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p 11

Vol 2. Issue 41.

June 19, 2026

# RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

Local News,  
Locally Sourced  
~

\$2<sup>50</sup>

WWW.RIVERTOWNSDISPATCH.COM

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



Jacob Moon crosses home plate with his brother, Matthew, and sister, Ella.

## Moonball fundraiser races against time

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL  
DOBBS FERRY — By holding onto family and friends, 16-year-old Dobbs Ferry resident Jacob Moon was able to make his way around the bases at the sixth edition of Moonball, the kickball tournament organized to support him and fund research into Sanfilippo syndrome, the rare terminal disease that impacts his ability to walk, talk, and eat.

This year's games, on Saturday, June 13, at Waterfront Park, included 140 players in grades 3–8, spread across 13 kickball teams. The event raised roughly \$16,000.

Sanfilippo, which impacts one in 70,000 children, is caused by a single genetic defect that hinders the ability to break down a natural cellular waste that then clogs the brain and other parts of the body. Children with the condition typically begin the first few years of life on an average developmental trajectory before gradually losing certain

motor skills and experiencing hyperactivity and seizures. Those, like Jacob, who are diagnosed with Sanfilippo Type A, which is the most severe strain, are not expected to live past their teens.

Jacob's parents, Bill and Christine Moon, received Jacob's diagnosis nine years ago, when he was 7 years old. The couple also have a younger son, Matthew, now 13, and a daughter, Ella, 19.

Two years after his diagnosis, Jacob participated in the first Moonball fundraiser, where he was able to run on his own. This year, he rounded the bases assisted by his family members and his sister's friend, Ella O'Connell, as he participated in the Buddy Ball game that included his peers in a special needs class at Dobbs Ferry High School.

"To be honest, this year has been a little different for him," Christine Moon told the Dispatch. Before the Buddy Ball game, Jacob

was in a wheelchair. "He's been very stable for all these years, and there's just some changes where he's not able to walk as well and he's not able to eat as well. So, I wasn't sure that he was going to be able to do this."

Moonball is the brainchild of Brooke Bass and Patti Hartnett, who both have three children and have been friends with the Moons since before Jacob's diagnosis. Hartnett's daughter, Megan, and Jacob met in preschool. They would both be juniors now, but due to his particular needs, Jacob is a freshman in a special education program.

Jacob's peers "just had their junior formal, and they took their photos together and he's missing," Patti Hartnett said. "Nobody did anything to deserve it, nobody did anything not to deserve it, but we're having all of these rites of passage without Jacob because of his illness."

Continued on page 4

## Ride service to halt over insurance concerns

BY AMY BOCHNER

HASTINGS — The long-running Friends in Service Helping (F.I.S.H.) program, which offers free rides for Hastings seniors to medical appointments, is being suspended as of July 1.

The program was begun informally at the First Reformed Church in 1968 by a parishioner named Lyle Johnson. In 1973, F.I.S.H. became formalized with leadership. Three and a half years ago, Lynda and Martin Merchant took over from Nancy Balaban, who was the coordinator for 11 years. Lynda now serves in this role, answering phone calls from riders and connecting them with drivers.

There are currently 27 drivers, including Martin, and 30 riders, 12 of whom use the service every month. When the Merchants took over, there were about eight rides a month, which has grown to an average of 20–30 rides in 2026.

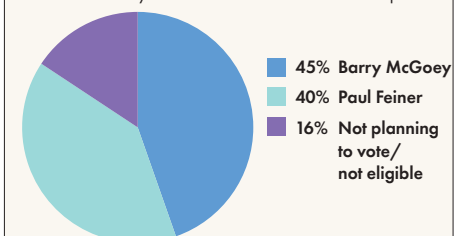
The suspension is the result of liability issues, according to Lynda Merchant. This has been on the Merchants' minds since they

Continued on page 14

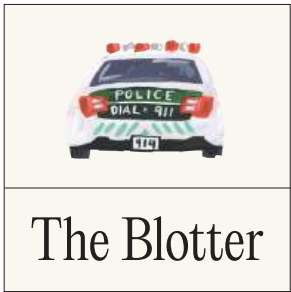
— You Answered —

Who are you planning to vote for in the Greenburgh Town Supervisor Democratic Primary on June 23?

As answered by 121 readers of the Rivertowns Dispatch



Vote at [rivertownsdispatch.com/the-weekly-poll](http://rivertownsdispatch.com/the-weekly-poll)



## The Blotter

### ARDSLEY

**Unauthorized transfer:** On June 12, an Ardsley resident reported that \$49,999.99 had been transferred from her checking account on April 23, and the phone number associated with her account had been changed. She learned about both through emails from her bank.

### DOBBS FERRY

**Theft from vehicle:** A laptop computer and an iPad were stolen from an unlocked vehicle on Irving Place between Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7.

**Washington burglary:** Tools were stolen from a home under construction

on Washington Avenue between Friday, June 12, and Saturday, June 13.

**Suspended license:** A 34-year-old Dobbs Ferry resident was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree, a misdemeanor, on Walgrove Avenue on Sunday, June 14. He was also cited for two vehicle-and-traffic violations.

**E-bike rules:** In the Village of Dobbs Ferry's email newsletter on June 14, the police department included a message about e-bikes being operated in an "aggressive or unsafe manner." The department noted that e-bike riders must be 16 or older, wear helmets, obey all traffic signs and signals, ride in single file, use lights and reflectors at night, not ride under the influence, and not carry passengers on bikes not designed for that purpose.

### HASTINGS

**Vehicle entered:** An un-

locked vehicle was entered on James Street between Sunday, June 7, and Monday, June 8. Nothing was stolen.

**Mischief to door:** An unidentified youth kicked and damaged the front door to a home on Jordan Road on the evening of Monday, June 8. The youth and two others fled on scooters.

**Suspended license:** A 33-year-old Yonkers resident was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree, a misdemeanor, on South Broadway (Route 9) on

the morning of Monday, June 15. He was also cited for two vehicle-and-traffic violations. Officer Wuilber Maldonado made the arrest.

### IRVINGTON

**Reckless driving arrest:** A 29-year-old Bronxville resident was arrested for reckless driving, a misdemeanor, on Main Street on the afternoon of Thursday, June 4. He was also cited for three vehicle-and-traffic violations. Officer Charles Girven made the arrest.

**DWI arrest:** A 36-year-old Middletown resident

was arrested for driving while intoxicated, a misdemeanor, on Broadway (Route 9) on the morning of Sunday, June 7. He was also cited for two vehicle-and-traffic violations. Officer Robert Spatafore made the arrest.

**Suspended license arrest:** A 58-year-old Peekskill resident was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the second degree, a misdemeanor, on Broadway on the morning of Tuesday, June 9. He was also cited for two vehicle-and-traffic violations. Officer Brandon Belles made the arrest.

### Coyote activity causes concern

Coyote sightings prompted social media posts from the Irvington Police Department on June 12 and the Hastings Police Department on June 15, as well as an email blast from Hastings.

In Irvington, coyotes were reported on West Sunnyside Lane on June 6, South Buckhout Street on June 10, and Station

Road, Leafwood Terrace, Lewis Road, Palliser Road, and at Dows Lane Elementary School on June 12. On Lewis Road, a coyote attacked a dog. In Hastings, the sightings were on Mount Hope Boulevard on June 14.

Both police departments urged residents to keep pets leashed, to secure food and trash, and to wave their arms and make loud noises if approached by a coyote.

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**BARRY McGOEY**  
★ for Greenburgh Town Supervisor ★  
**DEMOCRAT FOR CHANGE**

**ENDORSED BY:**

US Congressman **George Latimer** | County Executive **Ken Jenkins** | Assemblymember **MaryJane Shimsky** | County Legislator **David Imamura**

Ardsley Mayor **Steven Edelstein** | Dobbs Ferry Mayor **Christy Knell**  
Hastings-on-Hudson Mayor **Thomas Drake** | Irvington Mayor **Arlene Burgos**

PAID FOR BY THE GREENBURGH DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE | **BARRYFORGREENBURGH.COM**

**VOTE FOR BARRY IN THE JUNE 23 DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY! EARLY VOTING JUNE 13-21**

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER ORKIN LEWIS

# Local Curiosities



## Sun coverage

There's helpful shade in Galland's garden, but in a pinch, she reaches for a baseball cap. "Anything bigger gets in my way." Try this on-theme hat at Bloomy Cheese and Provisions, \$36.

— THE INSIDER'S LIST —

## Nora Galland's tips for summer gardening

The botanical artist and past president of the Garden Club of Irvington has an eye for the details

BY CHRISTY KNELL

After a career in information technology, Hastings resident Nora Galland dove deep into gardening, becoming a docent at Wave Hill Public Garden and then Untermyer Gardens. "Just like in programming and design, you have to figure out what you have to work with and what you want the machine to do for you," she said. "I wanted my garden to be a retreat from the world, and I think I've succeeded."

Galland joined the Garden Club of Irvington, which draws members well beyond the village — Ossining, Hartsdale, even Connecticut — and she eventually served as president. "They were very welcoming," she said, and encourages potential members to inquire.

Years of swapping notes with fellow gardeners built a strong foundation for her. "Know your Latin names for plants, otherwise you can end up with the wrong one," Galland said. The St. John's Wort commonly available, for instance, is often *Hypericum perforatum*, which is a European species, not the native *Hypericum* varieties better suited to the Rivertowns.

The interest has taken root in the next generation, too. Her grandson, Dobbs Ferry High School senior Nicolas Galland, just completed an internship tending the pollinator garden in the median of Southside Avenue in Hastings, and plans to study environmental science at Wesleyan University.

On tools, Galland's philosophy is simple: "Get the best you can afford, because they should last you forever." From her toolshed to her art studio, here's a look at what keeps Galland's garden thriving.



## Drought defier

Summer, Galland warned, is a tough season to start a garden, due to more heat, less rain, and dry soil. Her suggestion for a native to plant now: *Monarda fistulosa* (Wild Bergamot). Available at Terrapin Rose in Hastings.



## Trained eye

Galland's interest in gardening overlaps well with her passion for art. She trained in botanical illustration through the New York Botanical Garden's program (shown here: *Two Anemones*, watercolor, 14 x 17 inches). Her work was selected for the Garden Club of America's permanent collection. She paints and draws at her home studio and in Greenwich, Conn. [www.noragallandbotanicals.com](http://www.noragallandbotanicals.com)



## Tool kit

These four are what Galland calls her "to-live-by tools": FELCO 13 pruning shears, \$101, ("Many people like the 8 or the 2, but I like the larger size"), a garden fork (similar to Galland's is the Floral Society Forged Fork, \$56), a small shovel (Best Garden 44-inch wood handle round point shovel, \$21.49), and Wilcox all-pro trowel, \$20. Shears: back in stock soon at Terrapin Rose in Hastings; fork: [thefloralsociety.com](http://thefloralsociety.com); shovel: Hastings Paint & Hardware; trowel: [wilcoxallpro.com](http://wilcoxallpro.com).



## PlantNet

## Tech support

As weeds persist throughout the year, Galland uses the PlantNet app to help identify the new growth so she knows whether to pull it or keep it. Free at App Store and Google Play.

## Moonball

Continued from page 1

Since Moonball's debut in 2018, the tournaments have collectively raised tens of thousands of dollars, and helped the Moon family pay for necessary expenses as the disease progresses, including a ramp outside their home and a stairlift inside. In addition, money is donated to the Cure Sanfilippo Foundation, which supports research for treatment. This year marks an important turn in those efforts. On Sept. 19, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is scheduled to review — and potentially approve — a gene therapy treatment developed by Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical Inc.

"This one really seems to be on the 1-yard-line, but there have been a lot of therapies out there where the companies themselves kill the research because it didn't do what it's

supposed to do," Bill Moon told the Dispatch. "I'm hopeful, but weary. But if this is the real deal and Jacob has access to it, obviously we're going to be taking full advantage of that."

At each Moonball, Jacob's siblings are present, navigating the park with him, participating in the tournament, and often getting their friends involved. During the latest tournament, Matthew played bass in his band, The No Names, as one of four live musical acts during the event.

"I know this day is about Jacob, but I think Ella and Matthew do a great job, and as they've gotten older, they're taking more responsibility, and I think they're realizing the gravity of the situation," Bill Moon said. "So for them to be pitching in and participating in the way they're participating is amazing. Going forward, hopefully they'll do things for their community — not on behalf of Jacob, but just on causes they believe in."

Ella Moon just completed her first year at Syracuse University, which is the longest time she's spent away from Jacob since he was born. While speaking to the crowd before the Buddy Ball game, she became visibly emotional as she talked about Moonball as a day Jacob loves "because all of his favorite people come."

"Being away the first year has definitely been hard, and coming back and seeing how much my parents pour into not just Jacob's life, but Matthew's life too, which is equally as important," Ella told the Dispatch. "I was just a little emotional, but I'm OK with showing it. I think it's important for everyone to know that while it's a great day, things have changed."

While awaiting the FDA's decision about Ultragenyx's gene therapy treatment in September, the Moon family has its sights on personal provisions for Jacob, including bathroom renovations at their home, and

feeding tube surgery scheduled for July.

"It's something that we always knew was going to happen," Christine Moon explained. "While he does still eat by mouth, and does drink, and he's still maintaining his weight, feeding him is a process, and we don't know how many calories he's getting. So the feeding tube will ensure he gets the calories he needs."

As a mother of three, Bass gets overcome seeing Jacob's family push through the challenges, which increase during the years between each tournament. Bass credits the success of Moonball to the people who reach out to her about volunteering their time.

"At the end of the day we wish we didn't have to do this, but they're like family, so anything we can to help them feel good about their community and make their experience even a little better, that's why we do it," Bass said.

To donate or volunteer, visit [jacobmoonball.com](http://jacobmoonball.com).

### Planning awards recognize an array of projects

Projects in Ardsley and Hastings, as well as a collaborative study involving seven villages, were honored during the Westchester Municipal Planning Federation's 52nd annual awards ceremony on June 3.

The collaborative effort was a food scraps management study conducted by Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford, Hastings,

Irvington, Sleepy Hollow, and Tarrytown, which received a commendation for outstanding planning achievement.

The study establishes a roadmap for reducing food waste, increasing diversion, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and building a more resilient local materials system, according to an announcement from the Village of Hastings.

In addition, planning achievement awards were presented to the Village of

Ardsley for the renovation of Louis Pascone Memorial Park in 2025 and to the Village of Hastings for the 2025 update of its Comprehensive Plan.

Between the spring and fall of 2025, a new bandshell, playground, walking path, benches, tables, lights, and bicycle racks were installed at Pascone Park, which reopened last October. The park's restrooms were also upgraded.

Last updated in 2011, the Hastings

Comprehensive Plan uses smart-growth principles to set guidelines for future development. The plan was developed by a volunteer committee chaired by Ray Dovell.

Finally, Hastings High School graduate Owen Linder (Class of 2024) was awarded a scholarship to support his planning studies. He is pursuing a degree in geography, with a concentration in urban planning, at SUNY Binghamton.



**Open House**  
Sunday, June 20  
12-4 p.m.

## Room to Breathe

33 Oliphant Avenue, Dobbs Ferry

Set on beautifully landscaped .5-acre park-like grounds in Riverview Manor, moments from the Aqueduct Trail, this gracious 4-BR Colonial is thoughtfully designed to celebrate its exceptional setting. Living spaces throughout overlook level lawns, mature perennial gardens, stone retaining walls, and vibrant seasonal plantings, creating a seamless connection to the outdoors. An inviting 3-season sunroom and private stone patio further enhance the experience. The spacious primary suite enjoys year-round Hudson River views, while a family room with adjacent full bath offers excellent first-floor bedroom or home office potential.

**\$2,195,000**



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## ARDSLEY

— Coming Up This Week —

### Municipal Office Closure

Friday, June 19  
In observance of Juneteenth

### Juneteenth Celebration

Friday, June 19, 4–6 p.m.  
Pascone Park

The Multicultural, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee presents music, yoga, performances, and food trucks

### Wrestling Team Clothing Drive

Saturday, June 20, noon–3:30 p.m.  
Ardsley High School, back parking lot  
Drop off new and gently used clothing, sneakers, shoes, accessories, comforters, and towels. Put donations in a well-tied trash bag.

### Food Drive for the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry

Saturday, June 20, 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

### Movie Matinee: “Hamnet”

Monday, June 22, 2 p.m.  
Ardsley Public Library  
Register at [ardsleypubliclibrary.org](https://ardsleypubliclibrary.org)

### Free Class: Preparing for Emergencies

Monday, June 22, 6 p.m.  
Ardsley Rec Center, 18 Center St.  
Registration required at [prepare.ny.gov](https://prepare.ny.gov)

### Zoning Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 24, 8 p.m.  
Village Hall  
Agenda available at [ardslevillage.gov](https://ardslevillage.gov)

### Library Board Meeting

Thursday, June 25, 7 p.m.  
Ardsley Public Library

### End-of-year Ice Cream Social

Friday, June 26, 6–8 p.m.  
Pascone Park  
With inflatable attractions, live music, balloon sculptures, and a foam party

### Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at [amy@rivertownsdispatch.com](mailto:amy@rivertownsdispatch.com)



Hande Omur and Kagan Ates fill their plates from the potluck buffet.

## Temple sets table for cultural camaraderie

BY AMY BOCHNER

Rabbi Mara Young of Woodlands Community Temple greeted Muslim and Jewish guests, many hoisting platters and serving utensils, into the synagogue’s sanctuary for an annual interfaith fellowship dinner on June 14.

“Jews and Muslims are pitted as enemies in the media, basically anywhere you turn,” she told the Dispatch as participants trickled in. “We are living proof that is not the truth for everyday people.”

For the past decade, Woodlands and the Peace Islands Institute (PII), a regional nonprofit promoting interfaith dialogue, have hosted a meal for Jews and Muslims to help build friendships and connections. Emre Celik, the executive director of PII New York, told the Dispatch that the nonprofit’s mission is “to bring together people, not to wait for difficult circumstances.”

The tradition began in 2016, with Woodlands hosting an iftar, or a Ramadan dinner, with the Turkish Cultural Center, which would become PII. Irv Adler, now the vice president of facilities at Woodlands, organized that first dinner, with the hope of creating an alliance along faith lines.

With the exception of 2020, Woodlands and PII have continued to hold either an iftar or a fellowship dinner. On the Woodlands side, the event is now organized by Bridges to Faith & Friendship, a committee co-chaired by Evalyn Cohen and Trudy Holand. Over the years, the two organizations have also hosted a learning series called “The Same Only Different,” in which they explore the concepts and characters Judaism and Islam share.

A decade after the tradition began, Adler

believes fostering understanding between Muslims and Jews is more important than ever, stating, “Events around the world have strained some of these relationships here in the U.S.”

Less than a month prior to the dinner, two armed teenagers attacked the Islamic Center of San Diego, in California, killing three Muslim men at the mosque, which also houses a school of 140 students. In March, an armed man rammed an explosives-laden truck into a synagogue in West Bloomfield, Michigan, where over 100 children were attending the on-site preschool. One security guard was injured.

With both communities experiencing recent violence and an overall rise in hate crimes, the event coordinators decided to focus the evening on healing, as Celik told the crowd.

“We’re going through, sadly, a particular point in human history when the forces of division are working strongly, intentionally or otherwise,” he said. “People of goodwill — and that’s us — have to come together. It takes a lot more effort to build than it does to destroy... We take up that responsibility to be proactive during these difficult days and not to be apathetic during days that are not so difficult.”

Filling six tables, more than 60 Jewish and Muslim diners enjoyed a potluck menu that included pasta, pizza, hummus, and a Turkish dessert called “Noah’s Pudding.” Keeping with the event’s themes, leftovers were donated to Hope’s Door, a women’s shelter, by Woodlands member Yonatan Koch.

At one table, PII member Hasan Arslan met Woodlands members Rachel Wineberg and Shelli Katz. He shared what brought him back to the event after 10 years.

“The primary objective here is coexistence,

living together happily, tolerance, enjoying the food,” he said. “That’s what I enjoy, and meeting with new people, like Rachel and Shelli.”

Wineberg, who attended last year’s dinner, agreed. “The way that you overcome division is by meeting people on a human level, outside of labels [or] tribes,” she said.

One of the first-timers was Ardsley resident Bushra Siddiqui, who decided to attend the event after speaking with Young about Gaza.

“Me and a few other Muslims had come... we just needed to be heard,” Siddiqui said. “She opened up her office, and she sat with us after hours for a very long time... That will always stay with me. It was so wonderful that she did that, and she had said to me that [they] do this every year... This gives me hope.”

After the guests got to know one another, discussion questions were handed out to spark deeper conversation. In many conversations, people like Adler, the original organizer, found common ground in their experiences or family history.

“A lot of these folks [from PII] are newer immigrants,” he said. “They remind us of our own people who were immigrants, perhaps in the prior generation or two. Their story is very much what our story has been. It’s very easy for us to relate to them in that way.”

The participants also discussed what their two religions have in common, including the prophet Abraham (in Judaism) or Ibrahim (in Islam). Cohen said the two share similar traits and holidays, and that the event is a “good way of building oneness.”

PII member Hande Omur described the event as refreshing.

“It gives me that sense of peace and being

*Continued on page 14*

ARDSLEY

# Traffic and flooding issues keep Lawrence Street plan on hold

BY AMY BOCHNER

The Greenburgh Town Board postponed approving an amended site plan to develop 1 Lawrence Street, the 10.77-acre parcel between the Saw Mill River Parkway and Saw Mill River Road (Route 9A), into a facility for scaffolding storage and rental truck parking on June 10.

The vacant property, which is within unincorporated Greenburgh and the Ardsley School District, was formerly the site of an AkzoNobel chemical manufacturing plant. As a result of that usage, it was designated a brownfield because of contamination. The site was the subject of an environmental remediation through a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation cleanup program, which was certified as complete in May 2025. The current owners, referred to in the proposal as 1 Lawrence Ardsley, LLC, acquired the property after the DEC declaration.

The proposal is to create a 110,000-square-foot storage yard for scaffolding, 48 parking spaces for rental trucks, and 64 parking spaces for other vehicles. Approximately 4 acres on the north side of the property are unusable.

On behalf of the owners, an applicant team of engineers from JMC Engineering and CP Engineers are seeking various permits and approvals, including for steep slopes, tree



The gate to the property along Lawrence Street

removal, and wetland watercourse.

On April 15, the planning board found that the amended site plan application failed to satisfy the applicable site plan standards. The original plan was submitted in October 2024. The board provided a set of recommendations and concerns, which the applicants sought to address during the June 10 meeting.

A concern shared by the planning board

and town board was traffic flow. The Town's traffic engineer, John Canning, described this area as "one of the most difficult corridors and intersections in the town."

One of the planning board's recommendations was for the town board to review the feasibility of prohibiting left turns from 9A into the site's western driveway. Vehicles would instead need to enter from the eastern

driveway, closer to Saw Mill River Parkway. Trucks exiting the western driveway would be prohibited from turning left onto 9A between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m., as well as between 3 and 6 p.m. There would also be a prohibition for trucks turning right at both driveways toward Saw Mill River Parkway, where trucks are not allowed. Both driveways are proposed to have pedestrian facilities, including a new sidewalk, curb ramps, crosswalk markings, and a pedestrian warning system.

According to JMC senior project engineer Marc Petraro, there would be minimal tractor-trailer deliveries. These would be restricted from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. Another recommendation was to install a no-turn-on-red sign on the Lawrence Street approach to Route 9A.

Town board members expressed concern over the turning restrictions. Councilwoman Ellen Hendrickx described existing dangerous driving behavior on Lawrence Street, like aggressive passing and people going the wrong way. She worried that more trucks would make an already hazardous area more so.

Town Supervisor Paul Feiner questioned the impact on the safety of employees of Rivertowns Square who commute by bus to Saw Mill River Road and then must walk along Lawrence Street to reach the shopping center.

*Continued on page 15*

## Greenburgh. A great town to live and work in!

### Re - Elect PAUL FEINER, Town Supervisor

- High rankings from Fortune and Money magazines.
- Town finances strong, well managed, per Moody's Aaa credit rating, affirmed June 12, 2026. Highest rating for only about 2% of municipalities, enabling lowest interest rates.
- Business-friendly policies attract employment, stimulate commercial activity and strengthen the tax base: Knicks training center, Regeneron expansion, supermarkets, restaurants, etc.
- Ongoing infrastructure improvements: new sidewalks, new parklands, etc.
- Quality Town services provided by dedicated employees.
- A devoted, independent Supervisor who cares to give constituents extraordinary personal service. Paul will enthusiastically answer your calls even after Election Day!



#### Early Poll Sites

- Greenburgh Town Hall
- Hastings Public Library

DEMOCRATIC  
PRIMARY 2026

Early Voting  
June 13-21

Primary Day  
June 23

[www.paulfeiner.com](http://www.paulfeiner.com)

Paid for by Friends of Paul Feiner, Carrie Feiner Trenk, Treasurer



## DOBBS FERRY

— Coming Up This Week —

### Food Drive for the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry

Saturday, June 20, 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

### Stand-up Comedy Showcase

Saturday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.  
Dobbs Ferry Public Library

Email [reference@dobbsferrylibrary.org](mailto:reference@dobbsferrylibrary.org) to sign up  
For ages 18 and up

### Trivia Night

Tuesday, June 23, 7 p.m.  
Memorial Park

### Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 6:30 p.m. for the workshop and 7:30 for the regular meeting  
Village Hall  
Agenda available at [dobbsferry.gov](http://dobbsferry.gov)

### School Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 7 p.m.  
Middle/high school library  
Agenda available at [dfs.org](http://dfs.org)

### Summer Reading Kick-off

Wednesday, June 24, 2–3 p.m.  
Dobbs Ferry Public Library  
The Greenburgh Nature Center brings live animals for ages 2–12.  
Register by emailing [childrens@dobbsferrylibrary.org](mailto:childrens@dobbsferrylibrary.org)

### Romance Book Club

Wednesday, June 24, 6–7 p.m.  
Dobbs Ferry Public Library  
Discuss "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen

### Mobile Shredder

Thursday, June 25, 9 a.m.–noon  
Waterfront Park

### Movie on the Trail: "A Minecraft Movie"

Friday, June 26, 8:30 p.m.  
Keeper's House  
Bring your own chair or blanket and refreshments

### Got news?

Email staff writer Julian Michael Caldwell at [julian@rivertownsdispatch.com](mailto:julian@rivertownsdispatch.com)



Katie Hung, Chloe Runge, Ava Chabert, Katherine Baizan, Francesca Guido, and Lyla Wallen

## Girl Scouts reflect on good deeds and growth

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Six friends who spent the last 13 years building a tight bond as Girl Scouts will graduate from Dobbs Ferry High School together on June 20, less than a week after another significant rite of passage.

On June 14, Katherine Baizan, Ava Chabert, Francesca Guido, Katie Hung, Chloe Runge, and Lyla Wallen, who all joined Girl Scouts in Dobbs Ferry as kindergartners (known as Daisies), were celebrated for their commitment and achievements during a bridging ceremony, their final official function as Girl Scouts, at the Dobbs Ferry Historical Society's Mead House.

"I feel like that event was the closing of this really long period in our lives, and I feel like we don't always acknowledge how much we've done together," Wallen told the Dispatch. "So that was an event that allowed us to think back to all of those memories we created together."

"I don't think it really hit me that it was my last event as a Girl Scout," Baizan said. "I actually asked our leaders midway through, 'Wait — this is it?'"

Not only have the girls been a constant in each other's lives, but their mothers have become close friends, with Baizan describing her friend's moms as her aunts. Three of the six girls' mothers — Valerie Runge, Meagan Baizan, and Carmita Abrig — have served as their troop leaders since the beginning.

"I did get really emotional at the last circle," Hung explained. "We all hold hands at the end of each meeting and we were able to do it with the younger Scouts [at the bridging ceremony], and I thought it was a really important moment for me, and kind of full circle. We've been together for so many years, even when we were tiny little kids, so having them join us at the end was really cute."

The six girls will attend separate colleges.

Guido plans to study stage management at Ithaca College, Wallen plans to study architecture at Syracuse University, and Hung plans to study biology at SUNY Binghamton. Chabert plans to major in environmental science and embark on the pre-veterinary medicine track at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Baizan plans to major in criminology and criminal justice at the University of Rhode Island, and Runge will attend Sienna University, where she plans to study marketing and advertising.

"Through Girl Scouts I really have found my voice."

Katherine Baizan

Scout cookies and magazines.

"Being able to make a product likable is really important to how successful your troop is," Runge said. "That gauged the amount we were able to do during the year and what we were able to do for other communities in need."

In addition to her criminology and criminal justice major, Baizan plans to minor in leadership and forensics.

"My minor in leadership 100 percent is influenced by Girl Scouts," Baizan explained. "Leadership is something that was not natural to me at first. I was actually very shy, very timid, and did not like public speaking, but through Girl Scouts I really have found my voice."

By sticking with the Girl Scouts for 13 years, the girls earned dozens of badges and patches, and completed dozens of

community service activities, such as collecting canned goods for the Dobbs Ferry Food Pantry, collecting wrapping paper for holiday drives, preparing hot chocolate mason jars for senior citizens at Cabrini of Westchester, and cleaning up trash at Chauncey Square. At the bridging ceremony, the girls received certificates from Gov. Kathy Hochul, and an in-person visit from Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson chapter CEO Kari Rockwell.

Wallen admitted it wasn't always an easy or celebrated decision to stick with Scouting all these years.

"I think that as we got older, people maybe judged a little bit that we were in Girl Scouts, or they would be too embarrassed to continue with it," Wallen said. "And I think it taught me a lot to go out into the world and proudly be a Girl Scout, and say, 'Do you want to buy my cookies even though I'm not what you expect when you see a Girl Scout, because you expect a younger girl?'"

Though they've moved on from being active Girl Scouts, the girls plan to either help with the Dobbs Ferry troop behind them when they can, or find Girl Scout troops to mentor in the areas where they're going to college. Formally, Girl Scouts offers a lifetime membership for adult members to support the next generations of Girl Scouts.

As Runge prepares for life after high school, she has a message for current Girl Scouts, like her 14-year-old sister, Kayla, who will be a freshman in the fall.

"Continue doing Girl Scouts and being a positive part of your community," Runge said. "The badges that you're earning — yes, they're really nice-looking, but when you really take the time to look at all of your accomplishments, you'll see how far you've come and how many lives you've changed because of what you've done as a Girl Scout."

DOBBS FERRY

# District's inventive math specialist ends 20-year tenure

BY LAURA SCHILLER

An unsolved spaghetti problem taught Josh Rosen one of the most valuable lessons of his career.

In graduate school, a professor presented this probability challenge: If a strand of spaghetti is broken at random into three pieces, what are the chances they can form a triangle?

Rosen never figured it out, but “I did a lot of really good thinking and made progress along the way,” he told the Dispatch. The process later shaped his approach to teaching over the next two decades and his belief that puzzles and games offer students a different pathway into mathematics.

“Sometimes they help students who don’t necessarily see themselves as traditional math students,” he said. “They teach perseverance, deepen thinking, and help kids discover strengths they might not realize they have.”

Rosen, who has helped students, parents, and teachers in the Dobbs Ferry School District appreciate and explore math, will leave his post as the K-8 math coordinator on June 25 to take on a new position in Mamaroneck.

In 2006, Rosen was hired as the district’s first math specialist after working at a school in California. “It was exciting to have an opportunity to shape the role a little bit,” he said.

While part of his work involved supporting



Josh Rosen at Springhurst Elementary School

students who needed extra help, much of his role centered on coaching teachers and leading professional development.

Some of Rosen’s most lasting contributions extended beyond the classroom. One initiative he is particularly proud of is Family Math Night, which has brought students and parents together for games, puzzles, and pizza since 2016.

“It’s like a celebration of math,” Rosen said. “There’s something really rewarding about seeing parents and kids enjoying math together.”

The event became a community favorite, drawing as many as 300 participants.

A highlight of Rosen’s career came in 2012, when then-Springhurst Elementary School Principal Julia Drake nominated him for the Presidential Award for Excellence in

Mathematics and Science Teaching. After submitting teaching materials and a classroom video, he was selected as New York State’s recipient, an honor that included a visit to the White House, where he met President Obama.

“What was most meaningful to me wasn’t necessarily the award itself,” Rosen recalled. “It was that my principal had done her own research and thought, ‘I have someone in my building who could be a strong candidate,’ and then encouraged me to go for it.”

Another highlight of Rosen’s time in Dobbs Ferry was leading “Lesson Study,” a decade-long instructional initiative in which teachers collaborated to design, observe, and refine lessons. He traveled to Japan in 2012 as one of a group of international educators selected for a 12-day “Lesson Study” immersion program with its founder, Makoto Yoshida.

“It was an amazing form of professional development,” Rosen said. “You weren’t talking about teaching in the abstract. You were watching students learn in real time and then discussing what happened together.”

Rosen also helped spark a districtwide love of KenKen, the popular logic-and-number puzzle invented in Japan. For eight years, Dobbs Ferry students participated in a KenKen tournament, and one of Rosen’s favorite

*Continued on page 15*

**“My five year old counts down the days to her appointments and actually jumps for joy when it’s time to go.”**  
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# HASTINGS- ON-HUDSON

— Coming Up This Week —

## Farmers Market

Saturday, June 20, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue  
For details, visit [hastingsfarmersmarket.org](http://hastingsfarmersmarket.org)

## Hastings on Jazz

Sunday, June 21, 3–5:30 p.m.  
VFW Plaza  
The weekly summer series continues with the David Janeway Quintet  
Rain location: James Harmon Community Center

## Inclusion Workshop Group Parent Meeting

Monday, June 22, 6:30 p.m.  
Hastings Public Library  
For the agenda or questions, email [iwg@ptsahastings.org](mailto:iwg@ptsahastings.org)

## Music Time with Adam Hart

Tuesday, June 23, 10:45–11:15 a.m.  
Hastings Public Library  
For ages 10 months–5 years and their caretakers

## Movin' the Mind & Groovin' the Balance

Tuesday, June 23, 1–2 p.m.  
Hastings Public Library  
Movement class for people with Parkinson's disease or balance challenges

## Knitting and Crocheting

Tuesday, June 23, 2:30–5 p.m.  
Hastings Public Library

## Senior Thursday

Thursday, June 25  
Screening of "Four Weddings and a Funeral" 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.

## Zoning Board Meeting

Thursday, June 25, 7 p.m.  
Village Hall

## Summer Reading Kickoff Celebration

Friday, June 26, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Hastings Public Library  
Featuring games, art projects, and ice cream  
Register at [bit.ly/3PVVDt3](http://bit.ly/3PVVDt3)

## Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at [amy@rivertownsdispatch.com](mailto:amy@rivertownsdispatch.com)



Marie-Louise Miller talks with John Maggiotto on June 14.

## Upstream artists celebrate gallery's impact

*Exhibit and events mark  
35th anniversary*

BY RITA WALTON

The member-owned Upstream Gallery is marking its 35th anniversary in the Rivertowns with an exhibition and events this month. The celebration began on June 7 with an opening reception for the anniversary show, featuring work by 22 Upstream artists.

On June 14, five of those artists participated in a session of short talks, moderated by Mary-Louise Miller of Hastings, an associate dean at The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry. John Maggiotto, Eleanor Goldstein, Susan Richman, Susan MacMurdy, and Peter Malone spoke about their art, their predecessors, and the history and longevity of the gallery.

Maggiotto, a photographer and longtime Hastings resident, noted that in the 1970s and 1980s, cooperative galleries and exhibition spaces were created across the country by artists seeking an alternative to dealers and museums. Upstream continues this tradition of artists presenting their own works to the public.

Goldstein, a painter and sculptor who also lives in Hastings, paid tribute to earlier Upstream members, now deceased, who welcomed and nurtured other artists. She mentioned Arline Simon, Mary Rankin, June Otani, Luis Perelman, and Allen Hart as accomplished artists who were active members of the gallery.

Founded in Hastings in 1991, Upstream moved to Dobbs Ferry before returning to Hastings in 2014. The impetus for the gallery came from Mel Lipman, a lawyer and

artist who lived in the Rivertowns.

Mitch Goldberg, a painter who lives in Scarsdale, and who served as president of the gallery from 2009 to 2025, noted that Lipman placed a classified ad in a newspaper in 1990 or 1991, asking if other artists were interested in forming a cooperative art gallery in the Rivertowns. Several people responded.

In an email to the Dispatch, Goldberg wrote, "I joined Upstream in 2004. I don't know where our name came from, but I do know that the original members had many passionate discussions about it before choosing 'Upstream Gallery.' We are up the river from Manhattan, and they tackled a goal that was difficult to achieve, so it fits us well."

As a cooperative, members pay dues, and membership meetings take place once a month. While the gallery president can make some decisions in consultation with other officers, all important decisions must be made by the entire group, according to Goldberg.

Upstream members have solo shows approximately every 18 months, which can vary from artist to artist. Upstream also presents four annual juried shows, generally under the themes of Small Works, Photography, PaperWorks, and Drawn from Life, though this, too, can vary.

"I have always been proud to say that with our juried shows for nonmembers, as well as our member shows, hundreds of artists have the opportunity each year to show their work at our gallery," Goldberg wrote. "Upstream Gallery has always been eager to serve our community as well as our member artists."

Upstream strives for an emphasis on quality, community, and providing a venue for various art forms. According to the gallery's

website, "Our artists encourage each other in experimentation and development of technique, fostering mutual artistic growth. We embrace all fine arts media and styles — from realism to abstraction."

This sentiment was echoed by Richman, a photographer who lives in Hastings. After working as a commercial photographer, she got married, had twins, and set aside her cameras. Later, when her children studied photography at Hastings High School, her interest was rekindled. She joined Upstream about 15 years ago.

"As an artist you have to be extremely self-motivated," she told the Dispatch. "Having an exhibit every 18 months is a great motivator, constantly making me work and reinvent my work and push myself. Upstream also creates a community, which is important, too. For most artists, you're working alone. This is a space to be safe and to share your work and ideas. Without being a member of Upstream, I don't know if I would have accomplished as much in my career."

Richman noted that moving the gallery to Hastings from Dobbs revitalized Upstream. The space in Hastings is larger and gets more foot traffic than the former location in Dobbs.

Upstream also encourages use of its space for community events. Book readings, painting classes, concerts, and drumming circles are examples of events Upstream has hosted.

Upstream Gallery, 8 Main St., is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 12:30–5:30 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. The current exhibit will be up until Sunday, June 28, when a closing reception will be held from 2–5 p.m.

## HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON

# Nursery school parents step up to support ‘Irenie Beanie’

BY AMY BOCHNER

When Irene Balint-Wemer — or “Irenie Beanie,” as her students affectionately call her — announced she was leaving Hastings Nursery School (“the Co-op”) after 30 years with no pension or severance pay, a group of parents launched a fundraiser for the beloved teacher.

As of June 17, \$8,800 of the \$25,000 goal has poured in on the platform FreeFunder.

Balint-Wemer, who holds dual New York State certification in early childhood and children with special needs, began her career at the Alcott Montessori School in 1979. After her two children attended the Co-op, Balint-Wemer joined as a teacher in 1995. She currently serves as the school’s education director. Balint-Werner is also an early childhood therapist and special education itinerant teacher (SEIT) for children with special needs.

Over the past 30 years, she has taught more than 360 children at the Co-op, and helped countless more as the education director. Her contributions to the school include helping to develop the educational component of the program, as well as starting a summer camp, which she ran for 10 years. She is currently pursuing work as a SEIT.

For Balint-Wemer, the most important lessons that take place in a preschool aren’t



Irene Balint-Wemer

necessarily the academics, but teaching “respect, how to be a friend, how to really love yourself and accept who you are, and how to accept others for who they are.”

According to her philosophy, the classroom is comparable to a garden.

“Each child is like a seed, and all the potential is in that seed to grow,” she told the Dispatch. “It is the school environment,

the teachers, and the parents that need to work together to give the nutrients to that seed, so the child can bloom in their own time and at their own pace.”

The fundraiser is intended to both honor Balint-Wemer and to generate a landing pad for her as, at age 71, she transitions to her next role. Several parents participating in the campaign referred to her as a “child whisperer.”

Andrew Bordwin, whose children attended the Co-op in the early 2000s, said, “She really understands the mind of a child. My wife and I learned a lot from Irene, because, as new parents, we found the environment to be a learning place for us as well. We saw in the classroom a level of harmony that was quite uncommon, because she understands what to expect from 2-, 3-, and 4-year-olds... and the kids had a great deal of affection for her.”

Balint-Wemer’s kindness extended beyond the classroom. Nina Segal, whose twins attended the Co-op around 15 years ago, found the educator to be “always looking out for those that needed help.”

“That could be something like compromising on tuition if there was a family in need, taking a sibling into camp as a counselor because it made it easier for a parent,” Segal said. “She just bent over backwards to make sure that families had what they needed.”

Marie-Louise Miller, a former Co-op board president whose children attended the school from 2005–2009, described her experience with Balint-Wemer as “collaborative.”

“There would be times when I didn’t know what to do next, because things weren’t going so well,” Miller said. “Sometimes, little kids are really hard, and Irene was never judgmental.”

*Continued on page 14*



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# IRVINGTON

— Coming Up This Week —

## Municipal Office Closure

Friday, June 19

In observance of Juneteenth

## Juneteenth Block Party

Friday, June 19, 4–7 p.m.

Scenic Hudson Park, Bridge Street  
Festivities with music, dancing, double Dutch,  
food, and drinks

## “Needles at Noon”

Saturday, June 20, 12–1:30 p.m.

Irvington Public Library

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

## Farmers Market

Sunday, June 21, 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Main Street School, 101 Main St.

For details, visit [irvingtonfarmersmarket.org](http://irvingtonfarmersmarket.org)

## Architectural Review Board Meeting

Monday, June 22, 8 p.m.

Village Hall

To attend via Zoom, visit [irvingtonny.gov](http://irvingtonny.gov)

## Virtual Program: White Sharks

Wednesday, June 24, 11 a.m.–noon

For the Zoom link, visit [irvingtonlibrary.org](http://irvingtonlibrary.org)

## Ice Cream Social

Thursday, June 25, 4–7 p.m.

Matthiessen Park

Featuring music by The Gentleman Brawlers

## Senior Movie: “Sandlot”

Friday, June 26, 10:30 a.m.

Irvington Public Library

## Free Community Concert:

### Long Story Short

Friday, June 26, 6–8 p.m.

Matthiessen Park Stage

## Artist Reception:

### “Experience Greenburgh History”

Saturday, June 27, 2:30–4:30 p.m.

Irvington Public Library

## “Treason of the Blackest Dye”

On view Saturdays and Thursdays,

1–4 p.m., through August

McVickar House, 131 Main St.

## Got news?

Email staff writer Julian Michael Caldwell at

[julian@rivertownsdispatch.com](mailto:julian@rivertownsdispatch.com)



Natalie George (left) and Toby Lowenbraun (center) participate in the race.

## 12-year-olds raise funds for health cause

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

A pair of 12-year-old Irvington Middle Schoolers have raised thousands of dollars to help find a cure for the autoimmune diseases they know too well. On Sunday, June 14, children and adults raced two laps around the Richmond Hill townhouse community for the 6th Annual Crohn’s & Colitis Fundraiser, led by Toby Lowenbraun, who has Crohn’s disease, and Natalie George, who has ulcerative colitis, both of which impact the digestive system.

In 2020, at the height of the pandemic, Lowenbraun was hospitalized for four days and diagnosed with Crohn’s, which causes chronic inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract when a person’s immune system mistakenly attacks harmless bacteria. Symptoms include abdominal pain, persistent diarrhea, loss of appetite, weight loss, fatigue, and delayed growth in children. Lowenbraun has been in remission for almost six years, a result of a medication called Remicade, which is administered via intravenous infusion.

“He hasn’t experienced symptoms, but I do think it’s a heavy load for a 12-year-old to carry that every six weeks he needs to go to a hospital and sit there with other patients,” Toby’s mother, Lisa Lowenbraun, told the Dispatch. “And sometimes he has to leave school early for it. So it’s a constant reminder and it’s not something most kids have to deal with.”

Toby first launched the fundraiser in 2021 as a means of raising money for the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation, which is committed to supporting research for drugs that provide relief from symptoms, as well as the search for a cure, so that people like him would not need to repeatedly take medication. The foundation also pushes education

and health literacy programs to inform more people about the diseases.

“Raising awareness is a big part of it, because the more people that know about it, the more people that can help and can help us find what we need for a cure,” Toby explained. He added that he’s interested in a career as a gastroenterologist and in discovering a cure for Crohn’s.

The foundation’s website explains that Crohn’s can be diagnosed at any age, but is most prevalent in people between the ages of

get less anxiety about it.”

“She’s really gotten stronger and stronger as the medication continues to work,” Natalie’s mom, Stefi George, added. “It’s been a very positive year for her. She’s been able to really participate in her activities without a lot of interruption.”

Those activities include dance classes, and tennis and piano lessons. On Sunday, Natalie ran half a lap, giving herself time to finish setting up the finish line before the first runners completed the race. As he does each year, Toby ran the race in a toilet bowl costume, poking fun at his condition and the theme of the event.

This year, the fundraiser brought in more than \$14,000 in donations from those who registered to participate in the race, bought baked goods, or played other games like cornhole and ring toss. According to the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation, since the first event in 2021, Toby and Natalie’s Irvington fundraisers have raised roughly \$75,000.

“It feels great,” Toby said. “I feel like a lot of times, before I even start thinking about it [the fundraiser], my friends start thinking about it, and it’s good to know I’m making a difference. Now they know what it’s about and they can tell other people and spread the word.”

This year’s fundraiser featured race and raffle prizes from the Irvington Pizza Company, Bliss Bakehouse, and Geordanes, and drew a visit from the foundation’s Connecticut/Westchester chapter executive director, Jennifer Jara. For their first year running the fundraiser under the name “Chronic Generosity,” Toby and Natalie created branded T-shirts and raffled some that they autographed.

Chronic Generosity is still accepting donations online at [tinyurl.com/ChronicGenerosity](http://tinyurl.com/ChronicGenerosity).

“Raising awareness is a big part of it, because the more people that know about it, the more people that can help...”

Toby Lowenbraun

15 and 35, while most people with ulcerative colitis are first diagnosed in their mid-30s.

Natalie was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis in 2022, when she was a fourth-grader. She spent the first two weeks of the school year in a hospital after beginning to have bloody stools, losing weight, and becoming so sick she couldn’t eat or drink. In 2024, Natalie was started on the medication Entyvio, via infusion, which she takes every seven weeks.

“It has actually improved because my medication’s been working really well,” Natalie explained. “I used to have a lot of random stomach pain, and now I don’t really have as much stomach pain. And when my condition used to be really bad, I used to get really bad anxiety about it, but now I

## IRVINGTON

# Black History exhibit brings local luminaries into focus

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

An exhibit celebrating the people, places, and moments that play significant roles in local Black History is on display at the Martucci Gallery in the Irvington Public Library through June. The Greenburgh Black History Museum Initiative features photos and text sharing the stories of the likes of entrepreneur Madame C.J. Walker, who was the first female self-made millionaire in the United States, and Lois Bronz, who was the first woman to serve as chair of the Westchester County Board of Legislators.

The museum initiative debuted at the Greenburgh Public Library in February 2025, with an exhibit featuring 22 panels of photos and information about prominent past and present Black residents of Greenburgh. The display has since traveled to locations such as Greenburgh Town Hall and the Westchester Community College Library, while being managed by a team of 14 volunteers with the nonprofit Fairview Empowerment Group (FEG), led by chair Johan Snaggs, a resident of unincorporated Greenburgh.

“Some history has been relegated to the sidelines to some degree, and everything that happens in America is American history,” Snaggs told the Dispatch. “There are people who used to be neighbors of Irvington and residents of Irvington who have contributed,

to a large degree, to create the Greenburgh and America that we now enjoy.”

Since its launch in 2025, the initiative has expanded to include more subjects than were covered at the Greenburgh Public Library, including Bronz, and Foster Memorial AME Zion Church, which is one of the oldest Black churches in Westchester and was a stop on the Underground Railroad. As FEG receives more pitches for people and places to include, the group follows an induction protocol that

“There is no shortage of luminaries within Greenburgh that we could highlight, both people and places.”

Johan Snaggs

includes reaching out to the individuals or their family members for information and photographs that can create a presentable narrative to add to the exhibit.

“There is no shortage of luminaries within Greenburgh that we could highlight, both people and places,” Snaggs explained. “We’ve had quite a few interesting additions, both

that are hyperlocal heroes, as well as regional within Westchester.”

The Martucci Gallery space is unable to accommodate the entire Greenburgh Black History Museum Initiative’s current collection, but prominently features people like Irvington resident Walker, “Out Roots Run Deep” author Harold A. Esannason, and World War II Coast Guard member Olivia J. Hooker, a clinical psychologist who was one of the oldest living survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre before dying in 2018 at 103 years old. Before they passed, Snaggs knew Esannason, who died in May of this year, and Hooker, who was his next-door neighbor, personally. Hooker’s exhibit in the collection was recently updated to include information about the Coast Guard cutter that was commissioned in her name in January, in Mississippi. A QR Code in the exhibit allows visitors to view a video clip of the ceremony.

“It was such a privilege to know somebody like Dr. Olivia Hooker, like Harold Esannason before they actually transitioned, and I feel like in a very small part I was a part of their history, and they’ve become a big part of mine,” Snaggs said.

FEG has its sights on securing a permanent location for the Greenburgh Black History Museum Initiative. For now, in addition to finding temporary locations like the

Martucci Gallery to display the collection, FEG is working on a public art project of 11 banners featuring images of important Black figures with local ties to be installed across Greenburgh. According to Snaggs, a banner featuring Madame C.J. Walker is planned to be displayed in Irvington, after FEG receives the necessary state approvals for all of the sites throughout the town. FEG is also in conversation with the Cab Calloway Foundation about multiple ways to honor the legendary musician, who lived on Knollwood Road in the Parkway Gardens section of Greenburgh. The museum collection features multiple figures who lived in Parkway Gardens, such as the iconic photographer and videographer Gordon Parks.

“I think it’s worthwhile for everybody to have that experience of visiting to understand where a lot of their benefits and privileges came from,” Snaggs said. “It’s all from the backs, blood, sweat, and tears of people who were here before, and it wouldn’t hurt us at all to know a few of their names and their stories.”

The Martucci Gallery at the Irvington Public Library, 12 S. Astor St., will host the Black History collection through June 30, with a reception Saturday, June 27, from 2:30–4:30 p.m. The gallery is open during library hours: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and 10 a.m.–9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



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# The Agenda

## SATURDAY JUNE 20

### Stand-up Comedy Showcase

#### DOBBS FERRY

7:30 p.m. / Free. Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St. For ages 18 and up. Plus live music by Polish John and free beer for ages 21 and up courtesy of Captain Lawrence Brewing Co. Email [reference@dobbsferrylibrary.org](mailto:reference@dobbsferrylibrary.org) to sign up.

### Path Through History

#### TARRYTOWN

10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m. / \$42, \$40 for seniors, \$35 for kids (ages 12 and up). Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Tour of the landscape and historic mansion. Also Sunday. Advance tickets required. [lyndhurst.org](http://lyndhurst.org)

### Houston Person Quintet

#### TARRYTOWN

7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$40, \$35 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. The 91-year-old tenor saxophonist plays bluesy jazz in celebration of Juneteenth. [jazzforumarts.org](http://jazzforumarts.org)

### “Girls Gone Bible”

#### TARRYTOWN

7 p.m. / \$17–\$25. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. The hosts of the Christian podcast share their faith-based message. [tarrytownmusic hall.org](http://tarrytownmusic hall.org)

### Ode to Francis Saltus Saltus

#### SLEEPY HOLLOW

7 p.m. / \$30. Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, North Gate, 540 N. Broadway. For ages 15 and up. [visitsleepyhollow.com](http://visitsleepyhollow.com)

### Fish Migration Celebration

#### YONKERS

11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. / Free. Habirshaw Park. Kick off the day-long journey of fish-themed boats following the Atlantic sturgeon’s Hudson River migration route from Yonkers to Newburgh. [riverkeeper.org](http://riverkeeper.org)

### Juneteenth Storytelling

#### YONKERS

2 p.m. / \$15 for adults, \$8 for ages 3–18, \$9 for students and seniors, free for members and children under 3. Hudson River Museum, 511 Warburton Ave. African affirmations and interactive performance by Subomi Macaulay. [hrm.org](http://hrm.org)

## SUNDAY JUNE 21

### Outdoor Live Music: Jake Stone Moran

#### DOBBS FERRY

2–5 p.m. / No cover charge. Hudson Social, 11 Station Plaza. [hudsonsocial.com](http://hudsonsocial.com)

### “Hastings on Jazz”

#### HASTINGS



A Stand-up Comedy Showcase will be held on Saturday, June 20, at the Dobbs Ferry Public Library.

3–5:30 p.m. / Free. VFW Plaza, 558 Warburton Ave. The weekly summer series continues with the David Janeway Quintet featuring Craig Handy on sax/flute and Freddie Hendrix on trumpet. Rain location: James Harmon Community Center, 44 Main St. [destinationhastings.org](http://destinationhastings.org)

### Brazilian Quartet

#### TARRYTOWN

4 and 6 p.m. / \$25, \$20 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Featuring pianist Steve Sandberg and Hendrik Meurkens on harmonica. [jazzforumarts.org](http://jazzforumarts.org)

### Summer Solstice Tea

#### TARRYTOWN

Noon, 1 and 2 p.m. / \$35. Washington Irving’s Sunnyside, 3 W. Sunnyside Lane. Featuring hands-on crafts and grazing boxes. Advance tickets required. [hudsonvalley.org](http://hudsonvalley.org)

### Summer Solstice Gathering

#### TARRYTOWN

Noon–1:30 p.m. / \$15, \$20 for nonmembers. Shames JCC, 371 S. Broadway. Featuring meditation and sound healing. [shamesjcc.org](http://shamesjcc.org)

### Gardening Volunteer Day

#### YONKERS

8 a.m.–1 p.m. / Free. Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St. Gardeners of all levels are invited to help in the Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden. [hras.org](http://hras.org)

### Seasonal Highlights Walk

#### YONKERS

11 a.m. / \$15. Untermyer Park and Gardens, 945 N. Broadway. Purchase tickets at [untermyergardens.org](http://untermyergardens.org)

## MONDAY JUNE 22

### Matinee Movie: “Hamnet”

#### ARDSLEY

2 p.m. / Free. Ardsley Public Library, 9 American Legion Drive. Register at [ardsleypubliclibrary.org](http://ardsleypubliclibrary.org)

## TUESDAY JUNE 23

### Jazz: 4 West

#### HASTINGS

7–9 p.m. / No cover charge. Uncle Lefty’s, 583 Warburton Ave. [uncleleftys.com](http://uncleleftys.com)

### Trivia Night

#### DOBBS FERRY

7–9 p.m. / Free. Memorial Park. Up to six people per team; ages 18 and up. Teams that compete in at least four of the weekly Trivia Nights through July 21 qualify to win prizes. Sign up at [dobbsferry.gov/recreation-department](http://dobbsferry.gov/recreation-department)

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 24

### Matinee Movie

#### TARRYTOWN

2–3:45 p.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. Screening of the 1959 crime drama “Compulsion.” [warnerlibrary.org](http://warnerlibrary.org)

### Aziz Ansari: Hypothetical Tour

#### TARRYTOWN

7 p.m. / \$57–\$77. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. [tarrytownmusic hall.org](http://tarrytownmusic hall.org)

## THURSDAY JUNE 25

### Outdoor Live Music: Nick DiBari Band

#### DOBBS FERRY

6–9 p.m. / No cover charge. Hudson Social, 11 Station Plaza. [hudsonsocial.com](http://hudsonsocial.com)

### Live Jazz

#### DOBBS FERRY

7–9:15 p.m. / No cover charge. Mirabella Cocina Latina Restaurant & Bar, 1 Hamilton St., in Rivertowns Square. Featuring Lee Greene on sax, Mitch Shornick on drums, Sarah Cion on piano, and Bob Gingery on bass. [mirabellacocina.com/calendar-dobbs-ferry](http://mirabellacocina.com/calendar-dobbs-ferry)

### Comedy: Patton Oswalt

#### TARRYTOWN

8 p.m. / \$57–\$77. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. [tarrytownmusic hall.org](http://tarrytownmusic hall.org)

### Community Quilting

#### TARRYTOWN

7–8:30 p.m. / Free. Warner Library, 121 N. Broadway. Bilingual event to create community quilts for the nation’s 250th anniversary. Materials and instructions provided. [warnerlibrary.org](http://warnerlibrary.org)

## FRIDAY JUNE 26

### Movie on the Trail: “A Minecraft Movie”

#### DOBBS FERRY

8:30 p.m. / Free. Keeper’s House, 15 Walnut St. Bring your own chair or blanket and refreshments. [aqueduct.org](http://aqueduct.org)

### Community Concert

#### IRVINGTON

6–8 p.m. / Free. Matthiessen Park Stage. Featuring Long Story Short.

### “Acting Shakespeare”

#### TARRYTOWN

7 p.m. / \$15. The Pocantico Center, 200 Lake Road. Kamran Saliyani, executive artistic director of the Irvington Shakespeare Company, blends Shakespeare’s scenes and soliloquies in an adaptation of Ian McKellen’s one-man musical. Reserve tickets at [rbf.org/pocantico/events](http://rbf.org/pocantico/events)

### Jazz Pianist Bill Charlap

#### TARRYTOWN

7 and 9:30 p.m. / \$45, \$40 for students. Jazz Forum Club, 1 Dixon Lane. Also on June 27, 7 and 9:30 p.m., and June 28, 4 and 6 p.m. [jazzforumarts.org](http://jazzforumarts.org)

### Soul Dance Celebration

#### SLEEPY HOLLOW

5:30–8 p.m. / \$18–\$25. Philipsburgh Manor, 381 N. Broadway. The Enchanted Evenings series continues with the R&B band BaseCamp and line dancing. Food and drinks available for purchase. [hudsonvalley.org](http://hudsonvalley.org)

### F.I.S.H.

*Continued from page 1*

assumed control of the program.

“We just kind of thought, well, let’s hope that nobody in Hastings has a lawyer for her husband or something,” Lynda Merchant said. “We just kind of went along because we wanted to do something that seemed like a good thing. As the rides got more and more — a great thing for the people who need it — for the people who are driving, and me, as coordinator, it got more worrisome.”

Earlier this year, the Merchants contacted lawyers and car insurance companies to find out what the liability was for the riders, drivers, and Lynda. As the coordinator, she is liable for all of the drivers and riders, while the individual drivers are responsible

for their passengers.

“We did our due diligence. All of them said, ‘You probably don’t want to work like that anymore,’” she explained. “That was basically, you know, the gist of the conversation — that we were opening up all these people to liability, which didn’t seem fair.”

In the case of an accident, Lynda said, a driver’s car insurance may cover them and their car. Depending on the policy, the passenger may or may not be covered, and would potentially need to use their own insurance. The Merchants felt this was “too much of a liability for a rider to put up with,” and they did not want to risk drivers getting sued.

“It just got very complicated very quickly,” Lynda said. “We couldn’t, in all good faith, just hand this over to somebody else, knowing that all this liability exists. That’s why

we felt we had to suspend for a while, so we could do the work, trying to figure out how to make it a viable opportunity for people and a safe one.”

The Merchants chose the summer to suspend because it is when the program sees the least usage. There are two potential solutions. The first is to incorporate as an organization, with insurance to cover the liability. This is, “a daunting thing to start from scratch,” Merchant said. The second way forward is for the program to be under the umbrella of the Village of Hastings or another municipality, which would cover the program’s liability insurance.

Merchant shared alternative services that F.I.S.H. riders can use in the meantime. There is the TRA Group, which is based in Mount Kisco. The organization provides services to Westchester, Putnam,

and Fairfield (Connecticut) counties, including free rides for adults over 60 going to medical appointments. Riders can apply at [my-tra.org/register-to-ride/](http://my-tra.org/register-to-ride/).

Another service is ParaTransit, which provides transportation for the elderly and disabled population in Westchester County. The fare is \$5 per trip. Eligible riders are required to make a reservation at least one to seven days in advance. This can be done by calling (914) 995-7272.

Lynda is hopeful that they will find a way to keep F.I.S.H. afloat, saying that the service was “vital” for some riders.

“It’s with deep regret that Martin and I had to take this step, but in this day and age of people suing other people, we were really concerned for everybody,” she said. “We felt we had to before something happened, and we will continue until we figure out a way.”

### Woodlands dinner

*Continued from page 5*

part of the whole community, instead of just being segregated parts of it,” she said. “I love that feeling.”

Among the attendees were children and teenagers. Just outside the sanctuary, they played together in a gaga pit.

Nine-year-old Maya Hannachi, who has a Jewish mother and Muslim father, shared why she thought the event was important for all ages.

“We should be educated on culture,” she said. “I also think it’s important for the adults because they need a reminder that

not everything is terrible.”

As the evening came to an end, Celik described the attendees as “catalysts,” and encouraged them to find opportunities to come together again, “whether it’s in your homes, cafés, through picnics,” to make these new connections last.

Young told the crowd that “every human being has a place in shalom, in wholeness, and in peace.”

“I’m praying tonight that through this bridge-building and this relationship that we’ve struck... we can share this message with like-minded people, and even those who are not,” she continued. “We can be the future that we dream of.”

### Irene Balint-Wemer

*Continued from page 10*

She was never unkind. Her grace, depth of understanding, and the questions she would ask allowed me to become a better parent, and I take some of those lessons with me today.”

On Monday, June 22, the parents behind the fundraiser are hosting a closed event at Uncle Lefty’s on Warburton Avenue for alumni to celebrate Balint-Wemer and share stories. The event will be multigenerational, according to Miller, with some of the people who were preschoolers at the Co-op now having kids of their own.

“She has profoundly changed the course

of life for many, many, many people,” Miller said. “There are several generations of kids who are young adults in the world whose lives she’s impacted. Her gifts are not quantifiable because they’re qualities that reside deep in Irene. It’s her presence and what she brings that is part of the alchemy.”

Balint-Wemer is “humbled” at the parents’ dedication to helping her.

“I’m really grateful to know these people, and [their] compassion, kindness, understanding,” she said. “They make the world a better place because they are who they are.”

The fundraiser for Balint-Wemer can be found at [www.freefunder.com/campaign/honoring-irene](http://www.freefunder.com/campaign/honoring-irene)



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# Opinion

The Dispatch welcomes letters to the editor about subjects related to the Rivertowns. Letters must be no more than 350 words, submitted by Monday at noon for that week's issue, and include the names, home addresses, and phone numbers of their writers. No letter is guaranteed publication. To submit a letter, visit [rivertownsdspatch.com/contact-us](https://rivertownsdspatch.com/contact-us)

## Council responds to Feiner's statements about finances

To the Editor:

As Greenburgh town councilmembers, we write to correct several inaccuracies in Paul Feiner's June 12 Dispatch letter.

The financial inconsistencies cited in the forensic report were first identified by the Town comptroller, whose appointment took effect in April 2024. These issues clearly pre-date her tenure. Concerned that longstanding problems might be wrongly attributed to her work, she sought — and received — assurance that a forensic audit would examine the years before she assumed office.

This distinction matters. Since her appointment, the comptroller has worked to correct prior inaccuracies and implemented new controls to prevent future misallocations. Expanding the audit to include 2024–2026 would obscure the impact of errors that occurred years earlier and dilute accountability for those decisions.

The auditor was retained not as a political tool, but because councilmembers believed an independent review was essential to understanding past practices and restoring confidence in the Town's financial oversight. The report does not allege embezzlement. It documents fund mismanagement estimated by the comptroller at \$100 million.

The report identified roughly \$30 million in uncollected property taxes dating back to 2013, much of which is unrecoverable and has increased to \$34 million. We don't need to spend \$15,000 on a forensic audit to tell us our corrective action plan needs work.

Thirty-two million dollars approved in the 2019–2022 budgets for the needed courthouse were never restricted by the

supervisor. As a result, those unspent funds reverted to the fund balance, artificially inflating it for bond rating agencies. We still need the courthouse.

Finally, with respect to the \$7.4 million courthouse resolution, no resolution was required. There is no Town precedent for requiring one. Supervisor Feiner's corrective action plan is to tax town and village residents again for the courthouse they paid for in their 2019–2022 taxes.

These facts warrant clarity — and accountability — not deflection.

*Joy Haber, Ellen Hendrickx, Gina Jackson, and Francis Sheehan  
Greenburgh Town Council*

## Support change by voting for McGoev as town supervisor

To the Editor:

In this Democratic primary, I urge readers to join me in voting for Barry McGoev for town supervisor and for Tom DiNapoli as NYS comptroller. Tom has been an outstanding comptroller protecting and growing the NYS Common Retirement Fund for which he is by law the sole custodian. We need that experience and steady hand. Primary Day is Tuesday, June 23. Early voting continues through Sunday, June 21.

As to our Town, this year we have the opportunity to bring new leadership after 35 years. Think about it. The current supervisor, Paul Feiner, has been in office since Bill Clinton was president. We sincerely appreciate his service to this Town, but it is time for a change. The supervisor is, by statute, supposed to be the Town's chief fiscal officer. But a recent financial investigation (details on Mr. McGoev's website

*BarryforGreenburgh.com*) shows years of financial mismanagement and lack of oversight that can be attributed to the Town's CFO/supervisor. Millions in delinquent taxes remain uncollected, authorized fees and fines remain unassessed. Village residents' taxes have increased 10 percent this year alone, and they will increase again.

We are lucky that Barry McGoev stepped up to the challenge. Barry is a trustee in the Village of Ardsley. He is a practicing lawyer with a degree in finance. He is trained to walk toward problems, not to avoid facing them. He's a former Yonkers firefighter and union leader who knows his way around municipal contracts. The Town is better when its municipal workforce is recognized for the work it does. And, I can attest that Barry has been active in supporting many, many Democrats for elected office in the years I have known him.

Please vote for change in Greenburgh and cast your primary vote for Barry McGoev for supervisor.

*Suzanne M. Berger*

DOBBS FERRY

*The writer is chair of the Westchester County Democratic Committee and former chair of the Greenburgh Democratic Committee.*

## Greenburgh needs McGoev's experience and leadership

To the Editor:

We proudly support endorsed Democratic candidate Barry McGoev for Greenburgh town supervisor. At a time when our Town government faces serious challenges, it is essential that voters support him in the primary election on Tuesday, June 23.

Early voting began June 13 and continues through Sunday, June 21. Voters may cast their ballots early at the Hastings Library, Greenburgh Town Hall, or any designated early voting site across Westchester County. For locations and details, visit <https://citizenparticipation.westchestercountyny.gov/voting/early-voting-2026>. On primary day, voting will take place at your usual polling location.

Barry brings the experience and leadership needed to move our Town forward and address ongoing financial mismanagement. As a current village trustee in Ardsley, he has direct experience with municipal oversight and administration and collaborating with leaders across village, town, and county governments. He understands how to coordinate effectively to serve residents. In addition, his background as an attorney and former auditor gives him a strong grasp of the legal and financial complexities facing the Town. His experience as a union negotiator also demonstrates his ability to achieve practical, consensus-driven solutions.

He supports term limits, including for his own office, and is committed to advancing a needs-based affordable housing strategy specific to Greenburgh, protecting the environment, maintaining infrastructure responsibly, supporting young people, and expanding opportunities so that residents of all parts of the town share in its prosperity. He will bring energy, a fresh perspective, a strong work ethic, and a collaborative approach to the role — helping to restore effectiveness and trust in Town government.

Please join us in voting for Barry McGoev in this important election.

*Jay Leon, chair,*

*Ardsley Democratic Committee*

*Leslie Chervokas, chair,*

*Hastings Democratic Committee*

*Chris DeNicola, chair,*

*Irvington Democratic Committee*

## 1 Lawrence St.

*Continued from page 6*

Another challenge is that the property is in a flood-prone area. Petrero stated the project results in a reduction of impervious

surfaces, or hard surfaces that shed water, of about 6,885 feet. He also stated that there is no reduction in the net storage area within the floodplain. Because the site is a remediated brownfield, there is an environmental cap, or an engineered cover, placed over

contaminated soil, sediment, or landfill waste to isolate the hazards from the environment. Some stormwater and site work will involve digging into or through that cap. Petrero said the project will follow the state requirements of over-excavating and

then disposing of the soil at the appropriate locations, and replacing the cap.

The board voted to adjourn the hearing to July 22, and asked the applicant to provide documentation responding to the planning board's recommendations for review.

## Rosen

*Continued from page 8*

memories was welcoming its inventor, Tet-suya Miyamoto, to the school.

"For me, it was like having a rock star visit," Rosen said. "The students were crazy for it."

His enthusiasm for KenKen led him to write a beginner's guide to the puzzle with co-author Ellie Grueskin, a Tarrytown student and champion of the game.

Rosen also worked with parents, explaining

what students were learning and why math is taught in certain ways. He believed that understanding the process helped families better support their children at home.

Although he was never a traditional classroom teacher standing at the same whiteboard every day, some of his favorite experiences were working with students. For 19 years, he led an after-school Math Olympiad club that welcomed any math enthusiasts, regardless of skill.

For Rosen, the most rewarding part of his job were the relationships he built

throughout the district. Over 20 years, he estimates he worked alongside nearly 100 teachers, helping them think about instruction, solve problems, and grow professionally.

"The importance of those connections and relationships in schools is really important," Rosen said. "It makes it feel like everyone's just not on their own and left to figure it out."

Colleagues often found themselves discussing teaching over coffee after school, part of Rosen's effort to create a collaborative culture where educators learn from one

another rather than work in isolation. For Rosen, those relationships have defined his work as much as any program or initiative.

Dobbs Ferry Middle School Principal Patrick Mussolini said Rosen's impact extends far beyond the classroom.

"He has a passion for his content, but that's only shadowed by his passion for children," Mussolini said. "He truly enjoys working with students in any capacity. And his knowledge of math, I don't know if it reaches any depths. I think it just goes on forever."

# 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](http://market.rivertownsdispatch.com/classies)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HOUSE SHARE**  
Former Dobbs Ferry homeowner seeks 1-year rental of bedroom suite and kitchen access in private home or apartment. Move-in: August 17. Contact: [jericipriano@gmail.com](mailto:jericipriano@gmail.com)



## PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AMENDING CHAPTER 190-60; SCHEDULE XII OF THE ARDSLEY VILLAGE CODE ENTITLED "PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES"**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 6,

2026, at 7:30 p.m. or soon thereafter at Village Hall-Court Room, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY 10502 to discuss amending Chapter 190-60; Schedule XII of the Ardsley Village Code Entitled "Parking Prohibited at All Times".

Please check the calendar on the village website for meeting details at: [www.ardsleyvillage.gov](http://www.ardsleyvillage.gov) or email the Village Clerk at [arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov](mailto: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: 875 3502 3528 Passcode: 927521 To Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87535023528?pwd=DuFlOii5Cijlf1Sl2pSeqToiadbjEs.1> Meeting ID: 875 3502 3528 Passcode: 927521

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](mailto: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: June 19, 2026

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ESTABLISH AND SET ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING RATES**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley will hold a continuation of a Public Hearing on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at the Village Hall Court Room, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, New York, to discuss the adoption of a resolution establishing

and setting electric vehicle charging rates. Please check the Village calendar for meeting details at [www.ardsleyvillage.gov](http://www.ardsleyvillage.gov) or contact the Village Clerk at [arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov](mailto:arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov).

The meeting may be viewed live on Cablevision Channel 75 or Verizon Channels 32/35.

Members of the public may also listen to the meeting via the Zoom platform by dialing +1 929 205 6099 and entering: Webinar ID: 875 3502 3528 Passcode: 927521 Or join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87535023528?pwd=DuFlOii5Cijlf1Sl2pSeqToiadbjEs.1> Meeting ID: 875 3502 3528 Passcode: 927521

Further details regarding the proposed electric vehicle charging rates are available for public inspection at the Office of the Village Clerk, 507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, New York, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Written comments may be submitted to the Village Clerk at

[arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov](mailto:arocco@ardsleyvillage.gov) and to the Village Manager at [jcerretani@ardsleyvillage.gov](mailto:jcerretani@ardsleyvillage.gov), or mailed to: Village of Ardsley 507 Ashford Avenue Ardsley, NY 10502 All comments will be shared with the Board of Trustees, and questions will be addressed as promptly 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: June 19, 2026

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Zoning Board of Appeals Village of Irvington Westchester County New York


NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Section 224-98 of the Code of the Village of Irvington, that a public hearing will be held in Village Hall, 85 Main Street, Irvington, New York, on July 21, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

DKR9 LLC Varma RE Develop-

ment - 76 North Broadway (2.50-16-1.2) is seeking variances/interpretations of sections 224-47.9B. (1) (2) (encroachment into the 2 side yards and front yard setbacks (ie: including walkways, plaza, stairways, utilities, drainage improvements)), 224-51 B. (1) (Additional structures or intrusions in the Broadway Buffer (ie: roadway, curb cuts, curbs, sidewalks, utilities, grading, drainage improvements, landscaping, walkways, stonewall modifications, pedestrian plaza)), 224-51 B. (3) (c) (paving of any portion of land in the Broadway Buffer) and 224-72 C. (14) (proposed curb cut on Broadway and Strawberry Lane wider than 24') of the Village Code in order to construct a school and apartments at the above referenced property.

All papers are on file at the office of the Irvington Village Clerk-Treasurer and the Irvington Library, open to public inspection during their business hours. All submissions can also be viewed online through the Village website, [www.Irvingtonny.gov](http://www.Irvingtonny.gov). All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

PHOTO WALL



**HOORAY TESSA!**  
We love you! We are so proud of how independent, smart, talented and hard working you are. Love Mom and Dad.

By order of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Village of Irvington.

Signed,  
Dated: June 17, 2026  
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson  
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer  
Village of Irvington, New York

**PUBLIC HEARING — APPLICATION TO PERMIT ADDITIONAL LOT COVERAGE FOR 76 NORTH BROADWAY NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**

that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington will hold a public hearing to consider an application to permit additional lot coverage and floor area ratio (FAR) for proposed mix use project at 76 North Broadway - Monday, July 20, 2026 at 7PM in Village Hall.

Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer  
Irvington, NY  
June 16, 2026



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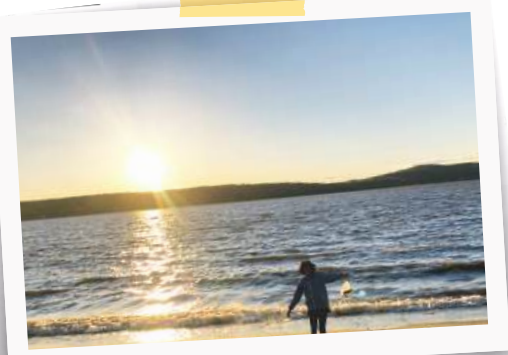


*Local business, personal stories*

# What's your favorite Rivertowns spot to beat the summer heat?

“When the temperature gets too hot out, being inside at Tranquility Spa and getting a relaxing massage and rejuvenating facial is the perfect way to spend the day!”

— **STEPHANIE HERSHKOWITZ,**  
TRANQUILITY SPA



“The beautiful waterfront park at dusk.”

— **DR. KAVITA KOHLI,**  
RIVERTOWNS PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

“Hudson Social. Beautiful Hudson River views, refreshing summer cocktails and food, great summertime vibes.”

— **MATT KAY,**  
HUDSON SOCIAL

“Nothing like the cool breeze at the Hudson River waterfront, especially for music, movies, and food fests!”

— **KATELYN ROGERSON,**  
EYES ON HUDSON



“Happy hour at Red Hat on the River, Bread & Brine, Hudson Social, or Rivermarket.”

— **THE FRANCIE MALINA TEAM,**  
FRANCIEMALINA.COM



“Penny Lick Ice Cream!”

— **DR. NITIN GUPTA,**  
RIVERTOWNS PEDIATRICS

“Gould Park pool is such a wonderful place to cool off while seeing friends. I love that the kids have access to the pool, playground, and new hammocks all in one spot!”

— **JESSICA BLOOM GALEN,**  
BLOOMY CHEESE AND PROVISIONS

“We are fortunate to share a border with Untermyer Gardens, one of the most beautiful public spaces in the Hudson Valley. Our campus includes a private trail with direct access to the park for hospital employees and authorized visitors to step away, recharge, and enjoy the natural beauty. The gardens, scenery, and river breeze reminds us what makes our community such a remarkable place to live and work.”

— **DENISE MANANAS,**  
AVP, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS & STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION,  
ST. JOHN'S RIVERSIDE HOSPITAL

“I'm really excited to try out Paradise, the new shave ice place opening on Main Street in Dobbs Ferry. It's near the library, where they are running summer reading programs for all ages—Picture Book is proud to sponsor this summer's reading challenges!”

— **SARA DAVIDSON,**  
PICTURE BOOK

“The waterfront park in Irvington. It's a great spot to spend the afternoon reading a book or taking a nap under the shady trees with a breeze from the river to cool you down. We usually bring a frisbee or ball to throw around and typically end the afternoon with a picnic dinner! Picture is from 13 years ago with our young daughters (one week and 3 years old).”

— **AARTHI MUTHUKRISHNAN,**  
MAKER HIVE



“Our barre3 studio! We have an amazing AC system. The only thing that will make you sweat here is the workout!”

— **BECCA LICHT,** BARRE3 RIVERTOWNS



# Dobbs Ferry's historic run ends in state final

BY ROB DIANTONIO

The final score wasn't the way Dobbs Ferry wanted its season to end, but it couldn't erase what the Eagles had accomplished over the past three months.

For the first time in program history, Dobbs Ferry played for a state championship, capping a memorable postseason run before falling to defending champion Chatham 13-2 in the Class B final on June 13 at Greenlight Networks Grand Slam Park in Binghamton.

Despite the lopsided final score, the loss did little to diminish a remarkable season.

The Eagles finished 20-4 and became the first softball team in school history to advance to a state final.

"It wasn't the outcome we wanted, but in a million years I never thought this would even be a part of our season," Dobbs Ferry coach Kim Reznicek said. "They're exactly the underdog story that people want to root for. Not just because they're young, but because they're really good kids. Every umpire we speak to compliments them for how hard they work and how they treat each other."

The Eagles arrived in Binghamton with one of the youngest rosters remaining in Class B. Dobbs Ferry had only two seniors — center fielder Kamryn Addis and left fielder Gianna Stone — along with one junior in shortstop Nicolette Giorgio. All three were team captains.

That youth was part of what made the postseason run so unexpected.



(Top) Bela Abraham at the plate. (Top right) Victoria Baron on the mound. (Bottom right) Dobbs Ferry captains Nicolette Giorgio, Gianna Stone, and Kamryn Addis walk off the field with the state finalist plaque. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.

After falling in the Section 1 championship game a year ago and graduating a large senior class, few expected Dobbs Ferry to make a deep postseason run. Instead, the Eagles continued exceeding expectations all spring before reaching the biggest stage.

"I think making it this far really showed everybody what this team is capable of," Giorgio said. "That's a really big accomplishment. Our team being so young, this was just an amazing experience for everybody. Nobody thought we could do it."

Facing a veteran Chatham squad that entered as the defending state champion, Dobbs Ferry quickly discovered how difficult the challenge would be.

Victoria Baron worked around trouble in the first inning, recording two strikeouts and a pop out to keep the game scoreless.

But Section 2 champion Chatham broke through in the second. The Panthers capitalized on a series of Dobbs Ferry defensive miscues, turning them into a four-run inning and a 4-0 lead.

"We got out of the first inning, and that was our big thing," Reznicek said. "Usually, the first inning was where we put ourselves behind. Maybe I jinxed us because I said, 'Oh my God, we got out of the first inning.' Then it translated into the second inning. It just snowballed on us."

Dobbs Ferry responded in the bottom of the third. Stone and Olivia Hochleutner each worked walks to start the rally. Emma DeFilippis then dropped down a perfectly placed bunt that brought Stone home for the Eagles' first run.

A wild pitch later in the inning allowed Hochleutner to score, trimming the deficit to 4-2 and briefly injecting life into the Dobbs Ferry dugout.

Unfortunately for the Eagles, that would be the extent of their offense.

Chatham ace Skylar Groom made sure of it.

The standout pitcher delivered the game's biggest blow in the fourth inning when she launched a three-run home run to extend the Panthers' lead to 7-2. Chatham added two more runs later in the inning and another in the fifth to make it 10-2.

Groom connected on a two-run homer in the seventh inning for her second long ball of the afternoon, capping a dominant performance. She finished with two home runs, a double, and five RBIs. In the circle, she allowed just two hits, one earned run, and struck out nine.

"They're just a really good team," Reznicek said. "That's what an older group does sometimes."

Chatham's disciplined approach at the plate also helped wear down Dobbs Ferry's pitching staff. The Panthers consistently

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## Sports

# Ardsley's Martin and Adewunmi lead way at state meet

BY ROB DIANTONIO

The area's top track and field athletes wrapped up their seasons on the biggest stage of the year as competitors from Ardsley, Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, and Irvington traveled to Webster Schroeder High School near Rochester for the New York State Track and Field Championships on June 13-14.

Ardsley led the way among local schools, producing two podium finishes in Class B and setting a pair of school records in the process.

Senior Mioko Martin capped off a decorated career with a runner-up finish in the long jump, placing second in Class B with a leap of 18 feet, 10¼ inches. The Washington University (St. Louis, Missouri) commit saved her best for last, recording a personal record on her final jump of the competition.

Ardsley girls' coach Henry Leone said Martin's final jump created one of the most memorable moments of the meet for the Panthers.

"Mio hit her PR in the last jump of finals, which was so exciting and a great way for her to finish as she moves on to college track," Leone said.

Sophomore Czarina Adewunmi finished third in the Class B triple jump with a mark of 38-1¼, establishing herself as one of the state's top young jumpers.

"Czarina has a lot of time to hopefully chase down the state championship in the triple in the next two years," Leone said.

Ardsley's girls also performed well in the 4x100-meter relay, as Martin, Adewunmi, sophomore Zaniya Bell, and freshman Sarah

Lenihan combined to finish seventh in Class B in 49.29 seconds.

Bell nearly added another medal in the 100-meter hurdles. The sophomore finished ninth in Class B in 16.87 seconds. "Zaniya missed finals by one spot," Leone said. "A good first appearance in the event, and she will improve on her time for next year."

On the boys' side, senior Lou Baousson represented Ardsley as the Panthers' lone competitor and delivered one of the strongest performances of his career.

Baousson finished fourth in Class B in the 400-meter hurdles with a school record and personal-best time of 55.59 seconds.

"Lou delivered an outstanding performance, showcasing determination and skill against the state's top competitors," Ardsley boys' coach Scott Pollard said. "His race highlighted his hard work and dedication throughout the season."

Pollard said Baousson's accomplishment will stand among the best performances in program history.

"His time will stand as one of the program's top achievements," Pollard said. "He set a goal and worked hard to surpass it."

Hastings sophomore sprinter Kai Ghalib also enjoyed a breakout state meet.

Competing in Class C, Ghalib finished fifth in the 200-meter dash in 22.23 seconds and seventh in the 100-meter dash in 11.24 seconds, reaching the finals in both events during his first appearance at states.

"It was cool to be at a meet with so many

high-level athletes," Ghalib said. "I wasn't expecting to make it to the finals in both the 100 and 200, so I was excited when I qualified in both events."

Ghalib was especially pleased with his 200-meter performance.

"I was very happy to PR even with rain and a headwind and get a medal," he said. "I've learned a lot this season about fueling and warming up before races, and I'll take that into next year to run faster."

For the Hastings girls, senior Danae Morgan closed out an accomplished career by placing fourth in the Class C shot put with a throw of 36 feet even. While she had hoped to finish higher, Morgan still earned a state medal in her final high school competition.

"To be honest, I'm really disappointed in my results," Morgan said. "It's not what I wanted at all, and it's just kind of heart-breaking to see that's how I ended my career for Hastings track and field. I really wish that I would have just pushed myself a little bit more during the competition."

Morgan said what she will miss most about Hastings track and field is the community that surrounded her, "especially the core people on my team that I really can go to for anything whether it be a good or a bad meet." She added, "I will definitely miss the coaching staff that was there for me since day one and really fought for me to find my love for this sport."

Morgan will continue her academic and athletic career at Texas Christian University, and said she is ready for the next chapter

despite the bittersweet ending to her high school career.

Also competing for Hastings was Claire Grushko, who placed 30th in the Class C 1,500 meters in 4:49.77.

Dobbs Ferry senior Chris Doherty competed in two distance events. He finished 16th overall and fifth among Class C athletes in the 800 meters in 1:54.74 and 24th overall and seventh in Class C in the 1,600 meters in 4:17.36.

"Neither of the races was a complete failure and I still ran fairly well compared to what I've been doing this season, but I was ultimately disappointed to not really be super competitive among the top tier athletes at the meet," Doherty said. "Everyone wants to end the time competing in New York with a bang, and although I was able to grab a few medals it wasn't the dream ending I was hoping for."

Doherty, who will compete in the 800 at New Balance Nationals on June 21, said he will miss the Section 1 community and support from his teachers and community as a whole in Dobbs.

"It's a small team and small group of people invested in running here in Dobbs, but that makes the community all the more special to be a part of," he said. "The other kids I have met throughout Westchester have become some of my best friends and getting to see them at competitions is something I will miss greatly."

Irvington senior Ethan Gartlan represented the Bulldogs in the 3,200 meters and placed 29th overall and eighth in Class B with a time of 9:39.79.

## Softball state finals

Continued from page 18

extended at-bats, fouling off pitch after pitch while forcing Baron to work deep into counts.

Still, Reznicek praised her eighth-grade pitcher for maintaining her composure throughout the game.

"I didn't think she faltered at all," Reznicek said. "She still had the same poise. I've known her since she was 8 years old, and each year she gets better. She works hard and she's a good kid. I'm excited to see where her journey goes."

Baron finished with a hit at the plate while pitching six innings, striking out five and allowing four earned runs. Stone recorded Dobbs Ferry's other hit. Ella Rizzo pitched the seventh inning, allowing three earned runs while striking out one.

Giorgio said the Panthers' offensive firepower was unlike anything the Eagles had seen this season.

"There was nothing really we could do on a lot of it," Giorgio said. "They hit the ball to the fence every time. This competition was way different than what we've seen throughout the season."

One day earlier, however, Dobbs Ferry had authored another memorable chapter in its

historic postseason run. The Eagles rallied past Section 11 champion Babylon 7-4 in the state semifinals on June 12 to earn their first-ever trip to a state championship game.

Babylon held a 4-2 lead after three innings before Dobbs Ferry erupted for three runs in the fourth inning to move ahead 5-4.

Baron tossed a complete game and struck out 12 to earn the victory. The offense was powered by Emily Marron (3-3, RBI), Addis (2-3, 3B, 2RBIs), Lucy Logan (2-3, 2B, 3RBIs), and DeFilippis (2H).

"We really stayed together and supported each other throughout the whole season," DeFilippis said. "I really think that helped us get [to the state final]."

While the state final ended in disappointment, the future remains bright.

Dobbs Ferry loses Addis and Stone from a roster that featured contributors throughout the lineup who will return next season.

"I think we'll have more drive knowing that we can make it to something like this," Giorgio said. "Losing our two seniors is going to hurt us, but the rest of our team is really young and they'll be here for the next few years. We have a lot more coming for us."

For Reznicek, the legacy of Addis and Stone extends far beyond statistics.

"They created an environment where



Emma DeFilippis rounds second base. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.

kids feel welcome in that dugout, no matter how old they are," Reznicek said, fighting back tears. "Every leader that comes through after them is going to want to act like them because they saw the results. They showed what it means to be leaders that are accepting of anyone of all ages and to let the younger kids have their shine, too."

Team roster: Seniors: Kamryn Addis,

Gianna Stone. Junior: Nicolette Giorgio. Sophomores: Bela Abraham, Emily Marron, Ella Rizzo, Ashley Salerno. Freshmen: Paisley Blain, Brianna Cherico, Olivia Hochleutner, Lucy Logan, Noa Zonoa. Eighth-graders: Victoria Baron, Emma DeFilippis. Seventh-grader: Charli Nunes. Head coach: Kim Reznicek. Assistant coaches: Samantha Arone, Paul Paino, Jenn Tucci.



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