A new chapter with
HI The Hudson Independent



On the horizon
New theater company launches first season
p 7

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RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

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ARDSLEY — DOBBS FERRY — HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON — IRVINGTON — SLEEPY HOLLOW — TARRYTOWN

Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow launch partners

EDGE-ON-HUDSON
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Relax. Renew. Revitalize.



SLEEPY HOLLOW

Light on their feet

Members of Bokandeye African American Dance Theater perform during the Sleepy Hollow Cultural Festival at Kingsland Point Park on Saturday, Sept. 19. Hosted by the Village of Sleepy Hollow, the event also featured acts representing China, Ecuador, India, Mexico, Peru, Spain, and the Dominican Republic.

$50M makeover coming to part of Route 9

Changes to start in Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown

BY LAURA SCHILLER

REGION "Despite the tens of thousands of roundabouts in operation around the world, there are only a few hundred in the United States," according to the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) website, which states modern roundabouts can improve safety, traffic flow, and capacity compared with conventional intersections.

On Route 9, roundabouts are planned for four Sleepy Hollow intersections: Pierson Avenue/Gordon Avenue, Pocantico Street, Bedford Road/New Broadway, and Beekman Avenue.

The roundabouts are part of a $50 million plan for 1.3 miles of Route 9 — locally known as Broadway — in Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown. The plan also calls for two new traffic signals, a 10-foot-wide shared-use path for bicyclists and pedestrians, more sidewalks, improved crosswalks, curb extensions, and

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Real talk about breast cancer
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"You're basically helping your neighbors."

Captain Lucas Isola of the Irvington Volunteer Ambulance Corps
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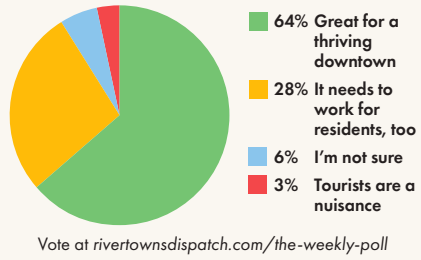


Hastings wins inaugural cup
p 24

The Poll

How do you feel about tourism in the Rivertowns?

As answered by 165 readers of the Rivertowns Dispatch



Vote at *rivertownsdispatch.com/the-weekly-poll*



The Blotter

ARDSLEY

Wanted no more: A 33-year-old Newton, N.J., resident surrendered to the Ardsley Police Department on Sept. 14 in response to a warrant issued on Aug. 27, after he missed an appearance in Ardsley Village Court. The appearance was for his arrest for driving while intoxicated on Nov. 8, 2025.

Theft from market: An unidentified male stole food from the Ardsley Market, 645 Saw Mill River Road (Route 9A), on the afternoon of Sept. 16.

Scam attempt: On Sept. 19, an Ardsley resident reported an attempt to scam her out of $37,480 after she called a phone number that popped up on her computer screen along with an alert about a Trojan horse virus.

DOBBS FERRY

Suspended registration: A 61-year-old New York City resident was arrested for a suspended vehicle registration, a misdemeanor, on Cedar Street on the evening of Sept. 14. Officer Jairo Hidalgo made the arrest.

Petit larceny arrest: A 19-year-old homeless man was arrested for stealing $300 from a handbag a business at 145 Palisade St. on the afternoon of Sept. 15. He was apprehended at the Dobbs Ferry train station and charged with petit larceny, a misdemeanor. Officer Michael Marron made the arrest.

Theft from tip jar: A 15-year-old was arrested for stealing money from a tip jar at Scaperrotta's Deli, 14 Main St., on the afternoon of Sept. 16. He was charged with petit larceny, a misdemeanor. Officer Brad Scala made the arrest.

Theft from Ulta: An unidentified woman shoplifted $1,727 worth of items from the Ulta Beauty at Rivertowns Square on the afternoon of Sept. 16. The theft was reported on Sept. 17.

Thefts from vehicles: Unlocked vehicles were entered on Bradley Street, Haynes Avenue, Highland Avenue, Hilldale Road, King Street, Lefurgy Avenue, Luzern Road, Lyman Place, Meadow Way, Ogden Avenue, Shady Lane, Temple Road, and Virginia Avenue before sunrise on Sept. 20. Security cameras recorded an unidentified man on Bradley, Haynes, and Hilldale. Cash, credit cards, debit cards, and driver's licenses were stolen.

HASTINGS

Dine and dash: An unidentified man and woman left Maud's Tavern, 149 Southside Ave., without paying a $121 bill on the evening of Sept. 14.

Theft of bicycle: An unsecured bicycle was stolen from along the west side of Saw Mill River Road (Route 9A), between Ravensdale Road and Farragut Avenue, on the afternoon of Sept. 16.

Suspended registration: A 20-year-old North Plainfield, N.J., resident was arrested for a suspended vehicle registration, a misdemeanor, and cited for improper license plates, a violation, on Broadway (Route 9) on the morning of Sept. 17. Officer Wuilber Maldonado made the arrest.

Mischief to truck: The passenger side of a 2023 Dodge Ram parked on the Warburton Avenue Bridge was scratched on the morning of Sept. 17.

Suspended license and registration: A 35-year-old Yonkers resident was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree and for a suspended vehicle registration, both misdemeanors, on Farragut Avenue on the afternoon of Sept. 17. He was also cited for tinted windows, a violation. Officer Wuilber Maldonado made the arrest.

Suspended license and registration: A 24-year-old Yonkers resident was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree and for a suspended vehicle registration, both misdemeanors, on Broadway on the afternoon of Sept. 18. Officer Wuilber Maldonado made the arrest.

Suspended license: A 28-year-old Philadelphia resident was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree, a misdemeanor, on Farragut Avenue on the evening of Sept. 19. He was also cited for crossing the double yellow line, a violation. Officer Ed Fattorini made the arrest.

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Rivertowns Dispatch

PUBLISHER Allison Schulte
allison@rivertownsdispatch.com

EDITOR Tim Lamorte
tim@rivertownsdispatch.com

SPORTS EDITOR Rob DiAntonio
rob@rivertownsdispatch.com

STAFF WRITERS
Julian Michael Caldwell
julian@rivertownsdispatch.com
Amy Bochner
amy@rivertownsdispatch.com
Laura Schiller
laura@rivertownsdispatch.com

CONTRIBUTORS
Timothy Reuter
timothy@rivertownsdispatch.com
Barrett Seaman

LISTINGS EDITOR Jennifer Gold
jennifer@rivertownsdispatch.com

COPY EDITOR Lauren Casper

DESIGN & PRODUCTION Christy Knell

SALES/PARTNERSHIPS
Trinity Godfrey
trinity@rivertownsdispatch.com

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Questions, comments, feedback:
hello@rivertownsdispatch.com
(914) 230-0739

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Walter Montgomery
The Hudson Independent



ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS

Lawler vs. Conley contest seesaws toward Election Day

BY BARRETT SEAMAN





Left: Pete Buttigieg and Cait Conley at the Tarrytown Music Hall. Right: Screenshot of Mike Lawler at the midterm convention in Dallas.

REGION With President Donald Trump's approval ratings mired in the 30–40 percent range, about a dozen Republican candidates running in "purple" districts that could go either way in November chose not to attend Trump's midterm convention in Dallas, Texas, from Sept. 9–10.

Not so Mike Lawler, despite running against Democrat Cait Conley in what is described as one of the closest House races in the country — one in which Lawler has avoided being drawn into the MAGA culture war that is unpopular with Democrats and independents in the Hudson Valley. Lawler went to Dallas and took to the podium as one of the key speakers on the convention's second night.

"The truth is the President and I don't always agree," Lawler said. As he did at his rally with Trump in Suffern in May, Lawler recounted a meeting in which he told the President he would not vote for the Working Families Tax Bill unless the cap on state and local taxes (SALT) was lifted. In a passable imitation of Trump's Queens accent, Lawler quoted the President as calling him "a pain in the ass," but agreeing to raise the cap from $10,000 to $40,000 and awarding Lawler the sobriquet "Mr. SALT."

By casting himself as Trump's earnest adversary, Lawler set the stage for his real message to the MAGA conventioneers and their followers: If he's going to keep New York's 17th District in Republican hands, he has to keep his distance from the movement's harshest rhetoric and from Trump. Noting that Democrats outnumber Republicans in his district by some 80,000, he said, "My message tonight is really aimed at common-sense Democrats and Independents across the country tuning in and still undecided about their vote in November."

How that strategy plays out with undecided voters remains to be seen, but it became obvious less than a week later — when Conley, an army combat veteran, appeared before a foot-stomping, slogan-chanting, placard-toting crowd at the Tarrytown Music Hall — that there are voters not buying Lawler's story.

Attendees were lined up from the theater entrance on Main Street to Central Avenue 45 minutes before the Conley rally was scheduled to begin. The event featured former U.S. Transportation Secretary and 2020 Democratic primary contender Pete Buttigieg. Warm-up speakers included County Executive Ken Jenkins and State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

The 900-plus attendees needed no prompting as they ran through a repertoire of partisan slogans: "This is what Democracy Looks Like," "Lawler Lies," "Flip the House," and "Cait, Cait, Cait." The din reached a crescendo when the candidate took the podium, thanking the audience for "showing up for democracy" and for choosing "to get into the arena and fight for it."

The West Point grad and ex-airborne ranger used a line of attack that largely adheres to the Democratic Party's centrist agenda, stressing the affordability crisis, political corruption, cuts to social programs, fiscal mismanagement, and the Iran war — all capped with examples of Lawler's complicity with policies that are "ruining the country."

"It's getting harder and harder for working families to make ends meet," she declared, "and easier and easier for billionaires — and now trillionaires — to buy their next yacht. The rich get richer while the rest of us scrape by. And I have to tell you, that's not the America that I fought for."

Healthcare was high on her target list. While Big Pharma and the insurance companies jack up rates in New York by 50%, she said, 37,000 residents in the district had their insurance coverage "ripped away." Lawler supported those cuts, and all of Trump's tariffs, which are adding to inflation.

Conley promised to rein in data center construction, like the ones Lawler has supported in Rockland County. To tame corruption, she promised to push for a ban on insider trading and expand term limits.

"I was in an airborne unit," she recounted from her Army days. "That's where you take soldiers, put them in a perfectly good airplane, and make them jump out of it. The rule in airborne is that the most senior paratrooper is the first one out of the plane — the first jump," she stressed, "because courage is contagious."

Though he is not a candidate for office this cycle, Buttigieg put his oratorical skills to work on a receptive crowd. He defined the target audience: "Democrats, independents, and what I call future former Republicans who are just as fed up as the rest of us." Ticking off the GOP policies and abuses, he conceded that "This is a 50–50 district, but these are not 50–50 issues."

How close NY-17 adheres to its 50–50 reputation will be tested in the remaining weeks. One mid-summer poll by a right-leaning PAC gave Lawler a 50–45 edge, while a poll by the Democrats' House Majority PAC gave Conley a 51–45 lead. Two upcoming televised debates — Sept. 28 on News 12 and Oct. 14 on PIX 11 — could settle that score, but so could several other factors, not least of all the behavior of Donald J. Trump.

Ambulance corps offer volunteers a way to serve

BY LAURA SCHILLER

REGION When an ambulance call comes in, a volunteer responding to it might be eating dinner with the kids, working from home, watching a show, or sleeping.

A few minutes later, they could be treating someone having a medical emergency, helping an injured person after a crash, or transporting a neighbor to the hospital.

Across the Rivertowns, local ambulance corps respond to thousands of calls each year.

"The service that we provide is much more a community service than what you see on television," said Lucas Isola, captain of the Irvington Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Isola first joined in 2003 as an Irvington High School junior. He left for school and his career, then returned to the area with his family and rejoined in 2023.

"The service is really fulfilling," he said. "You're basically helping your neighbors."

For Jill Swanson, captain of the Tarrytown Volunteering Ambulance Corps, volunteering is a family tradition. Her mother was a member and her daughter Hallie is now on board, too.

Swanson, who joined in 2012 and became captain in 2019, said most calls are not dramatic emergencies.

"Most calls are just general illness — people aren't sure what's wrong, so they get checked out," she said. About 65% of Tarrytown's calls come from people 65 and older.

"Sometimes it's more serious, like a cardiac issue or dehydration," she said.

Nisha Nambiar, captain of the Ardsley-Secor Volunteer Ambulance Corps, said that even an ordinary call can be significant for the person on the other end.





Tarrytown Captain Jill Swanson and her daughter Hallie

"When you go on a call, the patient there, it's probably their worst day. And you are able to make a difference for them," she said.

—

The need for volunteers

The villages' corps vary in size and structure, but all face the same challenge: having enough people available when calls come in.

Irvington has 57 volunteers, supplemented by per-diem staff; Tarrytown has

Continued on page 27

‘Demystifying’ workshops aim to clarify confusion about Medicare

BY AMY BOCHNER

HASTINGS The fall 2026 “Demystifying Medicare” series will kickoff on Sep. 27 with the Hastings Public Library hosting a free workshop on the complicated federal program. The same workshop will be held at the Gerald Byrne Center at Veteran Park in Ardsley on Oct. 7.

Julie Woodward of Croton-on-Hudson will lead the workshops, along with 18 others across Westchester County through Nov. 14. Since her retirement in 2012, the former teacher and encyclopedia editor has volunteered with Senior Benefits Information Counseling (SBIC) to help residents navigate Medicare. She also volunteers with AARP’s tax aid program.

SBIC founded the “Demystifying Medicare” series more than 20 years ago, with Woodward, now 79, offering her first workshop in 2014. For the past five years, the program has been a three-way collaboration involving SBIC, the Westchester Library System, and the county Department of Senior Programs and Services.

Due to the complicated nature of Medicare, the workshop is 3 hours and 50 minutes long. The program will be from 1:15–4:30 p.m. in Hastings and from 5:30–8:45 p.m. in Ardsley. To register, call (914) 478-3307 for Hastings or (914) 989-1823 for Ardsley.

“Some of these people are coming from very difficult professions,” Woodward said of attendees. “They’re lawyers, they’re doctors who retire and don’t have a health plan… I was in one town where, of the five that came that day, four of them were lawyers. They don’t understand because nobody understands this stuff.”

The program is updated every year based on new legislation, such as the recent measures taken by President Trump’s administration that changed the restrictions on brokers. Previously, the government required a 48-hour waiting period between signing a consent form (called a Scope of Appointment) and talking to a broker about specific plan details. As of Oct. 1, this mandatory waiting period is being eliminated. Woodward explained that this is problematic because “it doesn’t give people time to think or to explore other [options].”

Brokers can only sell the insurance they are certified to sell, she said. There are multiple types of insurance within Medicare, including Medigaps, which are private supplements to the original Medicare, and the Advantage plans, which are all-in-one private insurance alternatives. Brokers also receive commissions when they sell a plan, with Medicare Advantage earning the most.

Going to a broker, Woodward said, does not guarantee “that you’re getting the full picture,” which is where SBIC comes in.

“We fill that gap because we’re not on commission; we don’t get paid, and we are also allowed to talk about everything… because some people benefit in one way and some people benefit in another type of insurance.”

The program begins with a 25-minute overview of the history of Medicare, which was established in 1965.

> “Every time they added something in the new tax laws, that’s when the complication deepened.”
>
> Julie Woodward, volunteer for Senior Benefits Information Counseling

“Not everything that we have now in Medicare was there from the very beginning,” she explained. “Every time they added something in the new tax laws, that’s when the complication deepened [and] deepened.”

Woodward follows this background information with a 45-minute game about the parts of Medicare: A refers to hospital insurance, B is medical insurance, C is Medicare Advantage, and D is drug coverage. In this game, the attendees are asked which part of Medicare they believe certain drugs or treatments are covered by.

“That game is fun because people come with the wrong impressions, and we joke around a lot,” Woodward said. “We’re going to make a lot of mistakes trying to figure these things out… We get very loose and just laugh at ourselves, how little we know.”

The rest of Woodward’s presentation covers the two basic structures of Medicare, plan finders, costs, enrollment, and cost-saving programs. She also maintains a “leftovers” document, which offers additional information that can be found at *seniors.westchesterlibraries.org/demystifyingmedicare/*, along with an audio version of her program.

Woodward recommends pairing her workshop with a one-on-one meeting with a counselor who can “do very individualized pinpointing.”

“The best combo is to go see my program first and then go over [to a counselor] and narrow it down to what you need,” she said.

SBIC offers individual counseling on Medicare, with walk-in hours from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Their locations can be found at *seniors.westchesterlibraries.org/senior-benefits/*.



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ARDSLEY

ASVAC Open House & Blood Drive
Sunday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. 19 American Legion Drive.
—
Perler Bead Makerspace for Ages 7–11
Monday, Sept. 28, 4 p.m. Ardsley Public Library. Register: *ardsleypubliclibrary.org*.
—
Board of Trustees Work Session
Monday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m. Village Hall. Agenda available at *ardsleyvillage.gov*.
—
Diaper Drive
Through Monday, Sept. 28. Ardsley Public Library. Drop off wipes, pull-ups, and diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, 6.
—
School Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m. High school library. Link to the livestream available at *ardsleyschools.org*.
—
Rivertown Parents: Neurodiversity and Belonging
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m. Hillside Elementary School, 120 Lefurgy Ave., Hastings. Register at *RivertownParents.com*.
—
Seed Collecting Workshop
Thursday, Oct. 1, 6:30 p.m. Ardsley Public Library
Register by emailing *peggym@ardsleylibrary.org*

Latino Heritage Celebration

Ardsley's second annual Latino Heritage Celebration will bring a World Cup theme to Pascone Park next Saturday, Oct. 3, from 1–3 p.m. If it rains, then the event will be held at the community center at 18 Center St.

The event coincides with Hispanic Heritage Month, but the organizers chose to use the word "Latino" to be more inclusive of Brazilian and Portuguese families.

Village residents Jeannette Mateo and Raynelda Mejia lead a subcommittee for the event through Ardsley's Multicultural, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, which is co-chaired by Mona Swanson and Demetria Jones.

Mateo told the Dispatch this weekend's event is "completely different" from last year's. She described the theme as a "continuation of celebrating the World Cup" and the "unifying communal efforts across different cultures."

Soccer, she continued, is an important element to many Latino communities and countries. On Saturday, there will be a lesson for all ages, taught by former Ardsley High School varsity soccer captain Thomas Figueiredo-Cardoso. A 30-minute slot will also be dedicated to Zumba, taught by instructor Mayra Mira. Mateo said that the inclusion of this style of dance was inspired by Shakira's performance during the World Cup's halftime show.

The Latino Heritage Celebration will feature educational resources about Hispanic Heritage Month. Children can also paint and make bracelets at an arts and crafts section. A food truck will be onsite, while speakers will play Latino or Latin-influenced music.

"It'll just be a cultural celebration of and recognition of Hispanic contributions to our community," Mateo said. She also expressed pride in the Ardsley community's commitment to celebrating diversity.

GoFundMe for Ardsley family

An Ardsley family is raising money for their medical, travel, and other expenses related to a serious car accident on Jackson Avenue on Sep. 5.

Lourdes Morocho, 40, and two of her daughters, Denise Arcentales, 16, and Joana Romero, 5, were in the car, which was involved in a collision with another vehicle. To rescue Morocho and her daughters, emergency responders cut open their car. Morocho suffered leg injuries that required reconstructive surgery at Westchester Medical Center.

A single mother raising four children, the youngest of which is Joana, Morocho works as a housecleaner and relied on her car, which was totaled in the crash, to get to jobs. The fundraiser, which aims to raise $11,000, is being run by Carlos Arcentales, the father of Denise. For more information, visit *gofund.me/7efd2a74f*.

— Amy Bochner

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS

Free event offers real talk about breast cancer

BY AMY BOCHNER

For Breast Cancer Awareness month, Ardsley residents Alexandra and June Archer want to reduce fears around the disease and increase access to care through their "Real Talk: A White Coats Off Series" starting Oct. 6.

The married couple founded the Archer Foundation in 2022, which seeks to educate communities on matters related to medicine and music. Some of the organization's efforts synthesize these two fields, while others focus on one, like the upcoming "Real Talk" event.

Alexandra Archer is a physician's assistant who has worked in the health industry for more than 30 years. June Archer, who has a background in the music and entertainment industry, is a TV personality, an author, and a motivational teacher.

As a physician's assistant, Alexandra Archer has always seen "a need for the community to get health information outside of [a medical] setting," she told the Dispatch. This led the couple to plan "Real Talk" to foster dialogue between healthcare professionals and the communities they serve. The first installment in this series is centered on breast cancer, with future ones yet to be announced.

"We wanted to take it out of the sterile office setting and bring it into the community where people are more comfortable, where we're all more relaxed, and we could just be ourselves, but offer our knowledge," she said.

The Oct. 6 event will take place at Hudson Prime Steakhouse in Irvington. There will be a welcome reception at 5:30 p.m., with hors d'oeuvres provided by the restaurant, followed by a panel discussion featuring experts in the field and a live audience Q&A session. The panelists are Dr. Christine Pellegrino (Westchester Medical Center), Dr. Preya Ananthakrishnan (White Plains Hospital), Dr. Quincey LaPlant (Memorial Sloan Kettering), Jodi Selzer (White Plains Hospital), and Elish McGrath (Cancer Support Team).



June and Alexandra Archer

The panel will cover the "A to Z" of breast cancer, according to Alexandra Archer, including benign breast conditions, breast cancer treatments, and opportunities in the community to get support, whether financial, emotional, or physical.

The free program concludes with dedicated time for networking, allowing community members to meet and talk with experts.

A raffle, to raise funds for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, will include two tickets to the 2027 Wine and Food Festival donated by Westchester Magazine.

Archer hopes attendees "walk away with a better understanding of breast health, of breast cancer, [and] reduced fear."

"I have a lot of patients that come in because they're so concerned that they've developed an acute breast pain," she said. "I can reassure them in that first visit, but the fear leading up to that appointment is [what] we're hoping to tamp down."

The program seeks to provide quality information to attendees, who may be hearing "secondhand what the experience should look like," Archer continued.

"Whether it's benign or it's cancerous, breast cancer these days does not kill as many people as it used to," she said. "There's so many treatments, so many things that we can do to really help patients through it."

To register, visit *eventbrite.com/e/real-talk-a-white-coats-off-series-tickets-1999709167952*



Art in progress

—

Maya Kamaeva helps paint a mural on a shipping container used for storage at Pascone Park on Monday, Sept. 21. Kamaeva and Karolina Piorko (not pictured) were hired by the Village of Ardsley to create the mural for $3,000. Kamaeva is a video game designer, while Piorko is an architectural designer.

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DOBBS FERRY

Ferry Con
Saturday, Sept. 26, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Dobbs Ferry Public Library.
—
Children's Book Nook
Saturday, Sept. 26, and Sunday, Sept. 27, 1–4 p.m. Keeper's House, 15 Walnut St. Explore a special selection of books and interactive displays.
—
Invasive Species Clearing
Sunday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.–noon. Juhring Preserve. To sign up, visit *eventbrite.com* and search for Dobbs Ferry Conservation Advisory Board.
—
Wickers Creek Market: Antiques and Vintage Goods
Sunday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Waterfront Park.
—
Romance Book Club
Monday, Sept. 28, 6 p.m. Dobbs Ferry Public Library. Discuss "The Heartbreak Hotel" by Ellen O'Clover.
—
School Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m. Middle/high school library.
—
Rivertown Parents: Neurodiversity and Belonging
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m. Hillside Elementary School, 120 Lefurgy Ave., Hastings.
—
Planning/Architectural Review Board Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 1, 7 p.m. Village Hall.



The Brass Monkeys will perform on Oct. 2.

New Orleans dance party

For the latest edition of the HudCo Presents music series at Hudson River Landing on Palisade Street, New York City-based band Brass Monkeys is bringing their New Orleans-inspired sound to Dobbs Ferry on Friday, Oct. 2. Brass Monkeys are a six-piece band with trumpet, sousaphone, saxophone, two trombones, and drums, that blends New Orleans brass with funk and pop for a high-energy show that's meant to get audiences dancing.

The upcoming show is themed as a "New Orleans Dance Party" with DJ Freesoul Johnson spinning an hour of funk music after Brass Monkey's set, and chef Eric Korn providing a New Orleans menu sourced from his restaurant, The Farm at Cabbage Hill, which is in Mount Kisco. The bar will feature Clink with Colleen's specially crafted New Orleans cocktails and mocktails. Other local vendors in the HudCo atrium will include Via Viaggio, Widow's Peak Kitchen, Hi There Gifts, Sage Cacao, Popsarap Popcorn, and Jes Elizabeth Jewelry.

Tickets are $20 for HudCo members and $35 for the general public. To purchase tickets, visit the calendar page at hudco.co.

Hudson Family Dental relocates

Dentist Jacqueline Paramo, who has lived in Dobbs Ferry for 30 years, has relocated her Hudson Family Dental practice to Rivertowns Square. On Friday, Sept. 18, New York State Assemblymember Mary-Jane Shimsky and County Legislator David Imamura joined Paramo for a ribbon-cutting celebrating the grand opening of the new location at 41 Hamilton Street.

For 25 years Paramo had an office at the intersection of Broadway and Fairlawn Avenue in Dobbs Ferry. Paramo also owns a second Hudson Family Dental located in Jersey City, N.J.

— Julian Michael Caldwell

Got news?
Email staff writer Julian Michael Caldwell at *julian@rivertownsdispatch.com*

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS



Georgia DeFalco and John de Guzmán play Sally and Snoopy during a performance of "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" in June.

New theater company launches first season

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

After a debut performance of "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" in Tarrytown in June, Dobbs Ferry-based Good Company Performing Arts is recruiting child and adult actors for its first season as an all-ages nonprofit theater organization.

Good Company was founded by musician and actor Amy Lynn Hamlin of Dobbs Ferry and actor Dan Spitzer of Irvington (formerly of Dobbs Ferry). The company is developing a spring season of shows that will include a production of "School of Rock," for grades 5–12, as well as at least one adult production.

"There are so many kids and adults in the Rivertowns and beyond that have such incredible talent and creativity, and we're also right next to New York City and Broadway, but there isn't necessarily one year-round place connecting all of those things," Hamlin told the Dispatch. "I want Good Company to be that bridge — professional artists working with local kids and adults, high-quality productions, mentorship, and a real sense of community."

Good Company soft-launched with a pair of performances of the 1967 musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," featuring a cast of 10 adult actors, at the Shames JCC in Tarrytown. The production marked the first time Spitzer, who is also an attorney, had acted in 15 years.

Hamlin directed a Dobbs Ferry High School production of "Chicago" in 2023, and has had an extensive career as a performer, recording artist, and teaching artist, including 10 seasons at Radio City Music Hall as a featured singer and as Mrs. Claus in the "Christmas Spectacular." Hamlin also acted in a European tour of "Grease," has performed at the Kennedy Center, and is the lead singer of the soul-rock band Amy Lynn & The Honey Men.

Good Company includes a Broadway Teaching Artist Series to connect children and adult students with professional artists working various roles in theater, who Hamlin has connected with throughout a career spanning two decades.

"What's exciting to me is bringing in artists who are actively doing this work," Hamlin explained, adding that she wants to expose students to professionals both onstage and behind the scenes. "Someone might be performing on Broadway one night and then coming to Dobbs Ferry to come on a Monday to work with the students the next day."

Good Company's first children's production will be the musical "School of Rock," in May, at a venue to be determined. The company plans to fill space for two casts, which will do separate performances of the same show. One group will rehearse on Tuesdays and the other on Thursdays at Zion Episcopal Church, beginning in February. Good Company has begun signing up participants. Capacity is 25 children per cast, and cost of enrollment is $945, which covers 13 rehearsals, in addition to tech week preparation before the May performance. Children in the cast also have the option of recording and taking a masterclass at Power Station recording studios in Manhattan, at an additional cost.

"I don't want parents to choose whether their kids do theater or sports," Hamlin explained. "So there's also a flexibility in my company where it's only one time a week, which is not going to sacrifice any of the incredible work that they're going to do."

Good Company's next event will be an inaugural Good Company benefit concert at the Irvington Theater on Nov. 7, which will feature performances from Broadway actors Alan H. Green, who has performed in the musicals "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "School of Rock"; Ross Lekites, who has been in "Frozen" and "The Heart of Rock and Roll"; and Laurel Harris, who has appeared in "Wicked" and "Jagged Little Pill." A selection of students in grades 5–10 from Ardsley, Hastings, and Dobbs Ferry will also perform. The event will raise money to support the Broadway Teaching Artist Series and Good Company's productions for students and adults.

"We're teaching acting, singing, and craft, and my music directors, who have worked on Broadway," Hamlin said. "We have high expectations for the work, but we're protecting [the children's] imagination and innocence and we're teaching them that it's a safe place to do something and fail and be vulnerable, and support the kids standing next to them to try again."

For more information about the Good Company's programs and costs, and to purchase tickets for the fall benefit show at Irvington Theater in November, visit *goodcompanypac.org*.

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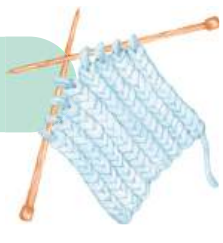
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HASTINGS

Farmers Market
Saturday, Sept. 26, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue.
hastingsfarmersmarket.org
—
Demystifying Medicare
Sunday, Sept. 27, 1:15–4:30 p.m. Hastings Public Library.
Register: *hastingslibrary.org*.
—
Senior Lunch & Learn: Memoirs
Monday, Sept. 28, 12:15 p.m. Harmon Community Center.
—
Library Giving Day
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Hastings Public Library. Free baked goods and drinks.
—
Senior Lunch & Learn: Medicare
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 12:15 p.m. Harmon Community Center.
—
Rivertown Parents: Neurodiversity and Belonging
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m. Hillside Elementary School.
—
Friday Night Live: Oktoberfest
Friday, Oct. 2, 6–9 p.m.; rain date Oct. 3. Main Street and Boulanger Plaza.
—
Salute to Service Parade & Fireworks
Friday, Oct. 2, 8 p.m.; rain date Oct. 3. Main Street to MacEachron Waterfront Park.

288 Farragut Avenue proposal

A proposed to replace the three buildings at 288 Farragut Avenue with three code-compliant ones was presented to the Hastings Board of Trustees during their Sept. 15 meeting,

Architect and planner Edward Weinstein spoke as a representative of 270 Partners, which owns the buildings. One of these partners, Andrew Foley, was also in attendance.

The Foley family owns "quite a bit of real estate in the village," Weinstein said. In addition to the project proposed at the meeting, the family is in the process of building three one-family homes adjacent to the Valero service station on Farragut Avenue.

The property at 288 Farragut Avenue is currently occupied by three buildings that are over 75 years old and in "fair condition" at best, Weinstein explained. One is a single story and home to the AmJo's Culinary Corner deli. The other buildings have two floors, with two apartments above a commercial space.

These buildings, according to Weinstein, are not fully compliant with ADA codes, green codes, or zoning regulations. The property is in a 2R zoning district that only permits two-family homes, and does not permit commercial use.

Weinstein stated that 270 Partners is seeking the board's "blessings" to move forward with a petition asking the Village to change the zoning to a neighborhood commercial overlay district. To enact change, the board would need to approve a zoning amendment.

Weinstein shared the designs presented to the planning board in 2024, which are "most certainly going to change." The general idea, which will remain consistent in an updated design, is that the ground floor would be commercial, with duplex apartments above. According to Weinstein, the owner of AmJo's has been consulted, and the intention is for the deli to return to one of the new buildings after construction is complete.

Weinstein believes the project would "provide a much-improved gateway to the village."

Mayor Tom Drake showed support for the idea.

"I think that area would definitely benefit from improvement," he said. "I know I've personally received many complaints from residents in the area about the current condition of it."

Weinstein said that he would consult with the village attorney on next steps.

— Amy Bochner

Got news?
Email staff writer Amy Bochner at
amy@rivertownsdispatch.com

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS



Firefighter Alan Golds turns from Main to Warburton during the Memorial Day Parade in 2025.

Parade to salute those who serve Hastings

BY AMY BOCHNER

After the Memorial Day Parade was cancelled this year due to inclement weather, Hastings Police Chief David Dosin reached out to Mayor Tom Drake and proposed the idea of another parade, one that would honor the village's heroes. This evolved into the "Salute to Service" parade, recognizing everyone who attends to the village, from ambulance drivers to the library board.

In an interview with the Dispatch, Drake described the upcoming celebration as a follow-up to the July 3 "Hastings-on-Hudson at 250 Years" event, at which volunteer groups were honored at the James Harmon Community Center.

"[We] wanted to build on that and really do a salute to service for those who serve our community, in addition to the veterans, our first responders, firefighters, our police officers, our EMS workers… [and] our sanitation workers," he said.

The Oct. 2 parade will follow the Friday Night Live Oktoberfest, which takes place from 6–8 p.m. on Main Street and Boulanger Plaza, both of which will be closed off for the evening. Between those hours, food and drink will be available for purchase from Bistro House, The Biergarten at Bread & Brine, Greenleaf Smoothie Bar, Maud's Tavern, Penny Lick Ice Cream, Pizza Grill, Slices, and more.

Stepping off at 8 p.m. from Main Street, the parade will proceed toward MacEachron Waterfront Park, with streets along the route closed to traffic. Because of the steep hill leading down to the waterfront, there will be a trolley to take people back up to the downtown or Zinsser Commuter Lot.

> "What better way to end that evening than with fireworks?"
>
> Mayor Tom Drake

Along with the people marching, the parade will feature a garbage truck, a front-end loader, and a truck from the parks and recreation department.

Adding music to the occasion, The Pipes and Drums of the Police Emerald Society of Westchester and the Dixie Dandies will perform.

Drake explained that the Village is doing "as much as we can to involve our emergency services and veterans in the parade." To that end, Hastings has enlisted the services of the Westchester County Sheriff's Office to close the intersections and shut down the roadways so that "our police department will be free to participate… and watch the fireworks," Drake said.

Drake encouraged retired police officers and firefighters to "come out and march with us." The invitation also extended to veterans who are not members of the American Legion or VFW.

At 8:45, the evening will conclude with the waterfront fireworks display that Drake said is wrapped into the yearlong celebration America 250, the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence signing.

This is the first time in recent memory, he explained, that the Village has put on a firework show, which will be launched from the BP Arco property.

"We're doing a nighttime parade," he said. "What better way to end that evening than with fireworks?"

Stop signs on tap for Main and Warburton

Hastings Village Manager Mary Beth Murphy presented the board of trustees with revised design drawings for pedestrian safety measures at the Main Street and Warburton Avenue intersection on Sept. 1.

The plan is for a three-way stop with signs that will have red flags above them and flashing yellow lights in the middle to draw attention. The existing traffic signal will be set to flash red, so both the light and stop signs will require cars to stop. The revision moves the stop bars, the lines indicating where cars must stop, forward to improve sight lines.

A hatched painted area will also be painted in the middle of Warburton Avenue to shift southbound traffic slightly to create room for buses turning from Main onto Warburton. The board asked Murphy to return to the engineers for clarification on bus turning radii, and to reexamine the placement of the stop bars. *— Amy Bochner*

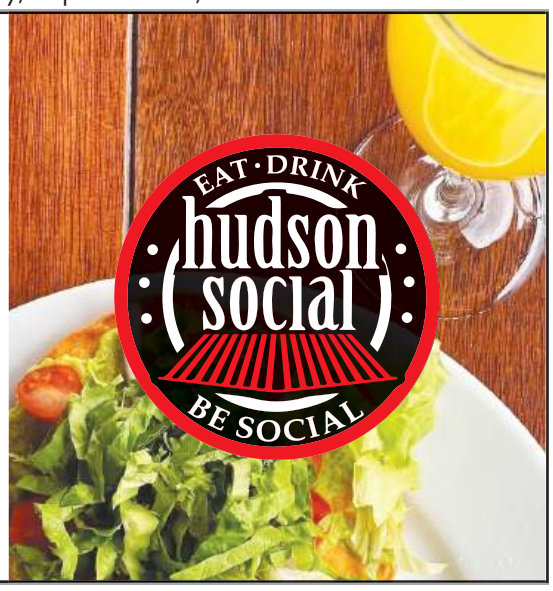
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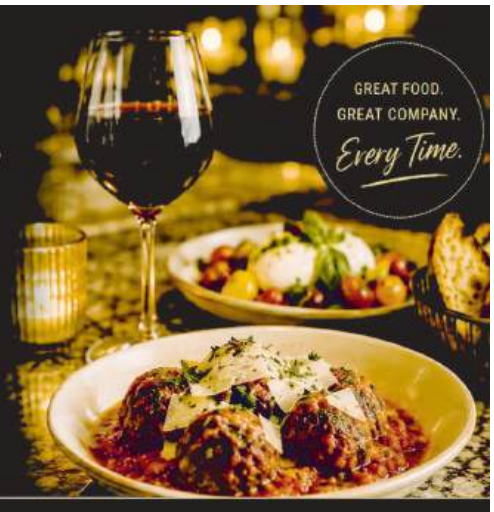


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Tooth be told

Dobbs Ferry's main street dental practice welcomes **oral surgeon Dr. Abend**—and she's answering the wisdom teeth questions that always *erupt*!

When do you actually need your wisdom teeth out?
Not everyone needs them out. What I look for is space and position—when there isn't enough, the tooth gets stuck, presses on its neighbor, and becomes a trap for food and bacteria. Those come out, and sooner is better because younger patients heal faster, with fewer complications. But a wisdom tooth that came in straight and stays clean? That's just a extra molar. You keep it.

What is the coolest thing about wisdom teeth that people don't know?
If a teen has a failing molar tooth, under the right conditions, we may be able to do a procedure called an auto-transplantation, where we replace the failing tooth with a wisdom tooth. This is the the only tooth replacement option thats actually *alive*.

What is your favorite question that a patient has asked you?
I've been asked by hundreds of patients—is it helpful to drinks gallons of pineapple juice prior to tooth removal? **Short answer**: Kind of. The *Bromelain* enzyme in the juice can help with swelling but you would need to drink about 200 cans. Pineapple juice is also quite sugary, acidic and may be harsh on a fresh wound—instead, I tell patients: consider Bromelain supplements which are taken short-term for about a week. Many will find capsules much much more manageable than drinking tons of juice!



Dr. Julia Abend
DDS | Parlor Dental



IRVINGTON

Bulldog Art Auction
Closes on Saturday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m. Place bids at *bulldoggallery.org*.
—
Farmers Market
Sunday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Main Street School, 101 Main St. *irvingtonfarmersmarket.org*
—
Conservation Presentation & Guided Walk
Sunday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. O'Hara Nature Center. *irvingtongreen.org/events*.
—
Architectural Review Board Meeting
Monday, Sept. 28, 8 p.m. Village Hall.
—
Diaper Drive
Through Sept. 28. Irvington Public Library. Drop off wipes, pull-ups, and diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, 6.
—
Stories and Crafts for Ages 4–6
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 4 p.m. Irvington Public Library. Register: *irvingtonlibrary.org*.
—
Rivertown Parents: Neurodiversity and Belonging
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m. Hillside Elementary School, 120 Lefurgy Ave., Hastings.
—
Halloween Movie for Ages 4+
Thursday, Oct. 1, 5:30 p.m. Irvington Public Library. Register: *irvingtonlibrary.org*.

Rocktoberfest canceled

The Village of Irvington has canceled the Rocktoberfest music festival at Matthiessen Park due to rain forecast for this Saturday, Sept. 26. The event was set to feature 13 acts spread across two stages, and was going to be the first Rocktoberfest since the installation of a new permanent stage at the park. There is no rain date, so the next Rocktoberfest will be in 2027.

Dogs welcome at Scenic Hudson

Dogs are now allowed at Scenic Hudson Park, where they were previously prohibited. On Sept. 14, the Village announced that dogs are permitted only on the pathways, on a leash that is a maximum 6 feet long. One person is allowed to walk no more than two dogs at a time, and all dogs must have a valid license and necessary vaccinations.

Dogs are not allowed near plants or trees in the park, on the basketball court or baseball fields, on the playgrounds, in the restrooms, or on the grounds of the Senior Center or 9/11 memorial. Fines are $25 for the first offense and $50 to $250 per repeat offense.

Trees for Taxter Road

During their meeting on Sept. 23, the Greenburgh Town Board authorized the Town to purchase 24 trees to replace those that were removed in August as part of the Town's flood mitigation drainage project along Taxter Road. The trees were removed in an effort to increase water flow and reduce flooding from water buildup.

The tree purchase and planting are expected to cost the Town $2,419, which will cover half the cost, while the New York Power Authority's Tree Power Program will cover the other half.

Mushrooms and forests program

The O'Hara Nature Center will host a program titled "Growing Mushrooms, Growing Forests" on Sunday, Oct. 25, from 10:30 a.m.–10:30 p.m., at 170 Mountain Road. Connor Youngerman of the Cornell Small Farms Program will teach participants about mushroom cultivation, native plant propagation, and forest stewardship. There will be lessons on backyard mushroom cultivation from 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m., followed by an air-pruning nursery workshop from 1–2:30 p.m. To sign up, visit *register.capturepoint.com/villageofirvington*.

— Julian Michael Caldwell

Got news?
Email staff writer Julian Michael Caldwell at *julian@rivertownsdispatch.com*

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS



Students and teachers at the garden this past June.

$3,500 grant fertilizes garden at Dows Lane

Students learn farm-to-table lessons

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Dows Lane Elementary School has received a $3,500 grant to support its garden, where students learn about plant growth and harvest the food they grow. Dows Lane was chosen among roughly 800 schools that applied for a Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grant from the Whole Foods Market Foundation. This summer, before earning the grant, the Irvington Education Foundation funded the reinstallation of the garden's irrigation system and restored the automatic sprinklers in the garden.

The grant is expected to go toward purchasing seeds, plant maintenance, and upkeep of the garden's vegetable beds. The funds will also support a soup harvest day on Oct. 14, during which students throughout the school will take turns in shifts to harvest vegetables, wash them, and use them to make soup. This past spring the school had a similar harvest day with lettuce, which they used for salad. Meg Tubman is the Dows Lane PTSA garden coordinator, and has been involved with the garden since 2016, when her son was an elementary school student.

"Planting a seed, waiting, seeing it eventually grow is inspiring awe and wonder in a way that I don't know where else it can be replicated," Tubman told the Dispatch.

During the last school year, students participated in a 12-week afterschool garden club on Tuesdays and Thursdays. During school hours, Alissa Campbell leads a third-grade garden club. Students often also read about plant growth and visit the garden with librarian Gina Samaniego during school.

"I think that in this day and age when there is so much the kids are doing on screen, to have use of this space and these activities is really important," Tubman said. "I think it's just an incredible resource that the district has."

GILT to honor open space heroes

The Greater Irvington Land Trust (GILT) will celebrate its 2026 community grant awardees with an event called "Open Space Heroes" at the O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road, on Sunday, Oct. 4, from 3–5 p.m. GILT's community grant program distributes up to $10,000 each year to fund projects that support the preservation of open space and promote environmental sustainability in Irvington and surrounding villages.

This year's awardees, which were announced in May, were: O'Hara Nature Center director ***C.J. Reilly*** and ***Changing Forest students***; Dobbs Ferry resident ***Daniel Werges***; Dobbs Ferry High School student ***Joseph Benedetto*** and the ***Dobbs Ferry Conservation Board***; ***Larry Katzenstein*** and ***Sustainable Dobbs***; and ***Suzy Allman*** of Tarrytown. During the event, all five awardees will make brief presentations about their projects.

Reilly and the Changing Forest students were awarded $1,885 to expand the O'Hara Nature Center's native tree nursery by installing an 8-foot-high deer fence with a gated entry point. Werges and the Knoll Neighborhood Group were awarded $700 to purchase and plant a red oak tree at the corner of Ashford Avenue and Shady Lane in Dobbs Ferry, with a sign that explains the benefits of trees and open space. For his Eagle Scout project, Benedetto was awarded $1,700 to restore a pollinator garden at the Juhring Preserve in Dobbs Ferry. Katzenstein and Sustainable Dobbs were awarded $1,800 to plant a mini-forest project at Chauncey Park in Dobbs Ferry. Allman was awarded $650 to plant a native garden next to the Tarrytown Lakes. Most of the projects have been completed, with the exception of the mini-forest at Chauncey Park, which will be planted in the spring.

The free event will feature a performance by bluegrass band Lily of the Valley. There will also be free apples, donuts, and cider.

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–Janis

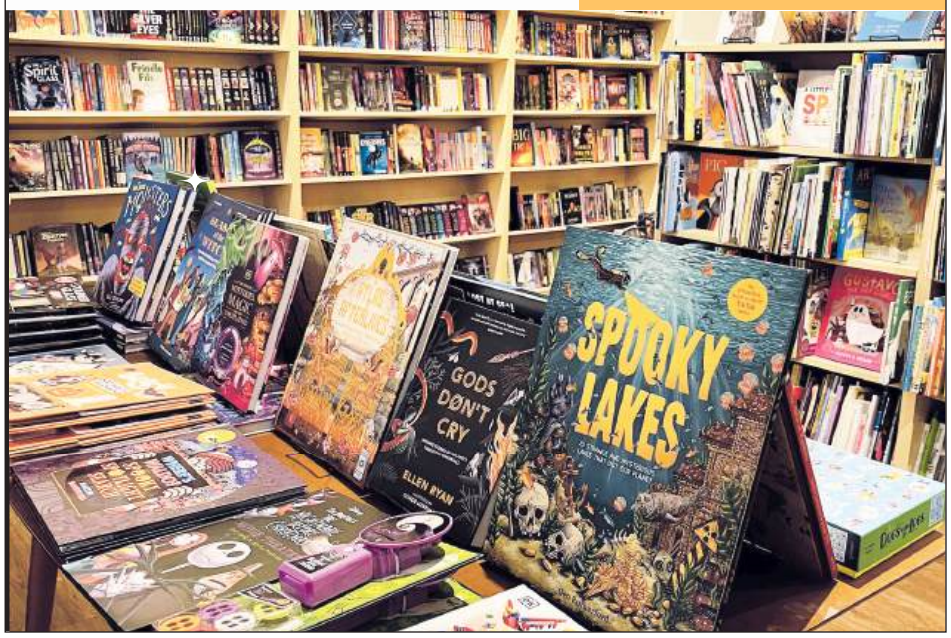


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SLEEPY HOLLOW

TaSH Farmers Market
Saturday, Sept. 26, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Patriots Park. For details, visit *tashfarmersmarket.org* and follow the market on Facebook.
—

Bake-Off Writing Workshop
Saturday, Sept. 26, 10:30 a.m.–noon. Warner Library. Register at *warnerlibrary.org*.
—

Mad Scientist Workshop for Ages 5–12
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 4 p.m. Warner Library. Register by emailing *warnerjuvprograms@gmail.com*.
—

Matinee Movie: "Storm Center"
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2 p.m. Warner Library.
—

Music Festival
Saturday, Oct. 3, noon–8 p.m. Kingsland Point Park.

Music Festival returns, more Sleepy Hollow-y

Following two years of rocking Kingsland Point Park in June, the Sleepy Hollow Music Festival is embracing more of its Sleepy Hollowness.

For starters, the festival has moved from the summer to the spooky season, taking place Saturday, Oct. 3, from 11 a.m.–8 p.m. The festival will also feature the Headless Horseman, though not as a musical act.

On the music side, there will be a mix of '90s alternative and classic rock. Everclear, known for hits including "Santa Monica" and "I Will Buy You a New Life," will headline the main stage. The Smithereens, more than 40 years into their career, will perform with guest vocalist Marshall Crenshaw.

"Sleepy Hollow is the perfect place to be this time of year. When we were called to play the festival I almost 'lost my head,'" Dennis Diken, the Smithereens' drummer, told the Dispatch.

Also in the lineup are Fastball, best known for "The Way"; Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Sophie B. Hawkins, whose hits include "Damn, I Wish I Was Your Lover"; and New York-based SoulShine: An Allman Brothers Experience.

The festival will also feature performances by Anthony Giaccio and the Assortments, Rachel Ana Dobken, Imposters, The Altogether, and Briarcliff School of Rock.

The day will bring plenty of Halloween-themed activities, including elements of the Sleepy Hollow Haunted Hayride, pumpkin-carving demonstrations, a childrens' costume parade, and performances by the Witches along the Hudson. A Halloween Village and about 30 Halloween-themed vendors will round out the festivities.

"Sleepy Hollow in October is already legendary — we're just adding a soundtrack," said festival co-director Liz Goodyear.

The festival will offer food trucks, local beer, and regional spirits. Food options will include Brothers Fish & Chips, Cousins Maine Lobster, Get Smashed, Jimmy's Soft Serve, and Walter's Hot Dogs.

Families will find an expanded Kids Zone, with a Junior Jam Tent and Instrument Petting Zoo from Briarcliff School of Rock, a toddler area, sensory play, and inflatables.

The park is within walking distance of the Tarrytown and Philipse Manor Metro-North stations. Free shuttles will run from Tarrytown station and the East Parcel Lot. Drivers can also park at the Tarrytown station and the East Parcel Lot.

General admission is $65 in advance, $75 the day of. Children 12 and under are free, with up to two admitted per ticket-holding adult. Buy tickets at *sleepyhollowmusicfestival.com*. — *Laura Schiller*

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS



Sleepy Hollow Cinema team members Sean P. Marks (volunteer), Jim Floyd (volunteer), Craig Zarider (board member), Alison Cullen (volunteer), Cindy Rodriguez (board member), Giselle Schuetz (board member), and Marc Solomon (board member).

Cinema nonprofit continues search for home

BY LAURA SCHILLER

Lights out. Cue the music, the slayings, and the gore. But not every night would be about horror. There might be an '80s classic, a Disney movie, or an action flick. Of course, there would be popcorn. Oh, and a wine bar.

That was the vision for Sleepy Hollow Cinema, a nonprofit formed in 2025 that hoped to bring movies back to the Strand Theater on Beekman Avenue.

For a time, the plan appeared to be taking shape. Sleepy Hollow Cinema and Lou Gruber, principal of Sleepy Hollow Long Table LLC, which owns the former theater, discussed the possibility of the Cinema becoming an anchor tenant at the arts and culture center planned for the Strand.

The Strand redevelopment received $1.5 million in New York Forward funding. Sleepy Hollow Cinema commissioned an architectural feasibility study, and raised $200,000 toward a $950,000 capital campaign.

Negotiations between the two sides did not, however, yield an agreement.

In a Sept. 14 email to the organization's supporters, Sleepy Hollow Cinema founder Marc Solomon outlined the reasons the deal would not proceed. The parties were unable to agree on terms regarding a security deposit, selection of the architect, conditions for terminating the lease, and handling public statements about the deal.

Gruber told the Dispatch he was "profoundly sad and disappointed" the Cinema would not be the Strand's anchor tenant. Both sides worked hard to reach "an agreement that made sense for the viability and sustainability of the project," he said.

"We're bummed because I think the village is bummed," Solomon told the Dispatch. "There's something romantic about bringing movies back to an old theater."

The Strand has a long history with movies, dating to its opening as the Pollock Theatre in 1915. Its last movie screenings were in the 1970s.

Despite the setback, Sleepy Hollow Cinema is moving ahead with programming this fall and plans to find a permanent home.

The nonprofit is presenting a range of programs in October, including family movies, mainstream horror films, and screenings connected to Sleepy Hollow. Titles include "Sleepy Hollow," "A Nightmare on Elm Street," "The Addams Family," and "Trick 'r Treat".

The month will also include the nonprofit's inaugural Fright Fest, a student horror film festival that drew more than 100 shorts from high school and college students around the country. The festival will take place Oct. 10, from 5–10 p.m., at Sleepy Hollow High School, with Golden Horseman awards presented for the jury's favorites.

"Tickets are free for anybody who wants to come see the next generation of filmmakers. We're also going to have a special category for Sleepy Hollow High School students," Solomon said. Submissions for SHHS students will be accepted through Oct. 1 and should be emailed to *lita@sleepyhollowcinema.org*.

The Cinema also hopes to work with the school district to incorporate filmmaking into the school year and give students the opportunity to create films for next year's festival.

The $200,000 raised during the Cinema's capital campaign will remain dedicated to creating a permanent movie theater in Sleepy Hollow, according to Solomon. Programming is being funded separately. The nonprofit is looking to acquire and develop a property, although it would consider a long-term lease.

"We have enough people that believe in us and believe in our mission that we're going to get this done," Solomon said.

Film will be part of the Strand's future, according to Gruber. The former single-screen theater will be a multipurpose venue for films, performances, exhibitions, cultural and private events, and a community workspace. Plans also call for local artists to teach classes and rent studio space, along with a café or similar street-front establishment.

"I'll continue to support the Cinema however I am able, and am confident that they'll find a permanent home soon," Gruber said. "In the meantime, the Cinema will always be welcome at the Strand to host film screenings or any other programming."

Solomon remains optimistic about the nonprofit's future.

"I'm more excited right now for the future of the Cinema than I have been for months," he said. "And I'm usually pretty excited about it."

OCTOBER

A glimpse at the month ahead of events and activities in the Rivertowns

EDITED BY JENNIFER GOLD



MONDAY | TUESDAY

ONGOING

IR Octagon House Tours
The Armour-Stiner Octagon House, through Nov. 2.

TT Tour Washington Irving's Sunnyside
10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Continues through Nov. 8. hudsonvalley.org

TT Fall Classic Mansion Tours
11 a.m.–4 p.m. Lyndhurst, Through Nov. 1

SH "The Good, the Bad, and the Unusual!" Tour
7:30–9:30 p.m. Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Offered on Oct. 2–3 and 16, and 2–4 p.m. Oct. 18.

4

DF Outdoor Music: Slingshots
2–5 p.m., Hudson Social

SH Balourdet Quartet
3 p.m., SH High School

TT Blessing of the Animals
4 p.m., Christ Church San Marcos

SH Paint a Headless Horseman
11 a.m.–3 p.m., SH Cemetery

5



6

DF New Jokes on Tap
7:30–9:30 p.m., Hudson Social

TT Little Shop of Horrors Singalong
7 p.m., Music Hall

11

HA Hastings Flea
10 a.m.–4 p.m., Zinsser Lot

TT Mediums Daisy & Arlene
5 p.m., Shames JCC

SH Dracula
6:30 & 8:30 p.m., SH Cemetery

12

DF I Heart Pickles
10–11 a.m., Picture Book at HudCo



13

DF Trivia Night
7–9 p.m., Memorial Park

18

DF Wickers Creek Market
10 a.m.–4 p.m., Waterfront Park

SH Trio Azura
3 p.m., SH High School

TT Hocus Pocus Family Movie Screening & Fun Facts with Shannon Carlin
3 p.m., Shames JCC

19



20

25

IR Mushrooms & Forests Workshop
10:30 a.m., O'Hara Nature Center

SH Make-A-Wish Walk & Festival
9 a.m.–2 p.m., Kingsland Point Park

26

27

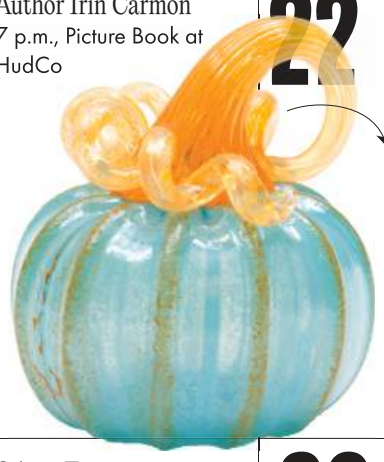
DF Program for Seniors
10 a.m., MorDance

DF Trivia Night
7–9 p.m., Memorial Park

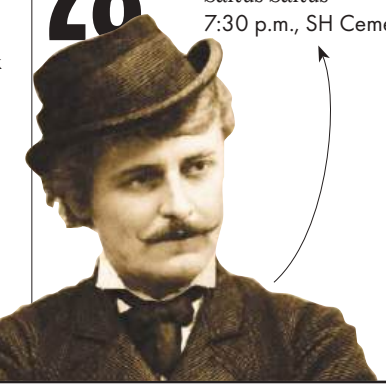
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Thurs 1 DF Outdoor Music: Train of Thought 6–9 p.m., Hudson Social DF Vocalist Kaya Nicole 7–9:30 p.m., Mirabella Cocina Latina TT The Creepshow 7 p.m., Makers Central. Through Nov. 1	**2** AR Food Truck Festival 5–9 p.m., Pascone Park DF Brass Monkeys: Dance Party 6–10 p.m., HudCo HA Friday Night Live: Oktoberfest 6–8 p.m., Main St. Rain date Oct. 3 SH Twilight Village 6:30–8 p.m., Philipsburg Manor. Through Oct. 31	**3** DF Ferry Festa 1–8 p.m., Main & Cedar Sts. Rain date Oct. 4 DF Homegrown Comedy Showcase 8 p.m., DF Public Library HA Rivertowns Repair Café 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Community Center HA Comedy Fundraiser for Women Together 7–9 p.m., Good Witch Coffee Bar SH Sleepy Hollow Music Festival 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Kingsland Point Park SH An Audience with Poe 3, 5, 7 p.m., Library at Historic Hudson Valley. Through Oct. 31
7 TT Live Talks NY: Barbara Kingsolver 8 p.m., Music Hall	**8** DF Ralph Lalama Organ Trio 7–9:30 p.m., Mirabella Cocina Latina IR Science-on-Hudson Lecture 7 p.m., Nevis Science Center TT Cracking the Serial Killer Code 7:30 p.m., Shames JCC	**9** SH David Neilsen: The Time Machine 7:15 & 9:15 p.m., SH Cemetery	**10** TT J.W. Ocker: Local Lore 7 p.m., Music Hall SH Fright Fest Film Festival 5 p.m., SH High School SH SUP Witches Festival Noon–5 p.m., Kingsland Point Park. Rain date Oct. 11 SH Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde 6:30 & 8:30 p.m., SH Cemetery
14 AR Fire Dept. Carnival Opens at 5 p.m. through Oct. 16, 2 p.m. Oct. 17–18, Pascone Park	**15** DF Andrew Swift Groove-tet 7–9:30 p.m., Mirabella Cocina Latina TT Masque of the Red Death 6–9 p.m., Lyndhurst. Through Oct. 30	**16** IR Lady in White 4 & 5:45 p.m., Octagon House. Through Nov. 1 TT Horror Film Series 5, 7:15, 9:15 p.m., The Lyceum. Weekends through Nov. 1 SH Block Party & Haunted Hayride 6:45–11:45 p.m., Beekman Ave. Also Oct. 17 SH Frankenstein 7:15 & 9:15 p.m., SH Cemetery	**17** TT Trick-or-Treat 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Lyndhurst. Also Oct. 18 TT Book Sale 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Warner Library. Also Oct. 18 TT Fall Fair 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Christ Church San Marcos
21 DF Author Irin Carmon 7 p.m., Picture Book at HudCo	**22** DF The Denners 7–9:30 p.m., Mirabella Cocina Latina TT Gardening Academy 10 a.m., Lyndhurst SH Glass Pumpkin Patch 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Kingsland Point Park. Through Nov. 1 SH Show & Tell: Eulogy 7 p.m., HV Writers Center	**23** AR Halloween-themed Movie 6:30 p.m., Pascone Park TT Gothic Market 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Lyndhurst. Through Oct. 25 TT Horror Film Series 5, 7:15, 9:15 p.m., The Lyceum. Weekends through Nov. 1 SH Food Truck Friday 5–9 p.m., RiverWalk	**24** DF Grave Rave: Halloween Ball 7:30–11 p.m., HudCo TT Halloween Parade & Block Party 5 p.m., Main Street TT Rocky Horror 9 p.m., Music Hall SH 10K Run 9:30–11 a.m., throughout the Village
28 SH Ode to Francis Saltus Saltus 7:30 p.m., SH Cemetery	**29** TT Macbeth 7 p.m., Makers Central. Through Nov. 1 TT Outdoor Movie: Sleepy Hollow Sunset, Tarrytown House Estate	**30** DF Downtown Trick or Treat Event 4–6 p.m. DF Halloween Dance Party 10 p.m., Hudson Social TT Horror Film Series 5, 7:15, 9:15 p.m., The Lyceum. Through Nov. 1 TT Stevie Nicks Tribute 7:30 p.m., Shames JCC TT The Mavericks 8 p.m., Music Hall. Also Oct. 31	**31** TT "Dark Shadows" Starts at 9 a.m., Lyndhurst TT Roam on Your Own 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Lyndhurst SH Halloween in the Hallow 11 a.m.–3 p.m., RiverWalk
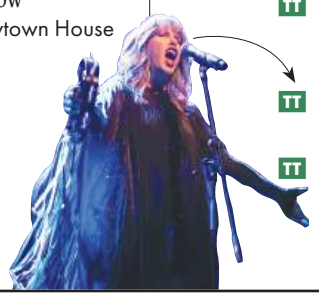


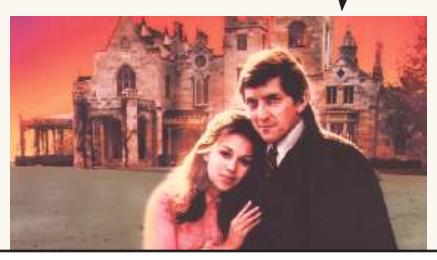












Submit events: *rivertownsdispatch.com/contact-us*

Rivertowns Dispatch

Thank You to Our Partners

The Rivertowns Dispatch launched in Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow thanks to our local partners. As our month of free delivery comes to an end and we shift to subscriber delivery, please join us in thanking the local businesses and organizations that support the Dispatch.

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UPSTREAMGALLERY

Thank you also to the following individuals who welcomed us to Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow, helped us learn about these communities, and connected us with the people and places that make them distinctive.

Founding Circle
Crystal Bave
Leah Bloom
Kate Bolger
Rodolphe Boulanger
Mayor Karen Brown
Kevin Brown
Gina Carey
Annie Cauthern
Matt Diament
Linda Eder
Adam Edelman
Dustin Glick
Lou Gruber
Kenny Herzog
Laurie Hirsch
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Fran Smith & David Yarnold
Chris Steib
Elizabeth Tucker
Daphne Uvilier
Elly Weisenberg

Hudson Independent Founders and Board Of Directors
Dean Gallea
Robert Kimmel
Walter Montgomery
Michael Richards
Paula Romanow Etzel
Barrett Seaman
Morey Storck
Linda Viertel



TARRYTOWN

TaSH Farmers Market
Saturday, Sept. 26, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Patriots Park. For details, visit *tashfarmersmarket.org* and follow the market on Facebook.
—

Bake-Off Writing Workshop
Saturday, Sept. 26, 10:30 a.m.–noon. Warner Library. Register at *warnerlibrary.org*.
—

Kayak to Nyack
Sunday, Sept. 27, 8 a.m. Losee Park Launch. Register at *tarrytownenvironmental.org*.
—

Planning Board Meeting
Monday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. Village Hall.
—

Matinee Movie: "Storm Center"
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2 p.m. Warner Library.
—

Board of Trustees Work Session
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 6 p.m. Village Hall.

Movie-Night Poll
Vote by Oct. 2 for the movie to be shown after Trunk or Treat on Oct. 16 in Pierson Park. Visit *tarrytownny.gov* for the link to the poll.

Rivertown Dance Academy celebrates 10 years

Rivertown Dance Academy is celebrating 10 years of making dance accessible to local families with Silver Fest, a party benefiting its financial aid program.

The event will take place Sunday, Sept. 27, from 5–8:30 p.m. at Silver Pro Music, 183 S. Central Ave., Hartsdale. The evening will feature performances by professional New York City dance groups and RDA's advanced repertory students, along with cocktails, Peruvian Latin fusion food, tarot readings, and a DJ dance party under the disco lights.

"This year, the night is very glitzy and glam, and we're really leaning into the party atmosphere," said RDA development manager Renée Kashuba. "It's really going to be a celebration of dance and the arts and community."

For the first time, the celebration will be held at Silver Pro Music, a recording studio with a black-box theater upstairs equipped with professional lighting and other theatrical touches. RDA's student performance will be choreographed by Charis Polycarpou, an RDA alum who trained at the academy from its beginning and has since returned as a teacher.

"So it's sort of a full-circle moment," Kashuba said.

The evening is designed to feel more like a party than a traditional fundraiser, Kashuba said, with most of the night spent socializing before a short, high-energy student performance. A brief paddle raise will be the evening's only direct fundraising appeal.

"And by some miracle, every year the community just comes together, pitches in, and reaffirms that they really believe that dance is for everyone and that finances should not determine students' ability to study, learn, perform, and grow," Kashuba said.

Since its founding, RDA has provided more than $300,000 in financial aid to local dancers. More than 300 dancers ages 18 months through adulthood now take weekly classes, and the academy has expanded its offerings to include inclusive dance programs for people with and without disabilities.

For the first time, Silver Fest will offer a kids' pizza party at Clubhouse Central, a private playspace next door, giving parents an affordable childcare option.

Tickets are $175 for general admission and $100 for those under 21. Childcare from 5–8:30 p.m. is $50 for the first child and $30 for each sibling.

Proceeds support RDA's financial aid fund and accessible dance education. Tickets are available at *rivertowndanceacademy.org/silverfest*.

— Laura Schiller

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS

Main zoning change opens door to apartments

Two units to be added as tavern owner plans to rebuild

BY LAURA SCHILLER

October 29 will mark two years since a four-alarm blaze at 27 Main Street forced the Tarry Tavern to close.

Firefighters were called to the scene around 4:30 a.m., after residents in the second-floor apartments discovered smoke. No one was injured, but the three-story building sustained extensive damage. The fire, started by a refrigeration compressor in the basement, was brought under control after about 3 hours and did not involve neighboring buildings.

Now, 27 Main Street, which has been boarded up, is at the center of a zoning change that allows residential apartments above restaurants in Tarrytown's Main Street Historic District.

The board of trustees approved the amendment Sept. 9 after a brief public hearing at which no members of the public commented.

For Henry Cabral, the owner of Tarry Tavern, the change clears the way for two additional apartments as part of his plans to rebuild.

In August 2025, the planning board considered plans by architect Matthew Cordone to rehabilitate the fire-damaged building, add a rear extension, and increase the number of apartments above the restaurant from two to four. The two additional apartments had required a use variance under the previous zoning because residential units above a restaurant were not a permitted use. Under the amended zoning, they are now permitted.

Cabral is a longtime Tarrytown restaurateur with deep experience, including at the Culinary Institute of America, Blue Hill at Stone Barns, Castle at Tarrytown, and Per Se in Manhattan, among others. For 28 years, Cabral's family also owned Caravela in Tarrytown, the first restaurant in Westchester to serve Portuguese food. It closed in 2013.

Cabral opened Tarry Tavern in 2010 after a yearlong renovation. He and his wife, Ana, later opened Eatarry Café next door, which they have continued operating since the fire.

"We still have Eatarry… thank goodness for that," Cabral told the Dispatch.

Cabral described Eatarry as a breakfast and lunch joint, while Tarry Tavern offered "a little bit more fine dining, although casual fine dining."

The zoning amendment addresses a gap in the village code. Some restaurants on Main Street already have apartments above them, but under the previous rules, those apartments were considered pre-existing, nonconforming uses. Although restaurants were permitted in the Main Street Historic District, the code's provision allowing "dwelling space above a permitted principal use" appeared in a separate section covering retail and personal-service establishments.

The amendment specifically allows dwelling space above restaurants and other food and beverage establishments, making those apartments a permitted use.

"I'm glad we were able to reconcile a bit of a quirk in the village code to help a beloved local business and the family behind that business get back on their feet," said Tarrytown Village Trustee Kenny Herzog. "Plus, being able to facilitate construction of even one additional unit of housing in our inner village without taking away from any existing open space is a win."

Mayor Karen Brown said the amendment was prompted in part by the Tarry Tavern rebuilding plans.

"There already are dwellings on top of restaurants," Brown said during the public hearing. "That is true, they exist, but those have been out of compliance, pre-existing, and nonconforming."

The planning board recommended the zoning change and determined July 22 that it would not have a significant environmental impact.

Cabral said he plans to return his blueprints to the planning board, with the goal of obtaining a building permit and beginning construction. He said the rebuilt structure will be designed to fit "the historic character of the neighborhood. We don't want to build a super-high modern building."

The apartments could be rented to help support the business or potentially provide housing for restaurant employees, Cabral said.

Cabral said he appreciates the Village's support since the fire and as he works toward rebuilding.

"It's going to be starting from scratch," he said. "But it will all be worth it at the end."

Playwright brings original production to Bethany Arts

BY LAURA SCHILLER

Tarrytown playwright Molly Canu is bringing her original play, "It'll Be Fine", to Bethany Arts Community in Ossining for its first fully staged production Sept. 25–27.

Canu, who owns the Fit Inn exercise studio in the village, wrote the play about a young couple whose lives are upended by the suicide of their childhood best friend as they prepare for their wedding. The 75-minute drama explores grief, love, and healing and is premiering in collaboration with Tres Brujas Productions.

"I was moved to write 'It'll Be Fine' to process some of the grief I had experienced as a young adult and to explore how



Molly Canu

it affects relationships and life's biggest decisions," Canu said. "As much as this is a story about two people navigating love, it is also very much a story about how difficult it is to love when you are weighed down by grief."

Canu hopes audiences will see something of themselves in the story and leave "believing that it will truly be fine."

Canu's work has been recognized with the London Independent Story Prize and performed at Bethany Arts Community, Elmwood Playhouse, and Maker's Central.

The production has other local connections including director Mark Cajigao of Hastings, who has worked in theater and film. The cast also brings together New York-area actors Robert Dumont, Hayley Gasbarro, John Gionis, and Gwendolyn Torrence.

Performances are Friday and Saturday, Sept. 25 and 26, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 27, at 4 and 7 p.m. Tickets are $25, or $20 for students and seniors. Audience discretion is advised because the play includes discussions of suicide. Recommended age is 18+.

Tickets are available at *bethanyarts.org*.

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Opinion

Aggression unsettled school board meeting

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the Sept. 18 article regarding the Sept. 9 Hastings Board of Education meeting, and to provide context from the perspective of a board member. During the meeting, an aggravated individual approached the board table, took the president's gavel, and threw it out of the room.

This was not simply a disagreement or a difficult exchange between a community member and an individual board member. It was an aggressive action directed toward the board table during a public meeting. For those of us seated there, the moment was unsettling and, frankly, frightening. We did not know what was going to happen next.

People have every right to disagree, question decisions, challenge policies, speak passionately during public comment, and hold us accountable. That is an essential part of public education and our democracy. But there must also be a line when conduct becomes threatening or physically aggressive.

Board members are not professional politicians. We are elected volunteers who live in the communities we serve and care deeply about our schools, students, and families. We give our time because we believe in public education and in serving our community. Accountability and disagreement must coexist with basic standards of safety, respect, and governance.

The rules governing a public meeting do not exist to silence people. They exist so everyone can participate and so meetings can proceed safely and fairly. That includes the public, district staff, and the elected board members sitting at the table. We deserve to feel safe while doing this work.

David Barone
HASTINGS SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

Schools should support educators

To the Editor:

I agree with Hastings School Board president David Weinstein that students should learn to think deeply about and discuss difficult issues in places where they are supported by trained and knowledgeable faculty and staff. It worries me that the unit about genocide was "paused" because of the vehement denial of what, as reported in your article and elsewhere, has widely been defined by prominent and trusted humanitarian organizations as a genocide in Gaza. We need to protect educators' freedom to teach about difficult topics, provided that they are thoroughly researched and handled with care. When we pressure educators to change curricula for fear of backlash, we decide that censorship is welcome in our communities. I urge our school administrators to support educators with strong anti-censorship policies and allow experts to do their jobs to the best of their abilities.

(For further reading about how even the fear of backlash can alter educators' and librarians' curricula and collection development: *americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/soft-censorships-pointy-edges/*)

Sierra Scott
TARRYTOWN

The Blotter

Continued from page 2

IRVINGTON

Theft of check: On Sept. 16, an Irvington couple reported that a $9,106.89 check mailed inside the Irvington Post Office on Sept. 7 was altered and deposited on Sept. 15. The name of the payee was changed.

TARRYTOWN

Theft from CVS: An unidentified man shoplifted $490 worth of items from CVS, 350 South Broadway (Route 9), on the afternoon of Sept. 14.

Theft of ATM: Two unidentified men stole an ATM from the Tarrytown House Estate, 49 East Sunnyside Lane, on the evening of Sept. 14. The same men then attempted to steal an ATM from the Sleepy Hollow Hotel, 455 South Broadway.

Cocaine arrest: The Greenburgh Drug and Alcohol Task Force arrested a man for cocaine possession on South Broadway on the evening of Sept. 16. He was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the seventh degree, a misdemeanor.

Alcohol violations: Six Tarrytown residents were issued summonses for open containers of alcohol — a 25-year-old man and a 24-year-old woman at Neperan Park on the evening of Sept. 17; a 24-year-old man and two 19-year-old men on Central Avenue on the morning of Sept. 18; and a 35-year-old woman at Sarah Michaels Park on the evening of Sept. 18.



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NEWS YOU CAN USE

Classies

MARKET.RIVERTOWNSDISPATCH.COM/CLASSIES

The Dispatch Classies are for person-to-person ads and notices to the community. Submissions are due by 12 p.m. Monday for that Friday's paper. To purchase a classified notice, go to *market.rivertownsdispatch.com/classies*

PUBLIC NOTICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #2026-PK FOR UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN (UPK) SERVICES 2027–2028

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, at 11:00 A.M.
PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN THE ABOVE DUE DATE AND TIME
Return to:
Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District
Attn: Maureen Caraballo, Business Official/District Treasurer
27 Farragut Avenue
Hastings-on-Hudson, New York 10706

—

PUBLIC HEARING - REMOVAL OF ZBA MEMBER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed removal of a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals – Monday, October 19, 2026 at 7PM in Village Hall.

Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Irvington, NY
September 15, 2026

—

PUBLIC NOTICE — BOND RESOLUTION A

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington (the "Village"), located in the County of Westchester, State of New York (the "State"), has on the 14th day of September, 2026, adopted, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, a bond resolution which:

(1) authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Village to finance (i) the acquisition of communications equipment ($116,000) and (ii) the acquisition, construction and reconstruction of HVAC improvements ($937,200), all in and for the Village, including any applicable equipment, machinery, apparatus, land or rights-in-land necessary therefor and any preliminary and incidental costs related thereto, and authorizes the issuance of $1,053,200 aggregate principal amount of serial bonds of the Village to finance such purposes, and

(2) states the estimated maximum total costs of such acquisition, construction and reconstruction to be not in excess of $1,053,200, states that such costs will be financed in whole or in part with the issuance of obligations authorized in the bond resolution and sets forth the plan of financing of such cost of such purposes, and

(3) determines the period of probable usefulness to be ten (10) years, and

(4) determines that the maximum maturity of such serial bonds will be in excess of five (5) years, and

(5) delegates to the Village Treasurer the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of such serial bonds and to authorize the issuance of, and the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the issuance of such serial bonds, including renewals thereof, and to issue, sell and deliver such serial bonds and such bond anticipation notes, and

(6) states that the validity of such serial bonds or any of such bond anticipation notes may be contested only if (a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose, or class of object or purpose, for which the Village is not authorized to expend money, or (b) the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of the publication of such bond resolution, or a summary thereof, were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication, or (c) if such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the State.

Such bond resolution is subject to a permissive referendum under the provisions of Article 9 of the Village Law and petitions protesting against such bond resolution and requesting that it be submitted to the electors of the Village for their approval or disapproval may be filed with the Village Clerk at any time within thirty (30) days after the date of the adoption of such bond resolution.

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington, New York.
Dated: September 16, 2026
KATIE BUGNA
Village Clerk
Village of Irvington, New York

—

PUBLIC NOTICE — BOND RESOLUTION B

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington (the "Village"), located in the County of Westchester, State of New York (the "State"), has on the 14th day of September, 2026, adopted, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, a bond resolution which:

(1) authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Village to finance the acquisition of machinery and apparatus for construction and maintenance, including preliminary and incidental costs related thereto, and authorizes the issuance of $891,000 aggregate principal amount of serial bonds of the Village to finance such purpose, and

(2) states the estimated maximum total costs of such acquisition to be not in excess of $983,892, states that such costs will be financed in whole or in part with the issuance of obligations authorized in the bond resolution and sets forth the plan of financing of such cost of such purpose, and

(3) determines the period of probable usefulness to be fifteen (15) years, and

(4) determines that the maximum maturity of such serial bonds will be in excess of five (5) years, and

(5) delegates to the Village Treasurer the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of such serial bonds and to authorize the issuance of, and the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the issuance of such serial bonds, including renewals thereof, and to issue, sell and deliver such serial bonds and such bond anticipation notes, and

(6) states that the validity of such serial bonds or any of such bond anticipation notes may be contested only if (a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose, or class of object or purpose, for which the Village is not authorized to expend money, or (b) the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of the publication of such bond resolution, or a summary thereof, were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication, or (c) if such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the State.

Such bond resolution is subject to a permissive referendum under the provisions of Article 9 of the Village Law and petitions protesting against such bond resolution and requesting that it be submitted to the electors of the Village for their approval or disapproval may be filed with the Village Clerk at any time within thirty (30) days after the date of the adoption of such bond resolution.

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington, New York.
Dated: September 16, 2026
KATIE BUGNA
Village Clerk
Village of Irvington, New York

—

PUBLIC NOTICE — BOND RESOLUTION C

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington (the "Village"), located in the County of Westchester, State of New York (the "State"), has on the 14th day of September, 2026, adopted, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, an amended and restated bond resolution which:

(1) authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Village to finance the acquisition of a fire-fighting vehicle, including any preliminary and incidental costs related thereto, and authorizes the issuance of $1,400,000 aggregate principal amount of serial bonds of the Village to finance such purpose, and

(2) states the estimated maximum total costs of such acquisition to be not in excess of $1,400,000, states that such costs will be financed in whole or in part with the issuance of obligations authorized in the bond resolution and sets forth the plan of financing of such cost of such purpose, and

(3) determines the period of probable usefulness to be twenty (20) years, and

(4) determines that the maximum maturity of such serial bonds will be in excess of five (5) years, and

(5) delegates to the Village Treasurer the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of such serial bonds and to authorize the issuance of, and the power to prescribe the terms, form and contents of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the issuance of such serial bonds, including renewals thereof, and to issue, sell and deliver such serial bonds and such bond anticipation notes, and

(6) states that the validity of such serial bonds or any of such bond anticipation notes may be contested only if (a) such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose, or class of object or purpose, for which the Village is not authorized to expend money, or (b) the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of the publication of such bond resolution, or a summary thereof, were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication, or (c) if such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the State.

Such amended and restated bond resolution is subject to a permissive referendum under the provisions of Article 9 of the Village Law and petitions protesting against such bond resolution and requesting that it be submitted to the electors of the Village for their approval or disapproval may be filed with the Village Clerk at any time within thirty (30) days after the date of the adoption of such bond resolution.

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington, New York.
Dated: September 16, 2026
KATIE BUGNA
Village Clerk
Village of Irvington, New York

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HAPPENINGS IN THE RIVERTOWNS

The Agenda

EDITED BY JENNIFER GOLD

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26

Classic Rock: Runaway Train
ARDSLEY
8:30 p.m. / No cover charge. Saw Mill Tavern, 925 Saw Mill River Road. Reservations encouraged. *smtavern.com*

Guided History Walk
DOBBS FERRY
9:30 a.m. / Free. Meet near the bleachers next to the Old Croton Aqueduct and Victory Hall at Mercy University, 555 Broadway. Learn how the Revolutionary War divided neighbors and families on a 4-mile loop. Reg. req. *aqueduct.org*

FerryCon
DOBBS FERRY
11 a.m.–5 p.m. / $5 per family suggested donation. Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St. The annual Comic Con-style event and fundraiser features activities for all ages revolving around comic books, graphic novels, and superheroes. *dobbsferrylibrary.org*

Pediatric Cancer Fundraiser
DOBBS FERRY
1–5 p.m. / $50 (includes food, a T-shirt, and raffle ticket). Doubleday's, 83 Main St. Cash bar in the beer garden for Sarah Elizabeth Black Memorial Halloween Benefit for the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Pediatrics Department. *instagram.com/doubledaysdobbsferry*

Children's Book Nook
DOBBS FERRY
1–4 p.m. / Free. Keeper's House, 15 Walnut St. Explore a special selection of books and interactive displays. Also on Sunday. *aqueduct.org*

Bake-Off Writing Workshop
TARRYTOWN
10:30 a.m.–noon / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. Writers are given a list of "ingredients" to incorporate into a play. Register at *warnerlibrary.org*

Vocalist Georgia Heers
TARRYTOWN
7 and 9 p.m. / $35, $30 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. *jazzforumarts.org*

Singer/Songwriter Josh Ritter
TARRYTOWN
8 p.m. / $46–$66. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. *tarrytownmusichall.org*

Guided History Walk
SLEEPY HOLLOW
1 p.m. / Free. Meet at ventilator #12 on the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail, south of the intersection of Gory Brook Road and Ridge Street (park on Gory Brook). 3-mile loop. Reg. req. *aqueduct.org*



"Structures," featuring Jim Maciel's watercolors inspired by photographs from his travels across the country, opens on Friday, Oct. 2, at the Martucci Gallery at Irvington Public Library.

Murder and Mayhem Tour
SLEEPY HOLLOW
8–10 p.m. / $50. Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, North Gate, 540 N. Broadway. For ages 18+. Register at *sleepyhollowcemetery.org*

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27

Wickers Creek Market: Antiques & Vintage
DOBBS FERRY
10 a.m.–4 p.m. / Free admission. Waterfront Park, 11 Station Plaza. *wickerscreekmarket.com*

"Shine Through"
DOBBS FERRY
11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. / Free. The Donald Gallery at South Church, 343 Broadway. Meet artist Teri Siegel. Through Oct. 25. Gallery hours: Tuesday, 12–6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 2–4 p.m.; Thursday, 12–4 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. *southpres.org*

Outdoor Fall Makers Market
DOBBS FERRY
Noon–5 p.m. / Free. Hudson Social, 11 Station Plaza. Shop handmade and locally crafted goods. Live music. 2–5 p.m. *hudsonsocial.com*

Stewardship in Action
IRVINGTON
10 a.m.–2 p.m. / Free. O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road. Learn about restoration work, followed by a walk in Irvington Woods Park and picnic. Register: *irvingtongreen.org/events*

Landscape Ramble
TARRYTOWN
10 a.m. / $20. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Walking tour. Tickets required. *lyndhurst.org*

Champagne Cocktails with the Dead
SLEEPY HOLLOW
5–7:30 p.m. / $95. Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, North Gate, 540 N. Broadway. Proceeds benefit the cemetery's restoration fund. Ages 21+. Register at *sleepyhollowcemetery.org*

Nir Namaan Quartet
TARRYTOWN
4 and 6 p.m. / $25, $20 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. *jazzforumarts.org*

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29

Folk Rock: John McDermott
HASTINGS
7–9 p.m. / No cover charge. Uncle Lefty's, 583 Warburton Ave. *uncleleftys.com*

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30

Matinee Movie: "Storm Center"
TARRYTOWN
2–3:30 p.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. *warnerlibrary.org*

Michael Franti Trio
TARRYTOWN
8 p.m. / $55–$210. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. *tarrytownmusichall.org*

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

Outdoor Live Music: Train of Thought
DOBBS FERRY
6–9 p.m. / No cover charge. Hudson Social, 11 Station Plaza. *hudsonsocial.com*

Vocalist Kaya Nicole
DOBBS FERRY
7–9:30 p.m. / No cover charge. Mirabella Cocina Latina Restaurant & Bar, 1 Hamilton St. *mirabellacocina.com/calendar-dobbs-ferry*

Indie Rock: The New Pornographers
TARRYTOWN
8 p.m. / $43–$73. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. *tarrytownmusichall.org*

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2

Matinee Food Truck Festival
ARDSLEY
5–9 p.m. Pascone Park. With live music and children's activities. *ardsleyvillage.gov*

Brass Monkeys: New Orleans Dance Party
DOBBS FERRY
6–10 p.m. / $35, $20 for members. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. The band performs 7:30–9 p.m. *hudco.eventbrite.com*

River Jam
DOBBS FERRY
6:30–8:30 p.m. / Free. Waterfront Park. Classic rock cover band Heard Immunity?, plus a food truck. *dobbsferry.gov/recreation-department*

Dance with the Dancers Gala
DOBBS FERRY
8–11 p.m. / $150. 145 Palisade St. Celebrate MorDance with live performances, cocktails, music, and dancing. *mordance.org*

Friday Night Live: Oktoberfest
HASTINGS
6–8 p.m. Rain date Oct. 3. Main Street and Boulanger Plaza. Seasonal food and drinks for sale, live music, family fun. *DestinationHastings.org*

Salute to Service Parade and Fireworks
HASTINGS
8 p.m. Rain date Oct. 3. Main Street to MacEachron Waterfront Park. Honoring veterans, first responders, and staff ends with fireworks at MacEachron Waterfront Park.

New Exhibit: "Structures"
IRVINGTON
10 a.m.–5 p.m. / Free. Martucci Gallery at Irvington Public Library, 12 S. Astor St. The October exhibit features Jim Maciel's watercolors inspired by photographs from across the country. *irvingtonlibrary.org*

"Tis the Wind and Nothing More"
IRVINGTON
4 and 5:45 p.m. / $58. The Armour-Stiner Octagon House, 45 W. Clinton Ave. The immersive tour is a quest to locate Edgar Allan Poe for a recitation of his poem "The Raven." Recommended for ages 18+. Various times through Oct. 11. Advance tickets required. *armourstiner.com*

Mike LeDonne Groover Quartet
TARRYTOWN
7 and 9 p.m. / $35, $30 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Also Oct. 3. *jazzforumarts.org*

Comedian Margaret Cho
TARRYTOWN
8 p.m. / $46–$76. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. *tarrytownmusichall.org*

Submit events: *rivertownsdispatch.com/contact-us*

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Sports

EDITED BY ROB DIANTONIO

Hastings claims inaugural Rivertowns Cup on PKs

— BOYS' SOCCER ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

The first Rivertowns Cup championship needed penalty kicks to determine which team would take home the trophy. Hastings and Irvington battled to a 1–1 tie before the Yellow Jackets prevailed 5–4 in penalty kicks to capture the inaugural Rivertowns Cup on Sept. 19 at Ardsley High School.

For Hastings coach Joe Callagy, the tournament provided exactly what the four participating programs were hoping for — a playoff-like atmosphere in the middle of the regular season.

"Local tournaments are always fun," Callagy said. "It's good to give the players from all four schools in the local area something in the middle of the season to really compete hard for and give it that early playoff atmosphere. It's great to come out with a trophy."

Irvington struck first with 12:57 remaining in the opening half when senior Griffin Warner stole the ball and finished to give the Bulldogs a 1–0 advantage.

Hastings junior goalkeeper Justin Wilmot helped keep it there. Wilmot stopped a shot from Joseph DeNardo less than a minute after Warner's goal and then denied another Warner attempt with 9:30 remaining in the half.

At the other end, Irvington turned to freshman goalie Ethan Otto in the championship game, and he responded to the challenge. Otto made five saves, including a difficult stop on a Kai Ghalib blast with just over 4 minutes remaining in the first half.

"We threw him in in a finals game to see how he would handle the pressure and he just exceeded everyone's expectations," Irvington coach Chris Lombardi said. "Looking forward to a bright future with him."

Despite trailing at halftime, Hastings felt its chances were coming.

"Just kind of keep trusting what we were doing," Callagy said of his halftime message. "We made a couple small tweaks, but just trusting everybody and trusting that even though we were down, what we were doing was working. We just kind of had to wait until we got the breakthrough."

That breakthrough came with 13:37 remaining when junior Zack Brower blasted home the equalizer to make it 1–1.

Irvington nearly answered just over a minute later when DeNardo got past Wilmot, but his attempt went wide.

From there, neither team could find the deciding goal and the championship went to penalty kicks. Hastings had reason to feel comfortable with Wilmot in net. The Yellow Jackets had worked on penalty kicks a day earlier knowing a shootout could decide the tournament.



Hastings' Kai Ghalib, Zack Brower, and Oliver Sturman celebrate Brower's goal.
Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

"We have a really phenomenal keeper who's been with us for a while and works his butt off," Callagy said. "We worked on PKs yesterday, knowing that this might be a possibility, so that definitely helped him."

It paid off immediately. Wilmot stopped Hagai Frechter on Irvington's first attempt before Brower converted to put Hastings ahead 1–0. Dennis Sasso answered for Irvington before Charlie Baer made it 2–1 Hastings.

DeNardo, Hastings' Louis Von Rege, Irvington's Josh Diamond, and Hastings senior co-captain Joaquin Toledo-Chae all converted as the shootout remained tight. George Miles then scored for Irvington to even it at 4–4.

That left Oliver Sturman with an opportunity to win it. The Hastings junior buried the final penalty kick, setting off the Yellow Jackets' celebration with a 5–4 shootout victory.

Hastings senior Baz Van Der Sande said his team's ability to stay composed after falling behind reflected its mentality.

"You never let go, you never stop," Van Der Sande said. "My team is one of the teams that will never stop no matter what. Even if we're down, my co-captain Joaquin and I are here to pick up the team. We just never stop until we score."

Sturman, Wilmot, and Lachlan Muldoon were named Hastings' three all-tournament selections. The trio anchored a defense that surrendered just one goal over the Yellow Jackets' two tournament games. Muldoon played every minute of both contests, while Wilmot made the pivotal shootout save and Sturman delivered the championship-winning kick.

Callagy also credited Daniel O'Brien and Eli Sundheim for their work rotating the assignment of marking Warner. "They were phenomenal," he said.

Irvington has allowed just four goals through its first seven games despite replacing most of a defense that was one of Section 1's stingiest units last fall.

"They have come together so quickly," Lombardi said. "They're picking up where the other back four left off last year."

Otto, Frechter, and Warner represented Irvington on the all-tournament team. Frechter scored a key goal in Irvington's 2–1 semifinal win over Dobbs Ferry and helped control the midfield throughout the tournament.

While Irvington came up one penalty kick short of taking home the trophy, Lombardi saw value in bringing the four neighboring programs together.

"This was just a great opportunity for each one of these towns to come and represent their community, and there's a lot of history amongst all these programs," Lombardi said. "Being able to come out and compete and the rivalries are huge. But I think above all, from what I've seen from both games, the sportsmanship was top-notch."

Dobbs Ferry defeated host Ardsley 4–3 in the consolation game. Chase Colyer led the Eagles with two goals and two assists, while Rassul Assanov scored twice and Evan Todd added an assist. Elijah Burns made four saves.

Sebastian Chacon, Anthony Giambrone, and Nico Franco each scored for Ardsley.

Colyer, Assanov, and James Vuletic were selected to the all-tournament team for Dobbs. Ardsley's three selections were Eshan Kapoor, Lucas Chacon, and Ryan Yazdanbakhsh.

Frechter and Karsten Yamamoto scored in the Bulldogs' semifinal win over the Eagles on Sept. 17. Colyer scored Dobbs' goal on a feed from Felipe Betancourt. Burns was busy in net with 16 saves.

Irvington (5–1–1) lost to visiting Pleasantville 2–1 on Sept. 22. Warner scored the lone goal to give the Bulldogs a 1–0 halftime lead. But the Panthers responded with two second-half goals, with the second coming with 10 seconds left on a penalty kick.

Behind three goals and an assist from Colyer, Dobbs Ferry (2–3–1) won its second-straight game, defeating visiting Rye Neck 4–2 on Sept. 22. Max Arellano (2A), Assanov (1A), and Burns (9S) contributed.

Hastings (5–1–1) routed visiting Nanuet 9–0 on Sept. 22. Brower had a goal and three assists while Von Rege scored twice. Ghalib, Max Caramanica, Richie Garcia, Elijah Thomas, Felix Casey, and Dan O'Brien scored a goal each. Drew Franco and Richie Garcia each had an assist.

The Yellow Jackets blanked Ardsley 1–0 in the semifinals of the tournament on Sept. 17. Casey scored the lone goal on a feed from Von Rege. Wilmot made 10 saves.

Ardsley (2–5) defeated visiting Alexander Hamilton 1–0 when Franco scored with 16 seconds remaining on a feed from Sebastian Chacon.

—

Horsemen rout Mounties, tie Pirates

Sleepy Hollow (3–2–1) cruised past visiting Suffern 9–0 on Sept. 22. Samuel Quezada Pesantez (3G, 1A), Denis Suqui (1G, 2A), Joaquin Rodriguez (2G), Branden Wang (1G), Magnus Cawley (1G), Matt Zhuzhingo (1G), Nico Barbosa (2A), Cameron Maroney (1A), Jayden De La Cruz (1A), and Dhary Suqui (1A) helped stuff the stat sheet.

The Horsemen tied host Pearl River 1–1 on Sept. 18. William Oliveira scored on a feed from Barbosa.

Sports

Irvington runs away with team titles at Rivertowns Cup

— CROSS-COUNTRY ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

It was a clean sweep for the host Irvington Bulldogs at the Rivertowns Cup.

Irvington's boys continued their dominance of the annual cross-country meet by capturing the team title for the sixth time, while the Bulldog girls won the Cup for the first time since 2022.

The sweep was particularly encouraging for Irvington teams that entered the season with different questions. The defending Section 1 Class C champion boys graduated most of their lineup, while the girls have gone from struggling to field a complete team last fall to showing they could be a factor in the section this season.

Senior Glen Feng led the way for the boys, winning the 66-runner race in 17:56.4. Teammate Davin Toeman was right behind him, placing second in 18:03.1.

"It's definitely great," Feng said. "It's a really good tradition. We love this meet every year. It's especially meaningful this year that we were able to win because we're coming off losing a lot of our top guys. It definitely means a lot for us to be able to compete today and show that we're still a strong team."

Irvington lost nine of its top 10 runners from last year's team, according to coach Chris Barry, leaving Feng as one of the few holdovers from the championship group.

That hasn't stopped the next wave from stepping forward. Ian Kwon placed 12th in 19:05.9, Paul Van Haetsdaele was 15th in 19:25.7, and Levent Sarayli finished 16th in 19:30.4 to round out Irvington's scoring five. Derin Sarayli and Ciaran Lynch also cracked the top 25, in 21st and 22nd, respectively.

"We lost nine out of our top 10 guys and our top four guys," Barry said. "It was a very special team and they did great things, so we're kind of back to square one a little bit. But there's guys ready to, if not fill the shoes, at least do the best they can. We're going to be competing at a high level again. They worked really hard this summer."

Barry credited the program's veterans with passing down the work ethic that has helped Irvington remain successful despite heavy graduation losses.

"They kind of hand it down to the younger kids, and they just come ready to run and ready to train," Barry said. "I think they like that the expectations are high and that we're trying to keep it going."

Feng said the Bulldogs put in plenty of work over the summer, running at least six times a week to prepare for the season. "I think it shows that we're still a strong team," Feng said.

Ardsley finished third out of eight teams and placed four runners in the top 20. Jonah Londin led the Panthers with a sixth-place finish in 18:27.5. Christian Adler was 13th in 19:11.7, followed by Ilan Kleinman in 18th and Daniel Lee in 19th.



Irvington's Ian Kwon, Glen Feng, Paul Van Haetsdaele, and the rest of the Bulldogs start the race. *Photos by Rob DiAntonio*

Sleepy Hollow's Matt Bartolacci placed fifth in 18:26.7, Dobbs Ferry's Reed Wilford was seventh in 18:39.3, and Hastings' Jonah Goldberg took eighth in 18:45. Hastings' Colin Glass added a 14th-place finish in 19:19.9.

While Irvington's boys continued their stranglehold on the Cup, the Bulldogs' girls enjoyed a breakthrough of their own. Irvington won the girls' team championship for the first time since 2022 after struggling to even field a complete scoring lineup last season. The Bulldogs placed five runners among the top 11 despite missing senior Liliana Brandwein, one of their top runners.

"It's really gratifying because even when we didn't have a full team last year, we were all working really hard to get better," Irvington junior Julianna Flamm said. "We knew that eventually we would be able to make our team strong, and we wanted to be ready for that. It's just so gratifying to have that feeling finally be realized, where all our hard work is paying off now."

Freshman transfer Melanie Welsch, who moved from Ohio, led Irvington by finishing fifth in 21:52.2. Flamm was sixth in 22:03.2 and senior Lily Korb, who switched from soccer to cross country this fall, followed in seventh in 22:06.3.

Greta Davis placed 10th in 22:40.4 and Olivia Mineo was 11th (23:11.7), giving the Bulldogs five finishers in a span of just seven places. Lumina Rush added an 18th-place finish.

Barry believes the additions of Welsch and Korb have helped transform the girls' team.

"We're trying to put together a girls' program that can really compete at a high level," Barry said. "We got great reinforcements this year. It's still so early and they're still figuring out how good they are. You could see they're really happy. They've been in the shadow of the boys for five years. I'm just so happy for the girls."

The individual girls' championship, however, belonged to a runner competing in her first cross-country season. Hastings junior Claire Grushko won the 50-runner race in 20:56.8, pulling away from Sleepy Hollow freshman DeLila Iovacchini, who finished second in 21:24.2.







Hastings' Claire Grushko, Irvington's Melanie Welsch, and Sleepy Hollow's DeLila Iovacchini.

Grushko played soccer last fall before making the switch to cross country. As a distance runner during the track and field season, she quickly found a natural fit.

"I was just a lot stronger at running than I was at soccer," Grushko said. "I think that really pushed me to do cross country. It's a super exciting change for me. I'm really excited to improve over the season."

Grushko and Iovacchini were close early before the Hastings junior created separation on the challenging Irvington course.

"Pushing those uphills," Grushko said of the key to the race. "The gravel uphill was super hard, but you kind of had to drive yourself up there. I think that's what helped me to be so successful."

Grushko, who logged roughly 200 to 250 miles over the summer, said one of her goals in her first cross-country season is to qualify for states.

Her teammate, Louise Durietz-Bourdain, placed 12th in a clocking of 23:25.

Ardsley finished second in the girls' team standings, while Dobbs Ferry took third. Ardsley's Layla Kunjukutty led the Panthers in 13th place in 23:28, with freshman Kayla Kenny 15th in 23:41.6 and freshman Sophia Val 20th.

Dobbs' Stephanie Cardozo Romani finished 14th in 23:34, Alessia Ambrosi was 17th, and Lily Golub took 19th. Sleepy Hollow's Isabella Bencosme placed 16th in 23:45.2.

Sports

Dobbs Ferry falters in second half, Ardsley tops Putnam Valley

— VARSITY ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Football

Dobbs Ferry hung with host Pleasantville for a half, but the Panthers pulled away after the break to hand the Eagles a 28–7 loss on Sept. 18.

Pleasantville struck first after C.J. Beck broke a long punt return down to the Dobbs Ferry 1-yard line. Connor Day punched it in for a 7–0 lead with 7:13 left in the first quarter.

The Eagles answered in the second quarter. Quarterback Jackson Kearns connected with Joseph Salerno for a pair of big completions on the drive, including a 24-yard gain that moved Dobbs Ferry to the Pleasantville 7. Killian O'Connor finished the drive with a 5-yard touchdown run to tie the game at 7–7 with 8 minutes left in the half.

Pleasantville responded with a scoring drive of its own, capped by Day's 6-yard touchdown run with 5:04 remaining to give the Panthers a 14–7 halftime advantage.

Dobbs Ferry was within a score until late in the third quarter, when Pleasantville quarterback Sevan Arduino connected with Beck for a 74-yard touchdown with 38.3 seconds remaining. Day added another touchdown with 7:13 left in the fourth.

"I think they were the more physical team," Dobbs Ferry coach Joe Cox said. "They made big plays when they needed them. They were just the better team tonight."

Kearns rushed 14 times for 60 yards, threw for 38 yards, and had an interception defensively. O'Connor carried 13 times for 52 yards and a touchdown, while Salerno finished with 43 receiving yards.

Penalties stalled several Dobbs Ferry possessions.

"At the end of the day, it's blocking and tackling," Cox said. "If you're not good enough at them, you're going to have long nights. And we weren't good at either one of those things tonight."

Dobbs Ferry (2–1) hosts defending champ Bronxville in a rematch of last season's Section 1 Class C championship game on Sept. 25.



Dobbs Ferry's Killian O'Connor carries against Pleasantville. *Photos by Rob DiAntonio.*

"The only way forward is through it," Cox said. "Usually in these situations, the answers you're looking for are in the mirror."

Ardsley (2–1) won its second straight game, cruising past host Edgemont/Blind Brook 42–13 on Sept. 18.

Quarterback Jack Calkins rushed for 220 yards on 19 carries and three touchdowns. He completed three of four passes for 94 yards including a 35-yard touchdown pass to Xavier Estime. Tristen Roberts rushed for 85 yards on 12 carries and two touchdowns. Conor Lenihan had a perfect day on extra points, converting six.

Sleepy Hollow (0–3) lost to host Westlake 62–14 on Sept. 18. Olin Keough rushed for 201 yards on 16 carries and two touchdowns.

Hastings (0–3) was shut out by host Pearl River 41–0 on Sept. 19. Irvington (1–2) received a forfeit victory over Croton-Harmon.

Girls' soccer

Sleepy Hollow (2–3–1) defeated host Ardsley 2–0 on Sept. 17. Meghan McMahon and Siena Spataro each had a goal and an assist for Sleepy. Sabrina Graham had a big day in net with 10 saves. Elise O'Brien made three saves for Ardsley.

Ardsley (3–3) bounced back with a 4–0 win over host Pearl River on Sept. 19. Hazel McGourty (2G, 1A), Alexis Fitzsimmons (1G, 2A), Olivia Moopenn-Morris (1A), O'Brien (4S), and Emily Sanders (2S) led the Panthers.

Sleepy Hollow was blanked 2–0 by host Tappan Zee on Sept. 23.

Irvington (2–1–2) rebounded from a 7–1 loss to visiting Pleasantville on Sept. 17 with a 4–1 victory over host Hendrick Hudson on Sept. 19. In the loss to Pleasantville, Skylar Coyne (1G), Emma Newman (1A), and Emma Reilly (14S) led the team. Coyne netted three goals to lead the Bulldogs over Hen Hud. Shea Pressman added the other goal. Parker Pressman passed for two assists and Zoe Sobol had an assist.

Hastings (3–2) fell to host John Jay-Cross River 2–0 on Sept. 17. Rory McKinnon made seven saves.

Dobbs Ferry (2–3) lost to visiting Byram Hills 2–0 on Sept. 18.

Field hockey

Behind a game-winning goal in overtime from Trinity Wiese, Hastings (2–2–2) defeated visiting Putnam Valley 1–0 on Sept. 18. Camelia Galvan had the assist on a corner. Goaltender Elodie Dodziuk made a big overtime save while Ella Rizzo made three saves.

Hastings bested visiting Roy C. Ketcham 3–1 on Sept. 14. Wiese, Galvan, and Zelda Weitzman each scored a goal. Celia Ayuso dished out two assists. Rizzo (5S) and Dodziuk (2S) combined for seven saves.

The Yellow Jackets battled visiting North Salem to a 0–0 tie on Sept. 22.

Irvington (3–1) defeated visiting Walter Panas 3–1 on Sept. 16. Chloe Annicharico (1G, 1A), Sadie Kilbury (1G), Lucy Brutto (1G), Samara Luftig (1A), and Zoya Bhandari paced the Bulldogs.



Hastings' Sage Wrzesinski passes.

Girls' tennis

Ardsley cruised past visiting Hastings 4–1 on Sept. 22. Summer Lopez (6–3, 6–1) and Kimaya Sood (6–3, 6–3) won in singles for the Panthers. In doubles, Ardsley's winning teams were Hayden Weiss and Avery McCormack (6–1, 6–1), and Keira Hayden and Juliette An (5–7, 6–2, 1–0). Ava Levenson and Aine Lynch (7–5, 6–4) were doubles winners for Hastings.

Hastings defeated host Dobbs Ferry 4–1 on Sept. 18. In singles, Hastings' Jenny Schofield (6–2, 6–1) and Dobbs Ferry's Nola Bass-Weiss (6–1, 6–2, 1–0) picked up wins. The Yellow Jackets swept the doubles matches behind the teams of Olivia Huang and Elissa Huang, (6–2, 6–2), Emma Cheung and Lynch (2–6, 6–3, 1–0), and Niamh Lynch and Lara Faraghi Ahrabi (6–2, 6–1).

Irvington swept host Nanuet 5–0 on Sept. 18. Sophia Orton (83) and Abigail Brandwein (8–2) won in singles. The winning doubles teams were Anya Foley and Marina Foley (8–0), Sadie Weiss and Anabella Wang (8–2), and Isabelle O'Reilly and Mackenzie Lee (8–6).

The Bulldogs bested visiting Dobbs 5–0 on Sept. 22 with the same athletes from above winning except Jordan Henry replaced O'Reilly in doubles.

Sleepy Hollow upsets Ardsley in five-set thriller

— VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

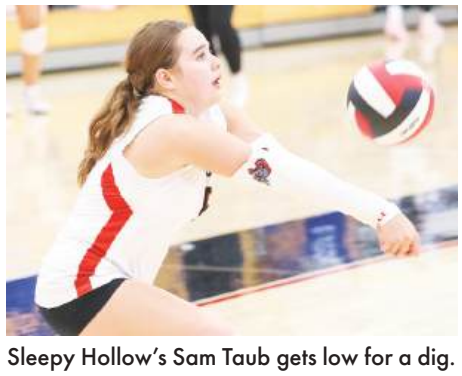
Sleepy Hollow coach Tamilee Webb knows all about the tradition of the Ardsley program.

Webb, an Ardsley graduate who played for longtime Panthers coach Dave Ponterio, returned to her alma mater with the Horsemen on Sept. 17 and walked away with one of the biggest wins of her coaching tenure.

Sleepy Hollow held off host Ardsley in a five-set thriller, 25–23, 25–23, 17–25, 18–25, 15–12.

"This is a huge win for the program," Webb said. "Our girls have worked really hard and focused to get to this point. They have listened well throughout the season. This is proof that when you put the work in, the results will show."

For Webb, the victory carried some extra meaning because of who was standing on the opposite sideline.



Sleepy Hollow's Sam Taub gets low for a dig.

"I played for the amazing coach Ponterio, who is an excellent mentor and a man of great integrity," Webb said. "I am eternally grateful for all that he taught me and continues to teach me."

Sleepy Hollow pulled out identical 25–23 victories in the first and second sets to move within one set of the upset. Ardsley, however, controlled the third set, 25–17, and followed with a 25–18 victory in the fourth to erase the two-set deficit and send the match to a decisive fifth set.

After watching its early advantage disappear, Sleepy Hollow (3–4) had to regroup

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Route 9

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more accessible bus stops.

The changes will be funded with a $25 million federal grant announced in July and $25 million from New York State announced Sept. 4. Construction is expected to begin in 2028.

The $50 million project will be the first phase of a plan to upgrade Route 9 through Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, and Hastings.

Sleepy Hollow Mayor Marjorie Hsu said roundabouts should improve traffic flow and make Route 9 safer for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Three pedestrians have been killed along Route 9 in recent years.

"National traffic studies have demonstrated that roundabouts are effective in moving the needle on all three things," Hsu said, referring to traffic flow, crashes, and fatalities.

In Tarrytown, the project focuses on improving pedestrian and bicycle connections and making Route 9 easier to cross. Plans include a shared-use path and two new traffic signals. The July 2025 draft design identified Franklin Street and Central Avenue as potential locations, although the Tarrytown Board of Trustees later objected to the Central Avenue proposal, citing concerns about traffic flow.

DOT spokesperson Heather Pillsworth said the department held two well-attended public workshops in 2024 and is continuing to refine the 2025 designs based on public comments.

Hsu said more engineering and discussion will take place before construction begins.

"We've got conceptual designs that we've been working on with the DOT and the other villages," she said. "I'm sure there's going to be a lot of engineering work to come, and then a lot of back and forth between DOT and Sleepy Hollow before the first shovel hits the ground."

Dan Convissor of Bike Tarrytown, a bicycle advocacy group promoting safer roads, said the project is an important step, but that the 2025 designs need refinement. Convissor has been involved in efforts to make Route 9 safer since community discussions began in 2017.

"We want this to move forward, but it needs to be moved forward in the proper way," he said.

Convissor supports the roundabouts, but said the draft designs do not provide a separate way for cyclists to pass through them, leaving cyclists either riding in traffic or sharing sidewalks with pedestrians. He is concerned about the proposed shared-use path in Sleepy Hollow, where cyclists and pedestrians could conflict during busy periods such as tourist season, school dismissal, and farmers markets.

In Tarrytown, he said the draft design would put cyclists in the roadway along part of Broadway while widening vehicle lanes and narrowing sidewalks. The plan calls for a 14-foot lane shared by bicycles and cars, which he said could encourage faster driving.

Despite those concerns, Convissor said the funding and decision to move forward are significant.

"Now," he said, "we need to work even harder and more quickly to make sure that the final drawings are refined."

Giselle Schuetz of Livable Tarrytowns, a local community advocacy group, praised the Sleepy Hollow roundabouts.

"They'll reduce waiting time at the intersections not only for walkers but for drivers as well," Schuetz said. "When drivers know they'll be stuck at a long red light, they have a greater tendency to race to beat the red, which is extremely dangerous for any pedestrians who are trying to begin their crossing."

But Schuetz added that the 2025 design around Tarrytown's Main Street does not reflect calls for wider sidewalks and a continuous bike lane.

"An easy fix would be to change the design so there is only one lane of parking on this narrow section of Broadway, allowing us to keep our pleasant sidewalks while adding a protected bike lane that would let some residents choose to bike instead of drive, clearing the roads for everyone," Schuetz said.

The concerns are also being raised by Tarrytown officials. At a Sept. 16 village board work session, trustees discussed preparing a resolution and letter to DOT outlining their concerns and those raised by residents.

"This is an opportunity," said Trustee David Kim, who has represented the village on the Route 9 project since the engineering phase began.

"We're going to make sure it takes our concerns into account and that it's built for those of us who live here, rather than those who are just passing through," Kim said. "And what's good for those of us who live here is also going to be good for those who pass through, because the better the environment is, the better it is for everyone."

Volunteer ambulance corps

Continued from page 3

25 volunteers and paid EMTs and drivers; and Sleepy Hollow has about 30 active volunteers, with some daytime staffing. Ardsley-Secor, with about 50 volunteers, relies entirely on them for coverage.

The Hastings-on-Hudson Volunteer Ambulance Corps has about 40 people on its roster, but only about 15 are regularly available to be on call, according to Ron Cohen, captain since 2025 and a member for six years.

Dobbs Ferry, like Irvington, supplements its volunteers with paid staffing. The corps' website states changing work patterns and the prevalence of two-income households have made maintaining a volunteer-only model more difficult.

The need is especially pronounced during the workday, when many potential volunteers are at regular jobs or commuting, according to Nambiar.

Call volumes keep the corps busy. Irvington responds to about 600 calls a year. Ardsley-Secor handled more than 700 last year. Hastings averages about 650 calls a year, while Sleepy Hollow responds to about 1,000.

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You don't have to be an EMT

Medical training is not a prerequisite for joining. Volunteers can train as emergency medical responders or EMTs, or serve as drivers, aides, or administrative volunteers.

High school students are welcome to join the corps, and several offer junior programs.

Volunteers come from a range of backgrounds. Nambiar is a human resources director, Isola is a tech start-up founder, Swanson works in accounting, and Cohen is in real estate.

In Dobbs Ferry, ambulance corps members include students, doctors, nurses, lawyers, accountants, police officers, career EMTs, and paramedics. Its captain, Swapnil Pandya, graduated from Dobbs Ferry High School in 2011 and is a finance director. He has been involved with the corps for 16 years.

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The time commitment varies

The commitment can look different from one corps to another.

Hastings has no minimum requirement. Irvington volunteers can contribute as little as 2 hours a week, depending on their availability, while Tarrytown requires a minimum 4-hour shift.

In Sleepy Hollow, ambulance corps chief Angela Martello, who is also a police sergeant in the village, said members often work 12-hour shifts, but volunteers can also fill in for shorter periods.

At Ardsley-Secor, adult members take three consecutive overnight shifts every 18 days, responding from home when a call comes in.

"There is so much flexibility that you can try and accommodate this as part of your daily life," Nambiar said.

Training is another part of the commitment. New York requires continuing education to maintain EMT certifications, and corps hold regular drills to practice responding as a team to emergencies such as cardiac arrests and strokes.

Corps provide CPR and first-aid training for new members, with options to pursue EMT certification. EMT courses approved by the New York State Department of Health typically run 150 to 180 hours. Irvington operates its own state-approved EMT training center, while Dobbs Ferry sponsors members to attend a state-certified course.

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A community, not just a shift

Volunteers may qualify for a property-tax exemption of up to 10% of the assessed value of their primary residence, depending on local adoption and eligibility requirements.

Long-serving volunteers may qualify for a Length of Service Award Program, or LOSAP.

Westchester County's HERRO program provides eligible emergency-services volunteers with tuition reimbursement or student loan repayment.

Irvington has worked to make the corps feel like a community.

"We've really encouraged a culture where it's a place where people can come, volunteer together, serve together, and really extract a lot of joy from serving the community," he said.

Swanson said Tarrytown is eager to train newcomers.

"We're always looking for volunteers. We're happy to train people," she said. "If we can get people in and trained and if they're riding an ambulance, that's great. And you know, if they decide it's not for them, that's OK."

Volleyball roundup

Continued from page 26

quickly. With the match hanging in the balance, the Horsemen came through when it mattered most and closed out the Panthers 15–12 in the fifth.

"The key in closing out the match was leadership," Webb said. "We had players who refused to lose and made sure our team was fighting for every point."

Charlotte Pacheco turned in a big all-around performance for the Horsemen with 16 kills, four aces, and 27 digs. Sam Taylor also had a big day with 15 kills while adding 29 digs. Sam Taub contributed 28 digs.

Ardsley (4–3) was led by Serena Emanuele (11K, 6AC, 18D), Sophie Young (11K, 3AC, 7D), Sophia Pecora (37D, 2AC, 5AS), and Katherine Cai (4K, 2AC, 20D, 30AS).

The Panthers rebounded with a 3–0 win (25–16, 25–13, 25–12) over visiting Saunders the next day. Pecora (38D, 4AC), Cai (22AS, 16D, 2AC), Zaniya Bell (7K, 7D), and Addy King (8D) led the way.

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Denike, Mansfield reach milestone

Dobbs Ferry seniors Taylor Denike and Natasha Mansfield both reached 500 career digs in a 3–2 win (19–25, 25–20, 23–25, 25–16, 15–9) over visiting Valhalla on Sept. 16.

Denike (14K, 16D, 7AC), Mansfield (19K, 19D, 6AC), Layla Wilbekin (22AS), and Grace Demitrovic (7K, 17D, 18AS) sparked the Eagles.

Dobbs (4–1) defeated host Tuckahoe 3–1 (25–18, 21–25, 25–16, 25–14) on Sept. 17. Denike (9K, 13D, 5AC), Mansfield (9K, 9D, 2AC), Wilbekin (14AS, 6D, 3AC), Hollen Peet (5K), Brielle Jean (3K, 2B), and Kayla Rukaj (5K, 3AC) filled up the stat sheet.

The Eagles finished second to Harrison in Sleepy Hollow's tournament on Sept. 19.

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Hastings improves to 4–0

Hastings (4–0) stayed undefeated with a 3–0 win (25–17, 25–19, 25–23) over visiting Blind Brook on Sept. 17. Roxy Griffin (5K, 9AC, 3B, 5D), Kylie Deklin (8K, 5D, 3AC), and Josie McLaughlin (4AC, 8K, 5D) paced the Yellow Jackets.

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Irvington cruises past Edgemont

Irvington (2–5) has won two in a row since dropping its first five games. The Bulldogs bested visiting Edgemont in straight sets (25–11, 25–18, 25–16) on Sept. 17. Paige Swift (15AS, 3K, 5D), Chloe Swift (9D, 4K, 3AC), and Alice Schneider 5K, 4AC) led the way.

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