



"Come then, you and I..."
Debut poetry book mines
the hearts and headlines
p 5

Vol 3. Issue 3.

September 18, 2026

RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

Local News,
Locally Sourced

WWW.RIVERTOWNSDISPATCH.COM

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

\$2.75

Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow
launch partners

E **EDGE-ON-HUDSON**
A New View On The River

the pocantico center
Rockefeller Brothers Fund

Tranquility Spa
Relax. Renew. Revitalize.

Services stir up memories of loss and survival

REGION Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, and Irvington hosted services last Friday, Sept. 11, in honor of the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 2001. The following reports were written by Amy Bochner about Ardsley and Dobbs Ferry, and Tim Lamorte about Hastings and Irvington.

Ardsley

Underneath a clear blue sky, members of the Ardsley Volunteer Fire Department rang a bell last Friday, Sept. 11, marking the moment American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the World Trade Center's North Tower 25 years prior.

As the resonance faded into traffic on Route 9A, a crowd of emergency service workers, local officials, and residents shared a moment of silence. Seventeen minutes later, following speeches from attendees, the bell rang again, this time commemorating when United Airlines Flight 175 struck the South Tower.

9/11
@ 25



Members of Dobbs Ferry's fire department, police department, and ambulance corps after placing a wreath at the 9/11 memorial.

Fire Chief Brendan Lindsay led the memorial ceremony at Firefighter Park, a small plot abutting Addyman Square. He acknowledged the 2,977 people who died in the Sept. 11 attacks, including "passengers, office workers, and the brave first responders

who ran toward danger."

Among the speakers was Jeff Kissel, a resident of Ardsley since 1984. In 2001, he worked on the 101st floor of the South Tower. On the morning of Sept. 11, he missed his train from Hartsdale, which likely saved

his life. In his speech he honored the 176 co-workers of his who died in the attack, 20 of whom he knew personally.

During the ceremony, members of the fire department placed a wreath beside a
Continued on page 19



SLEEPY HOLLOW
Public calls for eviction protection
p 13

"The screens in school thing just hit a nerve..."

Lauren Connell of TUFSD
Unplugged
p 12

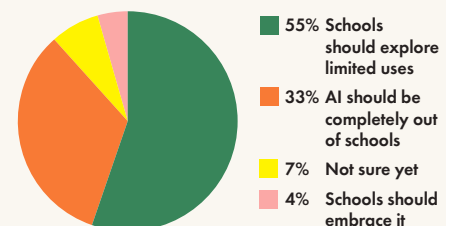
SPORTS

Irvington rides
second-half surge
to win
p 21

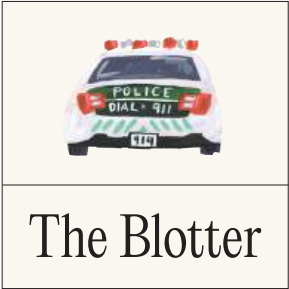


The Poll

How do you feel about AI in schools?
As answered by 167 readers of the Rivertowns Dispatch



Vote at rivertownsdispatch.com/the-weekly-poll



The Blotter

ARDSLEY

Leafblower warning: A landscaper from New Rochelle was issued a warning about using gas leaf blowers, on Eastern Drive, on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 12. The village code prohibits gas leaf blowers between May 16 and Oct. 14.

DOBBS FERRY

Suspended license: A 33-year-old resident of Edgewater, N.J., was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree, a misdemeanor, at the waterfront parking lot on the evening of Saturday, Sept. 12. He was also cited for a vehicle-and-traffic vi-

olation. Sgt. Julius Derevanik made the arrest.

DWI arrest: A 35-year-old resident of Erie, Pa., was arrested for driving while intoxicated, a misdemeanor, on Ashford Avenue on the morning of Sunday, Sept. 19. The defendant was also cited for four vehicle-and-traffic violations, including leaving the scene of a property damage accident, which happened at the Chestnut Mobil, 430 Broadway (Route 9). Officer Anthony Muratore made the arrest.

HASTINGS

Suspended license and registration: Three drivers were arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree, and for suspended registrations, both misdemeanors. The defendants were a 59-year-old Dobbs Ferry resident on Ravensdale Road on the afternoon of Sept. 8; a 23-year-old Yonkers resident on

Broadway (Route 9) on the afternoon of Sept. 10; and a 30-year-old Yonkers resident on Main Street on the afternoon of Sept. 12. The arrests were made, respectively, by Officer Thomas Wassmann, Officer Sarah Hughes, and Officer Wuilber Maldonado.

Unauthorized account: On Sept. 10, a Hastings resident reported that an unauthorized AT&T account had been opened in his name.

IRVINGTON

Suspended license: A 25-year-old Bronx 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 Thursday, Sept. 10. He was also cited for a vehicle-and-traffic violation and released to the MTA Police, which had a warrant for his arrest. Sgt. Anthony Cappadora made the arrest.

TARRYTOWN

Obstruction arrest: A 32-year-old Tarrytown resident was arrested for criminal obstruction of breathing or blood circulation, a misdemeanor, for an incident at his home on the evening of Monday, Sept. 7. Officer Kevin Aguilar made the arrest.

Warrant arrest: A 43-year-old man in custody at Rikers Island was transported to Tarrytown, where there was a warrant for his arrest, on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The warrant had been issued on Nov. 19, 2025, after he missed an appearance in village court. On Oct. 28, 2025, he was arrested for a burglary at Tarrytown Honda on Oct. 27. He was charged with burglary in the third degree, a felony.

Theft of necklace: An unidentified woman stole a gold necklace from around the neck of a 78-year-old woman on Franklin Court on the afternoon of

Wednesday, Sept. 9. The thief stated that her sister had passed away and that she was searching for a church. The theft happened as she hugged the victim after giving her \$3.

Theft from account: On Sept. 9, a Tarrytown resident reported that his Social Security number, bank account number, and pin number were used to transfer \$14,986.01 from his Citibank account to Saudi Arabia on Aug. 27.

Larceny arrest: A 75-year-old man was arrested for stealing recyclables from bins on Crest Drive on the morning of Thursday, Sept. 10. He was charged with petit larceny, a misdemeanor. Officer Frank Riley made the arrest.

Burglary attempt: The front door to the former Castle Hotel & Spa, which closed in 2025, was damaged on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 12. A mo-

Continued on page 3

RIVERTOWNS Dispatch

PUBLISHER Allison Schulte
allison@rivertownsdispatch.com

EDITOR Tim Lamorte
tim@rivertownsdispatch.com

SPORTS EDITOR Rob DiAntonio
rob@rivertownsdispatch.com

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

CONTRIBUTORS
Timothy Reuter
timothy@rivertownsdispatch.com
Barrett Seaman

LISTINGS EDITOR Jennifer Gold
jennifer@rivertownsdispatch.com

COPY EDITOR Lauren Casper

DESIGN & PRODUCTION Christy Kneel

SALES / PARTNERSHIPS
Trinity Godfrey
trinity@rivertownsdispatch.com

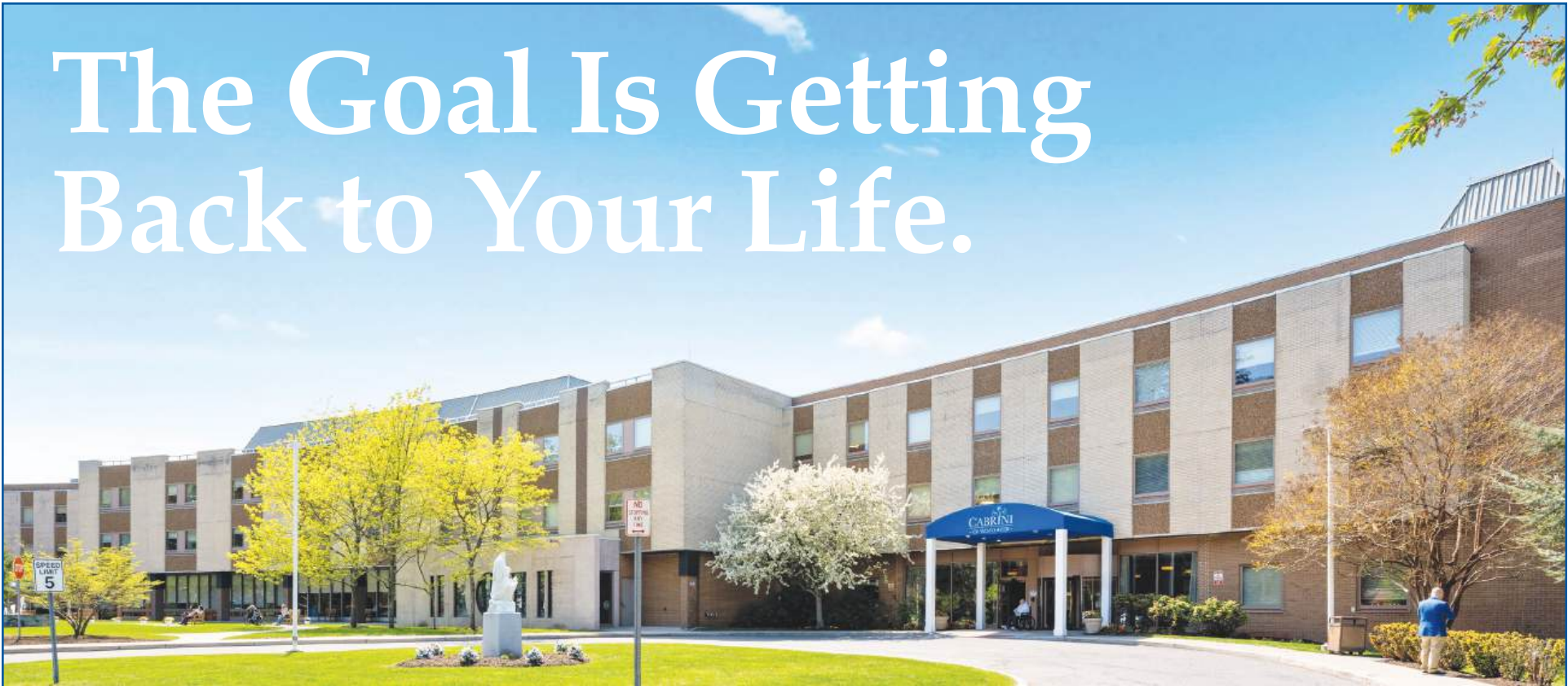
Rivertowns Dispatch (USPS 025-848) is published weekly on Fridays, except for the last week of the year, for a total of 51 issues annually by The Rivertowns Dispatch LLC, at 145 Palisade Street Suite 200 Dobbs Ferry NY 10522. Periodicals postage is paid at Dobbs Ferry, NY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Rivertowns Dispatch at 145 Palisade Street Suite 200

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

To subscribe, go to:
rivertownsdispatch.com/membership

To access the Hudson Independent Archives, please visit
thehudsonindependent.com

EMERITUS STAFF
Walter Montgomery
The Hudson Independent



Recovering from surgery, illness, injury or a hospital stay can take time—and the right support. Cabrini of Westchester offers short-term rehabilitation designed to help patients regain strength, function and independence, with physical, occupational and speech therapy available up to seven days a week as ordered by a physician.

Helping bridge the journey from hospital to home.

115 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry
(914) 693-6800

Muslims reflect on past and present Islamophobia

BY AMY BOCHNER

REGION In conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, three Muslim residents of the Rivertowns reflected on that event's impact on the American Muslim experience and the evolution of Islamophobia.

Kiran Chhapra, a Dobbs Ferry resident since 2024, worked for Deloitte Consulting at 5 World Trade Center (WTC) at the time of the attack. When the planes hit the

9/11
@ 25

North and South towers, Chhapra was on the Upper East Side on her way to the office after a doctor's appointment. Deloitte called employees back

to work a month later. In addition to the trauma of having to walk past Ground Zero every day on her way to the office, she experienced the additional fear over her family's safety, as the rhetoric surrounding Muslims became "hostile." This affected other minority groups, too. "If you were brown, you were under attack," she told the Dispatch.

Fatima Sami, an Irvington resident since 2021 who lived on the Upper East Side, stated that prior to September 11 she "didn't feel any different being a Muslim American."

This changed "overnight," with Sami recalling acquaintances reaching out, "asking me to justify 'Why would your people do this.'" To counter this narrative, she cofounded "Muslims Are Against Terrorism," a grassroots organization that operated from 2001–2003, offering training to schools, hospitals, and businesses to educate people about Islam.



Kiran Chhapra of Dobbs Ferry



Fatima Sami of Irvington

The collective blame placed on the Muslim community seeped into other parts of Sami's life. In early 2004, she, along with her 6-month-old daughter, were stopped at a Chicago airport and told that her name was on a watchlist, but not provided with any further details. After speaking with other airline employees, Sami was able to board her flight, but felt "bewildered."

"It was obviously very much based upon my name, how I looked," Sami said. "I still to this day get randomly checked."

Donny Khan, an Irvington resident since 2013 who was also living in New York City during 9/11, described similar experiences. After the attack on the World Trade Center, he found that whenever he traveled, "it was clear that I was just going to be pulled out of line." He believes that for many Muslims, going to the airport prompts "this feeling of fear that you're going to get singled out or held up for something that you didn't even do."

Over the past 25 years, there have been periods when Islamophobia was more or less prevalent. Khan referenced 2017 as a difficult time, when Donald Trump began his first term as president and imposed a ban on seven Muslim-majority countries (later overturned under President Joe Biden).

During Trump's first term, Khan joined the newly founded Westchester Indivisible, a progressive political organization. This prompted him to co-found American Muslim Indivisible, which would fold into a separate organization

he created called Westchester Progressives.

Sami finds the current state of Islamophobia comparable to what the community experienced after 9/11. Since 2023, Islamophobia, Sami said, has experienced a renewed awakening "in the context of October 7 [the Hamas attack on Israel] and the genocide in Gaza." Sami also described overhearing more statements against Muslims related to last year's election of New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani.

She contrasted the experience of the aftermath of 9/11 to today. In 2001, she found that many people were not educated on Islam, and much of the rhetoric was based in the "fear of the unknown." In response, the Muslim community felt the need to educate others about Islam while also having collective blame placed on them.

Over the years, Sami believes the Muslim community has become "stronger in our identity." There is now more of an awareness "that we are not to blame, and that we don't need to apologize."

Because of the stronger Muslim identity and community, she finds that advocacy "takes a different shape."

"We are now supporting Muslims in Palestine and Muslims here in the U.S.," she said. "We have some grounding to now further educate people, [but] it's more standing up and advocacy for a group of people who need our support."

In the Rivertowns, however, Khan finds that many Muslims are afraid to speak up.

"I think most Muslim people, because there's so few of us around here, don't want to invite that kind of attention to themselves," he said. "Then they feel even more isolated and secluded. I think we're making good strides in Westchester, but I still think that we have a very long way to go."

Sami sees this same fear in her children, the youngest of which is in eighth grade at Irvington Middle School.

"I think that Muslim kids here — they've learned to compartmentalize their identity," she said. "They've got their Muslim friends in other communities, and then they also have their school community. I don't think that there's a real integration. They've come to understand how the system works, and that you need to stay quiet... They just kind of want to go under the radar, because there's fear of backlash [and] retaliation."

One way that Khan finds Islamophobia manifests today is through the idea that one can only support Muslims or only support Jewish people, or that support for one group means opposition to the other.

The three believe that in the broader culture, Muslims and Jews are pitted against each other, particularly when it relates to Israel and Palestine. Chhapra rejected this idea, describing the Jewish and Muslim communities as "sisters."

Khan said that Muslims in the U.S. "have always shared common cause with our Jewish friends and neighbors... in the fight for equality [and] justice."

"It just breaks my heart where we are now with the Israel-Palestine issue," he said. "Islamophobia and antisemitism are two sides of the same sword. I don't think you should accept either one."

Sami believes the Muslim community can fight Islamophobia while showing solidarity with other minority groups through dialogue. She wants to see more community building, where religious institutions bring people of all faiths together to "get to know one another, on a human level."

"Through communication, through understanding, through shared experiences, we can learn more about one another," Sami said. "I think that maybe that speaks to a sense of hope, because even though there is a lot of Islamophobia, I think there's also curiosity... I think there is space. I think that people do care."

The Blotter

Continued from page 2

tion detector was set off at 1:44 a.m.

Unregistered landscaper:

A 39-year-old landscaper from Ossining who was working on South Broadway (Route 9) was issued a summons on the afternoon of Saturday, Sept. 12, because he

lacked a permit from the Village.

Suspended registrations:

Three drivers were arrested for suspended vehicle registrations, a misdemeanor — a 44-year-old Yonkers resident on Depot Plaza on the morning of Sept. 8; a 50-year-old Tarrytown resident on South Broadway on the morning of Sept. 9; and a 63-year-

old Jamesville resident on South Broadway on the afternoon of Sept. 11. The 44-year-old was also cited for being an unlicensed driver, a violation. Sgt. Ian Yearwood made the first arrest, while Officer Anthony Rudovic made the second and third arrests.

Code violations:

Thirteen summonses were issued for village

code violations at parks between Sept. 7–11.

For smoking — a 41-year-old Peekskill resident at Sarah Michael's Park on Corlandt Street on Sept. 7; a 28-year-old Tarrytown resident and a 29-year-old Sleepy Hollow resident at parking lot G off Green Street on Sept. 10.

For being in parks after hours — a 38-year-old Monroe resident at Riv-

erwalk Park on Sept. 9 at 1:45 a.m.; a 21-year-old Greenburgh resident and 21-year-old Sleepy Hollow resident at Patriots Park on Broadway on Sept. 9 at 11:43 p.m.; and a 20-year-old Yonkers resident at Pierson Park on Sept. 10 at 10:48 p.m.

For congregating — an 18-year-old Peekskill resident, 19-year-old Ossining resident, 21-year-old

Ossining resident, and 24-year-old Peekskill resident at parking lot G on Sept. 10 at 11:45 p.m.

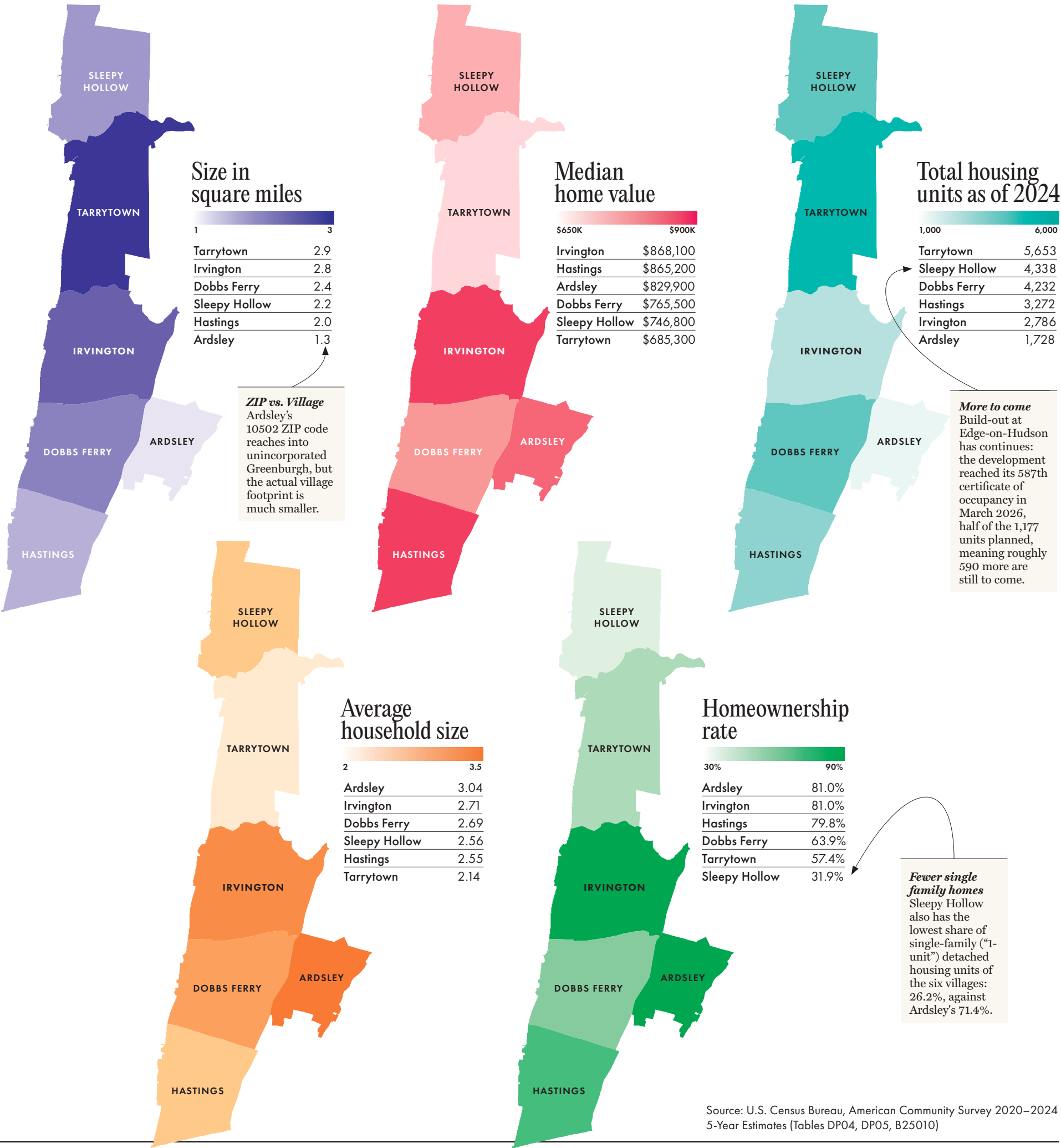
For disorderly conduct — a 32-year-old Pearl River resident for urinating at parking lot G on Sept. 11 at 11:04 p.m.

For an open container of alcohol — a 43-year-old Sleepy Hollow resident at parking lot G on Sept. 11 at 11:27 p.m.

— THE DISPATCH GUIDE TO —

Homes and Housing in the Rivertowns

Tarrytown is the largest and has the most housing units, while Irvington has the highest median home value and Ardsley the most homeowners. The census data reveals similarities and differences in the villages' housing. *By Christy Knell*



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020–2024 5-Year Estimates (Tables DP04, DP05, B25010)



ARDSLEY

Ayo Obi Ardsley Tennis Tournament

Saturday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. – noon for women's doubles, 1–4 p.m. for men's doubles. Sunday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. – noon for mixed doubles. Rain dates: Sept 26–27. Fee: \$25 Ardsley resident, \$35 nonresident.

Register: ardsleyny.myrec.com.

Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

Saturday, Sept. 19, 10:30 a.m. Ardsley Public Library. Local artist Julia Liu leads crafts for ages 3–7. Register at ardsleypubliclibrary.org.

Greenburgh Pool Dog Swim

Sunday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. – noon and 12:30–2:30 p.m. Anthony F. Veteran Park, 11 Olympic Lane. Fee: \$10 per dog.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m. Village Hall. To attend via Zoom, visit ardsleyvillage.gov for the link.

Senior Event: Pizza Bingo

Wednesday, Sept. 23, noon–1 p.m. Community Center.

Zoning Board Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 8 p.m. Village Hall. Agenda available at ardsleyvillage.gov.

Summer Concert Series: Larry Stevens Duo

Saturday, Sept. 25, 6–8 p.m. Pascone Park. Free.

Bakery addition approved

The Ardsley Board of Trustees approved modifications to 660 Saw Mill River Road, which is on its way to becoming Martine's Bakery. The site is the former home of the Riviera Bakehouse, which occupied the space for over 70 years and closed in January 2024. Martine's has locations in Scarsdale and Tuckahoe, both operating as Martine's Fine Bake Shoppe. Martine's owner, Yuval Golan, and architect Leonard Brandes attended the meeting on Sept. 8.

The two proposed a single-story addition and exterior modifications to include the addition of patios, walkways, and facade alterations. The addition consists of 370 square feet of retail space, including an ADA-compliant bathroom.

The goal of the renovation, Brandes said, is to expand the building, change the look, and increase its visual profile. "We want this to be visible as people are going from both sides of the roadway," he explained.

The inside of the building has been "gutted," Brandes said, with the kitchen and storage facilities under renovation. The bakery is anticipated to open in the spring of 2027.

Grandview and Wilmoth parking

The board of trustees approved revised parking regulations for Grandview Avenue and Wilmoth Avenue on Sept. 8.

Currently, parking is permitted on the entirety of both sides of Grandview Avenue. On Wilmoth Avenue, parking is permitted on the entirety of the west side (inside lane), but prohibited on the east side of the street (outside lane) at any time. The new regulations approved by the board prohibit parking on Grandview Avenue from Eastern Drive for 344 feet toward Wilmoth on the south side. The changes also prohibit parking on the east side of Wilmoth Avenue from Mountainview Avenue and 181 feet toward Grandview Avenue.

The changes were proposed to address concerns raised to the Ardsley police, Chief John Pignatelli explained on Sept. 8. These related to traffic safety, visibility issues (specifically around the corner turn), and the ability for emergency vehicles to get through if cars were parked on either side of the street.

At the Sept. 8 and previous board meetings, residents opposed the new parking policy. On Sept. 8, Joann D'Emilio of Grandview worried that "leaving that lane clear makes it a straight shot that could encourage people to go faster."

Pignatelli emphasized the Village's concerns over getting emergency vehicles through, while Mayor Steve Edelstein stated the board will monitor the street to make sure "people using it as a cut-through are not speeding through that area."

— Amy Bochner



Frank Pagani

Debut poetry book mines the heart and headlines

Pagani gathers 28 poems from decades of verse

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Former longtime Ardsley resident Frank Pagani has released his debut poetry collection, "Come Then, You and I...," spanning 35 years of his life's work, from love poems to reflections on 9/11 and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The self-published volume takes its title from the first line in Pagani's poem "Eclipse," with which the book opens.

"It's an invitation to the reader to come through my personal journey," Pagani told the Dispatch.

Pagani was inspired to write those words by the American poet T.S. Eliot, who begins his 1915 poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" with the line "Let us go then, you and I." Pagani counts Eliot, E.E. Cummings, and Robert Frost among his most significant literary influences.

Pagani, who lived in Ardsley for three decades until his move to Hartsdale two years ago, is still an active member of the Ardsley Senior Citizens Club and Ardsley American Legion Post 458, and attends Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church with his wife, Carolyn. Throughout his career, Pagani has worked mostly in public relations, and has maintained his love of writing since he was a child growing up in the Bronx.

"We were surrounded by books and daily newspapers like The New York Times, The Herald Tribune, The New York Post, The

Daily News, The Mirror, and publications like Look and Life and the Saturday Evening Post," Pagani recalled. "I just fell in love with the printed word."

In 1966, Pagani graduated from Morris High School in the Bronx, where he was a reporter and then editor-in-chief of the school newspaper. He took that passion with him during his nearly four years in the Air Force, where he was the editor for base newspapers while stationed in upstate New York and England. In 1969, he earned his bachelor's degree in political science from SUNY Stony Brook, and then worked for several companies, including Vantage Press and the public relations firm Thompson & Bender, before launching his own public relations consultancy, Pagani Communications, which he has run for the past 14 years.

While "Come Then, You and I..." is Pagani's first book, he's seen his poetry in national publications such as the Syncope Literary Journal and The National Poetry Press. Pagani started writing poetry regularly 35 years ago, around the time he married Carolyn, to whom the book is dedicated.

"She's my muse, she's my inspiration," Pagani said. "We got married back in 1991 and it was about that time that I really started to take poetry more seriously, but it was all fun. I got into this annual tradition

of writing love poems honoring her birthday, Easter celebration, Christmas, Valentine's Day."

Among the 29 poems in "Come Then, You and I..." are ones Pagani wrote for the couple's first anniversary, first Valentine's Day, and first Christmas together. The book also includes a poem titled "Cinema Vérité, 1963," which he wrote 40 years after experiencing both the Kennedy assassination and the theatrical release of Alfred Hitchcock's horror film "The Birds," and drawing a connection between the two.

"It was a stunning experience, what that director had accomplished," Pagani said of the film, which he saw in the summer of 1963. "And it was uncanny for me because months later, in November, Kennedy was assassinated, and it haunted me for so many years that those two events happened the same year."

In the poem Pagani switches between describing in detail the horror faced by character Melanie Daniels in "The Birds" and what the Kennedy assassination visited on the real world.

"Hitchcock had tapped into something that I don't think any other artist had expressed, this unsettled feeling that something horrific was about to assault humankind, if you will — and it did," Pagani added.

"Come Then, You and I..." a paperback, costs \$12.99 at Amazon.com.



FOUNDATIONS

PHYSICAL

THERAPY

Specializing in pelvic floor rehabilitation

“Is this normal?”
“Am I broken?”
No.
Your body can heal.

Foundations Physical Therapy finds the root cause, stops the pain cycle, and helps you move forward with evidence-based care.



Learn more on our website!



914-768-3802 | info@foundations-pt.com
www.foundations-pt.com

THIS IS AN AD
FOR THE
CUT-TO-ORDER
CHEESE SHOP
IN DOBBS FERRY
WE ALSO MAKE
PLATTERS
WWW.BLOOMYDOBBS.COM





piccola
TRATTORIA

*Private Dining
and Parties*

Make your vision come to life
beautifully, seamlessly,
and beyond expectations.

23 Cedar Street, Dobbs Ferry
(914) 674-8427 piccolany.com



INQUIRE





DOBBS FERRY

Aquefest

Saturday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. (rain date Sept. 20).
Keeper's House, 15 Walnut St.

Pollinator Garden and Trail Maintenance

Saturday, Sept. 19, 1–3 p.m.
Chauncey Park. To sign up,

visit [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search for the Dobbs Ferry Conservation Advisory Board.

9/11 Tribute Reading

Saturday, Sept. 19, 2:30 p.m.
Dobbs Ferry Public Library.
Authors Beth SK Morris and Jessica DuLong share stories

about first responders and volunteers following 9/11.

Wickers Creek Market: Antiques and Vintage Goods

Sunday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Waterfront Park.

Scarecrow-making

Workshop

Monday, Sept. 21, 6–8 p.m.
Dobbs Ferry Public Library.
Register (\$15) [aqueduct.org](https://www.aqueduct.org).

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30 p.m.
for workshop and 7:30 for regular meeting. Village Hall.

Mobile Shredder

Thursday, Sept. 24, 9 a.m.–noon. Waterfront Park.

River Jam and Food Truck

Friday, Sept. 25, 5–9 p.m.
Waterfront Park. The concert series features Georgia 5.

Mercy kicks off Art Exchange with film influenced by 9/11

Mercy University is launching an arts-focused initiative, The Art Exchange (ArtEx), with a free screening of “Martyr of Gowanus,” starring Steven Spielberg’s son, Sawyer Spielberg. The 9/11-themed film is directed by Long Island native Brian Meere, who will participate in a Q&A after the screening next Friday, Sept. 25, at Mercy’s Main Hall in Dobbs Ferry.

The film centers around a young man living in Brooklyn who struggles with loneliness and rejection during the months before and after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center 25 years ago.

The screening inaugurates The Art Exchange program, which is a project of Mercy University School of Liberal Arts professors Kristen Keckler and Marc Palmieri. Palmieri is also a theater actor and playwright who went to high school on Long Island with Meere and was living in Manhattan’s East Village when the Twin Towers came down.

“The first plane went right over my head on September 11,” Palmieri told the Dispatch. “I was walking to a magazine-writing job that I had on Lafayette Street, and I was in rehearsals for a play at the time.”

Palmieri was 30 years old and still finding his identity as he watched friends die in the attack and relatives in the FDNY dig for survivors or remains in “The Pile.” He’s seen the film twice, and relates to the main character, Gavin (Spielberg), for how much it makes Gavin question what role he’s supposed to play in the aftermath.

“The film really focuses intimately on those confusions and that disorientation that really filtered through everyone in different ways,” Palmieri explained. “I think our audience will relate to this because we are so close to downtown New York City where this happened.”

As part of their vision for The Arts Exchange, Palmieri and Keckler want to produce events on the Dobbs Ferry campus that are open to the public and promote the talents of local creatives, as well as Mercy’s own faculty and staff. The plan includes partnering with local arts organizations to cover a variety of mediums, from “theater, to dance, certainly music, even some healing arts, culinary arts,” Palmieri said.

The screening and Q&A for “Martyr of Gowanus” will take place Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Mercy University, 555 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry. The event is free, but registration is required. To RSVP, email artex@mercy.edu with your name and the number of attendees.

— Julian Michael Caldwell



Clockwise from top left: Celtic Valley Carriage, the Deirdre O'Mara School of Irish Dance, Matty of Ramblin' Dan's Freewheelin' Band, and the Paper Heart Puppets

Aquefest to celebrate history and culture

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

Aquefest, the annual celebration of the Old Croton Aqueduct, returns this Saturday for its third iteration as a single-venue event in Dobbs Ferry. Before a 12-year hiatus that ended in 2024, Aquefest took place throughout different parts of the state-owned trailway in Westchester.

The free festivities, organized by the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct (FOCA), will take place Sept. 19, from 11 a.m.–4 p.m., at the Keeper’s House on Walnut Street, and feature performances, a community art project, and more.

Over 5 hours, visitors will have the chance to take a horse-and-wagon ride with Celtic Valley Carriage; watch a show by Paper Heart Puppets; and listen to the Hudson Line String Band’s bluegrass melodies, the Irish folk and country tunes of Dobbs Ferry-based Code Green, and kids’ music from lead singer Matty of Ramblin’ Dan’s Freewheelin’ Band. Pet-care provider Westchester Wags will host a puppy parade at 1:30 p.m., while artist Jen Moore Smith of Hastings has created a large-scale paint-by-numbers illustration of the Keeper’s House for the public to complete.

This year’s Aquefest celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Keeper’s House opening following a 15-year restoration, a collaboration of FOCA and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation. The idea to salvage the derelict 1857

building came from former FOCA president Mavis Cain, who was president of FOCA for 21 years and passed away in 2024, at age 96.

The Keeper’s House was one of many similar buildings along the 26-mile Westchester portion of the Aqueduct and the entire 41-mile trailway, which stretches from Croton to New York City. The houses were for the workers in charge of patrolling

former FOCA board member.

Work completed in 2016 turned the first floor into a visitors center, which hosts events and exhibits. The free “Movies on the Trail” series screens films outside, with seating on the east lawn of the Keeper’s House.

On Saturdays and Sundays, volunteer docents staff the Keeper’s House from 1–4 p.m. In addition, volunteers lead tours of the aqueduct, which often draw interest from people who have personal family history connected to the pipeline or an interest in the engineering of structures like it, according to FOCA president Lesley Walter.

Aquefest aims to encourage a wider audience to discover more about the past of their community. This year’s event emphasizes the contribution of the Irish stonemasons who were brought to the United States to build the Aqueduct, which required roughly two million stones. In addition to the Irish strains of Code Green, students from the Deirdre O’Mara School of Irish Dance in Yonkers will showcase their talent, and actor and former radio personality Kerin McCue will perform a show portraying an Irishman answering the call to come to New York to help build the Aqueduct.

“Aquefest caters to new residents and families, so that can be grandparents down to kids,” Walter said.

To become a member of the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct or donate to the organization, visit [aqueduct.org](https://www.aqueduct.org).

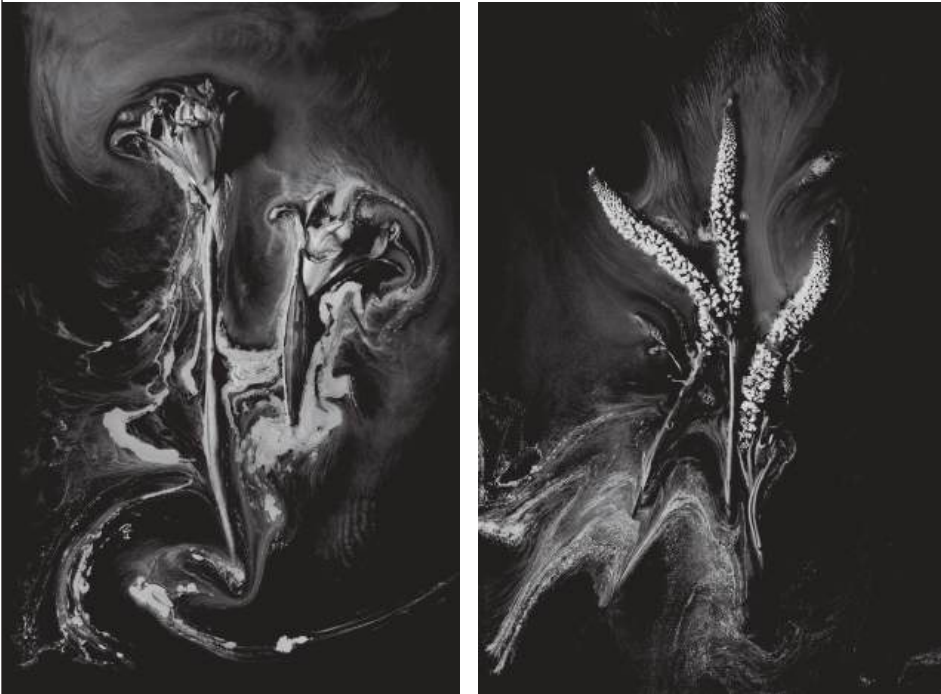
“Now that it’s done, it’s the hub of activity for anyone who uses the trail.”

Aquefest producer Eileen Charles

and maintaining specific sections of the pipeline, which provided water to the city between the 1840s and 1950s. The house in Dobbs Ferry was last inhabited in 1962, and is the only one still standing in its original location.

“Now that it’s done, it’s the hub of activity for anyone who uses the trail. Now they have a place to stop — the visitors center is there with exhibits about how the Aqueduct was built,” Aquefest producer Eileen Charles of Hastings told the Dispatch. Charles is a

SUSAN RICHMAN
CRUDE
F U T U R E S



SEPT 17 - OCT 11, 2026

OPENING RECEPTION: THIS FRIDAY SEP 18, 5-8 PM

UPSTREAMGALLERY
8 MAIN STREET, HASTINGS ON HUDSON

*Registration
Open* September 17 - January 24

Fall/Winter 26/27

JUNIOR PROGRAMS



QR CODE
TO LEARN
MORE



**ALL AGES.
ALL LEVELS.
ALL WELCOME.**

TENNIS CLUB OF HASTINGS

100 River Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, 10706

THE MAKER HIVE

A space to be creative together

Don't just dress up. Light it up!

Your wardrobe **electrified**

Sparkle & Stitch

8 week course for Teens & Adults
Sundays 2 - 4 PM | Starts 9/27

Transform your sweater, jacket, or accessory into
something nobody else has!

Hand embroidery + wearable electronics = a garment that
lights up, reacts, and gets noticed.

No sewing or coding background needed — just an eye for
design and a willingness to experiment.



Scan to book
your spot



416 Warburton Avenue, Hastings-on-Hudson | www.makerhive.space | [@makerhivespace](https://www.instagram.com/makerhivespace) | hello@makerhive.space



Farmers Market
Saturday, Sept. 19, 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Commuter Lot, Southside Avenue. hastingsfarmersmarket.org

League of Women Voters Hybrid Meeting
Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m.

Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave. To participate by Zoom, email info@hvv-rivertowns.org for the link.

Senior Game Day
Monday, Sept. 21, 12:30–2:30 p.m. James Harmon Community Center.

Villagewide Tag Sale
Registration (\$10) is open through Monday, Sept. 21, 4 p.m. at hastingsrecreation.org. The sale is slated for Saturday, Sept. 26, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; rain date Sept. 27.

School Board Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6 p.m. Hillside Multipurpose Room. Agenda available at hohschools.org.
Zoning Board Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m. Village Hall. Agenda available

at hohny.gov.

Diaper Drive
Through Sept. 28. Hastings Public Library. Drop off wipes, pull-ups, and diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, 6.

Youth Climate Action Fund

The Village of Hastings is accepting applications for the third round of the Youth Climate Action Fund (YCAF), which offers microgrants to design and produce local climate initiatives.

Bloomberg Philanthropies began the program in 2024, providing municipalities worldwide the funds to subsidize youth-led projects. The Village received \$50,000 this year, \$100,000 in 2025, and \$50,000 in 2024.

Applicants must be 15 to 24 years old. Groups can apply, as long as one member is over the age of 15. For those too young to participate on their own, the Village will help them find eligible partners to be paired with if they email ycaf2026@hohny.gov.

Each project should have a budget of \$1,000–\$5,000 and align with the Village's Climate Action Plan priority areas. The Village's webpage for the YCAF lists these as: buildings and energy; connectivity (like sidewalks and bike lanes); flooding mitigation; and adaptation to climate change. Grants will be awarded as long as funds are available.

The proposal deadline is Sept. 30, with the awardees announced in mid- to late October. The projects must be completed by April 15, 2027.

The application can be found at hohny.gov > Boards & Committees > Board of Trustees > Youth Climate Action Fund - HoH-YCAF.

Friendship and belonging event

Rivertown Parents is hosting a conversation about helping children develop friendships across differences on Sept. 30.

"Friendship, Belonging, and Neurodiversity: Building Communities Where Everyone Belongs" will take place in the Multipurpose Room at Hillside Elementary School from 7:30–8:30 p.m. The event features a conversation with Lauren Hough Williams, the executive director of NYU's Inclusion and Neurodiversity Education program.

Participation is free but requires registration at rivertownparents.com/building-communities-registration.html.

Tai Chi on tap

The Hastings Tai Chi Study Group held an open house on Sept. 14 to promote their upcoming classes at the James Harmon Community Center on Main Street. Their schedule starts with a free class on Monday, Sept. 28, at 6 p.m. and then continues at that time on Mondays through June at a cost of \$75 per month. For more information, visit hastingsstaichi.org.

Got news?

Email staff writer Amy Bochner at amy@rivertownsdispatch.com

Genocide unit to be revised for eighth-graders

Parents speak out about the Holocaust and Gaza

BY AMY BOCHNER

A syllabus for the "Genocide and Mass Atrocities" unit of a course for eighth-graders at Farragut Middle School is being revised following concerns over how the Holocaust and Israel-Palestine are handled. According to Hastings Schools Superintendent William McKersie, the updated curriculum will address recent events in Gaza as a human rights issue rather than as a case study for genocide.

"Exploring Equity" is the required course given once a year at FMS. Each grade, 5–8, has a different focus and course plan. This is the second year of "Exploring Equity," which evolved out of a longstanding course called "Courageous Conversations."

On this year's original syllabus for eighth-graders, the second unit, "Genocides and Mass Atrocities," listed case studies the class would examine throughout September and October, including the Armenian Genocide, the Japanese Occupation of China, Bosnia, Rwanda, Darfur, and Gaza, the last as a contemporary case study.

The major assignment for this unit was described as analysis of the question "Is It Genocide?" in which students "evaluate evidence against established definitions and criteria rather than being given a predetermined conclusion."

In an email to the community on Sept. 9, McKersie stated the district heard concerns regarding "why the curriculum syllabus did not include the Holocaust as a topic within the course," as well as how the "topic of Gaza... will be addressed in the class."

These issues had been addressed at the board of education meeting the previous night, which included a contentious public comment session. McKersie told the Dispatch the Holocaust was always part of the curriculum and will be included in the revised syllabus, while Gaza would be brought up as a human rights issue, not as a genocide.

Over the past three years, a United Nations Commission of Inquiry, the International Association of Genocide Scholars, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and other organizations have characterized Israel's actions in Gaza as genocide. In 2023, South Africa instituted proceedings at the International Court of Justice alleging Israel violated the 1948 Genocide Convention in Gaza. The court subsequently issued provisional measures and the case remains pending.

The discussion began with the administration and board describing their perspectives

on the syllabus. McKersie emphasized at the meeting that the Holocaust is a significant part of the eighth-grade social studies curriculum, and is addressed as students progress through high school. He also explained that "Exploring Equity" is intended to serve as a complement to the core social studies program.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Melissa Szymanski stated the omission was "extremely unfortunate," "triggering," and "very upsetting." The Holocaust, she continued, "was never intended to be omitted from the course content."

Board member Catherine DiMartino described feeling "dismayed" and questioned how the omission was not caught. "I want teachers to feel like they can make mistakes and not get thrown under the bus as an individual teacher," she said. "This is a system, and we missed it. We need to fix it."

During the public comment period, several speakers described feeling shaken and invalidated by the syllabus and expressed concerns about antisemitism and the impact on their children.

Parent Laura Compagni thanked "everybody who clarified that it is unacceptable that the Holocaust was left off of the list of genocides," but stated that they did not address "what seems to be the real which is that Gaza is on the list under the heading 'genocide,'" she said.

"I strongly believe if there's anywhere children should be learning to have difficult conversations, it should be in the halls and classrooms of our schools..."

School board president David Weinstein

Several speakers centered their comments on Gaza. Some argued that the topic should be removed from the unit. Parent Shelly Steinwurtzel stated, "How do you think children, Jewish children, are going to feel in a class where you have a teacher talking to them about the genocide in Gaza? The genocide in Gaza does not exist."

Parent Scott Sukenick found the curriculum to be "clearly presented from a particular political slant."

"The fact that it could be created by a single nontenured teacher with apparently no oversight is shocking, and I don't see how there could be any solution other than scrapping this curriculum all together and starting fresh," he said.

After one speaker went over the 3-minute limit, school board president David Weinstein told her that her time was up, but she continued to share her comments. After the speaker was told again her time was up, another audience member approached Weinstein while shouting. "You are threatening me right now," Weinstein responded. The woman grabbed his gavel, walked to the back of the multipurpose room, opened the door, and left the gavel outside before returning to her seat. Throughout the meeting, there were instances of parents yelling from the audience at the board.

At the end of the meeting, Weinstein discouraged "deciding for our students that conversations shouldn't happen."

"I strongly believe if there's anywhere children should be learning to have difficult conversations, it should be in the halls and classrooms of our schools, with the trust of our teachers to hold this material with the care and skill it demands," he said.

Following the meeting, on Sept. 10, parents received an email co-signed by Szymanski and Jenice Mateo-Toledo, the director of equity, opportunity and belonging. The letter states that after "careful consideration, as outlined by the teacher," the district will be pausing the unit about genocide and "reverting to the first unit that was originally designed for this course," which is called "Me, We and the World."

The letter also described the process moving forward.

"From a structural lens, Board of Education Policy 4200 outlines a specific approval process for curriculum development and curriculum review. The new curriculum content related to genocide and human rights will be revised with collaborative input, incorporated into the existing curriculum, and reviewed by the building principal and the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction in accordance with Board Policy 4200."

In an interview with the Dispatch, McKersie said the "Exploring Equity" teacher, Chris Canales, would distribute the updated course plan at Back to School Night on Sept. 17.

Haircuts – Beard Trims – Hot Towel Shaves
For any and all ages!



10 S. Broadway, Irvington (914) 231-5263
Tuesday – Saturday 9am – 6:30pm
www.executiveprecisionny.com @Executive.Precision



After School Activities

OPEN SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR D&D, BOARD GAMES,
POKEMON CLUB, MAGIC:THE GATHERING



School Holiday Drop-Ins

SCHOOL IS CLOSED MON 21 SEPT FOR YOM KIPPUR
WE'VE GOT A FUN DAY IN STORE! SIGN UP NOW



NEW KAWAII · IRVINGTON NY

Rocktoberfest

Sept. 26, 2026 • 1pm
Matthiessen Park, Irvington NY

MUSIC, FOOD AND FUN!

Featuring the sounds of

THE BARN VULTURES ♦ THE LOYALES ♦ DEAD MEAT
LOCAL POLITICS ♦ THE SKAM ♦ PAPER LANTERNS

PLUS LOCAL TALENT AND PANS ON THE HUDSON

PUMPKIN PAINTING



FIVE ALARM PIZZA ♦ FARM EATS BBQ ♦ COUSINS MAINE LOBSTER ♦ WANNA EMPANADA
GREY'S DONUTS ♦ ROAD GRUB ♦ BOBO'S CAFÉ ♦ JIMMY'S SOFTSERVE ♦ THE TACO PROJECT



Individual admission \$10
Families \$25 (max 5 people)
No admission charge for children under 14

Kids Zone!
\$10



SUNNYSIDE FEDERAL



IRVINGTON

Sherlock Holmes: "The Adventure of the Five Orange Pips"

Saturday, Sept. 19, 2 p.m.
Irvington Public Library.
Hosted by Three Garridebs, a Westchester-based Sherlock Holmes society. All ages and knowledge levels are welcome.

League of Women Voters Hybrid Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m.
Hastings Public Library, 7 Maple Ave. Email info@lwv-rivertowns.org for the link.

Farmers Market

Sunday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Main Street School, 101 Main St. irvingtonfarmersmarket.org

Apples Program for Ages 4+

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 4 p.m.
Irvington Public Library.
Register at irvingtonlibrary.org.

org.

Zoning Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m.
Village Hall. To attend via Zoom, visit irvingtonny.gov for the link.

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m.
Campus Presentation Room at Irvington High School.

Senior Movie: "Practical Magic"

Friday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m.
Irvington Public Library.

Capital budget spending

During a public meeting on Monday, Sept. 14, the Irvington Board of Trustees voted to take out bonds of up to \$3.3 million to finance a variety of municipal plans. The projects include \$1,053,200 for communications equipment and HVAC improvements throughout the village, \$891,000 for machinery for construction and maintenance, and \$1.4 million for a new fire apparatus. This comes after the board approved a 2026-27 capital budget of \$8,830,792 on Sept. 3, including \$2.2 million overall for the fire department and \$937,200 for a new HVAC system at the Irvington Public Library.

All-State Chorus selections

Irvington High School seniors Alexandra Kaye and Lily Korb were selected for the New York State School Music Association's All-State Chorus. Following auditions at the NYSSMA solo evaluation festival last spring, Kaye will perform with the SATB (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass) Mixed Chorus, while Korb will perform with the SSAA (Soprano I, Soprano II, Alto I, and Alto II) Treble Chorus, both in December.

Typically, around 825 students from across the state are chosen among all eight groups of bands, chorus, orchestra, and jazz ensembles. Earning a spot in the All-State Chorus makes Korb and Kaye eligible to apply to be part of the upcoming All-Eastern conference ensemble in Providence, R.I., which takes place in April.

Bulldog Gallery auction

The Bulldog Gallery Auction is now accepting bids for the 23 bulldog statues that have lined Main Street since May. The fiberglass bulldogs were decorated by artists to depict a range of personas, including Batman, baseball players, and a wizard.

Proceeds from the auction will be split, with 75% going to the artists and 25% to the Irvington Arts and Culture Committee, which organizes the gallery. The committee will use its proceeds for future projects, such as continuing the Bulldog Gallery, which has been an annual tradition since 2022, and the inaugural Rivertowns Pumpkin Trail that will launch this fall in Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Ardsley, Tarrytown, and Sleepy Hollow.

Bidding on the bulldogs is open through Saturday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. and concludes during Rocktoberfest at Matthiessen Park that same day. To see all of the bulldogs and bid, visit bulldoggallery.org.

— Julian Michael Caldwell

Got news?

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



A replica of a sword made by James Potter for British cavalry units.

Exhibit shares history of 'bloody borderland'

BY JULIAN MICHAEL CALDWELL

An Irvington Historical Society exhibit now on display details life in Westchester roughly 250 years ago, when the Revolutionary War waged on in the county long after it had subsided in the rest of the burgeoning nation. Titled "Neither Bought Nor Conquered," the exhibit is curated by Sleepy Hollow resident Char Weigel, who is vice president for special projects for Revolutionary Westchester 250 (RW250), the non-profit that organizes events in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States.

The title "Neither Bought Nor Conquered" comes from a quote attributed to British Commander-in-Chief William Howe, who found it difficult to conquer Westchester County, which Weigel describes as being "this so-called neutral ground, which was really more of a bloody borderland that neither the Americans nor the British had control of for the entire length of the war."

"I think most Americans think the Revolutionary War ended in 1781 after the Battle of Yorktown because that was the last major battle fought down in Virginia, but for two more years Westchester County looked like it did in 1776 and 1777," Weigel told the Dispatch. Britain didn't formally recognize the colonies' independence until it signed the Treaty of Paris in 1783.

"There's nowhere else in the entire United States that has that kind of history because

everywhere else either the Americans took over and ran it for a while, or the British did, or they moved on to another place," Weigel added.

The exhibit doesn't focus on the famous military figures often covered in textbooks about the Revolutionary War, but includes accounts and interviews with everyday residents who became militiamen when war came to their doorstep, and the women who ran farms while their husbands were fighting. Among the tenant farmers turned militiamen covered in the exhibit are Odells, Buckhouts, and Dyckmans, families whose names have been immortalized on local street signs and landmarks.

"It's harder to tell the story of a tenant farmer because no one wrote about them," Weigel explained. "They didn't leave a lot of records, so what's there is all based in primary sources, deeds, and documents. It's about ordinary people trying to make their way through eight years of war."

Black people — both free and enslaved — and Native Americans are also highlighted in the exhibit. Weigel includes a portrait of Sachem (leader) Daniel Nimham, a Wappinger Indian who fought against the British in the Revolutionary War after fighting beside them in the French and Indian War. An interview with Prince Gedney, who was enslaved by the Gedney family in White Plains, features a detailed account of war-time in Westchester.

"He was moving in and around, across the British lines and back, and people weren't paying attention to him," Weigel explained. "He was almost invisible because he was enslaved and he was observing everything, and the interview he gave was so full of detail, more than I think any other interview of anything I had ever read of people who lived through that time."

Weigel also aimed to illustrate how a community that was split by allegiance to either the British or Americans, then often referred to as "rebels," were able to reconcile and come together as the new country was established. War had even torn apart families who were fighting on opposite sides until peace was established.

"It was terrible because people died, but at the same time they knew that something had happened that roped them apart, and I think there was some recognition that people could've been on either side," Weigel said. "There were some acts of humanity throughout the war, where information was given to spare people, or people were spared."

"Neither Bought Nor Conquered" is on display through the end of January 2027 at the Irvington Historical Society's McVickar House, 131 Main St., on Thursdays and Saturdays from 1–4 p.m., and on Tuesdays, by appointment, from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. For more information, go to irvingtonhistoricalsociety.org.



YOGA LOVE

1 Bridge Street
Suite 17
Irvington Waterfront

Heated Yoga Flow
&
Pilates Reformer Classes

New Student
Specials
\$65 for 14 days
Unlimited Yoga
\$99 for 3 Pilates
Classes

YogaLoveny.com



MEDICARE MADE SIMPLE! I CAN HELP!

**Are You Planning On Retiring Soon?
Make an INFORMED DECISION**

*Your trusted Healthcare and
Medicare Resource*

Angela Asadi, Licensed Agent
914-330-5252
Asadiangela@gmail.com

NO
FEE

**“THIS IS THE ONLY AFTER
SCHOOL PROGRAM MY
11-YEAR-OLD IS WILLING
TO GO TO. MEGHAN AND
DAVID RUN A WONDERFUL,
CREATIVE, NURTURING
THEATRE COMPANY.”**

— MEI LAI HIPPISELEY COXE



**FALL CLASSES FOR KIDS and ADULTS
ACTING LAB • PAGE TO STAGE • CLOWNING
STAGE CRAFTING and MORE**



**RIVER'S EDGE
THEATRE CO.**

SIGN UP ONLINE
WWW.RIVERSEDGETHEATRE.COM
546 WARBURTON AVE
HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON
917-300-9047





**Maid
Brigade®**

The Trusted Face of House Cleaning

For more than 30 years, Maid Brigade has helped local families create cleaner, healthier homes. Our trained professionals arrive prepared, follow consistent standards, and treat your home with the care it deserves.

With eco-friendly products, dependable service, and decades of experience, we deliver more than a clean house—we give you one less thing to manage.

Discover the Maid Brigade difference.





GET A FREE ESTIMATE TODAY!

maidbrigadehousecleaning.com
914-741-0552



SLEEPY HOLLOW

TaSH Farmers Market

Saturday, Sept. 19, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Patriots Park. tashfarmersmarket.org

EcoFair

Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. TaSH Farmers Market at Patriots Park.

Cultural Festival

Saturday, Sept. 19, noon–7 p.m. (rain date Sept. 20). Kingsland Point Park. Free live music, performances, and children's activities.

Classical Guitarist
Dan García

Saturday, Sept. 19, 2:30 p.m. Warner Library.

Sleepy Hollow Street Fair

Sunday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Beekman Avenue.

Family Matinee Movie:
"Minions & Monsters"

Monday, Sept. 21, 2 p.m. Warner Library.

Family Fiesta with Flor

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 4:30 p.m. Warner Library.

Matinee Movie:
"Is This Thing On?"

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2 p.m. Warner Library.

School Board Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m. Central Office Building, 200 N. Broadway. Agenda and link to the livestream available at tufsd.org/boe.

Sleepy Hollow Street Fair

Take some time Sunday to stroll, shop, eat, and maybe spot a Headless Horseman.

The annual Sleepy Hollow Street Fair returns this Sunday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. along Beekman Avenue, with more than 145 arts and crafts, food and beverage vendors, local eateries, and shops.

The festivities include a kids' zone, live music, and appearances by a few characters who feel right at home on Beekman Avenue. Master storyteller Jonathan Kruk kicks things off at 10 a.m., followed by performances by Witches Along the Hudson at 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. The Headless Horseman is scheduled to make an appearance from 1–4 p.m. near Ganso Ramen at Beekman Avenue and Route 9/Broadway.

The Beekman Avenue parking lot will host live music throughout the day, including Jessica Star, Brad & Nate of The Incumbents Acoustic, the BUMP, The Altogether, and Your Friends in Hell.

With Halloween around the corner, expect plenty of spooky-season finds among the vendors. For more info, visit sleepyhollowtarrytownchamber.com/sleepy-hollow-street-fair

Sleepy Coffee fundraiser

What started as a coffee cart at Sleepy Hollow High School has grown into a non-profit business that employs people with disabilities. Now Sleepy Coffee, Too is throwing a party to help support that work.

The nonprofit will hold its second annual fundraising gala, "Heroes of the Hollow," Friday, Sept. 25, from 5–8:30 p.m. at DeCiccio's event space. The evening will include dancing, live auction items, and a celebration of the people who make Sleepy Coffee, Too possible.

The idea for the enterprise began around 10 years ago at Sleepy Hollow High School, where now-retired special education teacher Kim Kaczmarek worked with her students to launch a coffee business. After receiving a grant and support from the student body to build a mobile cart, the coffee program became a popular gathering spot in the school lobby. It also gave students with disabilities a chance to take on meaningful jobs and helped their classmates see their abilities in a new way.

In 2024, the program expanded beyond the school with the opening of Sleepy Coffee, Too on Beekman Avenue. The nonprofit now employs about 20 people with a variety of disabilities and has a waiting list of more than 100 prospective employees, according to Kaczmarek.

The Sept. 25 fundraiser will help support the nonprofit's employment program and its goal of creating an inclusive community gathering place where people with disabilities can work, connect, and showcase what they can do. Tickets are \$150 and can be purchased at sleepycoffeetoo.org.

— Laura Schiller



Jhufres Reyes of Make the Road New York addresses the board of trustees on Sept. 8.

Public urges board to adopt eviction protection

BY LAURA SCHILLER

"Good Cause opt-in!"
"Tenants need protections now!"
"Homes, not profits. Protect residents."
"I pay over 50% of my income on rent. I shouldn't be afraid to ask for repairs."
"iAprueben Good Cause!"

The benches in the board room at Sleepy Hollow Village Hall were crowded on Sept. 8, as residents and nonprofit advocates urged the board of trustees to opt into New York's Good Cause Eviction law.

Many held signs calling for tenant protections. During public comment, residents described rising rents and concerns that Hispanic residents are being ignored and pushed out of the village.

Good Cause generally requires landlords to have a valid reason to evict a tenant or refuse to renew a lease, while limiting annual rent increases. Landlords can still evict tenants for reasons such as nonpayment of rent, lease violations or violations of the law, or reclaiming the space.

New York enacted the law in April 2024, giving municipalities the option to opt in. Four Westchester municipalities — Croton-on-Hudson, New Rochelle, White Plains, and Tarrytown — had adopted it as of May 2026.

In 2025, a rent increase above 8.79% in Westchester was presumed unreasonable under Good Cause Eviction, although landlords could present evidence that a larger increase was justified.

Tarrytown's adoption drew opposition from its Housing Advisory Task Force, landlords, and real estate groups. Tenant

advocates and residents pushed for stronger protections, and the board of trustees voted unanimously to adopt it in September 2025.

"We had a big win in Tarrytown when it was approved unanimously," Jhufres Reyes, an organizer with Make the Road New York, told the Dispatch. Make the Road campaigned for the law in Tarrytown. "Then we got to work organizing to bring Good Cause to Sleepy Hollow."

In April, Sleepy Hollow's Housing Affordability Task Force presented Good Cause to the trustees.

The task force described the law as "an immediate, low-cost tool for providing greater stability to renters, who make up roughly half of Sleepy Hollow households and are more likely to be rent-burdened than renters countywide."

The task force also outlined exemptions, including for newer buildings. It raised concerns that landlords could respond by raising rents to the maximum allowed and that investors could avoid Good Cause municipalities, potentially slowing new rental construction.

At the meeting on Sept. 8, residents described the impact of rising rents on their families.

"This is a very abusive situation because the increases are so high," a resident told the board, adding that the rent increases for him, his wife, and their two children were \$700 three years ago, \$200 last year, and \$150 this year. His family, he said, recently received an eviction notice after falling behind on rent.

"I love Sleepy Hollow because all my family has been here for many years," he continued. "But the landlords here are abusive. Every year they keep increasing the rent, and I'm hurting. I'm suffering because of it."

Another resident said rising housing costs are making it harder for longtime Hispanic residents to remain in the village as it undergoes rapid development. Ramona Hidalgo, a resident of Sleepy Hollow for 42 years, said she hopes her grandchildren will be able to live here as well. She urged the board to opt into Good Cause Eviction.

Jeannette Garcia, a community organizer with Westchester Latinos Unidos, connected the issue to the village's Latino Heritage Month celebration, stating the celebration should include attention to the challenges facing Latino residents.

"These are the people that every day make Sleepy Hollow what it is," Garcia said.

The meeting also raised questions about protections already available to tenants, including rent stabilization under the state's Emergency Tenant Protection Act of 1974 (ETPA).

Mayor Marjorie Hsu encouraged nonprofits like Make the Road to offer workshops explaining existing tenant protections and what recourse residents have when landlords significantly raise rents.

Marisol Alcantara, an advocate with Westchester Latinos Unidos, objected to putting that responsibility primarily on nonprofits.

"I find it shocking that you are asking us, nonprofits who work on a shoestring budget, to educate 50% of your population on what

Continued on page 19

Instead of googling
symptoms,
**just text your
pediatrician.**



RIVERTOWNS®
pediatrics

18 Ashford Avenue
Suite 3W
Dobbs Ferry



914-330-8445



rivertownspeds.com



info@rivertownspeds.com

**NCIDQ & NEW YORK STATE
CERTIFIED** INTERIOR DESIGNER

TARRYTOWN, NEW YORK

inbetween
INTERIORS



Our Founder, Chloe Blottman

WE FOCUS ON THE
INTERIOR, ADJACENT,
& EVERYTHING
inbtwn.

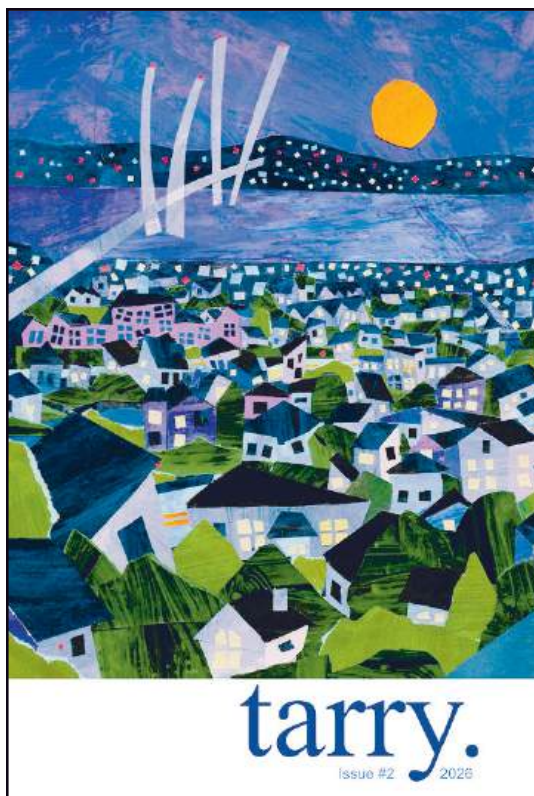


**COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
INTERIOR DESIGN**

chloe@inbtwninteriors.com

[@inbtwninteriors](https://www.instagram.com/inbtwninteriors)

www.inbtwninteriors.com



My friend Mike asks me to “send him
something messy”

Celia Pain

So here I am, my hands in the damp earth, reaching.
I’m not sure what I’m looking for—worms, maybe,
or a life where I’m not so hard on myself.

It’s too much to ask of these finite, precious days; give me
something infinite, celestial.

This year, every coping mechanism I’ve ever clung to
seems to be asking to be released.

Even you.

But today, the sun kisses the ground enough to melt the ice
on the Aqueduct trail.

I try to be here, in this sweet mud,
unedited,
and smiling.

tarry is an annual literary magazine of original short fiction, poetry, art and other creative
works inspired by the people, history, and geography of the Tarrytowns.

Each month the *Dispatch* will feature a poem in collaboration with **tarry**. This poem comes
from our second issue, which is out now. Check your local bookstore to purchase a copy!



TaSH Farmers Market
Saturday, Sept. 19, 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Patriots Park.
—
EcoFair
Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. TaSH Farmers Market at Patriots Park.
Villagewide Tag Sale

Saturday, Sept. 19; homeowners will set their own times. Map and list at tarrytownny.gov/parks-and-recreation-department.
—
Classical Guitarist Dan Garcia
Saturday, Sept. 19, 2:30 p.m.

Warner Library.
—
Family Matinee: “Minions & Monsters”
Monday, Sept. 21, 2 p.m. Warner Library.
—
Family Fiesta with Flor
Tuesday, Sept. 23, 4:30 p.m.

Warner Library.
—
Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m. Village Hall.
—
Halloween Parade Fundraiser
Thursday, Sept. 24, 5:30 p.m. Set Back Inn, 33 Main

St. \$25; come in costume for food donated by local restaurants. [instagram.com/tarrytownhalloweenparade](https://www.instagram.com/tarrytownhalloweenparade).
—
School Board Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m. Central Office Building, 200 N. Broadway.

Hispanic Heritage Month

A farmers market stop, a night out for tapas and drinks, and plenty of local businesses to explore are all part of Tarrytown's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

The Village of Tarrytown Cultural Heritage Recognition Committee is marking the month with events celebrating the cultures and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

Start this Saturday, Sept. 19, at the TaSH Farmers Market, where Neighbors Link will have an information table from 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Visitors can learn about immigration rights and the immigration process, legal assistance, community resources, and ways to support immigrant neighbors.

“It’s also a way to empower allies to provide lawful information and effective ways of supporting our immigrant neighbors,” said Trustee Thomas Mitchell, the village board liaison to the committee.

Then, on Tuesday, Sept. 22, from 5:30–7:30 p.m., head to Basque, 61 Main Street, for a Hispanic Heritage Month social. Guests can enjoy specially priced appetizers and drinks while celebrating and supporting the local restaurant.

The committee also encourages residents to explore Hispanic- and Latino-owned and focused businesses around town, including The Cube Inn, Angelica’s Deli, La Perla Poblana, The Taco Project, and Iguanarita Tex-Mex Café, which is opening soon.

250th celebrations

Tarrytown is marking the nation’s 250th anniversary with new banners on Broadway and events celebrating the village’s Revolutionary War history, including the 1780 capture of British spy Major John André.

The celebration kicks off Wednesday, Sept. 23, with “Toast 250” at Horsefeathers, 94 North Broadway. The evening begins at 5:30 with a ceremony and musket salute at the Captors Monument in Patriots’ Park, followed by the free event at Horsefeathers from 6–9 p.m. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Costumed reenactors portraying André, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and Peggy Shippen will mingle with guests. The evening will also feature period tavern music, dancing, colonial games, and American Revolution trivia (Westchester edition) at 7:30 p.m.

André was carrying plans for the American fort at West Point when local militiamen captured him. The event is depicted on Tarrytown’s village seal.

A larger celebration is planned for Nov. 1 with Sleepy Hollow, including the unveiling of a commemorative quilt and a reenactment of André’s capture, beginning in Sleepy Hollow and continuing to Pierson Park in Tarrytown.

— Laura Schiller

Parents' concerns spur curb in tech for K-5

BY LAURA SCHILLER

Pens and paper are stepping back into the spotlight in Tarrytown’s K-5 classrooms, along with more IRL (in real life) play and classroom conversation.

After months of discussion with parents, the Tarrytown Union Free School District is changing how elementary school students use screens and school-issued devices.

The changes, announced at the board of education’s Aug. 27 meeting, include moving away from one-to-one Chromebook use; no longer using technology as a reward or for free time; and limiting when students can take devices home. The district is also considering a new policy on artificial intelligence.

The changes reflect concerns raised by two parent groups — TUFSD Unplugged, a grassroots advocacy group, and Heads Up Horsemen, a PTA committee that works with the district.

TUFSD Unplugged brought its concerns to the school board through a petition it presented in June with 256 signatures. The parent-led group has advocated for a more deliberate approach to technology in schools.

Lauren Connell, a lawyer, second-term Sleepy Hollow village trustee, and parent of three district students, organized the group. She said she had heard from parents troubled by the amount of time their children were spending on screens and the content they were accessing.

“The screens-in-school thing just hit a nerve that was far beyond pretty much anything I’d seen in village politics,” Connell told the Dispatch. “I think this is the type

of issue that every parent has a story; every parent wants change.”

For some, concerns began with specific experiences involving their children. One parent who signed the petition said her fourth-grade daughter came home talking about a video game in which her character died from a drug overdose. Another recalled a classroom Thanksgiving party where children watched YouTube instead of interacting with one another.

The petition called for screen limits by grade, an end to technology during free time or as a reward, fewer one-to-one devices, more pen-and-paper instruction, and tighter restrictions on YouTube and other websites.

Heads Up Horsemen has worked with the district on technology issues for several years, including meeting roughly quarterly over the past year to share parents’ experiences and concerns.

Eliza Schafler, a co-chair of the Heads Up committee and mother of a first-grader, said the K-5 technology changes were a priority for the group and that the district was receptive to its feedback.

“The district was really open to working with us,” Schafler said. “The guidelines were created sort of collaboratively. The district obviously created it but allowed Heads Up to share feedback and was very open to the parents’ experiences having an influence.”

A more purposeful approach

Sharon O’Grady, the district’s assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, said the new guidelines were developed by

educators representing different grade levels.

The team reviewed the programs and software being used and asked teachers to consider questions such as, “Does this support your instruction? Can you do it without using a screen? And is it supporting all your learners?”

That process led the district to reconsider the one-to-one technology model adopted during the Covid-19 pandemic.

“We kind of jumped into technology one-to-one as a result of Covid, like everyone else did, and now that we’ve had time to assess and reflect, we need to step back and see if it’s really enhancing what we’re doing or is it just simplifying things for us,” O’Grady said at the meeting.

“Not to say there’s never a time and a place for them, but it really should be purposeful,” O’Grady said.

Elementary students will no longer have individually assigned Chromebooks. Devices will instead be stored on shared mobile carts and brought into classrooms when needed.

Take-home access is also changing. K-2 students will continue to have no take-home access. For grades 3–5, devices will go home only for specific purposes, such as research projects, with advance notice to families.

The district is also addressing ads and pop-ups. Teachers are now required to embed videos rather than play them directly from sites where ads can appear. Educational videos can still be used when appropriate, but they should be selected and prepared in advance.

Continued on page 20



Gone to the dogs

Four-year-old Charles holds a tennis ball after exiting the village pool during the pup pool social on Saturday, Sept. 12, which followed a pet parade at Pierson Park.



EYES ON HUDSON
OPTOMETRY & SPECTACLES



New to the Rivertowns?

We're Eyes on Hudson — a family-owned optometry practice and independent eyewear shop. Thoughtful eye care. Beautifully made frames. The kind of local spot you're glad you found early.

Dobbs Ferry | 914-461-0800 @eyesonhudson | eyesonhudson.com

MOSCOT JACQUES MARIEMAGE götti THIERRY LASRY AHLEM MASUNAGA

Book today, call or text: 914-693-9393
dobbsferrylimousine.com



Car Service for Airport & Long-Distance Trips

For over 25 years, Dobbs Ferry Car & Limo Service, also known as Mohammad's Car Service, provides reliable, professional transportation throughout the Rivertowns, Westchester County, NYC, and surrounding areas. We offer airport transfers to/from JFK, LGA, Newark, HPN, Stewart, and MacArthur Airport, along with comfortable long-distance trips for business, leisure, and special occasions. Available 24/7. Travel with confidence—where reliability, comfort, and exceptional service come first.





DOBBS FERRY
LIMO AND CAR SERVICE

FIRST

CHURCH OF HASTINGS

RCA AND UCC

FARRAGUT AVE. AT 5 CORNERS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

STARTS SEPT 27

Explore Bible stories
Practice Christian values
Make music and play games

Service & Sunday School 10:00-11:00,
coffee hour to follow
Call 914-478-1560 or email frc1850@aol.com



JOIN THE PARTY!

AQUEFEST

A Celebration of
THE OLD CROTON
AQUEDUCT

THE KEEPER'S HOUSE IS 10!

SPONSORED BY
  

Saturday, September 19th
11AM-4PM

THE KEEPER'S HOUSE • 15 WALNUT STREET • DOBBS FERRY

Paper Heart Puppets • Wagon Rides
Hudson Line String Band • Code Green
Matty of Ramblin' Dan's Freewheelin' Band
Deirdre O'Mara Irish Step Dancers
Petting Farm • Water Fun
Puppy Parade & More!



SEE ALL THE FUN AT **AQUEDUCT.ORG**

The Agenda

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19

Ayo Obi Ardsley Tennis Tournament

ARDSLEY

9 a.m.–noon Saturday for women's doubles, 1–4 p.m. Saturday for men's doubles, 9 a.m.–noon Sunday for mixed doubles. Rain dates: Sept. 26–27. All events at Pascone Park.

Indie Retro Rock

ARDSLEY

8:30 p.m. / No cover charge. Saw Mill Tavern, 925 Saw Mill River Road. Featuring The Breaks. Reservations encouraged. smtavern.com

Aquefest

DOBBS FERRY

11 a.m.–4 p.m. / Free. Keeper's House, 15 Walnut St. Celebrate the Old Croton Aqueduct with puppets, wagon rides, a petting farm, live music, and entertainment. aqueduct.org

Lyndhurst Fall Craft Festival

TARRYTOWN

10 a.m.–6 p.m. / online pricing: \$6–\$13; \$3 more on-site. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Also, Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. lyndhurst.org

Warren Wolf Quartet

TARRYTOWN

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

Ke Huy Quan

TARRYTOWN

8 p.m. / \$48–\$78. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. Oscar-winning, Vietnamese star of film "Everything Everywhere All at Once" discusses memoir, "Never Say Die." tarrytownmusichall.org

Villagewide Tag Sale

TARRYTOWN

Times determined by homeowners. The Recreation Department will post a map and list. tarrytownny.gov/parks-and-recreation-department

Friends of Music Concert

SLEEPY HOLLOW

7:30 p.m. / \$50, \$25 for ages 19–30, free for ages 18 and under. Sleepy Hollow High School, 210 N. Broadway. Pianist Wu Han, violinist Philip Setzer, and cellist David Finckel playing Schubert. friendsofmusicconcerts.org

Murder and Mayhem Tour

SLEEPY HOLLOW

8–10 p.m. / \$50. Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, North Gate, 540 N. Broadway. For ages 18+. Register at sleepyhollowcemetery.org

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

Wickers Creek Market: Antiques & Vintage

DOBBS FERRY



The Friends of Music season opener features the Han, Setzer, Finckel Piano Trio performing works by Schubert on Saturday, Sept. 19, at Sleepy Hollow High School. Photo by Christian Steiner

10 a.m.–4 p.m. / Free admission. Waterfront Park, 11 Station Plaza. wickerscreekmarket.com

Outdoor Live Music: Brandon Mejia

DOBBS FERRY

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

Kayak to Nyack

TARRYTOWN

8 a.m. / Free. Losee Park Launch. Paddle across the Hudson River and back. Rain date Sept. 27. Register at tarrytownenvironmental.org

Jay Gould's Story

TARRYTOWN

3 p.m. / \$15. Lyndhurst, 635 S. Broadway. Author Edward J. Renahan Jr. discusses his book, "Dark Genius of Wall Street: The Misunderstood Life of Jay Gould, King of the Robber Barons." lyndhurst.org

Sleepy Hollow Street Fair

SLEEPY HOLLOW

10 a.m.–5 p.m. Beekman Avenue. Outdoor market with 145 vendors, food, music, and performances. sleepyhollowtarrytownchamber.com

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

Scarecrow Workshop

DOBBS FERRY

6–8 p.m. / \$15. Dobbs Ferry Public Library, 55 Main St. Make a face for the scarecrow assembly event on Oct. 3. Scarecrows will be on display on the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail through Oct. 31. Registration required at aqueduct.org

School's Out Mini-Camp

HASTINGS

9 a.m.–Noon / \$80. The Maker Hive, 416 Warburton Ave. For grades K–4. Register at makerhive.space

School Holiday Drop-In

IRVINGTON

10 a.m.–4 p.m. / \$80. New Kawaii, One Bridge St. For grades K–8. Register at newkawaii.com

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 21

Rivertowns Death Café

DOBBS FERRY

6–7:30 p.m. / Free. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. Informal group discussion about death facilitated by Elizabeth Knell. RSVP at gofromthere.co/deathcafe

Picture Book: Book Club

DOBBS FERRY

8 p.m. / Free. Picture Book at HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. Discuss "Kin" by Tayari Jones. RSVP at picturebookny.com/calendar

Rock & Blues: Leo Belsy

HASTINGS

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

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

Toast 250

TARRYTOWN

6–9 p.m. / Free. Horsefeathers, 94 N. Broadway. Meet in Patriots Park at 5:30 p.m. for musket salute and march to Horsefeathers for tavern music, period games, and trivia. rw250.org

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

Outdoor Live Music: Vinny Piazza

DOBBS FERRY

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

Rivertowns Chamber Gala

DOBBS FERRY

6:30 p.m. / \$75–\$150. HudCo, 145 Palisade St., Suite 200. "From Readers to Leaders" benefits youth programs at local public libraries,

as well as local businesses and entrepreneurs. rivertownschamber.com

Halloween Parade Fundraiser

TARRYTOWN

5:30 p.m. / \$25. Set Back Inn, 33 Main St. Come in costume for food donated by local restaurants. instagram.com/tarrytownhalloweenparade

Corinne Bailey Rae

TARRYTOWN

8 p.m. / \$59–\$179. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. tarrytownmusichall.org

Bridge-Lighting Watch Party

SLEEPY HOLLOW

5:30–7:30 p.m. / Free. Horan's Landing, 57 River St. Enjoy sunset yoga, live music, and food as the Mario Cuomo Bridge goes purple to support Walk to End Alzheimer's events. facebook.com/endalzwestchester

"Tarry" Launch and Reading

SLEEPY HOLLOW

7–9 p.m. / Free. Philipse Manor Station, 300 Riverside Drive. Celebrate the second issue of the literary magazine. Register at writerscenter.org

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25

Concert in the Park

ARDSLEY

6–8 p.m. / Free. Pascone Park, 507 Ashford Ave. The concert series concludes with the Larry Stevens Duo. ardsleyvillage.gov/parks-recreation

Classic Rock: Run Away Train

ARDSLEY

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

River Jam and Food Truck

DOBBS FERRY

6:30–8:30 p.m. / Free. Waterfront Park. The fall concert series features Georgia 5 and Cousins Maine Lobster.

Art Ex Launch

DOBBS FERRY

7 p.m. / Free. Mercy University, 555 Broadway. The Art Exchange at Mercy University kicks off with a screening of "Martyr of Gowanus" followed by a Q&A. RSVP: artex@mercy.edu

"9 to 5" Family Storytime

TARRYTOWN

4 p.m. / \$10. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St. Honor Dolly Parton with stories, a sing-along, and mocktails. tarrytownmusichall.org

"Walking with Ghosts"

TARRYTOWN

7–9 p.m. / \$40–\$60. Shames JCC, 371 S. Broadway. Ghost stories from paranormal expert Amy Bruni. shamesjcc.org



This could be your office.

Fully furnished private corner office available now, seats up to 7.
Hotel-style hospitality and design with the professional services of a corporate office building.
First month is free. Inquire: samantha@hudco.co

HUDCO

914 - 479 - 0011 www.hudco.co

9/11 ceremonies

Continued from page 1

memorial plaque honoring one of their own lost on 9/11 — Bill Pohlmann, an Ardsley resident and volunteer firefighter. At the time of his death, at age 57, he worked on the 87th floor of the South Tower as the assistant deputy commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. His wife, Linda, a former Ardsley village trustee, and one of their three sons, Chris, attended the ceremony.

Lindsay described Pohlmann's sacrifice as reflecting "the very spirit of bravery."

"Bill and countless others like him showed us what it means to serve, to protect, and to sacrifice," Lindsay said. "Today, we pledge to keep their memory alive — especially that of Bill Pohlmann — by living with courage, compassion, and unity."

Dobbs Ferry

At Dobbs Ferry Waterfront Park, attendees of the fire department's Sept. 11 memorial service last Friday covered the stretch of grass facing the Hudson River where park-goers in 2001 saw the sky fill with smoke. With the Manhattan skyline behind him, Westchester County Deputy Fire Coordinator Russell Maitland reflected on the meaning of resiliency 25 years after he reported to Engine 92 and Ladder 44 in the Bronx. On Sept. 14, 2001, he joined thousands of first responders at Ground Zero.

The morning of the attack, Maitland said, "thousands of ordinary people went to work,"

unaware of what was going to happen. When the planes struck the World Trade Center, "the men and women of the emergency services did what they've been trained and entrusted to do: they went towards danger, not away from it."

"That decision tells us everything about the kind of people that we honor today," Maitland said. "The firefighters of September 11th didn't stop to ask who was watching... They grabbed their gear, they climbed the stairs, they went to work."

He was describing the work ethic ascribed to an array of emergency service workers. This spirit, he continued, also applies to the community members who tried to help each other in the aftermath of the attack, like those who "opened a door, brought food, donated blood, offered money, or simply stood beside a first responder and said thank you."

He defined resiliency as acknowledging the losses of 9/11, and carrying these scars while "we continue forward."

Twenty-five years after the attacks, Maitland said "the passage of time has not diminished the responsibility we carry," instead only making it greater. He urged the crowd to honor the people lost that day by "working hard" and treating "every call, every patient, every victim, and every person we encounter with dignity."

Hastings

On Sept. 11, 2001, Westchester County Legislator David Imamura was "a scared eighth-grader at Irvington Middle School

who wanted to know if his parents were coming home that day." Imamura shared that recollection during a memorial service at Fulton Park on the evening of the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks.

The service was led by Hastings Mayor Tom Drake, who was a sergeant with the Alpharetta (Ga.) Police Department from 1998–2004 and an officer with the NYPD from 1997–98 and 2004–07. Drake encouraged attendees to "strengthen each other and lift each other up just like we did 25 years ago, when we all stood by each other, shoulder to shoulder, supporting each other." He also mentioned that a dugout at the Burke Estate is named after Patrick Danahy, a 1984 graduate of Hastings High School who was killed at the World Trade Center.

The trio of Adam Hart, Ken Tuccillo, and Douglas Alligood performed several songs during the service, including "America the Beautiful," while Hastings High School senior Jay Zofia Werner sang "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Located next to the library, the park includes a 9/11 memorial engraved in stone at its southern overlook, with a view of Manhattan. During the open-mic portion of the service, former Mayor Peter Swiderski stated that he lights candles at that spot every Sept. 11, at 8:46 a.m., in memory of two people he knew who were killed in 2001. On that day, he chose not to attend a conference at Windows on the World, in the North Tower, that started at 8 a.m. Instead, he was at a meeting two blocks to the east.

"It's the jumpers that live with me," Swiderski said afterward about the people who leapt to escape the burning towers.

Hastings resident Bill Peterson was in the South Tower when American Airlines Flight 11 hit the North Tower at 8:46 a.m. Peterson was a senior vice president in the law department at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. During the service, he honored that firm's vice president of security, Rick Rescorla, who directed him and others down staircases. Peterson last saw him on the 65th floor as Rescorla headed up a staircase.

Irvington

Twenty-four years ago, Jane Anne Cavallaro of Irvington attended the first 9/11

memorial service at Scenic Hudson Park with her 3-year-old daughter Madison and while pregnant with her daughter Sadie. Since then, the trio has continued to attend the annual service, which starts at 8:30 a.m., and then stay afterward to sit on a bench with a view of the Manhattan skyline.

The bench is alongside a memorial that includes two stone columns representing the Twin Towers, with shields for Irvington's fire and police departments and the volunteer ambulance corps embedded in the concrete at the columns' base.

Members of all three village services attended the 25th anniversary ceremony, which included performances of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by Irvington High School juniors Mira Adams, Leah Tavares, and Ciara Walker; "God Bless America" by siblings Joseph Thoma, 14, and Julia Thoma, 11; and "Taps" by Irvington resident Christy Vincent.

There were also remarks by Mayor Arlene Burgos, as well as prayers led by Rabbi Mara Young of Woodlands Community Temple, the Rev. Robert Ashman of Immaculate Conception Church, and the Rev. Gareth Evans of the Church of St. Barnabas.

The featured speaker, as in years past, was Kevin Gallagher, who was a diver for the NYPD on Sept. 11, 2001. He served with the NYPD for 37 years, retiring in 2019, and has been a member of the Irvington Volunteer Fire Department since 1995.

Gallagher recalled, in detail, his experience on the day of the terrorist attacks and during the recovery effort at Ground Zero.

"I faithfully attend my annual medical screening with the World Trade Center Health Program, simply because of the literally thousands who have died from one of the 69 identified cancers attributed to the toxins in the Ground Zero area," Gallagher said. "I often ask myself why am I still here while others who performed the same work have passed away?"

Following the ceremony, Cavallaro brought up Irvington resident Robert Speisman, who was killed on the plane that crashed at the Pentagon, and former resident Michael Collins, who was killed at the World Trade Center. When asked why she and her daughters attend the service, Cavallaro replied "Because we never forget."

diversity of the Rivertowns, including the volunteers and working families who contribute to the community.

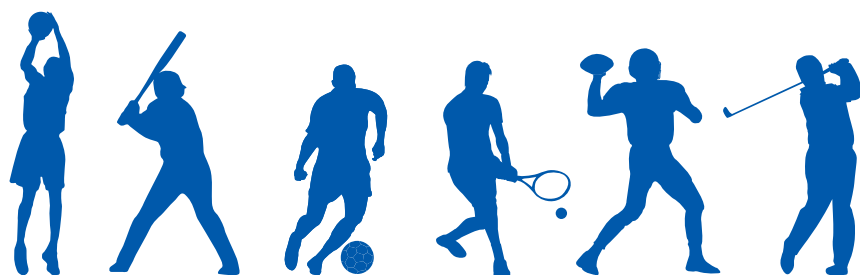
"Without robust tenant protection and building affordable housing, we risk losing the very people who made Sleepy Hollow a great, vibrant, inclusive place to live," Bernstein said. "Don't weaken it further by not adopting the strongest version of it."

Reyes added that educating residents about tenant rights should be a broader effort involving village leaders, the board of trustees, and nonprofit organizations.

"They are long-lasting members of this community," Reyes said. "They built this community too, so they deserve inclusion."

The mayor responded, "We agree with you."

A public hearing has not yet been scheduled.



OrthoCare

PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPORTS REHABILITATION

Orthopaedic • Sports Injuries
Hands On • Manual Therapy Approach
Pre & Post Surgical Care
Knee and Shoulder • Spinal Rehabilitation
Auto/Work Related Injuries

Most Insurance Plans Accepted
Including Medicare, Workers Comp, and No Fault

MON-FRI 7AM–7PM
SAT 8AM–1PM

1053 SAW MILL RIVER ROAD, ARDSLEY
(914) 693-2350

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

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 September 22, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

Asya Trakht, Boris & Halina Rubinstein and Irvington Neighbors Against Traffic, Inc. – 76 North Broadway (2.50-16-1.2) are seeking the interpretations listed below:

- Daycare Facility Is Not a Permitted Use
 - Interpretation of 224-47.8 Permitted uses; use regulations” finding that a childcare /day-care facility is not a permitted use...
 - Interpretation of 224-47.8.F prohibiting a childcare /day-care facility as a permitted accessory use...
 - Interpretation of 224-47-8.G prohibiting the parking and drop-off facilities attributable to the daycare use...

- Application Includes Inapplicable Coverage and FAR Bonuses
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.D(4)(a)/224-47.9.F(6)(a),/224-47.14 A combined interpretation of § 224-47.9.D(4)(a), § 224-47.9.F(6)(a), and § 224-47.14 requiring a reduction of allowable coverage and FAR bonuses...

- Allowable Lot Coverage Exceeded
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.D An interpretation That playground safety surfacing and fencing constitute building/paved area in accordance with § 224-3, requiring them to be considered coverage...
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.D An interpretation that

- the structural grass-paver pad constitutes building/paved area in accordance with §224-3, requiring it to be considered lot coverage...
- Interpretation of 224-47.9.D An interpretation that the canopy structure and/or the pavement underneath and its required guardrail constitute a structure and/or a building/paved area...
- Interpretation of ----- An interpretation finding that wall coverage must be computed from the wall sections actually drawn...
- Interpretation 224-47.9.D An interpretation finding that since the surface appurtenances of the stormwater system and all remaining pole/guy assemblies are not “entirely underground” in accordance with § 224-3, they are required to be considered lot coverage...
- Interpretation of 224-47.9.D An interpretation that code-compliant egress landings constitute building/paved area in accordance with §224-3, requiring them to be considered lot coverage as...
- Interpretation of 224-47.9.d(11) An interpretation finding that since the garage’s at-grade entrance, vents, canopy, and thinly concealed concrete ceiling are not “entirely underground so as to permit the use of the ground above the same as if no building was present”...
- Interpretation of 224-47.9.D(2) An interpretation finding that since lighting fixtures, poles, and bollards are “buildings” under § 224-3, they should be considered lot coverage ...
- Interpretation of 224-47.9.D Interpretations finding that the maximum site-coverage limitations are exceeded, due to the failure to include any one or all of the following in the coverage calculations as per §224-47.9.D: 1) playground safety surfacing; 2) The Grasspave2 fire pad; 3) landscape canopy over the garage entrance, its missing guardrail, and paving underneath; 4) actual thickness of retaining walls; 5) stormwater appurtenances and utility poles; 6) egress landings; 7) the garage’s full footprint; and 8) all elements of the lighting plan.
- Encroachments in Minimum

- Yard Setbacks and Broadway Buffer
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.B(1)/ 224-51.B Interpretations that 1) walkways, manholes, and other “buildings” are prohibited (and unexempted) encroachments in the rear yard under § 224-47.9.B(1); 2) the appurtenances associated with the stormwater pretreatment and infiltration units, as well as inlets, catch basins, manholes, yard drains, are “buildings” and therefore prohibited from the front, side, and rear yards, as well as the Buffer...

- Maximum Building Length Exceeded
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.H An interpretation finding that contiguous retaining walls and walkways extend the primary building’s length beyond the maximum permitted length of 225 feet...
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.H An interpretation finding that retaining walls longer than 225 feet at grade are non-compliant...

- Retaining Walls Exceed Maximum Height Limit
 - Interpretation of 224-47.10.D An interpretation finding that the retaining walls are prohibited since they are greater than three feet in height...
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9(C)4 finding that a tiered system of retaining walls constitutes a single “building” for purposes of measuring the height of walls within the side-yard setback.

- Required Minimum Distance Between Buildings Violated
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.I An interpretation finding that the location of the playground structures and fencing, the playgrounds in their entirety, the tiered retaining walls, the walkways, driveways, and any other proposed buildings as defined by § 224-3 are prohibited...

- Building Exceeds Maximum Height
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9.E(1), (4) and (5). An interpretation finding that a sidewalk is not within the meaning of “driveway” and that the principal building therefore exceeds the maximum height

- limits...
- Interpretation of 224-47.9.E An interpretation finding that, as drawn, the principal building would exceed the maximum height limit...
- FAR Calculation Inaccurate: Parking Garage Wrongfully Excluded
 - Interpretation of 224-47.11.B An interpretation finding that the garage structure is ineligible for §224-47.9F(3)’s FAR exemption for underground parking, and that the two parking levels represent a parking deck that must be fully screened
 - Interpretation of 224-47.9F(3) An interpretation finding that the floor area of the garage structure that is not committed to parking is ineligible for the exemption...

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. All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

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

Signed,
Dated: September 9, 2026
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Irvington, New York

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 September 22, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

Robert Collins & Kelly Jones – 21 Oak Street (2.80-38-3) is seeking a variance of section 224-11 (encroachment into the side yard setback) of the Village Code in order to install HVAC condenser units 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. All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

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

Signed,
Dated: September 9, 2026
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Irvington, New York

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 September 22, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

Brian Burke & Patricia Waters – 5 Willow Street (2.80-37-7) is seeking a variance of section 224-13 (exceeds allowable coverage) of the Village Code in order to reduce and document an existing patio 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. All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

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

Signed,
Dated: September 9, 2026
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Irvington, New York

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 September 22, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

Philip Futernik & Nili Geldwert – 150 Fieldpoint Drive (2.111-59-42) is seeking variances of sections 224-11 (encroachment into the front yard setback), 224-13 (exceeds allowable coverage) and 224-134 (exceeds allowable FAR) of the Village Code in order to build an addition 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. All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

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

Signed,
Dated: September 9, 2026
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Irvington, New York

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 September 22, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

Carly Solon & Marshall Eisler – 21 Langdon Avenue (2.170-83-5) is seeking variances of sections 224-11 (proposed

PHOTO WALL



MAZEL TOV TEDDY
Congratulations on your Bar Mitzvah,
we are so proud of you
Mom, Dad, Hammy, Melissa & Madison

additions/structures encroach into the rear yard and side yard setbacks) 224-13 (proposed additions/structures exceed allowable coverage) and 224-134 (proposed addition exceeds allowable FAR) of the Village Code in order to build an addition 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. All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

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

Signed,
Dated: September 9, 2026
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Irvington, New York

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 September 22, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., upon the application of

Jared & Allie Wein – 19 Dear-

man Close (2.111-59-47.9) is seeking a variance of section 224-13 (proposed pool exceeds allowable coverage) of the Village Code in order to construct a pool and patio 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. All persons interested are invited to attend in person or join via Zoom

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

Signed,
Dated: September 9, 2026
Sarah Gardner, Chairperson
Katie Bugna, Clerk-Treasurer
Village of Irvington, New York

PUBLIC HEARING -- AMENDING ZONING CODE WITH RESPECT TO TRAFFIC STANDARDS IN MFO DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Irvington will hold a public hearing amending the Zoning Code with respect to traffic standards in special permit requirements for the Multi-family/Office (MFO) District – Monday, October 5, 2026 at 7PM in Village Hall.

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

Screens in school
Continued from page 15

Parents want more

During public comment, Connell proposed replacing the district’s “block list” approach to technology, which she likened to a game of whack-a-mole, with an “allowed list” identifying the apps, websites, and games the district considers appropriate. “In order for a parent to be comfortable

with what technology means, they have to know what it is — software, the games that kids play, what changes grade by grade,” Connell told the board.

She also called for more information about how often students use Chromebooks, what they access, and how technology use changes in middle and high school, along with regular audits.

Adar Eisenbruch, father of a first-grader and preschooler, distributed a one-page summary of a meta-analysis in the journal

Educational Research Review comparing reading comprehension on paper and screens.

The meta-analysis reviewed research involving more than 171,000 participants and found that reading on screens was associated with a comprehension decline of about one-fifth of a standard deviation.

“Statistically a one-fifth standard deviation is a small effect, but if every student understands everything they read a little less, that’s a huge learning loss total,” Eisenbruch said. “So I really encourage the district to

get back to paper and old-school methods.”

TUFSD Unplugged has also pointed to the proposed FOCUS Act, a bill before the state Legislature that would establish age-appropriate limits on technology in classrooms.

“A lot of very bold action at the state level would force districts to act,” Connell told the Dispatch. “I really wish our own school board would be willing to take a similarly bold action in light of the overwhelming research showing how screens just aren’t as effective.”

Sports

EDITED BY ROB DIANTONIO

Irvington's second-half surge sinks Valhalla

— FIELD HOCKEY ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

A year after enduring a difficult three-win season, Irvington is already showing signs that this fall could be much different.

The Bulldogs broke open a scoreless game with four second-half goals to defeat host Valhalla/Westlake 4-0 on Sept. 14, improving to 2-1. Junior Chloe Annicharico recorded a hat trick and freshman Lucy Brutto had a hand in all four goals, finishing with a goal and three assists.

For Irvington coach Arielle Rodriguez, the offensive outburst was the product of the Bulldogs settling in and playing together.

"I think communication was a huge thing and just trusting one another," Rodriguez said. "And it's not one person passing to one person only. That's the whole thing, moving as a unit."

Despite being held off the scoreboard over the first two quarters, Irvington was hardly quiet offensively. The Bulldogs continually pressured the Valhalla/Westlake defense and generated one penalty corner after another, but were unable to convert.

Rodriguez felt it was only a matter of time before that pressure produced a goal.

"After the first quarter, we talked and we said they just gave us eight corners and everyone realized that, 'Wait, we are getting the ball up there. We are able to do it,'" Rodriguez said. "You want to have the intensity and the energy up there on the offensive line, but you also want to take a second and take a deep breath and not just force it up."

The Bulldogs finally broke through with 9:05 remaining in the third quarter. Brutto set up Annicharico, who finished to give Irvington the 1-0 lead. It took less than 3 minutes for the Bulldogs to strike again. Brutto went from facilitator to scorer, finding the cage with 6:33 left in the third.

Irvington continued to pour it on in the fourth. Brutto created another opportunity early in the quarter, putting a shot on goal that resulted in a rebound. Annicharico was there to pounce on the loose ball and score her second goal with 14:19 remaining.

The duo connected one final time with 9:53 left. Brutto fed Annicharico for her third goal, completing the junior's hat trick and putting the Bulldogs comfortably ahead 4-0.

Annichar-

Lucy Brutto carries at midfield.



Irvington's Sadie Kilbury chases after the ball. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.

ico credited Irvington's improved communication for the dramatic difference between the two halves.

"The whole message was to communicate a lot more because in the first half we weren't really doing great on the communication," Annicharico said. "I feel like the second half was a really great way to keep on going and really get the communication going so we can score the goals."

Brutto's emergence has given the Bulldogs another weapon despite her being the lone freshman on the varsity roster. Rodriguez has been impressed with her ability to step into the lineup and immediately play with confidence.

Annicharico has also taken another step forward. "Chloe's very coachable and able to adapt to different parts in the middle of everything — all the chaos," Rodriguez said. "She's been working super hard over the years and she's finding her spot."

Rodriguez also praised junior midfielders Sadie Kilbury and Hazel Kwon for their ability to help Irvington

transition into its attack.

That team-wide contribution has been particularly encouraging for a program trying to change its fortunes. The Bulldogs believe the foundation for a turnaround was laid well before the first game of this season.

Annicharico said the commitment from her teammates throughout the offseason has been noticeable.

"I feel like this year we have a really good foundation of everyone who's been determined to play," she said. "We've been out here every day. Even if we didn't have practice, we've been really putting in the work throughout the summer, and I feel like it really showed."

Senior captain Sophia Quinio has seen that transformation from a broader perspective. Quinio remembers watching her older sister, Sam, play on successful Bulldog teams. After last season's struggles, she believes some of that confidence and expectation is returning to the program.

"I think we've come very far, and I'm very proud to see it," Quinio said. "I've been playing since seventh grade and watching my sister play, and her team was very successful. So I think seeing that drive re-instilled in my whole team is very wonderful. We also had a reawakening of our JV program. Our whole program is being reversed and I think our future is going to be much stronger now."

Irvington blanked visiting Byram Hills 3-0 on Sept. 9. Brutto (1G), Kwon (1G), Zoe Gonzalez (1G), Annicharico (1A), Bella Balkin (1A), and Zoya Bhandari (2S) led the team.

— VARSITY ROUNDUP —

Dobbs Ferry's Mansfield, Sleepy Hollow's Taylor reach milestones

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Volleyball

Dobbs Ferry senior Natasha Mansfield reached 500 career kills in a 3-1 win (26-28, 25-19, 25-23, 25-23) win over host Rye on Sept. 10. Mansfield finished with 17 kills, 23 digs, and four assists.

"Natasha has experience and a great game IQ, so she can find open spots and weaknesses," Dobbs Ferry coach Patty Duane said. "Depending on the situation, she switches from hard hits to roll shots to tips. She also gets herself into a position to hit from the front row and back row and communicates with the setter, so they find her."

Taylor Denike (9K, 19D), Grace Demitrovic (10K), Layla Wilbekin (21A), and Brielle Jean (6B) also contributed for the Eagles (2-1).

Hastings cruised past visiting Briarcliff in straight sets (25-21, 25-13, 25-18) on Sept. 10. Roxy Griffin (14K, 4AC, 2B), Josie McLaughlin (9K, 8AC), and Faith Schwartz (12AS, 4AC) sparked the squad.

The Yellow Jackets improved to 3-0 with a straight set (25-19, 31-29, 25-20) win over host Pelham on Sept. 15. Griffin (15K, 4AC, 3B), Kylie Deklin (13K, 4D), and Poppy Soeiro (17AS, 4AC, 4K, 5K) were key contributors.

Ardsey got out to a 2-0 lead but lost to visiting Walter Panas 3-2 (25-23, 25-18, 23-25, 20-25, 21-19) on Sept. 10. Katherine Cai (48A, 15D), Zaniya Bell (11K, 16D), and Sophia Pecora (34D) led the team.

The Panthers (3-2) rebounded with a 3-0 win (25-18, 27-25, 25-16) over visiting Byram Hills on Sept. 15. Sophie Young (11K, 2B), Cai (29AS, 13D, 3AC), Bell (9K), Maddison Polanco (17D, 4AC), and Addy King (6D) paced Ardsley.

Sleepy Hollow senior Sam Taylor reached 500 career kills in a 3-0 loss (16-25, 15-25, 20-25) to visiting Nanuet on Sept. 15. In a 3-0 win (25-13, 25-18, 25-23) over host Edgemont on Sept. 14, Taylor (13K), Charlotte Pacheco (8K), Sam Taub (6D), and Natalia Hargrave (6D) sparked the Horsemen.

Irvington (1-5) lost to visiting Nanuet 3-0 on Sept. 10. Paige Swift (8D, 3A), Alice Kamin (2AS), and Alice Schneider (3K, 4D, 2AC) paced the team.

The Bulldogs fell to visiting Westlake 3-1 (11-25, 27-25, 14-25, 23-25) on Sept. 14 but rebounded with their first win, defeating host Alexander Hamilton 3-0 (25-15, 25-21, 25-13) the next day. Paige Swift (19A, 21D),

Continued on page 23

Sports

Irvington and Sleepy Hollow battle to hard-fought draw

— GIRLS' SOCCER ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Neither Irvington nor Sleepy Hollow was willing to go away.

In a back-and-forth battle that featured three lead changes and four ties, the Bulldogs and host Horsemen traded chances throughout before settling for a 4-4 draw on Sept. 15.

Irvington erased a pair of second-half deficits, including a 4-3 Sleepy Hollow advantage in the closing minutes, when Shea Pressman delivered the equalizer with 4:24 remaining.

"That was the thing we talked about — they just didn't stop at the end," Irvington coach Pat DiBenedetto said. "We got in a deficit situation a number of times. We really needed to capitalize on our energy going into the half but we made up for it in the end by at least finishing the game and not giving up and not stopping."

Sleepy Hollow struck first with 27:20 remaining in the opening half. Siena Spataro sent in a corner kick and Meghan McMahon finished to put the Horsemen ahead 1-0. The Bulldogs responded less than 8 minutes later. Alexis Im, a junior captain, started the sequence before Pressman slid a pass to Skylar Coyne, who knocked home the rebound with 19:27 left to even the score.

Irvington grabbed its first lead with 9:42 remaining in the half. Parker Pressman sent in a corner and senior captain Ruthie Liang finished to give the Bulldogs a 2-1 advantage heading into halftime.

Sleepy Hollow came out firing after the break. Rachel Richardson, a senior, pulled the Horsemen even with 24:18 remaining, sending a high shot over Irvington sophomore goalie Emma Reilly for a 2-2 tie. It was Richardson's first varsity goal.

Less than 3 minutes later, Sleepy Hollow regained the lead. Evelyn Mackey played an indirect kick to senior Samantha Marvin, whose initial shot was stopped before she collected the rebound and finished to make it 3-2.

But Irvington answered again. Coyne sent a ball in to Eleanor Schultz, who finished with 17:24 remaining to knot the score at 3-3.

Marvin struck for her second goal with 13:01 to go, converting off a feed from Lauren Taub to give Sleepy Hollow a 4-3 advantage.

Sleepy Hollow coach Brian Amaya was pleased with the resilience his team displayed.

"One thing I can't ask more of this team is heart and fight," Amaya said. "It's never been an issue. From the start, they've been absolutely getting after it. The fight has been here from day one, and I think it's helped us tremendously."

With time running down, Irvington had one more response. Liang sent in a corner to Coyne, who headed the ball to Shea Pressman and she then finished from close range with 4:24 remaining to forge the tie.

Reilly finished with 13 saves for Irvington while Sleepy Hollow's Sabrina Graham



Irvington's Skylar Coyne looks to work past Sleepy Hollow's Breanne Rodriguez and Maiyumi Marcus-Kanesaka. Photos by Rob DiAntonio.

made seven saves.

DiBenedetto credited his defense with keeping the Bulldogs within striking distance against a dangerous Sleepy Hollow attack. He also praised the play of Liang, Parker Pressman, and Coyne.

"Ruthie has been all over the place," DiBenedetto said. "She's been consistent throughout in terms of just getting back, especially filling in spaces when we have players going up. Parker had a great game as well on defense, in terms of just clearing the ball out and being in the right spot. And Skylar's connecting and she's doing what she needs to do."

Irvington has just four seniors on the roster and is relying on several young players.

"We have a young team," DiBenedetto

said. "It's going to be a learning curve, especially those first few games. We're trying to get a rhythm together as a whole and make things happen."

Amaya highlighted freshman Olivia Montolio, who stepped into a role in the center midfield and made an impact, along with seniors Marvin, McMahon, and Richardson.

"Sammy Marvin has been a talisman for us," Amaya said. "Meghan McMahon has been indispensable. We're blessed. Rachel, one of our captains, is stepping into the six and scored on a sweet volley for the first goal of her career. Our seniors are really showing their leadership ability on the field."

Through four games, Amaya has also been encouraged by how receptive the Horsemen have been to coaching. Sleepy Hollow put an emphasis on improving its defensive shape leading into the matchup with Irvington.

"I think they take feedback wonderfully," Amaya said. "Following a bit of a tough defeat in our last game, we really rallied and focused in on our defensive shape. Everybody shared their voice when we were asking for feedback, and everybody listened very intently. It's going to hopefully bear some great outcomes."

Sleepy Hollow (1-3) lost to visiting Nyack 5-3 on Sept. 9. McMahon netted a hat trick with Marvin assisting on all three goals.

Irvington (1-0-2) defeated visiting Rye Neck 5-2 on Sept. 8. Coyne (3G), Shea Pressman (1G), Im (1G), Emma Ecklund (3A), Liang (1A), and Reilly (7A) sparked the squad.

Hastings nets trio of routs

Hastings (3-1) recorded three lopsided road wins, defeating Valhalla (7-1, Sept.

9), Gorton/Riverside (9-1, Sept. 14), and Yonkers (10-0, Sept. 15).

Against Valhalla, Alyssa Schlacter (3G, 1A), Sage Wrzesinski (2G, 1A), Kaya Israel (2G), Grace Chalker (1A), Maddie Crowely (1A), and Emiko Greene (1A) led the way. Israel (3G), Schlacter (2G, 1A), Wrzesinski (1G), Chalker (1G), Sabine O'Brien (1G, 1A), Rory McKinnon (1G), Zavi Mazur (3A), and Crowely stuffed the stat sheet against Gorton. Wrzesinski and Schlacter (3A) each had hat tricks against Yonkers. Izzy Doherty, Chalker, Israel (1A), and Mazur (1A) had one goal each. Georgia Schmit dished out four assists.

Dobbs takes two of three

Dobbs Ferry (2-2) defeated host Roosevelt 14-0 on Sept. 10, bested visiting Peekskill 5-0 on Sept. 14, and lost to host Pelham 6-1 on Sept. 15.

Phoebe Walker tallied five goals and two assists against Roosevelt. Bridget Turner (2G, 2A), Ivana Vuletic (2G, 1A), Paisley Blain (2G), Claire Turner (1G), Amra Klinevic (1G, 1A), Clara Power (1G), Lily Lai (3A), and Mae Murphy (1A) helped stuff the stat sheet. Against Peekskill, Walker netted a hat trick while Lai netted the other two goals. Juliet Curanovic made three saves.

Ardasley splits a pair

Ardasley (2-2) rebounded from a 4-0 loss to host Pleasantville on Sept. 10 with a 3-1 win over host Blind Brook on Sept. 15. Teagan Kenny (2G), Helene Dillon (1G), Morgan Hamlet (1A), Gracie Donaghy (1A), and Elise O'Brien (5S) paced the squad against Blind Brook. O'Brien had 15 saves in the loss.



Ruthie Liang and Evelyn Mackey

Sports

Dobbs Ferry and Ardsley earn dominant gridiron victories

— FOOTBALL ROUNDUP —

BY ROB DIANTONIO

Dobbs Ferry had to wait an extra week for an official game, but once the Eagles got their chance, they made the most of it with a 42-6 win over visiting Rye Neck on Sept. 10. The team had received a forfeit victory over Hastings in Week 0.

"It felt great to get to play in a real football game after waiting so long," senior quarterback Jackson Kearns said. "I think we learned a lot about ourselves and where we need to improve in order to win next week."

Dobbs travels to Pleasantville on Sept. 18 looking to build off its strong start.

Against Rye Neck, the Eagles did most of their damage on the ground, led by senior fullback Killian O'Connor. He rushed for 158 yards and two touchdowns on just nine carries, averaging more than 17 yards per attempt.

Kearns was another major threat in the rushing attack. The senior quarterback carried seven times for 111 yards and a touchdown while completing four of six passes for 38 yards.

Camilo Cruz had a pick six while Joe Salerno and Russell Shealy each rushed for their first varsity touchdowns.

"I think the key is to just keep buying in and doing what we've been coached to do," Kearns said. "We need to iron out the mental errors, which will come with reps."

Ardsley rolls past Putnam Valley

Ardsley responded to a season-opening setback in a big way.

The Panthers' offense erupted in a 41-20 win over visiting Putnam Valley on Sept. 10, giving first-year head coach Phil Treglia his first victory at the helm.

"Our team and seniors responded well during the practice week," Treglia said. "I

thought the players were motivating one another to push themselves harder in practice. They learned from our film where we needed to improve, and I thought we did a better job of that last week in our preparation for the Putnam Valley game."

Senior quarterback Jack Calkins spearheaded a balanced Ardsley attack, accounting for five touchdowns through the air and on the ground. Calkins completed 12 of 19 passes for 175 yards and three touchdowns while adding 71 yards and two scores on seven carries.

Fellow senior Tristen Roberts rushed 11 times for 140 yards and a touchdown, averaging nearly 13 yards per carry. Junior Xavier Estime was Calkins' top target, hauling in six passes for 123 yards and two touchdowns. Senior Dominick Carpenito added five receptions for 52 yards and a touchdown.

"The team was excited to play at home in front of our fans, and I was happy for them that they could feel the hard work is paying off," Treglia said.

Ardsley (1-1) travels to face Edgemont/Blind Brook on Sept. 18.

First half propels Sailors past Horsemen

Sleepy Hollow is going through some early-season growing pains.

The defending Section 1 Class B champion Horsemen fell behind early and were unable to recover in a 29-7 loss to visiting Hendrick Hudson on Sept. 10. Hen Hud scored all 29 of its points in the first half

as Sleepy dropped to 0-2.

"We just continue to make mistakes," Sleepy Hollow coach Anthony Giuliano said. "We are an inexperienced group that is gaining experience and learning the hard way. We just have to keep plugging away. There are fixes that need to be made all around — top to bottom."

The Horsemen showed some life offensively late in the first half. Quarterback Jeremiah Bowen connected with Jack Marvin for a 38-yard completion and Olin Keough followed with a 14-yard run that moved the ball to the Hen Hud 16-yard line.

Sleepy Hollow, however, was unable to finish the drive and went into halftime facing a 29-point deficit.

It didn't take long for the Horsemen to break through after the break. On the first play of the second half, Keough cut loose for a 68-yard touchdown run to cut the deficit to 29-7. Sleepy was unable to find the end zone again, but its defense kept the Sailors off the scoreboard for the entire second half.

Keough has provided a spark for the Horsemen through their first two games. He also accounted for the team's lone touchdown in its season opener,

Sleepy Hollow's Olin Keough looks for running room. Photo by Rob DiAntonio.



returning a kickoff for a score.

"That's two weeks in a row that he continues to keep his head high and not let a deficit affect us," Giuliano said. "Even his energy on the sideline was great just in kind of keeping us moving. It's nice to see him in that positive role and then doing it on the field too because that's where it really is contagious."

Sleepy Hollow will now try to regroup before another difficult Class B matchup. The Horsemen travel to Westlake on Sept. 18 in a rematch of last season's Section 1 Class B championship game, which Sleepy won 27-14.

"We've got to learn from it," Giuliano said. "That's what you do from a loss. It's what you do from a win too."

Hastings and Irvington fall

After a forfeit loss to Dobbs Ferry in Week 0, Hastings took the field last week with 22 players in uniform but fell to visiting Edgemont/Blind Brook 14-7 on Sept. 10.

The Yellow Jackets (0-2) got on the board in the first half when quarterback Avi Rothstein connected with Lucas Seelye on a 33-yard touchdown pass for a 7-0 lead. Edgemont/Blind Brook went ahead 14-7 in the second half. Hastings had a chance late in the fourth quarter after a Rothstein interception was returned to Edgemont's 13, but the Jackets were unable to capitalize. Aidan Hansen and Seelye led the defense with 10 and eight tackles, respectively.

Hastings returns to action when it hosts Pearl River on Sept. 19.

Irvington (0-2) lost to visiting Pleasantville 42-0 on Sept. 10. The Bulldogs were supposed to travel to Croton-Harmon on Sept. 19 but Croton dropped its varsity team. Irvington was looking for a new Week 2 opponent but had not found one as of press time (Sept. 16).

Varsity roundup

Continued from page 21

Chloe Swift (26D, 3K), and Brooke Lee (35D) guided the Bulldogs against Westlake. In the win over Hamilton, Paige Swift (26AS, 15D, 4AC), Chloe Swift (22D, 5K, 3AC), Lee (27D), and Kamin (11K, 3B) led the way.

Boys' soccer

Irvington improved to 4-0 with a home win over Briarcliff (3-0, Sept. 10) and road victory over Bronxville (2-0, Sept. 14). The Bulldogs have outscored opponents 14-0 through four contests.

Against Briarcliff, Griffin Warner, Joseph DeNardo, and David Rus scored a goal apiece, while Owen Brunenavs made five saves. Warner and DeNardo each scored against Bronxville, with Rus assisting on DeNardo's goal.

Hastings (3-1) defeated host Blind Brook 2-1 on Sept. 10. Louis von Rege (1G, 1A), Kai Ghalib (1G), and Justin Wilmot (7S) led the team.

Sleepy Hollow (2-2) blanked visiting

Nanuet 5-0 on Sept. 10. Samuel Quesada Pesantez and Joaquin Rodriguez each tallied two goals and an assist. Osvaldo Trejo had a goal and an assist. Nico Barbosa and Hanover Gottlock each had an assist.

Dobbs Ferry (0-2-1) fell to visiting Valhalla 4-2 on Sept. 10, lost to host Briarcliff 2-1 on Sept. 14, and tied host Alexander Hamilton 3-3 on Sept. 15.

Against Valhalla, Kyle Hung scored twice for the Eagles on feeds from Felipe Betancourt and Tighe Van Engen. Elijah Burns made six saves. In the loss to Briarcliff, Rassul Assanov scored with the assist from Chase Colyer. In the draw with Hamilton, Colyer scored all three goals, with Max Arellano registering three assists.

Ardsley (1-3) fell to host Valhalla 2-0 on Sept. 14. Henry Brumm made seven saves.

Girls' tennis

Hastings edged visiting Irvington 3-2 on Sept. 8. After the teams split in singles, with Hastings' Jenny Schofield (6-0, 6-3) and Irvington's Abigail Brandwein (6-0, 6-2) earning

wins, the match came down to doubles action.

The Yellow Jackets recorded two doubles wins with the teams of Elissa Huang and Carolina Fries (1-6, 6-3, 5-1) and Lila Husovsky and Niam Lynch coming up victorious. Irvington's Anya Foley and Marina Foley won their match 7-5, 4-6, 1-0.

Irvington (2-2) rebounded with a 3-2 win over visiting Pearl River on Sept. 14. Sophie Orton won in singles (6-3, 5-7, 10-6), with victories in doubles from Anya Foley and Marina Foley (6-0, 6-2), and Mackenzie Lee and Jordan Henry (6-1, 6-2).

Hastings edged host Pearl River in a 3-2 match on Sept. 10, with Schofield (6-1, 6-1) triumphing in singles, and the doubles teams of Huang and Cali Pangan (6-1, 6-3), and Ava Levenson and Lara Faraghi Ahrabi (6-3, 7-5) earning wins.

The Yellow Jackets swept visiting Albertus Magnus 5-0 on Sept. 14. Schofield (6-0, 6-0) and Fries (6-0, 6-0) handily won in singles and the victorious doubles squads were: Olivia Huang and Hajeong Lee (6-0, 6-0), Elissa Huang and Kaitlyn Constantine (6-1, 6-0),

and Faraghi Ahrabi and Pangan (6-2, 6-0).

Dobbs Ferry cruised past host Nanuet 5-0 on Sept. 10. Megan Hartnett (6-1, 6-1) and Nola Bass-Weiss (6-3, 6-0) won their singles matches. The winning doubles teams were Maia Kim and Chloe Hogan (6-4, 4-6, 1-0), Scarlett Kilroe and Brooke Ryan (6-4, 2-6, 1-0), and Elizaveta Kokina and Julia Szczeszynski (8-5).

Girls' swimming

Ardsley/Dobbs Ferry opened the season with a 96-74 win over host Mahopac/Putnam Valley/Carmel on Sept. 14.

Individual event winners for Ardsley/Dobbs were Isla Harris (200 freestyle, 2:05.76), Daphne Green (100 butterfly, 1:02.40), and Emma DeFilippis (100 freestyle, 58.84). Fiamma Cioffi was second in the 200 IM and 500 freestyle. DeFilippis took second in the 50 freestyle, while Green was second in the 100 backstroke. Mackenzie Cabello placed second in the 100 breaststroke. Ardsley/Dobbs won the 400-freestyle relay (3:59.80) with a team of Green, Harris, DeFilippis, and Cioffi.

EDGE-ON-COOL DESIGN



Luxury Living at River's Edge

This is home on the Edge. A visionary community of handcrafted townhomes, urban condos, luxury apartments, shops, dining, parks and trails on the edge of the Hudson River with views to the Manhattan skyline. It's all steps away from the Sleepy Hollow RiverWalk, two Metro-North stations and just 38 minutes from Grand Central.



EDGE-ON-HUDSON
A New View On The River



BRV

PCD

Find home at EdgeOnHudson.com

The information provided in this advertisement is not an offering of homes for sale. Edge-on-Hudson is soliciting interest in the overall project and will share your interest with builders constructing and selling homes. No offering of homes for sale can be made by an individual builder and no deposits can be accepted, or reservations, binding or non-binding, can be made until the builder's offering plan is approved by the New York State Department of Law. ©