

## ***Tail wagging the dog: Why isn't Scarsdale Village on the list?***

To the Editor,

According to Bloomberg Business, Scarsdale is the wealthiest community in Westchester and ranks 20th overall in the nation.

Having said that, I harken back to a quote by Samuel Langhorne Clemens. "There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics."

As a Scarsdale resident for more than 22 years, I measure my own personal wealth in a number of different ways, least of all monetarily. We should, though, consider ourselves most fortunate for having so many dedicated, conscientious and passionate civic-minded leaders that share their time and wisdom to enhance our standard of living. Sure, nothing's perfect, but we're much better off community-wise because of these good citizens.

At times though, we seem to lose our way.

Whether it is razing a historic home like the 1903 brick mansion that was originally the home of toy magnate Louis Marx, allowing the deplorable condition of our roads to become akin

to playing Pac-Man while we manoeuvre the cracks and potholes, or debating the value of the teen center.

Would we rather keep reading about trolls rummaging through our parks and wetlands; let's give our kids a break.

In the March 9 edition of The Wall Street Journal was an article titled Westchester Towns Band Together on New Type of Energy Contract. Seventeen Westchester municipalities signed off on a "first-of-its-kind" energy contract in New York State. Sustainable Westchester and Con Edison Solutions reached a two-year agreement in which energy users will be able to select either 100 percent renewable energy or a slightly less expensive option that includes a mix of renewable and traditional energy.

Sustainable stated homeowners and businesses will "collectively save \$4 million to \$5 million during the life of the contract, compared with the rates they paid over the past 12 months."

The municipalities included: the towns of Bedford, Greenburgh, Mamaroneck, Mount Kisco, New Castle

and Ossining; the villages of Hastings-on-Hudson, Irvington, Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Ossining, Pelham, Pleasantville, Rye Brook, Tarrytown; and the cities of New Rochelle, and White Plains. Regardless of the considerable reductions at the gas pump due to the tremendous capitulation of oil and gas commodity prices, I've yet to see our monthly Con Edison utility invoice reflect these lower energy prices, so why is Scarsdale missing from this list?

I consider myself to be an informed citizen, but either I missed reading about this in our local paper when it was taking root, or nothing was ever reported. Was this ever an issue discussed by our board of trustees? I'm more than ready to eat humble pie, but let me know why Scarsdale, with all of its sustainability initiatives on the table i.e., solar panels, grass mulching et al., never addressed what amounts to be a real cost savings for its citizens.

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