



'Dale Dollars eGift Card

The Scarsdale Business Alliance (SBA) has sponsored the 'Dale Dollars eGift Card Program, a community-based digital gift card that makes it fun and easy to keep local spending local. Purchase a 'Dale Dollars eGift Card at <https://bit.ly/3m6vftt> to use at any of the participating shops in the neighborhood. With this card, you can write a personal message and send it to family, friends and colleagues via email, text or physical copy. Recipients can spend it at a participating merchant in Scarsdale — or mix it up and spend flexibly at multiple locations. Give back to the community by supporting local businesses.

Forum guest speaker

Scarsdale Forum will host NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins Oct. 7 at Scarsdale Public Library, 54 Olmsted Road. Registration is required at <https://forms.gle/g8wRcA-faVLNL2Na36>. The meeting will also be held via Zoom. Register to receive the Zoom login by email. The event is free and open to the general public. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 8. The library requires masks to be worn inside the building. Anyone who is not yet a member can join the Forum at scarsdaleforum.org/join.

Voters' 411

Election Day is Nov. 2. Every person who is eligible to vote can register, or update his or her address at the following websites. Check your registration status at <https://on.ny.gov/2AB4w3Y>. Register to vote at <https://bit.ly/2Zz8wyp>. Oct. 8 is the last day to register in person at Westchester Board of Elections, 25 Quarropas St., White Plains. Absentee voting: Apply online for an absentee ballot by Oct. 18 at <https://on.ny.gov/2Y8e4PZ> or request an absentee ballot via the Westchester Board of Elections by fax (914-995-7753 or 914-995-3190) or by email (BOE-WestAbsentee@westchestergov.com).

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Forum: 'Wait and see' on marijuana dispensaries

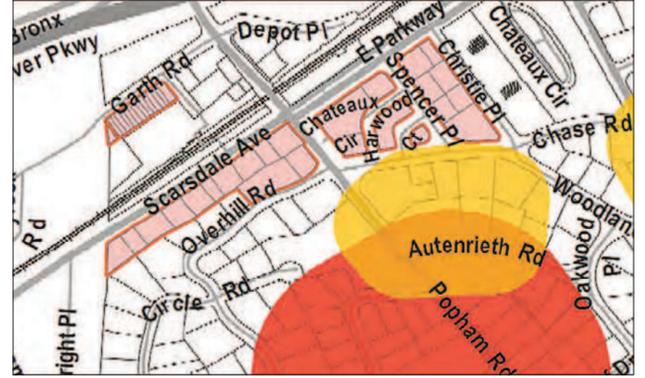
By TODD SLISS

SCARSDALE VILLAGE — Recognizing the health and safety risks, the potential costs of increased public safety and education and the likelihood of a low tax revenue boost, the Scarsdale Forum is recommending a "wait and see" approach when it comes to permitting cannabis businesses in the village of Scarsdale. In a report by the Forum's Downtown Revitalization, Fiscal Affairs Scarsdale, Municipal Services, and Sustainability Committees, "Whether Scarsdale Should Opt Out of Public Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and/or On-Site Adult Consumption Establishments," released Sept. 23, the Forum had three major recommendations, with the major first step being

opting out of allowing dispensaries prior to Dec. 31, which in turn allows the village to opt in at any time thereafter. Should the village fail to opt out by that date, it will no longer have the ability to do so going forward. The passage of New York State's Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA) on March 31 decriminalized the purchase, possession, consumption and growth of cannabis, and allows for regulated licensed retailer dispensaries, on-site consumption lounges and the growing of cannabis. The MRTA puts the Cannabis Control Board and the Cannabis Management Office in charge of oversight, but those agencies have yet to be created and specific guidelines have yet to be drawn up. The Forum's three major immediate

conclusions and recommendations to the village are as follows:
1. Pass a law to opt out of cannabis dispensaries and consumption lounges in the Village by December 31, 2021 in order to keep the Village's options open until the New York State cannabis regulatory framework is established and sales begin, and more information is available to allow the Board and the community to weigh the pros and cons of permitting cannabis establishments in the Village.
2. Pass a law prohibiting smoking and vaping of tobacco and cannabis on all Village-owned property and all outdoor public spaces in the Village not covered by the restrictions in the New York Public Health Law.
3. Pass a law prohibiting oral con-

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Map of potential dispensary locations in village center.

Oct. 3rd Walk to End Alzheimer's has deep meaning for many

Holding on to memories

By TODD SLISS

Though his grandfather didn't have memories of him in the final years of his life, 16-year-old Scarsdale High School junior Ethan Elkins has vowed to let his own memories of his grandfather not only comfort him, but push him to help others who are struggling with Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia. Ethan was around 9 or 10 when Philip Dworetzky was diagnosed and though he didn't fully understand what was going on, he "did notice he wasn't truly himself." Ethan noticed his grandfather wasn't making the same types of jokes, which made him feel like "something was missing about him." As the disease progressed, Ethan started to see major changes in his grandfather, who lived at The Ambassador of Scarsdale assisted living facility, over the final three years of his life, where Ethan would help out by assist-

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Grandson Ethan Elkins walks in grandfather Philip Dworetzky's memory.

Trustees give green light for pool study

By NICHOLAS PERRONE

SCARSDALE VILLAGE — The board of trustees sealed the deal Sept. 28 for a \$114,000 agreement with Lothrop Associates, a White Plains-based architectural firm, to assess Scarsdale's outdated pool complex and develop three proposals to revamp infrastructure and increase membership. The Scarsdale Municipal Pool complex, which was built in 1968 and is often touted as a treasured asset, has also faced increasing infrastructure repair costs and declining pool membership sales. As part of its evaluation of the pool complex, Lothrop will conduct market research through its partner firm Ballard King & Associates and will employ ETC Institute, a research and surveying firm, to survey residents to discern their interest in the pool complex and what amenities they'd like to have there. The firm's feasibility study will take 23 weeks to complete. "While it remains a beautiful site, the infrastructure that supports the pool complex hobbles along with obsolete parts, inefficient systems and regular breakdowns," said Mayor Jane Veron. "Our pool enterprise fund struggles to sustain itself with declining membership and increasing costs. If we do nothing, it will one day cease to operate. We cannot let that happen." While the trustees unanimously supported a resolution to bring in Lothrop to study and evaluate options for the pool complex, Scarsdale resident Bob Harrison said he was concerned

"We have an opportunity to define what this Scarsdale gem will look like for the next generation, and that will be determined by residents."

— DEPUTY MAYOR JUSTIN AREST

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The Ida aftermath still felt locally

Insurance policies, mitigation options sought in Scarsdale

By TODD SLISS

REGION — After lower Westchester County residents' properties got flooded by the unexpected record-breaking rain brought on in a short time by the remnants of Hurricane Ida on the night of Wednesday, Sept. 1, insurance agents got flooded with phone calls and emails the next day. Vivian Lem of State Farm, and Lynn Pollack of Pollack Services Group, Ltd., which is affiliated with Global Coverage, both Scarsdale residents, said they were heartbroken at the amount of damage to houses throughout the area, and even a month later the work to sort through the rubble continues. "There were over 10,000 claims in Westchester County," Lem said. "The two agents in Mamaroneck and Harrison had the most claims out of any area, which was unfortunate. It's been a little crazy and sad. It's a very sad hap-



This was a familiar scene throughout Scarsdale in September in the aftermath of Ida.

pening because the way water comes in your home will determine whether or not you're going to have coverage." People who live in areas where mortgage companies require thousands of dollars in yearly flood insurance — "known" flood areas — are covered. It was the people who live in "preferred" flood areas who did not have coverage and who will likely be responsible for the damage to their property and the loss of their belongings. "When you suffer a traumatic loss like this, it's very hard for people to understand why they don't necessarily have

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Village hall union employees get 2% wage increase

SCARSDALE VILLAGE — In a last-minute addition to its business agenda, the Scarsdale Board of Trustees voted unanimously Sept. 28 to increase the wages of unionized village hall employees by 2%. The unionized employees' salary increase will amount to \$30,078 and will be retroactive to Sept. 15, but only for personnel who were employed between June 1, 2020 and Sept. 14, 2021. The village's 32 unionized employees are members of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) and work in the village in the court, police department, recreation department and others. They did not receive a wage increase in the 2020-21 budget due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which sunk village revenues and caused the village to enact austerity measures. According to a memo to the board from village manager Rob Cole, the CSEA and the village had been ne-

gotiating a raise prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, but couldn't reach an agreement. Following mediation and fact finding, the village and the CSEA agreed to reopen negotiations if nonunion employees received a wage increase. The board passed a resolution Sept. 14 to raise nonunion salaries by 2%. The nonunion salary increase, which totaled \$61,224, was covered by money received through the American Rescue Plan Act. "The CSEA and nonunion employees did not receive an increase during the pandemic as we had implemented an austerity budget," said Mayor Jane Veron. "Now that we have better visibility into our finances and have received federal American Rescue Plan dollars, we will vote to make the adjustment, to recognize the hard work, dedication, professionalism and personal sacrifice of our CSEA employees."

— Reporting by Nicholas Perrone