

### Editor's Notebook

**Hutch to close**  
The Hutchinson River Parkway will close for bridge construction between exit 6 (I-95) and exit 15 (Cross County Parkway) from 11 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19 through 5 a.m. Monday, Oct. 22.

### School board to meet

The Scarsdale Board of Education will meet Monday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in room 170-172 at Scarsdale High School. The agenda includes a report focusing on student assessments and an update on district administrators' strategic plan.

### Supreme Court expert to speak Nov. 1

Linda Greenhouse, the Joseph Goldstein Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School and former Supreme Court correspondent for The New York Times, will speak Nov. 1 at 11:45 a.m. at the League of Women Voters of Scarsdale's annual Food for Thought luncheon, to be held at Scarsdale Golf Club. Greenhouse will discuss the Supreme Court, upcoming cases to be heard by the court and the recent nomination process of Brett Kavanaugh.

For info and tickets, visit lwvs.org and select Event Ticket.

### Edgewood centennial

If you are an Edgewood alum and have a great story about your experience at Edgewood School, reach out to the Edgewood PTA at edgewood-schoolpta@gmail.com or edgewood-school100@gmail.com. Principal Scott Houseknecht and the Edgewood PTA would like to give alumni an opportunity to share their memories and also to fill them in on the happenings throughout this special school year in hopes they will join in the celebration of Edgewood.

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# Court reverses Cacace's ruling on EIC petition

By ROBERT CHRISTIE

For those of you keeping score at home, that's a 2-1 lead for anti-incorporation.

The Brooklyn-based Second Department, a state appellate court, ruled Oct. 14 Town Supervisor Paul Feiner made a legal decision in rejecting the Edgemont Incorporation Committee's petition for a referendum on incorporation.

This decision reverses Westchester County Supreme Court Judge Susan Cacace's Feb. 1 Article 78 ruling in favor of the EIC.

The appellate decision discussed two points as reasons for its ruling.

First, Feiner ruled the EIC petition did not sufficiently lay out the boundaries of the new village of Edgemont.

Second, Feiner ruled the EIC petition did not include an accurate regular list of inhabitants for the proposed village of Edgemont.

In both instances, citing case law, the appellate court said Feiner's decisions did not break the law.

"Accordingly, [the Westchester Supreme Court] should have denied the petition ... dismissed the proceeding, and declared the petition for incorporation does not comply with the requirements of Village Law article 2," the court said.

The two reasons for the appellate

*The proper list of regular inhabitants, was arguably the biggest discussion point during the June 14 oral arguments before the appellate court.*

court's decision were major points of contention after Feiner denied the EIC petition in May 2017.

Feiner said the EIC petition did not establish the boundaries of the proposed village of Edgemont with any "common certainty."

According to the town supervisor, the petition seemed to indicate the

boundaries could have been both the Greenville Fire District and the Edgemont School District.

The EIC petition included a 1934 map of the Greenville Fire District and a preamble from an 1899 map of the Edgemont School District.

However, the EIC argued they have always claimed the boundaries of the

village of Edgemont would be the Greenville Fire District. The preamble, the EIC claimed, was meant as a measure to supplement the fire district map, not create confusion.

The second argument, the proper list of regular inhabitants, was arguably the biggest discussion point during the June 14 oral arguments before the appellate court.

According to Village Law Article 2-200, the term "regular inhabitants" is defined as "all persons residing in the territory proposed to be incorporated." The only people excluded are adults, or minors who live with those adults, who may have a house

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## A push for wider use of natural alternatives to pesticides

By CATHERINE FERRIS

Healthier landscape management in the village has new momentum thanks to a sustainability report released Oct. 10.

In the report, the nonprofit Scarsdale Forum's Sustainability Committee and the Municipal Services Committee proposed a resolution to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents by codifying a policy of organic landscape management in all parks, recreation fields and green spaces in the village.

The proposal would eliminate the use of toxic pesticides, herbicides and synthetic fertilizers on the village properties where the chemicals may be in use.

The village switched over to an organic landscape management program for village properties about 10 years ago.

However, a few properties are still treated with pesticide and herbicide chemicals, including the pool complex and some other village grounds.

"The pool is of concern to us because people walk there with bare feet, lots of children may be crawling and there are children that have hand to mouth behavior," Michelle Sterling, co-chairman for the Forum's Sustainability Committee, said.

The committee's other chair, Darlene LeFrancis-Haber, said children can be particularly susceptible.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, pesticides pose a number of health risks to humans. Some may affect the nervous system or irritate the skin or eyes. Some pesticides may be carcinogens. Others may affect the body's hormone or endocrine systems.

The sustainability committee report, which can be found on the Forum's website, notes that pesticides come in several forms, such as liquids, sprays and granular pesticides.

With liquids and sprays, there's an increased risk of exposure by inhalation and through the skin, while granular pesticides may be absorbed into the ground and contaminate the water.

"Regardless of the method of application or form, pesticide absorption into the ground and subsequent elimination of beneficial microorganisms and contamination of surface water and runoff eventually result in chemical toxins finding their way into municipal drinking water and aquatic habitats," the report reads.

Herbicides, another focus of the report, are used to kill off weeds.

But herbicides — particularly the well-known

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# 'IT'S GOING TO TAKE A SOCIETAL RESPONSE TO MAKE CHANGE'



— Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service Executive Director Jay Genova

## Community coalition aims to curb violent behaviors

By CATHERINE FERRIS

It starts at home.

When kids are growing up, some of their parents' behaviors may rub off on them — how they set the table, how they interact and how they treat others.

Kids pick up on the way their parents communicate with one another. If the relationship between parents is particularly aggressive or abusive, that kind of behavior can be picked up by children, creating a cycle that continues in future generations.

Domestic violence and how it can affect children was the focus of the Safe Coalition meeting Oct. 17 at Scarsdale High School.

Led by Lauren Pomerantz, Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service social worker and coordinator of the Safe Coalition, representatives from the village, schools and clergy came together to discuss prevention of all types of violence in the community.

"We're thinking about teen dating violence, sexual violence and youth violence," Pomerantz said. "It sounds like a big scope, but when we thought about how they're all connected, we found they all share the same risk and protective factors."

That means, members of the community can target these types of behavior.

Pomerantz cited a report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention called "Connecting the Dots: An Overview of the Links Among Multiple Forms of Violence."

In the report, Harvard School of Public Health

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CATHERINE FERRIS PHOTOS; INFOGRAPHIC BY DAVID LADA

## Bumps in the road: Village mulls paving, resurfacing program

By CATHERINE FERRIS

With all the construction and repaving encountered around town recently, it's been a long haul toward better roads in the village. But smoother sailing — or driving — is on the horizon.

At a municipal services meeting Oct. 9, Jane Veron, the committee's chairwoman, said road conditions always top the list when the village considers infrastructure needs.

"What you'll see is a doubling down on road work," she said. "As we head into the budget [season], the board will set policies as far as what the priorities are."

Budget discussions, which are open to the public, take place between January and March.

Village Engineer David Goessl said the village owns and maintains 79 miles of roadway.

The amount of wear and tear on local roads varies — there can be as many as 1,500 to 6,000 cars per day to as little as 15 to 400 cars, depending on the area.

And, when the time comes to assess the pavement condition of village road-

ways, each one is rated based on its condition — excellent, good, fair and poor.

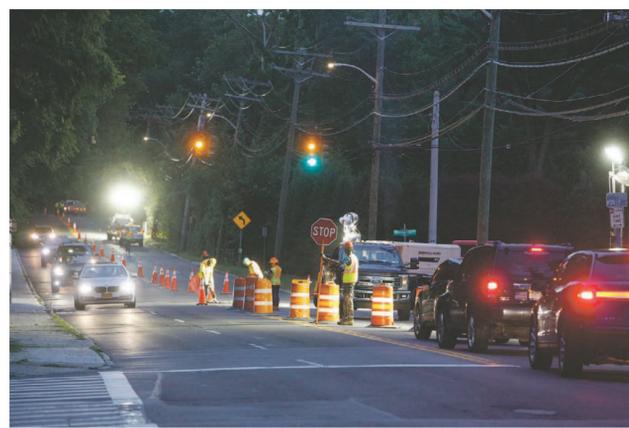
Goessl said the village hired MHM Associates, a structural engineering firm based in Indiana, to help the engineering staff update Scarsdale's 2009 pavement management study.

First, the consultant performed a visual survey to identify how much pavement distress there was on the village's roadways.

Then the engineering department worked on a pavement management plan, which involves coming up with a strategy to monitor pavement conditions and to prioritize maintenance, preservation and construction activities with the available funding.

"An effective pavement management plan assists transportation agencies and public works officials to optimize their available funding, better communicate funding needs and more objectively manage the overall pavement network," Goessl said.

Success in pavement management comes from monitoring pavement condition over time through data collection and a rating system, combined with an



FILE PHOTO

Upkeep of village roads is a key component for the village budget.

effective pavement management system. Pavement condition is rated on a scale of 1 to 100. An "excellent" road's rating falls between 91 and 100, a "good" rat-

ing is between 76 and 90, a "fair" rating is between 60 and 75 and a "poor" road rates between 1 and 59. The village has roads in all four cat-

egories. Drake Road has a rating of 95, the excellent category. Harwood Court's rating is 85, making it good, while Mamaroneck Road rates fair at 75. Meanwhile, Franklin Road is a poor road with a rating of 55.

The analysis performed by MHM Associates also rated the pavement condition for village-owned roadways.

In that study, the firm determined 15 percent of streets, or 11.53 miles, are in excellent condition. Thirty five percent of streets, or 28.41 miles, are in good condition and 41 percent of streets, or 31.78 miles, are in fair condition. Nine percent of the streets, or 7.79 miles, are in poor condition.

How often should roads be resurfaced?

"Well-designed and constructed asphalt pavements can provide many years of useful service if properly maintained," Goessl said. "Resurfacing is a road maintenance technique in which a new layer of asphalt is laid over the existing road surface rather than having to replace both the top and underlying base completely."

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