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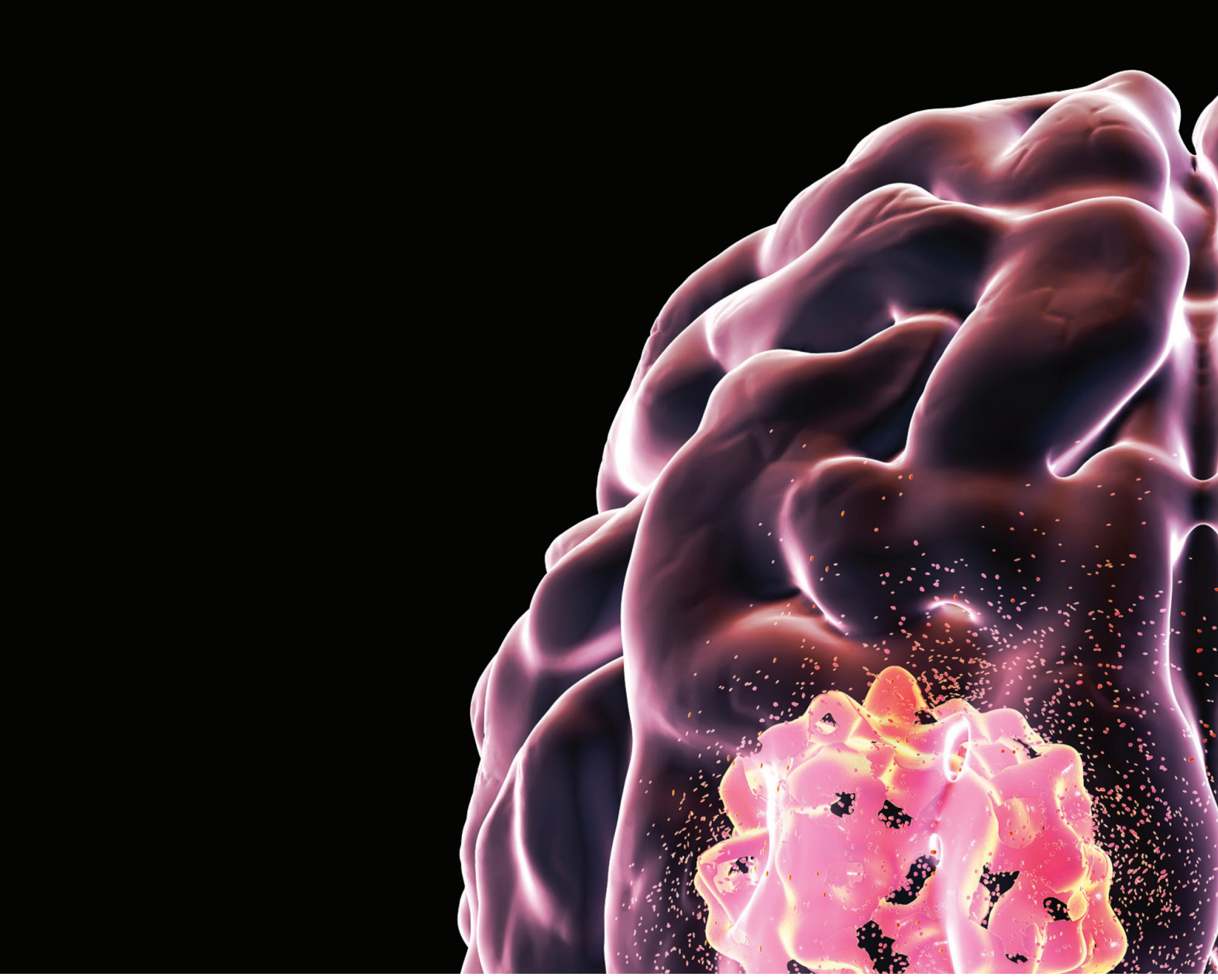

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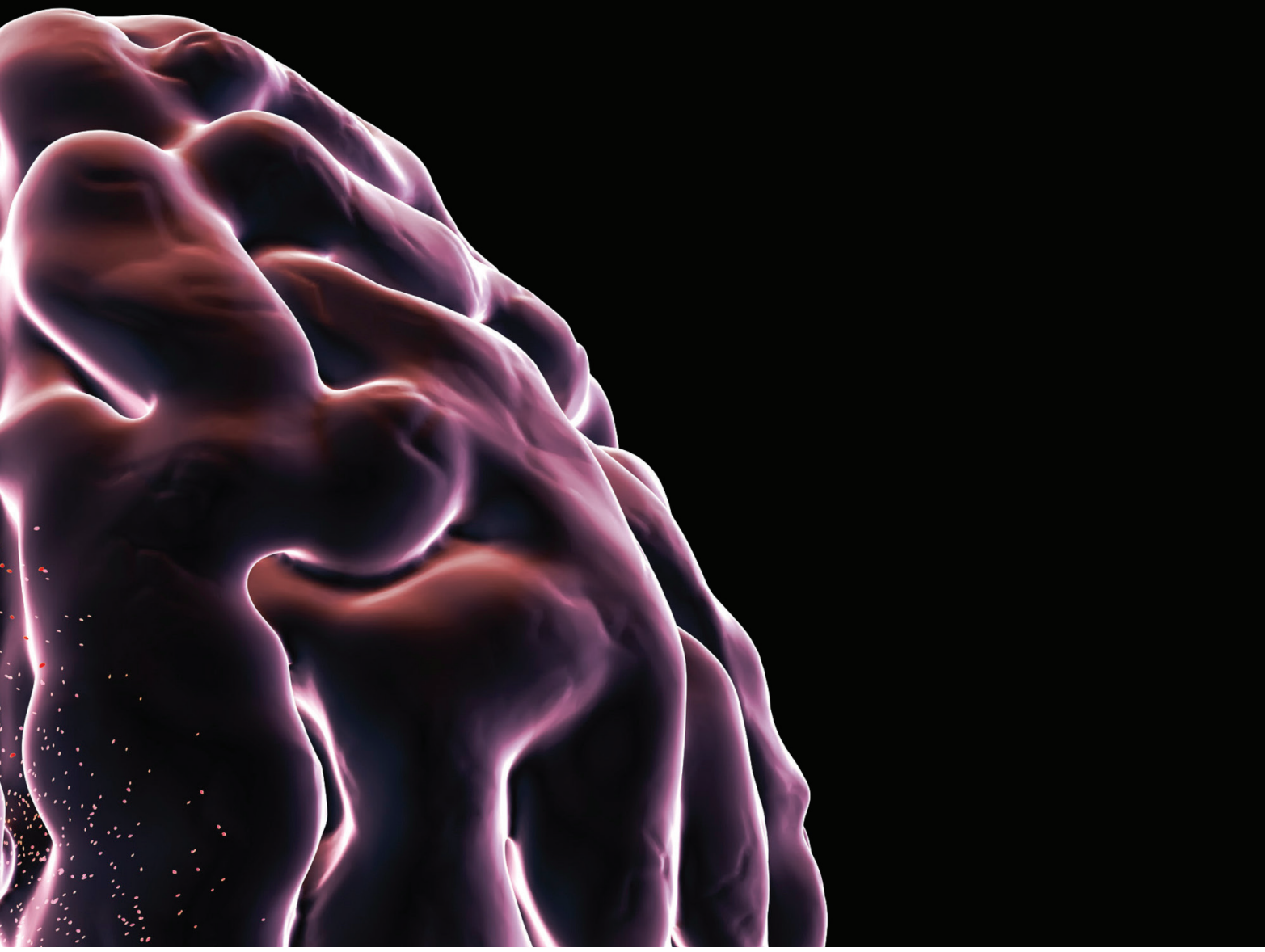

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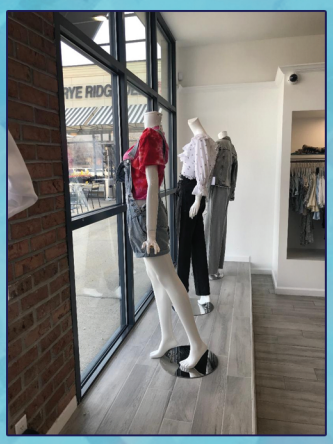













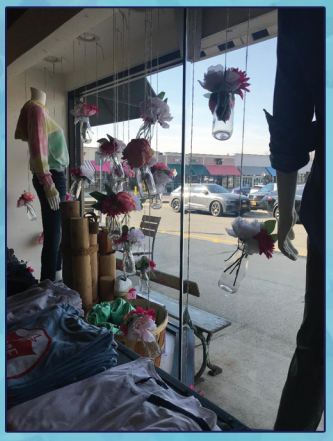













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Healthcare Heroes

Meet 16 heroes from the front lines of local healthcare, selected by a panel of expert judges and the editors of *Westchester Magazine*. Honorees range from elite physicians, nurses, and executives to psychologists, educators, and humanitarians. **Edited by Nick Brandi; written by Regina Molaro and Deborah Skolnik**



Rye Playland

Contents photo courtesy of Westchester County Parks

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Westchester Magazine is published by Today Media, a Martinelli Holdings LLC, 2 Clinton Avenue, Rye, New York 10580, 914.345.0601

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Westchester Magazine: May 2021, Vol. 45, Number 5.
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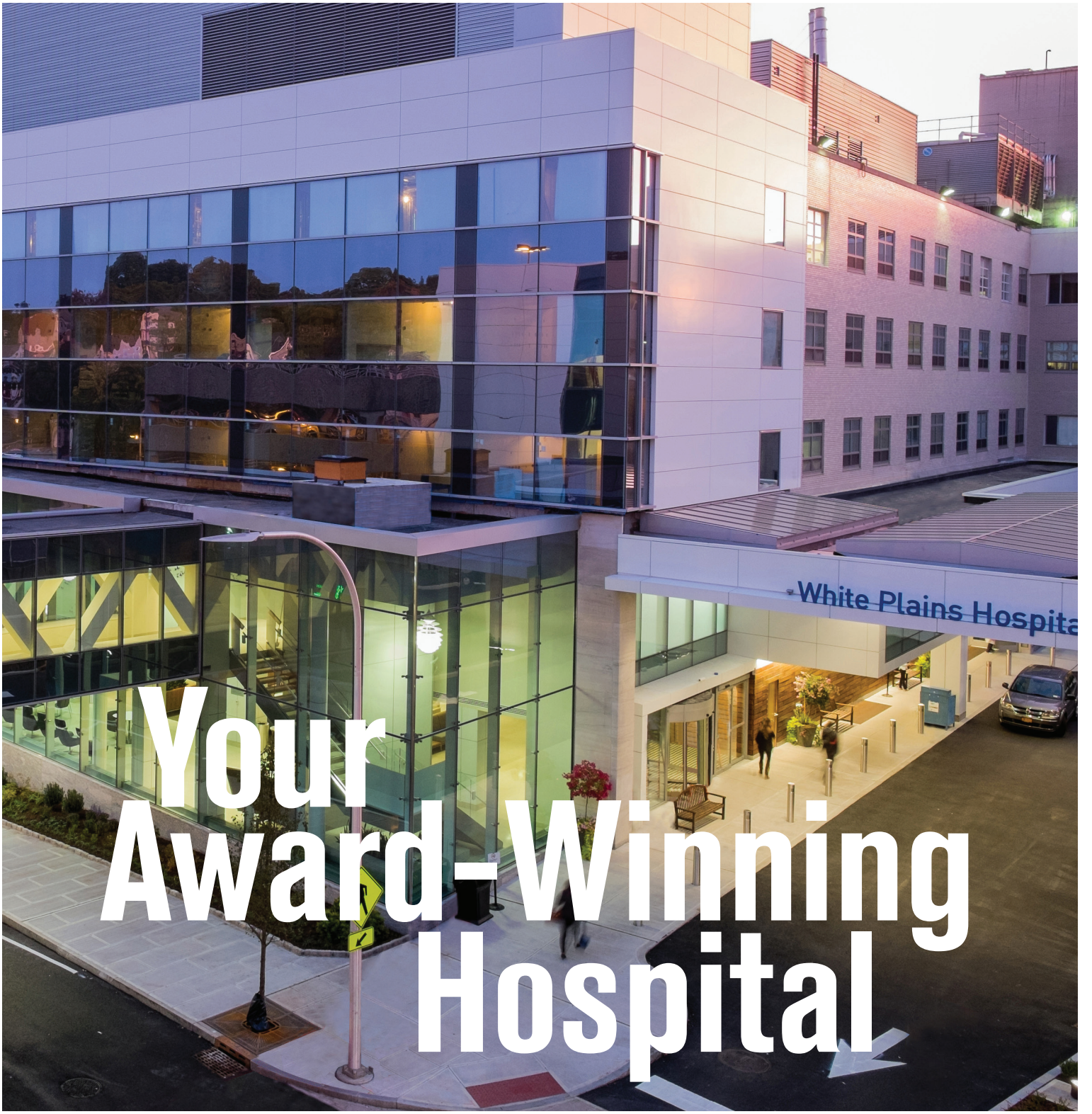

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Greener Pastures



Samir Husni, founder and director of the Magazine Innovation Center at the University of Mississippi School of Journalism and New Media, considered to be a leading authority on all things print journalism, suggests that magazines have to be "experience makers. The only way to engage your readers is to provide them with an experience in which they can lose themselves."

A worthwhile guiding principle behind our editorial lineups for sure.

Our cover story, "Kids A to Z" (page 94), was crafted to serve as an essential guide to combat that age-old juvenile refrain, "I'm bored," with more than 26 experiences, activities, and events geared toward the 12-and-under set (and possibly to your inner child, as well). Sure, the pandemic is not behind us, but restrictions are consistently loosening, and the opportunities to get out and live life fully, beyond walks around the neighborhood, jigsaw puzzles, and living room blanket forts, are ever-increasing.

Many of you may be eager for a family-friendly reprieve from the house, but when you return, do you like what greets you? The more frequent answer these days is no, with many looking for more space both inside and out. We thought, then, this issue would be the perfect opportunity to present "Best Real Estate Agents 2021" (page 100), our first-ever in what will likely be an annual report. If a move is in your future, get familiar with the top names in the county real estate market, based largely on both peer and customer surveys.

Looking back on the year that was, our eighth annual Healthcare Heroes feature (page 117) takes on special significance. In our yearly nomination-based awards, as chosen by a panel of expert judges and vetted by *WM* editors, you'll meet some of our county's most consummate doctors, nurses, administrators, and others who went above and beyond their job descriptions to make the county a healthier, safer place to live.

With warmer temps in full swing, the 20th edition of our Golf Guide (page 33) gives you some inspiration to dust off the clubs and hit one of the many beautiful courses in the county. For 15 years, writer and golf devotee Dave Donelson has headed up the robust section with aplomb and proficiency and is someone we are fortunate to have on our team.

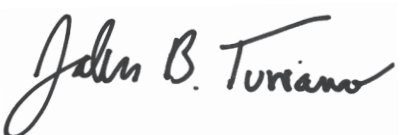
Never picked up a club but want to experience the game? Dave has the answer. "Take an introductory lesson from a PGA professional. The local pros will be happy to teach a rank beginner how to hold the club, swing it, and get started the right way. The worst thing you can do is to let your Uncle Morrie try to teach you how to play. And husbands teaching wives? Forget it!" Dave advises.



Dave Donelson at Fairview Municipal Golf Course in St. Joseph, MO (his hometown)

TURIANO PHOTO BY TOSHI TASAKI; INSET PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE DONELSON

Meanwhile, Happy Memorial Day — and don't forget something for Mama on the 12th. Hopefully, you'll find inspiration in this issue to experience and appreciate a life replete with leisure and good health.



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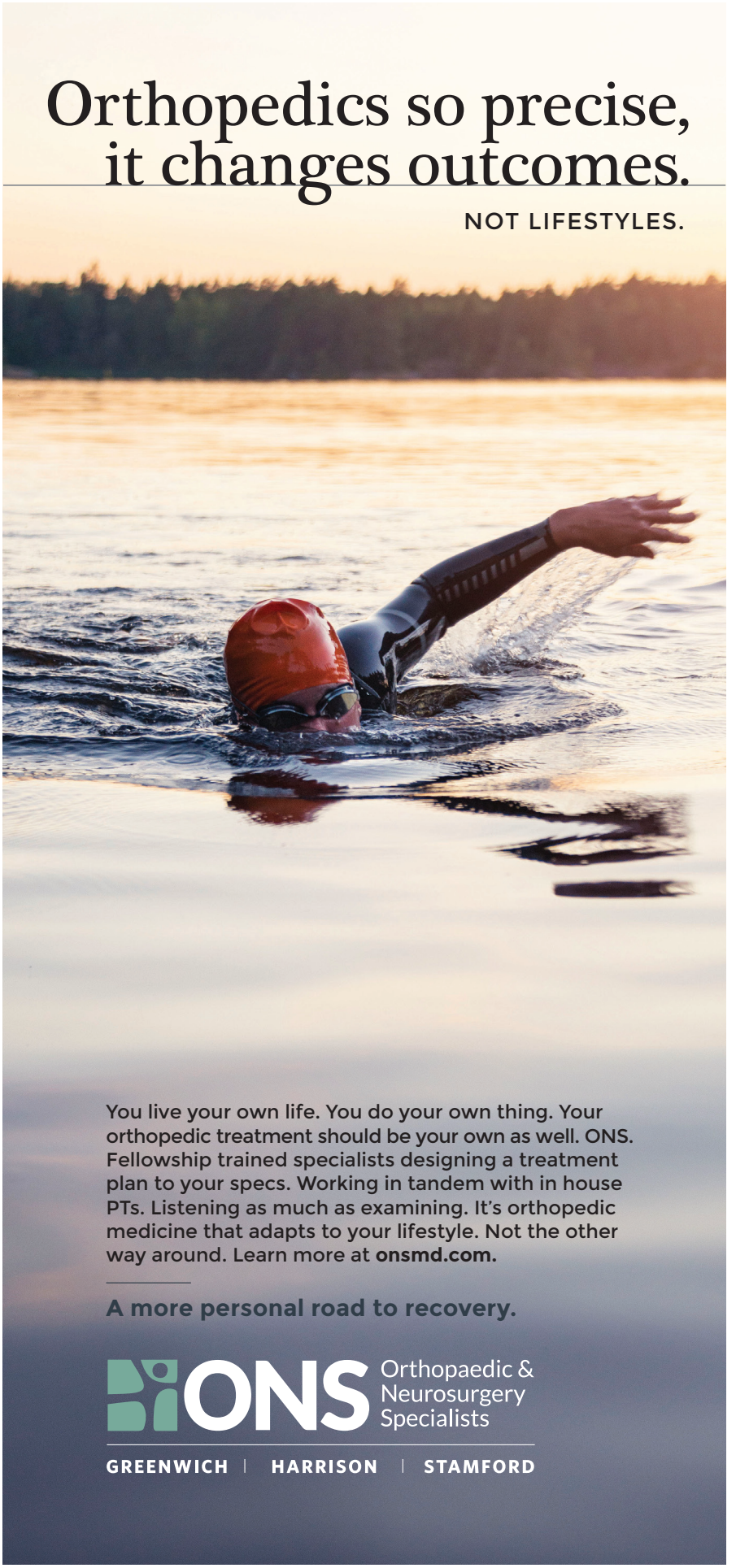

sound off

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Regarding our article, "The Official Rankings: Public High Schools" [Feature, March]:
What I'm concerned about and question is your use of metrics like median household income, college career and civic readiness, and most of all, the percentage of economically disadvantaged students. In a county where the median household income and property values differ drastically from one town to the next, the use of these metrics cannot be compared and are tone deaf at best. In your pursuit to build a story you inadvertently contributed to the overall problem that is dominating the national conversation today. The children in Westchester's public school system who graduate from Briarcliff or Mount Vernon, Scarsdale or Yonkers, receive the same mandated education. Instead of ranking these school based on their access to tax dollars, we should, especially in these tough times, highlight schools for their tireless work to educate and prepare our children for a bright and successful future regardless of their access to money and economic status of their student body. I continue to be an avid read of *Westchester Magazine*, and I hope this note is received only with the best intention and gratitude for your publication.

— Jordan Hirsch, Bedford

Editor's Note: *Your points are well-taken, Jordan. Fortunately, neither the median household income nor the percentage of economically disadvantaged students was factored into the rankings by our expert, which we explained in the Methodology section of our feature. As for the College, Career, Civic Readiness index, that is a new category introduced by the NYS Department of Education in 2020 and believed by many educators to have merit. That notwithstanding, our expert, George Recck, was insightful enough to reduce the percentage weight given to the new metric so that it had less of an impact on the rankings this year than it had in the past, when its predecessor metric, the College Readiness Index, was predicated on a 0–100% scale. But know that when you allude to the inherent inequities that plague our public-school systems, you are preaching to the choir. In fact, that's a key reason we created the companion feature,*



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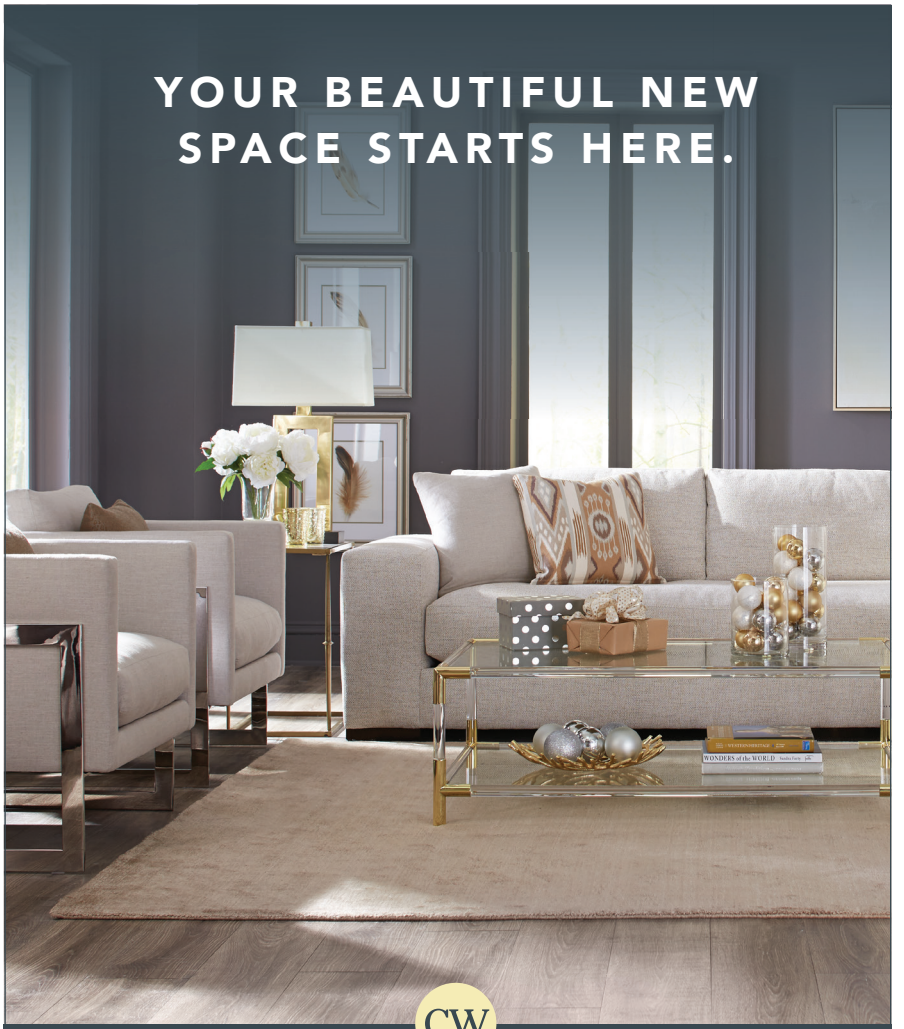




sound off

"5 Districts Creating Opportunity," (page 42) to shine a supportive light on some of the positive things going on in districts such as Yonkers, Mount Vernon, Peekskill, Sleepy Hollow, and Elmsford, which traditionally do not fare well in the rankings. Thank you for your thoughtful comments, as our most valued reader is the engaged reader.

What is very interesting is that the top 10 Westchester high schools are schools with little to no diversity. To me, that's an issue, as it further indicates that students of color and other disadvantaged ethnicities are not getting the full benefit of education in a very highly educated part of the country. Rating high schools is difficult, as it's hard to quantify intrinsic/intangible features a district brings. However, the way these ratings are being measured today needs to change and we need to provide more benefits to the diverse school systems to bridge the education gap.

—Ronnie Jennings, New Castle

Regarding our article, "5 Districts Creating Opportunity" [Feature, March]:
I must commend you for your insightful and penetrating coverage of education in Westchester County. Rather than rely on pure statistics, you have amended that reporting with well-deserved recognition of overachievers. In particular, your profiling of Peekskill's Superintendent of Public schools Dr. David Mauricio, as well as his peers from Yonkers, Tarrytown [Sleepy Hollow], and other communities, is most appreciated. Thanks so much for publicizing their extraordinary efforts to support future generations of responsible citizenry.

— Jay Forbes, Briarcliff

FROM SOCIAL MEDIA:

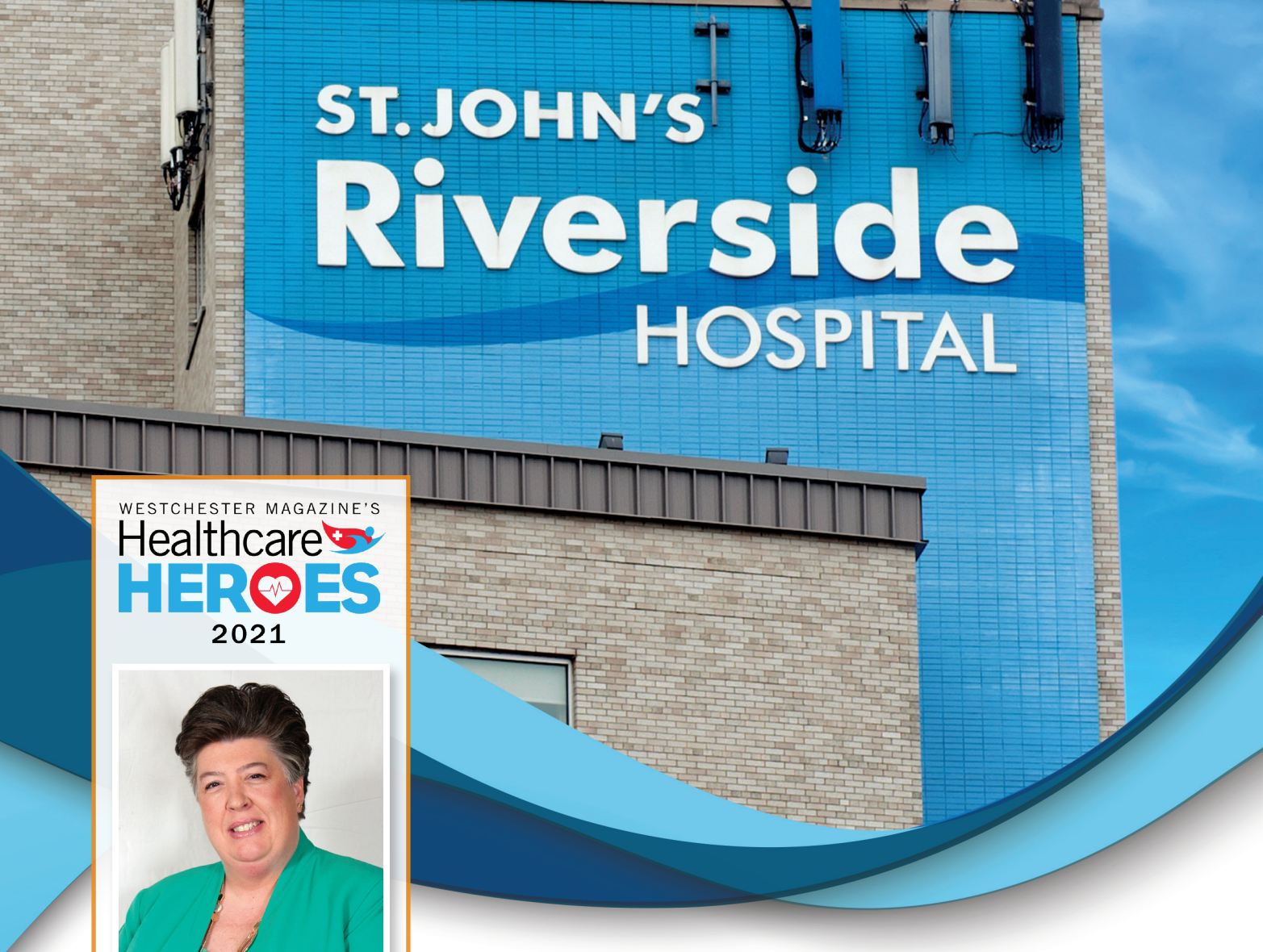
Regarding our online article, "Is Kanye West Really Trying to Rename Rye?":
Yes, but then Don McLean would need to change the words of his song' "and good ole boys were drinking whiskey in Ye."

@Karen Giachino

Ye Brook has a nice ring to it.

@Tony bologna.

The opinions and statements expressed herein represent those of the submitters alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Westchester Magazine*'s publishers and editors. Selected material may be edited for space and clarity but is not vetted for factual accuracy. Anonymous submissions will not be considered.*



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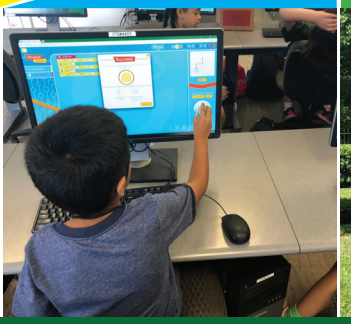



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The Flight Attendant

PHOTO BY COLIN HUTTON/HBO

MEDIA WATCH

County Filming Takes Flight

Several Westchester-shot shows recently received a bevy of award nods.

Westchester has long served as prime location for movies and TV shows, but with the proliferation of streaming services, the 914 is more in the spotlight than ever. In just the past few months, Westchester-filmed productions have received seven noteworthy nods, ranging from the Golden Globes to the Screen Actors Guild.

Among this year's biggest contenders at the 2021 Golden Globe Awards was the hit HBO Max comedy *The Flight Attendant*, starring Kaley Cuoco. Elmsford's Motel 6, as well as The Galleria in White Plains and a private West Harrison residence all served as filming locations for the irreverent comedy. Cuoco received both Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild nominations for her performance, plus the show was in the running for Best Series, Musical, or Comedy at the Globes (although it did not win).

Meanwhile, silver-screen icon Al Pacino earned his own Golden Globe nomination, for Best Actor in a TV drama, for his work in the moody Amazon show *Hunt-*

MEDIA WATCH, CONT.



PHOTO BY CRAIG BLANKENHORN / HULU

ers, which filmed in Yonkers' Untermyer Gardens, as well as at various locations in Ossining. And Ramy Youssef, star of the eponymous Hulu comedy *Ramy*, claimed both Golden Globe and SAG-AFTRA nods for Best Actor. *Ramy* often uses Valhalla's Westchester County Correctional Facility as a filming site.

"[This] recognition signals the quality of production that's taking place in Westchester and represents just a small slice of the success we have had with the film-and-television industry," said County Executive George Latimer in a recent statement. "Going forward, we're eager to work with location scouts and managers, producers, directors, and designers to help plan successful and safe productions." —*PA*

PERSPECTIVES

Westchester: NYC's Sixth Borough?

In a host of unlikely ways, the county has a claim to being the Big Apple's sixth appendage. **By Michael Malone**

Many regions outside New York City think of themselves as the city's sixth borough, and Westchester is no exception. There is, for example, Hastings-on-Hudson's Boro6 Wine Bar, as well as Captain Lawrence Brewing, which served its 6th Borough Pilsner to thirsty patrons at its Elmsford and Mount Kisco locations, before the brew was recently discontinued.

Boro6 owner Paul Molakides left Harlem in 2010 and settled in Hastings. He heard the Rivertowns referred to as "the sixth borough," which became more apt when a surge of city folk arrived during the pandemic. When he opened his wine bar on Warburton Avenue in late 2016, Boro6 guests often asked if Molakides saw Hastings as the sixth borough.



Hastings-on-Hudson's Boro6 Wine Bar

Not exactly. "The whole idea of the sixth borough is that you may work in the city," Molakides explains, "but wherever you hang your hat at the end of the day is your sixth borough."

Captain Lawrence's hoppy pilsner "will transport you to the 'burbs and leave you in a laid-back 6th Borough state of mind," read its description. Owner Scott Vaccaro was born and raised in Westchester and spent lots of time in the city, selling and sampling beer. "I've always considered Westchester the sixth borough," he said. "It's our way of saying that we're part of the big-city picture. As the city goes, we go."

Plenty of other regions see themselves as the sixth borough. There's tattoo shop Borough Six Gallery in the Connecticut town of Fairfield; 6th Borough Salon in Hoboken, NJ; and 6th Borough podcast on Long Island. In 2005, *The New York Times* ran a story suggesting Philadelphia as the sixth borough.

Back in 1934 and closer to home, an alderman proposed merging Yonkers into New York City as the sixth borough. But can there ever be a proverbial sixth borough? Pat Kiernan, longtime anchor at NYC news network NY1, isn't having any of it. "Nice try," says Kiernan. "There's no sixth borough."

The Boro6 employee training manual suggests otherwise: "Boro6 refers to OUR idea that Westchester County (the Rivertowns in particular) has seen an influx of families moving from Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan.... The majority of these new residents still work in the city and commute back and forth. Hence, Boro6 is the sixth borough of New York City." But for Molakides and countless others, the sixth borough is ultimately a personal perception. "For us, my family," he says, the bonus borough "happened to be Hastings-on-Hudson."

GOOD DEEDS

A Fashionable Way to Help

Jamie Karia, a licensed therapist and CEO of Scarsdale-based fashion company J'aime, has successfully merged two seemingly disparate careers into one surprising way to support worthy causes. **By Bianca Asare**

As CEO of a burgeoning brand and a licensed therapist with two private practices, Scarsdale native Jamie Karia thinks of herself as an "alpha woman" who feels a responsibility to inspire change. After launching a fashion-and-gift company, JJK1LOVE INC, in 2014, Karia renamed her business J'aime in 2017 and joined forces with her brother, Vijay Karia. Nowadays, J'aime sells items ranging from designer clothing, leggings, and athletic wear to kimonos, tote bags, and even fun skateboards for kids. Plus, customers can feel good about their purchases, since the company donates a significant portion of their proceeds to a host of worthy causes.

According to Karia, J'aime is a socially conscious fashion brand motivated by the question: "How can we use fashion as a platform to speak to the masses?" Through her foundation partnership model, Karia has designed leggings for hand-selected organizations, and proceeds from company

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GOOD DEEDS, CONT.

sales go to such groups as Freedom For All, Child Mind Institute, Children's Alopecia Project, Elephant Crisis Fund, Vibrant Emotional Health, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Foundation House, and the Canadian Centre For Mental Health and Sport.

Books For Kids, a program dedicated to promoting literacy among inner-city children, is the company's own flagship aid organization. For every purchase made from J'aime, $1 is donated to this foundation. For Karia, who grew up with learning disabilities, the cause is deeply personal. "I can be a mentor to people who think they can't achieve just because they have a disability. It's not true," she says. "I think you can educate people about how you feel through art and through fashion."

Although the pandemic has drastically impacted her sales and charity work, Karia has managed to evolve both her brand and her philanthropy. J'aime offers designer hazmat suits in a



Entrepreneur Jamie Karia merges business with philanthropy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF J'AIME

number of prints, along with matching masks and gloves to complete the look. "This was actually before Naomi Campbell had her hazmat suit on Instagram," laughs Karia. Last summer, she and Vijay partnered with a few celebrities to host a virtual summer camp for children with alopecia, hoping to provide kids with a sense of community during an abnormal time.

Unsurprisingly, Karia has a few other irons in the fire. She has designed her own jewelry line, with the goal of empowering people after tragedy, loss, or trauma, and is working on a one-of-a-kind children's interactive, online book series. "I am hoping to package everything I've learned in education and psychology," Karia shares. "This is my way of giving back to our present and future children."

EXPRESS LANE



ADOBE STOCK/JACKY

1 Frontline businesses, like hospitals, manufacturers of medical and pharmaceutical products, and energy companies, were twice as likely to be attacked by cybercriminals in 2020, according to a study by Armonk-based IBM, which notes that one-third of the attacks came in the form of email phishing scams.

2 Known for speaking their minds, nearly 10,000 New Yorkers complained to the NYS attorney general's office in 2020 about internet-related scams, while nearly 8,000 spoke up over COVID-related price gouging by both internet and brick-and-mortar sellers of toilet paper, hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, and food.

3 Edgemont is the best place to live in Westchester, according to data firm Niche.com, which is out with its annual list of Best Places to Live based on crime, quality of schools, things to do, and cost of living. Edgemont also takes 11th place in the survey's list of Top Places to Live in NYS, followed by Chappaqua, at No. 20, Ardsley at No. 24, and Bronxville at 25.

4 The good news is that New York is *not* the worst state in the nation when it comes to the tax burden on its residents, says DC-based personal-finance website WalletHub; the bad news is that it's ranked 49th for the amount of state and local taxes residents have to pay.

5 A pile of candles on the cake for Mount Kisco's Arco Cleaning Maintenance Company, celebrating 75 years sprucing up offices, homes, area rugs, floors, upholstery, and windows, and providing post-construction cleaning, debris removal, and electrostatic cleaning and disinfecting throughout Westchester and Putnam counties. *—Michelle Gillan Larkin*

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EDITORS' OBSESSIONS

We Can't Shut Up About...



PHOTO BY MICHELLE GILLAN LARKIN

If oatmeal "sticks to your ribs," then oats that are steeped all night long will do that trick and then some. Traditionally served chilled, overnight oats are just as hearty in the warmer months — and at **BXVL Coffee House**, in Bronxville, they're downright dreamy. Stirred with milk, honey, vanilla, and chia seeds, and topped with fresh fruit, I go to sleep most nights with visions of this oh-so-satisfying indulgence dancing in my head.

—Michelle Gillan Larkin, Associate Editor



PHOTO BY DUKE RATLIFF

My post-pandemic celebration involves getting a long-delayed tattoo at the funky and friendly **Speakeasy Tattoo**, in Peekskill. Sure, it hurts a little (or a lot, depending on the location). But when the purr of the needle stops, the pause of pain sparks a little explosion of adrenaline in your brain — and you're left with an everlasting depiction to mark the occasion.

—Duke Ratliff, Associate Editor



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Westchester Magazine
914.345.0601
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Published By
todaymedia
2 Clinton Avenue, Rye, NY 10580

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On the cover: Head pro Tyler Jaramillo at Fenway Golf Club; photograph by **John Fortunato**. Contents photograph by **Ken Hayden, courtesy of Trump National Golf Club**.

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The Best New Year in Golf



"There's never been a more exciting time to be a golfer in Westchester."

Spring is here, and now we can truly put the nightmare of 2020 behind us by turning our attention to important matters, like fairways and greens, drives and putts, bogeys, birdies, and pars. What's not behind us, of course, is the global pandemic, but that also gives us another good reason to spend more time on the golf course in the coming months. That's what many of us did last year, and while it may have been frustrating to find a tee time, it was great to see so many golfers and would-be golfers playing the game.

There's never been a more exciting time to be a golfer in Westchester. We not only have new people to play with, we also have new courses to play. The Summit Club opens in Armonk with a major renovation by Rees Jones; Knollwood CC gets new management; and just about every course in the county has been renovated, rejuvenated, or restored in some way. From a long-awaited major overhaul at Maple Moor GC to flipped nines and new tee boxes at Anglebrook GC, our grand playing fields are better than ever. Eighteen of the most spectacular changes are highlighted in our cover story, "Westchester's Best New Course."

The precautions we took to stay healthy on the golf course may have seemed onerous last season, but many of us found they actually enhanced our enjoyment of the game. Inveterate walkers, like me, for example, carried a bag and trod some courses that were designed for cart golf, discovering a new way to look at them in the process. Many golfers were surprised to learn that you can play 18 holes on foot faster than riding in a cart. I played many rounds with a Sunday bag on my shoulder containing just four clubs — and scored just as well as if I'd hauled a full 14-club set. Had more fun, too!

I hope to see you on our new courses or one of our fine, old ones this season. Just look for the guy trying to decide whether he should hit a knockdown nine iron or a three-quarter five iron into the green, because neither of the other two clubs in his skinny bag, a driver and a putter, is going to work. In the meantime, stay safe, stay healthy, and play golf.



Dave Donelson
Executive Editor

Top photo by **MGA/Tim Hartin**

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91FORE!



Golf in the Pandemic

Golf turned out to be the recreation of choice for thousands of Westchester residents in 2020, with the number of rounds played reaching record numbers at courses across the county. Are we in for more of the same this season?

"The MGA eagerly anticipates the 2021 golf season with renewed enthusiasm and extreme optimism," says Brian Mahoney, MGA's executive director. "While courses and golfers continue to adapt to ever-changing health guidance, the reward remains a healthy 'walk in the park.' The MGA welcomes the opportunity to aid efforts to grow the game, as golf is poised to reach even greater heights in 2021." The heavy schedule of tournaments staged by the MGA returns this year.

The WMGA is looking forward to the 2021 season with a full schedule of competitions, according to Sarah Niemeier, executive director of the WMGA. "Our game was seen early on as a safe outlet for women to exercise and get outside with precautions in place and we will continue to keep our COVID-19 procedures in effect throughout the 2021 season. The widespread use of technology was rampant in 2020, and simple changes such as eliminating printing physical paper and posting notices electronically was such a benefit from a sustainability perspective."

"While the best golf experiences are often shotgun starts that include food and beverage, the ability for golf to be enjoyed in simpler forms was what ultimately bolstered the sport's popularity in 2020," says Met PGA's executive director, Jeff Voorheis. "With so much still unknown, it stands to reason that golf will enter 2021 similarly to the way it exited 2020." Voorheis believes some of the trends that emerged last year — more players carrying their own clubs and simpler food-service options — may become commonplace even beyond this year.

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Willow Ridge CC

Willow Ridge Country Club came to a contentious end earlier this year, when the Town of Harrison took over the property for $13.65 million following an ugly battle with the membership, who had put the failing club up for sale. It's possible the price will be adjusted following potential legal action by the members.

"Allowing this property to fall into the hands of a residential developer would be tragic," says Harrison mayor Ron Belmont. "A large subdivision of this land into residential homes would be a huge burden on our municipal services and our schools." Golf will still be played at Willow Ridge, however, as will tennis and other sports. The town intends to rename and operate the club as a semiprivate facility under the management of an outside company.

At press time, the town is still working on details of how the club will be operated, although it is leaning toward a semiprivate model where town residents will be allowed to join, giving them preferred access not only to the golf course but also to swimming and tennis, while daily-fee play by both residents and non-residents will be allowed, as well. Residents will have preferential rates — and probably tee times — for daily-fee play. Greens fees will be higher than at nearby public Westchester County courses. Memberships are expected to be priced around $5,000 and will be offered initially only to residents of the town of Harrison, which includes West Harrison and Purchase.

Photograph by **John Fortunato**



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The Summit Club

The Summit Club comes to Armonk this year with a major upgrade of the golf course formerly known as Brynwood, new ownership and club management, and a fun, relaxed take on the country-club lifestyle.

"Our orientation is to make golf more fun and less stuffy," says managing partner Jeff Mendel, who started the project in 2009. Work on the golf course began last fall, with a plan created by noted golf architect Rees Jones. "Anyone who has played the old version of the course won't recognize the new one," according to Mendel.

Changes and upgrades are extensive. The front nine will have some new tee boxes, bunkers, and reshaped fairways. The 9th hole will be stretched to play as a par 5. The course will measure about 6,700 yards and play to par 71, up from 6,300 yards, par 70.

Much of the back nine will be completely reimagined. "What was the 15th hole, a pretty par 4 with ponds along the left side, is now a great risk-and-reward par 5," Mendel explains. "Then, we took the 17th hole, a par 5 that played along a pond, and cut it into two holes. One is a par 4 that you play to a new green we built alongside the water. We took the 17th green and turned it into a 180-yard par 3 where you play a downhill shot to the green with the water in the background. It's going to be a special hole."

Photograph courtesy of **The Summit Club**



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Knollwood CC

Knollwood Country Club, founded in Elmsford in 1894, is now under the management of Heritage Golf Group, a boutique golf management company that acquired the club from the members under a long-term lease with an option to buy. Heritage CEO Mark Burnett says the company plans a minimum of $4 million in capital improvements to the club.

"We will immediately start with improvements to the golf course," Burnett says. Tee boxes will be refreshed, trees removed, drainage problems addressed, and cart paths are being resurfaced. "We don't anticipate changes to the way the course plays, though," Burnett adds. "We really like the classic layout. It's what this place is all about." Knollwood completed a major redo of the course five years ago that restored many of the details of the Seth Raynor and Charles Banks design that had been lost over time, so Heritage's goal is basically to clean up some of the problems that weren't addressed by the renovation.

The amenities and facilities will get major overhauls in phases, according to Burnett, beginning with the private events' side of the clubhouse and the locker rooms, which will be rejuvenated with new carpet, paint, and lighting. Next to come will be an extensive remodeling of the main clubhouse building, with a new dining room, revamped grill room, and addition of a large outdoor seating area with firepits and large-screen TVs. The tennis area will be fixed up, and pickleball may be added. Cabanas will be built in the pool area, along with other enhancements. Still to be decided is what will be done with the building that currently houses the pro shop, carts, and some pool amenities. Ideas being floated include a fitness center and studios for golf simulators, yoga, and other club activities.

"We look forward to bringing Knollwood back to life with our management team and the skills they bring to the club, Burnett says. Heritage owns eight other country clubs, all but one on the East Coast.

Bonnie Briar Centennial

Golf exploded in Westchester during the Roaring Twenties, a decade when more courses were built in the county than in the previous thirty years — and just about as many as in the 90 years since. Topping the list is Winged Foot Golf Club, founded in 1921. Its two legendary golf courses opened in 1923.

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SEP 9	914INC. BEST OF BUSINESS	Crowne Plaza White Plains, NY 6pm-8pm
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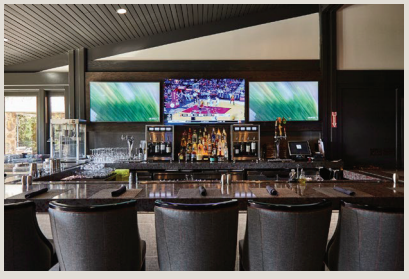






**Conceptual images only, final design selection pending.*

Right across the street from Winged Foot, though, another Westchester club was coming into its own at the same time. Bonnie Briar Country Club was founded in 1921 on the estate of Colonel Lyman Bill, a publisher and one of Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders. His son, Edward Bill, was the club's first president.

A rudimentary course that had been on the property since the 1800s was replaced by a new one, designed by Devereux Emmet with contributions from A.W. Tillinghast. The golf course opened in 1923. Notable Bonnie Briar members over the years include Norman Rockwell and Masters and PGA champion Doug Ford.

Woodstock Open Returns

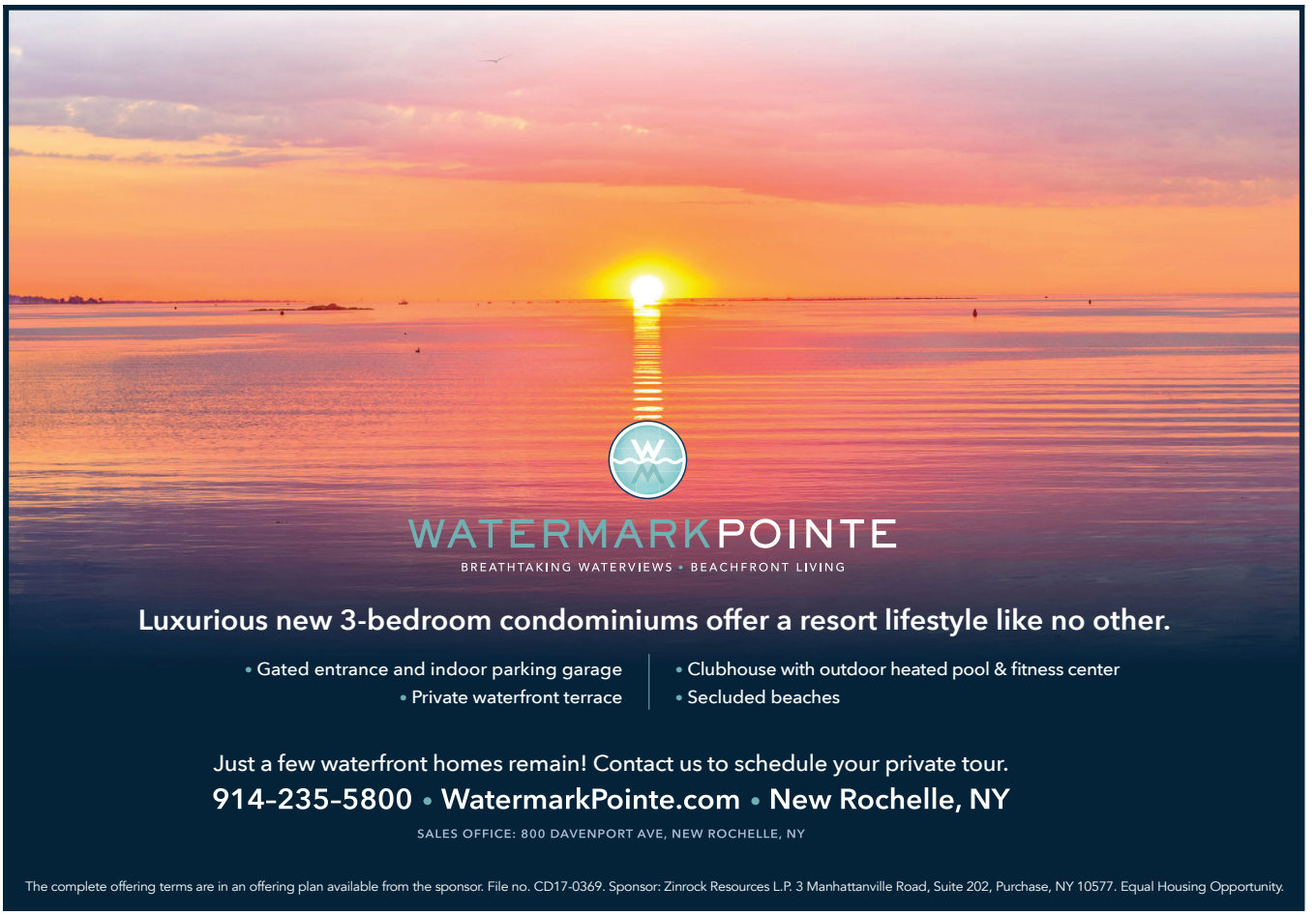
The St. Andrew's GC head pro Greg Bisconti hopes to defend his title this year at the 86th Annual Emerson Resort & Spa Woodstock Open. The event is believed to be the longest-running tourney in the country at one site for both professionals and amateurs. Bisconti's win in 2020 came the first time the South Salem resident ever played Woodstock Golf Club, a private nine-hole gem in Woodstock, NY.

It wasn't Bisconti's first tournament win by a long shot, however. The Westchester standout's career includes competing in three PGA Championships, finishing as Low Club Pro in 2009 at Hazeltine National Golf Club. He was named the 2009 Metropolitan PGA Player of the Year and was a member of St. John's University's golf team.

Past Woodstock Open fields have included seven-time major winner Gene Sarazen, one of only five players in history to have completed the career Grand Slam. The tournament will be played this year on Monday, July 26. The Emerson Resort & Spa returns as the sponsor.

Westchester Hills CC

Work to upgrade the golf experience continues at Westchester Hills this year, although the club is scheduling the construction to a large extent with an eye toward lessening the impact on member play. The club finished major drainage work on the greens over the winter and plans to install a new irrigation system this fall as part of a master plan developed by Rees Jones. As club president Joe Oates explains, "By moving the irrigation project to the fall of this year, we can complete the Rees Jones redesign work at the same time and reduce the disruption to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our membership from two separate large golf course projects."

The redesign work will touch nearly every hole on the course and focus on the scoring areas of the game, the greens and surrounds. "We're going to restore the sizes to give the greens more pin positions," Jones explains. "[We'll] also renovate the bunkers to a pre-Depression style, using modern technology."

Over time, greens tend to become smaller, the contours change somewhat, and their playing characteristics are altered as a result of normal mowing and other maintenance. The restoration will not only bring most of the greens back to their original sizes but will also result in new playing strategies for some, including the difficult 14th hole, an uphill par 3. In addition, many of the green surrounds will incorporate tightly mowed chipping areas, to give players more options.

Jones has revamped seven U.S. Open venues, including Bethpage's Black Course and Baltusrol's Upper and Lower courses. His redesigns have hosted 25 major championships, six Ryder Cups, two Walker Cups, and one Presidents Cup.

The club is also renovating its pool area and updating the ladies' locker room. Membership has approved the extensive work, which will begin in the fall.

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June 21: U.S. Women's Amateur Qualifier, Sunningdale CC

July 5–6: Women's Met Open Championship, The Apawamis Club

July 19–20: WGA Westchester Open, GlenArbor GC

August 2–8: U.S. Women's Amateur Championship, Westchester CC

August 16: WGA Westchester Senior Open, Pelham CC

August 24–26: MGA Met Open, Hudson National GC

September 21–23: Met PGA Championship, Old Oaks CC









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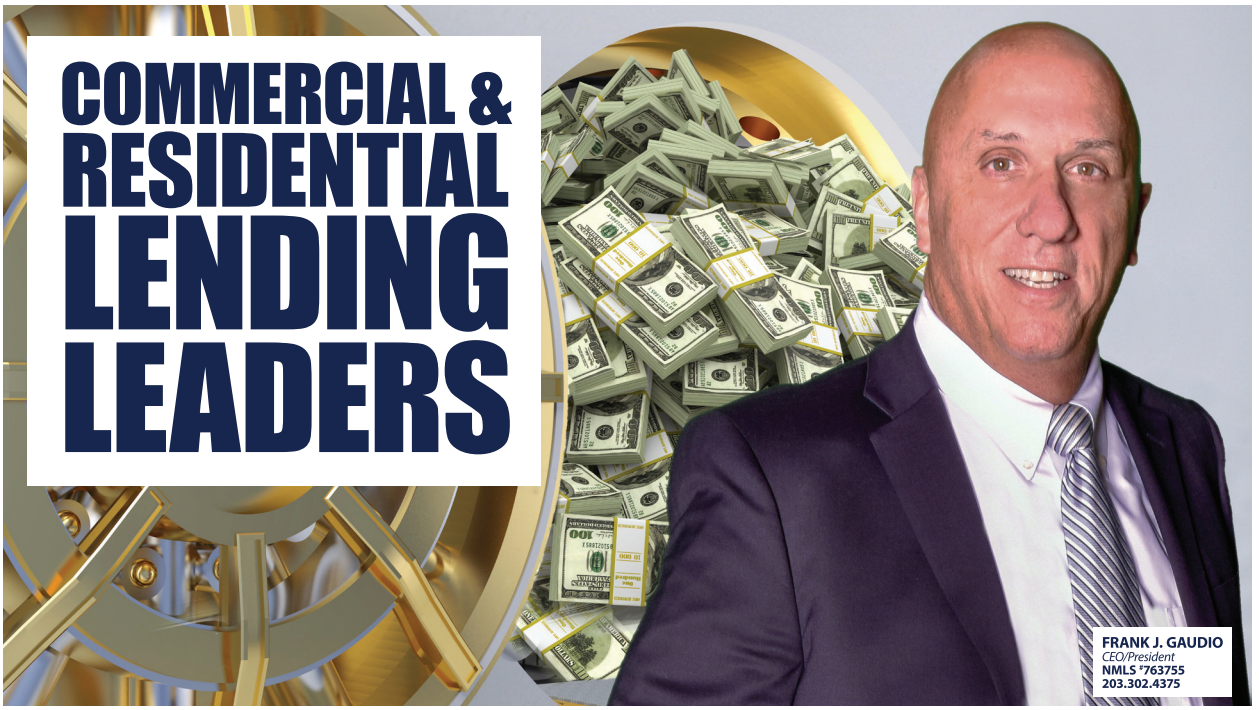

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Westchester is home to an unmatched collection of classic, timeless golf courses. But even the most iconic of them aren't museums. They are vibrant, ever-improving playing fields for a vibrant, ever-changing game. **By Dave Donelson**



Pelham Country Club, Hole 4

Nearly every golf course in the county has been renovated, updated, and reimagined in recent years. Modern golf architects, like Gil Hanse and Mike DeVries, have restored and tweaked the Golden Age designs of A.W. Tillinghast, Donald Ross, and C.B. MacDonald, to keep them fresh and challenging, holding onto their ideas while strengthening the courses for players who hit the ball farther and expect to putt on greens faster than the old masters ever imagined possible.

We "constructed" a golf course from some of the great new holes — many of them newly built, all of them significantly changed for the better — that have come into existence during the last few years. We literally had dozens and dozens to choose from, but these 18 make up what we consider the "Best New Course" in Westchester.

1 Pelham Country Club

Pelham

Hole 4 • 273 yards • par 4

Our new course opens with one of the most entertaining risk-and-reward holes in Westchester, the new 4th at Pelham Country Club, a drivable par 4 that even moderate strikers of the ball can reach from the tee. Early in your round, you can card a birdie or even an eagle — or a bogey or worse — depending on how you manage the risks involved. The narrow green is protected by a mound that rises across the front and makes the tee shot semi-blind. A solid, 240-yard drive will carry the

Photos by **John Fortunato**



Bonnie Briar Country Club, Hole 6

top of the hill and roll onto the green, while a 270-yard bomb will reach the front on the fly. If either one is off-line by a yard or two, however, disaster awaits in greenside bunkers or deep swales on either side that leave a tough up-and-down. Head pro Mike Diffley points out that a 180-yard tee shot leaves a simple wedge approach for a nice, safe par.

2 The Summit Club

Armonk

Hole 14 • 530 yards • par 5

Our risk-and-reward theme continues with one of the newest holes in Westchester, the new 14th at The Summit Club. In one of several major improvements to the old Brynwood CC course under the direction of architect Rees Jones, the club stretched a picturesque par 4 with ponds along the left side into a fun but challenging par 5. Managing partner Jeff Mendel explains, "We took down the old elevated green to fairway level and built a new one a hundred yards or so farther away across the creek, where the 16th tee used to be." The hole will measure about 530 yards, giving big hitters a chance to reach in two if they're willing to challenge the hole with an approach shot that needs to carry about 240 yards to clear the creek and a false front.

3 Bonnie Briar Country Club

Larchmont

Hole 6 • 403 yards • par 4

Bonnie Briar may be celebrating its centennial this year, but the club hasn't hesitated to update its golf course with major improvements in the modern era. Among the most significant was a restyling of the 6th hole, where a boggy creek was converted to a pretty pond that raises the interest level of the dogleg hole substantially. "Play off the elevated tee as close as you dare to the water on the left," advises head pro Frank Mattei. "If you're accurate, you will have only 150 yards left to the green." The safe play to the center of the fairway will guarantee a dry golf ball but a long, uphill approach.

4 Knollwood Country Club

Elmsford

Hole 16 • 191 yards • par 3

An iron shot floating through the air to a downhill par 3 may be one of the most wonderful sights in golf. The renovation of Knollwood's fabulous 16th hole gave such a shot a beautiful target. Architect Ian Andrews deepened the surrounding bunkers and placed a couple more short of the green to add some danger to the scenery while he recontoured the huge green to make accuracy off the tee absolutely essential.

5 Sleepy Hollow Country Club

Scarborough

Hole 8 • 460 yards • par 4

There's no road near the "road" hole at Sleepy Hollow, but Gil Hanse modeled it after the famous 17th hole at Saint Andrews in Scotland, with a menacing bunker that swallows

errant approach shots that miss short and left of the newly contoured and reshaped green. Plenty of errant shots are made, too, especially since the fairway's many humps and bumps have been liberated by improved fairway turf conditions that catch even the best of drives and leave the player with an uneven stance for the next shot. The fairway now plays hard and fast thanks to removal of hundreds of trees that weren't in play but restricted airflow to the grass.

6 Hudson National Golf Club

Croton-on-Hudson

Hole 12 • 485 yards • par 4

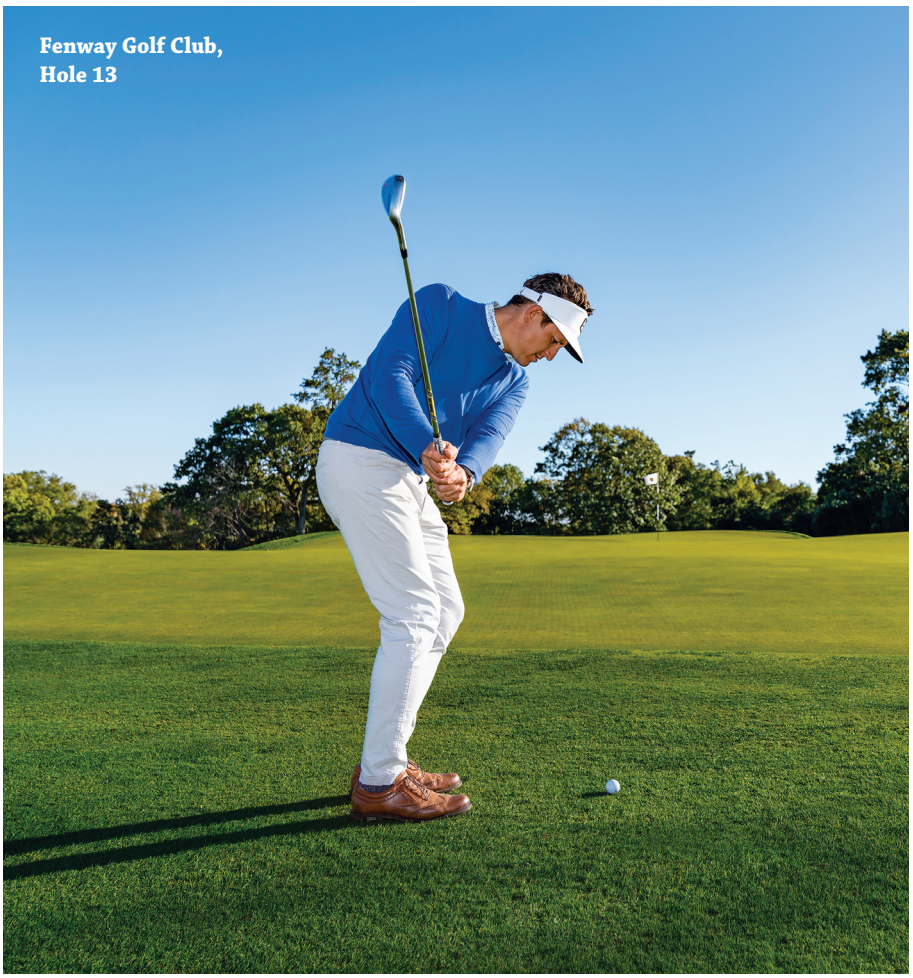
It is long; it is hard; it is not for the faint of heart. The 12th hole at Hudson National has undergone substantial changes to make it both more challenging and more visually appealing. Removal of trees opened up both sightlines and airflows while the addition of several fairway bunkers both framed the landscape and kept the biggest drivers of the ball aiming for the center line. In a bit of golf architectural genius, the hole plays as a 503-yard par-5 from the white tees, where most of us tee off, but that just brings the fairway bunkers into play on the second shot instead of the drive.

7 Fenway Golf Club

Scarsdale

Hole 13 • 391 yards • par 4

Immediately following the longest par 4 on our course is one of the trickiest: the 15th hole at Fenway. Architect Gil Hanse altered just about every feature on this hole to build interest by providing different angles of play. A line of trees in the left rough was removed, since they primarily hurt bogey golfers, but a bunker replaced them about 240 yards from the tee, to keep the stronger players honest. It pinches the fairway but can be carried by a 280-yard uphill drive. The bunker on the right side of the fairway was moved into play, as well. Head pro Tyler Jaramillo adds, "The green complex became a lot more interesting. The potato-chip green was expanded, and three swales make for some really fun approach shots."



Fenway Golf Club, Hole 13



Westchester Hill Golf Club, Hole 16

8 GlenArbor Golf Club

Bedford

Hole 12 • 553 yards • par 5

Few players are going to reach this long par 5 in two shots, but an aggressive strategy is still the best, according to head pro Dave Gagnon, especially now that the green complex has been tweaked to demand an even more accurate approach shot. "The key is the second shot," he says. "You need a good drive but then want to get as far down the fairway as you can with your second, to set up a wedge



into the green. If you have to hit a long iron into it, you're in trouble because the green isn't designed to accept that kind of a shot." During the recent remodel, a grass swale replaced the greenside bunker on the left, increasing the player's options but not making it any easier to save par on the narrow, slick green.

9 Westchester Hills Golf Club

White Plains

Hole 16 • 190 yards • par 3

Even before the club hired Rees Jones to develop a master plan for the golf course, Westchester Hills turned this pretty but toothless par 3 into a challenging one-shotter by adding a new tee box set at a slightly different angle, farther from the green, as well as one closer, to provide another way to play the hole. Most significant, though, was removal of the bunker in front of the green to make room for expansion of a pond to bring water closer to the putting surface. Head pro Brian Giordano points out, "Up-and-down pars from the old bunker were common — now, from the pond, not so much."

10 Metropolis Country Club

White Plains • Hole 7 • 438 yards • par 4

The number-one handicap hole at Metropolis became even harder thanks to major bunker changes and rebuilding of the green as part of a multiyear redevelopment of the golf course. The fairway narrows in the landing area for players from nearly every tee, with bunkers, woods, and a creek in play for errant drives. The real test comes on the long second shot, though. The player has to navigate over or around a nasty bunker 50 yards in front of the green and bring the ball to rest below the cup, which is no easy task since the newly built green slopes sharply from both right to left and back to front.

11 Quaker Ridge Golf Club

Scarsdale

Hole 14 • 517 yards • par 5

A.W. Tillinghast named this spectacular par 5 Sahara for a good reason, and the Gil Hanse





Quaker Ridge Golf Club, Hole 14

renovation made the sandy appellation even more apt by expanding the 20 bunkers that define the hole. The first two come into play off the tee, where your drive needs to stay between a big trap on the right side of the landing area and an even bigger one on the left, the first of eight sandy hazards on that side of the fairway. Then, there are the five cross bunkers, which force most players to lay up rather than chance reaching the green in two with an uphill blind shot than can easily end up in yet another bunker. There are four of them greenside, as well as two right of the fairway, closer to the hole. Laying up has another advantage: You'll have a better chance with a wedge to find the right spot on the exceedingly complicated multilevel green.

12 Salem Golf Club

North Salem

Hole 13 • 407 yards • par 4

The 13th hole at Salem epitomizes the club's commitment to continual improvement. Over the years, the water hazard on the right has expanded; the woods and wetlands on the left have been groomed; and church-pew bunkers have been added in front of the green, to make it one of the most difficult second-shot holes in the county. Most recently, tree removal made it more tempting for big hitters to boom one off the tee, but recontouring of the fairway line brought the hazards more into play on both sides of the fairway.

13 Siwanoy Country Club

Bronxville

Hole 6 • 152 yards • par 3

Members at Siwanoy can attest that this beauty will bite you if you don't show it the proper respect. The Mike DeVries renovation of the Donald Ross gem made the shortest hole on the course one of the toughest. Head pro Grant Turner says you absolutely must hit to the fat part of the three-tiered green. The back is very narrow, and a shot there could leave a downhill putt that's impossible to stop anywhere near the cup. The left greenside bunkers are only for the most adept sand players, while the right side of the green complex repels errant shots into oblivion. Aim for the center, take two putts, and be thankful for your par.

14 Century Country Club

Purchase

Hole 12 • 344 yards • par 4

The character of this short par 4 changed completely during the renovation of the course under the direction of architect Keith Foster, who specializes in restoration of historic Colt and Alison courses like Century's. Among other improvements, Foster did away with trees that limited the potential angles for the second shot, making it both more inviting and more dangerous to play for distance off the tee. The green was expanded, but grass-collection areas around it make accuracy essential for the second shot.

15 Leewood Golf Club

Eastchester

Hole 18 • 408 yards • par 4

When the finishing hole at Leewood was rebuilt at the beginning of the club's course renovation, head pro Dean Johnson said, "It's definitely now one of the best finishing holes I've played. It will put some butterflies in your gut." The tee shot is blind and uphill, but that's just the beginning of the fun. The average player will have about 180 yards into a green with water on the right and a deep bunker front left. There's an ample landing area in front of the green, but it feeds toward the water, and there's fescue rough behind the green, so distance control matters, too.

16 Sunningdale Country Club

Scarsdale

Hole 18 • 450 yards • par 4

The crowning achievement of the extensive Mike DeVries renovation of the course at Sunningdale is the finishing hole, a formidably long but excitingly playable par 4. The drive needs to be long, as would be expected on a 450-yard uphill hole, but the fairway is generous and inviting. The approach shot to the small green, however, is a test for even the best players. Golfers who might have to hit a career fairway wood to even reach the green are well-advised to lay up and set up a one-putt par with a pinpoint wedge.

17 Westchester Country Club West

Rye

Hole 17 • 435 yards • par 4

The penultimate hole on the West Course at Westchester Country Club has always been one of the most interesting challenges on the course. The recent Tom Fazio redo made it even better, according to assistant pro Dirk Giannotti, who says, "You now have more options, more sight lines, and more chances to make par." A massive rock outcropping on the corner of the tricky dogleg left was blasted into submission to provide another strategic option off the tee. The fairway was expanded to make more room for error, although water is still very much in play for long hitters who mistakenly drive their ball through the fairway. An entirely new angle of approach was opened up by removal of the tree that stood to the left of the green, one of the best changes on the course.



Siwanoy Country Club, Hole 6



Westchester Country Club West, Hole 17

18 Winged Foot Golf Club West

Mamaroneck

Hole 14 • 416 yards • par 4

It was difficult to choose the best new hole at Winged Foot, so we turned to U.S. Open scores to aid the decision. In 2006, the 14th hole was the third-most difficult of the tournament, a rank that held up in 2020, when it's scoring average of 4.3 made it the fourth-toughest, according to longtime WFGC member Gene Westmoreland. Major alterations to the green complex as part of the Gil Hanse restoration changed the nature of the hole in several meaningful ways. The green itself was expanded back to its original size and shamrock shape. The greenside bunkers, which weren't part of the original design, were removed and a cross bunker restored short of the green on the left. Removal of trees behind the green was another major change that significantly altered your depth perception when planning your second shot. The cumulative effect of the changes makes this one of the most difficult holes on the course to strategize. The fairway seems to twist and narrow in the most inconvenient places, and the new green complex demands a different approach shot from every angle. The redesign created a brilliant short par 4. •

Best New Course Scorecard

	Club	Hole	Par	Yards
1	Pelham	4	4	273
2	Summit	14	5	530
3	Bonnie Briar	6	4	403
4	Knollwood	16	3	191
5	Sleepy Hollow	8	4	460
6	Hudson National	12	4	485
7	Fenway	13	4	391
8	GlenArbor	12	5	553
9	Westchester Hills	16	3	190
OUT			**36**	**3,476**
10	Metropolis	7	4	438
11	Quaker Ridge	14	5	517
12	Salem	13	4	385
13	Siwanoy	6	3	152
14	Century	12	4	344
15	Leewood	18	4	418
16	Sunningdale	18	4	450
17	Westchester CC West	17	4	435
18	Winged Foot West	14	4	416
IN			**36**	**3,555**
			72	**7,031**

Build Your Game From Tee to Green

Golf is a multifaceted game, so we asked a half-dozen expert teaching pros to give us some pointers about the shots we need to make par.

By Jeremy Leigh



Three Basics

Pleasantville CC head pro Sharon McQuillan works with beginning golfer Sara Wilson, 15, on the three keys to a solid swing: grip, posture, and alignment. Sara is a tennis player, so Sharon reminds her to hold her club like a racket, in the fingers, not the palm of her hand. The best posture for golf is a "ready" position, with a flat lower back, knees slightly bent, and hands hanging in front from a natural lean forward. "The target determines your alignment," McQuillan says. "With your feet the proper width apart for the club you're using, your shoulders, hips, and knees should all be parallel to the line to the target."

Photos by **John Fortunato**



Driving Straight and Far

Brad Worthington, director of golf at Pound Ridge GC, works with Howie Munck to lower his swing path throughout impact with the ball to avoid the dreaded topped shot. "Let the driver do the work," Worthington says. "The hotspot on today's driver is about a quarter of an inch above the center of the club face, so contact below that point will rob you of distance." He recommends taking practice swings to hit a tee stuck in the ground without a ball to groove the proper path. "Then, put a ball on the tee and use the same swing."

Squaring the Club Face

The most important position in the golf swing is the clubface at impact, according to Brae Burn CC head pro Nick Yaun. "Square equals straight," he says, "and straight means fairways and greens." Yaun has been working with 15-year-old Lindsay Adler to make sure her club's face returns to square at the moment of impact. "For Lindsay," Yaun says, "when she is able to keep her clubface square — matching her spine angle — on the way back, she's free to properly turn through the swing and return the face square."



Solid Putting

"A solid putting stroke can make a world of difference in your scores," says Metropolis CC teaching pro John Reeves. He trains 14-year-old Carly Caplan to use a slight forward press to set her hands and to use a pendulum stroke, with an equal-length takeaway and follow-through to help eliminate tension, so the stroke releases smoothly. He says the pendulum stroke helps with distance control, too. "Anything we can do to unclutter the mind while putting will produce a better stroke."





Ball-First Chipping

Karen Perkins Dandridge came back to golf this past year and turned to The Saint Andrew's Club teaching pro, Ambry Bishop-Santillo, to get started the right way. "We began with the short game," Bishop-Santillo says, "because the chip shot has many components of a full swing." Grip, stance, and aim all come into play, "and we concentrate on making solid, ball-first contact." With her weight favoring her left side and standing taller over the ball, Karen can hit shots with different trajectories by altering ball position in her stance. Bishop-Santillo uses an easy meme to remind her where to place the ball between her feet to hit a high pitch or a low bump-and-run: "Left is for lift. Right is for run."

Align With the Clock

Ardsley GC's 13th hole is a tough par 3, but 14-year-old Alex Shapiro, a newcomer to golf, made it look easy when he scored a hole-in-one the first time he played on a golf course! It happened at golf camp at the club last year. "I just did what my instructor said," he explained, "and hit my six hybrid." Kayte Decker, the teaching pro who was working with Alex at the time, says she reminds him to align his head, shoulders, knees, and toes just left of the target line. She advises, "Imagine the target at 12 o'clock and swing from seven to one on the clockface." •



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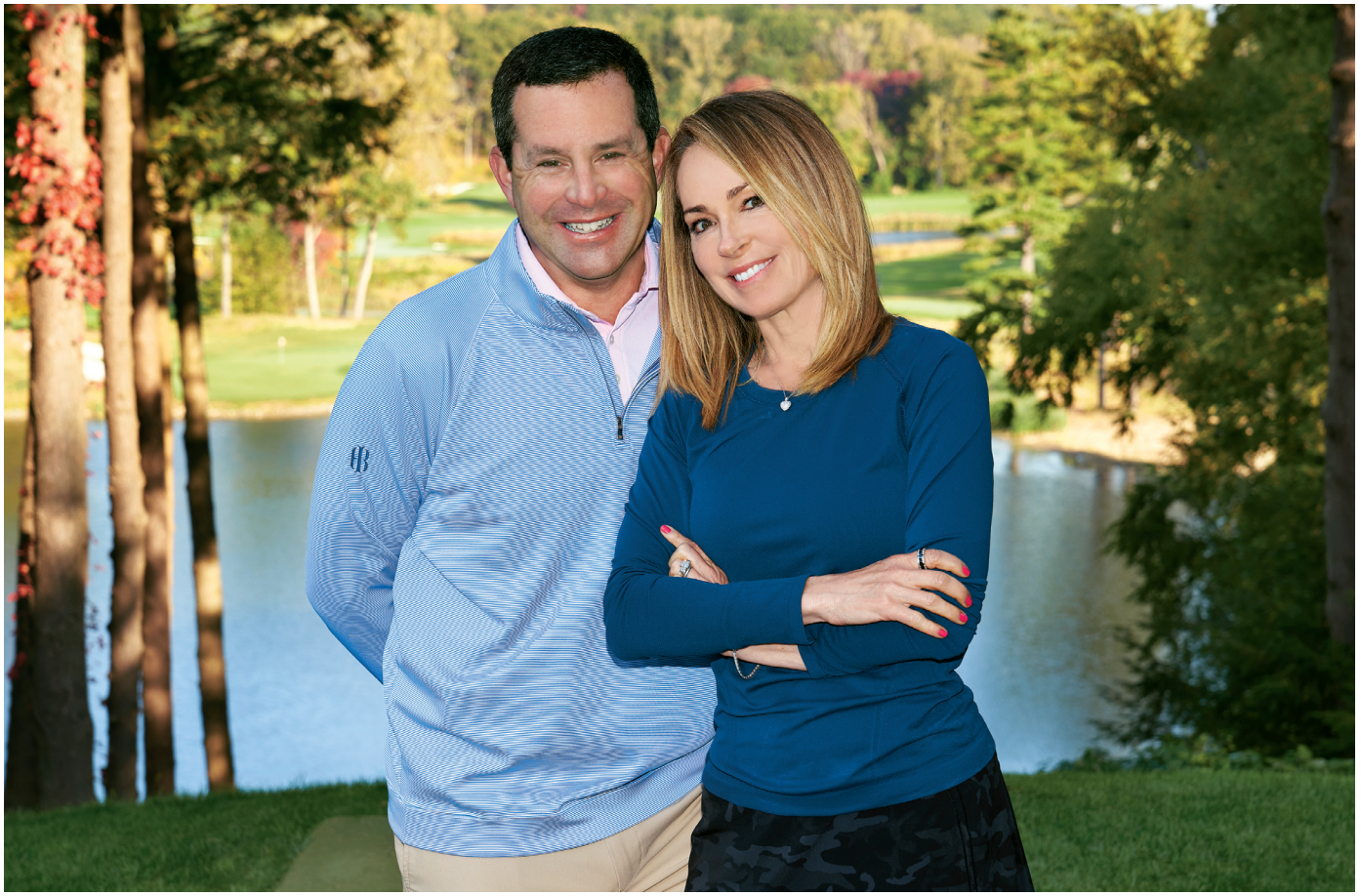
"Match Play" in the Pro Shop

Careers in golf brought these couples together. **By Declan Russell**



Debbie Doniger
GlenArbor GC

Kevin Sprecher
Sleepy Hollow CC

Debbie Doniger and Kevin Sprecher met early in life but were so intent on their golf careers at the time that the spark of romance didn't flare up for nearly a decade. Today, 20 years since they wed, it burns strong. They met through renowned golf instructor Jim McLean. When she was 12, Doniger started taking lessons from him when he was head pro at Quaker Ridge. Sprecher went to work for McLean at Sleepy Hollow after graduation from college. The two first met during Doniger's senior year at UNC, when she came to Sleepy Hollow for a lesson to get ready to qualify for the LPGA tour.

"Later that winter," Sprecher recalls, "I was driving to Miami to work for McLean at Doral when I hit a deer near Raleigh, NC. Doniger was the only person I knew living in the area, so she let me sleep on her sofa that night." Returning the favor, he caddied for her at Q-school. Their paths crossed repeatedly for several years, until finally both ended up as instructors at McClean's fabled golf school in Miami. They were married in 2001.

Both are now nationally recognized golf instructors with just a bit of friendly rivalry between them. "I've been very careful to have my own career and identity," Doniger says. "Still, we talk about it at the dinner table, because golf is our life. I ask his advice, and he does the same. We run ideas past each other. We also have our own circles of friends. It's an interesting dynamic, but I wouldn't have it any other way."

The couple lives in Rye Brook. "Where we really come together is with our kids and home life," Doniger says. "That's what matters in the end." They have two kids, Jordan, 17, and Millie, 14. Both kids play a little recreational golf but are nationally ranked squash players. Jordan has committed to play for Fulton & Marshall next year.

Photos by **John Fortunato**



Lindsay Paulino
GC of Purchase
TJ Paulino
Quaker Ridge GC

For Lindsay and TJ Paulino, it was love at first sight for only one of them. It happened (kinda) at UNC, where Lindsay played on the golf team and TJ worked at the course where she practiced. "She'd get her bucket of balls and walk right past me," he laughs. "She was always totally focused on her game, so I made a point to speak to her every time. I guess you could say I just kept bothering her."

"He was two years ahead of me," Lindsay retorts, "and we started dating the last semester of his senior year. He came to Brae Burn when he graduated, and we had a long-distance relationship until I graduated, when I followed him to this area." Lindsay turned pro after graduation and played on the Symetra Tour for two years while working at the Golf Club of Purchase. After deciding life on tour wasn't for her, Lindsay became a full-time teaching pro, and the couple was married in 2018, a year after TJ moved to Quaker Ridge.

"It's a blessing that we're both in the same industry doing the same type of work," TJ says. "At home, we keep the shop talk to a minimum, but we do talk about things at the end of the day. Knowing what each other is going through really helps."

Lindsay agrees. "We both understand what each other faces on a daily basis. On the other hand, we don't just go home and watch golf videos together. We try to have other interests. We like to hike and travel together and spend a lot of time with family."

That family got significantly bigger for the White Plains couple on Christmas Day, 2020, when Hudson Reeves Paulino was born. According to TJ, "We're now really focused on the next stage of our life." •

Golf Is for Everyone at Westchester County's Public Courses

Are you a par shooter or a par aspirer? It doesn't matter in Westchester, because the county operates six fine golf courses, and one of them is just right for you. **By Amelia Guzewicz**



Saxon Woods

The county-owned courses are not only fun and challenging; they offer all the amenities you could want, including driving ranges, short-game areas, and putting greens. You'll also find well-stocked pro shops, locker rooms, restaurants, and halfway houses. Golf at every county course is under the direction of a PGA professional, who offers individual lessons, clinics, and even junior golf camps. The quality of the golf? Excellent!

Saxon Woods

Scarsdale

6,293 yards, par 72

You may not get to play the exquisite and very private Quaker Ridge, but you can experience very similar topography nearby, across the Hutchinson River Parkway, at Saxon Woods, which many consider the most interesting all-around golf challenge of the six county courses. From the iron-off-the-tee 1st hole to the bomb-and-gouge finisher, Saxon Woods provides a round combining long and short, straightforward, and think-before-you-hit golf holes. A.W. Tillinghast, the Golden Age designer of Quaker Ridge, put his mark on Saxon Woods, as well, although Tom Winton, a Scot who was the official golf architect for

Photos by **Dave Donelson**


Hudson Hills

the Westchester Parks Commission, receives credit for the course. The 152-yard 16th hole is one of the best par 3s around, with a steep, narrow green surrounded by bunkers and fronted by a stream. Check your alignment on the tee, though, because the box points not at the green but to the right of it.

Hudson Hills

Ossining

6,935 yards, Par 71

By course rating, Hudson Hills is the most difficult of the six county-owned courses. It's the longest course in the collection and rewards big drivers of the ball accordingly, although five sets of tees make it playable by anyone. The rugged terrain creates several forced carries and more than a few blind shots, so be sure to play the right tees for your game. From the tips, Hudson Hills carries a strong 74 rating, with a slope of 136. The greens at Hudson Hills are well-contoured and generally large. Insiders will tell you to always remember that putts break away from the huge white water tower, in view from just about everywhere on the course.

Dunwoodie

Yonkers

5,778 yards, par 70

Bombers can have fun, but accurate golfers will prevail at Dunwoodie, the shortest of the six county-owned courses. Its location at the top of Dunwoodie Heights in Yonkers produces some steep slopes and dramatic topography, as well as many narrow, twisting fairways and small greens that reward deft approaches. Dunwoodie features five par 3s, including the 154-yard 7th hole, with its very fine view of the Manhattan skyline. Longer hitters will appreciate the 17th hole: 419 yards on the scorecard that seem like 450. The green is small and narrow, too, and many pars are one-putts made after you miss the green and chip close to the hole.

Maple Moor

White Plains

6,374 yards, par 71

Golfers at Maple Moor come off the course drier and happier now that the county has finished its multimillion-dollar drainage-and-irrigation project. Course conditions are the best they've ever been thanks to the creation of three retention ponds along the eighth fairway and elevation of portions of the ninth fairway by a full five feet above the previous waterlogged level. The improvements helped playing conditions but didn't change the character of the short-but-tight course, which traditionally receives more play than any of the other five. The 6th hole, for example, is still a tough par 5 even though it's only 470 yards long. A drive anywhere right of center on the fairway will block the second shot approach and force a lay-up to the elevated green.

Sprain Lake

Yonkers

6,010 yards, par 70

Sprain Lake offers a better golf experience than you might expect if you haven't played the course since its major renovation four years ago. The course has always been quirky yet fun, but the significant recontouring of five greens, reshaping of some of the fairways, and general upgrade of course amenities make it a must-play. Sprain Lake has always called for a strategic approach to the game, and one of the many holes demanding some serious thought is the 15th, a 414-yard par 4 that plays downhill to a blind landing area where the fairway narrows and tilts to pitch everything to the right. Long hitters also need to dial back some to keep their drives out of the creek that cuts across the fairway at about 270 yards.

Mohansic

Yorktown Heights

6,558 yards, par 70

Regular players at Mohansic swear it is the hardest of the six county courses, and they may well be correct. The tight fairways, numerous blind shots, and small, severe greens make Mohansic a real challenge. The course opens with four progressively longer par 4s, culminating in the No. 1 handicap hole, the 442-yard 4th, an uphill dogleg left that demands a draw around the corner from the tee. Faders beware: The fairway slopes left to right, and the right rough is not where you want to be. Your approach shot is to an elevated green, protected by bunkers on both sides. •


Mohansic

Junior Golf Grows Up

From pure beginners to accomplished competitors, junior golfers in Westchester have never had more and better opportunities to learn and play the game. **By Jeremy Leigh**



WMGA Junior Girls' Open Championship

PGA Junior Tour

Serious young golfers get a taste of real competition in more than 100 junior events conducted under the umbrella of the Metropolitan Section PGA Foundation. The Junior Tour is open to boys and girls ages 7-18 who are approved for play by a PGA professional. Events include nine-hole tournaments for younger beginning players, 18-hole tournaments for more advanced players in two age divisions, and the Future Series, two-day tournaments for boys with handicaps of 10 or below and for girls with an index of 15 of lower. For more, visit *www.metpgafoundation.org/junior/about*.

Photo courtesy of WMGA

PGA Jr. League

No one has more fun than the kids playing in the PGA Jr. League, a series of regular-season matches for boys and girls 13 and under where teams play four nine-hole matches in a popular two-person scramble format. The competition is intense, but the pressure is off since the team concept creates a nurturing environment for learning the game. Coaches can also substitute players every three holes so that all of the golfers on each team can participate. To sign up for a team in your area, visit *www.metpgajuniorgolf.com/jrleague*.



PGA Jr. League

TGA Premier Sports

Young newbies can get an all-around introduction to the game through TGA, which offers clinics, camps, leagues, and programs in cooperation with local courses and through many town recreation departments and schools when public health conditions permit. TGA specializes in golf learning experiences for kids 10 and younger.

"We focus on the fundamentals of the grip, aim, stance, and posture, and start with chipping and putting, then half swings progressing to full swings," says Kevin Rooney, who runs TGA of Northern Westchester. "We also cover the things you need to know to play the game, like course management, keeping score, and golf etiquette."

Kids not only get group and individual instruction in gyms, ranges, and playgrounds but also play on local courses, where a true love for the game can be born. TGA of Northern Westchester plays at Hudson Hills and Pehquenakonck CC, while the Southern Westchester group tees it up at Saxon Woods and Dunwoodie.

Parents don't have to worry about spending money on golf clubs, either. TGA provides everything the new golfer needs to get started. The price is right, too. Clinics and weekly programs basically cost just $20 per hour, and golf camps — both full- and half-day prices — start at $200 for five days, although they vary according to location. Details can be found at *www.playtga.com/junior-golf-programs*.



TGA Premier Sports

Rooney points out the TGA program is designed to make golf enjoyable. "Our goal is to give everyone an easy start in the game, so they can play for fun with their siblings and parents."

Golf Performance Center

Young golfers at the other end of the spectrum — accomplished players who aspire to play college golf at the highest levels — will find the intense coaching, fitness, and guidance they need at the Golf Performance Center. In addition to its year-round golf training academy and accredited education through its Ethan Allen Prep school, GPC offers four- and eight-week summer programs for golfers age 10 and older, with room and board available at the academy's campus in Ridgefield.

"The GPC Summer Program provides student athletes with the tools to grow athleti-

Photos courtesy of (top) **WMGA;** (bottom) **TGA Premier Sports/Kevin G. Rooney**



WMGA Girls to the Tee

cally, culturally, and as lifelong learners," says GPC's founder, Roger Knick. "The program combines the best practices for development, golf and physical coaching, tournament preparation, tournament play, and high-level academic experience." GPC alumni include several NCAA All-Americans and former student athletes who have gone on to win on the Korn Ferry Tour.

Summer programs include daily physical performance coaching, extended golf practice time, playing privileges at nearby Salem Golf Club, tournament planning, custom club-fitting, and premium membership in *JuniorGolfHub.com*, GPC's unique online gateway to navigating the road to college golf.

WMGA Girls to the Tee

Free golf clinics for girls ages 6 to 18 of all skill levels will resume this year under the sponsorship of the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association Foundation. At press time, dates and details were still works in progress, but Westchester Country Club has hosted previous events, which attract hundreds of girls (and a few of their kid brothers!), many of whom are just holding a golf club in their hands for the first time. Top local PGA professionals donate their time to provide the instruction. Participation is free, and the WMGA Foundation provides clubs to use during the clinics. Registration is required and will open in May. To learn more, go to *www.wmga.com/girls-to-the-tee*.

Youth on Course

Twenty bucks is all it takes to cash in on the best value in junior golf, the Youth on Course program operated by the Metropolitan Golf Association Foundation. The membership fee gives juniors access to dozens of golf courses in the New York area, and thousands around the country, where they can play for just $5. All six of the Westchester County golf courses participate, as well as nearby Pelham Bay/Split Rock, Van Cortlandt Park, and Rockland Lake GC, across the bridge in Congers. For membership details, go to *www.mgagolf.org/youthoncourse*.

Photo courtesy of the WMGA



PLAY LIKE A TOUR PRO

"Anglebrook is a tremendous golf course. It flows from hole-to-hole in a way not many places I've played do. In that sense I compare it to Pine Valley. Once you're out there, you're not thinking about what hole you're on. Instead, it's just one great shot opportunity after another."
—Ken Green, PGA Tour and Ryder Cup veteran

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Westchester Country Club, West Course Hole 16

U.S. Women's Amateur Comes to Westchester

The best women amateur golfers in the world will face Westchester Country Club's West Course. **By Dave Donelson**

Westchester Country Club adds another chapter to its stellar history this year when the USGA brings the 122nd U.S. Women's Amateur Championship to the difficult West Course of the club. A field of the best amateur women golfers in the world will compete for a gold medal and the Robert Cox trophy in Rye the first week of August.

The quality of the competition shows up in the roster of past champions, which includes legends like Patty Berg, Babe Zaharias, and JoAnne Gunderson Carner, as well as modern stars Grace Park, Morgan Pressel, and Lydia Ko. Rose Zhang of Irvine, CA, defeated defending champion Gabriela Ruffels from Australia to win the title last year at Woodmont Country Club in Rockville, MD.

Among this year's competitors will be WMGA board member Ina Kim-Schaad, who was exempt from qualifying by virtue of her victory at the USGA's U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship in 2019. Women amateur golfers with handicaps of 5.4 or lower can enter the 18-hole qualifying tournaments at 24 courses around the country, including Sunningdale CC in Scarsdale, which will host a qualifier on June 21. Some 1,500 women are expected to vie for a spot in the 156-player field at Westchester CC.

Two rounds of medal play will be contested Monday and Tuesday, August 2 and 3, to choose 64 players for the match-play rounds beginning Wednesday. The tournament champion will be chosen in a 36-hole match on Sunday, August 8.

Westchester Country Club was an important PGA Tour stop for 44 years and hosted the Senior Players Championship in 2011 and the KPMG Women's PGA Championship in 2015. It was also the site of the 27th rendition of the U.S. Women's Amateur, held in 1923, a year after the club opened. It was won by Edith Cummings, who defeated Alexa Stirling, 3 and 2. The championship has a long history in Westchester. The fourth edition was held in 1898, at Ardsley CC. Sleepy Hollow CC was the most recent venue in the county, hosting it in 2002.

The tournament will be played on the West Course, where elevation changes and thick stands of trees challenge the mental, as well as physical, skills of the competitors. Four holes on the course — Nos. 2, 3, 6, and 17 — were rated among the toughest on the PGA Tour during the course's long tenure as a tour stop that saw Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Seve Ballesteros, and many other stars hoist the winner's trophy. Inbee Park won the 2015 KMPG on the West Course. •

Photos by **Evan Schiller, courtesy of Westchester Country Club**

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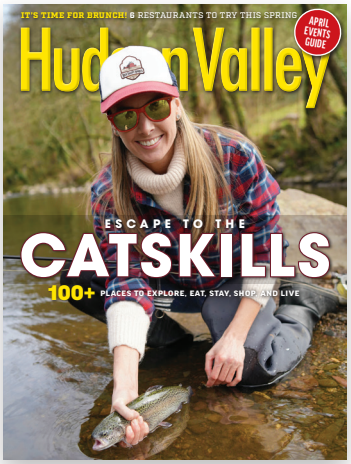

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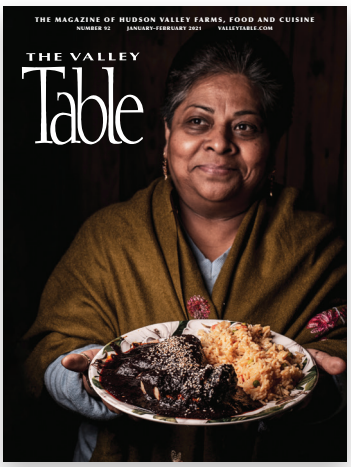

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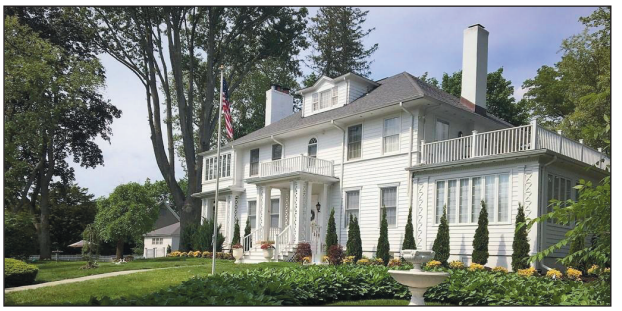

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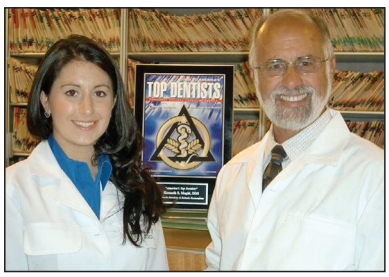

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The exterior of 300 King Street in Chappaqua is being restored to the appearance the building had in 1883.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

It Takes a Village

A unique affordable-housing/sustainable-living/historic-restoration project is wrapping up in Chappaqua. **By Amy R. Partridge**

Just up the road from the main village, the construction site at 300 King Street in Chappaqua may look like an ordinary homebuilding venture. But the edifice holds a rich history: It was originally a Quaker meeting house dating back to the 1820s; it was dismantled and reconstructed on its current site in 1883 and was most recently used as a Lutheran nursery school. It also has an ambitious future: Ultimately, it will be repurposed as two, three-bedroom residential units that will be sold by lottery to income-eligible purchasers. As a historic reuse project, the exterior of the home is being restored to the appearance it had in 1883. In addition, it's being designed using passive-house sustainability standards, which will result in such benefits as reduced energy costs, building resiliency, and superior indoor air quality.

The King Street project is also a true labor of love for the Chappaqua community. Volunteers have contributed thousands of hours of work to the project, and local organizations have donated building supplies, including Sheetrock and roofing shingles.

No ordinary building venture indeed.

Purchased in 2015 by the County and designated a historic landmark, the building was donated to the Fuller Center for Housing of Greater New York City to be transformed into use for affordable housing. Construction began in January 2016, and the project is expected to wrap up this fall. Partnered with the Fuller Center is Chappaqua-based architecture firm Sasaki+Spade Architects, heading up the design and historic restoration of the building. The two condo units — the first-floor home will comprise 1,940 square

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PROJECT SPOTLIGHT, CONT.

feet, while the second-floor unit will offer 1,760 square feet — are priced at $225,000 each.

What makes the project truly unique is its focus on sustainability through the use of "passive house" principles. This method of construction "carefully models and balances a comprehensive set of environmental factors to reduce the energy use of a building — by 75 percent or more compared with building codes — while delivering a healthy indoor environment and eliminating the use of fossil-fuel equipment," explain Sasaki+Spade principals Bill Spade and Keiko Sasaki. Key passive-house elements at work in the King Street project include extra thick, highly insulated, and well-sealed floors, walls, and roof; high-performance, triple-pane windows and insulated doors; and high-efficiency heating and cooling systems with 24-hour energy-recovery ventilation. The overall goal, explain the architects, is "to apply the latest technologies and construction methods in energy-conscious and sustainable design to substantially reduce the energy use and carbon contribution of the building."



This historic Chappaqua structure is now being turned into two affordable-housing condo units. The building will boast passive-house sustainability features that reduce energy use and carbon contribution.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SASAKI+SPADE ARCHITECTS

Watching the project come to fruition has been exciting for Chappaqua residents Spade and Sasaki, who say they are looking forward to the new owners and their children, "who can be part of this wonderful community."

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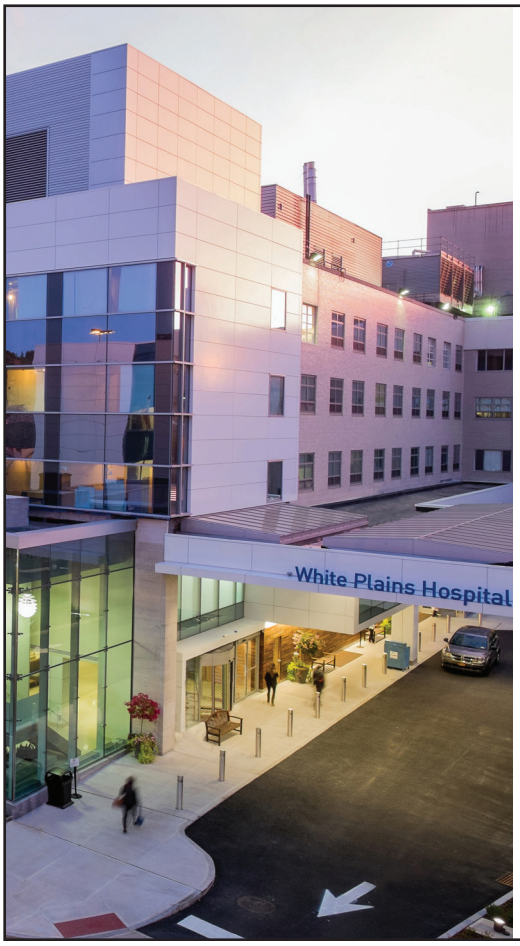

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HOT PROPERTY

Continuum Continues

Luxury rental tower Continuum 57 set to open in White Plains

By Duke Ratliff

The second stage of the Continuum project, a 17-story building situated at 57 Bank Street in White Plains, was ready for an April opening at press time.

With 309 apartments, ranging from 520 to 1,297 square feet, the building by East Coast real estate developer LCOR is part of a luxury rental project directly across from the White Plains Metro-North station that includes neighboring 55 Bank Street, which opened in 2018.

"The building is packed with amenities, and it's smart-app ready for the renter who wants to be able to control their home from their phone," says LCOR's vice president of marketing, Lo Romero. "We have floor plans that are spacious, like our penthouses with New York City skyline views, as well as apartment homes for those with a different budget that benefit from efficiencies in both single-bedroom and multiple-bedroom apartments."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THOMPSON & BENDER

Unit prices start at $2,055 for a studio; one bedrooms start at $2,507; and three bedrooms start at $3,935.

"All residents share access to amenities at both the Continuum 55 community and the new Continuum 57. That's doubling your access to rooftop terraces with sundecks and clubrooms, as well as fitness facilities and workspaces," Romero notes.

While the building was designed years prior, some features have been added to appeal to post-pandemic residents.

"We rearranged some of our amenity spaces in order to accommodate the flexibility of coworking and working from home, as well as gathering spaces, to accommodate social distancing," says Romero.

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Kitchens & Baths



Bring your kitchen or bath to life with these trend-setting tips.



Spending so much time at home during a global pandemic has enabled us to view our homes in a new way — as sanctuaries. If you're inspired to take your soothing sanctuary to a new level, these trending tips will help you step up your home's look and function.

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KEEPING IT SIMPLE, BUT SOPHISTICATED

"Many homeowners are looking for a simple, but sophisticated and streamlined look in kitchen design, including long lines and soft moldings, like Cove crowns and shiplap. Combining family rooms with the kitchen to create a larger entertaining area is among the top wish-list items. While white cabinetry is still the favorite, adding accent colors with an Organic flair or a contrasting color to islands and butler's pantries helps make a kitchen unique. Brushed and polished gold as well as black are the new leading trends for cabinetry hardware and plumbing fixtures. Creating "feature" walls by using barn doors or fully tiled walls adds interest and texture to the space while adding automated cabinetry lighting is a great convenience feature. Besides visual appeal, the modern-clean look, soft lines, and smooth textures help create a clutter-free environment."

Robert Stonbely Jr., Vice President
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INTEGRATING STYLE AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY

"White cabinetry has always been a popular trend when it comes to





kitchen and bathroom designs. Lately, we have noticed a rise in incorporating gray and blue tones into classic white kitchens, as well as an increase in textured melamine, high-gloss laminated surfaces, and low-sheen enamel finishes. Maximizing the space available with current accessories, such as rollouts, magic corners, and pullout spice racks, continue to be incorporated into today's kitchen and bath designs. We're also seeing more frequent integration of more energy efficient and longer-lasting LED lighting inside cabinets. These are just a few examples of what's trending in our everyday kitchen and bath designs."

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SPACE CLOSE: **July 16, 2021**
PUBLICATION DATE: **August 17, 2021**

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Kids A to Z



Banish boredom from your little ones with this comprehensive A-to-Z list of the best activities, venues, attractions, and events expertly tailored to tikes.

By Paul Adler & Michelle Gillan Larkin



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A is for Acting

It's no secret kids come preloaded with drama, and savvy parents can tap into that energy with acting classes at **Arc Stages** in Pleasantville, where young drama queens and kings, ages 3 to teen, learn the fundamentals of acting, singing, and dancing for stage and screen via whimsical classes and conservatory-style workshops. The offerings are similar at **Artistree Performing Arts**, in Mamaroneck, which hosts day-long camps when school is out for spring break and other extended holidays.

B is for Books

Burgeoning bookworms and parents who want to inspire and cement a love of books and reading descend in droves upon the annual **Chappaqua Children's Book Festival**, held each autumn (rain or shine) since 2013 under tents on the grounds of Bell Middle School. This year's event is scheduled for October 2, and the usual 150-plus authors and illustrators are expected on-hand for signings, readings, and drawing demos, along with a gazillion books for sale and food trucks galore. Admission and parking are always free.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LEGOLAND NEW YORK RESORT



PHOTO COURTESY OF MONSTER MINI GOLF

C IS FOR CHOPPING

Among cherished holiday memories, few shine brighter than chopping or cutting down a fresh, pine-scented Christmas tree on a blustery December day. Those looking to relive this holiday rite of passage may want to stop by Yorktown Heights' **Wilkins Fruit & Fir Farm**. A wonderful spot to pick a pumpkin or some apples during fall months, this popular pastoral gem really shines during their "choose-n-cut" Christmas tree event, when Douglas and Fraser firs can be chopped or sawed down and hauled off to your home anytime between Thanksgiving and the Big Day.

D IS FOR DINOSAURS

What kid doesn't love a scary, scaly dinosaur? Adults may *think* dinosaurs have gone the way of the dodo, but they're alive and well in the **Dinosaur Garden at Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial**, in Katonah. Footprints, plant specimens, and gigantic, life-sized replicas of all the big-name, overgrown geckos decorate the blooming outdoor space, while a smartphone app lets visitors watch and learn how the creatures lived and what Earth was like during their heyday.

E IS FOR EGG HUNTS

When Easter season rolls around, egg hunts become the thing for toddlers to tweens in a number of locations around the county, including the yearly standouts in Pleasantville, Pelham, Tuckahoe, Rye, Yorktown, Cortlandt Manor, and more.

F IS FOR FLIPS

Going strong for more than three decades, **GymCats**, in Yonkers, has been producing gymnasts from 20-month-old tumblers to fiercely fit and flexible kid and teen athletes who appear to fly among the apparatus with the greatest of ease. Competitive and non-competitive teams attract the most committed "gym cats," along with summer camp, for fun-filled training when school is out. Nearly 50 years ago, Hawthorne's **Westchester Gymnastics & Cheer** began training aspiring gymnasts and today continues to offer intro and advanced classes from the mommy-and-me level to teen team competitions and summer camp.

G IS FOR GOLF

Not your grandfather's course, **Monster Mini Golf** at Ridge Hill in Yonkers is miniature golf in a whole new stratosphere. Indoors — in near total darkness and to pulsing musical beats — these 18 glow-in-the-dark holes are brought to life by beaming black lights and monsters that move and talk. It's a similar scene in the companion bowling alley and the arcade, where the hottest video games mesmerize the young while their young-at-heart parents get drawn in by classic (albeit glowing) Skee-Ball, air hockey, and hoops.

H is for Horseback Riding

When your li'l darlings ask, "Can I have a pony?" trot them off to **Beech Hill Farm Equestrian Center or Fox Hill Farms**, both in Pleasantville and in business for more than six decades apiece. At either location, young buckaroos saddle up for private and group horseback-riding lessons in the ring and/or on the trails of neighboring Rockefeller State Park Preserve. Boarding and leasing programs are available at both, while Fox Hill Farm hosts summer and winter camps, a show team, and "schooling shows" for kids to exhibit their equine abilities to friends and family.

I is for Imagination

If your child has a creative streak, there are few better places to nurture their budding talents than at **ArtsWestchester**. This White Plains institution offers countless youth classes and programs, including Zoom cartooning workshops for youngsters ages 6-12, Teen Tuesdays and Thursdays, and summer art classes for children ages 6 to 13 in specialties ranging from digital and clay to painting and drawing. ArtsWestchester also streams craft classes for kids from their ArtsMobile, an educational center on wheels that during non-pandemic times makes its way to various schools, venues, and community centers.

K is for Kids' Museum

When trying to entertain kids, the local children's museum may seem like an obvious choice, but Westchester's iteration really is something special. Currently open on a limited basis, **Westchester Children's Museum** remains a beacon of learning and enjoyment for area kids. Along with a ton of on-site workshops, summer programs, and classes, this Rye institution offers enriching at-home activities, including online programs, a virtual activity center, and STEAM kits to help kids experience science from the comfort of their living rooms.

L is for LEGOLAND

Kids can now put down their LEGO sets and enter an entire world themed to their favorite toy with this impressive new theme park debuting in Goshen this year. **LEGOLAND New York Resort** will feature seven themed lands, including LEGO Pirates and LEGO Castle, with more than 50 attractions, rides, and shows, as well as ample shopping outlets and eateries. The resort will also include a 250-room LEGOLAND Hotel, with themes like LEGO NINJAGO and LEGO Kingdom — oh yeah, and 15,000 LEGO models constructed from roughly 30 million LEGO pieces.

M is for Music

If your kid seems to have an ear or you simply want to encourage a lifelong appreciation of music, Scarsdale's **Crestwood Music Education Center** offers private, group, and Suzuki lessons (and recitals) in orchestra and chamber music, jazz, and music theory for all instruments and levels, for ages 3 and up. **School of Rock**, in White Plains and Mamaroneck, teaches guitar and bass guitar, drums, piano and keyboard, and voice starting in preschool, with serious learners joining the house band or auditioning to go on tour across the U.S. over the summer. Similarly, **Mike Risko Music School**, in Ossining, offers kids 3 and up "performance-oriented" private and group instrument, voice, and musical theater lessons with the goal of developing musicianship and performance skills; summer rock-band camp is one of the hottest tickets in town.

N is for Nature

In a world of cellphones, video games, computers, and 4K TVs, kids can sometimes lose touch with the great outdoors. If you are hoping to better acquaint your kid with nature, why not try a day at a farm? Katonah's bucolic **Muscoot Farm** is an excellent place to start, featuring a working

J is for Joyride

Entertaining little ones since 1928, Rye's **Playland** must be doing something right. Home to more than 50 rides and attractions, ranging from kiddie coasters to classic, family-friendly dark rides, Playland is the kind of place where you can enjoy a splash by the sea before getting some cotton candy and boarding a vintage carousel. A few years back, Playland received its first new ride in more than a decade, a topsy-turvy thriller called The Dragonator. When you're done, try some mini-golf, a dip in the pool, or a visit to the on-site children's museum.



WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARKS PHOTO

dairy farm, maple-sugaring classes, hiking trails, bird walks, and even a blacksmithing shop. Meanwhile, Pocantico Hills' **Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture** offers a host of educational resources, events, and conservation classes for budding farmers.

O IS FOR ORCHARD

Few outings rival the sheer autumnal splendor of apple picking with the kids at one of Westchester's many bucolic orchards. **Harvest Moon Farm & Orchard**, in North Salem, is a fruity fantasyland that typically features hayrides, food stalls, pony rides, hard cider for patient parents, live music, and outstanding cider doughnuts. Also ripe for the picking (and more) are the venerable yet vibrant **Stuart's Fruit Farm**, in Granite Springs, and Yorktown Heights' **Wilkins Fruit & Fir Farm**, where guests can enjoy a variety of not just apples but produce, pies, doughnuts, and other baked goods.

P IS FOR PLAY SPACES

On cold, rainy days, or for when the playground just feels passé, take the fun inside with indoor play structures and apparatus for climbing, tunneling, sliding, bouncing, and limitless active, physical entertainment. **The Play Place**, in Elmsford, and **Kids U**, in Pleasantville and Port Chester, boast the biggest, maze-like indoor jungle gyms, while Elmsford's **Bounce U** and **Rockin' Jump**, at Yonkers' Ridge Hill and in Mount Kisco, feature roof-covered bounce houses and what seems like miles of trampolines, respectively. All facilities offer classes, camps, and birthday party options for tots to tweens (and to teens at Rockin' Jump).

R IS FOR RELEASE YOUR INNER WARRIOR

Kids have plenty of ways to get in touch with their inner athletes, whether it's during a day at an obstacle course or over years of in-depth training. If the former sounds good, try Pleasantville's **The Grit Ninja**, Westchester's first dedicated Ninja Warrior gym. Here, kids can take after-school classes, enjoy open gym, or hold private parties on an ever-changing obstacle course where they can jump, climb, swing, and run to their hearts' content. If classic tutelage is better-suited to your fledgling martial-arts master, try Scarsdale's **Achieve Martial Arts**, where kids 3 and up can learn both Tae Kwon Do and discipline in classes organized by age.

S IS FOR SPORTS

For aspiring athletes or to just burn some of that endless energy (assuring a quiet night's sleep) Ardsley's **House of Sports** is the place parents turn to for fast-paced, physically engaging, and challenging classes, private and group training, team clubs, tournaments, camps, and birthday parties focusing on hoops, soccer, lacrosse, and baseball, for 2-year-olds and up. **MVP Basketball Camp**, in White Plains, offers week- and monthlong hoops camps for boys and girls, ages 6 to 16.

T IS FOR THEATER

Entertaining audiences for nearly 50 years, the nonprofit **Emelin Theatre**, in Mamaroneck, presents uplifting, educational, and downright funny plays, musicals, films, and concerts that are family-friendly and enjoyable for all. Live shows are highly watchable and easy to absorb, whether it's a classic like, *Peter Pan*, a current book craze, like *Pete the Cat*, original content, or a singer with a rockin' lineup of kids-bop tunes.

U IS FOR UTTER HOLIDAY FUN

There are few ways to better embrace the holiday spirit than with Valhalla's incomparable **Westchester's Winter Wonderland**. In 2020, this all-out holiday extravaganza run by the Westchester Parks Foundation became a 1.2-mile-long drive-thru-only event, with a host of eye-popping lights displays, including a 40-foot Christmas tree, 50-foot illuminated dove, and 100-foot-tall light tunnel. In prior years, the Wonderland has included everything from a heated big-top circus tent and hot chocolate to a 55-foot Ferris wheel, ice-skating rink, and rides.

Q IS FOR QUALITY TIME

Whether it's 1921 or 2021, bowling remains a popular pastime for families, and, luckily, Westchester boasts some of the state's best lanes. A one-time stop for music megastar Justin Bieber, **Bowlmor White Plains** is a popular spot for kids' birthday parties and other lighthearted events, with its psychedelic backlight bowling, cozy seating, tasty food and drink, and ultra-fun interior design. Plus, those who aren't a prince of the pins can enjoy billiards, an arcade, a sports bar, and a lounge.

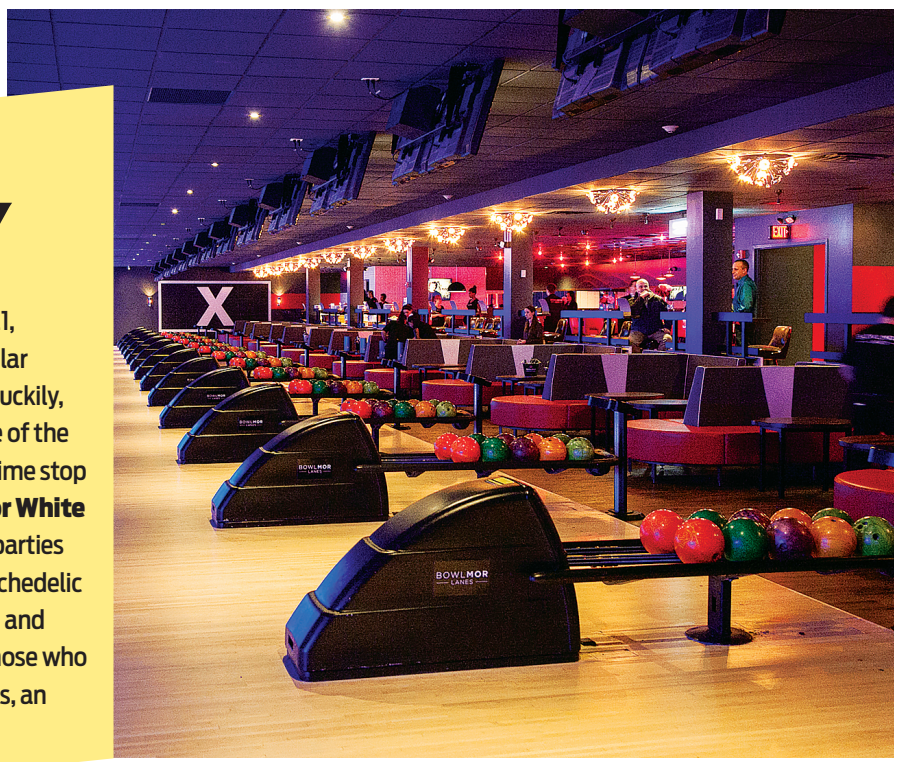

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KARTRITE RESORT & INDOOR WATER PARK

V IS FOR VACATION

When looking for a place to cool off with the kids, it's difficult to imagine a location more suited to splashing than **The Kartrite Resort & Indoor Waterpark**, in Monticello. Home to New York's largest indoor waterpark, the Kartrite boasts wild slides, like The Kraken and Nor'Easter, an elaborate lazy river, a Flowrider for surfers and paddleboarders, aqua hoops, a splash area for very young kids, cabanas, and a host of other attractions and amenities, all kept at a balmy, 84˚, year-round.

W IS FOR WATER SPORTS

Armed with the philosophy that all children can learn to swim if given the right instruction and encouraging environment, **Swim Tank**, with locations in Mamaroneck and West Harrison, offers introductory lessons to bathing beauties as young as 4 months up to 15 years old, along with stroke development/refinement classes for more experienced young swimmers. At Elmsford's **Swim Labs**, lessons start at 6 months and continue well into the teens, with swim camps, specialized technique clinics, and competitive and triathlete video stroke analysis and training. **Swimfinity Swimming Academy**, in North Salem, begins water-safety classes at 6 months of age, followed by lessons and stroke clinics for more advanced swimmers, with the overarching goal of results in weeks not years.

X IS FOR X MARKS THE SPOT

Why not safely explore the county with your little one while learning a bit about the region you call home? **Rock Paper Scissors**, a company that plans and hosts virtual parties and in-person events, runs popular town-based scavenger hunts in Westchester and Connecticut. Their Bedford/Pound Ridge Scavenger Hunt is a downloadable, fun activity for the entire family, consisting of 16 miles of enjoyment. Just hop in the car with the kids and set off on an adventure that supports a good cause, as 50% of every sale will be donated to the Community Center of Northern Westchester.

Y IS FOR YOGA

Beneficial for all ages, yoga offers a world of good for kids and is believed to aid in relaxation and stress relief, focus, balance, confidence, physical strength and flexibility, and overall mind/body wellness. Like a traveling yoga studio, **Budding Buddhas'** teachers lead classes for toddlers, tweens, and teens, in schools, libraries, and camps all over Westchester, as well as at **Tovami Yoga Studio**, in Mamaroneck (and virtually). At New Rochelle's **Westchester Yoga Arts**, classes are virtual until further notice and offered for ages 6 to 16-plus.

Z IS FOR ZIP LINE

Axe throwing? Check. Ropes course? Check. Laser tag, VR, and an arcade? Check, check, check. Kids won't have much to want for at **Spins Hudson**, a Peekskill-based mecca of all things entertainment. Spins boasts a dizzying array of family-friendly fun, like a 50-foot-high aerial ropes course (with more than 70 different elements) and a 5,000 sq. ft., two-story laser-tag arena boasting thrilling features like fog and bridges. Or, kids can simply enjoy the futuristic arcade, all of which can be booked for parties, camps, and field trips.

Best Real Estate Agents 2021

House-hunting will be happier with one of these **169** agents.



For the premier edition of our Best Real Estate Agents in Westchester list, we partnered with DataJoe research to compile the county's top brokers, using both a peer survey and a consumer survey. As a primary benchmark, agents had to generate a minimum of $12.9 million in sales revenue during the period of October 1, 2019 through October 1, 2020. Agents are listed alphabetically.

Edited by John Bruno Turiano

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METHODOLOGY AND DISCLAIMERS

Summary. To create the list, the magazine contracted DataJoe Research to facilitate a multifaceted research campaign. DataJoe conducted a massive research effort comprising a.) an online survey delivered directly to real estate professionals and consumers, b.) Firm rosters, and c.) Internet research.

DataJoe starts with information obtained from primary government sources, and then expands on this information using both the survey and the Internet research campaign.

In the peer survey, real estate agents were asked to provide sales volume ranges, and also to nominate their peers.

In the consumer survey, consumers and recent homebuyers were asked to nominate agents who exemplified excellence.

In addition, DataJoe reached out to major real estate firms in the region, requesting performance data for agents in their respective firms.

In the Internet campaign, DataJoe consulted a variety of public Websites to build richer knowledge of individual licensed real estate agents in the state. In many cases, DataJoe was able to ascertain overall sales performance ranges using its combination of sources. In the end, DataJoe's scoring algorithm factored in frequency of nomination, sales performance, and other factors to yield the list of top agents.

DataJoe acknowledges that not every top performer in the region made the list. However, our research yielded a high volume of data that enabled us to pinpoint a large number of top performers.

DataJoe checked and confirmed that each published winner had, at time of review, a current, active license status with the appropriate state regulatory board. If DataJoe was not able to find evidence of a real estate agent's current, active registration with the state regulatory board, that real estate agent was excluded from the list. Finally, DataJoe presented the tallied result to the magazine for its final review and adjustments.

Final note. DataJoe recognizes that there are many good real estate agents who are not shown in this representative list. This is only a sampling of the huge array of talented professionals within the region. Inclusion in the list is based on our research campaign and the opinions of responding professionals in the region. DataJoe certainly does not discount the fact that many, many good and effective real estate agents may not appear on the list.

Disclaimers. DataJoe uses best practices and exercises great care in assembling content for this list. DataJoe does not warrant that the data contained within the list are complete or accurate. DataJoe does not assume, and hereby disclaims, any liability to any person for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions herein whether such errors or omissions result from negligence, accident, or any other cause. All rights reserved. No commercial use of the information in this list may be made without written permission from DataJoe.

Questions? For research/methodology questions, contact the research team at **surveys@datajoe.com**.



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Jeremy Zucker
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White Plains
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**At the time the list was compiled, the following agents were at these firms: Owen Berkowitz, Douglas Elliman, Scarsdale; Julie Bieber, Julia B. Fee, Rye; Laura Clemente, McClellan Sotheby's International Realty, Pelham; Sona Davidian, McClellan Sotheby's International Realty, Pelham; Joanne Georgiou, Houlihan Lawrence, Chappaqua; Hillary Landau, Houlihan Lawrence, Briarcliff Manor; Carol Marrone, Douglas Elliman, Scarsdale; Sheila Morrissey Stoltz, Houlihan Lawrence, Bronxville; Angela Retelny, Compass, Dobbs Ferry; and Elizabeth D. Ross, Houlihan Lawrence, Rye.*

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Source: OKMLS, 2020, total dollar volume of single family homes sold by Houlihan Lawrence agent, New Rochelle school district. One Key MLS, 2020, properties listed by agent that sold in 2020 in the City of New Rochelle compared to all properties sold in City of New Rochelle. Jocelyn ranks in the Top 1% in Westchester County by single family homes sold, total dollar volume, 2020.

HOULIHAN LAWRENCE



PHOTO: KATIE CHARLOTTE AND SHAUN GOTTERBARN

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Whether you're searching for your dream home or selling your current home, make the process (and your life) easier by partnering with one of the Real Estate All Stars on the following pages. Each has been selected as a "Best Real Estate Agent" in Westchester.

Real Estate All Stars



ANDREA K. WEISS

Andrea is proud to be named a Westchester Top Realtor. As the #1 agent at Julia B. Fee Sotheby's in Scarsdale, Andrea provides her clients with a high level of service, advice, and guidance. An expert negotiator and deal closer who knows Lower Westchester, Andrea has helped families buy or sell their home with confidence. It's no surprise the majority of Andrea's business is through referrals from satisfied clients.

"I am thankful and grateful to have been chosen as one of Westchester's Top Realtors. Sincere appreciation to my loyal clients, JBFSIR team, family, and friends for your support. I will continue to work hard to earn your business in 2021."

Julia B Fee | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

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OKMLS: 2020-total volume, single family homes sold by agent, Julia B Fee SIR Scarsdale. Each office is independently owned and operated.

ELIZABETH "ESTI" WINKLER

Elizabeth "Esti" Winkler is a leading Westchester real estate expert and resident of nearly 20 years. She knows the neighborhoods and studies the numbers, which is why she has over $64 million in transactions to her credit. Esti is a graduate of Columbia University's Barnard College and resides in New Rochelle.

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COMPASS

DIANE HACKETT VALMARIE ZORILA

Diane Hackett and Valmarie Zorila have enjoyed 20 years of partnership and collaboration. As founders of the Compass Bronxville office and one of the first true real estate teams in Westchester, they attribute their success to loving what they do. Simply put, they derive great happiness helping their clients find their place in the world.

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LAUREN ZACCARIA



Lauren Zaccaria isn't just a consistent Multimillion-Dollar Top Real Estate Producer throughout Westchester and beyond. She is also a wife, mother, grandmother, and educator who recognizes the client's need for organized timely transactions. She and her team of seasoned professionals provide valuable feedback to ensure the success of each buying and selling experience. Her nearly two-decade track record has made Lauren a "must-meet" for transferees as well as native New Yorkers. Clients find stress-free, regular communication with a proven strategist keeps the process positive. The Lauren Zaccaria team offers tours of Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, and Fairfield counties — areas that are home to some of the finest properties in the world, and home to families like Lauren's, who was raised in Westchester. These tours make navigating the region's serene leaf-lined neighborhoods and bustling downtowns less daunting and help empower buyers. Sellers rejoice in her negotiating and planning skills.

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THE WESTCHESTER LIVING TEAM

The Westchester Living Team knows the "ins" and "outs" of buying or selling a home throughout Westchester. Ranked the **#2 Team in 2020 at Compass Westchester**, each agent on the team is uniquely suited to help clients navigate the buying or selling process armed with hyper-local knowledge, proprietary technology, and the expertise to assure a smooth process. The ten-member team is comprised of an elite cadre of real estate professionals who specialize in neighborhoods ranging from Larchmont to Chappaqua or anywhere in between!



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HILLARY LANDAU

Hillary's Homes' boutique approach encompasses not just selling homes, but building relationships to help families settle into their new community feeling connected.

With her client-first approach and enthusiasm for technology and marketing, Hillary collaborates with her strategic partners to optimize all social and digital opportunities to attract the most qualified buyers to her listings.

By focusing on her hometown of Briarcliff Manor and nearby Chappaqua and Pleasantville, Hillary offers unparalleled local insight.

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ERIC BERNSTEIN

Eric Bernstein commands an outstanding depth of real estate expertise, specializing in Luxury, Residential, Condominiums, and Investment Properties. Harnessing his insightful assessments and careful analysis, Eric provides each client with individual attention, enthusiasm, and his intimate knowledge of the distinct communities within Westchester County real estate market.

Eric takes great care to educate and advise his clients; from distinctive property selection, to skillful negotiation and review of the contractual components of the transaction, to the details of the inspection to the final points at closing. Clients of Eric's most notable, multi-million-dollar home sales highlight his integrity and mastery at finding creative and equitable solutions to the unparalleled service he delivers.

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CHERYL R. NEUBURGER

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MICHÈLE FLOOD

Michèle is one of the top-producing agents in Westchester County and her dedication has propelled her into the top 1% of agents nationwide. She specializes in the Rye/Harrison and Larchmont/Mamaroneck areas. Her reputation is based on her ability to understand each client's unique context, whether thoughtfully guiding first-time homebuyers or creating a data-driven marketing strategy to maximize exposure for her sellers. Clients refer to Michèle as "Phenomenal" and "Goes Way Beyond What Is Expected."

Let Michèle do for you what she has done for so many!

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MARGARET GRASSO



Margaret Grasso is highly motivated, well respected, and a passionate real estate professional. Her love of real estate combined with an ability to build genuine client connections is what sets her apart. Margaret prides herself on truly listening to her clients' needs in order to help them attain their goals.

As a long-time resident of Westchester County, Margaret is well versed in the community she serves. Margaret acquired in depth knowledge and honed her ability to identify properties with great potential through her experience representing her husband's custom home-building company, Grasso Development Corporation.

Margaret has attained Chairman's Circle Platinum and is in the top 1% of the BHHS network of 50,000 agents. Additionally, she holds designations as a Certified Buyers Representative and a Luxury Specialist.

Customer service, communication, and an unwavering commitment to client-centric service are key factors to Margaret's success!

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LISA FITZ

Lisa Fitz is a top 1% Real Estate Agent. As a lifelong Westchester County resident, she proudly brings thorough knowledge of the local markets to both her buyers and sellers. With over 15 years at Ginnel Real Estate, Lisa's experience, energy, and integrity are exceptional in every transaction. She's a certified staging agent, offering sellers a complimentary advising service for an unmatched advantage. Lisa is honored to welcome your inquiry!

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ALEXANDRA MINNER

Ranked a Top 1% Westchester Agent, Alexandra understands the personal nature of home buying and is committed to finding and securing your perfect home. Her clients say it best: "Alexandra is the best agent I have ever worked with. I'll hire her for every home sale/purchase I ever make." — Samantha

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LYNN HARMONAY

Lynn, a lifelong area resident, has been sharing her expertise for 20+ years as a caring client advocate north of New York City. Recognized as a top 1% Producer nationwide, Seller and Buyer Agent, and Realtrends "America's Best," Lynn has extensive experience in relocation, investment, and maximizing sales value through home staging and unparalleled marketing.

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HEATHER HARRISON

Industry game-changer Heather Harrison has revolutionized Westchester real estate with a deep passion for the area and firm belief that buying or selling a home should be successful and enjoyable.

Clients benefit immensely from her innovative thinking. Today, with more than 700 million and over 400 transactions sold/pending, Heather leads one of the top teams in the NYC suburbs and was the **#1 Agent in Westchester** by Sales Volume in 2020 (OneKey MLS).

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RANDI CULANG

A reliable partner with a decade of experience, Randi works with clients on every stage of buying/selling a home—from staging to marketing to renovating and especially new construction. Her ability to negotiate, analyze and communicate have all aided in her notable success; her distinguished professionalism has granted her great respect among her peers.

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ANGELA RETELNY

Angela Retelny has over 20 years residential sales experience, $400 million+ in sales. Alongside daughter Jessica Shames, The Angela Retelny Team successfully positions elite properties with bespoke marketing strategies and hands-on, hard work. Experienced, assertive advisors, with an established agent network, they consistently achieve great results for their discerning clientele.

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Finding the right real estate agent means having someone who is committed to helping you buy or sell your home with the highest level of expertise in your local market. Sound insights and advice from an experienced real estate professional who lives and breathes local is an essential asset when entering the market. *Contact me to discuss your real estate interests.*

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Mardi achieves her clients' goals with a honed sales skill set and deep understanding of Westchester. A great listener, her clients are her top priority, and she champions their needs throughout their search or sale.

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As a member of the exclusive Sports and Entertainment Division at Compass with 20 years of experience, Dawn is a highly respected luxury real estate specialist with multiple record-breaking transactions and a unique, proven selling strategy.

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wunderkinds
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[wuhn-der-kind] -noun. plural. a person who succeeds, especially in business; at a comparatively young age.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 HONOREES!



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Healthcare Heroes 2021

16 selfless superstars who make Westchester an even better place to live.

Edited by Nick Brandi; write-ups by Regina Molaro, Deborah Skolnik, and Nick Brandi

More than any other in recent memory, the past year has been a time of reflection and circumspection — not just individually but communally. The enervating exigencies of the pandemic forced us all to reevaluate everything we thought we knew about life, ourselves, and one another. It is no surprise, then, that we at *Westchester Magazine* approached this year's Healthcare Heroes event with an unprecedented level of discernment. Should 2021 be "Healthcare Heroes: The COVID Chronicles," or should we ignore the pandemic as if it never occurred?

We ultimately decided that neither of those options felt right. Instead, we decided to welcome nominations that were predicated either on a nominee's exemplary performance within the context of the pandemic or completely independent of it. The result is that we gave due solemnity to a cataclysmic event whose domestic-fatality count is approaching that of the Civil War while recognizing and celebrating those whose day-to-day heroism persevered not because of the coronavirus but despite it.

We think you'll support our decision when you see our proud pastiche of 16 winners — as eclectic as they are elite. In the pages that follow, you'll read about doctors and nurses, educators and administrators, and humanitarians and executives who in some remarkable way embody a singular dedication to our community that is truly second to none.

This year also marks the debut of two new Healthcare Heroes awards. Determined by the editors of *Westchester Magazine*, we are proud to present our first-ever Healthcare Heroes Editors' Award for Outstanding Community Service along with our inaugural Healthcare Heroes Institutional Award for Excellence, which is presented to an organization rather than to an individual. These special commendations will most likely not be bestowed annually but rather as actions and circumstances merit them.

To our winners: A heartfelt congratulations on this impressive achievement. Your courage and selflessness are a debt we can never fully repay. *—Nick Brandi*

Adam S. Weissman, PhD

Founding President, CEO, and Chief Psychologist of the Child & Family Institute and Weissman Children's Foundation

Pediatric psychologist Dr. Adam Weissman is a healthcare leader with a mission to achieve mental health access and equity for all. In 2011, he founded the Child & Family Institute (CFI), which offers highly specialized, evidence-based psychological treatments. Beyond the clinic, which has 15 U.S. sites, services are offered through a global telehealth initiative. CFI also offers training through partner institutions, including the prestigious Columbia University.

Early last year, Dr. Weissman launched Weissman Children's Foundation (WCF) — a nonprofit that reaches families in need regardless of their ability to pay. As COVID-19 intensified, WCF launched a mental health initiative to provide immediate treatment for underserved communities, especially communities of color.

"I was motivated by the mounting mental health crisis, largely ignored by the federal government and insurance companies, and the recent surge due to COVID," says Dr. Weissman. "With higher rates of anxiety, depression, suicide, trauma, grief, child behavior issues, and marital and family conflict, our nation's most vulnerable and marginalized families are too frequently denied access to affordable, effective care."

Through WCF, Dr. Weissman aims to bridge that gap in care. To date, WCF has helped more than 200 families.

He recently established the Equity and Effectiveness Scientific Council (EESC), which studies treatment effectiveness and mental health disparities, with a focus on social justice, equity, and policy change.

A prolific author and clinical researcher, Dr. Weissman is an adjunct professor at Columbia University who received the American Psychological Association's "2020 Distinguished Contributions to Practice Award." At age 39, he was the youngest person ever to receive the honor — the highest in his field and just one reason the Business Council of Westchester honored Dr. Weissman as a "40 Under 40 Rising Star." He is currently president of the Westchester County Psychological Association. *—RM*





Sheila Nolan, MD

Chief of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Boston Children's Health Physicians (BCHP); Chief of Pediatric Infectious Diseases & Pediatric Hospital Epidemiologist, Maria Fareri Children's Hospital (MFCH)

The guidance that Dr. Sheila Nolan provided to nearly 900 physicians and staff members in 60-plus locations during the COVID-19 pandemic is what earned her the moniker "BCHP's very own Dr. Fauci."

As chairperson of the Infection Control Committee at BCHP and pediatric hospital epidemiologist for MFCH, Dr. Nolan was well prepared to lead. With Westchester County at the epicenter of the initial U.S. outbreak, she needed to rapidly establish guidelines to ensure the safety of the physicians, staff, and patients at both facilities. "Our people were on the front lines, and information was changing so quickly, we had to figure out the safest way for them to do their jobs, and we couldn't wait for the CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention] to update their guidance," says Dr. Nolan.

Since BCHP cares for children, some of whom are critically ill, its services were deemed necessary. "Despite shutdowns and launching a telehealth platform, certain patients still needed to be physically seen," says Dr. Nolan. Her guidance enabled these patients to continue receiving care even during the height of the pandemic. Since COVID-19 screening was imperative, she assisted with the rollout of rapid testing.

Dr. Nolan was also at the fore of diagnosing an influx of cases with severe inflammation of multiple organ systems in pediatric patients with COVID-19, establishing a multispecialty team to create guidelines to care for patients with this new syndrome. Additionally, worked with the Westchester County Department of Health to share crucial data with the community. The observations that were made on MFCH's patients with this syndrome, later defined as multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C), were published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. *—RM*

WEISSMAN PHOTO BY STEFAN RADTKE. NOLAN PHOTO COURTESY OF BOSTON CHILDREN'S HEALTH PHYSICIANS

Darrell Wheeler, PhD

Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs, Iona College

"If you think about the day-to-day college operations, I oversee everything except for residential life and facilities," says Darrell Wheeler, PhD, MPH, ACSW, provost and SVP for academic affairs at New Rochelle's Iona College. During the pandemic, of course, the school's daily operations were completely upended. "It has been an anomaly of a year in my 30 years of higher education," Wheeler acknowledges.

For advice on how Iona should function during the pandemic, he wrote to Dr. Anthony Fauci in the spring of 2020. "[Dr. Fauci] wrote back and had his team get in touch with me to review my preliminary thinking," Wheeler shares. Students were sent home early for spring break, while the college transitioned to virtual instruction. "We had to recalibrate our entire campus community," he adds.

For fall 2020, "we decided to go with what we call the mixed mode of teaching, where we knew some students would be on campus and some would not want to come," he says. Dr. Fauci's team agreed with Wheeler's plans. They included outfitting classrooms with 360-degree cameras and plexiglass shields at the front and implementing in-classroom social distancing. One-way walking directionals were placed throughout campus, and random PCR testing was introduced.

"We didn't have a single outbreak for the first nine weeks of fall," Wheeler shares proudly. A later uptick caused the college to go virtual briefly, "but we came back and were able to conclude the semester," he says. Iona now rapid-tests students every other week.

Wheeler credits his success partly to his earlier experience working with HIV and AIDS patients and their families in the 1980s. "This pandemic didn't freak me out as much, because I felt with the right public health responses, we could get through it," he explains. That's exactly what's happening. "Some colleges around us of this size have not survived as institutions," he observes. "Iona has not only managed to stay afloat, but last year we opened up a degree program in nursing and two degree programs in entrepreneurship. We continue to strive ahead for academic success, because that's what we're here for." —*DS*



PHOTO BY STEFAN RADTKE

Diane Pagan, MSN, ANP

Director, Complex Care Program, Westmed Medical Group

Diane Pagan, an adult nurse practitioner and director of Westmed's Complex Care Program, oversees some of the healthcare system's most challenging patients. "They have multiple chronic conditions, and their conditions could be complicated by socioeconomic factors, or they could be homebound," she explains. To get around these issues, Pagan began paying house calls to some of her charges soon after stepping into the job, in 2019. "In their homes, I'd really get a handle on every single thing that was going on — not only the medical stuff but also the social stuff," she shares.

When COVID-19 came to Westchester, the obstacles her patients faced only multiplied. "They were afraid to go into the hospital," Pagan recalls. "They were afraid to go into the office. They were saying, 'What do we do?'" Her response was what one would expect of only the most committed and self-sacrificing health professional: "I just put on all my PPE and kept going to their homes," she says.

During her visits, Pagan adjusted medications, performed labs, and ordered needed tests, such as X-rays. She often placed end-of-life patients on home hospice if they desired. "The families were really grateful, because if their loved one went to the hospital, nobody could see them," she notes. One homebound woman lacked food, so Pagan went to Stop & Shop for her.

Besides house calls, managing her staff, and participating in workshops for caregivers, she worked with the superintendent of the Mount Pleasant School District to recruit volunteers to sew facemasks, which she collected, and asked teachers to have their students write letters to healthcare providers: "I stuck them on the doors of all our doctors at our Westchester office and in the cafeteria."

Although her role has reverted to being more administrative now, Pagan still stresses the importance of a personal touch in healthcare. "Even if it's just to say, 'I don't have an answer for you, but I'm here if you need me,' it matters," she says. "That can do more than any medication." —*DS*



PHOTO BY STEFAN RADTKE

Don Starr, MD

Pediatric Anesthesiologist, White Plains Hospital Center

"Lead by example. With any luck, you'll inspire a few people along the way," says Dr. Don Starr, a pediatric anesthesiologist who was designated a Fellow of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (FASA). Beyond his stellar leadership, it was his dedication to exceptional education and commitment to the specialty that earned him the Society's most prestigious honor.

Dr. Starr says he is guided by the same philosophy that his father abided by. "Always do the right thing, even if it's not the easiest. You won't regret it, and you'll sleep better."

In the early days of the pandemic, Dr. Starr sprang into action. Fueled by compassion and a desire to serve, he began making house calls to several people, mainly seniors, who were fearful of leaving their homes.

Beyond providing medical guidance, he supplied masks, delivered groceries, cooked meals, and cleaned homes. With a bit of levity, Dr. Starr refers to his recent project as "Pandemic Team Starr," and he's appointed himself CEO, or Chief Everything Officer.

"I provided people with reassuring advice to help them stay safe. They all remained COVID-free, and I'm very proud of that," says Dr. Starr. He also offered guidance for the safe reopening of a dance school and provides ongoing medical COVID-19 safety consultation to the school.

Prior to the pandemic, Dr. Starr volunteered for many community projects. He taught an introductory medical course to high school students and was an instructor at Stop the Bleed, a national campaign that teaches the public how to control serious bleeding and save lives during emergency situations.

Dr. Starr serves on the Executive Committee of Westchester Anesthesiologists and is a delegate of the White Plains Hospital Medical Board. *—RM*



STARR PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. DON STARR; FULHAM PHOTO BY JESSICA ARDITI PHOTOGRAPHY



THE 2021 HEALTHCARE HEROES EDITORS' AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Lori Fulham, RN

Clinical Nurse Manager, St. John's Riverside Hospital

Prior to the onset of COVID-19, Lori Fulham functioned as a clinical nurse manager assigned to the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU), where she and her team of nurses monitor and care for patients who have just come out of surgery. When the world as we knew it came crashing down and St. John's expanded its ICU 333% in response, Fulham stepped up and never looked back. She was redeployed to the ICU, where she and her staff had to adapt immediately to a radically different style of nursing and care for legions of critically ill patients. At a time when healthcare units didn't have the treatment resources they would later on, Fulham not only rallied her staff as they made the transition but also worked extra shifts and constantly came into the hospital when she wasn't scheduled to work. Rather than have her exhausted staff return to the hospital to cover shifts for the remaining core of emergency surgeries, Fulham covered those shifts and the PACU herself, so they could rest. She came in the middle of the night, even when there wasn't much going on, to check on patients and her staff to make sure they were okay.

"None of the PACU team and other redeployed nurses who were assigned to the expanded ICU would have made it through our darkest days without her," says PACU nurse Ann Marie Tierny, RN. "She took a tremendous burden off each of us by somehow always being there in the worst possible moments and kept us all moving forward. She did the work no one else could bear to do. She is a great nurse, and she was — and is — our rock!"

Fulham maintained this impossible pace throughout the pandemic. Yet, through it all, she remained upbeat and cheerful, boosting morale while championing her team onward. In the end, Lori Fulham brought out the best in everyone around her, and lives were saved because of it. *—NB*

Laurie Ann Walsh, MSN, RN, DNP

Chief Nursing Officer & Vice President of Patient Care Services, NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital (NYPLH)

As she guided a team of 670 employees through the darkest days of the pandemic, Laurie Ann Walsh drew upon the leadership skills and expertise she garnered from her 35 years of experience.

When NYPLH became the first hospital on the East Coast to care for a patient with community-acquired COVID-19, Walsh was tasked with immediately overhauling the operational and nursing procedures. Beyond redeploying staff, she reimagined the workflow and revamped spaces to accommodate more patients.

Confident and decisive, Walsh is open to facilitating change. In fact, she helped establish some of NYPLH's coronavirus protocols, which later served as a model for other hospitals.

Through her collaborative, hands-on style, Walsh empowers her team to excel. Early on, when her staff were at the bedsides of COVID patients, she stepped in to lend a hand. "Part of allaying their fears is to be with them and show them that they are not alone," says Walsh.

"The team's morale remained high because of Laurie. She was there daily with her staff, logging 16-hour days with midnight calls, continuously demonstraing strong, compassionate leadership," says Michael Fosina, president, NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital.

Walsh also encouraged her team to support one another. With a mission to provide "care for the caregivers," she introduced group activities, such as nature walks and a knitting club.

One year after the onset of the pandemic, a heartfelt message from a team member still resonates with Walsh. "When I look back, you never left us," wrote Kelly Maydon. In 2010, NewYork-Presbyterian honored Walsh with its President's Circle Award. *—RM*





Ammir Rabadi, MD

Board-Certified Physician

When Dr. Ammir Rabadi took over as chief physician for the Yonkers Public School System last July, "the system was flustered and closed," he recalls. "I felt I could bring some clarity on how to reopen." Immediately, he began crafting a technology-driven plan, creating videos and internet tutorials on social distancing, plus an online symptom questionnaire parents must answer before their children could attend school. Kiosks that scan students' and staffers' faces and temperatures were installed at school entryways. Dr. Rabadi is also implementing an electronic medical records system to allow closer school monitoring and facilitate communication between parents and school nurses.

The upshot of these efforts: The system's 27,000 children have been able to attend school safely — random testing in November found a COVID-positivity rate of less than 1%. "Our plan has been the model for so many other districts in Westchester County," observes Dr. Rabadi, who was a unanimous selection among this year's Healthcare Heroes judges. "The Department of Health leans on Yonkers and asks us their questions."

This heavy lift is far from Dr. Rabadi's only responsibility. The board-certified family-medicine physician and father of four also runs a practice in Yonkers, is vice president of the medical board at Yonkers' St. John's Riverside Hospital, and is a clinical professor at New York Medical College, in Valhalla. He's a philanthropist, as well, sponsoring a food kitchen at a Yonkers YMCA that feeds 40 adults daily.

The Dominican Society of Yonkers is a beneficiary of Dr. Rabadi's generosity, too, as he serves on its board, "getting people jobs, getting people education, and just being there when people need that extra hand to be picked up off the floor," he explains. Yet, he's never too busy to answer a call from his patients, who all have his mobile number. "I want to be the person who can bring understanding to your life, clarity, and peace of mind," he says. *—DS*

PHOTOS BY STEFAN RADTKE

THE HEALTHCARE HERO INSTITUTIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE, 2021

Million Gallons Challenge

Community, kindness, and the culinary arts were the focus of the Million Gallons Challenge initiative, which kicked off in March 2020, after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Louie Lanza, founder of Hudson Hospitality Group, in Peekskill; **Eric Korn**, chef of Monteverde at Oldstone, in Cortlandt Manor; and **John Van Dekker**, founder of marketing/PR firm Enormous Creative, in Peekskill, are the visionaries behind this goodwill campaign.

The trio united on a single undertaking: To whip up one million gallons of soup to help provide food security for colleagues and community members in distress. The project mobilized chefs, restaurateurs, and restaurant and hospitality workers who had lost their jobs during the shutdowns. Those who pitched in to cook up some goodness utilized vacant kitchen space and ingredients that would have otherwise been discarded. Approximately 16,000 gallons of soup were made.

"The movement was part instinct and part practicality," says Lanza. "It made sense as a way of avoiding food waste when we knew people were going to be losing their jobs." A prominent restaurateur and developer, Lanza's Taco Dive Bar won the Best of Westchester award for Best Tacos, while his Fin & Brew nabbed the Best New Restaurant prize. Lanza also serves as co-chair of the Westchester County Reopening Task Force, of which Van Dekker is also a member.

When the industry began reopening, in June 2020, the Million Gallons Challenge shifted its focus. Its efforts currently support advocacy, policy, and the safe reopening of restaurants.

"I'll always be proud that I was part of a team that fed people in a time of need," says Korn — a chef since 2008. Korn's previous culinary outings have earned him multiple Best of Westchester awards, including Best New Restaurant Best Caterer, and Best Wedding Caterer. —*RM*



Eric Korn John Van Dekker Louie Lanza

PHOTOS BY STEFAN RADTKE

Rita Mabli

President & CEO, United Hebrew of New Rochelle

"There's an attitude of pure kindness that permeates everything we do," says United Hebrew of New Rochelle president/CEO Rita Mabli. During her 40-year career at United Hebrew, she helped cultivate its culture of care, collaboration, and respect.

When the senior-care campus suddenly found itself at the epicenter of New York State's COVID-19 outbreak, Mabli drew upon a framework already established through mock drills for various types of potential emergency situations. "All of the planning helped us as we made decisions," says Mabli.

When United Hebrew's first resident tested positive, Mabli implemented new protocols, educated staff, residents, and families, and expanded communications. Her foresight prompted her to restrict visitation even before Governor Cuomo mandated a ban on nursing-home visitations.

For 90 days, without a single day off, Mabli reported to work to support her team. Most evenings, she was there to thank them before they headed home. "The top-down example Rita set made me so thankful to work here. I felt supported, like we were all in this together," says Jennifer Tan, chief nursing officer at United Hebrew.

Beyond providing leadership to 800 team members who care for 1,000 residents, Mabli used her engaging personality and warmth to lift spirits. Every day, she used the public-address system to broadcast an inspirational message, which was followed up with a song. Staff often found fleeting moments of joy by dancing in the hallways.

Mabli certainly practices what she preaches. Proud of the organization she helms, she entrusted United Hebrew to care for her own family members when they needed rehabilitation treatment.

Recent honors include the McKnight's Women of Distinction Award and the Women of Achievement Award from Iona College. Mabli serves on the boards of the Westchester Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services and the Westchester County Association. *—RM*



PHOTO BY STEFAN RADTKE

Walter Roland, PA

Physician's Assistant, Urgent Care of New York

No one would have blamed Walter Roland, a physician's assistant at Urgent Care of New York, in Yonkers, if he'd opted for a cushy retirement back in 2003. He had spent 20 years on the Mount Vernon Police Department, achieving the rank of detective sergeant. Prior to that, he served as a corpsman in the U.S. Navy, from 1977 to 1981, followed by two years of Reserve duty. Yet, even while working full-time as a law enforcement officer, Roland took prerequisite night classes for physician's assistant school, in which he enrolled after leaving the police force. "I wasn't the type who was going to go be a security guard somewhere," he says.

Notwithstanding his police work and 17 years of PA experience, "I don't think anybody could have been prepared for what we're going through now, with COVID," Roland, 62, shares. "Early on, we started to see the serious cases, the ones we had to send to the hospital." Yet, rather than beg off of the work ("as a provider, you see many people leaving the field," he observes), Roland stepped up even more. "If they need help when I'm off, I'll come in," he says, adding, "I would not have been able to do this without the understanding and support of my wife."

Recent duties have included comforting newly diagnosed COVID patients, many of whom begin crying the moment they get the news. "You just try to reassure them. I tell them that medicine has come a long way in dealing with COVID and that 99 percent of people are getting over this."

Roland estimates he has seen hundreds of COVID cases yet has never felt afraid. "I put it in God's hands, and thank God I haven't gotten COVID. I've felt overwhelmed by the number of patients we've had but never by COVID itself. This work is fulfilling because I'm helping others. That's been my whole life." —*DS*





Renee Recchia

First Deputy Commissioner of Health, Westchester County Department of Health

In March of 2020, "COVID went from being a small piece of what we did to being pretty much everything that we did," says Renee Recchia, first deputy commissioner of health at the Westchester County Department of Health. "You saw a complete sea change in our operations."

Though she had assumed her current title only weeks earlier, the 26-year department veteran leapt into action. "I started reporting down to New Rochelle daily — New York State created a command center there," shares Recchia, 54. "We started putting in place the testing operation."

At first, that meant sending nursing teams to the homes of people who were sick or possibly exposed; later, she helped design New York's first drive-thru COVID-testing site, in New Rochelle, plus other pop-up sites. She also oversaw the training of new staffers to assist in COVID case investigation and led a team that assisted state researchers by identifying people who might have antibodies for potential blood donation.

Sometimes, she had to make controversial decisions. "In the beginning, if you were in a classroom, and there was a positive case in that classroom, the whole classroom was put on quarantine," she says. Later, based on data, she revised that policy so only those who had been closer than six feet to the infected person were quarantined. "You can certainly be criticized," she observes. "But I thought we could be criticized for having all this data and doing nothing with it."

Recchia also oversees her department's routine functions, such as providing WIC services for women, infants, and children, overseeing early intervention and preschool programs, and conducting restaurant inspections. Life has understandably been stressful. "In the beginning [of COVID-19], when we were seeing the number of people who were dying, there were times I had to close my door and just cry," she confesses, "yet I am so very proud of the fearlessness of our team." —*DS*

PHOTOS BY STEFAN RADTKE

Traci Gardner, MD

Medical Director & Chief Medical Officer of The Children's Village

Dr. Traci Gardner knew she was stepping into a demanding role when she became medical director and chief medical officer of The Children's Village in March of 2019. Besides ensuring the well-being of the 400 children who live on the child-welfare agency's Dobbs Ferry campus, she would serve as medical director of its school district. In addition, Dr. Gardner would oversee the agency's two clinics, in the Bronx and Harlem. Still, "I did not know that within a year, we would be in a full-fledged pandemic that would change not only the way we provide healthcare but also the way we communicate," she says.

As COVID-19 surged last spring, she worked with state epidemiologists to safeguard the Village's children. The school went remote, and kids were divided into "family clusters" — small groups that would live, dine, and play as units, distanced from other clusters. Dr. Gardner also contacted the laboratory performing the first local COVID-19 tests and arranged to test symptomatic children by late March 2020.

Once vaccines became available, she had to convince Children's Village's 1,500-person staff, many of whom are African American and Latino, to get inoculated. "There was distrust of the healthcare system," she explains. Dr. Gardner therefore held a town-hall meeting to demystify vaccines. She got vaccinated herself and chronicled her experience on video and social media. Now, she says, the primary reason her staff isn't fully vaccinated is due to "supply and demand."

Dr. Gardner touts the merits of COVID-19 vaccines well beyond Children's Village. "I spoke to the Black Theatre United and the Black News Channel about it, and I also did some stuff with the Childcare Council of Westchester," she says. In addition, she's on the advisory board of the Westchester County Family Court and part of the Westchester Medical Center Health Network's Health Equity Task Force. "I'm passionate about advocating in big systems for children and families — and for health in general." —*DS*



PHOTO BY STEFAN RADTKE



PHOTO BY DUVELL ORAINE CAMPBELL, IMAGING SPECIALIST, WMCHEALTH

Renee Garrick, MD

Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Officer, Westchester Medical Center Health Network; Professor of Clinical Medicine & Vice Dean, New York Medical College

Having the ability to influence healthcare on a broader level has been a source of inspiration for Dr. Renee Garrick, a clinical administrator, nephrologist, and educator.

Over the course of her 35-year career, Dr. Garrick has been a prominent voice in health advocacy on the national, state, and local levels and has helped guide public health policy here in Westchester. Through her affiliations, she advocates on behalf of patient safety and quality improvement. Her work with the NYS Department of Health State Hospital Review and Planning Council Planning Committee, for example, helped ensure that patients in New York State would have lasting, equitable access to dialysis.

She is a member of the Renal Standing Committee of the National Quality Forum — a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works to catalyze improvements in healthcare; she also chairs and participates in the Human Factors workgroup of Nephrologists Transforming Dialysis Safety, a partnership between the American Society of Nephrology and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Garrick is also active with the New York State Department of Health's Office-Based Surgery Program (OBS), which promotes safety and quality services for patients undergoing procedures in an accredited OBS setting.

As a leader, Dr. Garrick believes in the importance of understanding the skills and potential of her team. Having that awareness enabled her to swiftly work with the medical and administrative staffs to help plan and implement WMCHealth's response to the pandemic. In addition to redirecting staff, she was an essential catalyst for bringing her colleagues' innovative ideas to fruition. This resulted in the creation of new clinical care teams and expanded the range of procedures available for the care of patients with COVID-19. —*RM*

Our Healthcare Heroes

These 16 exemplary individuals have stepped up to make helping others a personal mandate. They may be your neighbors, healthcare providers, or leaders in the communities where you live and/or work. They represent the pillars of our community and are a key factor in the quality of life we have come to expect in Westchester County. We are privileged to have them among us and honored to showcase them to the grateful community they serve.

Our Method

We received upwards of 100 Healthcare Heroes nominations this year, submitted by family, friends, patients, coworkers, managers, and even hospital CEOs and presidents. That collection was vetted down to the 50 strongest nominations, representing a diverse roster that included not only doctors and nurses, but also therapists, executives, entrepreneurs, and public officials. From this select group, our six judges independently selected their 10 top candidates, supplemented by three to five "alternates," from redacted nominations that revealed neither the names nor the current professional affiliations of the nominees. From this group, points were awarded to each, with the top 12 point-earners declared winners. Additionally, two editors' awards were handed out for the first time in the competition's eight-year history — one to an individual, the other to an organization.

Our Judges

It is with the deepest gratitude that we acknowledge our blue-ribbon panel of judges — each an accomplished healthcare provider in their own right — who selected 12 of our extraordinary winners. They are:

Robert W. Amler, MD, MBA
New York Medical College, Vice President, Government Affairs; Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Practice and Institute of Public Health; Professor of Public Health, Pediatrics, and Environmental Health Science

Sherlita Amler, MD, MS
Commissioner of Health, Westchester County

Kathleen Reilly Fallon, MD
Board-Certified Foot and Ankle Surgeon, Midtown Manhattan Health Center; Founder and Chairwoman, Heavenly Productions Foundation

Mary H. Gadomski, BSN, RN
Executive Director, Montefiore Home Care

Mary K. Spengler, MS
Chief Executive Officer, Hospice of Westchester

Jessica Zwerling, MD, MS
Director, Montefiore Hudson Valley Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease; Program Director, UCNS Geriatric Neurology Fellowship; Director, Memory Disorders Center at Blondell; Associate Director, Center for the Aging Brain; Associate Professor of Neurology; Clinical Director, Einstein Aging Study

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 HONOREES!



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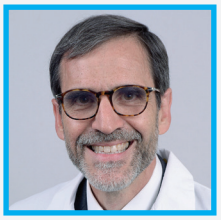

DON STARR, MD



LAURIE ANN WALSH, MSN, RN, DNP



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The 2021 Healthcare Heroes Editors' Award For Outstanding Community Service



LORI FULHAM, RN

The Healthcare Heroes Institutional Award 2021



Million Gallons Challenge
ERIC KORN, LOUIE LANZA AND JOHN VAN DEKKER

Join *Westchester Magazine* as we celebrate extraordinary individuals in the healthcare industry at the **8th Annual Healthcare Heroes** Virtual Event.

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eat & drink

EDITED BY
John Bruno Turiano



PHOTO BY JOHN BRUNO TURIANO

PREVIEW

Power Serge

Sautéed baby artichokes in garlic and olive oil is one of the signature dishes at Chef Sergio Gashi's third county restaurant, Sergio's Saw Pit, in Port Chester. The upmarket Northern Italian spot derives its name from what the village had been called until 1837. See more on this 200-seat white-tablecloth restaurant on the next page.



PREVIEW

Sergio's Saw Pit

25 S. Regent St, Port Chester;
914.881.3220;
www.sergiosofportchester.com





Clockwise from top: Fresh pasta, including gnocchi and beet ravioli and pappardelle, is made daily; mushroom ravioli in a creamy black truffle sauce; the beverage program at Sergio's includes 250 different wines, most ranging between $50 and $350.

PHOTOS BY JOHN BRUNO TURIANO

At one of the first restaurants Chef Sergio Gashi worked in, the owner told a customer: "We don't do that" when the latter asked for cheese on a plate of linguine and clam sauce, rehashing the food-industry axiom that cheese generally overpowers the delicate flavors of seafood. "The customer left," says Gashi, who took a lesson from that experience that he would later apply at his restaurants, Tutta Bella Trattoria in Eastchester, Sergio's Ristorante in Pelham, and his latest, and the one of the three he solely owns, Sergio's Saw Pit in Port Chester.

"Always do what the customer wants to make them happy," the Eastchester resident explains. "For me, a well-done steak becomes dried out and not what I would order. But I will happily prepare a steak well-done for someone." Gashi's philosophy regarding customer service goes to yet another level. "Treat the customer like they own the restaurant, not you."

All of Gashi's restaurants have ardent regulars who respect his customer-on-a-pedestal attitude, as well as his assiduous work ethic. Gashi's son Ardi, who works at Sergio's Port Chester as a host and pastry chef, making approximately 10 topflight desserts, confirms his father's claim that he went a 10-year stretch at Tutta Bella without a day off. "You have to be present to have a successful restaurant," says Gashi. He has three other sons: Fidan, who works at Tutta Bella; Alban, at Sergio's of Pelham; and Fisler, who is learning pastry at Sergio's Saw Pit.

Gashi's giving nature is another reason for his steady group of supporters.

Before the menus hit the table, a gratis bowl of multi-colored olives, basket of house-made breads, and plate of cheeses with truffle honey dip arrive. He also has annual customer-appreciation dinners, where regulars and friends are invited for a complimentary meal. "You give a little; you get back a lot," he explains.

The menus are similar at the trifecta of restaurants: The cuisine is Northern Italian, with house-made pastas, steaks, and chops, veal and chicken martinis, Parmigiana, plus a host of other classic iterations. At Sergio's Saw Pit, Chef Ricky Micili heads up the kitchen and prepares 10 to 15 specials daily, such as osso buco and sesame-crusted tuna with seaweed salad. Sautéed artichokes, seafood platters, and mushroom ravioli are signature dishes on the regular menu. "No ingredients are frozen," says Micili. Vendors include Cosenza Fish Market and Biancardi Meats on Arthur Avenue, Master Purveyors at Hunts Point Coop Market, and produce distributor FreshPoint.

Future plans are for a high-end brunch with lots of seafood and a Champagne cart.

"America is the best country, and I'm lucky to be here," Gashi says. "I was a goatherd and sheepherder in Kosovo in 1986, making cheese and yogurt before coming here. Now I have three restaurants."

His devoted customer base would likely say it's America that's lucky to have Gashi. —*John Bruno Turiano*

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FARE WELL

Beef Up

A Hudson Valley purveyor brings his butcher-quality meat dispensary, reminiscent of old-school automats, to the county. **By Abbe Wichman**

Before the rising popularity of contactless shopping that was impelled by the pandemic, Applestone Meat had already looked to technology as a contemporary business model to modernize its stores, using vending machines that allow customers to shop for a range of its butcher-quality products. It was a move that was simultaneously futuristic and retro.

Reminiscent of popular automats that go back more than a century in American culture, the Applestone stores, including its newest in Eastchester, offer customers the opportunity to shop 24 hours a day, seven days a week. "This mode of shopping offers both tremendous convenience and accessibility," says Joshua Applestone, the company's founder. Applestone Meat, which got its start as a processing plant for farmers, prides itself on selling organic meats and poultry at reasonable prices. The items in the shop are sold frozen and range from hot dogs to chorizo to rib-eye steaks. The inventory varies from season to season, and what each community is ordering is monitored so the machines are stocked with bestsellers.



Applestone Meat Co.
Eastchester
www.applestonemeat.com

The Eastchester store marks Applestone's foray into Westchester, joining stores in Stone Ridge and Hudson. "I'm amazed at how quickly the word got out and that people are shopping at all hours of the day and night," Applestone says. The automated machines have instructions for usage, and there's a phone number listed at the stores if there are any issues. "We did think it would be Millennials who felt most comfortable using the machines, but we see all ages embracing this way of shopping."

Applestone notes that in the past, a local butcher shop would act as a community watering hole. "Right now, people don't have that opportunity to gather, but we still want to bring them food that's been raised correctly, responsibly, and humanely."

TABLE MATTERS

Dining Scene News & Notes

New York-based Ambias Hospitality Group (*www.ambiashg.com)* has debuted **Moon** (*130 E Putnam Ave, Greenwich; 475.500.0888; www.moongreenwich.com*), offering a modern spin on Asian-inspired cuisine. On the menu: black cod with coconut-lemongrass espuma, celery root, and baby bok choy; Snake River Farms Wagyu top sirloin cap with shiitake mushrooms; and Colorado lamb loin with miso eggplant. Omakase, either 12 or 14 courses, is also offered.


The Cottage's spicy scallop nigiri

Chef-owner Brian Lewis of **OKO** (*Rye; www.okokitchen.com*) and **The Cottage** (*Westport; www.thecottagewestport.com*), is opening a second location of The Cottage, in Greenwich, at 49 Greenwich Avenue later this year. Expect Cottage favorites such as Wagyu beef brisket steam buns, duck fried rice, and lobster spaghetti.

Alba's Ristorante (*400 N Main St, Port Chester; 914.937.2236; www.albasrestaurant.com*) is celebrating its 28th year in business, having opened in March of 1993.

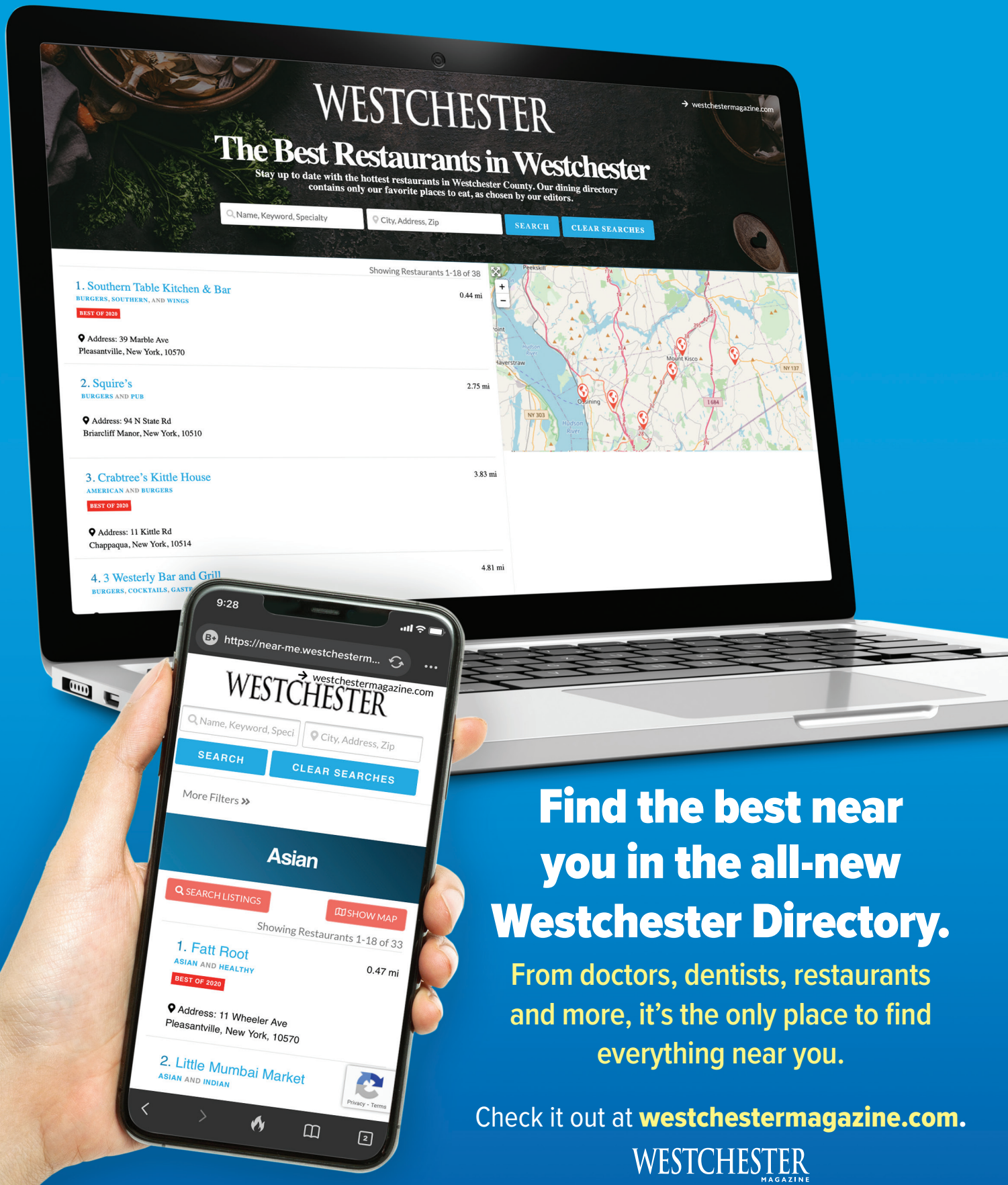
After 24 years in business, owners Tommy Calandrucci and Gianni Piccolino have closed **Sunset Cove** (*Tarrytown; www.sunsetcove.com*). They continue to operate **Stone Fire Restaurant** (*251 Lexington Ave, Mount Kisco; 914.864.1888; www.stonefireny.com*) and **Basilico Pizza, Pasta and Gourmet** (*293 Lexington Ave, Mount Kisco; 914.241.8555; www.basilicony.com*).

Chatterbox 54 has closed. In its place, **Dive Oyster Bar** (*1201 Pleasantville Rd, Briarcliff Manor*) is scheduled to open this summer.

Café Alaia (*128 Garth Rd, Scarsdale; 914.725.3000; www.cafealaia.com*) moved up the street to the space that once housed Cooked & Co.

The Market on the River (*Cortlandt Waterfront Park, 77 Riverview Ave, Verplanck; www.gatheringlove.org/the-market*), a farmers' and makers' market, opens May 9. Stalls with growers, artists, and vintage collectors are set up along the water's edge each Sunday through October. Spring and summer hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. September and October hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kacey Morabito Grean, morning radio host on 100.7 WHUD for more than 20 years, who grew up in Verplanck, is the founder. *—JBT*

APPLESTONE PHOTO COURTESY OF APPLESTONE MEAT CO.; MEAT PHOTO BY JENNIFER MAY; THE COTTAGE PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COTTAGE



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dining out

EDITED BY Michelle Gillan Larkin

NOTE: At press time, restaurants were able to offer interior sit-down dining at 75% capacity. Outdoor dining is available at certain restaurants (contact restaurants directly to check outdoor dining status). Some are open for delivery and/or pickup, which we have indicated at the end of each listing.

KEY TO SYMBOLS

UPDATE We note any significant changes.
$ Average entrée $14 or less
$$ Average entrée between $15 and $21
$$$ Average entrée between $22 and $27
$$$$ Average entrée $28 or more

TOP 32 Top Restaurant from our December 2017 cover feature

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Reviewers judge restaurants in three categories: Food, Service, and Atmosphere. Reviewers dine anonymously and make at least two visits.

★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Average ★ Poor

Prices, hours, and specialties are provided by the restaurants and are subject to change. Calling to confirm days and hours is recommended. Restaurants accept major credit cards unless otherwise noted. Some of the restaurants in this guide are *Westchester Magazine* advertisers.

Ardsley

LA CATENA *Italian $$$*
The menu at this white-tablecloth Italian restaurant features classic Italian antipasti, pastas, and entrées, plus homemade desserts. *871 Saw Mill River Rd, Ardsley; 914.231.9260; www.lacatenaardsley.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **L'INIZIO** *Italian $$$$*
Husband-wife team Scott and Heather Fratangelo run the kitchen at this Modern Italian restaurant serving creative appetizers and some of the county's best pastas. *698 Saw Mill River Rd, Ardsley; 914.693.5400; www.liniziony.com* Pickup/Delivery

Armonk

AMORE *Italian $$*
The Mazzotta family creates simple Italian dishes — brick-oven-style pizza, traditional pastas — in downtown Armonk. The outdoor terrace, with its nearby stream and working garden, is one of the county's most scenic dining spots. *1 Kent Pl, Armonk; 914.273.3535; www.amorearmonk.com* Pickup/Delivery

BEEHIVE RESTAURANT *Continental $$$*
Set in a modern country house with an open kitchen, this restaurant offers comfort fare along with Greek and Continental specialties, and a popular daily breakfast. Outdoor seating available. *30 Old Rte 22, Armonk; 914.765.0688; www.beehive-restaurant.com* Pickup

TOP 32 **FORTINA** *Italian/Pizza $$*
This mini-empire of buzzy wood-fired restaurants (with an additional location in Stamford) serves expertly roasted vegetables, fresh pastas, and thin-crust pizzas (try the truffle-topped Luigi Bianco). *17 Maple Ave, Armonk; 914.273.0900; 136 S Ridge St, Rye Brook; 914.937.0900; 10086 N Broadway, Yonkers; 914.358.3595; www.fortinapizza.com* Pickup/Delivery

KOKU *Japanese $$$*
The sleek sushi bar at KOKU offers an extensive selection of sashimi and rolls, including weekly specials from Tokyo's famous Tsukiji Fish Market. *454 Main St, Armonk; 914.730.0077; www.kokujapanese.com* Pickup/Delivery

MACELLERIA ARMONK ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE *Italian/Steakhouse $$$$*
Wine bottles adorn the walls and window sills in this new addition where Kitchen 273 once stood, with traditional Italian specialties, pastas, seafood, steaks, and chops, plus a finely curated wine list. (Sister spot in Pelham opened in 2019.) *111 Bedford Rd, Armonk; 914.219.5728; www.macelleriaarmonk.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **MODERNE BARN** *New American $$$$*
Chef Ethan Kostbar uses natural, local ingredients at this New American restaurant with Mediterranean touches from the Livanos Restaurant Group (City Limits Diner). $20 two-course express lunch. *430 Bedford Rd, Armonk; 914.730.0001; www.modernebarn.com* Pickup/Delivery

Bedford

BEDFORD 234 *New American $$$*
More than 20 local farms and purveyors supply the ingredients for the globally inspired seasonal comfort food served at this chic Bedford restaurant. Reservations are not accepted. *635 Old Post Rd, Bedford; 914.234.5656; www.bedford234.com* Pickup

Briarcliff Manor

105-TEN BAR & GRILL *American $$$*
Like sisters Urban Hamlet in Bronxville and Pleasantville's 105 Seventy Bar & Grill, 105-Ten offers elevated burgers, sandwiches, and salads, with entrées of lobster mac 'n' cheese, braised short ribs, and sesame-crusted ahi tuna tacos in a modern, upscale-pub setting. *127 Woodside Ave, Briarcliff Manor; 914.236.3651; www.105ten.com* Pickup/Delivery

SQUIRE'S *Pub $$*
Burgers and classic steaks are the thing to order at this tavern, serving the local community since 1967. Amex credit cards only. *94 N State Rd, Briarcliff Manor; 914.762.3376; www.squiresofbriarcliff.com* Pickup

Bronxville

IL BACIO TRATTORIA *Italian $$*
At this longstanding neighborhood gem offering many regional Italian specialties, the standouts include fettuccine with crumbled sausage, shiitake mushrooms, and *ricotta salata*; veal Milanese; pizza; and the ever-popular panzanella salad. *1 Park Pl, Bronxville; 914.337.4100; www.ristorantelucia.com/il-bacio-trattoria* Pickup

ROSIE'S BISTRO ITALIANO *Italian $$$*
This always bustling, family-friendly corner spot serves up traditional Italian favorites with a dash of flair (baked clams with pancetta; short-rib ravs with mascarpone drizzle; prosciutto di Parma-topped pizza) in a refined yet welcoming setting. *10 Palmer Ave, Bronxville; 914.793.2000; www.rosiesbronxville.com* Pickup

Chappaqua

TOP 32 **CRABTREE'S KITTLE HOUSE** *New American $$$$*
Locally sourced ingredients star in seasonal dishes offered in the formal dining room and elevated bar food at the Old World Tap Room. The Grand Award-winning wine cellar houses 40,000+ bottles. *11 Kittle Rd, Chappaqua; 914.666.8044; www.crabtreeskittlehouse.com* Pickup

IBIZA KITCHEN *Spanish $ (tapas)/$$ (entrées)*
Food ★★½ Service ★★½ Atmosphere ★★ (07/19) At this tapas-centric Chappaqua spot from the owners of Ibiza Tapas in Danbury, the shareable small plates include plenty of clearly designated vegan and vegetarian options. Closed Mon. *76 King St, Chappaqua; 914.458.5044; www.ibizakitchen.net* Pickup/Delivery

Cross River

BACIO TRATTORIA *Italian $$$*
Expect homemade pastas, fish dishes (e.g., seared Atlantic salmon and boneless grilled trout), and salads at this quaint eatery. Closed Mon. *12 North Salem Rd, Cross River; 914.763.2233; www.baciotrattoria.com* Pickup/Delivery

Croton-on-Hudson

TOP 32 **OCEAN HOUSE** *Seafood $$$$*
Self-taught chef Brian Galvin transformed a tiny diner into this 30-seat, dinner-only oyster bar and grill with an emphasis on New England-style seafood dishes. Call after 4:30 p.m. for same-day reservations. Closed Sun and Mon. *49 N Riverside Ave, Croton-on-Hudson; 914.271.0702; www.oceanhouseoysterbar.com* Pickup

140 GRAND *American $$*
Expect American cuisine focusing on house-smoked meats, sandwiches of pork belly, brisket, and buttermilk-brined fried chicken, along with burgers that include one topped with fig jam and another smothered in peanut butter. *140 Grand St, Croton-on-Hudson; 914.271.1127; www.140grand.com* Pickup/Delivery

Dobbs Ferry

SUSHI MIKE'S *Japanese $$*
Hugely popular for its special sushi rolls (the Out of Control is a favorite), this neighborhood Japanese restaurant is often packed. *146 Main St, Dobbs Ferry; 914.591.0054; www.sushimikes.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **THE COOKERY** *Italian $$$*
This progressive Italian restaurant from Chef David DiBari serves some of the county's most creative fare, with an emphasis on pork, fresh pasta, and offal. Closed Mon. *39 Chestnut St, Dobbs Ferry; 914.305.2336; www.thecookeryrestaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **THE PARLOR** *Pizza $$*
The brick-and-mortar incarnation of the popular DoughNation pizza truck, here is where you look for a selection of unique pizzas, featuring house-made ingredients, plus wood-fired appetizers, wine on tap, and house-bottled cocktails. Closed Mon. *14 Cedar St, Dobbs Ferry; 914.478.8200; www.theparlordf.com* Pickup/Delivery

THE RARE BIT *Gastropub $$$*
Chef Evan Kalogiannis offers comfort food and a handful of British-inspired offerings. Vegan and gluten-free options available. Closed Mon. *23 Cedar St, Dobbs Ferry; 914.693.8000; www.therarebitdf.com* Pickup/Delivery

Eastchester

TOP 32 **BURRATA** *Pizza $$*
Some of the county's best Neapolitan pies come from this Eastchester pizzeria that's also home to excellent pasta and well-crafted cocktails. *425 White Plains Rd, Eastchester; 914.337.3700; www.burratapizza.com* Pickup/Delivery

GIGANTE RESTAURANT & BAR *New American $$$$*
From the same group that brought us Mulino's of Westchester, Gigante serves up Italian-influenced, New American cuisine. Closed Mon. *660 White Plains Rd, Eastchester; 914.961.1001; www.giganterestaurant.com* Pickup

PIPER'S KILT *Pub $*
A county institution, this classic pub serves cold pints, ethereal onion rings, and pretty-near-perfect burgers. Kitchen open daily until midnight. *433 White Plains Rd, Eastchester; 914.779.5772; www.piperskilt.com* Pickup

TOP 32 **POLPETTINA** *Italian $$*
On the menu: eggplant chips with wildflower honey, thin-crust and grandma-style pizza, and pasta in truffle carbonara or white Bolognese. *102 Fisher Ave, Eastchester; 914.961.0061; www.polpettina.com* Pickup/Delivery

Elmsford

RAASA *Indian $$*
Translating to the "essence of life," RaaSa offers Indian cuisine from New Delhi native Chef Peter Beck. Dishes include tandoori shrimp, *korma lazeez* (grilled chicken simmered in saffron cashew sauce), and *murgh anarkali* (ground chicken patties in green masala sauce). *145 E Main St, Elmsford; 914.347.7890; www.raasany.com* Pickup/Delivery

SHIRAZ KITCHEN *Persian $$$*
Named for the Iranian city, Shiraz serves dishes representative of the region, including saffron chicken kebab and rainbow trout with dill-and-fava-bean basmati rice. Closed Mon. *83 E Main St, Elmsford; 914.345.6111; www.shirazkitchen.com* Pickup/Delivery

Harrison

THE GREEKISH *Mediterranean $$-$$$*
From Chef Constantine Kalandranis, who has transformed 273 Kitchen (Harrison) and 8 North Broadway (Nyack), come a duo of meze and ouzo bars offering Greek-style tapas, including dips, cheeses, hot and cold vegetables, pita, and more — at an affordable price point. *273 Halstead Ave, Harrison; 914.732.3333; 8 N Broadway, Nyack; 845.353.1200; www.thegreekish.com* Pickup/Delivery

WELLINGTON'S GRILL *American $$$*
Three cuts of prime rib are among the specialties at this Harrison stalwart. Expect other American standards, too, like burgers, dry-rubbed ribs, and fresh lobster rolls. *110 Halstead Ave, Harrison; 914.315.1532; www.wellingtonsgrill.com* Pickup/Delivery

Hartsdale

GRANITA CUCINA & BAR *Italian $$$*
This restaurant from Eight Ten Hospitality Group offers Modern Italian fare, including fresh pasta, wood-fired pizza, and entrées like branzino and pork Milanese. *202 E Hartsdale Ave, Hartsdale; 914.725.8420; www.granitany.com* Pickup/Delivery

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O MANDARIN *Chinese $$*
Food ★★ Service ★★ Atmosphere ★★★ (03/18) Crispy-skinned Peking duck, scallion bubble pancakes, and thousand-layer tofu, are among the menu highlights at this 2019 Best of Westchester-winning Mandarin restaurant with transporting interior design. *361 N Central Ave, Hartsdale; 914.437.9168; www.omandarin.com* Pickup/Delivery

PAS-TINA'S RISTORANTE *Italian $$*
For more than 25 years, family-owned Pas-Tina's has been offering Italian fare in a warm environment. The menu features an extensive pasta list, chicken (try the chicken Tina), veal, and seafood dishes, and house-made desserts.*155 S Central Ave, Hartsdale; 914.997.7900; www.pas-tinas.com* Pickup/Delivery

VEGA MEXICAN *Mexican $*
In this modern space, expect traditional Mexican dishes, like tacos, chimichangas, fajitas, and burritos. Signature meals include chili rellenos and carnitas. *189 E Hartsdale Ave, Hartsdale; 914.723.0010; www.vegamexican.com* Pickup/Delivery

Hastings-on-Hudson

BORO6 *Wine Bar $$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★½ Atmosphere ★★★ (05/17) Inspired by trips to Italy, restaurant vet Paul Molakides and Jennifer Aaronson (formerly an editor for Martha Stewart) opened this *enoteca*, with more than 30 wines by the glass and light, simple plates. Closed Mon. *549 Warburton Ave, Hastings-on-Hudson; 914.231.9200; www.boro6winebar.com* Pickup/Delivery

HARVEST ON HUDSON *Italian $$$$*
Boasting stellar Hudson River views, this elegant restaurant offers traditional Italian fare. The menu includes seafood towers, Hudson Valley rabbit scarpariello, and risotto made with spicy sausage, shrimp, and caciocavallo. *1 River St, Hastings-on-Hudson; 914.478.2800; www.harvesthudson.com* Pickup

TOP 32 **SAINT GEORGE** *French$$$$*
At this contemporary French bistro from Chef Chris Vergara (Harper's in Dobbs Ferry), don't miss the all-French wine list and absinthe fountain. Closed Mon. *155 Southside Ave, Hastings-on-Hudson; 914.478.1671; www.saintgeorgebistro.com* Pickup/Delivery

SAKURA GARDEN JAPANESE *Japanese $$*
Find authentic Japanese at this Rivertown gem, offering high-quality hibachi, sushi, sashimi, and more. *531 Warburton Ave, Hastings-on-Hudson; 914.478.1978; www.sakurahastings.com* Pickup/Delivery

Hawthorne

THREE LITTLE PIGS BBQ *Barbecue $*
Marc Mazzarulli, formerly of Opus 465 and Marc Charles Steakhouse in Armonk, is the chef of this 'cue joint serving dry-rubbed meats and classic sides. Mazzarulli also runs catering company Wild Westchester BBQ. Closed Sun and Mon. *481 Commerce St, Hawthorne; 914.747.2480; www.threelittlepigsbbqofhawthorne.com* Pickup/Delivery

TRAMONTO *Italian $$$*
This Hawthorne mainstay located right off the Saw Mill River Parkway offers a selection of pasta, pizza, salad, and dinners like short ribs braised in pomegranate juice, veal marsala, and brick-pressed roasted chicken. *27 Saw Mill River Rd, Hawthorne; 914.347.8220; www.tramontos.com* Pickup/Delivery

Irvington

TOP 32 **CHUTNEY MASALA** *Indian $$*
The popular Indian bistro from Chef Navjot Arora boasts a menu that features tried-and-true options, like a myriad of curries. *76 Main St, Irvington; 914.591.5500; www.chutneymasala.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **MIMA VINOTECA** *Italian $$$$*
The owners of Zuppa in Yonkers run this trattoria serving Italian "home cooking" and some of the county's best salumi. 20 wines offered by the glass. *63 Main St, Irvington; 914.591.1300; www.mimarestaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **MP TAVERNA** *Greek $$$*
Michael Psilakis is the award-winning executive chef at this Modern Greek restaurant in Irvington. Traditional roasted whole lamb, goat, suckling pig, and more available with five-days' notice. *1 Bridge St, Irvington; 914.231.7854; www.michaelpsilakis.com* Pickup/Delivery

SAMBAL *Thai/Malay $$*
Chef-owner Navjot Arora operates this Southeast Asian restaurant with a handful of Malaysian plates and unobstructed Hudson River views. *4 W Main St, Irvington; 914.478.2700; www.sambalny.com* Pickup/Delivery

Katonah

JAY STREET CAFÉ *All-Day Café $$*
From the owners of The Whitlock comes this casual café, with offerings like challah French toast and grapefruit brûlée for breakfast and flattop patty burgers for lunch. Closed Mon and Tue. *63 Katonah Ave, Katonah; 914.488.9700; www.jaystreetcafe.com* Pickup/Delivery

LE FONTANE RISTORANTE *Italian $$$*
Italian comfort classics and elevated specials are served in welcoming, comfortable surrounds at this family-owned-and-operated neighborhood fave. *137 Somerstown Tpk, Katonah; 914.232.9619; www.lefontanerestaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

PEPPINO'S RISTORANTE *Northern Italian $$$*
Lots of regulars come to this family-owned (since 1991) restaurant to sit at candlelit tables and dine on dishes like veal Sorrentino and steak pizzaiola. *116 Katonah Ave, Katonah; 914.232.3212; www.peppinosristorante.com* Pickup

THE WHITLOCK *New American $$$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★ Atmosphere ★★★ ½ (02/18) The Cookery alums Matt and Christina Safarowic serve seasonal, locally sourced fare, including silky pastas, bone-marrow-laced French onion soup, and crispy pork belly at this neighborhood restaurant. Closed Mon. *17 Katonah Ave, Katonah; 914.232.8030; www.thewhitlockny.com* Pickup

Larchmont

BILLY & PETE'S SOCIAL *American/Pizza $$*
The mission at B&P's is "honest food and great drinks" centered around Detroit-style and grilled pizza, salads, cast-iron meatballs, and handcrafted cocktails. Don't miss the mini-donuts on the weekends. *112 Myrtle Blvd, Larchmont; 914.909.5289; www.billyandpetes.com* Pickup

CHRISTOPHER'S BY CHEF JOE *Steakhouse $$$$*
In the space that local fave La Riserva occupied for more than four decades, dry-aged steaks, chops, and seafood (including two-pound lobsters) are presented with Italian and Japanese influences and pair with handcrafted cocktails or an order from the lengthy wine list. *2382 Boston Post Rd, Larchmont; 914.878.8749; www.christophersbychefjoe.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **CORIANDER MODERN INDIAN** *Indian $$$*
This stylish restaurant features locally sourced ingredients and bold Indian flavors, plus craft beer and organic wines. Closed Mon. *154 Larchmont Ave, Larchmont; 914.235.1306; www.corianderny.com* Pickup

TOP 32 **DURIAN** *Thai $$$*
Named for the pungent Asian fruit, Durian serves authentic Thai cuisine (less sticky sugar, more bright acidity) featuring lesser-known ingredients, such as sweet sticky rice with its namesake fruit. Closed Mon. *147 Chatsworth Ave, Larchmont; 914.833.1900; www.durianthaifood.com* Pickup/Delivery

LA LA TAQUERIA *Taqueria $*
Enjoy tacos, quesadillas, and margs at this Los Angeles-style taqueria, which features communal picnic tables and a chill ambience. Closed Mon. *150 Larchmont Ave, Larchmont; 914.834.2244; www.lalataquerialarchmont.com* Pickup/Delivery

VINTAGE 1891 KITCHEN *American $$$*
This Larchmont eatery offers vegan options, fish dishes like lobster paella, meat dishes including Cabernet-braised beef short ribs, and house-made desserts. Closed Mon-Wed. *2098 Boston Post Rd, Larchmont; 914.834.9463; www.vintage1891kitchen.com* Pickup/Delivery

Mamaroneck

IL CASTELLO *Mediterranean/Italian $$$*
Expect homemade pastas and elaborate table presentations at this Italian restaurant, located a stone's throw from the Mamaroneck Metro-North Station. Prix-fixe $20.95 lunch. Closed Mon. *576 Mamaroneck Ave, Mamaroneck; 914.777.2200; www.ilcastello.com* Pickup/Delivery

LE PROVENÇAL BISTRO *French $$$*
This bistro seating 80 serves French classics like duck confit, beef Bourguignon, and venison medallions. Save room for the crème brûlée and tarte Tatin. *436 Mamaroneck Ave, Mamaroneck; 914.777.2324; www.provencalbistro.com* Pickup/Delivery

MAPLE & ROSE *All-Day Cafe $$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★½ Atmosphere ★★ (03/20) Previously an upscale catering company, Maple & Rose serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner at its new café, open daily. The menus reflect seasonal dishes and include local ingredients. *690 Mamaroneck Ave, Mamaroneck; 914.222.4151; www.maplerosecafe.com* Pickup/Delivery

MODERN ON THE RAILS *Italian $$$*
The owners of Modern in New Rochelle put their own spin on Italian stalwarts (Wagyu beef meatballs, chipotle calamari) at this 140-seat restaurant in the space that was formerly Club Car. *1 Station Plz, Mamaroneck; 914.777.9300; www.modernontherails.com* Pickup/Delivery

NONNA CAROLA *Italian $$$$*
Food★★★ Service★★★½ Atmosphere★★★½ (02/20) Chef-owner Gustavo Galvao, formerly of Trattoria Dell'Arte in Manhattan, heads up this high-class Italian restaurant, which boasts exemplary service and flavorful dishes, like pappardelle Bolognese and cauliflower *arrosto*. Closed Mon. *211 Mamaroneck Ave, Mamaroneck, 914.899.3130; www.nonnacarola.com* Pickup/Delivery

Mount Kisco

BADAGEONI GEORGIAN KITCHEN *Georgian $$*
Food ★★½ Service ★★★ Atmosphere ★★½ (04/20) For flavorful cuisine typical of a country that straddles the border between Europe and Asia, check out this Mount Kisco eatery. Try the *adjaruli*, a traditional open-faced cheese boat, and the stewed lamb dish, *chakapuli*. *26-28 E Main St, Mount Kisco; 914.864.1666; www.badageonigeorgiankitchen.com* Pickup/Delivery

EXIT 4 FOOD HALL *Eclectic $$*
The food-hall trend thrives in Mount Kisco, with 11 stations, serving everything from wood-fired pizzas to barbecue to sushi (plus craft beers and nitro coffee at

X4 on Tap). *153 E Main St, Mount Kisco; 914.241.1200; www.exit4foodhall.com* Pickup/Delivery

LOCALI *Italian $$*
From the Village Social Restaurant Group (Pubstreet, Village Social) comes this Italo-centric spot. Try the fusilli à la vodka or Snake Oil pizza (San Marzano tomatoes, capicola, fior di latte). Closed Mon. *2 Kirby Plz, Mount Kisco; 914.242.0100; www.localipizzabar.com* Pickup/Delivery

VILLAGE SOCIAL *New American $$$*
Chef Mogan Anthony serves wood-fired pizzas, Asian-inflected appetizers, pasta, and sandwiches at these buzzed-about eateries with popular bar scenes. The Mount Kisco location has an outdoor patio. Rye location closed Mon. *251 E Main St, Mount Kisco; 914.864.1255; 67 Purchase St, Rye; 914.612.4267; www.villagesocialkb.com* Pickup/Delivery

Mount Vernon

TOP 32 **JOHNNY'S PIZZERIA** *Pizza $$*
Open since the '40s, Johnny's old-school, thin-crust pies are some of the best pizza north of NYC. No slices; cash only. Closed Sun and Mon. *30 W Lincoln Ave, Mount Vernon; 914.668.1957; www.johnnys1942.com* Pickup

New Rochelle

ALVIN & FRIENDS *Southern/Caribbean $$$*
This contemporary spot in downtown New Rochelle serves Southern soul food with a Caribbean flair, including a Best of Westchester-winning fried chicken with braised collards. Live entertainment several nights a week. Closed Mon. *14 Memorial Hwy, New Rochelle; 914.654.6549; www.alvinandfriendsrestaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

MARIA RESTAURANT *Italian $$$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★½ Atmosphere ★★★ (06/19)
From the owners of Fratelli and Pop's Espresso Bar, Maria offers Modern Italian fare, like gnocchi with oxtail ragù and seared scallops in porcini *agrodolce*. Closed Sun. *11 Huguenot St, New Rochelle; 914.636.0006; www.marianewrochelle.com* Pickup/Delivery

NOMA SOCIAL *Tapas $$$*
In the lobby of the Radisson Hotel, this 125-seat hotspot serves a menu of mostly small plates. Late-night dining until 2 a.m. Fri and Sat. *1 Radisson Plz, New Rochelle; 914.576.4141; www.nomasocial.com* Pickup/Delivery

North Salem

TOP 32 **ONE TWENTY ONE** *New American $$$$*
This Beck Bolender venue brings a little contemporary flair to the area's verdant farmland, with a menu of locally sourced (many ingredients come from the county) dishes. *2 Dingle Ridge Rd, North Salem; 914.669.0121; www.121restaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

PRIMAVERA *Italian $$$$*
Located in what was known as the 1864 House, this white-tablecloth restaurant serves up fare like spinach ravioli, gnocchi Bolognese, chicken scarp, and Australian rack of lamb. *592 Rte 22, Croton Falls; 914.277.4580; www.primaveraitalian.squarespace.com* Pickup

TOP 32 **PURDY'S FARMER & THE FISH** *Seafood $$$$*
Housed in a historic 18th-century farmhouse and surrounded by four acres of terraced farmland that supply the restaurant, Farmer & the Fish serves a seafood-and-produce-heavy menu. *100 Titicus Rd, North Salem; 914.617.8380; www.farmerandthefish.com* Pickup/Delivery



Ossining

CRAVIN JAMAICAN CUISINE *Jamaican $*
Offering breakfast, lunch, and dinner, Cravin serves up authentic Jamaican cuisine. Dishes include escovitch fish, curry goat, oxtail, fried chicken, various jerk offerings, and Rasta Pasta. *109 Main St, Ossining; 914.432.7776; www.cravinjc.com* Pickup/Delivery

MELIKE TURKISH CUISINE *Turkish $$*
Expect fresh Turkish cuisine here, with locally sourced ingredients. Mains include eggplant moussaka, sautéed lamb, and chicken with curry. Closed Mon. *121 Main St, Ossining; 914.502.0651; www.melikeossining.com* Pickup/Delivery

Peekskill

APROPOS *Mediterranean $$$$*
Located at The Abbey Inn in the former St. Mary's Convent, this new restaurant overlooking the Hudson offers Mediterranean-inspired dishes, utilizing local ingredients, such as crispy chicken with warm heirloom beans and Hudson Valley rib-eye in anchovy butter. *900 Fort Hill Rd, Peekskill; 914.739.3546; www.aproposrestaurant.com* Pickup

FIN & BREW *New American $$$$*
Food ★★★½ Service ★★½ Atmosphere ★½ (03/19)
Captain Lawrence brewer Scott Vaccaro and Peekskill restaurateurs John Sharp and Louie Lanza co-own this riverfront restaurant serving a seafood-heavy menu at the Charles Point entertainment complex. Closed Mon to Wed. *5 John Walsh Blvd, Peekskill; 914.788.4555; www.finandbrew.com* Pickup

Pleasantville

TOP 32 **LITTLE MUMBAI MARKET** *Indian $*
With décor as exciting as the food, Little Mumbai serves up crêpes and Indian fare in the heart of Pleasantville. Try their *pav bhaji* and pair a smoothie with a caramelized banana crêpe. *475 Bedford Rd, Pleasantville; 914.773.0500;* Pickup/Delivery

105 SEVENTY BAR & GRILL *American $$$*
From the owners of 105-Ten Bar & Grill in Briarcliff Manor and The Urban Hamlet in Bronxville comes this bar and grill offering elevated American cuisine. *472 Bedford Rd, Pleasantville; 914.741.5285; www.105twentyrest.com* Pickup/Delivery

SOUTHERN TABLE KITCHEN & BAR *Southern $$* Get a taste of the down-home cooking you'd find south of the Mason-Dixon line at this spot from the owners of neighboring restaurant Wood & Fire. *39 Marble Ave, Pleasantville; 914.618.3355; www.southern-table.com* Pickup/Delivery

WOOD & FIRE *Italian $$*
Neapolitan cuisine is the name of the game at this family-run establishment, with a menu spanning salads, pizzas, small plates, pastas, and mains. *59 Marble Ave, Pleasantville; 914.747.2611; 118 Brook St, Scarsdale; 914.722.4854; www.woodandfirepizza.com*
Pickup/Delivery

Pocantico Hills

TOP 32 **CHEF IN RESIDENCE AT STONE BARNS** *New American $$$$*
Dan Barber is stepping away from the stove at the groundbreaking farm-to-table fine-dining establishment Blue Hill at Stone Barns (that was awarded two stars in the 2020 Michelin Guide) to make way for a chef-in-residence program. A collaboration between Blue Hill and Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture, it will feature a new chef every five weeks, offering a unique take on the farm and the region based on cuisine and personal history. Closed Mon and Tue. *630 Bedford Rd, Pocantico Hills; 914.366.9600; www.bluehillfarm.com* Pickup

Port Chester

TOP 32 **ACUARIO** *Peruvian $$*
Enjoy a taste of Peru at Port Chester's Acuario. Offered are ceviche, beef heart, steamed mussels, fish soup, and paellas, as well as other Peruvian specialties. *163 N Main St, Port Chester; 914.937.2338; www.acuariorestaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

ALBA'S RISTORANTE *Italian $$$*
Named after the town in Piedmont, Italy, this Port Chester spot serves Italian American classics, like chicken scarpariello, ravioli stuffed with spinach and portobello mushrooms, and shrimp fra diavolo. Closed Sun, except for private parties for 40 or more guests. *400 N Main St, Port Chester; 914.937.2236; www.albasrestaurant.com*
Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **SALTAIRE OYSTER BAR AND FISH HOUSE** *Seafood $$$$*
Housed in a historic grain house and owned by the Barnes family, this modern restaurant sources its seafood daily for its refined plates and extensive raw bar. *55 Abendroth Ave, Port Chester; 914.939.2425; www.saltaireoysterbar.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **SONORA** *Nuevo Latino $$$*
Fans flock to Chef Rafael Palomino's only Westchester spot for his pan-Latino cuisine. The bar area serves tacos and a vast selection of craft tequila, and the paella is a popular pick in the dining room. Closed Mon. *179 Rectory St, Port Chester; 914.933.0200; www.sonorarestaurant.net* Pickup/Delivery

TELLY'S TAVERNA *Greek $$$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★½ Atmosphere ★★½ (11/19)
Westchester's sister restaurant to the Astoria mainstay, the nautically decorated Telly's Taverna offers Greek specialties, including numerous seafood items. Try the calamari, swordfish kebabs, lamb chops, and spanakopita. *108 Abendroth Ave, Port Chester; 914.939.3333; www.tellystaverna.com* Pickup/Delivery

Pound Ridge

TOP 32 **THE INN AT POUND RIDGE BY JEAN-GEORGES** *New American $$$$*
Expect seasonal ingredients (and the occasional Asian flavor) from the kitchen at this 250-seat, special-occasion restaurant from Jean-Georges Vongerichten. *258 Westchester Ave, Pound Ridge; 914.764.1400; www.theinnatpoundridge.com* Pickup/Delivery

Purchase

TREDICI NORTH *Italian $$$*
Chef Giuseppe Fanelli runs the kitchen at this stylish 68-seat Italian eatery. Expect indulgent dishes like mozzarella-stuffed meatballs and Kobe-beef ravioli with truffles and brown butter. Closed Mon.
578 Anderson Hill Rd, Purchase; 914.997.4113; www.tredicinorth.com Pickup/Delivery

Rye

FRANKIE & JOHNNIE'S *Steakhouse $$$$*
Upscale steakhouse with a posh bar and lounge area (with two NYC locations). Specialties include porterhouse steak for two, dry-aged beef Bolognese, and lobster ravioli. *77 Purchase St, Rye; 914.925.3900; www.frankieandjohnnies.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **LA PANETIÈRE** *French $$$$*
This elegant restaurant boasts top-level service and contemporary French fare — hot and cold foie gras, Dover sole, cheese soufflé, and lobster casserole — in a Provençal setting. *530 Milton Rd, Rye; 914.967.8140; www.lapanetiere.com* Pickup

OKO *Japanese $$$*
Ingredients are sourced from local farms and Tokyo's Tsukiji fish market for Chef Brian Lewis' menu. Hand rolls, sashimi, bento boxes, and entrées like sticky ribs and Madeira-miso glazed black cod are offered. Closed Sun and Mon. *29 Purchase St, Rye, 914.481.8660; www.okokitchen.com* Pickup

RAFELE RYE *Italian $$$*
Food ★★½ Service ★★½ Atmosphere ★★★(12/18)
Naples-born chef Raffaele Ronca debuted this sister restaurant of his West Village spot, offering Italian cuisine like house-made pasta, grilled branzino, and marinated lamb skewers. *26 Purchase St, Rye; 914.481.8417; www.rafele.com/rafele-rye* Pickup/Delivery

RYE ROADHOUSE *Cajun/Southern $$$*
Tucked in a residential area of Rye, the Roadhouse is a local institution known for its sweet-potato fries and Cajun flavors, like the grilled or blackened meatloaf. Late-night dining Fri and Sat until 1 a.m. *12 High St, Rye; 914.925.2668; www.ryeroadhouse.com*
Pickup/Delivery

Scarsdale

AKAI LOUNGE *Japanese $$$*
In the space formerly occupied by Lange's of Scarsdale, this contemporary restaurant boasts modern, inspired Japanese cuisine with a menu of traditional (sushi, sashimi, teriyaki) and nontraditional offerings (tuna guacamole, lobster pizza, renegade rolls) paired with sake and martinis. *57 Spencer Pl, Scarsdale; 914.722.2022; www.akaiscarsdale.com*
Pickup/Delivery

CAFÉ ALAIA *Italian $$*
Food ★★½ Service ★★★★ Atmosphere ★★½
(06/18) Vincenzo Alaia offers Southern Italian cuisine — eggplant soufflé, branzino, and house-made pasta — in a cozy space. Gluten-free pasta available upon request. Closed Mon. *128 Garth Rd, Scarsdale; 914.725.3000; www.cafealaia.com* Pickup

TOP 32 **EASTCHESTER FISH GOURMET** *Seafood $$$$* Owner Robert Pedott sources fresh seafood daily from the Fulton Fish Market for this fine-dining institution, its adjoining market of fresh and prepared marine delights, and his aptly named takeout counter, Go Fish. *837 White Plains Rd, Scarsdale; 914.725.3450; www.eastchesterfish.com* Pickup

EL BARRIO *Mexican $$*
High-brow Mexican street fare apps of pineapple-cucumber gazpacho and house-made guac with lobster tease entrees like open-faced, brick-oven quesadillas with braised short ribs, roasted chayote tacos, and a tortilla-wrapped burger smothered in fig jam and Oaxaca cheese. *185 Summerfield St, Scarsdale; 914.723.2600; www.elbarriony.com*
Pickup/Delivery

SEA FLAME SEAFOOD & STEAKHOUSE *Steakhouse $$$$*
In an intimate space with 70 seats, this is a big-city style steakhouse featuring dry-aged cuts, beautiful seafood towers, homemade steak sauce and dressings, and an impressive Cali/Italian-centric wine list. *Vernon Place Shops, 709 White Plains Rd, Scarsdale; 914.874.5366; www.seaflamerestaurant.com*
Pickup/Delivery

VIETNAM'S CENTRAL *Vietnamese $$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★ Atmosphere ★★(01/18)
Inspired by his native Vietnam, Chef Tuong Bui strikes just the right balance of sweet, salty, bitter, sour, and spicy at this hidden gem. *694 Central Ave, Scarsdale; 914.723.7222; www.vietnamscentral.com*
Pickup/Delivery

Shrub Oak

901 WOOD BURNING KITCHEN & BAR
Italian $$ A new name (formerly Novecento), but the same crowd-pleasing wood-burning pizza, plus salads, and mains of pasta, steak, and fish. Closed Mon. *1410 E Main St, Shrub Oak; 914.743.1930; www.901woodburningkitchenbar.com* Pickup/Delivery

Sleepy Hollow

HUDSON FARMER & THE FISH *Seafood $$$$*
The owners of Purdy's Farmer & the Fish also operate this 45-seat riverfront location serving steamers, pizzas (try the white clam), and favorite dishes from the North Salem original. *11 River St, Sleepy Hollow; 914.631.8380; www.farmerandthefish.com* Pickup

Somers

UNWINED KITCHEN *Wine Bar $$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★½ Atmosphere ★★★(01/19)
From the owners of next door's UnCorked Wines & Spirits, UnWined Bar & Kitchen brings an urban vibe to Somers, featuring small plates and more than 30 wines by the glass. *80 Rte 6, Somers; 914.519.6190; www.unwinednewyork.com* Pickup

South Salem

THE HORSE & HOUND INN *American $$$*
Housed in an inn that dates back to 1749, this restaurant has offered American and pub fare for more than two decades. The menu includes sandwiches, soups, salads, salmon and vegan burgers, and pasta. *94 Spring St, South Salem; 914.763.3108; www.thehorseandhoundinn.com* Pickup

LA VISTA RISTORANTE *Italian $$$*
Pasta, veal, chicken, salads, and homemade desserts comprise the menu at this family-owned restaurant that offers a dining room and bar and lounge area. Closed Mon. *355 Smith Ridge Rd, South Salem; 914.533.2671; www.lavistaristorante.com* Pickup

Tarrytown

GOOSEFEATHER *Chinese $$$*
From Chef Dale Talde comes this spot focusing on the flavors of Hong Kong, offering dishes like scallion pancakes, dry-aged beef potstickers, and char siu Berkshire pork. Closed Mon. *Tarrytown House Estate, 49 E Sunnyside Ln, Tarrytown; 914.829.5454; www.goosefeatherny.com* Pickup/Delivery

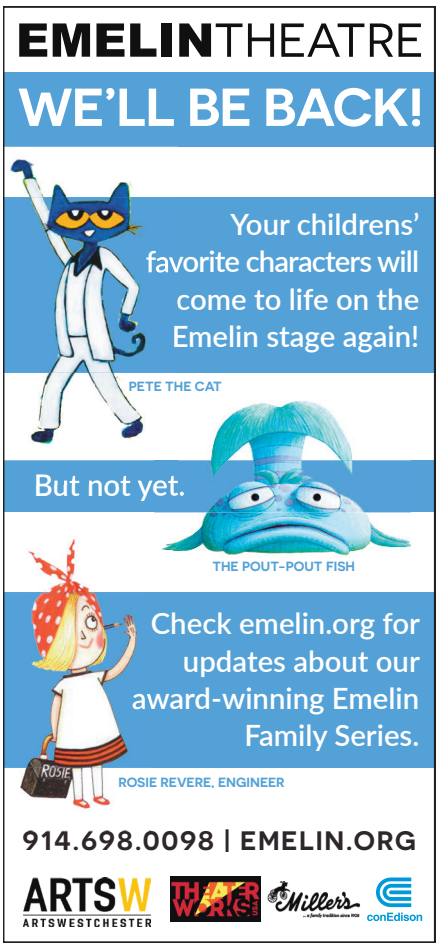
TOP 32 **MINT PREMIUM FOODS** *International $$*
Foodies to the core, Alberta and Hassan Jarane are the owners of this global foods emporium that is part gourmet food shop (the front, including a superior cheese selection) and part eclectic world-cuisine restaurant (the back). Closed Mon. *19 Main St, Tarrytown; 914.703.6511; www.rivermarketbarkitchen.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **RIVERMARKET BAR AND KITCHEN**
New American $$$$ This Rivertown favorite sources primarily local, sustainable ingredients for its menu, award-winning cocktails, and on-premises market. Offerings include wood-fired pizza, seafood dishes, and handmade pasta. *127 W Main St, Tarrytown; 914.631.3100; www.rivermarketbarandkitchen.com* Pickup/Delivery

THE CUBE INN *Cuban $$*
In a cozy, downtown setting, self-taught chef Bebe Gonzalez dishes up empanadas, bocadillos (read: sandwiches), and entrées, like ropa vieja and paella, born from family recipes and a culmination of Spanish, French, African, and Island influences. *22 Main St, Tarrytown; 914.372.7974; www.thecubeinn.net* Pickup













dining out

(Continued from previous page)

Thornwood

GORDO'S NORTH *American $$$*
After the popular Gordo's on Commerce Street closed, this location opened on Broadway to offer American menu dishes like flatbreads, pasta, spring rolls, nachos, and roasted Thai meatballs. *1006 Broadway, Thornwood; 914.579.2610; www.gordosnorth.com* Pickup/Delivery

RISOTTO *Italian $$$*
Expect dishes like chicken parm, seafood risotto, grilled hangar steak, and cacio pepe (mixed in a giant cheese wheel in front of you) at this cozy restaurant, headed up by Kevin Oliveros of Brother's Fish & Chips in Ossining. Closed Mon, except by appointment. *788 Commerce St, Thornwood; 914.769.6000; www.risotto-restaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

THE BARLEY HOUSE *American $$*
This popular Thornwood spot (Best of Westchester Readers' Pick for Best New Restaurant in 2016) serves thoughtful versions of classic sandwiches and bar snacks, plus craft beers and cocktails. *665 Commerce St, Thornwood; 914.495.3333; www.thebarleyhouseny.com* Pickup/Delivery

Tuckahoe

ANGELINA'S RISTORANTE *Italian $$$*
At this Italian restaurant, expect pizza, specialty pasta, chicken, and fish entrées. Don't miss the signature dish — spaghetti tossed in a wheel of Parmesan with flamed Cognac. *97 Lake Ave, Tuckahoe; 914.779.7944; www.angelinasoftuckahoe.com* Pickup/Delivery

GROWLERS BEER BISTRO *Gastropub $$*
This trackside neighborhood fave has reopened with new owners, familiar pub grub like Pat LaFrieda burgers, big salads, and sandwiches, with artisan cocktails and a hundred rotating local craft brews to wash it all down. *25 Main St, Tuckahoe; 914.793.0608; www.growlersbeerbistro.com* Pickup

THE TAP HOUSE *Gastropub $$$*
More than 70 craft and premium beers (14 on tap) and handcrafted cocktails wash down Modern American pub fare of braised short-rib sliders, seared-tuna tacos, steak frites, pan-roasted chicken, and a chargrilled burger on a brioche bun with everything fries. *16 Depot Sq, Tuckahoe; 914.337.6941; www.thetaphouseny.com* Pickup/Delivery

White Plains

TOP 32 **ABERDEEN SEAFOOD & DIM SUM** *Cantonese $$*
Named after a harbor in Hong Kong, this White Plains spot specializes in traditional Cantonese cuisine and dim sum. Offerings include Chinese eggplant, Peking duck, and sautéed conch. Closed Tuesdays. *3 Barker Ave, White Plains; 914.288.0188; www.aberdeenwhiteplains.com* Pickup/Delivery ($50 minimum and within 2 miles)

BENJAMIN STEAKHOUSE *Steakhouse $$$$*
This 200-seat restaurant owned by ex-Peter Luger staffers specializes in dry-aged steaks and chops. (A second outpost is located in Midtown Manhattan.) Closed Mon. *610 W Hartsdale Ave, White Plains; 914.428.6868; www.benjaminsteakhouse.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **BLT STEAK** *Steakhouse $$$$*
The White Plains location of this international steakhouse, located in Marriott's The Opus, Westchester (formerly The Ritz-Carlton), offers several different cuts of steak, including 28-day dry-aged Kansas City Prime bone-in strip and filet mignon Prime bone-in filet, alongside an extensive wine list. Dinner only. *221 Main St, White Plains; 914.467.5500; www.bltrestaurants.com/blt-steak* Pickup/Delivery

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dining out

(Continued from previous page)

CITY LIMITS DINER *American $$*
The upscale diner features traditional American dishes, internationally inspired plates, and an array of homemade desserts, plus a bar area with cocktails and craft beer. Breakfast served all day. *200 Central Ave, White Plains; 914.686.9000; www.citylimitsdiner.com* Pickup/Delivery

EMMA'S ALE HOUSE *Comfort Food $$*
This Certified Green Restaurant specializes in comfort-food favorites like pot pie, braised short ribs, and the famous Krispy Kreme bread pudding. *68 Gedney Way, White Plains; 914.683.3662; www.emmasalehouse.com* Temporarily Closed

FREEBIRD KITCHEN & BAR *Southern $$$*
Southern comfort food — fried green tomatoes with hot-mustard remoulade, hot chicken, and pimento cheeseburgers — is on the menu, plus signature smoked cocktails. *161 Mamaroneck Ave, White Plains; 914.607.2476; www.freebirdkitchenandbar.com* Pickup

LA BOCCA RISTORANTE *Italian $$$*
Regional Italian specialties (spaghetti *alla chitarra*, sliced steak with balsamic and arugula) are the foundations of the menu at this downtown spot. Gluten-free options available. *8 Church St, White Plains; 914.948.3281; www.laboccaristorante.com* Pickup/Delivery

LA BOTTE RISTORANTE *Italian $$$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★½ Atmosphere ★★½ (08/20) In a bright, casual space, wood-fired pizza, house-made pasta, and mains like Berkshire pork chop, grilled branzino, and Nordic cod are served. Closed Mon. *14 Martine Ave, White Plains; 914.461.2950; www.labotteristorante.com* Temporarily Closed

MULINO'S OF WESTCHESTER *Italian $$$$*
Classic Italian fare at this white-tablecloth restaurant with stellar service, includes mushroom risotto, tagliatelle alla Bolognese, Florida red snapper, and thinly breaded veal. Save room for the cheesecake and tiramisù. Closed Sun. *99 Court St, White Plains; 914.761.1818; www.mulinosny.com* Pickup

ROYAL PALACE *Indian $$*
Expect all the standards like tandoori chicken, biryani, and fragrant curries from this restaurant and caterer. Lunch buffet offered every day; dinner buffet Mon to Thurs. *77 Knollwood Rd, White Plains; 914.289.1988; www.royalpalacecuisines.com* Pickup/Delivery

SAM'S OF GEDNEY WAY *American $$$*
This spacious hotspot from New York Hospitality Group offers classic American fare, like burgers, salads, braised short ribs, and lump crab cake. The restaurant features a year-round patio and private dining areas are available for parties. *52 Gedney Way, White Plains; 914.949.0978; www.samsofgedneyway.com* Pickup/Delivery

SAPORI *Italian $$$*
Indoor or outdoor seating — including partially enclosed booths tucked into brick-lined alcoves — is available at this 160-seat Italian eatery. *324 Central Ave, White Plains; 914.684.8855; 2 Chase Rd, Scarsdale; 914.874.5316; www.saporiofwhiteplains.com* Pickup/Delivery

TRE ANGELINA *Northern Italian $$$*
This cozy, white-tablecloth Italian joint proffers the flavors of Northern Italy. Closed Mon. *478 Mamaroneck Ave, White Plains; 914.686.0617; www.treangelina.com* Pickup/Delivery

TVB BY: PAX ROMANA *Italian $$*
This White Plains spot brings a taste of Rome to Westchester. Fresh pasta, like spaghetti alla carbonara, and the uniquely Roman *pinsa* are not to be missed, but save room for Nutella-filled bomboloni. *171 E Post Road, White Plains; 914.831.3303; www.paxromanany.com* Pickup/Delivery

Yonkers

DOLPHIN *Seafood $$$*
The Rugova family runs this bilevel restaurant serving up seafood, pasta, steaks, and big salads. A 100-seat patio lends views of the Hudson River. Late-night menu Thurs to Sat until 1 a.m. *1 Van Der Donck St, Yonkers; 914.751.8170; www.dolphinrbl.com* Pickup/Delivery

HAPAG *Filipino $$*
Food ★★★ Service ★★★ Atmosphere ★★½ (04/19)
This Yonkers spot serves up family-style plates of Filipino comfort food, such as *lumpia*, *pinkabet*, and *ukoy*. Closed Sun. *1789 Central Ave, Yonkers; 914.652.7773* Pickup

ISO JAPANESE *Japanese $$$*
From the owners of KOKU in Armonk, this Boyce Thompson Center restaurant offers signature sushi rolls, poke, and mains like organic basil chicken and sesame tuna. *1086 N Broadway, Yonkers; 914.963.0777; www.isoyonkers.com* Pickup/Delivery

PUBLIC PIZZA ITALIAN RESTAURANT & BAR *Italian $$$*
Sister to Scarsdale's Pizza & Brew and Via Forno Wood Fired Pizza & Vinoteca, this Ridge Hill addition from the Racanelli family of eateries offers every Italian comfort classic under the Tuscan sun, plus elevated burgers, wings, steak, and inventive salads. *193 Market St, Ridge Hill, Yonkers; 914.652.7611; www.publicpizzaitaliankitchen.com* Pickup/Delivery

SALSA BEMBÉ *Puerto Rican/Latin American $$$*
Across three stories and alongside traditional arroz con pollo, ropa vieja, and paella, expect inventive offerings of braised oxtail, guava barbecue ribs, and trifongo: mashed green and sweet plantains with yuca and choice of protein. *811 McLean Ave, Yonkers; 914.294.0096; www.salsabembe.com* Pickup/Delivery

TOP 32 **X2O XAVIARS ON THE HUDSON**
New American $$$$ Venerated chef Peter Kelly's restaurant sits on the historic Yonkers Pier, offering breathtaking views of the Hudson River and his famous cowboy rib-eye for two. The casual Dylan Lounge boasts its own menu. Closed Mon. *71 Water Grant St, Yonkers; 914.965.1111; www.xaviars.com* Pickup/Delivery

ZUPPA *Italian $$$*
Paskual Dedi is the executive chef at this urbane Italian restaurant serving creative homemade pastas and top-notch entrées. Three rooms are available for parties. Prix-fixe lunch ($25) Mon to Fri. *59-61 Main St, Yonkers; 914.376.6500; www.zupparestaurant.com* Pickup/Delivery

Yorktown

JEWEL OF HIMALAYA *Nepalese $*
Westchester's only restaurant serving the cuisine of Nepal and Tibet offers affordable dishes — juicy momos (dumplings), dal, and traditional *thukpa* soup — at two county locations. Closed Mon. *34 Triangle Ct, Yorktown Heights; 914.302.2886; 751 Central Ave, Scarsdale; 914.874.5506; www.enjoyhimalaya.com* Pickup/Delivery

THE GRAMERCY *Brasserie $$$*
Food★★★½ Service★★★ Atmosphere★★½ (09/19)
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coming attractions

BEST BETS

EDITED BY *Paul Adler*



"BEDFORD STUYVESANT" BY MATTHEW COLE; COURTESY OF PELHAM ART CENTER

Flying Solo

Dreamy interiors, subconscious spaces, and reality superimposed with fantasy all populate the intriguing art found in the **11th Biennial Rutsch Award Winner Matthew Cole Solo Exhibition**. The collection of layered, printmaking-inspired paintings will be on show from May 15 through June 26 at The Pelham Art Center. The winner of the center's biennial award for painting, Cole has already exhibited works in Paris, New York City, and Philadelphia, and was the 2020 Artist in Residence at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tucson, AZ.

Best Bets

Our favorite reasons to get out of the house (or stay in) this month. **BY PAUL ADLER**



Left to right: Clarity Haynes, *Birth Altar, 2020–21*, 2021; *Altar for Femme Joy,* 2020

Honoring Womanhood

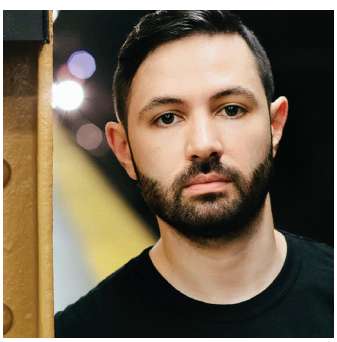
Ongoing thru **Sept 6**

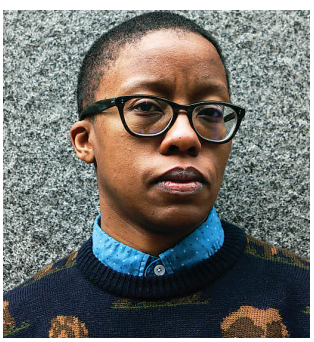
First in The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum's single-artist spotlight series, *Aldrich Projects*, ***Clarity Haynes: Collective Transmission*** tackles subjects like womanhood, femininity, and joy with pure creative glee. The show will feature two new paintings by Haynes, *Birth Altar* and *Altar for Femme Joy*, both of which continue the artist's celebrated *Altar* series, exploring what she views as queer feminist spaces liberated from patriarchy and conceived in the vein of masters like Judy Chicago and Ana Mendieta.

String Theory

May 8

Ever hoped to see a top-tier classical concert but didn't want to foot the bill? Good news, this month, the Stamford Symphony is hosting a free live-streamed event from the orchestra's home stage. Featuring renowned violinist Elena Urioste, **Times Change** comprises a moving combination of works by both Mozart and Haydn. Event subscribers will also have access to a post-concert Q&A with the conductor and Stamford Symphony musicians.





Writer's Room

May 19

After Amanda Gorman's inspiring Inauguration and Super Bowl recitations, poetry is a hot topic around the country. Get in on the action this month, as Sleepy Hollow's Hudson Valley Writers Center presents a Zoom reading by two acclaimed authors. **An Evening with Alex Dimitrov and Donika Kelly** will feature Dimitrov, whose poetry has appeared in both *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*, reading alongside Cave Canem fellow and University of Iowa professor Donika Kelly.

CLARITY HAYNES PHOTO BY TOM POWEL IMAGING, PROVIDED BY THE ALDRICH MUSEUM, COURTESY OF CLARITY HAYNES AND NEW DISCRETIONS; ALEX DIMITROV PHOTO BY SYLVIE ROSOKOFF PROVIDED BY HUDSON VALLEY WRITERS CENTER; DONIKA KELLY PHOTO COURTESY OF HUDSON VALLEY WRITERS CENTER

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A Yuge Park Problem

When Donald Trump failed to get reelected, I predicted that a campaign would be jumpstarted to strip his name from a "yuge" chunk of obscure parkland — yes that parkland, marked by the "yuge" Trump exit signs on the Taconic State Parkway.

My smug perspicacity was swiftly affirmed. As if on cue, the cancel police pounced.

Of course, it's not enough to merely erase Orange Man. Cultural warriors on the left also want to rebrand the property after a historical figure who fits their political requirements — and that means dead white men need not apply. The name of Sojourner Truth, the ex-slave and abolitionist, was enthusiastically proffered in a change.org petition created after the January 6 Capitol riot. The petition has attracted more than 200,000 signatures and a boatload of comments, not a few of which are laced with unprintable, anti-Trump vitriol.

You've seen the Donald J. Trump State Park signs, but it's unlikely you've actually visited the 436-acre "recreational attraction," since it has never been developed and exists as an overgrown bramble with tumbledown shacks sprayed with graffiti. Some say it might be a perfect place to dump a body.

Trump paid $2 million for the property, which actually consists of two parcels in Yorktown and Putnam Valley. Originally, he wanted to build a golf course on the property — what else is new — but was foiled by environmentalists. Wetlands!

Trump characteristically threatened to sue but thought better of it and instead donated the land to New York State, taking a substantial tax write-off said to be worth in the tens of millions of dollars. That was in 2006, when George Pataki was governor.

Then, the Great Recession happened. Budgets were slashed — and nothing was done to enhance the sylvan environs of Donald J. Trump State Park… except for those "yuge" signs.

Nobody really cared until Trump became a presidential candidate and likened Mexicans illegally crossing the border to rapists and murderers. A growing chorus of anti-Trumpers viewed the signs as free, taxpayer-supported advertising for a racist and demanded they be taken down. Before the 2016 election, a vandal defaced one of the signs, using white paint to change "Trump" to the less appealing "Drumpf," supposedly the original family surname back in Germany.

Democratic state legislators looking for a headline-grabbing issue quickly joined the movement by proposing various Trump-removal bills that died in committee and went nowhere. (Albany, incidentally, is nothing if not a giant circular file filled with bills that have gone nowhere.)



You've seen the Donald J. Trump State Park signs, but it's unlikely you've actually visited the 436-acre "recreational attraction," since it has never been developed and exists as an overgrown bramble…

Trump once declared that if his name is removed, well, they can just return the land to him. He didn't mention the possibility of also returning the tax write-off.

In any case, Trump appears to have a case. A 2006 letter of agreement drafted by his White Plains attorney and signed off on by the state stipulated that the parkland "will bear a name which includes Mr. Trump's name…. The name will be prominently displayed at least at each entrance to each property."

This little technicality didn't deter state Sen. Brad Hoylman (D-Manhattan), who earlier this year submitted the latest bill to expunge the former president's moniker and replace it with a name chosen by the public or a special commission of local historians.

In effect, Hoylman said, if Trump wants to sue, let him sue.

"The agreement that was made between Trump and the state parks commission those many years ago didn't involve the state legislature," he told me in an interview. "I'm confident — I've had my counsel confirm — that we have the ability to strip the park of Trump's name and let the vocal community come up with an appropriate name."

Just imagine the ugly and wholly unnecessary partisan battle that would cause.

But here's a radical idea: I propose a compromise.

First, once and for all, remove the surname Cuomo that was legislatively attached to the new Hudson River span in the dead of night and restore the Tappan Zee Bridge name. Second, replace Trump's name with that of the Republican governor who accepted the land gift 15 years ago. That's right, George Pataki.

During his time in office, Pataki oversaw the acquisition of more than a million acres of parkland — roughly equal to the size of Rhode Island — an astounding accomplishment. It seems fitting… Pataki State Park. There's a nice ring to it.

Don't hold your breath.

The opinions and beliefs expressed by Phil Reisman are his alone and do not necessarily reflect those of Westchester Magazine's *editors and publishers. Tell us what you think at* edit@westchestermagazine.com

REISMAN PHOTOGRAPH BY STEFAN RADTKE; SIGN PHOTO BY FRANK ROBERTS

WESTCHESTER MAGAZINE: May 2021, Vol. 45, Number 5 (ISSN: 1542-3409; USPS: 443-030) is published monthly, with one additional issue, by Today Media, a Martinelli Holdings LLC, 2 Clinton Avenue, Rye, NY 10580. Periodicals postage paid at Rye, NY, and additional mailing offices. ATTENTION POSTMASTER: Send address changes to WESTCHESTER MAGAZINE, PO Box 460850 Escondido, CA 92046-9864. Address changes should be accompanied by a mailing label from a recent issue.



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