

Hook

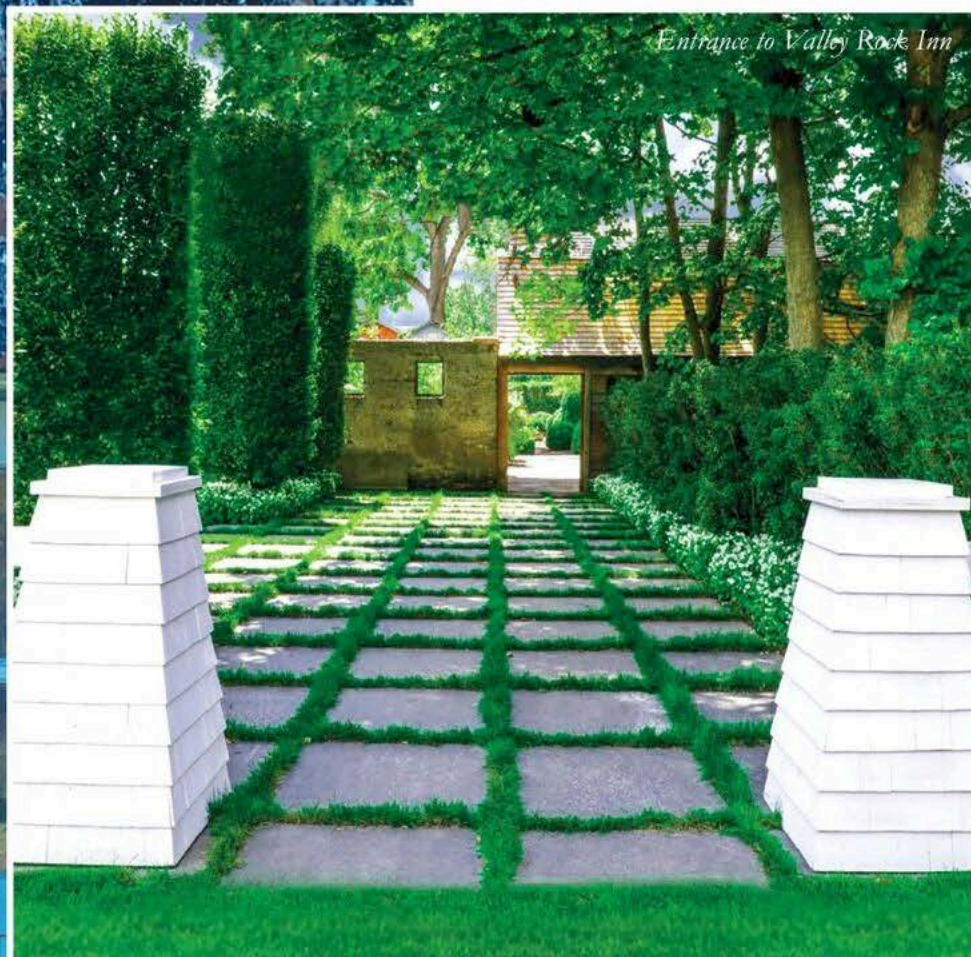
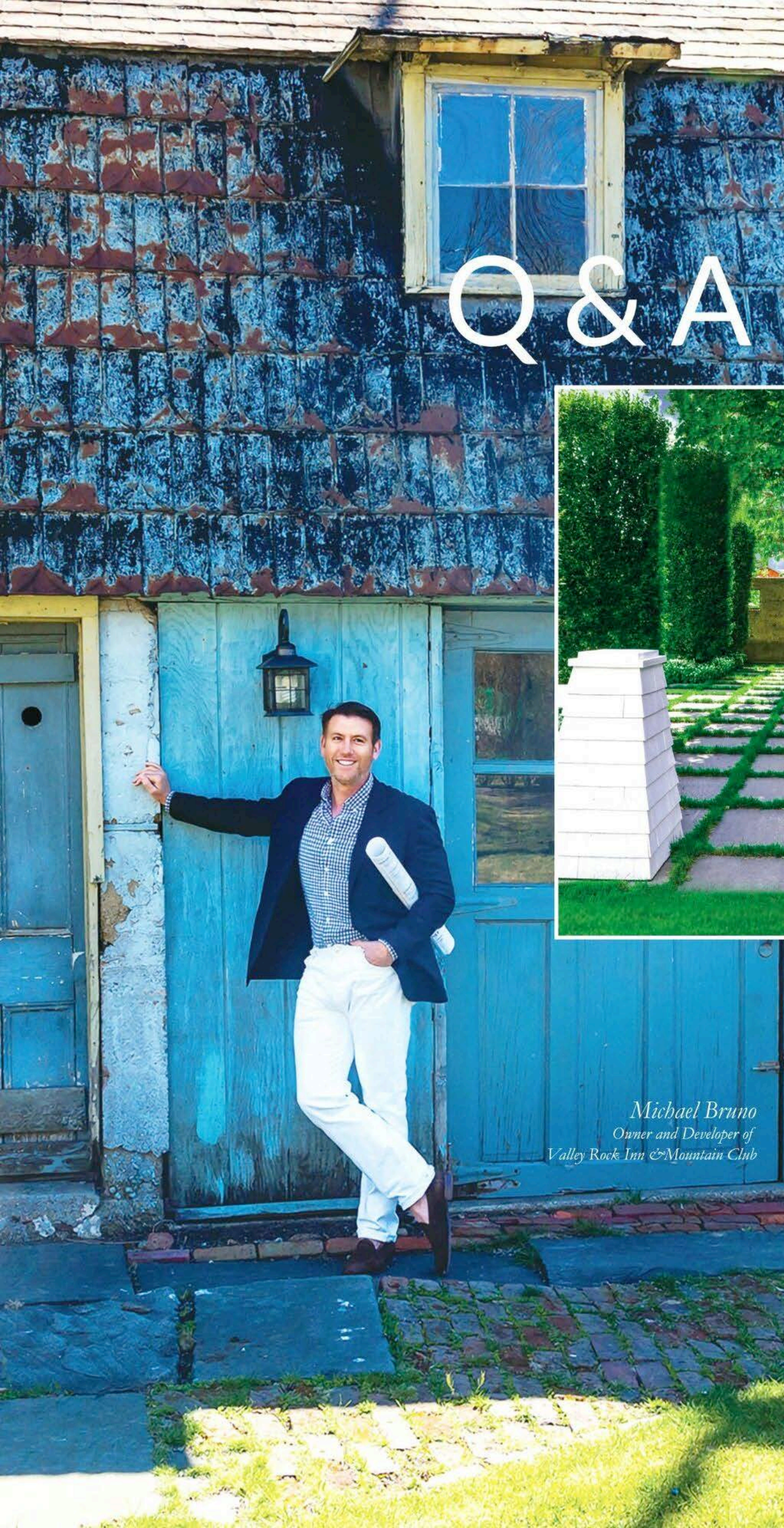
MAY/JUNE 2019

Culture, Art & Community In The Lower Hudson Valley

SPACE TRAVEL
MOROCCO
Grosses Walsertal
NANTUCKET
Tuxedo Park
+ MORE

15th Annual
TRAVEL ISSUE

Q & A WITH



Michael Bruno
Owner and Developer of
Valley Rock Inn & Mountain Club

HK- We hear a lot of people talking about Valley Rock Inn & Mountain Club, you have been listed as one of Condé Nast Travelers top 9 new boutique spas in the world. Why do you think they included you on the list?

MB- Our property has a resort quality to it, most people say they feel like they are on vacation when they join us for lunch. I hope they included us on the list because just being at Valley Rock makes people happy and for our new fitness and wellness retreats we are launching in May.

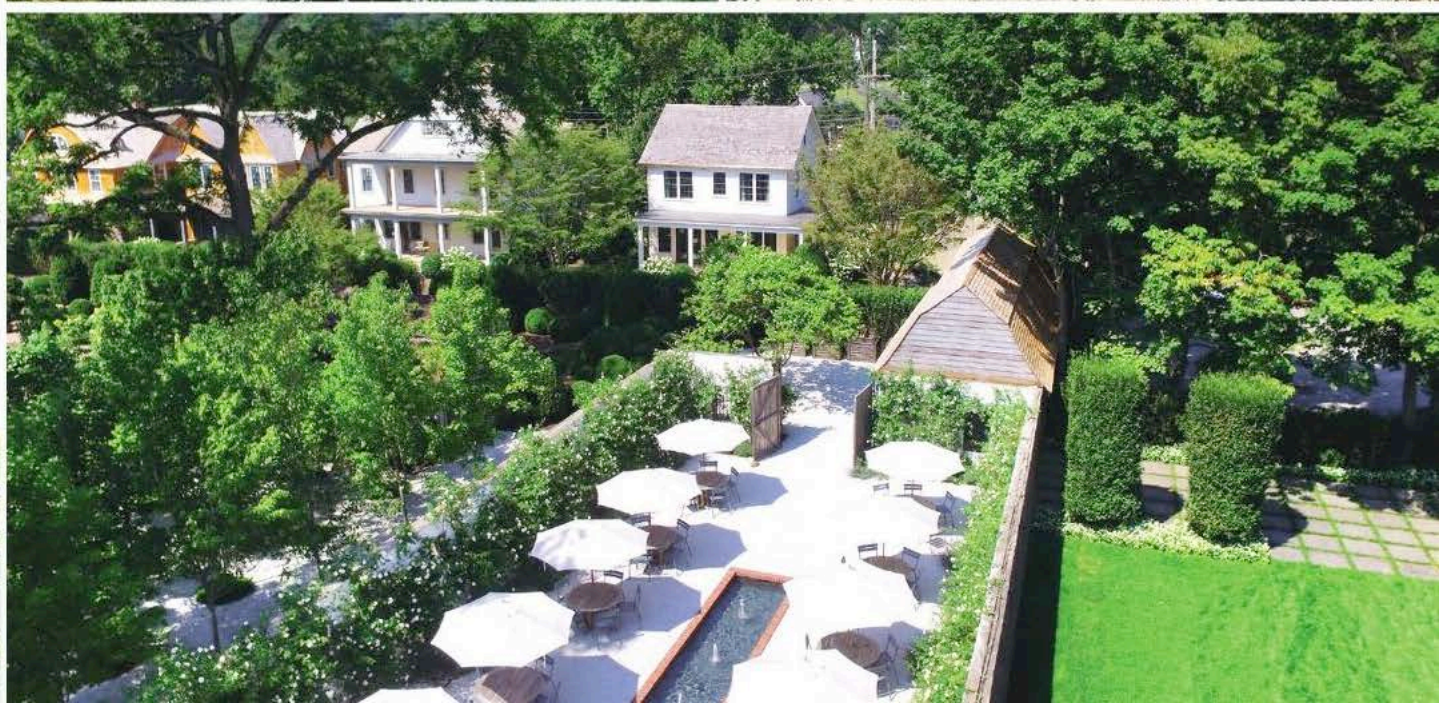
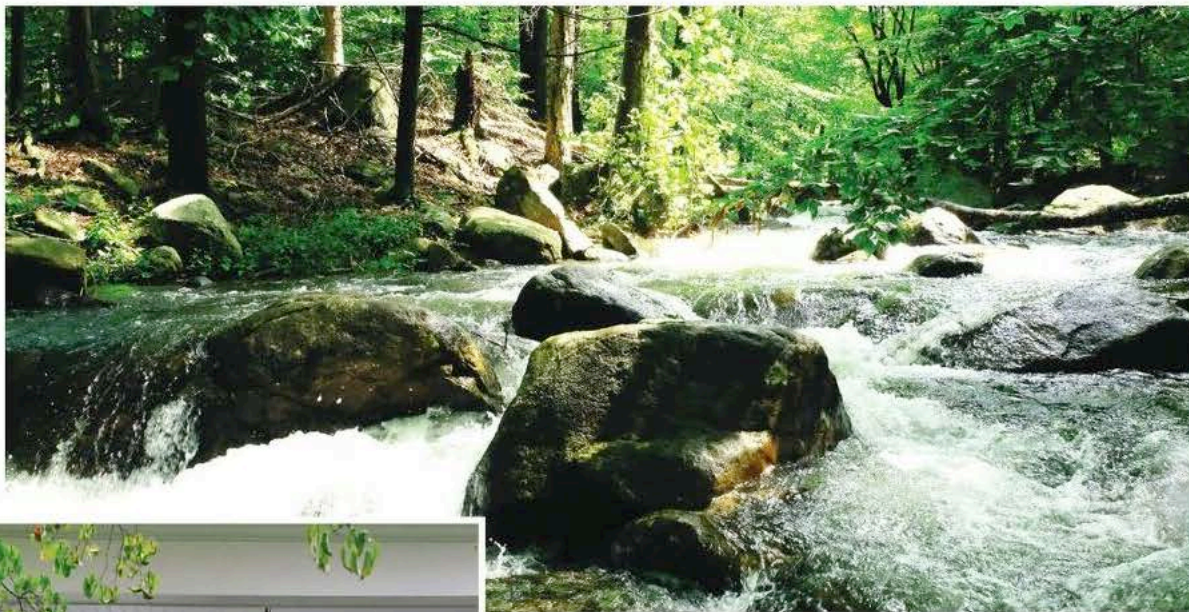
MICHAEL BRUNO

THE OWNER/ DEVELOPER OF VALLEY ROCK INN AND MOUNTAIN CLUB IN SLOATSBURG, NY.

HK- We want to hear more about your fitness and wellness retreats but first we would like to ask you about your real estate background and why you decided to build Valley Rock Inn & Mountain Club?

MB- I moved to Tuxedo Park which is right next door to Sloatsburg where Valley Rock Inn is located, the forever wild park land that surrounds us is immense and provides an important buffer to development from the outside world. I wanted to live

someplace that was not going to be destroyed by development as most places will eventually be. With more than 70,000 acres of forever wild park land it may be the last protected place anywhere near NYC.





Tuxedo Lake



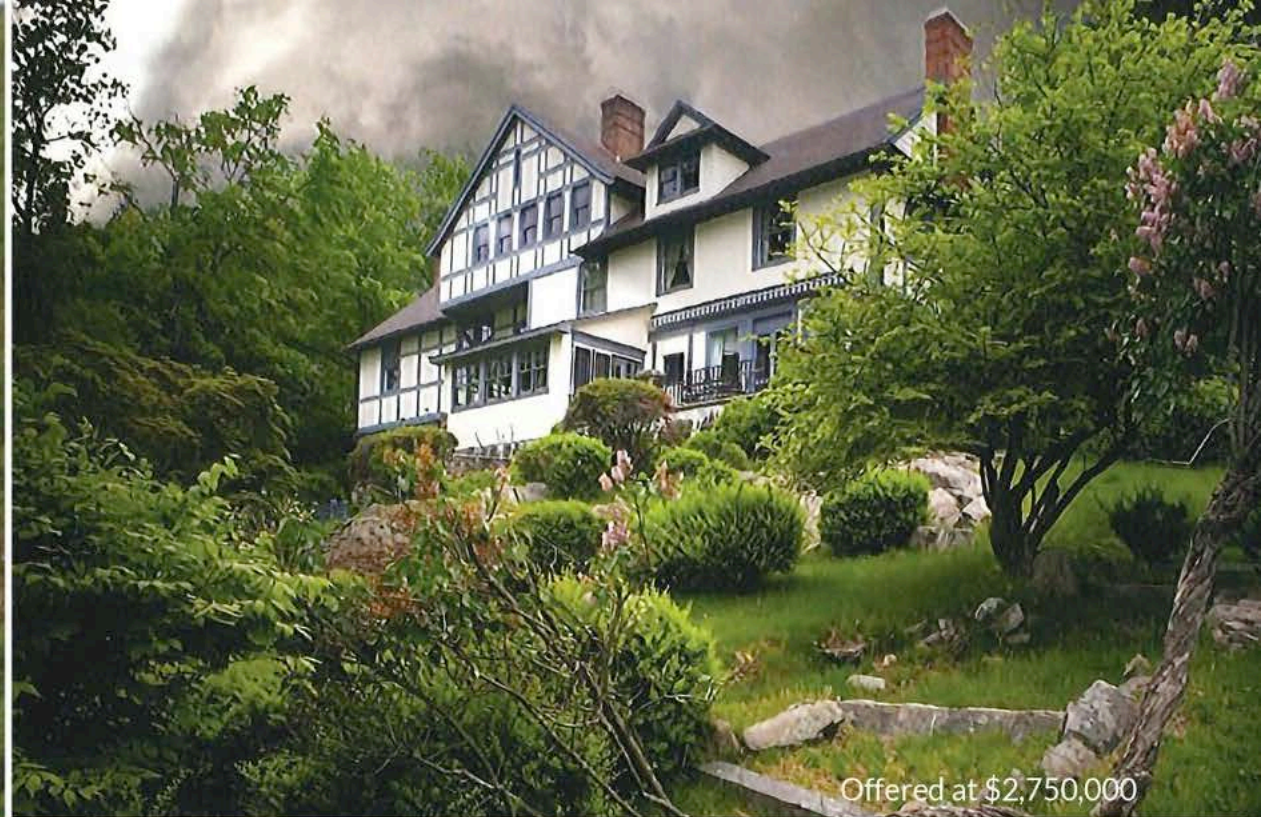
Sold: last asking price \$7,900,000

HK- Tuxedo Park is famous for its historic homes, do you own one?

MB- I am lucky enough to be able to say yes. I love historic homes and couldn't resist the chance to own one of them, I bought an important 1901, John Russell Pope - designed lake house within the first week of setting eyes on it. When you enter through the 30 ft tall stone gatehouse to Tuxedo Park you feel you have entered another world.

HK- You opened Tuxedo Hudson Realty three years ago, can you tell us why?

MB- Real estate was my first job and first love, I received my brokers license when I was 19 and living in Southern California. Our company, Tuxedo Hudson Realty has five full-time agents with two more in the licensing program. I leave the transactions to them now but enjoy being there to help them learn the sales side of the business. We cover northern Rockland County and half of Orange County with a focus on Tuxedo Park, Sloatsburg and on up through Greenwood Lake to Warwick.



These properties are available through
Tuxedo Hudson Realty

tuxedohudsonrealty.com
845-915-4567



Offered at \$1,790,000



Offered at \$1,725,000



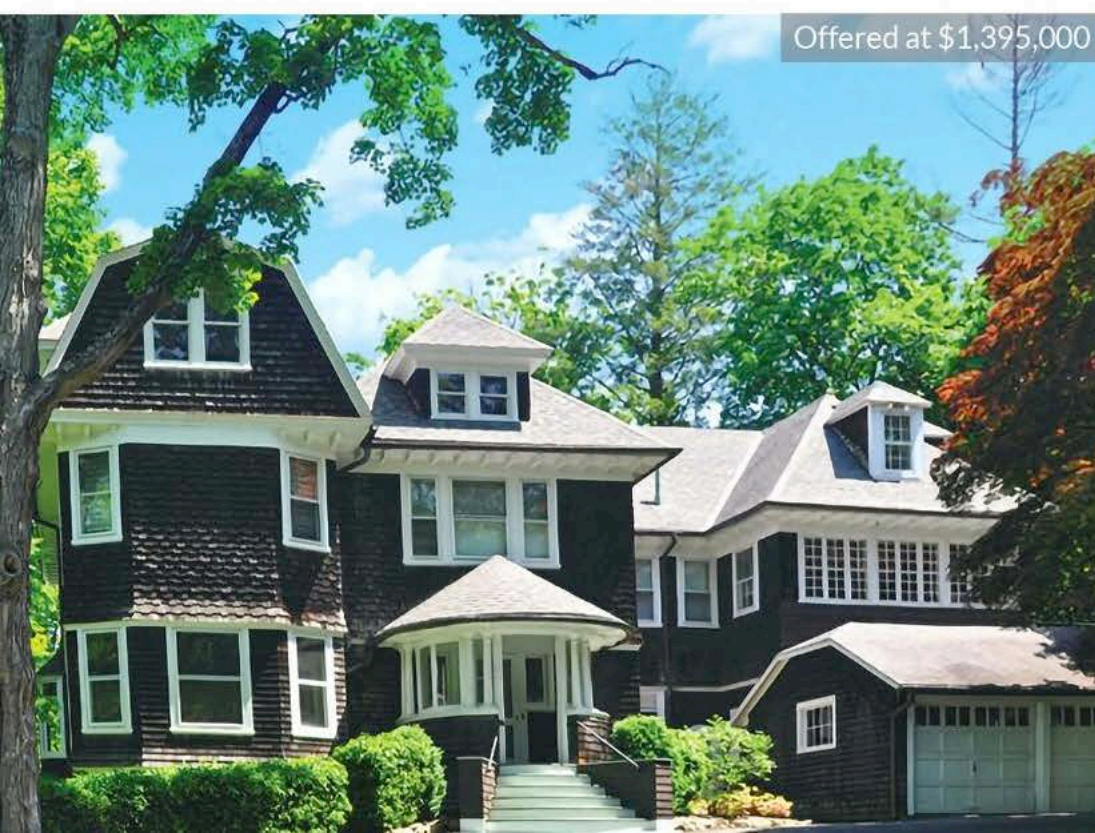
Offered at \$1,250,000

HK- Has the business been able to break into the markets you serve?

MB- We have more million-dollar-plus sales in Orange County than any other firm and we have sold the most expensive home in Tuxedo Park every year since we opened our office and this past year we set the record for highest sale in Warwick and it looks like we will have that happen again this year.

HK- Is it a good time to buy?

MB- It's always a good time to buy real estate, you just have to make sure you get a place you love and a deal that makes you happy. In all seriousness, I do think it's a very attractive place and time to look at properties, it's close to the city yet feels hours away. Warwick has extensive protected farmland which is driving the market there and Tuxedo and Sloatsburg have forever wild park land with lakes and trails in every direction. Add to that we are opening a new luxury resort with an on-site real estate office and I think we are going to see many new people enter the search for a home and become neighbors, at least that is our hope!



Offered at \$1,395,000



Offered at \$2,750,000



HK- Back to Valley Rock and your plans for the summer season, will you have restaurants open that people can go to?

MB- We currently have an organic market that is open Friday through Sunday and we serve lunch in the Summer Pavilion on Saturdays with more days to come as the weather continues to warm up. By June we will be serving several days a week, our organic market will be open 7 days a week, and our gym will offer spin and yoga daily.





seat 120 and open out onto the pool. Additionally, we are wrapping up work on our new organic market that will function like a mini-Whole Foods. Above that will be our screening room and 75-seat lecture hall, as well as our after-hours games room in the historic Henry Club with games tables and a bar. Last, but not least, is our art gallery and conference center for corporate retreats with two conference rooms that will seat up to 30.

HK- sounds like you have a busy summer ahead.

HK- Can you tell us more about your fitness and wellness retreats?

MB- Our property was designed for fitness-focused people. We have a 75 ft pool, a 7,000 sq ft gym with spin and yoga, and a fleet of bikes and kayaks to use in the 70,000 acres of adjacent parkland. We will be offering intermittent fasting kickstarter programs during the week that incorporate an 8 hour feeding window and outdoor fitness and yoga. These types of retreats are non-drinking. On weekends we will offer fitness retreats that are a triathlon of biking, hiking and kayaking, these retreats are

reserved for people that are in good shape and can handle 5-6 hours of training. Dinner will be served when the restaurant is open to the public, so drinking is optional.

HK- We understand you still have construction going on, when will it be completed?

MB- We are in the final stages of completing our main lodge building that will function as Valley Rock Inn's primary reception area with two bars, a gathering lounge that will seat 50, a pub room that will seat 60, and the main dining room that will

