteer
Fire Department Report for March

26 calls for March | 102 total calls for 2025



For information about joining the department, visit
www.dffd.org/content/recruitment/

Whitlow

Continued from page 7

Whitlow begins the process by stretching silk over canvas or wood. She then typically starts with watercolor on the silk, then draws or sketches onto it with pastel. Whitlow then usually applies white acrylic, and builds layers on top of it before finishing with acrylic or wax varnish. Whitlow describes the layering process as similar to that of printmaking.

Whitlow said the highest compliment she received at “Fleeting Light’s” opening on March 30 was from a visitor who told her,

“When I look at your work, every time I come by it, I see something different.”

“And that’s my goal,” Whitlow said. “That you kind of sink into the work, and it makes you stop and pause and say, ‘Oh what’s going on?’ You know it’s environmental, you know it’s from nature, but it’s not quite right, so what’s going on? You look at it again and each time you look at it you might have a different reaction or find something new that you’re reacting to.”

“Fleeting Light” is on display through Sunday, May 11, at the Donald Gallery at South Presbyterian Church, 343 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry.

— COMMUNITY BRIEFS —

Alabama dean’s list

Jacob Parker was named to the dean’s list at the University of Alabama for the fall 2024 semester.

James Madison dean’s list

Caitlin O’Brien, who is majoring in nursing, was named to the dean’s list at James Madison University for the fall 2024 semester.

Albany dean’s commendation

Edward Manning was awarded a dean’s letter of commendation at SUNY Albany

for the fall 2024 semester.

Springfield dean’s list

Brian Dann, who is majoring in sports management, was named to the dean’s list at Springfield College for the fall 2024 semester.

Charleston dean’s list

Eric Dowd, who is majoring in environmental and sustainability studies, was named to the dean’s list at the College of Charleston for the fall 2024 semester.



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HASTINGS- ON-HUDSON

— Coming Up This Week —

Downtown Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.-noon
Children ages 3-8 search for plastic eggs filled with candy and toys hidden on the grassy areas of the VFW, the public library, and village hall.

Free Class: Preparing for Emergencies

Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.
Congregación Mita Church,
95 N. Broadway
Register at prepare.ny.gov

Hastings Flea

Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (rain or shine)
Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue
Outdoor bazaar featuring handmade, vintage, and upcycled clothing; accessories; and food truck treats and music. Visit thehastingsflea.com.

Senior Mindfulness Drop-in Session

Tuesday, April 15, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
James Harmon Community Center

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, April 15, 7 p.m.
Village Hall
Agenda available at hohny.gov.

Municipal Office Closure

Friday, April 18
In observance of Good Friday

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)

Farmers' Market

Saturday, April 19, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue
The market convenes the first and third Saturdays of each month through May. For details, visit hastingsfarmersmarket.org and follow the market on Facebook.

Earth Day Community Cleanup

Tuesday, April 22, 3-5 p.m.
Old Croton Aqueduct Trail
Register for the "litter hunt" by emailing amanning@hastingslibrary.org.

Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at amy@rivertownsdispatch.com



PBDW Architects' rendering of the proposed cafeteria addition, which would be part of the second proposition.

School bond proposal split into three parts

Board to finalize referendum on April 22

BY AMY BOCHNER

The Hastings School Board shared updates and a new voting structure for the proposed capital bond during their April 8 meeting.

In October 2024, the board first presented the bond, which encompasses improvements to the Farragut Complex (home to the middle and high school), the Burke Estate athletic fields, and Hillside Elementary School. The proposed budget for the bond is \$38.4 million.

The meeting began with a presentation on the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) analysis of the proposal. Consultants from LAN Associates, the LA Group, and PBDW Architects provided the presentation, which concluded that the projects will have minimal environmental impact and meet required regulatory standards. At the April 22 meeting, the board will make

an environmental determination based on the information provided.

The board also discussed the proposed referendum language for the bond vote, which will take place on June 17. They described putting three separate propositions on the ballot, which constituents could then choose to vote on. The first would fund the Building Condition Survey items, including mechanical, electrical, and plumbing upgrades across district facilities, for \$11,254,780. The second would fund the Farragut Complex addition and instructional space, which includes converting the current cafeteria into classrooms, constructing a new cafeteria in the courtyard, and a new handicap-accessible and ADA-compliant front entrance, for \$19,049,461. Finally, the third proposition would fund the installation of two artificial turf fields (one multisport field and one softball field) and associated site work at the Burke Estate for \$8,171,259.

Propositions two and three are contingent

on proposition one passing. To vote on propositions two and three, a constituent would first have to vote in favor of proposition one. Furthermore, a "yes" vote on proposition two would be required before one could vote on proposition three.

Originally, the board was considering a two-part structure, in which the first proposition would combine the Farragut Complex addition, instructional space, and the Building Condition Survey items for \$30,304,241. The second proposition would fund the athletic fields and site work at the Burke Estate, and cost \$8,171,259, the same as proposition three in the three-part structure.

The board decided to shift to a three-part structure to ensure that the critical building condition items were addressed separately and not jeopardized if other parts of the project were voted down. Another reason for splitting the bond is the need to demonstrate funding for the Farragut Wing restoration

Continued on page 16



Dancing Queen

Carlin McKinnon rehearses for Hastings High School's production of "Mamma Mia!," which was staged April 3, 4, and 5, and directed by Laurie Walton. The musical was written by British playwright Catherine Johnson, based on songs recorded by Swedish group ABBA and composed by members Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus.

HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

Astro-botany project earns senior a spot at ISEF

BY AMY BOCHNER

Representing Hastings High School at this year's Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) will be Adam Greenwald, a senior whose research explores the possibility of lunar plant growth.

On March 15 in Somers, HHS 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. Nineteen HHS students earned medals and awards, with Greenwald qualifying for one of the 20 regional spots reserved for ISEF, which will take place May 10-16 in Columbus, Ohio. The event is the world's largest high school STEM competition, with students from across the U.S. and representing more than 75 countries.

Greenwald, who will study engineering at Cornell University in the fall, traces his interest in science back to middle school.

"I've always loved gardening with my dad and researching space," he said. "I remember we'd always look at the astronauts' live footage from the International Space Station, and be in awe at the research they're doing."

For his high school Science Research project, "Evaluation of Earthworms and Vermicompost on LHS-1 Lunar Regolith Simulant to Improve Plant Growth Efficiency," he de-



Adam Greenwald

cided to combine these interests, taking a step into the niche field of astro-botany. He conducted experiments on plant growth in lunar soil stimulant, which is a replication of the soil found on the moon.

"There's been a lot of studies that show plants do not grow well in lunar soil, so I tried to see if I could add different treatments to it to improve the plant growth," he said, and thereby enable a sustainable food source on the moon. "I did lunar soil by itself, lunar soil with compost, lunar soil with worms, and then a mixture of

lunar soil with worms and compost."

He described the results of his experiments: "I found that it only allowed for effective plant growth when I added both the compost and the worms together in lunar soil. When I mixed all three of the treatments, the worms were able to improve the soil enough to make it very similar to soil on Earth, which is very important for creating permanent habitats on the moon."

With the guidance of his mentor, Richard Barker, Ph.D., a researcher at Purdue University who has studied plants on the International Space Station, Greenwald conducted his research in his basement. His home lab included growth lights, watering systems, fans, and dehumidifiers to create a controlled environment.

Having his research earn him a spot at ISEF encourages Greenwald to pursue his field of interest moving forward.

"It shows the research I've done is not just something that's good for a high schooler, but something that in college I'll think about, like, 'I was able to do research that was seen by professionals as really good research,'" he said. "Being able to go into my profession and do research, I'll know that from high school, I've had this science way of thinking and know that I can do it well. It confirms that I know

Continued on page 15

More WESEF winners from HHS

- Frieda Belasco**
Fourth Place in Environmental Science
- Lola Berlin**
Excellence in Medical Research Award
- James Doherty**
BASF Expanding Knowledge in Science Award
- Sofia Eliasi**
Energy21 Student Scholar Prize and Visionary Engineering Award
- Alex Erez**
Third Place in Medicine and Health
- Liam Fingleton**
Environmental Perspiration Award
- Natalie Garson**
Fourth Place in Computational Biology/Bioinformatics
- Gavin Hoffman**
Fourth Place in Behavioral and Social Science
Rian Kacmarczyk and Henry Sliker
Leason Ellis Team Project Award
- Nitin Kodali**
Second Place in Medicine and Health
- Benjamin Liberman**
Regeneron Biomedical Science Award
Second Place in Cell and Molecular Biology
- Victoria Lugomer-Pomper**
Innovations in Biological Sciences Research Award
- Kaleigh Maloney**
Second Place in Cellular and Molecular Biology
- Jack Maney**
Teatown Young Environmentalist Award
- Tobias Navarrete**
Third Place in Animal Sciences
- Julia Serbee**
Fourth Place in Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Sophie Starosta**
Third Place in Neuroscience

Aldersgate and Ardsley United Methodist *Rev. Wren Hillis*
Irvington Presbyterian *Rev. Blaine Crawford*
St. Barnabas Episcopal *Rev. Gareth Evans*
Invite you to Ecumenical Holy Week Services

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 17th 7:00PM at Irvington Presbyterian Church

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SUNRISE SERVICE**
April 20th 6:00AM at Jenkins Rock, Irvington Reservoir

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IRVINGTON

— Coming Up This Week —

Blood Drive

Saturday, April 12, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 N. Broadway
Walk-ins are welcome, or schedule an appointment at redcrossblood.org.

Farmers' Market

Sunday, April 13, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Main Street School, 101 Main St.
For details, visit theirvingtonfarmersmarket.org and follow the market on Facebook.

Library Board Meeting

Monday, April 14, 6 p.m.
Irvington Public Library

Virtual Program: "It's A Wonderful Town: New York City in Film"

Monday, April 14, 7 p.m.
Visit irvingtonlibrary.org to register for the Zoom link.

Movie Afternoon: "Dog Man"

Tuesday, April 15, 2:30 p.m.
Irvington Public Library
Register at irvingtonlibrary.org.

Screening:

"The Peekskill Riots, Episode 2"

Tuesday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.
Irvington Public Library

Teens and Adults:

"Egg" Decorating with Alcohol Ink

Thursday, April 17, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Irvington Public Library
Register at irvingtonlibrary.org.

Thursday Evening Book Club

Thursday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.
Irvington Public Library
Discuss "Our Country Friends" by Gary Shteyngart.

Municipal Office Closure

Friday, April 18
In observance of Good Friday

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@rivertownsdspatch.com

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS



Alloy Design Studio's rendering of the proposed fieldhouse

Mercy pitches plan to build a fieldhouse

Proposal includes courts and a track

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Mercy University is proposing two projects on the 31.5 acres of its 66-acre campus that are in Irvington. The plans, presented at the April 2 planning board meeting, include the construction of a 19,000-square-foot fieldhouse with indoor tennis courts and a basketball court. The projects would be funded by the university.

The proposed fieldhouse would primarily overlap the area where there are three outdoor tennis courts, just north of the Dobbs Ferry border. According to architect Chris Tramutola, the tennis courts are in poor condition and would be demolished. In their place, he described a build-

ing that could be used for multiple activities: tennis, pickleball on the sides, and basketball in the center. There would be no fixed seating.

The fieldhouse would also include a walking track on a level above the courts, restrooms, changing areas, an office, and a meeting room. The structure would be 40 feet high at its tallest point, have a brick base, and feature walls of windows.

During the meeting, Mercy attorney Seth Mandelbaum referred to the fieldhouse as being "for the university and for the community at large." He also explained that the facility would provide an option for children on campus for summer camp to use during excessively hot or rainy days.

The university is seeking site plan approval

for the fieldhouse, as well as for the other project — improvements to two parking lots on the western edge of its Irvington property, just south of a path leading to the Ardsley-on-Hudson train station. The lots are disconnected, and the adjacent basketball courts are being used for overflow parking.

Mercy is proposing to reconfigure the two lots in a way that connects them and would improve traffic flow between them. Plans also call for the creation of a plaza where the parking lot meets the train path, and the addition of another path that extends from the plaza alongside the parking lot down to a sidewalk that connects to the rest of campus. Currently anyone coming to campus from the train has to walk through the

Continued on page 15



Steps of support

Irvington Presbyterian Church held its annual Crop Hunger Walk on Sunday, April 6, which started at the church and then proceeded north on the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail. The event raised funds for three nonprofits impacted by recent cuts in federal funding — Church World Service, Feeding Westchester, and the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry. Donations continue to be accepted online at bit.ly/rivertownswalk.

IRVINGTON

Green Policy Task Force leads effort to set up mutual aid network

BY KERRY LYONS

On July 9, 2023, 8 inches of rain poured down in upstate Highland Falls, damaging homes, businesses, roads, and bridges. Almost two years later, on April 2, the Irvington Green Policy Task Force (GPTF) welcomed Olga Kuchar Anderson, chair of Highlands’ Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee, to share how the residents of her town came together after the devastation — and to inspire Irvington residents to do so before a natural disaster occurs.

The program, at the Irvington Public Library, kicked off with a show of hands confirming that while some residents feel prepared for a disaster — having surplus food, water, or a “go bag” at the ready — most in attendance were less familiar with either the Irvington Climate Action & Adaptation Plan or the concept of mutual aid.

Charlotte Binns, the Village’s sustainability director, is on a mission to change that by educating Irvington residents and facilitating the creation of mutual aid groups, or neighborhood nodes, so that if disaster strikes, the community is prepared.

Binns offered highlights of prior studies, including the 2011 Village of Irvington Flood Study, the 2020 Community Resilience Building Workshop, and the find-

ings from an October 2024 survey which revealed that Irvington residents are most concerned about extreme storms, increasing temperatures, and the rising sea level — all valid concerns since Westchester County has experienced four federally declared climate disasters (hurricanes) and received over \$125 million from FEMA in the past decade, according to Binns.

With the reality that “extreme weather is increasingly causing serious damage to our communities, environment, and infrastructure” (according to a slideshow presented by Binns), the focus of the presentation shifted to the concept of mutual aid, which she describes as “voluntary and reciprocal sharing of what we have — resources, skills, ideas. It is solidarity, not charity.” Anderson, the guest speaker from Highland Falls, summed it up like this: “Creating a mutual aid network is knowing who you can count on to step up in an emergency.”

The key to mutual aid is as simple as knowing your neighbors and creating a plan. Who lives alone? Who has pets? Who has kids home alone after school? Who has medicine that requires refrigeration? What can we learn about our hyper-local neighborhoods now to ensure that if a natural disaster strikes and our emergency workers are otherwise

occupied, we have the framework to literally help each other weather the storm? That is the goal of mutual aid and one of the reasons why the Irvington GPTF is committed to building “resilience in a changing climate.”

While the evening began with Anderson reminding attendees of the definition of resilience — in her words, “the ability to bounce back from adverse events,” a scenario Highland Falls knows all too well — it concluded with engaged citizens brainstorming preventive measures and discussing how best to identify and activate neighborhood nodes in Irvington.

To start, residents can complete a short survey developed by Binns and team, which can be found at: <https://bit.ly/IrvingtonNeighbors>. The survey includes questions about how your neighborhood typically communicates, how it’s defined in terms of geographic boundaries, and who, if anyone, initiates communication. Binns stressed that all information collected would be used solely for the purpose of identifying local hubs that can be activated during an emergency. No personal information or data would be shared publicly. The goal, as stated by the GPTF, is “transparent and community oriented — ensuring neighbors can support one

another quickly, safely, and effectively in emergencies.”

As part of Irvington’s broader climate action, adaptation, and resilience planning, the GPTF is mapping village neighborhood nodes and, together with the Rivertowns Playhouse theater company and the Irvington Presbyterian Church, creating a month-long “neighborhood resilience and survival game.” Throughout May, there will be ongoing resilience-focused challenges culminating in a “giant zombie survival game” on May 30. Registration opens on May 1; visit <https://www.ecoirvington.org/home> for more information. In addition, the public is invited to attend the GPTF’s Climate Talk on Disaster Preparedness, on Wednesday, May 7, at the Irvington Public Library.

— COMMUNITY BRIEFS —

- Clark dean’s list**
- Sasha Novellino was named to the dean’s list, with first honors, at Clark University for the fall 2024 semester.
- Albany dean’s list**
- Hasin Shaukat, who intends to major in cybersecurity, was named to the dean’s list at SUNY Albany for the fall 2024 semester.

Irvington Presbyterian Church

Join us to CELEBRATE

PALM SUNDAY

April 13th 10:30AM at Irvington Presbyterian Church

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNRISE SERVICE

April 20th 6:00AM at Jenkins Rock, Irvington Reservoir

Parking available at the cross section of
Cyrus Field and Harriman Roads

The RESURRECTION of the LORD


April 20th 10:30AM at Irvington Presbyterian Church

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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 rivertownsdspatch.com/contact-us.

Irvington Democrats formalize slate of Burgos, Ogrodnek, and Zwiebel

To the Editor:

This year, three Irvington Democrats with strong track records of success are running for Irvington village offices. Irvington Deputy Mayor Arlene Burgos is running for mayor. Larry Ogrodnek and David Zwiebel are running for two open trustee seats.

Collectively, Arlene, Larry, and David have a long history of moving our community forward with common-sense solutions, including by supporting initiatives that resulted in millions of dollars in grants, climate-resilient infrastructure, protection of our woods, renovation of our historic theater, and inspiring local events to bring Irvington residents together.

In February, Arlene, Larry, and David secured the endorsement of Irvington Democrats in a contested process in which hundreds of Irvington Democrats voted.

As the endorsed Democratic slate, Arlene, Larry, and David share a platform that includes fiscal responsibility; streamlining the building permit process while protecting Irvington's historic character; updating infrastructure and re-

vitalizing downtown; and continuing the work of being a welcoming community.

With momentum growing and their positive vision resonating, Arlene, Larry, and David recently filed petitions with signatures from over 350 Irvington Democrats — more than double the number required. With no Democratic primary, Arlene, Larry, and David are now the Democratic nominees, and their names will appear on Row A of Irvington voters' ballots this November.

We are proud to announce the following endorsements for our Democratic slate: current Irvington Trustees Mitchell Bard, Josie Bloom, and Kent Kleiman; New York State Assemblymember MaryJane Shimsky; County Executive Ken Jenkins; County Legislator David Imamura; and former Congressman Mondaire Jones.

We are grateful for the active participation of Irvington Democrats. We look forward to working together to elect our endorsed slate in November. Learn more and join us by contacting Irvingtondemocrats@gmail.com.

CHRIS DENICOLA
Chair, Irvington Democratic Committee

Hastings mayoral candidate stresses need to plan and prepare for change

To the Editor:

Last week, I submitted my petitions to the Westchester County Board of Elections to run for mayor of Hastings-on-Hudson in the June 24 Democratic primary. I'm grateful to the volunteers who carried the petitions, and thank everyone who provided their signatures to get both Tom Drake and me on the ballot. This is democracy at work.

I love Hastings for what it is, and have no desire to change it. I'm certainly not interested in change for its own sake. But, the world around us is changing, and I believe we must plan and prepare for that change. We face more unpredictable weather, with severe storms punctuated by droughts, pushing our antiquated 19th-century infrastructure to its limits. We need to draw our children away from their screens and back outdoors, and more investment in our parks will help attract them there. This will also bring

more people to our village, as will careful development that allows more residents to downsize if they wish to remain here — opening up existing housing stock for young families who want to join our community. Our local downtown businesses would also thrive from more foot traffic. Most important to me is the unprecedented daily attack on our rights, and we need leaders who are willing to stick their necks out and fight for us. I've always strived to be that kind of leader in all that I do, and certainly as trustee, and I will continue to fight for our community as mayor.

I thank everyone who took time out of their busy days to stop and talk with me as my campaign kicked off, and I look forward to speaking with many more of you before the primary. If you would like to get in touch with me directly, please reach me at Morgen@FleisigForHastings.com.

TRUSTEE MORGEN FLEISIG
Village of Hastings

Taxpayers should be allowed to pay town, county, fire bills in two parts

To the Editor:

I believe that Westchester County and municipal officials should consider changing the law to allow residents to pay their town and county taxes in two parts. Currently, town, paid fire, and county taxes must be paid by the end of April to avoid penalties. The most recent tax bill is quite a lot for seniors and those on fixed incomes to pay at one time, especially since income tax is also due the same month. School tax bills can be paid in two parts — September and January. Why can't town and county taxes also be paid in two parts? A sugges-

tion would be to break the town/county tax bill into two parts: April for the first half and July for the second half. All towns in Westchester are required to pay the county portion of the tax bill, whether towns collect the taxes or not. So the county, paid fire districts, and town would have to agree to accept a portion of the taxes later than in April. I will be reaching out to other towns, the fire districts, and Westchester County officials and will ask that we consider this for 2026.

PAUL FEINER
Greenburgh Town Supervisor



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Preschool Center

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The Agenda

SAT
12

Opening Reception: “Views of Nature”

DOBBS FERRY

2-4:30 p.m. / Free. Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St. Rick Weaver’s paintings are on view through May 17.

dobbsferrylibrary.org

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

DOBBS FERRY

9 a.m.-5 p.m. / Free. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. hudco.eventbrite.com

“Live at the Upstream”

HASTINGS

7 p.m. / \$10. Upstream Gallery, 8 Main St. Mike Borgia, known for his dynamic five-octave vocal range, performs in an intimate setting. upstreamgallery.com

An Evening with Joe Crookston

IRVINGTON

7 p.m. / \$28. Irvington Theater, 85 Main St. The folk concert features slide guitar, fiddle, piano, and art stories. irvingtontheater.com

Film Screening with Sky Hopinka

YONKERS

2 p.m. / \$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. The filmmaker discusses his experimental feature about the origin of the death myth from the Chinookan people in the Pacific Northwest. hrm.org

Spring Bird Walk

YONKERS

8:30-10 a.m. / \$20. Untermyer Park and Gardens, 945 N. Broadway. Register online. untermyergardens.org

Waterfront Walking Tour

YONKERS

10:30 a.m. / \$3-\$6. Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, 29 Warburton Ave. Learn about the daylighted Saw Mill River and Yonkers’ Hudson River waterfront on a 2-mile walk. philipsemanorhall.com

Rock Garden Talk

TARRYTOWN

10:30 a.m. / \$10 grounds pass required (free for members). Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Registration required. lyndhurst.org

Behind the Scenes at Lyndhurst Mansion

TARRYTOWN

11:40 a.m.-2:45 p.m. / \$60. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Led by New York Adventure Club. Registration required. eventbrite.com

Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct: Weir Tour

OSSINING

10 a.m. / Free. Joseph Caputo Center, 95



Folk musician Joe Crookston performs at Irvington Theater this Saturday, April 12.

Broadway. Guided exploration of the original 1842 brick water tunnel. Registration required. aqueduct.org

SUN
13

Hastings Flea

HASTINGS

10 a.m.-4 p.m. (rain or shine) / Free. Metro-North Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue (across from the railroad tracks). Outdoor bazaar featuring handmade, vintage, and upcycled clothing and accessories plus food truck treats and music. thehastingsflea.com

Tea and Printmaking: Open Studio

HASTINGS

2-4 p.m. / \$15. The Maker Hive, 416 Warburton Ave. makerhive.space

Farmers’ Market

IRVINGTON

9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Main Street School, 101 Main St. theirvingtonfarmersmarket.org

Birdwatching with Saw Mill River Audubon

TARRYTOWN

7-9 a.m. / Free. Lyndhurst Mansion, 635 S. Broadway. For adults and ages 8 and up. Registration required. sawmillriveraudubon.org

Brazilian Drummer Dennis Boolyoin

TARRYTOWN

4 and 6 p.m. / \$25, \$20 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. jazzforumarts.org

MON
14

School’s Out, Stars Are In

YONKERS

11 a.m.-5 p.m. / \$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. The museum offers interactive art and science workshops, tours of the Glenview mansion, and planetarium shows, daily April 14-18. hrm.org

TUES
15

Live Music: Ruby Pucillo and Álvaro Torres

HASTINGS

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

History Lecture and Book Signing

IRVINGTON

7 p.m. / Free. Nevis Science Center, 136 S. Broadway. Samantha Wilcoxson, author of “James Alexander Hamilton: Son of the American Revolution,” gives a presentation at Nevis Labs, originally owned by Alexander Hamilton’s son and named for the small Caribbean island on which he was born, long before it was donated to Columbia University. Registration required. nevis.columbia.edu

WED
16

Hybrid History Lecture: “Caribbean Connections to New Netherland”

YONKERS

7 p.m. / Free. Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, 29 Warburton Ave. Presented in

person and broadcast live via WebEx. Register online. philipsemanorhall.com

THURS
17

Outdoor Live Music: Sonnie Daze

DOBBS FERRY

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

FRI
18

Toddler Storytime

DOBBS FERRY

10:30 a.m. / Free. Keeper’s House, 15 Walnut St. Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct and the Dobbs Ferry Public Library team up for a story and craft, followed by the opportunity to walk on the trail. aqueduct.org

Jazz Pianist Benny Green

TARRYTOWN

7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$35, \$30 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Also April 19. jazzforumarts.org

ONGOING

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)

Art Exhibit

ARDSLEY

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

“Fleeting Light”

DOBBS FERRY

The Donald Gallery at South Church, 343 Broadway. Works by Neo-Luminist painter Rachel Weatherford are on view through May 11. southpres.org

Sondra Gold’s “Some of My Favorite Things” and New Artists Showcase

HASTINGS

Upstream Gallery, 8 Main St. On view through April 20. Hours: Thursday-Sunday, 12:30-5:30 p.m. upstreamgallery.com

“Icons Reconstructed and Repainted”

HASTINGS

Village Hall Gallery, 7 Maple Ave. Edward Bear Miller’s exhibit features portraits of James Baldwin, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, and Harriet Tubman. On view through April 12.

Armour-Stiner Octagon House Tour

IRVINGTON

11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. / \$29. 45 W. Clinton Ave. Tours feature the inside of this unique National Historic Landmark. Advance tickets required. Saturdays and Sundays through April 20. armourstiner.com

Juried Members Exhibition

YONKERS

Blue Door Art Center, 13 Riverdale Ave. On view through April 19. bluedoorartcenter.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

Greenburgh Black History Museum

VALHALLA

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

Greenwald

Continued from page 10

science, that I want to be in science and help make the world a better place.”

His goal is to become an engineer who designs experiments for outer space.

“I want to be making satellites, rovers, habitats for the moon, space stations, or something like making autonomous plant growth systems on the moon,” he said. “You need engineers to be able to make these different experiments.”

Mercy proposal

Continued from page 11

parking lots to reach the rest of the campus.

According to the design, a perimeter walkway would loop around the reconfigured parking lots, with two overlooks offering views of the Hudson River. There would be one basketball court in the northwest corner of the parking lot, next to one of the overlooks.

During the meeting, the planning board ex-

As Greenwald looks forward to attending ISEF this spring and then Cornell, he expressed his gratitude to the Science Research program.

“It’s a time that high schoolers can do independent work, because in all your other classes, you’re doing a curriculum. In Science Research, you’re able to investigate things you’re interested in,” he said. “Being able to do all this work as if you’re a college student is really cool. I think this is the perfect gateway to make you more excited to do science later in life.”

pressed concern about the proposed fieldhouse obstructing views of the Hudson River from the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail and about the tree removal required for construction.

In addition, the board is calling on Mercy to be more specific about who will have access to the fieldhouse, and to provide more evidence as to why an indoor facility is needed. The university is planning to prepare a written response to the issues and present them to the planning board at a future public meeting.

“The way I see food is to connect people, to bridge gaps when it comes to different religions and different ethnicities because to me, breaking bread is the best way to make peace between people who may otherwise have animosity toward each other,” Zabari said.

The Halpern Café, at the Shames JCC, 371 S. Broadway, Tarrytown, is open Monday through Friday. Coffee and smoothie service begins at 8 a.m., while food service is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Halpern Cafe

Continued from page 4

people who are already here to take classes or work out, but now we’re also a spot that people can come to for the food.”

The Halpern Café also provides a kitchen for people who rent The Ark for private events. On Thursday, March 27, Zabari held an event at The Ark called “A Taste of The Levant,” highlighting his catering menu.

Hands Off

Continued from page 1

clearly: not on our watch.”

“Medicare is not a perk,” she continued. “Public education is not a waste, and the post office isn’t just a building, it’s a lifeline for rural families, small businesses, veterans, and seniors who depend on reliable service to get medicine, pay bills, and stay connected. Shutting down these programs wouldn’t just be cruel; it would be catastrophic for our communities. This is not just about money. It’s about values. It’s about our promises to each other, to our kids, to our neighbors. We didn’t come here to sit back. We came here to fight.”

Mike Hertz, a registered nurse, described his perspective on cuts to government agencies that protect workers.

“This is a hands-on disaster. I am beyond appalled that this whole DOGE mess is telling people you can’t unionize, or who are stripping you of your union,” he said. “Because all those federal agencies that regulate and make sure I’m safe, whether I’m on the road, the air, the train — they’re all being undercut, and we’re all being put in jeopardy.”

Speakers defended civil liberties, including freedom of speech. Karl Weber, the owner of Rivertowns Books in Irvington, declared attacks on free speech as “one front in this multi-front war.”

“They are banning books. They are bringing lawsuits against publishers,” he said. “They are attacking libraries. They are attacking universities. We need to push back. Sign up for your local library board. Sign up for your local school board. Defend free expression.”

Steven Siebert of Hastings shared his concern over the right to free speech and protest.

“Many of us, long before Trump... have spoken out against state violence, against our endless wars... We’ve spoken forcefully but peacefully, and we thought in safety,” he said, and referred to the current situation as “terrifying.”

Other speakers railed against attacks on the LGBT+ community. Michael Sabatino, a former Yonkers city councilman who, along with his husband, was one of the first gay couples in New York to have their marriage legally recognized, declared that “we are not going back.”

Lisa Wilkerson, a representative of the Rivertowns League of Women Voters, urged people to call Congressman George Latimer and Mike Lawler regarding the SAVE Act, which would require a birth certificate, passport, or naturalization papers to register to vote or to change a registration.

“Contrary to its name, this act saves nothing. In fact, it dismantles and destroys our voting rights by making access to new registration and change of registration inaccessible to the majority of citizens through draconian measures and requirements,” she said. “This is an ill-intentioned voter disenfranchisement bill designed to discourage and deny participation in our constitutional democracy... in direct conflict with one of the basic founding principles of this country — a government for the people, by the people.”

After experiencing overwhelming turnout for this rally, Brodhead described how this event inspires CFOW to keep up the momentum.

“It doubles down on our work going forward,” he said. “Now, we have this responsibility for helping, encouraging, and hosting brand-new people.”



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Con Edison rates
Continued from page 1

customers by 20%. When factoring in commercial properties, the increase comes out to 18% for electricity and 19.1% for natural gas across the board. Statewide those numbers are an 11.4% increase for electric bills and a 13.3% increase for gas bills. Con Edison rates for electricity and natural gas delivery in Westchester have increased 20% over the last three years.

While New York City has had attorneys present at similar hearings in recent years, Westchester County has had no legal representation. According to Dichter, that's allowed New York City to better control the level of rate increases in a way that Westchester hasn't. In its petition, Con Edison explained that the latest proposed rate increase is intended to cover the cost of new facilities, increased property taxes, and other expenses, while still allowing the company to return a profit.

In a March 25 letter to New York State Department of Public Service CEO Rory Christian, State Assemblymember MaryJane Shimsky, who represents an area that includes all four Rivertowns, joined a delegation of Assembly members from Westchester in speaking out against the proposed rate hike. The delegation encouraged Christian to reject the increase, and contended that Con Edison CEO Tim Cawley's \$16-million-a-year compensation package is evidence that the company doesn't need to raise prices. The letter comes after the Westchester County Board of Legislators voted unanimously, earlier in March, in favor of attempting to block the rate increase.

"Con Edison's proposed increases are simply unaffordable for too many of our residents," Shimsky wrote in the March 25 letter. "I will continue to fight these proposals at every opportunity — in the public sphere and directly with the Department of Public Service."

The PSC held a total of four virtual public statement hearings on the hikes, with two on Tuesday, April 8, and two on Wednesday, April 9. Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins urged the PSC to reject the rate hike during Tuesday's hearing, where any state resident who had registered beforehand could speak. On the same day, Jenkins announced that the PSC had agreed to hold an in-person public hearing at the County Center in White Plains.

"If Con Edison truly believes this rate hike is justified, they should look the people of Westchester in the eye and explain why," Jenkins said in a press release. "Residents and business owners deserve the opportunity to ask questions, get answers, and be heard — not just on paper, not just online, but face to face."

There is no set date for the hearing at the County Center. Through a series of hearings throughout the year, the PSC will determine how much profit Con Edison is entitled to, and thus how much of a rate increase the PSC will permit. During those hearings, administrative law judges will hear testimony from parties like Dichter.

On March 26, Sustainable Westchester held its second forum this year to provide Westchester residents with tips on how to reduce their Con Edison bills, and distributed energy-saving kits to attendees. That nonprofit plans to hold another event in the fall.

School bond
Continued from page 9

to comply with state regulations and avoid delays in the project, school board trustee Maureen Lennon-Santana said. The restoration is a response to the December flooding of the Farragut Wing, which damaged 17 middle school classrooms.

"The three parts versus two, which is a change from what we had discussed... has an insurance piece related to the flood," she said. "We have to front the money. We need it on hand to do the work, and so that's a big reason why we broke out into a third category. We have to prove that we have the money in hand in order for that work to continue [and get] permits. Otherwise, if we didn't, we would risk a huge timeline and a delay to the flood project."

While the board expressed approval to

move forward with considering a three-part structure, the two-part structure is still on the table as they receive additional information from the state Education Department and the district's technical partners.

Whether the school board moves forward with the two- or three-part structure, board president Alexander Dal Piaz stated that separating the bond allows for more clarity and transparency.

"We talked a lot about how the ultimate form of local democracy is putting the bond up," he said. "I think breaking it up in these clearly separable buckets makes it a very clean process. We can go out and make the best case that we can, give people the information they need, and it will inevitably be a fair representation of where the community is at."

The language for the bond proposal will be finalized and voted on at the April 22 meeting.

Zeitlin
Continued from page 3


over 50 years to the Puerto Rican community, on the National Register of Historic Places. We also run a gallery on the Lower East Side. We have an exhibit there now on stories from the Covid pandemic. We recently had an exhibit on African American doll makers, and we have one coming up on the House Ballroom traditions from the LGBTQ community.

How can people bring more poetry into their lives?

One of the traditions we started in our family is having a poetry night, where we get together

and everybody brings a poem to read, and sometimes we combine it with music. A lot of families have incredible family expressions that are poetic, and that they should be aware of. One of them in my wife's family is "Tell me the boat floats," which was a way for kids to tell parents everything was all right. Another one was "Jumping off the 15th-story window for a breeze on a hot day," which means doing something to foolish excess. Really, the way of infusing poetry into everyday life is to be conscious of it. Be conscious of how poetic everyday speech and everyday life can be. There's an artistry to life that we can all tune into.



For more information on the POEMobile and City Lore, visit citylore.org.



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April 16 Holy Wednesday Stations of the Cross	7:30 PM Live Only A devotion that commemorates Christ's last day on Earth as a man	
April 17 Maundy Thursday	7:30 PM Live and via Zoom Maundy Thursday Liturgy	
April 18 Good Friday	7:00 PM Live and via Zoom Good Friday Liturgy	
April 19 Holy Saturday	10:00 AM In-Person Only A quiet, contemplative service	
April 20 Easter Sunday	10:00 AM Live and via Zoom Holy Eucharist with Choir, Guest Singers and Trumpet Gala Coffee Hour and Easter Egg Hunt	

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Sports

EDITED BY ROB DIANTONIO

Irvington strikes early and often to top Dobbs

Baseball roundup

BY ROB DIANTONIO

With each team scoring three runs in the first inning, it appeared it would be a back-and-forth contest when Irvington and Dobbs Ferry met on the baseball diamond on April 8. But the Bulldogs had other ideas as they amassed nine unanswered runs to cruise past the host Eagles 12-3.

Irvington's offense was sparked by Scott Edwards (double, two hits, stolen base), Massimo Ferrari (double, three RBIs), Justin Corniel (three doubles, two RBIs), and Sawyer Chalsen (RBI).

"Our kids did a much better job of having patience at the plate," Irvington coach Rocco Cipriano said of the offense. "They went up to bat knowing their job was to make contact and force the defense to make the plays and they did just that."

Chalsen started the game on the mound and allowed a three-run home run to Logan Sullivan as Dobbs tied the game up at 3-3 in the bottom of the first inning. But Chalsen rebounded, pitching six innings while scattering five hits and striking out six.

"Sawyer definitely settled in after the first inning and really found his groove," Cipriano said. "He started to locate his pitches and started pitching with confidence. He knew our fielders had his back and all he had to do was throw strikes."

Connor Marron closed out the game in the seventh inning for Irvington. Cipriano said "he attacked hitters and pitched with the lead to close us out."

Sam Sellitti had two hits and a run scored for the Eagles, who dropped their first game of the season.

Dobbs (2-1) defeated visiting Edgemont 6-2 on April 4. Sellitti pitched three innings and struck out seven while allowing just one hit and no earned runs. He also had a double, triple, and three RBIs.

Eric Astreicher tossed 3.2 innings and let up one hit and two earned runs. Sullivan had two hits including a double and a run scored. Jack Mastin, Brendan Marron, and Will Kelly had one RBI apiece.

The Eagles were scheduled to host Haldane on April 10, then travel to Bronxville on April 12.

Irvington (2-3) was scheduled to travel to Briarcliff on April 10 for the Bears' tournament. It will then compete in either the championship game or consolation on April 12 at Briarcliff.

"The team is starting to buy into the process," Cipriano said. "The lineup started to figure itself out, as well as our pitching staff. When we can limit our batters striking out and walks on the mound, it will allow us to



(Above) Irvington's Scott Edwards slides in safely as Dobbs Ferry's Luc Maass fields the throw. (Left) Irvington's Brian Kim heads for third base. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.



be able to compete in a lot of games."

He continued, "We have a good mix of upperclassmen and underclassmen so hopefully with more games to come we can jell and find our confidence and rhythm leading into league play."

Hastings tops Irvington, Ardsley

After starting the season 0-2, Hastings

bounced back with wins over Irvington and Ardsley.

"The team came from behind in both contests and have been consistently led by the bat of Matt Corbo, who is batting over .500 with 11 runs batted in," Hastings coach Dom Cecere said. "We're still working to fulfill our hitting potential and hope to take the lead in more games as the season progresses."

The Yellow Jackets edged visiting Irvington 5-3 on April 4. Nathan Krapf tossed 4.2 innings and struck out eight in what Cecere called a "dominant performance, utilizing a fastball and a slider." Jackson Acree closed out the game for the save.

Corbo sparked the Hastings offense, going three for three with three RBIs. Johnny Sbrega (two runs), Julius Stephens (hit, run), and Acree (two hits) also contributed.

For Irvington, Edwards (3 for 4, double, triple), Chalsen (two hits, double), Ben Eple (RBI), and Navy Minkoff (two RBIs) led the offense.

Behind a complete game one-hitter from Acree, Hastings bested visiting Ardsley 9-2 on April 8. Acree struck out eight Ardsley batters. "He worked a fastball, slider, change-up combination to keep the Ardsley batters off balance," Cecere said of Acree,

who also drove in two runs.

Andrew Rizzo went two for five with a double, two runs scored, two RBIs, and four stolen bases for Hastings. Kieran McGrath had a double, two runs scored, and three walks. Corbo had one hit, two RBIs, and walked twice.

Ardsley was led by Colin Berry, who pitched 3.2 innings while allowing no earned runs and striking out six. Nate Moskowitz drove in a run and scored a run.

The Panthers lost to visiting Byram Hills 11-5 on April 4. Steven Degree drove in two runs. Will Liu pitched a scoreless inning and struck out two.

Ardsley (1-2) was scheduled to face host Sleepy Hollow on April 10. It then travels to Valhalla on April 12 and hosts Bronxville on April 14.

Hastings (2-3) was edged by host Scarsdale 7-6 on April 9. Drew Ciszewski pitched five innings, allowing two hits and striking out three. Rizzo (two doubles, run), Corbo (two RBIs), Acree (double, RBI), Avi Rothstein (RBI), and Aidan Curtis (double, RBI) led the offense.

The Jackets were scheduled to travel to Bronxville on April 10 and head to Pawling on April 14.

Irvington pulls away from Eastchester to improve to 3-0

Boys' lacrosse roundup

BY ROB DIANTONIO

With a one-goal lead heading into the fourth quarter, Irvington knew it needed to turn up the intensity to earn a win over visiting Eastchester on April 8.

The Bulldogs did just that, scoring five unanswered goals to defeat the visiting Eagles 10-4.

"The team just came together to finish the game out," said Nick Grados, a junior captain. "We relied on our experienced players to get the job done. Our defense also played outstanding in the second half. A win is a win and we'll build off it."

Grados finished with two goals and two assists. Alex Zinman, a junior captain, had one goal, six assists, and scooped up 22 ground balls.

Bowie Frank (one assist) scored all three of his goals in the second quarter to help Irvington out to a 5-3 halftime lead. Eastchester scored one goal in the third quarter while Irvington was held scoreless.

D.J. Ufer had two goals and one assist. Saxon Frank and Grant Malakoff scored one goal apiece. Harrison Malakoff made seven saves in net.

Irvington improved to 3-0 with the win. Grados said the key to the unbeaten start has been the team's "bond with one another."

"This bond motivates our team to play with grit and not let each other down," Gra-



Irvington's Bowie Frank follows through on a shot against Eastchester. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

dos added. "I'm honored to be a part of it."

The Bulldogs have an extended break as they do not return to action until April 21 when they travel to Sleepy Hollow.

Ardasley cruises past Hastings

Ardasley defeated host Hastings 13-3 on April 3.

Shahz Naqvi and Noah Laglenne led the Panthers with three goals and one assist each. Liam Gallante had one goal and dished out four assists. Brodi Kessler and

Robbie Miele had two goals and one assist apiece.

Also contributing to the win were Tristen Roberts (one goal, one assist), Tyler DeCosta (two assists), Shane Speckman (two assists), Mason Slater (one goal), and Dylan Stricker (one assist).

"This year's group is very coachable," Ardsley coach Brendan Curran said. "They're eager to improve and want to put the best Ardsley team possible on the field every day."

The Panthers lost to host North Salem

14-1 on April 5.

Curran said the Panthers, who have three seniors on the roster, are "emphasizing smart offensive possessions and fluid defensive rotation schemes" this season. The team has a goal of being more competitive against opponents they lost to last year.

Ardasley (1-2) was scheduled to host Dobbs Ferry on April 10, then welcome Rye Neck on April 12.

Hastings (0-3) was scheduled to host Cardinal Spellman on April 10. The Jack-ets then take on visiting Yonkers on April 12.

Dobbs splits a pair of games

Jake Broccoli and Jackson Kearns scored four goals apiece to lead Dobbs Ferry past host Rye Neck 17-6 on April 4. Broccoli had three assists while Kearns had two assists.

Ryan Mohl tallied three goals and one assist. Killian O'Connor scored two goals and won 13 of 17 face-offs. Kevin Hartnett scooped up nine ground balls. Jake Malinowski and Hudson Bayer scored their first varsity goals.

The Eagles fell to visiting New Rochelle 14-8 on April 7. Broccoli (three goals, two assists), Kearns (two goals, one assist), Dylan Ravage (one goal), Mohl (one goal), Malinowski (one goal), O'Connor (16 of 22 face-offs, eight ground balls), and Hartnett (six ground balls) led the team.

Dobbs (2-2) returns to the field when it travels to Arlington on April 12.

Smith strikes gold in the 100-meter and 200-meter at Rye Neck

Track and field roundup

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Blink and you just might miss him.

Dobbs Ferry senior sprinter Jayden Smith had a big winter season and has picked up where he left off this spring. Smith won the 100-meter dash (11.34) and 200-meter dash (22.88) at the Panther Palooza at Rye Neck High School on April 5.

Smith also teamed up with Evan Schwartz, Chase Coyler, and Seamus Fitzpatrick to place second in the sprint medley relay in 4:05.71.

Etien Dega hurled the discus 94-5 to finish second. Schwartz finished fourth in the 400 meters in 52.88 seconds. Fitzpatrick was seventh in the 1,600 meters (4:57.17). Pedro Nunez placed sixth in the 110-meter hurdles (24.87) and was eighth in the shot put (31-4).

For the Dobbs Ferry girls, Nola Brown placed sixth in the 100-meter dash (14.06). Mariah Loran was sixth in the 200-meter dash (28.75). Chloe Runge placed seventh in both the discus (68-6) and shot put (23-10).

The sprint medley relay team of Brown, Loran, Tessa Hunt, and Angela Crowe finished second in 5:03.42.

Hastings' girls' team also had a strong day at the Panther Palooza. Caitlin Thomas won the 1,500 meters in a clocking of 4:44.82. She also teamed up with Georgia Schmit,



Dobbs Ferry senior Jayden Smith won the 100- and 200-meter dash at the Panther Palooza at Rye Neck. Photo by Gregory Kaplowitz.

Hazel Kuniholm, and Claire Grushko to win the distance medley relay in 13:55.77.

Danae Morgan continued to thrive in the throwing events, winning the shot put (34-6 1/2) and placing third in the discus (82-2). Schmit placed fifth in the 400 meters (1:05.96). Sage Wrzesinski was seventh in the 800 meters (2:35.86).

For Hastings' boys, Kai Ghalib was fifth

in the 200-meter dash (24.40). Sebastian Vanderwerf took eighth in the discus (77-3).

Irvington competed at Scarsdale's season-opening meet and posted some notable results on April 6. For the Bulldogs' girls, Ruthie Liang won the 400 meters (1:02.37), with teammate Cavan Reilly close behind in third (1:05.98). Jessica Nierman placed second in the discus (74-5) and shot put (30-3). Lili-ana Brandwein was third in the 1,500 meters in 5:14.76. Lily Korb placed fourth (5:20.65).

In the 4x400-meter relay, Irvington finished second in 4:45.72. Korb, Brandwein, Julianna Flamm, and Alexandra Lyashenko made up the relay.

Leading the Irvington boys was Matt Jacoby, who won the high jump with a leap of 5-6. Teammate Jaden Jarrett was fourth (5-4).

Shaleen Thaker took second in the triple jump (37-6 3/4). Luke Calabrese ran to second in the 800 meters (2:08.74) with Haidan Wiles fourth (2:11.03). Aaron Schwartz was third in the 110-meter hurdles (19.34). Sam Andrade was third in the long jump (18-9 1/2), with Tane Kim in fourth (18-4 1/2). Ryder Spino placed fourth in the discus (84-11) and sixth in the shot put (30-1 1/4). In the 1,600 meters, Anish Joshi (4:30.20) and Ethan Gartlan (4:32.57) placed fifth and sixth, respectively.

Ardasley participated at the first annual Lions Den Invitational at Anne M. Dorner Middle School in Ossining, also on April 5.

For the boys, Sean Tierney had a big day in the throwing events with two wins. He heaved the shot put 40-11 to place first and launched the discus 127-8 to take gold again.

Zaire Bell sprinted to first in the 200-meter dash (23.69), with Ahmady Dolcine right behind in second (23.85). Ryan Erfani finished second in the 3,200 meters (10:37.10). Peyton Francis was third in the 400-meters (55.23), with teammate Andrew Herceg in fifth (55.93). Vyas Mishra took third in the 110-meter hurdles (20.52). Suraj Patel was second in the 400-meter hurdles (1:07.26). Tim Madappatt took third (1:12.05). Ardsley won the 4x100-meter relay (45.97).

For the girls, Mioko Martin won the long jump with a leap of 15-10. Gabrielle An won the high jump (5-0), with teammates Ananya Shukla (4-8) and Maya Laglenne (4-6) taking second and third, respectively. Czarina Adewunmi took second in the triple jump (31-5 1/2).

The Panthers won the 4x100-meter relay in 52.92 seconds. They were second in the 4x400 (5:01.59). Claudia Strum was second in the 400-meter hurdles (1:17.36). Serina Tomioka took third in the 800 meters (2:40.99). Czarina Adewunmi was fourth in the 100-meter dash (13.82). Alessandra Finnerty-Vidal was fourth in the 3,000 (11:50.54). Eve Bradford was fourth in the shot put (22-6).

Bulldogs rebound from loss with victory over Panthers

Girls' lacrosse roundup

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Coming off a loss to an athletic Harrison team, the Irvington girls' lacrosse squad needed to bounce back in its next game against Ardsley on April 7. The Bulldogs did just that, using a big first half where they scored 10 goals to defeat the visiting Panthers 15-6.

Sadie McRae led Irvington with six goals and one assist. Aly Raimondo had three goals, one assist, and eight draw controls. Isi Doncov and Alexis Canfin tallied two goals and two assists each. Ella Weiss and Ryan Cherry scored one goal each. Tessa McRae, Petra Rancic, Federica Ricciardella, and Lillian Isom had one assist apiece. Mia Cantillana and Sadie Kilbury each made three saves.

Irvington took a 6-1 lead after just one quarter behind two goals apiece from Sadie McRae and Raimondo, and a goal each from Canfin and Doncov. The Bulldogs extended their lead to 10-3 at halftime.

"We knew we wanted to come out strong and put on a tight press defensively," Irvington coach Pat DiBenedetto said. "We were running the ball. We got it into our attack end and let things unfold with plays to get the ball moving around. That was our game plan, to put some high pressure on with the attack."

Ardsley played a more competitive second half, scoring three goals to Irvington's five.

"They really came together," Ardsley coach Scott Miele said of the second-half effort. "They believed in themselves, which is very important with our team. We're a young team. We have three ninth-graders who are starting most of our games. They're playing with a lot more confidence."

It was a 12-5 Irvington lead after three quarters. McRae wrapped around and scored her sixth goal of the game to start the fourth quarter.

"Sadie's a strong presence up there and makes other teams adjust to her," DiBenedetto said.



Irvington's Aly Raimondo heads up the field as Ardsley's Lyla Vega keeps pace. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

"And that opens up things for other players."

Lily Tiernan answered for Ardsley, but Raimondo and Canfin scored the final two goals to close the game for the Bulldogs.

Juliette An led Ardsley with three goals. Tiernan, Lyla Vega, and Mairead Gowran scored one goal each. Tiernan also had two assists. Helene Dillon added an assist. Vega corralled six draw controls while Gowran gathered five draws. Sienna Kay was strong in net, making 10 saves. Miele said he is happy to see the Panthers are "starting to play as a team defensively."

Irvington lost to host Harrison 12-6 on April 4. Tessa McRae and Doncov each scored twice. Raimondo (one assist) and Peyton Clinton scored a goal each. Sadie McRae had three assists. Kilbury made five saves.

DiBenedetto said the Bulldogs learned from the Harrison game that they have to "open up their communication" and it was something they worked on against Ardsley.

"They're really athletic and made our girls work hard," DiBenedetto said. "But it was awesome playing a team like Harrison. They have a few girls who are committed. Our big thing coming into this game [against Ardsley] was to work on the little things and try to hone in on those. In the long term that's going to help us against teams like Harrison and the bigger schools."

Irvington (3-1) was scheduled to host Edgemont on April 10 and then travel to White Plains on April 12.

Ardsley lost to visiting Valhalla 9-7 on April 4. An paced the Panthers with three goals and two assists. Vega, Tiernan, Krista Kelly, and Hazel McGourty (six ground balls) scored one goal apiece. Dillon had an assist. Kay made four saves in net.

The Panthers, who dropped to 1-4 with the loss to Irvington, were scheduled to travel to Tuckahoe on April 10. Miele said the team needs to improve on clearing the ball. He said that "less mistakes will happen" if they get the

ball out of their sticks.

"I think we're definitely improving," Miele said. "Every single game has gotten better and better for us. Now it's just bringing it all together to make it be a complete game."

Dobbs Ferry has 2-1 week

Dobbs Ferry picked up wins over Rye Neck and Tuckahoe but fell to Blind Brook in the past week.

Hope McCormack scored seven goals and had seven draw controls in a 22-10 victory over host Rye Neck on April 3.

Also contributing to the win were Molly O'Brien (two goals, one assist, seven draws), Hollen Peet (three goals, four draws), Mary O'Dea (three goals, two assists), Ella O'Connor (three goals, two assists), Megan Hartnett (one goal, two assists), Juliet Curanovic (three goals), and Eleni Georgioudakis (seven saves).

The Eagles were on the road again the next day but lost to Blind Brook 14-6. McCormack had two goals. O'Brien, Peet, O'Dea, and Curanovic scored one goal each. Georgioudakis had a busy day in net with 19 saves.

Dobbs rebounded with a 15-3 rout of visiting Tuckahoe on April 8. O'Brien (two assists, five draws) and O'Dea (one assist, three caused turnovers) scored four goals apiece. Hartnett had two goals and two assists. McCormack scored twice and had four draw controls. O'Connor added one goal and three assists. Peet and Curanovic each scored a goal. Georgioudakis made eight saves.

Dobbs (3-1) was scheduled to travel to Arlington on April 10.

Hastings drops two

Hastings lost a pair of road games to Pelham (16-2, April 4) and Edgemont (17-7, April 8).

The Yellow Jackets (2-2) were scheduled to host Haldane on April 10 and welcome Rye Neck on April 12.

Kannapin drives in 100th run as Dobbs Ferry edges North Salem

Softball roundup

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Maysin Kannapin has been a staple in Dobbs Ferry's lineup for the past five years.

On April 3, the senior drove in the 100th run of her career in a 9-8 win over visiting North Salem. Kannapin finished with two hits, including a double and three RBIs.

"I'm so grateful to have reached this milestone today," Kannapin said. "I couldn't have done it without the help from my teammates."

Kannapin was selected to the all-state team and was league MVP as a junior. She is also committed to Walters State in Tennessee.

"Maysin is the definition of an elite player, excelling in every facet of the game," Dobbs Ferry coach Kim Reznicek said. "Every time she steps up to the plate, there's a palpable sense that something big is about to happen."

Gianna Stone (3 for 3), Kamryn Addis (3 for 4, double, RBI), Madison Piacentino (2 for 3, triple, RBI), Riley Sullivan (two hits),

Abby Dann (RBI), Alexa Vicchio (RBI), and Nicolette Giorgio (RBI) contributed to the win. Victoria Baron got the win on the mound, striking out six batters.

Dobbs (3-1) returns to the field when it hosts Tuckahoe on April 11.

Haber leads Ardsley to three wins

Ardsley rebounded from a season-opening loss to Eastchester with three wins over host Walter Panas (11-4, April 3), host Pelham (12-0, April 5), and visiting John Jay-Cross River (7-2, April 9).

Junior Sofia Haber had a big week. She struck out 11 over five innings and allowed just one earned run against Panas. Haber also went three for three, socked a home run, and had two double and three RBIs. In the win over Pelham, Haber tossed a two-hitter over five innings and struck out 11. She struck out 12 against John Jay while allowing no earned runs and two hits. At the plate, Haber drove in a run and scored a run.

Against Panas, seventh-grader Mia King had her first varsity hits, going 3 for 4 with two doubles. Morgan Doherty had two hits, including a home run and two RBIs.

In the win over Pelham, King (3 for 4, two RBIs, two runs), Tessa Guernah (2 for 4, two doubles, two RBIs, two runs), Noemi Ippolito (two hits, three RBIs), and Sofia Ramirez (two hits, double, two runs) led the offense.

Against John Jay, Haley Albano went three for four with a double and two RBIs. Bella Feldman was two for four with a double and one RBI.

Ardsley (3-1) was scheduled to welcome Saunders on April 11.

Hastings edges Westlake

Hastings improved to 3-0 with a 10-9 win over visiting Westlake on April 9.

Lexie Schur (2 for 3, double, three RBIs), Sophia Pereira (two doubles, two RBIs), Hazel Sabella (RBI), and Lola Norlander (RBI) spearheaded the offense.

Siri Rosenberg earned the win, tossing a complete game with nine strikeouts.

The Yellow Jackets were scheduled to host Briarcliff on April 10, then travel to Putnam Valley on April 14.

Irvington splits with Briarcliff, Valhalla

Irvington picked up its first win of the season, defeating visiting Briarcliff in a 17-14 slugfest on April 8.

Kayla Clinton went three for five with a home run and had four RBIs. Nia Kilbury pitched a complete game for the win. She struck out five and went three for five at the plate with three RBIs. Alex Barth had a hit and drove in two runs. Anya Patel had a triple. Chloe Swift played strong defense with five putouts at third base.

The Bulldogs lost to host Valhalla 8-3 on April 4.

Irvington (1-2) returns to the diamond when it hosts Haldane on April 12.

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