

NEW YEAR

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closed as the celebration kicks off. A DJ and the Hey Baby band will have the crowd on their feet throughout the night and many area bars and restaurants are offering special deals and menus. If you're worried about parking, a free shuttle service will be available from the train station to South St. A ball drop and fireworks display will wrap up the night.

CELEBRATE EARLY

Have little ones in tow that you want to get to bed on time? These events are for you.

» **Ring in the New Year at Noon** returns for the sixth consecutive year, offering kids ages 2-10 the chance to celebrate 12 hours early. Beginning at 10:30 a.m., families will have a chance to meet New York Ranger alum Brian Mullen, get their faces painted, enjoy arts and crafts, games, rides raffles and more. The event culminates with the noon release of 3,000 brightly-colored balloons. There is a \$5 donation per family, which will benefit Westchester's Children Museum. Preregistration for the event is encouraged at newrochelledowntown.com. 33 Le-count Place.

» **Bowlmor** is helping roll in the year by offering two-hour, family-friendly party packages for \$30.99 a person. The deal includes unlimited bowling, shoes, kid-friendly foods like chicken tenders and pizza, soda and a sparkling cider toast. Timed sessions begin at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. or 5 p.m. Make reservations at bowlmor.com/new-years-eve. 47 Tarrytown Road, White Plains. 914-948-2677.

» **The Pelham Manor Dave & Busters** is getting a headstart on the celebration with a family-



RICKY FLORES/THE JOURNAL NEWS

Ring in the New Year at Noon returns to New Roc City.

friendly party from 5-8 p.m. The \$27.99 ticket gets you an appetizer buffet, dessert, unlimited soft drinks, a \$10 Power Card and access to a video ball drop to wrap up the evening. The \$34.99 package includes everything in the other one, except the Power Card is \$15 and also includes unlimited gameplay. Get tickets by visiting ticketbud.com and searching "Dave & Busters Pelham" or call 914-380-8506 for more info. 881 Pelham Parkway, Pelham Manor.

D&B fans in Rockland aren't out of luck, though. The West Nyack location will be hosting a 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. celebration with food and drink specials available for kids, teens and adults. Details, tickets: dnpalisades.ticketleap.com or 845-348-6006. Fourth floor of the Palisades Center Mall, 1000 Palisades Center Dr.

RAISE A TOAST

Local restaurants and bars will be surely be packed New Year's Eve and many of them are offering special deals to welcome revelers.

» **Nyack Pourhouse** is offering plenty of options for Rocklanders looking to have a good time. An open bar package is avail-

able from 9 p.m. to midnight and includes a champagne toast and catered buffet. Or you can bump up your package for \$110 for top-shelf open bar. Table service and other options are also available and a DJ will be on hand all night. Get your tickets early, though, since prices and availability are subject to change after Dec. 23. Visit wantickets.com and search Nyack Pourhouse to reserve. 102 Main St, Nyack. 845-727-7687.

» **The Brazen Fox** is back with its annual New Year's Eve extravaganza. Tickets grant you open bar at any of the site's four bars from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Two buffet stations will have hot and cold appetizers for you to snack on and a DJ will provide music and party favors with a champagne toast at midnight. Ticketholders will also have priority access and be able to skip lines. But know that this party is for people 23 and older. Discounted \$80 tickets are available for the first 50 buyers, after which the price will raise. Get them at brazenfox.com/event. 175 Mamaroneck Ave. White Plains. 914-358-5911

» Swing in the New Year at **Winston Restaurant** in Mount Kisco, where The Swingaroos

will provide a soundtrack for the venue's first New Year's Eve celebration. There are two seatings, each with its own gourmet prix fixe menu. The 6-8:45 p.m. seating comes with a four-course meal for \$65 and the 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. seating includes a five-course meal and three sets of live music for \$110. Check menus at winstonrestaurant.com or call 914-244-9780 for reservations and info. 130 East Main St., Mount Kisco.

» Head over to Alvin and Friends for its early bird dinner 5-7 p.m. that, for \$65, gets you a three-course meal and complimentary glass of wine. The 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. late night party, \$150 per person, offers lavish appetizers and a carving section, as well as an open bar. There will be live music from Jazmyn throughout the night. Reservations are required at 914-654-6549. 14 Memorial Highway, New Rochelle.

MORE: This is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to things to do in the Lower Hudson Valley. Visit events.lohud.com for more fun.

Twitter: @kev_incredulous

PRIME TIME

EVENING	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
2 WCBS	Supergirl Pilot. Kara Danvers seizes the opportunity to embrace her superhuman abilities. (TVPG) (HD)		Scorpion Crossroads. Team Scorpion must take a key witness on the run as she prepares to testify. (TV14) (HD)		(59) NCIS: Los Angeles Rage. Callen and Sam take down a white supremacist clan behind lost nuclear material. (TV14) (HD)	
4 WNBC	Superstore Magazine. Glen is excited. (TV14) (HD)	Telenovela Evil Twin. No secrets at work. (TVPG) (HD)	Superstore Shots and Salsa. (TVPG) (N) (HD)	Telenovela Trapped in Well. Ana avoids Mimi. (TVPG) (N) (HD)	Blindspot Evil Handmade. Team rushes to find and take out a group of activated sleeper spies. (TV14) (HD)	
5 WNYW	Gotham Rise: By Fire. Bridgit Pike has a boost of courage when she is reunited with her brothers. (TV14) (HD)		Bones Loyalty in Lie. Booth disappears while working on a case, FBI investigation is launched. (TV14) (HD)		FOX 5 News at 10 News events of the day, late breaking news and NYC area weather forecasts. (N)	
7 WABC	Happy New Year, Charlie Brown! Charlie Brown is distracted from his book report by dance lessons and a party. (TV G)		Rudolph's Shiny New Year ★★★ ('76, Holiday) Red Skelton. Rudolph searches for the New Year baby and must return for New Year's Eve. (TVPG) (HD)		Castle Private Eye. Beckett and Castle investigate the murder of a young telenovela actress. (TVPG) (HD)	
9 WWOR	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Wet. Victim found in fountain. (TV14) (HD)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Branded. Wire hanger brand. (TV14) (HD)		Chasing News New Jersey news. (N)	Inside Edition (TVPG) (N) (HD)
11 WPIX	Penn & Teller: Fool Us Ring Neck. Guest magicians perform for hosts. (TVPG) (HD)		Penn & Teller: Fool Us Invisi-Ball. Leon and Romy, Mike Hammer, Shin Lim. (TVPG) (HD)		PIX11 News at Ten w/ John (N)	(45) PIX11 Sports Desk Sports highlights. (N)
13 WNET	Antiques Roadshow Junk Trunk 3. (TV G) (HD)		Antiques Roadshow Treasures. (TV G) (N) (HD)		Independent Lens East of Salinas. (N) (HD)	
21 WLII	Death in Paradise Retirement death. (HD)		Masterpiece Downton Abbey V. Shooting party & the Christmas holiday. (TVPG) (HD)			
25 WNYE	Globe Trekker Isolated Island. Remote island.		Bare Feet M Mallozzi Travels Edge (TV G)		AfroPoP: Exchange Abominable. (TVPG)	
31 WPTX	Criminal Minds And Back. Canadian killer. (HD)		Criminal Minds Nameless. (TV14) (HD)		Criminal Minds Haunted. (TV14) (HD)	
41 WXTV	Antes muerta que Lichita Carácter y valores.		Pasión y poder Eternos rivales.		Yo no creo en los hombres Acoso sexual.	
47 WNJU	Celia Úrsula Hilaria Celia Caridad Cruz. (N)		Bajo el mismo cielo (TV14) (N) (HD)		Señora Acero Narcotraficante. (TV14) (N) (HD)	
48 RNN	Paid Program	Derm Exclusive	Paid Program	How to Avoid	Richard Roberts	St. Jude Hospital
55 WLNY	Law & Order: Criminal Intent (TV14) (HD)		WLNY News at 9PM (N)		Judge Judy (HD)	Judge Judy (HD)
63 WMBC	Worship Sermons	(40) 15 to Change	(20) Living Life	Great Satisfaction	Paid Program	Paid Program
CABLE	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
A&E	Juvenile Lifers Life sentence. (TVPG) (HD)		Kids Behind Bars: Maximum Security (HD)		Kids Behind Bars: Lost for Life (TV14) (HD)	
AMC	(6:30) Conan the Barbarian ★★½ ('82, Adventure) Arnold Schwarzenegger. A hero seeks to kill a cult leader. (R) (HD)			Conan the Destroyer ★★½ ('84, Adventure) Arnold Schwarzenegger. The legendary barbarian and his companions rescue a young princess. (PG)		
BET	Martin DJ's attitude.	Martin DJ's attitude.	Martin DJ's attitude.	Martin DJ's attitude.	Martin DJ's attitude.	Martin DJ's attitude.
BRAV	Vanderpump Rules Dirty Thirty. (TV14)		Vanderpump Rules Social (TV14) (N) (HD)		Untying the Knot Two Wrights. (TVPG)	
CNBC	Shark Tank Paintbrush storage. (TVPG) (HD)		Undercover Boss Mohegan Sun. (TVPG) (HD)		Undercover Boss Norwegian. (TVPG) (HD)	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360° Breaking news. (N) (HD)		Blindsided: How ISIS Shook the World		CNN Tonight with Don Lemon (N)	
COM	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	Archer (TVMA) (HD)	Archer Diversity. (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)
DIS	Bad Hair Day ★★½ ('15, Family) Laura Marano. Stolen necklace. (NR)		Austin & Ally (HD)		Best Friends (HD)	
DSC	Fast N' Loud: Revved Up (TV14) (N) (HD)		Fast N' Loud Beginning. (TV14) (N) (HD)		Red Devil Racers: Rich Man's Sleeper (N) (HD)	
ESPN	(15) Monday Night Football Cincinnati Bengals at Denver Broncos from Sports Authority Field at Mile High (Live) (HD)					
ESPN2	College Football (HD)		Wom. College Basketball Maryland Terrapins vs Connecticut Huskies (Live) (HD)			Ball Up Semifinal #1.
FAM	Harry Potter & Hallows 2 ★★½ ('11) (PG-13)		Hocus Pocus ★★½ ('93, Fantasy) Bette Midler. Witches return to Salem for revenge. (PG) (HD)			
FOXN	The O'Reilly Factor News talk. (N) (HD)		The Kelly File News updates. (N)		Hannity Conservative news. (N) (HD)	
FX	2012 ★★½ ('09, Action) John Cusack. Man must save his family from catastrophic, natural disasters around world. (PG-13) (HD)					
HBO	(7:00) Insurgent ('15, Action) Shailene Woodley. Fugitives seek reason for sacrifice. (PG-13) (HD)		Heroin: Cape Cod, USA A graphic look is taken at the heroin epidemic moving into America's towns. (TVMA) (N) (HD)			The Fight Game with Jim Lampley (HD)
HIST	(7:00) The Lost Book of Nostradamus A Nostradamus manuscript is scrutinized. (TVPG)		Nostradamus 21st Century Prophecies Revealed A look is taken into the special gift of French prophet Nostradamus. (TV14) (N) (HD)			
IFC	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show
LIFE	The Shawshank Redemption ★★★★★ ('94, Drama) Tim Robbins. A banker wrongly convicted of his wife's murder becomes an invaluable asset to a crooked warden and his fellow inmates while still holding hope for his release. (R) (HD)					
MAX	(10) You, Me and Dupree ★★½ ('06, Comedy) Owen Wilson. Newlyweds cope with a rude and crude houseguest after he loses his job. (PG-13) (HD)				The Break-Up ★★½ ('06, Comedy) Jennifer Aniston. Exes' condo fight. (PG-13) (HD)	
MSG	NHL Hockey New York Rangers at Nashville Predators from Bridgestone Arena (Live) (HD)				Rangers Post. (HD)	
MSGPL	College Basketball Delaware St. Hornets at TCU Horned Frogs from Schollmaier Arena (HD)				Fight Sports: The Contender	
MSNBC	All in with Chris Hayes Political panel. (N) (HD)				The Rachel Maddow Show (N) (HD)	
MTV	(7:30) Teen Mom (HD)	Teen Mom Wake Up. Amber gives Gary full custody. (TVPG) (HD)	Teen Mom Behind Camera. (TVPG) (N) (HD)			
NICK	Alvin My Sister.	Alvin Secret Powers.	Full House Crushed.	Full House (TV G)	Full House (TV G)	Full House (TV G)
SHO	Schindler's List ★★★★★ ('93, Drama) Liam Neeson. A Czech businessman who planned to get rich off the Nazis during World War II decides to turn his profits toward saving the lives of his Jewish workers. (R) (HD)					
SNY	Mets Classics New York vs Boston (Replay)		Oh Yeah ... 1977.	Oh Yeah ... 1995.	Mets Hot Stove (HD)	SportsNITE (HD)
SPIKE	Cops Coast. (HD)	Cops (TVPG) (HD)	Cops Custody. (HD)	Cops Coast. (HD)	Cops Arrests 2. (HD)	Cops Marshals. (HD)
STARZ	(6:40) Executive Decision ('96, Action) Kurt Russell. Terrorists hijack a U.S.-bound flight. (R)		Ash vs. Evil Dead El Jefe. (TVMA) (HD)	Ash vs. Evil Dead Bait. Ashe is followed. (HD)	(15) Ash vs. Evil Dead Books Beyond. (HD)	(45) Flesh and Bone Scorched Earth. (HD)
SYFY	(7:00) Insidious: Chapter 2 ★★½ ('13, Horror) Patrick Wilson. (PG-13)					
TBS	Family Guy (HD)	Family Guy (HD)	American Dad! (HD)	American Dad! (HD)	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory
TCM	The Children's Hour ('61, Drama) Audrey Hepburn. After being punished for telling a lie, a spiteful young student decides to spread hurtful rumors about the two head mistresses at her school.					
TLC	Bible Bowl Scripture knowledge competition. (TVPG) (N) (HD)					
TMC	Into the Blue ★★½ ('05, Thriller) Jessica Alba. Scuba divers run afoul of a drug lord after they retrieve his illicit cargo. (PG-13) (HD)					
TNT	(5:15) The Dark Knight Rises ('12) (PG-13) (HD)					
TVL	(6:12) The Facts of Life [(48) Everybody Loves Raymond (TVPG) (HD)		Loves Raymond (HD)		Loves Raymond (HD)	
USA	WWE Monday Night Raw from Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. (HD)					
VH1	Love & Hip Hop (TV14) (N) (HD)		Black Ink Crew: Chicago The Don Sets. (N)			
YES	(7:30) NBA Basketball Brooklyn Nets at Miami Heat from AmericanAirlines Arena (Live)		Black Ink Crew: Chicago Goodbye Doesn't. (N)			
			Nets Postgame (Live)			
			Soccer (Taped)			

Key: Movies shaded. Ratings: no stars, unrated; ★ poor; ★★ fair; ★★★ good; ★★★★★ excellent. (N) New show. FYI Television, Inc.

History

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death records.

"People explore their genealogy to learn more about themselves through their family history," says Weis. "It resonates with them and helps them find out if the legends and stories passed down through generations are accurate and true."

With the popularity of television series such as PBS' "Genealogy Road Show" and NBC's "Who Do You Think You Are," as well as Web sites such as Ancestry.com, more and more people are taking the time to explore their family tree.

Locally, groups like the Westchester County Genealogical Society (WCGS) are attracting new interest, too. Members study methods of genealogical research and exchange information helpful in their search for family roots. Anyone interested is welcome to join. It meets 10 a.m. to noon the second Saturday of each month (except July and August) at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 600 Broadway/Route 9, Dobbs Ferry. Non-members may attend for \$3.

Each gathering features a guest speaker addressing subjects such as how to join a lineage society, navigating a ship's manifest and finding your ancestors' occupations. At the next meeting, on Jan. 9, Brian Jennings will talk about genealogical exploration using sites and sources in Rockland. Also, WCGS maintains a growing collection of books and genealogical research material available for research at the Yorktown Family History Center, 801 Kitchawan Road/Route 134, Yorktown (914-941-9754).

Be aware that tracing your descendants has its pros *and* cons, so you must be prepared for discoveries that are good and bad. You could excavate that one of your great-aunts was a Nobel Prize winner just as much as you could unearth an ancestor who was an infamous criminal. Evidence of genetic traits — positive (athleticism, good vision) and negative (color-blindness, allergies) — could also show up.

"There's nothing more exciting than having a professional researcher comb through your lineage," says Weis. "People I've worked with have been fascinated and shocked but never upset by what I've found."

Cosgrove, 68, needs just one more piece of evidence to qualify for the DAR: the link from one of her fourth-great-grandmothers to her father, who was one of Cosgrove's fifth-great-grandfathers. (Yes, it *can* get complicated!)

Before enlisting help from Weis, Cosgrove, who lives in New Rochelle, knew just two things about her father's side of the family: Her paternal grandfather, Liss Olaf Johanson, had traveled to the U.S. by ship from Sweden when he was about 14 years old.

With research assistance from Weis, Cosgrove found out that grandfather Johanson had married his wife, Isabella Esher, in Philadelphia in 1918.

Isabella then gave birth in Brooklyn, where many Swedes lived, to a child who lived only 18 hours.

She also ascertained that Johanson then joined the U.S. Navy, Isabella moved back to Philadelphia and Johanson spent the rest of his life as a merchant marine.

Other discoveries: a great-aunt's short-lived shotgun wedding at age 15 in 1916; and that two of her great-grandfathers also lived in Philadelphia and worked in a nearby pocketbook factory.

"Finding out about my lineage makes me realize the tremendous number of family members who came before me," says Cosgrove.

"I also realized that just one broken connection would have made me a different person or maybe not have been born at all. It's amazing and gratifying."

As to be expected, Weis has also delved into her own past, including that in 1732 one of her relatives had come to U.S. on a ship of convict—he'd allegedly stolen someone's cow — from Wales. The ship's manifest held the information. Also, one of her maternal great-grandmother's alleged misdeeds — holding on to the money her runaway husband had stolen from a bank — was disproved.

Frustration can also accompany ancestral investigations. "It's not an easy task," attests Cosgrove. "It takes a lot of time, energy and patience. You have to *want* to do it." Among the challenges: people with no records or with records that dropped off early along the way, variations in the spelling of a family's surname, people who were adopted at birth and tracking down women using their maiden names.

The kin with the easiest paths to follow are those who arrived in the U.S. many generations, immigrants who passed through Ellis Island, and those who lived in northeast states, which have more files and records than other states.

Family Ties

One way to dig up your ancestral history is to hire someone to do it for you. Professional genealogists in the New York metro area can charge up to \$75 per hour. However, the American Society of Genealogists (fasg.org, wsaxbe@roadrunner.com) and the Association of Professional Genealogists (apgen.org, 303-465-6980) can recommend an investigator who fits your budget.

If you're more the do-it-yourself type, start with gathering information from your parents, aunts and uncles, and then work your way back through the generations. Beginning with the towns and cities in which your people were born and died is a good next step. Then, armed with that info, get their birth and death certificates from the towns' clerks (access regulations vary by state). Also check out funeral homes, family Bibles, cemeteries, churches, state census records, county clerks offices and public libraries.

RESOURCES

These organizations can help you navigate your genealogical journey by providing court, land, medical, census, emigration, immigration, military, will, probate and adoption records, and well as birth, marriage and death certificates.

The Historical Society of Rockland County (rocklandhistory.org, 845-634-9629)

Genealogical Society of Rockland County (rocklandgenealogy.org, jcbrooks@optonline.net);

The Westchester County Genealogical Society (rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nywcgs, Facebook, 914-941-9754);

Putnam County NY-Gen (rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyputnam);

The Putnam County Historian's Office (845-808-1420, putnamcountytny.com/countyhistorian/historians-collection);

Putnam County Historical Society & Foundry Museum (845-265-4010, pchs-fsm.org);

Westchester County Historical Society (westchesterhistory.com);

Westchester County Archives (archives.westchestergov.com, 914-995-2000);

Daughters of the American Revolution (dar.org);