

“The house was meant to entertain in every way.”
Michael Lombardi of the Octagon House
p 11



‘Eureka Day’
School’s culture goes to pieces on stage
p 9

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August 14, 2026

RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

Local News,
Locally Sourced

WWW.RIVERTOWNSDISPATCH.COM ARDSLEY — DOBBS FERRY — HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON — IRVINGTON

\$2⁷⁵



ARDSLEY

Coming soon
Pollinator mural to be painted at park
p 5



DOBBS FERRY

An Awakening

Fourteen students directed by Dominick Stern, a rising junior at Dobbs Ferry High School, will raise money for the National LGBT Cancer Network by performing the musical “Spring Awakening” at the Whippoorwill Theater in Armonk, at the North Castle Public Library, on Aug. 15 and Aug. 16 at 7 p.m. For more information, turn to page 7.



REGION

Poets help dreams come true
p 3

“This is about preventing deceptive marketing practices that are specifically targeting our kids.”

County Executive Ken Jenkins
p 3



SPORTS

Ardsley hosts title tournaments
p 18

Detention facility draws lawmakers and activists

Views from inside and outside Delaney Hall

BY AMY BOCHNER

REGION Individuals detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Congressman George Latimer’s district are sent to Delaney Hall, a detention facility managed by the GEO Group under a 15-year contract with ICE valued at \$1 billion, according to a February 2025 press release posted on the company’s website.

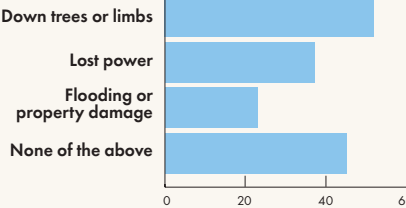
Delaney Hall was used as an immigrant detention center from 2011–17 during President Obama’s administration, before reopening in May 2025 under President Trump. In May 2026, there was a month-long hunger and labor strike by detained individuals protesting the facility’s conditions.

Latimer and Congressman Ritchie Torres visited the facility on July 31. Although Latimer believes that “a surprise visit is a
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The Poll

How did this summer’s storms affect you? Select all that apply.

As answered by 124 readers of the Rivertowns Dispatch



Vote at rivertownsdispatch.com/the-weekly-poll



The Blotter

ARDSLEY

Theft of laptop: A lap-top computer was stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked on Huntley Drive on Friday, May 22, and reported to the police on Aug. 3.

Theft of check: On Aug. 3, a Dobbs Ferry resident reported that he had mailed a \$3,500 check at the Ardsley Post Office two weeks earlier and the check had not been delivered to its intended recipient. He canceled the check.

Contempt arrest: A 21-year-old White Plains resident was arrested

for violating an order of protection on the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 4. He was the passenger in a vehicle that was pulled over because the 20-year-old driver, who lives in Yonkers, was using her cellphone. The order of protection prohibited him from being with her. He was charged with criminal contempt in the second degree, a misdemeanor. Officer Zack Pack made the arrest.

DOBBS FERRY

Assault arrest: A 19-year-old was arrested for punching a 14-year-old at The Children’s Village residential treatment center on the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 3. He was charged with assault in the third degree, a misdemeanor. Officer Denis Brucciani made the arrest.

DWI arrest: A 26-year-old Dobbs Ferry resident was arrested for driving while intoxicated, a misdemeanor, on Luzern

Road on the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 4. Officer Anthony Muratore made the arrest.

Theft of package: On Aug. 4, an Ashford Avenue resident reported that a package of medication was stolen from outside her home after it was delivered by FedEx on the afternoon of Friday, July 24.

Unauthorized charge: On Aug. 6, a Dobbs Ferry resident reported that an attempt was made to garnish her salary to pay for an unauthorized \$14,102 hotel bill charged to her in Las Vegas since June 25.

Fraudulent invoice and checks: The Village of Dobbs Ferry reported a fraudulent invoice on Aug. 5 and two fraudulent checks on Aug. 7. The \$43,500 invoice appeared to be from a consulting firm not hired by the Village. The checks, both for \$6,457.48, appeared

to be from the Village, but were not cashed or deposited.

HASTINGS

Unauthorized purchase: On Aug. 3, a Hastings resident reported that his debit card number was used to buy \$350 worth of calculators from a Target in Valley Stream, Long Island.

Chase nets arrest: A 31-year-old Manhattan resident with a suspended driver’s license was arrested after he led police on a car chase that started on Farragut Avenue and ended on the Saw Mill River Parkway at Tompkins Avenue on the evening of Wednesday, Aug. 5. He was driving an SUV with a license plate registered to another vehicle. He was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the first degree, a felony, and with three

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"Poems for a Wish" contributors (front row) Analisa Caso, Katy Gravenor, Adina Dovman, and Mary H. Wu.; (back row) Jared Harel, Carolina Abreu, Emily Laramy, Alison Damast Dolinger, and Adam Breier.

County cracks down on camouflaged vaping devices

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

REGION

By a unanimous vote, the Westchester County Board of Legislators has banned the sale of "camouflaged" e-cigarettes and vaping devices made to resemble everyday items such as highlighters, USB drives, toys, and drink containers in Westchester. The law sets a range of civil penalties from \$300 to \$1,500 for a first violation and up to \$2,500 for repeat offenses. The law will be enforced by the County Board of Health.

During the July 28 press conference where County Executive Ken Jenkins signed the legislation, he called the devices a "deliberate effort to make vaping appear more appealing to our young folks, and to make them easier to hide from adults." As Jenkins spoke, images of vaping products in the shape of Spongebob Squarepants, Super Mario, pens, and markers flashed across the screen.

"To be clear, this is not about restricting legal products for adults; this is about preventing deceptive marketing practices that are specifically targeting our kids, and undermining the efforts of our parents, teachers, and schools," Jenkins added.

Irvington Community Advisory Board (CAB) director Chris Raymond has one son entering his junior year of college and another who graduated from Irvington High School in the spring. In his role as CAB director facilitating dialogue among teens about substance abuse prevention, Raymond has recognized the phenomenon of camouflaged vaping products for at least three years. While federal law sets the minimum age to buy vaping devices and e-cigarettes at 21, Raymond believes these specific types of products were made to appeal to children too young to legally purchase them.

"When you look at the paraphernalia, in particular, it's like, who are they trying to hide it from?" Raymond asked rhetorically in a conversation with the Dispatch. "If it's a highlighter that's on your desk, if it's a thumb drive that's on your desk, it's a pen that's on your desk, it's not something you're trying to hide from your friends then, it's something you're trying to hide from your parents or your teachers. I think it's pretty hard to argue that it's something other than that."

Raymond believes that he's not the only parent with suspicions about which convenience stores teens are likely getting the camouflaged vaping products from. He

Continued on page 4

Poets help dreams come true at Make-A-Wish

Nonprofit benefits from sale of poetry anthology

BY LAURA SCHILLER

REGION When Max Garcia was 2 years old, doctors discovered a tumor in one of his eyes and diagnosed him with retinoblastoma, a rare childhood cancer. During his chemotherapy, he was granted a wish: to meet his favorite character, Elmo.

Now 6, Max stood beside his mother, Suzzette Garcia, on Sunday, Aug. 9, at the Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley Wish House in Tarrytown as she recalled how that wish gave their family a much-needed break from the fear and uncertainty of his treatment. Most of those gathered were poets and their friends who were to be there to recite work from "Poems for a Wish," an anthology benefiting Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley.

"This is really a beautiful way to contribute to a cause that helps the children and their families just be present during really dark times," Garcia told the audience. "I thank you all for coming together and making this happen."

The anthology features poets from the Hudson Valley Arts Collective. Carolina Abreu of Dobbs Ferry, who founded the collective and its monthly open mics at Ludy Café in Irvington, is donating 80 percent of the proceeds from the sale of the anthology to Make-A-Wish Hudson Valley.

Abreu, along with Samantha Apicella and



Six-year-old Max Garcia and his mom, Suzzette

according to Lindsay von Hagn, the senior development coordinator, who introduced the event. She explained that the chapter receives no funding from the national Make-A-Wish organization or from government sources, making fundraisers an important source of support.

"We always encourage people to think about what they love, what they love doing, and then turn that into a fundraiser," von Hagn said. "So for all of you that contributed to this book, thank you so much for

sharing your gift."

Garcia, who lives in Ossining, described her family's visit to the Sesame Street studio in Queens in 2024. Elmo was a familiar face to Max, who held a plush toy Elmo in his hospital bed and often watched "The Not-Too-Late Show with Elmo" as a bedtime escape during his treatments at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

"What I loved most is that we didn't have to worry about anything that weekend," Garcia said about the visit to Sesame Street. "The Make-A-Wish Foundation took care of everything for us — the hotel, the car service, a debit card for us. We also went to the Slime Museum and Serendipity [restaurant]. It was like they provided this time away, where all we needed to do was just be present and with each other."

The anthology's contributors brought a range of voices and approaches to the reading.

Alison Damast Dolinger of Irvington, a writer and choral singer, read "Let Me Sing You the Vespers," a reflection on the profound experience of performing Rachmaninoff's "All-Night Vigil" in a church with the Manhattan Choral Ensemble.

Katy Gravenor of Dobbs Ferry took a different approach, singing her poem "ODE TO JOY — Of Numinous Nimbus."

Adina Beth Dovman of Hartsdale playfully called herself a "short poet" because her poems are brief. Lowering the microphone as she recited "Framing," she was nearly finished before she began, ending

Continued on page 16

— July 2026 home sales —

Ardsley School District

	BD/BA	SQFT	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/OLP%
1501 Hunters Run Dobbs Ferry	2/3	1,510	\$599,000	\$599,000	100.0%
88 Heatherdell Road Ardsley	3/2	1,232	\$798,900	\$750,000	93.9%
60 Pine Street Ardsley	4/3	2,225	\$935,000	\$830,000	88.8%
35 Euclid Avenue Ardsley	5/2	2,600	\$899,000	\$875,000	97.3%
1131 Dobbs Ferry Road White Plains	3/3	1,683	\$849,999	\$950,000	111.8%
13 Irvington Street Dobbs Ferry	3/4	1,525	\$875,000	\$960,000	109.7%
4 Abington Avenue Ardsley	3/2	1,416	\$879,000	\$960,000	109.2%
14 Alden Place Hartsdale	3/3	1,828	\$979,900	\$1,050,000	107.2%
17 Euclid Avenue Ardsley	3/2	1,384	\$900,000	\$1,150,000	127.8%
45 Chestnut Street Ardsley	3/2	1,739	\$899,000	\$1,150,000	127.9%
4 Southway Hartsdale	4/3	2,201	\$1,150,000	\$1,350,000	117.4%
188 Boulder Ridge Road Scarsdale	4/4	4,467	\$1,295,000	\$1,350,000	104.2%
4 Northern Road Hartsdale	4/3	2,180	\$1,139,000	\$1,366,000	119.9%
24 Overlook Road Ardsley	5/3	2,822	\$1,250,000	\$1,375,000	110.0%
145 Woodlands Avenue White Plains	3/3	2,263	\$1,189,000	\$1,380,000	116.1%
11 Prospect Avenue Ardsley	4/3	3,340	\$1,150,067	\$1,430,000	124.3%
616 Ashford Avenue Ardsley	4/6	3,109	\$1,299,000	\$1,450,000	111.6%
400 Cyrus Field Road Irvington	4/4	2,476	\$1,250,000	\$1,535,000	122.8%
51 Eastern Drive Ardsley	5/4	2,286	\$1,450,000	\$1,580,000	109.0%
169 Boulder Ridge Road Scarsdale	5/5	4,388	\$1,595,000	\$1,595,000	100.0%
38 Byway Hartsdale	3/4	2,862	\$1,495,000	\$1,780,000	119.1%

Dobbs Ferry School District

118 Round Hill Road Dobbs Ferry	2/3	1,800	\$729,900	\$670,000	91.8%
114 Ogden Avenue Dobbs Ferry	3/3	1,961	\$850,000	\$867,000	102.0%
64 Maple Street Dobbs Ferry	3/3	1,735	\$845,000	\$1,050,000	124.3%
4 Grove Street Dobbs Ferry	3/2	1,908	\$995,000	\$1,075,000	108.0%
49 Bellewood Avenue Dobbs Ferry	3/2	1,580	\$999,999	\$1,090,000	109.0%
53 Mohican Park Avenue Dobbs Ferry	4/4	2,382	\$1,199,000	\$1,280,000	106.8%
1 Chestnut Court Dobbs Ferry	2/3	1,525	\$1,195,000	\$1,300,000	108.8%
198 Judson Avenue Dobbs Ferry	3/4	2,008	\$1,400,000	\$1,745,000	124.6%
16 Fairlawn Avenue Dobbs Ferry	4/5	3,486	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	100.0%
30 Southlawn Avenue Dobbs Ferry	4/4	3,220	\$2,049,000	\$2,201,923	107.5%
16 Bertha Place Dobbs Ferry	4/5	3,092	\$2,075,000	\$2,506,150	120.8%
164 Washington Avenue Dobbs Ferry	5/5	6,519	\$2,695,000	\$2,550,000	94.6%

Hastings School District

	BD/BA	SQFT	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/OLP%
645 N Broadway #29 Hastings	1/1	950	\$549,000	\$555,000	101.1%
59 Clarewood Drive Hastings	2/4	2,700	\$689,000	\$622,500	90.3%
57 Maple Avenue #2B Hastings	3/2	1,247	\$769,999	\$710,000	92.2%
36 Oakcrest Lane Hastings	2/3	2,635	\$999,000	\$1,075,000	107.6%
7 Olinda Avenue Hastings	4/3	1,669	\$899,000	\$1,270,000	141.3%
16 Cedar Street Hastings	3/2	2,366	\$1,175,000	\$1,325,000	112.8%
30 Elm Place Hastings	4/3	2,873	\$1,400,000	\$1,780,000	127.1%
191 Villard Avenue Hastings	4/3	2,736	\$1,700,000	\$1,785,000	105.0%
1 Scenic Drive Hastings	4/3	3,358	\$1,925,000	\$1,935,000	100.5%

Irvington School District

120 N Broadway #11C Irvington	1/1	750	\$249,000	\$250,000	100.4%
235 S Buckhout Street #235 Irvington	1/1	685	\$260,000	\$260,000	100.0%
120 N Broadway #18B Irvington	2/1	900	\$295,000	\$295,000	100.0%
14 S Broadway #12-1A Irvington	2/1	850	\$329,000	\$300,000	91.2%
120 N Broadway #16A Irvington	2/1	850	\$340,000	\$360,000	105.9%
15 High Street Tarrytown	3/1	1,350	\$695,000	\$765,000	110.1%
1 Summit Street Tarrytown	4/3	1,952	\$799,000	\$881,250	110.3%
60 Quail Close Irvington	2/3	1,900	\$829,000	\$963,000	116.2%
72 Quail Close Irvington	2/3	1,800	\$829,000	\$990,000	119.4%
91 S Buckhout Street Irvington	4/2	1,675	\$1,125,000	\$1,125,000	100.0%
100 Ardsley Avenue #2L Irvington	3/2	1,650	\$1,200,000	\$1,125,000	93.8%
30 S Ferris Street Irvington	3/2	1,538	\$1,050,000	\$1,225,713	116.7%
87 Center Street Irvington	5/2	2,342	\$1,200,000	\$1,250,000	104.2%
93 N Broadway Irvington	4/3	3,495	\$1,395,000	\$1,395,000	100.0%
4 Greyrock Terrace Irvington	3/3	2,651	\$1,449,000	\$1,570,000	108.4%
81 N Broadway Irvington	4/3	2,277	\$1,200,000	\$1,580,000	131.7%
17 Marker Ridge #17 Irvington	3/5	3,325	\$1,889,000	\$1,669,000	88.4%
8 E Clinton Avenue Irvington	4/5	2,628	\$1,599,000	\$1,750,000	109.4%
24 Marker Ridge #12 Irvington	3/4	2,675	\$1,763,995	\$1,805,520	102.4%
30 Marker Ridge #15 Irvington	3/4	2,675	\$1,724,995	\$1,929,935	111.9%
20 Lewis Road Irvington	5/3	3,208	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	100.0%
20 Maple Street Irvington	4/4	2,229	\$1,599,000	\$2,235,000	139.8%
7 Roland Road Irvington	5/6	5,470	\$2,775,000	\$2,825,000	101.8%
33 Ardsley Avenue Irvington	7/7	7,277	\$3,500,000	\$4,000,000	114.3%
41 N Broadway #C Irvington	7/8	9,280	\$5,900,000	\$5,680,700	96.3%

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THE FRANCIE MALINA TEAM

Vaping devices

Continued from page 3

expects the law will play an important role in assisting concerned parents.

“I think what this does is put the ball in the parents’ court,” Raymond said. “It’s one thing when we hear about the convenience store around the corner that’s selling this stuff, and you can go in and make a huff, but there’s not a whole lot you can do. But when it’s illegal to be selling it, parents have a much firmer footing when they go in and say, ‘I want you to take that down.’”

Raymond also believes that the law, and the potential fines it carries, will motivate shop owners to “police themselves” to stop selling the camouflaged vaping devices.

Yael Klein is a rising senior at Dobbs Ferry High School who first began seeing her peers vaping in middle school. It’s not unusual, Klein told the Dispatch, to walk into a bathroom at school and see someone looking to fan away smoke to remove evidence that they were vaping.

“I would say that it’s probably out of hand,” Klein told the Dispatch. “It’s 10 a.m. and you have to vape. I think at that point it’s an addiction.”

According to Klein, some of her peers expressed the belief that vaping presents a safer option than smoking cigarettes, which has contributed to them being more comfortable vaping regularly.

“It’s just very unfortunate how much of a vaping culture our generation has become,” Klein said. “I know people are under the impression that it’s better [in terms of health risks] than cigarettes, but it’s really bad to see sixth-graders vaping.”

Raymond agrees that some students he’s heard from also hold onto the idea that vaping is a safer alternative to cigarettes. Raymond said the initial perceived benefits of vaping have been skewed for the sake of profit.

“When vaping first came about, this was all kind of pitched to us as a way for people who are addicted to smoking to ease off of that,” Raymond explained. “And they very

quickly, I think, discovered that there was a market for vaping paraphernalia and vaping among American teens, so they quickly moved toward ways to market this stuff to teenagers.”

Dr. Nitin Gupta is a member of the Dobbs Ferry Board of Trustees, the board’s liaison

“The amount of nicotine that they’re getting can be much higher than the nicotine in cigarettes.”

Pediatrician Dr. Nitin Gupta

to the Village’s Youth Service Council, and a pediatrician with his own practice in Dobbs Ferry. While Gupta says it’s rare, sometimes a young patient who feels comfortable opening up to him will admit that they vape and are having difficulty stopping.

“The amount of nicotine that they’re getting can be much higher than the nicotine in cigarettes,” Gupta explained. “Nicotine is one of the most addictive substances on the planet and it is very, very hard to break that addiction.”

Gupta added that in addition to being addictive, nicotine leads to the hardening of arteries over time, and vaping can cause scarring for a condition known in the medical field as “popcorn lungs.” Gupta is a parent of two middle schoolers, and emphasizes that the effects of nicotine can be especially damaging for young users in the long term.

“With these teenagers, they have a developing brain and the problem is, with that developing brain, if they’re getting used to the substance and it becomes a baseline, that is how their brain develops,” Gupta said. “Their brain will develop assuming that it will always get that hit of nicotine or hit of marijuana.”

The County Board of Legislators is also considering a separate bill banning the sale of flavored nicotine vape products.

DATA SOURCED FROM ONEKEY® MLS. WHILE BELIEVED ACCURATE, THE INFORMATION IS NOT GUARANTEED. DATA REFLECTS CLOSED RESIDENTIAL TRANSACTIONS FOR JUNE 2026 IN THE HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, DOBBS FERRY, ARDSLEY AND IRVINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICTS.



ARDSLEY

Food Drive for the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry
Saturday, Aug. 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Ardsley United Methodist Church, 525 Ashford Ave. Drop off donations of nonperishable foods and monetary gifts or call 914-693-4225 for a pickup

Volleyball Preseason Clinic
Monday through Thursday, Aug. 17–20, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Ardsley High School. Robert Jacobson Sports offers prep for tryouts (modified, JV, varsity, and club) for kids entering sixth grade and up.

Visit rjssports.com to sign up —
Ardsley PTSA Membership
\$20 per parent or staff member, \$5 for an additional adult and for students in grades 8–12. ArdsleyPTSA.org
—
“Humans of Ardsley”

Sign up and/or share personal experiences for a storytelling workshop (\$25) on Oct. 4 followed by a live community event in December. Visit [instagram.com/villageofardsley](https://www.instagram.com/villageofardsley) for the link
—
Ayo Obi Ardsley Tennis

Tournament
Saturday, Sept. 19 and Sunday, Sept. 20. Rain dates: Sept 26–27. Fee: \$25 Ardsley resident, \$35 nonresident. Register at ardsleyny.myrec.com

Grandview and Wilmoth parking

The board of trustees heard residents’ perspectives regarding proposed changes to parking on Grandview and Wilmoth avenues during a public hearing on Aug. 3. The hearing first opened to the public on July 10. Grandview has parking on both sides of the street, while Wilmoth has parking on one side.

Along that corridor, the new regulations would prohibit parking on either side. On the north side of Grandview, the prohibition would apply from a point 344 feet east of Eastern Drive to the west curb line of Wilmoth. Parking on the entire length of the south side would be prohibited. On the west side of Wilmoth, parking would be prohibited from a point 181 feet south of Mountain Avenue to the north curb line of Grandview. The policy for the west side of Wilmoth remains the same — parking is banned north of Grandview’s south curb line to the end of the street.

The reason for the proposed change is a concern that the 90-degree bend from Grandview to Wilmoth could cause visibility and access issues for emergency and sanitation vehicles. According to Village Manager Joe Cerretani during the meeting, the potential problems were raised by the public works department. The police department also received a complaint from the neighborhood. Cerretani stated that following the prior meeting, the Village handed out fliers to residents of the street and received three emails in support of the legislation.

Four residents spoke at the meeting to assert that the bulk of these changes are not needed. In his 10 years living on Grandview, resident Christopher Mose said that he has never seen a situation where the street was blocked. Joann D’Emilio and Joseph Lessem, who have lived on the street for 30 years, concurred with Lessem expressing that he sees the proposal “as a solution looking for a problem.”

Resident Vincent Russo is worried that parking on only one side turns the street into a “straight shot,” and could lead to cars driving down the hill faster.

Two residents agreed with the board that parking should be reduced on the 90-degree corner, while Lessem believes this is unnecessary because there’s already a fire hydrant there, and thus no parking allowed.

Trustee Barry McGoey emphasized that the changes were recommended by the police and public works departments.

Ardsley Mayor Steve Edelstein referenced the three supporting emails from residents, stating that “missing those voices... is a detriment to our considerations. I would like them to be an active participant in this discussion as well.”

The board decided to keep the public hearing open for their meeting on Sept. 8.

— Amy Bochner



The rendering of the mural by Maya Kamaeva and Karolina Piorko.

Mural will bring a natural world to (larger than) life

Artists to decorate storage container at Pascone Park

BY AMY BOCHNER

A new mural at Louis Pascone Memorial Park will showcase native species and encourage visitors to see the familiar in a new way.

In May, the Ardsley Arts Commission put out a call for artists to transform the side of a storage container — effectively, a 40-by-8-foot wall — behind the park’s gaga pit. On Aug. 3, the Ardsley Board of Trustees approved the application of artist collective Triple Entendre to take on the project, for which the Village is providing a stipend of \$3,000.

Triple Entendre is composed of New York City-based video game designer Maya Kamaeva and architect Karolina Piorko. The two met while studying architecture at Cornell University, where they bonded over their shared experience immigrating from Eastern Europe. Kamaeva is from Russia, while Piorko is from Poland. After graduating in 2021, the two created Triple Entendre, which would go on to paint murals in Ithaca and New York City. Their work takes inspiration from nature, as well as Eastern European culture.

Triple Entendre creates “site-responsive” murals, Piorko told the Dispatch. While designing their murals, the two take into account, and even celebrate, the context, physical environment, and users of the site.

Kamaeva shared that the two “hope that the residents looking at [our] mural, instead of seeing the work of the artist, can recognize the place they live and the place they love in that portrayal.”

The design for the Ardsley mural, which will be painted between the middle and end of September, pays tribute to the village’s Pollinator Pathway initiative by incorporating bees, butterflies, and abstract forms inspired by native plants.

Piorko said the idea for the mural came



The storage container to be painted.

from the eastern tiger swallowtail, a butterfly that can present with yellow or black wings. The two artists carried the duality of this species into the design by creating a day side and a night side.

On one half of the mural, a bumblebee collects honey at a swamp rose mallow. On the other, two bees sleep beside each other on a buttonbush plant. According to Piorko, this imagery is a reference to photographs of bees falling asleep in plants while pollinating. Separating the sides are two eastern tiger swallowtails, one yellow and one black.

Throughout the design are stylized versions of doll’s eyes baneberry, gray sedge, and black chokeberry, all native to New York State.

The mural also pays homage to artists Hilma af Klint and Georgia O’Keeffe, as well as the female botanical illustrators whose work went uncredited or undervalued. For centuries, Kamaeva explained, botanical illustrations were associated with male artists, which changed in the 19th century. During that period, women began creating

the majority of this work, which includes complex drawings of flora used in scientific books. It was then, Kamaeva said, that botanical illustrations became viewed as “less important” than other kinds of art.

“We wanted to get inspired by people who were at their time overlooked, but who paved the way for us as female artists to be able to do our work,” Kamaeva said.

This ties in with Triple Entendre’s overarching goal: to transform an unnoticed space into a place of discovery.

“By drawing these butterflies, bees, and flowers at a much larger scale, [we] wanted to shift the perspective,” Piorko said. “We typically look at them from above and maybe step over them. It’s being able to see them at eye level and notice the things that are around us every day.”

Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at amy@rivertownsdispatch.com

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DOBBS FERRY

Food Drive for the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry

Saturday, Aug. 15, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Ardsley United Methodist Church, 525 Ashford Ave. Drop off donations of nonperishable foods and monetary gifts or call 914-693-4225 for a pickup

Drop-in Mahjong

Monday, Aug. 17, 1–3 p.m. Dobbs Ferry Public Library

Mary's Yarns Quilting Group

Monday, Aug. 17, 6–8 p.m. Dobbs Ferry Public Library. Create a square for the

quilt that will be raffled to benefit the library. Register: marysyarn@dffriends.org

Toddler Stretch & Sing Storytime

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 10:30 a.m. Dobbs Ferry Public Library. Register: childrens@dobbsferrylibrary.org

dobbsferrylibrary.org

Board of Trustees Workshop

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 6:30 p.m. Village Hall.

Romance Book Club

Wednesday, Aug. 19, 6 p.m. Dobbs Ferry Public Library

Discuss "August Lane" by Regina Black. Register: sbock@dobbsferrylibrary.org

Outdoor Concert: Allison Philips

Wednesday, Aug. 19, 6:30–8 p.m. Waterfront Park. jazzforumarts.org

Firefighter wellness program

To help recruit and retain members, the Dobbs Ferry Volunteer Fire Department will try out a gym and fitness class reimbursement program from Sept. 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027.

Each firefighter will be eligible to receive up to \$100 a month, and up to \$900 total during the pilot period, for membership dues at a gym, fitness center, or health club, and for fees for instructor-led fitness classes.

To be reimbursed, firefighters must submit receipts or invoices, as well as attendance records, on Dec. 15, 2026, March 15, 2027, and June 15, 2027. The Dobbs Ferry Board of Trustees approved the program on Aug. 11.

EV charging stations

During their meeting on Aug. 11, the Dobbs Ferry Board of Trustees amended the locations, and set the fee, for 16 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to be installed, each with two ports. Eleven stations will be at the waterfront parking lot, while five will be at the village hall parking lot. The fee will be 35 cents per kilowatt hour. Two stations planned for Cedar Street were canceled based on the Westchester County Planning Board's recommendation to locate charging stations in parking lots rather than on streets.

INF Associates will install the stations between late August and late September, first at the waterfront and then at village hall. The lots will remain open during that period. Con Edison is expected to activate the stations by November.

The Village of Dobbs Ferry will be reimbursed for the \$537,000 project. Con Edison and Westchester County will each pay for half. In July 2025, the County Board of Legislators approved the reimbursement for charging stations at 79 locations owned by 24 municipalities, not to exceed \$5 million.

Projects benefit from prize

The \$3,000 prize the Village of Dobbs Ferry received for winning the Rivertowns Earth Month Scavenger Hunt this past spring will be spent on a mini-forest at Chauncey Park and on the 9/11 Memorial at Waterfront Park. The mini-forest will receive \$2,000, while the Friends of Waterfront Park will receive \$1,000 for native plants at the memorial.

Larry Katzenstein and Sustainable Dobbs plan to install the mini-forest, inspired by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki, at the 6.4-acre park north of Rivertowns Square. The mini-forest will measure 21 by 21 feet and contain about 180 native plants surrounded by an 8-foot-high fence with two gates.

From March 29 to May 3, Dobbs Ferry teams amassed 671,700 points in the scavenger hunt, which also included Ardsley, Hastings, Irvington, Tarrytown, and Sleepy Hollow.



Members of the cast rehearse on Aug. 12.

Teens mount musical to benefit cancer nonprofit

'Spring Awakening' to support LGBT Cancer Network

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Rising Dobbs Ferry High School junior Dominick Stern is directing two performances of the coming-of-age musical "Spring Awakening" in Armonk this weekend that will benefit the National LGBT Cancer Network.

Stern founded his Pond Players theater company a year ago, when it debuted with a production of "Next to Normal" that raised roughly \$8,000 for the organization (also known as The Cancer Network), a Rhode Island-based nonprofit that advocates for LGBTQIA+ cancer patients and survivors in the healthcare system, research, and media, and trains healthcare providers to offer what the Network's website describes as more "culturally competent" care to members of the queer community.

"Cancer runs in my family and it's taken the life of several people in my family; it's very integral to me in my life," Stern, 16, told the Dispatch. "And at the same time, my queerness and representation, especially in a community such as Westchester, which is probably one of the more open-minded places in the States, is also really important to me."

For the Pond Players' second production, the cast has doubled in size from seven to 14, providing a new challenge for Stern, who has acted since he was 6 years old but

aspires to a career as a theater director. Among the performers are Stern's Dobbs Ferry classmates Mars Cabrera, Maisie Vanness, and David Bunting, and recent graduate Sloane DiSimone.

"I expected to find it to be a smoother process and the directing to be more flowing because I have the experience [of "Next to Normal"], but I honestly found it was a little harder to dig into a show after I had a full-length production under my belt prior," Stern admitted. "I think you learn more the further you go into it."

Stern describes "Spring Awakening," which has a book and lyrics by Steven Sater and music by Duncan Sheik, as "more on the darker side" as it follows teens in late-19th-century Germany exploring themselves and their sexuality. The original production ran on Broadway from 2006–09, and the show enjoyed a revival in 2015. While Stern has never seen "Spring Awakening" in person, he's watched both the video of a performance and interviews with the original cast members.

"At the end, one of the characters is talking to the audience about how it's a lesson that you can try to hide things from the younger generation, but they will discover how ugly the world can be and how beautiful the ugliness can be at the same time," Stern explained. "It [the musical] talks about how the Earth and nature will continue to go on, there's always a cycle, and it can't be prevented even if you want

to protect someone."

This past spring, Stern was one of five New York high school theater performers to receive an award — out of the 50 chosen to compete — in the Roger Rees Awards annual showcase. His mother, Angela DeCicco, acted on Broadway when she was in her 20s, and his father, Matthew Stern, is a stage manager for theater productions. This summer, in addition to conducting two months of rehearsals for "Spring Awakening," Stern has been interning at an earth science lab at Columbia University as part of the high school's Science Research program.

"Last year I was in several productions and also directing, and I think I was almost a little overwhelmed with how much theater I did," Stern said. "So, I think my love for science and having an outlet for that was really healthy for me this summer."

Pond Players' production of "Spring Awakening" will take place on Saturday, Aug. 15 and Sunday, Aug. 16 at Whippoorwill Theater (North Castle Public Library), 19 Whippoorwill Road East, Armonk, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for all ages and can be purchased online at tinyurl.com/PondSpringAwakening.

Got news?

Email staff writer Julian Michael Caldwell at julian@rivertownsdispatch.com

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Above: B. Abram, *A Quiet Place*, Pastel, 16 x 20

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Farmers Market
Saturday, Aug. 15, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue.
hastingsfarmersmarket.org
—
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m. Village Hall.

Medici.TV Matinee: Ballet
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 1:30 p.m. Hastings Public Library.
—
Family Film Night: "Hercules"
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 5–6:30 p.m. Hastings Public Library.
—

Senior Thursday
Thursday, Aug. 20. Screening of "In the Heat of the Night" at the public library, 1 p.m. Foodtown, restaurants, and shops offer discounts for residents over 65. Pick up a free parking pass at the library or community center.

Planning Board Meeting
Thursday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m. Village Hall.
—
Keeping It Real Book Club
Friday, Aug. 21, 11 a.m. Hastings Public Library. Discuss the second half of "The Path to Power" by

Robert Caro. Register: has@hastingslibrary.org
—
Senior Book Club
Friday, Aug. 28, 12:30–1:30 p.m. Hastings Public Library. Discuss "When Books Went to War" by Molly Guptill Manning.



"Woman in Grand Central Terminal"
by Tim Hillis

'Life, Drawn' opens at Upstream

Upstream Gallery's newest exhibit, "Life, Drawn," will share work inspired by the human figure, with an opening reception on Aug. 16 from 2–5 p.m. On display will be work in various mediums.

The exhibit opened on Aug. 13 and closes on Aug. 30. The gallery's hours are 12:30–5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Sunday, and 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. on Saturday.



Stavros Adamides, Robin Joseph, Dan Walworth, Leslie F. Smithy, and Miran Robarts.

School's culture goes to pieces in 'Eureka Day'

BY AMY BOCHNER

In GoJo Clan Production's upcoming take on the satirical "Eureka Day," a school board contends with vaccine mandates, grappling to find agreement when people hold different truths.

The show opens Aug. 14 and runs through Aug. 23 at the Westchester Collaborative Theater in Ossining.

GoJo Clan Productions is run by Hastings residents Albi Gorn and Robin Joseph. Gorn is directing "Eureka Day," while his wife, Joseph, is a cast member. The play also stars Stavros Adamides, Chloé Le Breton, Miran Robarts, Leslie F. Smithy, and Dan Walworth. This is Robarts' first time acting with GoJo Clan.

Written by Jonathan Spector, "Eureka Day" takes place at Eureka Day School, which is known for its progressive ideals of representation, acceptance, and social justice. During the school's weekly meetings, five board members seek to preserve this culture of inclusivity by only reaching decisions by consensus. When a mumps outbreak occurs, the board is forced to confront the question of how to reach agreement when they can't agree on what is true.

Since "Eureka Day" premiered in 2018, the conversation surrounding federal vaccine mandates has gained prominence. The play takes place in 2019, one year before the Covid-19 pandemic, during which discourse on vaccines reached a fever pitch. Gorn and Joseph watched a performance of

the Manhattan Theatre Club's production on Broadway in 2024, and believe the subject matter has only become more relevant over time. Most recently, on Aug. 10, President Trump signed an executive order reducing the recommended routine childhood vaccines from 17 to 11 diseases.

The play's tension primarily unfolds through a series of board meetings. The dynamic between the members starts off friendly until they find themselves on opposite sides when the mumps outbreak threatens the community.

"It's set up to be this really congenial group that, even when they disagree, they're able to find consensus," Joseph said. "They hit this roadblock where that seems to really be challenging, if not impossible, and it's literally a matter of life and death. So the stakes are really high."

The playwright, Gorn said, takes a sympathetic approach to the discourse.

"I think it always makes for a much more interesting story when there are no good guys or bad guys," he said. "There are just people who see the world differently," leaving the problem of how to resolve issues when there is concord.

A notable scene is a 15-minute sequence in which the board meeting is livestreamed to the community. A live chat is projected above the stage, and audience members watch the conversation deteriorate as the meeting progresses. According to Gorn, "That scene was as funny as anything I've



Miran Robarts and Stavros Adamides

ever seen on stage."

As vaccine mandates continue to be a source of contention, Gorn believes "Eureka Day" is relevant "anywhere in the world."

"Our criteria about doing theater is we're hoping that [the audience is] talking about the play on the ride home," he said. "I think it's impossible not to bring that away from this show."

Performances of "Eureka Day" are on Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Tickets, \$27.50 for adults and \$22.40 for seniors/students, can be purchased at gojoclanproductions.ticketspice.com/eureka-day.

— HIGHER ED BRIEFS —

Hamilton graduate

Kathleen Rotmil-Eser earned a bachelor's degree in creative writing and psychology from Hamilton College on May 24 and was named to the dean's list for the spring semester.

SUNY Buffalo graduate

Jason Colletti earned a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from SUNY Buffalo.

Mississippi graduate

Gavin Connaughton earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Mississippi.

New Paltz dean's list

Declan McConnell and **Luca Melo** were named to the dean's list at SUNY New Paltz for the spring semester.

SUNY Buffalo dean's list

Raneen Badaan was named to the dean's list at SUNY Buffalo for the spring semester.

Rhode Island dean's list

Siena Albamonte was named to the dean's list at the University of Rhode Island for the spring semester.

Tampa dean's list

Alexa Cambria and **Sofia Kaliontzakis** were named to the dean's list at the University of Tampa for the spring semester. Cambria earned a bachelor's degree in accounting, while Kaliontzakis is majoring in psychology.

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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 that's 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 drink 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 more manageable than drinking tons of juice!



Dr. Julia Abend
DDS | Parlor Dental



IRVINGTON

Tech Angels

Saturday, Aug. 15, 10:30 a.m.–noon. Irvington Public Library Drop in for help with phones, computers, or other devices.

“Needles at Noon”

Saturday, Aug. 15, noon–1:30 p.m. Irvington Public Library

Lori Cohen joins the weekly yarn craft meetup to help with knitting and crocheting.

“Acting Shakespeare: An American Odyssey”

Saturdays, Aug. 15 and 22, 8 p.m. Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 N. Broadway

Free outdoor performances
irvshakespeare.org

Farmers Market

Sunday, Aug. 16, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Main Street School, 101 Main St.
irvingtonfarmersmarket.org

Perler Bead Makerspace for Ages 7–12

Thursday, Aug. 18, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Irvington Public Library. Register: irvingtonlibrary.org

Zoning Board Meeting

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m. Village Hall.

Thursday Evening Book Club

Thursday, Aug. 20, 7:30–8:30 p.m. Irvington Public Library. Discuss “The Road to Tender Hearts” by Annie Hartnett.



— HIGHER ED BRIEFS —

Hamilton graduate

Iain McGiffin earned a bachelor’s degree in world politics from Hamilton College on May 24 and was named to the dean’s list for the spring semester.

James Madison graduate

Francesca Racanelli earned a bachelor’s degree in dance from James Madison University.

Rhodes dean’s list

Sadie McRae was named to the dean’s list at Rhodes College for the spring semester.

James Madison dean’s list

Michael D’Alessio was named to the dean’s list at James Madison University for the spring semester. D’Alessio is majoring in accounting.

Hofstra dean’s list

Sasha Leitner was named to the dean’s list at Hofstra University for the spring semester. Leitner is majoring in podcasting and audio storytelling.

SUNY Buffalo dean’s list

Claire Summerell was named to the dean’s list at SUNY Buffalo for the spring semester.

Roger Williams dean’s list

Leo Van Osdol was named to the dean’s list at Roger Williams University for the spring semester.

SUNY Cortland dean’s list

Jack Keltz was named to the dean’s list at SUNY Cortland for the spring semester. Keltz is majoring in early childhood and childhood education.

SUNY Albany dean’s list

Lilly Santora was named to the dean’s list at SUNY Albany for the spring semester.

Rhode Island president’s list

Ethan Shtifman was named to the president’s list at the University of Rhode Island for the spring semester.

Georgia Tech honors

Will Neubauer earned faculty honors for a 4.0 academic average during the spring semester at Georgia Tech.

Tufts’ dean’s list

Olivia Lu, Henry Lobel, Joanna Paul, Elliot Riseman, and **Kian Vasudev** were named to the dean’s list at Tufts University for the spring semester.

SUNY Purchase dean’s list

Maggie Ho and **Claudia Beasley** were named to the dean’s list at SUNY Purchase for the spring semester.



An 1876 replica sold to raise money for the fabrication of the Statue of Liberty.

Step into 1876 at Octagon House’s garden party

Historic site to host celebration on Aug. 30

BY LAURA SCHILLER

While many America 250 events are looking back to 1776, the Armour-Stiner Octagon House is inviting visitors to step ahead a century and experience how Americans celebrated the nation’s centennial in 1876.

On Aug. 30, from 4–7 p.m., the Irvington landmark will recreate a Victorian-style garden party with lawn games, live music, historical interpreters, self-guided tours of the house, and period-inspired refreshments. The event recreates the type of celebration Joseph H. Stiner, the tea merchant who purchased the house in 1872 from its builder, Manhattan financier Paul J. Armour, might have hosted.

The garden party offers an opportunity to experience the Octagon House as it was intended. For Michael Lombardi, who has spent nearly 30 years working with his father, architect Joseph Pell Lombardi, to restore and care for the landmark, that means bringing it back to life as a place for entertaining. “The house was meant to entertain in every way,” Lombardi told the Dispatch.

Although the Octagon House has welcomed visitors for tours in recent years, special events have been limited. The Centennial Garden Party will mark the first public party at the house — a fitting occasion, Lombardi said, because the home, completed in 1872, most likely hosted its own centennial celebration four years later.

“The house was certainly the centerpiece of a party in 1876,” he said. “For sure they



A jacquard blanket of Memorial Hall from the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876.



A Gillinder & Sons glass souvenir of Memorial Hall from the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876.

had a centennial party here at the house.”

The event also caps a special centennial-themed tour offered throughout the summer. The tour explores the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, which drew an

estimated 10 million visitors and showcased the latest innovations in art, architecture, and manufacturing.

“A lot of the furniture, lighting, and interior

Continued on page 17

Got news?

Email staff writer Julian Michael Caldwell at julian@rivertownsdispatch.com

Delaney Hall

Continued from page 1

better test of what happens every day,” the congressmen were required to provide three weeks’ notice to the Department of Homeland Security.

While he described the facility that day as “clean,” without signs of “obvious abuse,” Latimer compared the environment to an Amazon distribution center, where instead of “boxes of product” waiting to be delivered, “it’s human beings.”

“They’re being treated in what I would say is a dehumanized way. It was apparent on their faces,” he said. “They looked like people who had sort of given up.”

The hour-long tour included the facility’s kitchen, a library, recreation areas, and the cafeteria. Latimer described seeing a housing unit with “three triple bunk beds” and “no room to do more than lean against the bed or sit on the floor.”

Latimer did not speak to any of the 893 people detained. He said he was told by staff that none of these individuals have violent criminal records. The on-site medical staff consists of one doctor and six nurse practitioners.

Although Latimer is not informed when ICE makes an arrest, he believes there are residents from his district among those being held at Delaney Hall. Knowing who is incarcerated at the facility requires a “back door” approach, according to Latimer. To get information, one needs to know the name of someone who was detained.

What many of the people being held in Delaney Hall share is uncertainty over how long they will be there, or what will happen to them next, according to Latimer.

“Some have been there probably since the inception of the facility; some may [have gotten there] just before we arrived,” Latimer said. “The presumption is you’re going to find yourself on a plane being flown to a Latin American country where you’re going to be let off, but you don’t know when and where.”

While Latimer toured the facility, nonprofit and advocacy organizations gathered outside to assist people being released.

“They’re being treated in what I would say is a dehumanized way.”

Congressman George Latimer

This marked the fourth time members of NYCD16|15 Indivisible, a progressive advocacy group that includes Latimer’s district, showed up outside Delaney Hall, which they’re not allowed to enter. According to co-chair Beth Levy of New Rochelle, the organization urged Latimer to visit the facility “for months.” Outside, she explained, volunteers set up tents and offer supplies like food, as well as gift certificates or money, so those detained can get home. Indivisible works with nonprofit organizations such as

the Yonkers Sanctuary Movement, Community Resource Center, Neighbors Link, and Sisters of Charity of New York.

On July 31, members of Indivisible witnessed the release of nine individuals. According to Suzanne Burger of Hastings, “all had been wrongfully detained, having either a green card or working visa.”

All nine also had legal representation helping them, according to Levy. Although there is a mechanism for those within Delaney Hall to access legal counsel, Latimer explained, many people have no means to learn about their rights. For this reason, groups like Indivisible distribute “red cards,” or pocket-sized cards that help people assert their rights during encounters with ICE or law enforcement. Indivisible has also met with nearly 700 businesses to inform employees of their rights during an ICE raid.

Levy and co-chair Lisa Genn of Irvington, who is a civil rights lawyer, described how Delaney Hall’s policies impact the families of those inside. Because the facility holds people from across the mid-Atlantic, some families drive for hours to see loved ones.

There is a dress code for visitors, which includes a prohibition on open-toed shoes, tight clothing, and dresses/skirts that don’t extend to the knees while seated, among other rules. If a family member is denied entry based on the dress code, there is a hospitality tent pitched by advocacy organizations that provide alternative clothing and shoes, according to Genn.

Outside Delaney Hall, according to Genn,

some of those released expressed to her “fear to even be waiting for a ride, to still be outside in a place where [they] could be detained again.” Family members picking up their loved ones, she said, shared a similar fear.

The day after Latimer’s tour, 41-year-old Edwin Lopez-Cornejo died due to a “medical emergency” at the detention center, according to a press release on ICE’s website. This was the second death at Delaney Hall since December 2025.

On Aug. 7, New Jersey Attorney General Jennifer Davenport issued investigative subpoenas regarding the facility. According to a statement released by her office, this investigation would focus “on whether any action or inaction by GEO Group employees violated the civil rights of people detained at the facility, in the wake of reports of alarming conditions and recent deaths.”

As a result of the tour, Latimer and Torres will introduce a bill to the House establishing Federal policies and procedures to notify families upon the death, illness, injury, or hospitalization of an individual in ICE custody. The two also signed a letter urging DHS to investigate the facility’s “healthcare staffing shortage.”

While Latimer believes ICE should be decommissioned “as it exists now,” the Indivisible co-chairs do not believe that is enough, and instead advocate for the abolition of the agency. Both Latimer and co-chairs share the perspective that Delaney Hall should be closed.



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The Blotter

Continued from page 2

misdemeanors — false personation, reckless driving, and unlawful fleeing a police officer in a motor vehicle in the third degree. He was also cited for 12 vehicle-and-traffic violations. Officer Wuilber Maldonado made the arrest.

Burglary arrest:

A 39-year-old Brooklyn resident was arrested for entering an apartment of an acquaintance in violation of an order of protection on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 6. He was charged with burglary in the second degree, a felony, and criminal contempt in the second degree, a misdemeanor, and remanded to the Westchester County Jail. Bail was set at \$50,000. Officer Ed Fattorini made

the arrest.

Mischief arrest:

A 56-year-old Hastings resident was arrested for damaging items in an acquaintance’s home in Hastings on the morning of Saturday, Aug. 8. He was charged with criminal mischief in the third degree, a felony. Officer Brandon King made the arrest.

IRVINGTON

Identity theft:

On Aug. 5, an Irvington resident reported that an unauthorized credit account was opened in her name with Synchrony Bank and that the account had an unpaid balance of \$14,543.93.

Theft from garden:

A hand clipper, a hand rake, and flowers were stolen from outside a home on Main Street on the morning of Friday, Aug. 7.

Dog bites man: A 72-year-old food deliveryman was bitten by a dog on Beechwood Road and then transported to a hospital, on the evening of Saturday, Aug. 8.

Illegal dumping: Two 20-year-old men, one from White Plains and the other from Indianapolis, were cited for unauthorized dumping of construction debris along Cyrus Field Road on the evening of Monday, Aug. 10.

DWAI arrest:

A 66-year-old Bronx resident was arrested for driving while ability impaired by drugs, a misdemeanor, on North Broadway (Route 9) on the morning of Monday, Aug. 11. He was also cited for four vehicle-and-traffic violations. Officer Dennis Montaruli made the arrest.

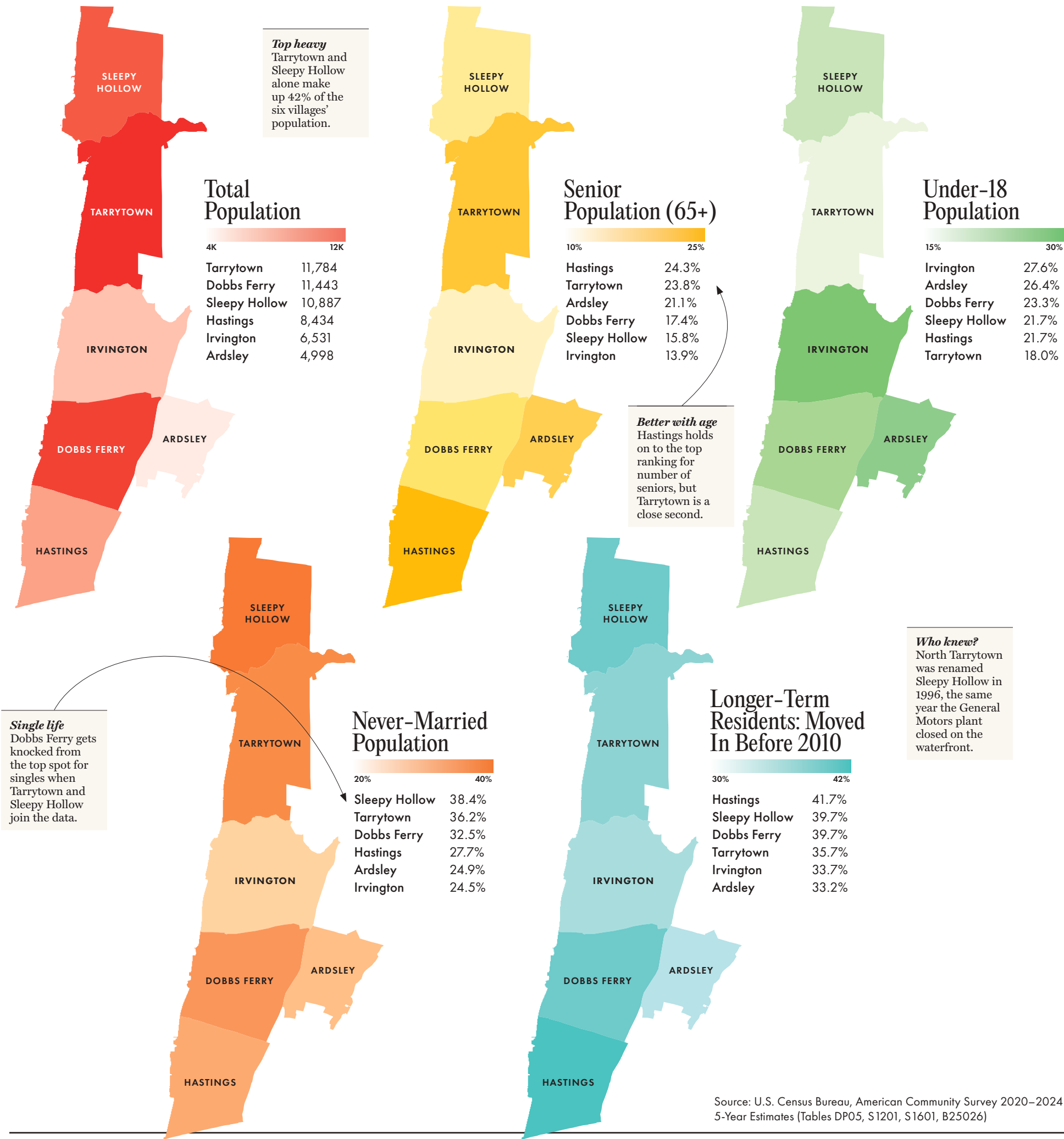
Have a burning question about our community, local issues, or something you’ve always wondered? Just ask the Dispatch.

rivertownsdispatch.com/contact-us

— THE DISPATCH GUIDE TO —

Your Neighboring Villages

With the coverage area expanding to include Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow this September, the Dispatch uses census data to show how the villages compare to each other. *By Christy Knell*



The Agenda

SATURDAY AUGUST 15

Live Music: Rock Rinse Repeat

ARDSLEY

8 p.m. / No cover charge. Saw Mill Tavern, 925 Saw Mill River Road. Reservations encouraged. smtavern.com

Rivertown Thrift Annex

HASTINGS

11 a.m.–4 p.m. / Free admission. 3 Spring St. Also 11 a.m.–6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Friday. Drop off seasonal donations during business hours only. rivertownthrift.org

“Acting Shakespeare: An American Odyssey”

IRVINGTON

8–9:30 p.m. / Free. Irvington Shakespeare Company’s Backlawn Theater at Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 N. Broadway. Outdoor performance of the 90-minute one-man musical written and performed by company founder Kamran Saliani of Irvington. Also on Aug. 22. irvshakespeare.org

American Songs of Patriotism, Praise & Protest

TARRYTOWN

2:30–3:30 p.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. Cellist and historian Alex Prizgintas explores the powerful role of music in American democracy. warnerlibrary.org

Modern Jazz: Chad LB

TARRYTOWN

7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$35, \$30 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. The Grammy-winning saxophonist performs. jazzforumarts.org

Hudson Valley Ceramics

TARRYTOWN

10 a.m.–4 p.m. / Free admission. Makers Central, 84 Central Ave. Connor McGinn Studios celebrates 10 years of its handcrafted tableware with a seconds and overstock sale. Also Sunday. makerscentralny.com

Summer Saturdays: “The Big Play Date”

SLEEPY HOLLOW

11 a.m.–3 p.m. / \$18, \$15 for ages 18–25 and 65+, \$13 for children. Philipsburg Manor, 381 N. Broadway. Featuring 18th-century recreational activities, including ninepins, stilts, and hoop-and-stick. Workshops include historic toy-making and a percussion session led by KoSankofa. Purchase timed-entry tickets at hudsonvalley.org

SUNDAY AUGUST 16

Outdoor Live Music: Lord Tenor

DOBBS FERRY



“We Won’t Go Back,” mixed media by Katie Goldberg, is on view in “Life, Drawn,” opening with a reception on Sunday, Aug. 16, at the Upstream Gallery in Hastings.

2–5 p.m. / No cover charge. Hudson Social, 11 Station Plaza. hudsonsocial.com

“Life, Drawn”

HASTINGS

2–5 p.m. / Free. Upstream Gallery, 8 Main St. Artist reception for the juried show reflecting the world we live in. On view through Aug. 30. Hours: Thursday–Sunday, 12:30–5:30 p.m. upstreamgallery.com

Piano and Vocals: Quintin Harris

TARRYTOWN

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

Dominican Cultural Day

SLEEPY HOLLOW

3–8 p.m. / Free. Barnhardt Park, 25 Andrews Lane. Rain date Aug. 23. community10591.org

Garden Volunteer Day

YONKERS

8 a.m.–1 p.m. / Free. Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St. All experience levels are invited to help in the Beverly E. Smith Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden. hras.org

TUESDAY AUGUST 18

Outdoor Concert: Mark Morganelli Quartet

SLEEPY HOLLOW

6:30–8 p.m. / Free. Horan’s Landing Park, 57 River St. Cancellation due to inclement weather will be announced by 2 p.m. on Facebook and the website. jazzforumarts.org

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19

Outdoor Concert

DOBBS FERRY

6:30–8 p.m. / Free. Waterfront Park. Featuring Allison Philips on trumpet, Neta Raanan on tenor sax, Isaac Levie on bass, and Connor Parks on drums. A pre-concert family-friendly Jitterbugs Jam begins at 5:30. Cancellation due to inclement weather will be announced by 2 p.m. on Facebook and at jazzforumarts.org

Musiquita

TARRYTOWN

11 a.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. The bilingual musical duo gives an interactive performance for all ages. warnerlibrary.org

Matinee Movie

TARRYTOWN

2–4 p.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. Screening of “Merrily We Roll Along,” the musical by Stephen Sondheim and George Furth, based on the 1934 play of the same name. warnerlibrary.org

Astronomy for Kids

YONKERS

2 p.m. / \$23 for adults, \$16 for seniors, \$14 for ages 3–18, free for members. Hudson River Museum, 511 Warburton Ave. “Four Tales of the Sky” will be shown in the planetarium. Recommended for ages 8+. Reservations recommended. hrm.org

THURSDAY AUGUST 20

Outdoor Live Music: Milton

DOBBS FERRY

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

Jazz & Latin Trio

DOBBS FERRY

7–9:30 p.m. / No cover charge. Mirabella

Cocina Latina Restaurant & Bar, 1 Hamilton St., in Rivertowns Square. Featuring pianist and vocalist Nicki Denner, Anton Denner on saxophone and flute, and Mayra Casales on percussion. mirabellacocina.com/calendar-dobbs-ferry

Senior Thursday Screening

HASTINGS

1 p.m. / Free. Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave. Featuring the 1967 mystery drama “In the Heat of the Night” starring Sidney Poitier and Rod Steiger. hastingslibrary.org

Riverfront Concert

IRVINGTON

6:30 p.m. / Free. Matthiessen Park. Parking is not permitted in the Bridge Street lots. The Afro-Caribbean Express features Carlos Abadie on trumpet. Cancellation due to inclement weather will be announced by 2 p.m. on Facebook and at jazzforumarts.org

Waterfront Concert: The Saints

TARRYTOWN

7–9 p.m. / Free. Pierson Park, 238 W. Main St. Presented by the Tarrytown Recreation Department. tarrytownny.gov

Special Film Event

TARRYTOWN

7 p.m. / \$11, free for members. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. Screening of “Jaws” with themed cocktails. tarrytownmusicall.org

Village Carnival

SLEEPY HOLLOW

5 p.m. / \$35. Kingsland Point Park. Food, games, and rides for all ages. Also Friday, Aug. 21, 5 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 22, 4 p.m.; and Sunday, Aug. 23, 3 p.m. friendsofsleepyhollowny.org

FRIDAY AUGUST 21

Movie on the Trail

DOBBS FERRY

8:30 p.m. / Free. Keeper’s House, 15 Walnut St. Screening of “The Blind Side.” aqueduct.org

Outdoor Jazz: Pianist Caili O’Doherty

TARRYTOWN

6:30–8 p.m. / Free. Pierson Park, 238 W. Main. St. A pre-concert family-friendly Jitterbugs Jam begins at 5:30. Cancellation due to inclement weather will be announced by 2 p.m. on Facebook and at jazzforumarts.org

Vocalist Quiana Lynell

TARRYTOWN

7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$35, \$30 for students. The Grammy-winning songwriter performs. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Also on Aug. 22. jazzforumarts.org

Continued on page 15

The Agenda

ONGOING

Farmers Market

HASTINGS

Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue. The market is open weekly through November. For details, visit hastingsfarmersmarket.org.

“The Times They Are A-Changin’:
Hastings in the 1960s”

HASTINGS

Observatory Cottage, Draper Park, 407 Broadway. Open the first Saturday of each month (except August), 2–4 p.m., and Mondays and Thursdays, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. On view through October. hastingshistoricalsociety.org

Farmers Market

IRVINGTON

9 a.m.–1 p.m. Main Street School, 101 Main St. The market is open weekly through November. theirvingtonfarmersmarket.org

Octagon House Tours

IRVINGTON

Various times Thursday-Monday / \$34. The Armour-Stiner Octagon House, 45 W. Clinton Ave. The 1876 Centennial Tour commemorates the 250th anniversary of the United States. Through Sept. 20. For ages 7+. Advance tickets

required. armourstiner.com

Historic Hudson Valley Tours

IRVINGTON, SLEEPY HOLLOW

Various times. Washington Irving’s Sunnyside, 3 West Sunnyside Lane, Irvington, and Philipsburg Manor, 381 N. Broadway, Sleepy Hollow, a 1750 farm and grist mill. Timed-entry tickets required. hudsonvalley.org

TaSH Farmers Market

TARRYTOWN

Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Patriot’s Park, 121 N. Broadway. The weekly market continues through the fall. tashfarmersmarket.org.

Lyndhurst Classic Mansion Tour

TARRYTOWN

\$5–\$26. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. The historic mansion offers guided tours encompassing the first and second floors of the mansion, spanning approximately 16 rooms. Offered on various dates and times through Sept. 20. Timed entry tickets required. lyndhurst.org

Lyndhurst Upstairs/Downstairs Tour

TARRYTOWN

\$35–\$42. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Offered on various dates and times through Sept. 20. Timed-entry tickets required. lyndhurst.org

“Lost and Found”

TARRYTOWN

11 a.m.–5 p.m. / Free with grounds admission (\$10–\$15). Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. The exhibition features rediscovered items related to the history and owners of Lyndhurst. The gallery at the Welcome Center is open 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Thursday-Tuesday through September, and daily September through November. lyndhurst.org

“Woven Wonders:
Kykuit’s Picasso Tapestries”

TARRYTOWN

11 a.m.–4 p.m. / Free. The Pocantico Center, 200 Lake Road. The exhibit showcases eight monumental tapestries based on Pablo Picasso’s bold paintings. On view 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Fridays and 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Saturdays through March 20, 2027. Reserve tickets at rbf.org/pocantico/events

“Starry Summer Nights”

YONKERS

Blue Door Art Center, 13 Riverdale Ave. Members’ exhibition in various mediums. On view through Sept. 12. Thursday and Friday, 3–6 p.m.; Saturday, 1–6 p.m. bluedoorartcenter.org

COMING UP

Concert in the Park

ARDSLEY

Aug. 22 / 6–8 p.m. / Free. Pascone Park, 507 Ashford Ave. The summer concert series continues with G Force. Bring a blanket or chair to sit on

the lawn. ardsleyvillage.gov/parks-recreation

Art Exhibit and Sale

DOBBS FERRY

Aug. 22–23 / 10 a.m.–5 p.m. / Free admission. Mead House, 12 Elm St. A portion of every sale benefits the preservation and maintenance of the Mead House, home of the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society. instagram.com/dobbsferry-historicalsociety

Book Talk: “Gardens of the Gilded Age”

TARRYTOWN

Aug. 22 / 11 a.m. / \$15. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Begin with a tour of the rose garden and the greenhouse, then meet in the carriage room at noon to learn about the gardens featured in the book. Register at lyndhurst.org

Gardening Academy

TARRYTOWN

Aug. 27 / 10 a.m.–noon. / Free. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Education with hands-on practice in the garden. Registration required. lyndhurst.org

Ecotones Outdoor Concert

TARRYTOWN

Aug. 22 / 4 p.m. / \$10, free for kids ages 10 and under. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. The ensemble blends classical chamber music and jazz improvisation in “Flora and Fauna Percussion Jam.” Rain date Aug. 23. Purchase tickets at lyndhurst.org

REGISTRATION
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON

Dobbs Ferry High School
505 Broadway
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522



<https://reg134.imperisoft.com/HRCE/Search/Registration.aspx>

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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.rivertownsdspatch.com/classies



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IRVINGTON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BREAKFAST/ LUNCH PROGRAM

For 2026-27, all enrolled students are eligible to receive a healthy lunch at their schools at no charge and free breakfast if a breakfast program is available at the school. Free and reduced meals is a Federal initiative for all schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. Universal Meals is a New York State initiative. For any additional questions about our Food Services program, please email schoollunch@irvingtongschools.org.

HUMANS CONNECTING WITH HUMANS

Looking for a piano teacher, a dog walker, a couch, or a conversation? The Dispatch Classifieds are for real people, reaching real people — no bots, no algorithms, no AI.

Share your news — either here in Announcements or on the Photo Wall market.rivertownsdspatch.com/classies



HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED
Robert Legal Group — a

local Special Needs Planning, Guardianship, Estate Planning, and Elder Law firm, and the official notary of the Rivertown Dispatch — is hiring a Paralegal/Legal Assistant. No legal experience needed; we'll train the right person.

The office is based at HudCo, the beautiful co-working space right here in Dobbs Ferry (where this very paper is put together!). Bright workspace, great coffee, and a real community of local professionals — and the job comes with a full HudCo membership, so you can use the space on your own time too.

We just ask for about 20 hours a week in person at HudCo; the rest of your hours are remote, on your own schedule. Great for anyone balancing school pickups or other commitments.

You'd help with correspondence, mailings, e-filings, scanning, and keeping case files organized for families we serve. Details matter, but we'll teach you the rest.

Looking for: reliable transportation to Dobbs Ferry, organized and punctual, comfortable with Google Drive and cloud tools.

Competitive hourly rate. Send a resume and your ideal schedule to info@robertlegalgroup.com.



PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Formation of Elster Rare Books & Art LLC filed with SSNY on 03/11/2026.

Office Location: Westchester County SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 12 Hazel Lane Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: any lawful act or activities.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-MARTINE'S BAKERY- 660 SAW MILL RIVER ROAD

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter at Village Hall-Court Room Facility, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY 10502 to consider granting site plan approval for an addition and exterior alterations at Martine's space currently under construction located at 660 Saw Mill River Road.

Please check the calendar on the Village website for meeting details at www.ardsleyvillage.gov or email the Village Clerk at arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov

The meeting will be able to be seen live on Channel 75 (Cablevision) or Channel 32/35 (Verizon).

Members of the public can also listen to the meeting via Zoom platform by dialing via phone+1 929 205 6099, Meeting ID: 869 1605 7069 Passcode: 031813 or Join Zoom which can be accessed here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86916057069?pwd=GlBHAaPZT60BS0rTlenlXt8Pahkp4.1> Meeting ID: 869 1605 7069 Passcode: 031813

Further details on this proposed request is available at the Clerk's office, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY during normal office hours Monday

through Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm.

Written comments may be sent to the Village Clerk at arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov or sent via regular mail to 507 Ashford Ave, Ardsley, NY 10502. All comments will be shared with the Board of Trustees and questions will be answered as quickly as possible.

All residents and taxpayers are invited to attend.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY, NEW YORK

Ann Marie Rocco
Village Clerk
Dated: August 14, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AMENDING CHAPTER 190 OF THE ARDSLEY VILLAGE CODE ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC"

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley will hold a public hearing on September 8, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter at Village Hall-Court Room, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY 10502 to discuss amending Chapter 190 of the Ardsley Village Code Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic".

Please check the calendar on the Village website for meeting details at www.ardsleyvillage.gov or email the Village Clerk at arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov.

The meeting will be able to be seen live on Channel 75 (Cablevision) or Channel 32/35 (Verizon).

Members of the public can

also listen to the meeting via Zoom platform by dialing via phone+1 929 205 6099, Webinar ID: 869 1605 7069 Passcode: 031813 or Join Zoom Meeting here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86916057069?pwd=GlBHAaPZT60BS0rTlenlXt8Pahkp4.1> Meeting ID: 869 1605 7069 Passcode: 031813

Further details on this amendment is available at the Clerk's office, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY during normal office hours Monday through Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm.

Written comments may be sent to the Village Clerk at arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov or sent via regular mail to 507 Ashford Ave, Ardsley, NY 10502. All comments will be shared with the Board of Trustees and questions will be answered as quickly as possible.

All residents and taxpayers are invited to attend.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY, NEW YORK

Ann Marie Rocco
Village Clerk
Dated: August 14, 2026

HASTINGS-ON- HUDSON NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Village Clerk of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson until 11:00 AM on August 21st, 2026, Hastings-on-Hudson, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706, at which time and place said sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for the furnishing and/or

placing of the following materials:

The Village of Hastings-on-Hudson ("Village") is soliciting proposals from qualified geothermal well drillers ("Proposers") to provide material and installation services for geothermal test bore at the Village Hall. The project shall be delivered as a turn-key installation, based on the Test Bore Specifications prepared by the Engineer of Record.

Specifications and Bid proposal forms will be available on August 14th, 2026 online at <https://www.hohny.gov/Bids> or by sending an email to the Village Clerk/Treasurer at Acostantini@hohny.gov. All bidders are to notify Anthony Costantini upon downloading the project documents.

In addition to the above, the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson has partnered with BidNet as part of the Empire State Purchasing Group and will post our bid opportunities and any addendums to this site. As a vendor, you can register with Empire State Purchasing Group and be sure that you see all of the Village's available bids, addendums, and opportunities. Detailed plans and specifications for said bid may be obtained through the Empire State Purchasing Group at the following link: <http://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/hastings-on-hudson>

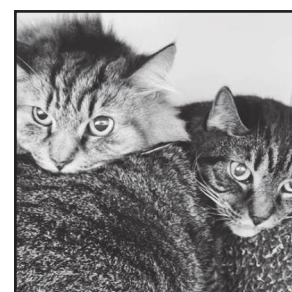
Bids shall be made on the Proposal Forms, furnished with the Specifications and must be accompanied by a Bid Bond acceptable to the Village, in the amount of not less than 5% of the total amount of the Bid to be held by the Village as a guarantee for the proper execution and delivery of the Contract and bonds

PHOTO WALL



DOG OF THE WEEK

Bridget is one of the Paws Crossed Animal Rescue's Pets of the Week. Reach out to adoptions@pawscrossedny.org to learn more!



CATS OF THE WEEK

Merida & Elinor are the Paws Crossed Animal Rescue's Pets of the Week. Reach out to adoptions@pawscrossedny.org to learn more!

to secure the faithful performance thereof. In default of such execution and delivery of Contract and Bonds, the bond shall be forfeited to and retained by the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson as liquidated damages.

All questions should be directed in writing to Mary Beth Murphy by email to Villagemanager@hohny.gov no later than August 19th, 2026. Any Addenda will be emailed to prospective bidders and be posted on BidNet by August 20th, 2026.

A site walk-through is optional and can be scheduled by contacting the Village Manager in writing at villagemanager@hohny.gov.

All bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes with accompanying flash drive plainly marked "Bid for 2026 Geothermal Test Bore — due August 21th, 2026" or submitted online via BidNet.

The Village reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities at its discretion.

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'Poems for a Wish' Continued from page 3

with the lines, "And maybe... / All love and all loss is art."

Adam Breier of Yonkers, who works as the deputy executive director for career and technical education for the New York City public schools, contributed a short poem that explored regret.

Jared Harel of Croton-on-Hudson, an English and creative writing teacher at Manhattanville College, contemplated the meaning of home in "Go So You Can Come Back," finding tenderness in the ordinary routines of daily life.

Mary H. Wu of Ossining, a two-time kidney transplant recipient, paid tribute to

the rhythms and relentless motion of New York City. Paul Halley of Suffern, an MFA candidate at Manhattanville College, shared "A Little Boy Walked to the Sky," written in rhyming couplets. Analisa "A" Caso of Nyack, a librarian at the Valley Cottage Library, read a poem about her love of the ocean.

The event also offered a glimpse into the anthology's visual side. Emily Laramy, a designer who volunteered to create the book's cover, chose to use John Frederick Kensett's "Hudson River Scene," explaining that the Hudson River School brought new attention to the Hudson River and that poetry can similarly highlight the region's creative community.

"Poems for a Wish" is available at hudsonvalleyartscollective.com.

Opinion

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

Critics of Latimer sidestep massacre of Oct. 7, 2023

To the Editor:
I find it illuminating, and disheartening,

that your several readers criticize Congressman George Latimer for accepting campaign funds from AIPAC, which is a roundabout way of slamming Israel, ostensibly for its military actions in Gaza. But nowhere in those readers' letters (in fact barely in the nationwide slamming of Israel) is there a reference to the brutal massacre on Oct. 7, 2023 by Hamas

of Israeli men, women, and children, and the kidnapping of Israeli hostages, that caused the Israeli military response, or the statement by the Hamas leader that "there will be more October 7s."
(I will spare the readers the details of the 80-year history of unceasing attacks on Israel by Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad, etc.)

One can argue, especially from a distance and by persons who don't know the territory, that the Netanyahu government has gone further than it had to. But it is impossible not to conclude that these readers harbor a resentment, and worse, against Israel itself.
Herbert Rosenberg
DOBBS FERRY

Octagon House Continued from page 11

décor you see in the house — those manufacturers appeared at that Centennial Exposition," Lombardi said. "So, in the tour, we draw the connection between the 1876 exposition and the interior of the house."
Throughout the afternoon, master storyteller Jonathan Kruk will roam the grounds sharing historical vignettes before concluding the event with a reading of the Declaration of Independence. Historical interpreters portraying George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and other 18th-century figures will mingle with guests, while members of the New York Croquet Club will demonstrate the game on a regulation course and invite

visitors to play. Guests can also try badminton, one of that era's newest lawn games.
The menu, created by Horsefeathers in Tarrytown, also draws inspiration from the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, where 36 nations showcased their cultures and cuisines.
"There were quite a few foods that people were just experiencing for the first time in America," Lombardi said. "The world sort of embraced the 100th anniversary of our nation."
The menu will feature period-inspired versions of foods introduced to many Americans at the exposition, including hamburgers, pretzels, and waffles, along with wine and beer.
Guests will also have self-guided access to

two floors of the Octagon House, with docents stationed throughout the rooms to answer questions and point out centennial-era furnishings, souvenirs, and decorative objects.
The house tour also includes a short film by recent Irvington High School graduate Rem Wise about the nearby Odell Tavern, where New York State's Committee of Safety met in 1776, briefly making the tavern the state's capitol. The film ties into Irvington's free "Capitol for a Day" celebration at Memorial Park that afternoon from 12:30–4 p.m.
"The idea is that folks who go to that daytime event can come to the Octagon House for this evening event," Lombardi said. "If folks want to walk down the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail and travel 100 years forward into the future, they come to the Octagon

House and experience 1876.
"The hope is to really cultivate that experience for everybody as if they were at a party in 1876. It's like stepping back in time," Lombardi added.
Tickets are \$150, with a limited number of \$75 tickets available for Irvington residents, and can be purchased at armourstinner.com. Guests are encouraged to dress in period attire, though Lombardi expects "a mix of fashion from every period — 1776, 1876, and 2026 for sure."
There is no on-site parking. Attendees are encouraged to use the complimentary trolley shuttle from the Irvington Metro-North train station.
"It's like time travel," Lombardi said. "I think it's a tremendous amount of fun."



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Use the time wisely.

Sports

EDITED BY ROB DIANTONIO

Ardsley hosts baseball, softball championship weekend

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Ardsley became the center of youth baseball and softball in the region this past weekend.

More than 4,200 people, including players, coaches, umpires, and spectators, descended on the village Aug. 8–9 as Ardsley hosted the Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League and Greater Hudson Valley Softball League championship.

A total of 55 championship games involving 110 teams were played across three sites — McDowell Park, Ardsley High School, and V.E. Macy Park — in an event that organizers said showcased both Ardsley's athletic facilities and its ability to handle a regional tournament of significant size.

McDowell Park served as the primary hub for a weekend that brought an estimated 1,320 players, 400 coaches, 110 umpires, and roughly 2,800 other visitors to the area.

"Hosting 55 championship games in one weekend across three locations was a herculean task, but it went incredibly well, without a hitch," GHVBL president Dave Zaslaw said. "We can't thank Ardsley enough for their support to host arguably the best championship weekend in our league's 12-plus-year history and over 35 seasons of hosting baseball and softball in New York and Connecticut."

The idea of bringing the championship weekend to Ardsley came together quickly.

Ardsley Little League vice president David Evans said the GHVBL/GHVSL spring season had been left without a championship home after plans to hold the finals in Wappingers Falls fell through. Ardsley stepped in to host two championship games involving its own teams.

The turnout caught the attention of the



Ardsley's Joseph Marsek delivers a pitch. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.

Ardsley Little League board.

"We saw the flood of fans coming, so our board agreed it was worth reaching out to GHVBL to propose the idea," Evans said.

Evans and Zaslaw began discussing the possibility of Ardsley taking on a much larger role for the summer championships. Zaslaw had already been interested in moving more league events to southern

Westchester, which offers better proximity for many participating teams and umpires.

From there, Ardsley Little League put together a proposal for the Village. Evans said Mayor Steve Edelstein and other officials quickly supported the concept, beginning a collaboration between the Little League, the Village, and GHVBL/GHVSL that turned the idea into reality within a matter of weeks.

"We had an army of folks helping in various places to get things planned out," Evans said. "The Little League, GHVBL, and the Village collaborated to plan things out over the last few weeks."

Pulling off the weekend required cooperation well beyond the baseball and softball fields.

Evans credited Edelstein, Village Manager Joe Cerretani and his staff, Police Chief John Pignatelli, and the Ardsley Department of Public Works, including David DiGregorio and Rob Wootten, for helping prepare for the influx of visitors. Edelstein helped alert local businesses about the tournament, while the police department handled traffic and safety concerns and DPW staff helped ensure the park was ready for the weekend.

"This event demonstrated vision and leadership at the highest levels of the Village of Ardsley," Zaslaw said. "The GHVBL and

GHVSL playoffs exemplify how it truly takes a village to make something great happen."

Ardsley Little League president Joe Pisanti and a large group of league volunteers also played significant roles. Evans helped coordinate the event with Zaslaw, while Scott Lomenzo oversaw the concession stand and grill at McDowell Park. Evans estimated the concession operation served approximately 4,000 people, with Lomenzo spending more than 25 hours at McDowell over the course of the weekend.

One of the biggest challenges presented itself before the first championship game was even played.

Heavy rain hit the area Friday night, putting the condition of the fields in question. But the grounds crew was able to get McDowell Park ready for Saturday morning and keep the fields in strong condition throughout a packed schedule.

Evans credited Armando Briseno of Eco Landscaping and Lenny Merone of Merone Landscaping and Sports Fields for their work preparing and maintaining the fields. Briseno and his crew worked on the fields between games, while Merone has worked with the Little League in recent years on improvements designed to help the fields withstand an eight-month baseball and

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Ardsley's Dash Pechar eyes a ground ball.



Ardsley's Drew Strongin rounds second base.

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softball calendar.

Their work did not go unnoticed.

“Teams raved about the beautiful fields, especially considering the intense rainstorm we had Friday evening,” Zaslaw said. “Kids and coaches felt like they were at a professional baseball game due to the perfectly manicured fields and meticulous baselines.”

Beyond the games themselves, organizers viewed the weekend as an opportunity to introduce thousands of visitors to Ardsley.

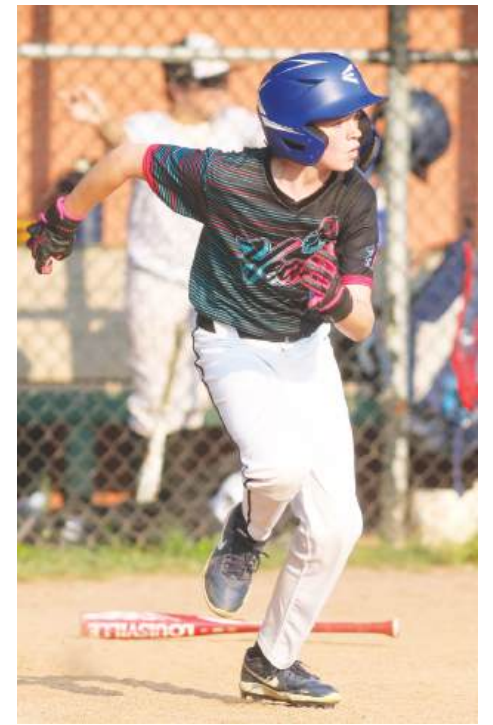
Teams came from across the Greater Hudson Valley region, including Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties, the Bronx, and Connecticut. While there is no village-wide sales data available to quantify the tournament’s economic impact, Evans said the volume of visitors created the potential for additional business at local restaurants, delis, pizzerias, coffee shops, and stores.

Some businesses offered tournament specials or otherwise prepared for the increased traffic, something organizers believe could be expanded if the championships return.

The weekend also highlighted the role McDowell Park plays in Ardsley throughout the year. Ardsley Little League has been part of the community for more than 75 years, and McDowell hosts baseball and softball games, tournaments, camps, clinics, and community events. The Little League and Village have invested in the facility over the years, with improvements including fields, fencing, dugouts, drainage, irrigation, walkways, batting facilities, the snack bar, scoreboards, and audio systems.

Hosting more than 50 championship games provided a showcase for those investments on a regional stage.

“McDowell Park and Ardsley Little League are pieces of community infrastructure, not simply baseball fields and a sports program,” Evans said. “The amount of activity they generate, both during a normal season and during an event like this, makes them a meaningful part of the social and economic life of the village.”



(From left) Max Rodriguez takes a swing for the Heat. Lucas Chou of the Heat heads for third base. The Heat’s Henry Baxendale hustles to first.

For Evans, the weekend reinforced the idea that McDowell Park and Ardsley Little League can serve as community assets capable of bringing families into the village, supporting local businesses, and giving Ardsley greater exposure throughout the region.

And after the success of the first championship weekend, organizers are already thinking about what could come next.

“Ardsley built memories this past weekend for kids all over the Hudson Valley area,” Zaslaw said. “We would love to build off this momentum and make this event a tradition.”

Ardsley 11U falls in Gold semifinals

Ardsley’s 11-and-under squad came up just short of reaching the Division 3 Gold bracket championship game, falling 5-4 to Grit North in a semifinal thriller on Aug. 9 at McDowell Park.

The game was originally scheduled for

the evening of Aug. 7 but was postponed because of rain. Ardsley erased an early 2-0 deficit with three runs in the fourth inning before Grit North tied the game at 3-3 in the bottom half. Neither team scored over the next two innings, sending the game to the seventh tied.

Ardsley pushed across a run in the top of the seventh to take a 4-3 lead, but Grit North responded with two runs in the bottom half to earn a walk-off victory.

Joseph Marsek delivered a strong start for Ardsley, allowing just one hit and no earned runs while striking out seven over five innings. Darius Weisman followed with 1.2 innings of relief, striking out three and allowing two runs, only one of which was earned. The duo combined to strike out 10 while allowing just five hits and one earned run.

Parker Goldberg led Ardsley’s seven-hit attack by going 2-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base. Marsek doubled for the Panthers, while Jack Cary, Dash Pechar, Drew Strongin, and Luke Forlenza each added a hit. Cary scored a run and stole two bases, while Strongin had a hit, scored a run, and swiped two bases. Pechar and Forlenza also stole two bases apiece as Ardsley finished with nine stolen bases.

The Panthers’ summer roster combined players from Ardsley’s 10U and 11U teams. Drew Marsek served as manager, with Chris Forlenza, David Pechar, and Shawn Lemerise also coaching the group. Ardsley Little League vice president David Evans served as a general manager for the team.

Ardsley’s full summer roster included Weisman, Pechar, Strongin, Ellis Newman, Henry Lewis, Jack Cary, Marsek, Forlenza, Goldberg, Nate Evans, James Morris, Conor Hamblenton, Devlin Riordan, Karty Lemerise, Matthew Chalmers, Patrick Chalmers, and Saxon Burr.

Local athletes contribute to Heat’s success

With four Rivertowns athletes in attendance for a nine-player squad, the Heat 14U Blue squad competed in the finals but lost in a 17-14 slugfest to NW Outlaws in the Division 4 championship game at Macy Park on Aug. 9.

The Heat’s Rivertowns athletes included third baseman Max Rodriguez of Ardsley, outfielder Lucas Chou of Dobbs Ferry, catcher Charlie Hyland of Hastings, and outfielder Henry Baxendale of Hastings. Players on the roster but not in attendance were Shai Sundheim (Hastings), Jae Choi-Phillips (Hastings), and Luke Green (Hastings).

The Heat fell behind 8-0 in the first inning but chipped away to eventually take a 14-11 lead in the third inning. NW Outlaws, however, rallied for six runs in the sixth inning to pick up the victory.

Chou recorded an RBI groundout and Rodriguez scored on a wild pitch to cut the deficit to 8-2 in the bottom of the first inning. Chou walked with the bases loaded in the second and Baxendale and Hyland were both hit by a pitch with the bases full to make it 11-5. Chou scored on a wild pitch to cut it to 11-7.

Rodriguez blasted a two-run double in the third inning to make it a two-run game. The Heat tied it up, then Baxendale’s RBI single gave them their first lead at 12-11. A two-run single made it a three-run ballgame.

In a 1-0 quarterfinal win over Westchester Elite on Aug. 5, Hyland pitched a complete-game shutout.

Hunter Hamlet, a rising senior at Ardsley, was a member of Heat Baseball White, which defeated TEB Eagles 16-7 on Aug. 8 in the 18U D3 high school division.

Heat 15U Black also made the finals in D4, falling 7-5 to Westchester Elite on Aug. 8. The team had two players from Hastings on the roster: Ian Weiss and Jonah Annett.



Ardsley’s Luke Forlenza follows through on a swing.



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