

Jopling Coming to Paramount...



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December 1 - December 7, 2015

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 311

Local Environmental Activists Rally Prior to Climate Summit

By Rick Pezzullo

A peaceful rally was held at Riverfront Green in Peekskill Saturday as environmental groups and local officials brought attention to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris and area projects considered detrimental to the health and safety of residents.

Organizers of the event, which included Clearwater, the New York Public Interest Research Group, Sierra Club, Riverkeeper, Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE) and others, attracted several hundred participants who braved the wet, damp elements, displayed descriptive banners and posters and listened to powerful speeches and soothing music.

A moment of silence was also held for France, where officials banned street

protests of the 12-day Global Climate Summit following the recent terrorist attacks that rocked the country and sent shockwaves throughout the world.

"We stand with France as we stand with people around the planet," said Lisa Moir, owner of the Blue Pig ice cream store in Croton and one of the main organizers of the rally. "Nobody could have predicted how little our leaders have done to combat climate change. It's unacceptable. Embrace what brought you here and join together in bringing solutions. We make change. The message has to go out."

Peekskill Councilman Darren Rigger said he was compelled to attend the rally to show support for France.

"The Paris tie-in was really important

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RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Participants at rally at Riverfront Green in Peekskill Saturday get into the spirit of the event.

YSBA Urges Residents to Support Local Businesses



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Yorktown Small Business Association members and supporters kicked off a new program Saturday in Shrub Oak.

By Rick Pezzullo

With another Black Friday come and gone and the holiday shopping season front and center, the Yorktown Small Business Association is urging residents to frequent local merchants.

On Saturday, outside Campagna's Restaurant in Shrub Oak, the YSBA kicked off its "Put your ALL into Shopping Small Program," which offers incentives for shoppers to spend money locally.

"Local small businesses are the fuel that powers our economic engine and our community," said YSBA founder and President Bob Giordano, who was joined by Highway Superintendent Dave Paganelli, Yorktown Lions Club President and Councilman-elect Ed Lachterman, Town Clerk-elect Diana Quast and some

local business owners.

"It is important for our residents to patronize our local merchants, who are so important to the economic vitality of our community," Giordano added.

The program runs through the entire month of December and a grand prize of \$500 cash, merchandise and gift certificates from various participating businesses worth thousands of dollars will be raffled off on New Year's Day.

Shoppers must patronize participating businesses in order to qualify for free raffle tickets. Requirements for raffle tickets are set and provided by each business. Shoppers should look for the green balloons and posters.

"As a former small business owner and

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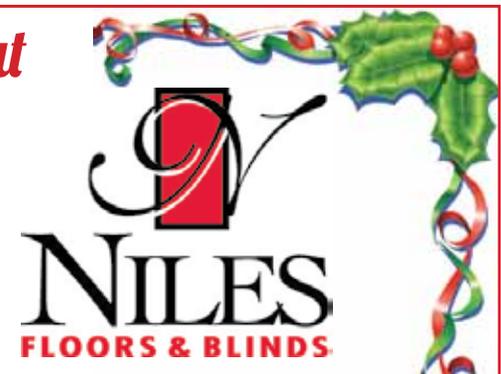
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Local Environmental Activists Rally Prior to Climate Summit

continued from page 1

to me," Rigger said. "The fact that they're moving forward with the climate summit in Paris is courageous."

Other elected officials who stood side-by-side with the environmentalists were state Assemblyman Sandy Galef (D/Ossining), Westchester County Legislator Catherine Borgia (D/Ossining), Peekskill Mayor Frank Catalina, Peekskill Councilwoman Kathy Talbot, Peekskill Councilman-elect Andre Rainey and Ossining Supervisor-elect Dana Levenberg.

"The only thing that ever changes anything is people banding together," Borgia said. "Individual people can make a difference."

Several speakers made reference to Spectra Entergy's gas pipeline expansion project that was given the go-ahead by federal officials, despite opposition from most local municipalities, and is currently being constructed in parts of Cortlandt, Peekskill and Yorktown.

One resident, Nancy Vann of Buchanan, delayed some of the construction work for a day a few weeks ago when she refused to move from a tree on her property that was slated to be cut down by Spectra.

"Nancy is a hero for taking a stand," said Talbot, who supported Vann's pro-



RICK PEZZULLOPHOTO

Many attendees at rally carried signs with clear messages.

test by standing near her at the site. "County police threatened her arrest. Today is about protecting our most vital environment."

Catalina, who assured no peaceful protestor would ever be placed in handcuffs under his watch as mayor, believes the pipeline project was already approved before it was presented publicly to the communities where it would be built.

"We have done everything we can to stop this. It looks like our efforts will be unsuccessful," Catalina said. "We live in the shadow of Indian Point. We have the pipeline going through. When there is

a tragedy they'll remember you standing out here in the rain today. We will be heard."

Zephyr Teachout, a constitutional and property law professor at Fordham Law School, and a former gubernatorial candidate who ran a Democratic primary last year against Governor Andrew Cuomo, also attended the rally and spoke about the dangerous effects of climate change.

"The health effects of climate change are so severe," Teachout said. "We've known about this for a long time. We have to do something immediately. If you

can stop an inch, you can stop a mile."

"The solutions are obvious," Moir stated. "We need to keep most of the remaining fossil fuels in the ground, transition to 100% renewable energy, and make sure the poor have the resources they need to respond to the crisis. We can make this happen with enough voices united for change."

YSBA Urges Residents to Support Local Businesses

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a member of the YSBA, I understand how important it is to support our local small businesses all year long," said Paganelli, former owner of Travelers Rest. "I encourage our residents to give their All into shopping Small."

The YSBA is offering the program at no cost to all small businesses in Yorktown. Interested businesses are encouraged to contact Giordano at (914) 874-4347 or Yorktownsba@optonline.net. Enrollment will continue until December 15.

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Peekskill Council Irked by Police Protection for Pipeline

By Rick Pezzullo

Peekskill Common Council members were unhappy to learn that city cops were hired by Spectra Entergy to provide police protection during the construction of an expanded gas pipeline in the area.

What particularly bothered some members was the fact the Council opposed the controversial project, which only runs for about a quarter-mile in Peekskill.

"The Council passed a resolution that we don't want this pipeline coming through our city, yet Peekskill officers were on Cortlandt property protecting Spectra from our citizens," Councilwoman Kathy Talbot remarked during a work session last week. "It's an ill-conceived project and now we have our staff down there on Cortlandt property. I can't justify that to anyone. I can't justify that to myself."

Talbot was making reference to a November 17 incident on Reynolds Hills in Buchanan, just over the Peekskill border, where resident Nancy Vann temporarily halted construction of the pipeline by refusing to budge from a tree on her property within 300 feet of the activity.

A week earlier, nine members of a coalition called Resist AIM were peacefully arrested in Montrose for blocking two ware yard driveways used by workers for



Mayor Frank Catalina supported Police Chief Eric Johansen and city officers in providing protection for Spectra.

Spectra.

Peekskill Police Chief Eric Johansen explained city police officers were hired by Spectra when they are off duty. The officers are paid overtime rates, and the city is reimbursed for all costs incurred, plus an administrative fee, according to Johansen.

"This is something we have been doing for a number of years. It's pretty common in the police profession," Johansen

said in reference to police being present at construction sites. "We're not taking sides. We're there for traffic control, crowd control, crime prevention and to maintain a safety zone. If we don't do it then somebody else will do it. I don't feel comfortable having State Police or Westchester County Police coming in doing our police work."

Mayor Frank Catalina said the police were providing a level of security as they

would during any special event in the city, but acknowledged the Council was the last to know about their involvement with the pipeline.

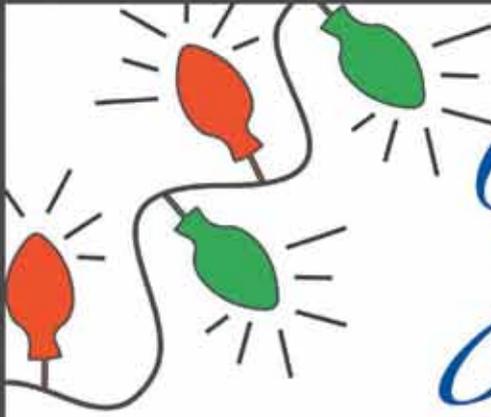
"I don't have a problem with it, but we should have been notified about it," he said.

Councilwoman Vivian McKenzie maintained have Peekskill Police protect Spectra sends the wrong message to residents.

"The Council had no idea this was taking place and I think that was kind of wrong. It looks like the City of Peekskill is supporting the pipeline," she said. "This (project) is huge and for people to ask us questions and we're looking dumbfounded makes us look in a bad light."

In October, Spectra Energy began building a high-pressure 42-inch diameter pipeline throughout the area. A 26-inch pipeline currently runs through the region. For several years, local elected officials and residents lobbied against the project but ultimately were unable to convince the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), whose authority supersedes home rule.

"I think it was a done deal from the beginning," Catalina said. "There's nothing the city could do to stop this."



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Instructor Hopes to Increase Interest in Belly Dancing

By Michael Giuliano

Dance Instructor Sarah Bell has been teaching belly dancing at Solaris Sports Club for the past 12 years, but now the class faces cancellation due to a lack of sponsorship and enrollment.

Bell, a choreographer who has been trained in several forms of dance including jazz and ballet, has been dancing for 35 years and teaching belly dancing for 26, and said that belly dancing is one of the oldest forms of dance in recorded history.

"Belly dancing came first," Bell said. "Ballet, jazz, hip-hop, ballroom, Zumba: all of them come from belly dancing."

While it is a relatively recent phenomenon in the United States, having first been introduced at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago, there have been records of belly dancing dating back almost 20,000 years.

Bell is based out of Fishkill in Dutchess County, though she has taught all throughout New York State, and is willing to go wherever requested (within reason).

"It's easier to ask where I haven't taught," she joked.

Bell travels to each of her class locations, and is available wherever needed, as long as a minimum class size of 12 students is met. The minimum class size requirement is what caused the latest sessions in York-



Belly dancing class at Solaris Club is set to resume in January.

town to be cancelled; only four students signed up. Now postponed until January 2016, Bell hopes that more students and sponsors will be interested in the class. All that is required of sponsors is a dedicated space suitable for classes.

"Lisa Plattner [the current activities director at Solaris] first called me for the class," Bell said. "The person before her wasn't interested, but Lisa was, so that's how we got started [in Yorktown]. They have been very good to me."

Bell went on to say that her students become a tight-knit group over the course of classes, and that a high percentage of students come back for more classes once the first session ends. Several students have even gone on to teach their own belly dancing classes.

"All the classes are close," she said. "We're multi-generational already; we have a couple of mothers and daughters who come together. I have students who have been with me for eight, nine, even 10 years now."

When it comes to the class itself, Bell said that the toughest part for most prospective students is getting over the stigma associated with the physical act of belly dancing.

"We come to dance class like you would go to a Zumba class: leggings and a tank top," Bell said. "In Egypt, people didn't show their stomachs at all [when dancing]. Hollywood glamorized belly dancing. When students come into my class, expecting a 20-year-old with flat abs, and they see me, who is a little older, I think they get a little more comfortable." To those who are self-conscious, Bell is fond of reminding people that Marilyn Monroe was a size 14, and said that belly dancing "is meant for those with curves."

Most classes cost \$69 for four 90-minute sessions, though there are a few classes that last 10 sessions. Gift certificates are also available, and Bell said that they are popular gifts from friends or from husbands to wives during the holiday season.

"It's funny, in the beginning women

take a belly dancing class and most husbands say 'Oh, what crazy thing are you doing now?'" Bell said. "Then, after our annual recital, the husbands are so proud that they buy their wives gift certificates for more classes!"

Bell promotes that the class encourages health and relaxation, noting that it is anaerobic and low-impact, making it ideal for a wide range of ages.

"It's about taking all of the energy out of your mind and putting it into your body," she said. "Belly dancing gets you in touch with your body, which is important for women. Women typically spend so much time taking care of others that they often neglect themselves. Coming to class is like coming home, giving them a chance to nurture [themselves]."

Belly dancers, led by Bell, are available for public performances; Bell has had students perform at bar and bat mitzvahs, birthday parties, and even quinceañeras.

Inquiries about sponsorship, questions regarding classes, class registration, and gift certificate purchases are all done through Bell directly. She has her own website (www.DancingWithSarah.com) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/bellydancingbysarah). For any further questions, she is also available by telephone at (914) 874-4541.

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Local Students to Perform in a Charlie Brown Christmas

What happens when a prominent contemporary jazz pianist/composer/three-time Grammy Nominee, a two-time Grammy Nominated jazz vocalist, a Latin Guitarist Grammy Nominee and a Broadway Chorus Director team up at the Hudson Valley's most exciting theatre? Be in the audience as jazz pianist David Benoit and his musicians, are joined by vocalist Jane Monheit, and the Hudson Valley All-Star Chorus to present "David Benoit's Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown," on Thursday evening, December 3, at 7 p.m. when the Paramount Hudson Valley produces this remarkable collaboration.

With 25 albums under his belt, Benoit has been recognized for his Billboard Top Contemporary Jazz Albums, has

performed at The White House for three U.S. Presidents (Bill Clinton, Ronald Reagan and George Bush, Sr.) and has musical directed and/or performed with the likes of Kenny Loggins, Faith Hill, David Sanborn, Lanie Kazan, Ann-Margaret and Connie Stevens, to name a few. After the death of Peanuts creator Charles M. Schulz, he released a memorial album entitled Here's To You, Charlie Brown: 50 Great Years. He also provided music for "Peanuts" in later specials. His memorable debut at The Paramount Hudson was so overwhelming, that audience members rallied for his return, this year.

The featured vocalist for the evening, the stunning and brilliant Jane Monheit, is well known for her 10 records and two DVD's. Her unique vocals can be heard

in movie soundtracks and on television (Christmas at the White House, the Capitol Fourth of July Celebration, and The National Memorial Day Celebration, Letterman, The View, The Today Show) as well as in live performances with a symphonic orchestra, in theaters and prominent jazz clubs around the country. She sings everything from The Great American Songbook, to pop favorites to Jazz standards, with flawless delivery, tender nuances and unmatched vocal control, the basis of her Grammy Nominations.

Peekskill Middle School's choral director, and Grammy Nominee Larry DelCasale will not be playing Latin guitar for this show, but wears the hat of the evening's choral conductor. The Hudson

Valley All-Star Chorus consists of young singers from Peekskill Middle School, The Haldane School District in Garrison and The Cortlandt School of Performing Arts, a music school in Croton. DelCasale coupled his expertise in the music business when working closely with Benoit's arrangers, coordinating and sharing the choral music and rehearsal tracks for the young singers to learn at their respective schools. He will be the choral conductor of over 60 young voices for the Benoit show.

Carol Arrucci, Broadway children's vocal conductor and producer of last year's sold-out "String Pulse" concert at the Paramount, which included 250 local school-aged singers, string players and dancers,

continued on page 14

Daisy Jopling Band to Perform at Holiday Show at Paramount

Internationally acclaimed classical/rock violinist Daisy Jopling and her band mates recently returned from a whirlwind six-week-long concert tour along China's east coast and plunged right into rehearsals for Jopling's first-ever holiday concert at the historic Paramount Hudson Valley on Sunday, December 6 at 3 p.m.

In appreciation, Jopling is offering a special bulk discount of 10% off 10 - 19 tickets and 20% off 20 or more tickets starting Monday, November 30 and continuing while tickets remain available. Jopling's last concert was sold out and fans had to be turned away at the door. Fans purchasing ten or more tickets at one time will be invited to a special VIP

Pre-Show reception, an opportunity to meet Daisy Jopling in person and receive exclusive memorabilia from Daisy's six-week China Tour. To purchase tickets, call the Paramount at 914-739-0039 extension 2, or visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com

"I am thrilled to be back in the states rehearsing for our upcoming holiday

concert. While we miss our Chinese fan base, we are so excited to be home for the holidays. There are no boundaries in music, only appreciation for the experience of joyful freedom music brings. Following our tour in China, I am convinced more than ever that music has the power to bring joy to everyone this holiday sea-

continued on page 12

Christmas is Here!

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Support Connection Honored as 2015 Top-Rated Nonprofit

Support Connection announced last week that it has been honored with a prestigious 2015 Top-Rated Award by GreatNonprofits, the leading provider of user reviews about nonprofit organizations. Support Connection provides free support services, such as counseling, support groups and other programs, to people affected by breast and ovarian cancer.

This Top-Rated Nonprofit award presented by GreatNonprofits is based on the large number of positive reviews Support Connection received: online reviews written by volunteers, donors and clients. People posted their personal experiences with the organization.

For example, one woman, a cancer survivor who reached out to Support Connection, wrote: "I contacted Support Connection and it was the best call I made in my life. My counselor listened to my fears and concerns and understood exactly what I was feeling. She has supported me

through rough times and happier times. I would speak to her as I was going through my journey. It is 6 1/2 years since that first call and still today I am supported by this remarkable organization."

While the Top-Rated Awards ran through the end of October, Support Connection was part of the inaugural group to qualify for the year. In addition, Support Connection has been added to GreatNonprofits #GivingTuesday Guide—an interactive guide to top nonprofits throughout the years. Look for this near the holidays.

Being on the Top-Rated list gives donors and volunteers more confidence that this is a credible organization. The reviews by volunteers, clients and other donors show the on-the-ground results of Support Connection. This award is a form of recognition by the community.

Support Connection Executive Director Katherine Quinn said, "We are honored to receive this award again. We

are especially pleased because it's based on reviews from the people who know us best: those who have volunteered for or donated to us, and most importantly, people who reached out to us and found the help, understanding and guidance they needed to get through some of the toughest challenges anyone can face."

Quinn added, "In 2016, Support Connection will celebrate 20 years of providing free breast and ovarian cancer support services. We are proud of our accomplishments. With continued support from our donors and the community, we

look forward to many more years of fulfilling this important mission."

Support Connection, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization that provides free, confidential support services and programs to people affected by breast and ovarian cancer. Founded in 1996, Support Connection is based in Yorktown Heights, but through its toll-free services and website serves people throughout the country. To learn more, visit www.supportconnection.org or call: 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

Rotary Hosts Breakfast with Santa

Cortlandt Rotary is having a Pancake Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec 6 at the Muriel Morabito Community Center, 29 Westbrook Drive, in Cortlandt from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Highlights include a warm welcome from Frosty the Snowman, with Santa

and Mrs. Claus arriving via Fire Truck at 10 a.m. Santa will be staying to talk to children and take photos during the breakfast event. Christmas craft projects available free for the children. Please bring a new unwrapped toy for Toys For Tots.

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Obituaries

Robert Gordineer

Robert 'Bob' Gordineer Sr., a longtime Mohegan Lake resident, died November 26. He was 81.

Born in Peekskill on February 19, 1934, son of the late Raymond & Catherine (Turner) Gordineer, he was a graduate of Peekskill High School. On March 7, 1954, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Mohegan, he married Gail B. Tompkins, who predeceased him on October 25, 2013 after 59 years of marriage.

Mr. Gordineer was an active and devoted 52-year member of the Mohegan Lake Volunteer Fire Department, where he was past-president. For the last 21 years he served as a commissioner of the Lake Mohegan Fire District. He was also a life-member of the Mohegan Volunteer Ambulance Corp. He is survived by his daughter, Susan See; and his son, Robert (Marianne) Gordineer, Jr; five grandchildren, Rebecca and Kenneth See, and Matthew, Andrew & Olivia Gordineer. He is also survived by 2 sisters, Grace DiDonato and Florence Booth; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son-in law David See. Memorial donations may be made to either the Lake Mohegan Paid Professional Firefighters, Local 2956, 1975 E. Main St., Mohegan Lake, NY 10547 or the St. Mary's Building Fund, 1836 E. Main St., Mohegan Lake.

James Kelly

James Aloysius Kelly, a resident of Charlotte who spent most of his adult life in Yorktown Heights, died November 20. He was 87.

Son of the late James and Katherine Kelly, Mr. Kelly was born and raised in Mount Kisco. He relocated to Charlotte in 2012. He worked for the New York Railroad for 45 years, retiring from CONRAIL in 1990. He graduated from St. Mary's High School, in Katonah, where he met Marjorie "Marge" Patterson, his wife of 66 years, who survives him.

Other survivors include his children James Kelly (Ann), Patti Kelly, and Chris Kelly (Becky); grandchildren and great-grandchildren Richard Kelly, Jeff Forte, Daniel Kelly, Thomas Kelly, Matthew Kelly, Carolyn Kelly, Ava Kelly, Jordyn Kelly, Jack Dawson, and Benjamin Dawson; siblings Katherine Collins, Helen Beuka, William Kelly, and Frances Kelly. Brothers Robert Kelly and John (Jackie)



James Kelly

Kelly predeceased him. He was also the very loving foster parent to Theresa Rose Murphy and Dougie Gailhardt.

Family was the thing he valued most in this world, and he stressed that repeatedly in his final days. Likewise, his family adored him. His siblings and their families called him "Buddy," and his children and grandchildren came to call him "Pop." He loved to fish, play cards, and do any kind of puzzle. He excelled at color slide photography, and was an award-winning member of the Westchester Colored Slide Club. Very active in the Catholic Church, he especially loved his work over the years with the teenagers. To say he was a positive and optimistic person is an understatement. He never complained, regardless of the situation. He even fought five different types of cancer with a smile on his face. He had a terrific sense of humor, which got him through a lot of hard times. He retained that and his quick wit to the very end. The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to Hospice and the staff at The Laurels for the tender loving care they provided him throughout his decline.

Patrick J. Spinola

Patrick J. Spinola, of Delray Beach, Florida and formerly of Peekskill, died peacefully November 14. He was 95.

Mr. Spinola was predeceased by his first wife, Anna Spinola, of Peekskill, and by his second wife, Marion Spinola, of Delray Beach. He was a long time parishioner of Emmanuel Catholic Church in Delray and an active member of the Knights of Columbus. Locally, he was a life member of the Christopher Columbus Society of Peekskill. Before retiring to Florida, he was a highly skilled engine technician for the New York Railway in Croton-Harmon, and he served as a Peekskill Fire Corps volunteer. He will be remembered for his gregarious nature, love for his family, and passion for music and dancing.

He is survived by his loving family: children, Patricia Kohler of Utah, Barbara Coletti of Katonah, New York, and Joseph Spinola of China; grandchildren, Dorene Coletti Alleva, Kurt Kohler, Krystyn Kohler and Sean Kohler; and great-grandchildren, Eliana Kohler, Ethan Kohler and Hideto Hara. A funeral service will be held on Wednesday, December 2 at the Joseph F. Nardone Funeral Home in Peekskill. A graveside service will follow at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Putnam Valley.

Peter Menegas

Peter G. Menegas, a former longtime

resident of Somers and currently of Havre de Grace, MD, died November 19. He was 89.

Mr. Menegas was born in Queens, New York, to George Peter Menegas and Louise Renz. He was the devoted husband of almost 60 years to Rosalie Scialabba Menegas, loving father of Jeffrey G. Menegas, MD, and his wife, Eileen A. Menegas, RN, BSN, of Matawan, New Jersey, and of Leslie A. Green, RN, MSEd, and her husband, Paul J. Green, of Somers, NY. He was the adored grandfather of Molly Leigh Wright and her husband, Jeffrey Wright, SGT Army National Guard, of Flushing, NY.

Mr. Menegas served the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII, as a tail-gunner on a B-24 "Liberator." Following the war he worked as a medical photographer, first at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, and later as a freelancer. He was a talented photographer, and it remained one of his passions throughout his life. He was also an amazing cook, and loved to entertain people

with his jokes and wry sense of humor, which he put on display as a contestant on the game show, "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" Mr. Menegas often took care of stray animals, and was an avid supporter of the A.S.P.C.A. and other rescue organizations. He was also a supporter of the Wounded Warrior Project.

Patrick O'Sullivan

Patrick A. O'Sullivan, a resident of Cortlandt, died suddenly November 24. He was 73.

He was born in Bantry Bay, Co. Cork, Ireland to John and Hanora. He was the youngest of six children, predeceased by his parents, and sisters, Mary and Eileen, and his brother Michael. He came to the United States in 1962. He worked as a dispatcher at Con Edison until his retirement in 1999.

Mr. O'Sullivan is survived by his wife of 47 years, Josephine, and his four children Michael (spouse Zony), Patrick, Judy (John) and Bridget (Frank) as well as his beloved grandchildren, Priscilla, Tommy, Catherine, James, Sean, Kieran, Dylan, Nathaniel and Norah, as well as his two brothers, Thomas in Michigan and John (Rita) in Ireland and many nieces and nephews.

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Guest Commentary

Why Budgets Matter

By Susan Siegel
Yorktown Councilwoman

How long do you plan to continue living and paying taxes in Yorktown? If more than two years, you may want to continue reading.

If you're like most homeowners, you probably pay attention to only one number in the town's annual budget: how much your taxes will increase the following year. But the tax rate increase is only one part of a budget; of equal importance are budget trends and how those trends will impact on the town's long term financial health and its continued ability to pay for the programs and services that are at the heart of what makes Yorktown a desirable community to live in.

Think of your own household. While budgeting to pay today's bills, you may also be planning how you'll pay for your children's education and/or your retirement. You may also be putting money away to pay for the new roof or heating system you know you'll be needing within the next 2-4 years. And there's always the need to maintain a rainy day fund for the unexpected. It's no different for Yorktown. Sound financial planning, whether for a household or a town, requires one to look ahead and plan for the future.

On paper, Yorktown looks like it's in good financial health. The town's major budget funds have ample fund balances. We have minimal debt service. And some tax rates, mostly for special districts like water, sewer and refuse, have gone down,

although other tax rates, like the basic Town Tax paid by every taxpayer, has gone up — over 11% in three years.

But — if one looks at budget trends, there are signs of potential trouble ahead: We're living beyond our means and kicking the proverbial financial can down the road.

Expenses are rising faster than non-tax revenue (8.75% for expenses compared to 5.44% for revenue) and the gap is being plugged by using the town's rainy day funds, aka its fund balance. Beginning with the 2013 budget, the town became permanently addicted to using its rainy day funds to balance its budgets.

How long can the town continue adopting deficit budgets? What happens if and when the rainy day funds are wiped out while expenses continue to increase? The 2016 Water District budget illustrates what could happen.

The proposed 2016 Water District budget shows zero dollars to complete the fluoridation project that's been on hold for several years. When the suggestion was made to take an additional \$100,000 from the district's rainy day fund so that an equal amount could be added to the expense side of the budget, the response was: there's no more money in the rainy day fund. That was because every dollar of the district's \$4.3 million rainy day fund had already been committed as a revenue: \$2,375,000 to balance the 2015 adopted budget and \$1,975,000 in the proposed 2016 budget. The only way rainy day funds could be

freed up to cover the cost of the fluoridation project was if 2015 expenses came in less than budgeted and the district didn't have to use every dollar of the 2015 rainy day fund allocation to cover expenses.

When it comes to planning for our future financial health, there are no easy solutions.

Borrow: Borrowing costs money and is an expense in the budget. Borrowing only adds to the expense problem.

Increase non-tax revenue: Easier said than done as the town doesn't control the major non-tax revenue sources like the sales tax or the mortgage tax. And revenue from building permits and new commercial rateables are a function of the overall economy, also something that's beyond the town's control. It's easy to talk about attracting more business, but talk doesn't generate revenue; shovels in the ground do.

Reduce expenses: Also easier said than done. Some expenses will continue to increase. For example, town employees expect yearly increases. (The 2016 budget anticipates an approximate 2% increase.) The cost of medical benefits will also likely increase. (The 2016 budget anticipates a 10% increase.) Pension costs go up or down, depending on stock market returns. All this means that the only way to control and/or reduce labor costs (approximately 75% of the budget) is to control the size of staff. But staff has been increasing since 2012 — and the 2016 budgets adds four more employees. And once staff is added, elected officials are reluctant to lay off employees.

Other expenses, like the purchase of supplies, new equipment or a capital project can be postponed to generate a savings in a given budget year. But pushing expenses into future budgets doesn't result in any ongoing long term reduction of expenses. For example, in 2014, the town spent \$1.48 million less than it budgeted, but the 2016 budget is \$2.4 million more than actual 2014 expenses.

Short of reducing staff or cutting back on programs or services, the only ongoing, long term way to reduce expenses is to become more efficient — and that requires more than simply saying "we're doing more with less." Introducing efficiencies requires more action and less talk.

King Louis XV of France famously said: "Après moi le deluge," or in English: "After me the deluge." Which is why, if you're planning to continue living in Yorktown for many years to come, you should be concerned about the trends in the 2016 budget. I am.

For a more detailed look at 2016 budget issues and how your tax dollars are spent, visit yorktownbettergovernment.org.



Newly minted Troop 164 BSA Eagle Scout Paul R. Martin IV, pictured with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin III, and sister Alyssa, a Girl Scout Gold Award Winner, received a Certificate of Achievement from Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel on behalf of the Town of Yorktown. Sponsored by St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and American Legion Post # 1009, Martin's Eagle Scout Service project involved the restoration of a WWI Bethlehem Steel 37 mm Cannon (Mark A Model) for American Legion Post 1009.

Preparing for Winter, Whether Staying at Home or Going Away

Every year, just as wintry weather arrives, I receive a call or email from the first supplier I ever used when moving to Westchester, Dave Goldberg of Dave Goldberg Plumbing and Heating, making sure that I remind readers to prepare for the frigid months ahead. This year, he expanded his email with tips for those snowbirds who were going away for the winter months, and it particularly resonated with me because of a terrible mishap a good friend had last winter.

For the past few years our friend, Anne, has taken two months off during the winter season for a stay in Florida. There was never a problem because she felt she had the luxury of locking the door of her attached townhouse-style condo, located in Mahopac, and not worrying about any maintenance issues. Her daughter and son-in-law would check in on the unit every week, just to be on the safe side.

But last year, she was not so lucky. One day she received a phone call saying that water from her unit was leaking into the condo next door. When help arrived, it was discovered that a water pipe had burst, on an interior wall at that, and totally flooded the first floor and walk-out basement level of her home, literally de-

stroying everything with it, from flooring to wallboard to all appliances.

"There had never been a problem in past years, but the severity of last winter was the cause of it," Anne said. The pipe was in the ceiling of my kitchen, and although it was not on an exterior wall, it shared a wall with my garage which is unheated."

The clean-up was a major project and basically, the unit had to be stripped to its studs and rebuilt. "You can be sure of one thing," Anne said, "this year, I'm having my water pipes drained before I leave."

Dave Goldberg's list of precautions for those going away includes the following:

For those whose systems are on oil, be sure to get a delivery before leaving. When the oil gets low, the sludge on the bottom of the tank might clog up the filter and cause the boiler to shut down.

If you have hot water heat, it is a good idea to install non-toxic antifreeze in the system. It works just like a car radiator and, of course, because it is a closed system, it does not affect drinking water.

Toilets should be drained and just one or two cups of antifreeze added. The inside of the tank should be drained but don't put any antifreeze in the tank because it can damage

the flapper and gaskets.

The water lines should be blown out with air.

If you don't have a security system which alerts you of a drop in temperature, Goldberg has a simple non-tech solution: He attaches a thermostat plugged into a lamp with a red light bulb which is positioned at his front window. If the temperature were to drop, the red light would come on and a neighbor could see that there is a problem in the house.

For those who are staying home, Goldberg's basic tips for winter safety are:

Have your furnace inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified technician.

Caulk doors and windows where needed.

Tape up the boiler switch going to the basement. Many times visitors might mistake the boiler switch for the light switch and turn the system off.

In the attic, louver vents should be blocked off.

If you have two separate units in the house - one for hot water and the other air conditioning - you should close the dampers on the air conditioning because hot air rises and the heat will go up through the vents.

Outside spigots should be drained and left open. The shut off valve inside the house has a bleeder that should be opened. That breaks the vacuum so the water will drain out.

A good trick to prevent pipes freezing un-

der kitchen sinks is to install a light bulb in the cabinet that will create just enough heat to prevent freezing.

Have the phone numbers of the plumber and oil company handy, best kept on a tag on the boiler.

Everyone in the house should know where the shut off valves are for the main water line coming in, or, with well water, know where the electrical switch is.

In the event of a power failure, the least expensive way to install a generator is to buy a small gas generator of about 6000 watts that will take care of the boiler and refrigerator and some outlets. Have an electrician install a transfer switch.

And, finally, keep a multi-purpose fire extinguisher accessible, filled and ready for operation.

Goldberg is now retired, but his son-in-law, Doug Maar, is running Dave Goldberg Plumbing and Heating out of Somers and can be reached for consultation or emergency help at 914-962-3498.

Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc., the longest running public relations agency in Westchester (www.PrimaveraPR.com). His real estate site is www.PrimaveraRealEstate.com, and his blog is www.TheHomeGuru.com. To engage the services of The Home Guru to market your home for sale, call (914) 522-2076.



By Bill Primavera






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Businesses
of the Week

Enrichment Center of Yorktown Yorktown

By Neal Rentz

The Enrichment Center of Yorktown may have changed locations this year, but it is still continuing its tradition of serving children through its before and after school programs.

Executive Director Marianne Minard of Ridgefield, CT and Site Director Ginny Hill of Somers discussed the Enrichment Center last week.

The Center was established nearly 35 years ago by the Yorktown School District, Minard said. "It was a very small program at the time," she said. "The need for child care was not as great as it is currently." The program operated out of Yorktown district schools for many years. During the 2004-05 school year the board of education asked the Center to branch on its own in what is its current status as a not-for-profit, Minard noted. "We were becoming much larger than they anticipated as far as the number of enrollees and staff," she said. "We didn't need the supervision from the school district anymore. We needed to be independent."

When the program started there were about 10 children. But today the enrollment is about 140. Prior to the recent drop in enrollment in the school district in recent years, the Center provided programs to up to 450 students, Minard said.

For the first time, the programs are not being offered in any of the district's schools. The Center has two new locations; students in kindergarten through the third grade come to the Yorktown Elks #2324 Lodge and students in grades four through eight come to the Yorktown Community and Cultural Center.

Morning programs are only provided at the Elks Lodge. "Mostly quiet activities" such as reading, doing homework and playing with Legos and blocks and they are offered in the morning program and the pupils have the opportunity to cook their breakfast working with the staff, Minard said. Board games are popular for the younger students after school, Hill said. "The love the interaction," she said.

The after school program for the younger participants includes a healthy snack, do homework with assistance offered by the staff, and playing sports or quiet games outdoors. "We try to make it as homey and comfortable in both programs as we can," Minard said.

For students in grades four through eight there is also a track and playground at the YCCC, as well as a gazebo. For the first time this year, "walking field trips" to allow the students to purchase food at various



ENRICHMENT CENTER OF YORKTOWN PHOTO : Youths who participate in programs provided by the Enrichment Center of Yorktown.

locations in downtown Yorktown is offered, Minard said. Solaris Sports Clubs has donated time to the older students to allow them to use its gym facilities for one hour per week, she said. "That makes the older kids feel special, Hill said.

"This connection to the community is so important," Minard said. "We've even heard from man of the parents that they really like that their children are involved in community activities." The Center's youths volunteer for the Relay for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. The students help decorate the bags that go around the candles that are sold and dedicated to a person. The luminaria candles are illuminated at dusk during the starts of the Relay for Life, Hill noted. The

Center has also provided assistance to Girl Scouts enrolled in the program who are seeking Silver and Gold Awards.

Participants in the Yorktown High School Enrichment Helpers Club come to volunteer at both of The Center's locations, providing homework assistances, as well as playing sports and other games with the youths to earn high school community service hours. "The kids just love it," Minard said. Some of the high school students were previously enrolled in Center programs and some of the past Center users have come back to work as staff, Hill said.

"We're proud that we're still around and I think a good part of it is our staff," Minard said. "We have some staff that have been with us for over 20 years."

"We provide an excellent program for the children," Minard said. "It's safe. It's welcoming. The children have an opportunity to experience a sense of belonging. This is their place."

The Enrichment Center of Yorktown has two locations: the Yorktown Community and Cultural Center, 1974 Commerce St. and the Yorktown Elks #2324 Lodge, 590 Waverly Rd. For more information call 914-302-7977 or visit yorktown.org and look under Community Links.

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Peekskill Makes Me Merry Announces Holiday Attractions

The 2016 Peekskill Makes Me Merry holiday campaign kicks off at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 5 in Downtown Peekskill with the Annual Peekskill Tree Lighting Ceremony and the First Annual Love Holds Life free toy give-a-way at the Gazebo on the corner of Division and Park Streets. There will be live performances by Daisy Jopling, Doug Feron and Clayton Bryant, all of whom are performing at the Paramount Hudson Valley during the month of December. WHUD radio's Kacey Morabito will MC the evening.

Immediately after the performances, Santa Claus will arrive by Stella the Holiday Trolley, followed by the official lighting of the tree. Santa will then distribute free toys to children in attendance, courtesy of Love Holds Life, a children's cancer foundation. Toys are limited to one per child and while supplies last. Free hot chocolate and cookies will be provided.

The annual tree lighting is sponsored by the City of Peekskill, the Peekskill Business Improvement District, the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, The Kearney Realty & Development Group and Shades of Green.

"We are delighted to offer an array of merry-making attractions and events in Downtown Peekskill during the holiday season. Peekskill is the holiday destination

with boundless entertainment and dining options as well as specialty shops that offer personalized service and gift options not found in big malls. Find out how Peekskill Makes Me Merry," said Bill Powers, Executive Director of the Peekskill Business Improvement District.

Immediately following the Tree Lighting, the Peekskill Arts Alliance Holiday Boutique is having an opening reception at the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, One South Division Street, Peekskill, at 6 p.m. The boutique opens Friday, December 4 and runs through Sunday, December 6 and features fine crafts, jewelry, wearable art, pottery, small paintings, photos, prints, cards, and more. For more information: www.peekskillartsalliance.org.

Santa makes a return appearance at the Paramount Hudson Valley on Saturday, December 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., sponsored by the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce. The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art is sponsoring a holiday "make your own crafts" event, followed by a reading of the "Twas the Night Before Christmas by Deborah Carlin Polhill, and then on the big screen, the showing of Santa Claus Is Coming to Town. Free admission, toys (while supplies last) and refreshments.

The holiday cheer continues with the 2015 Santa Crawl on December 19, from 7:30 p.m. – closing time among participating downtown restaurants, 12 Grapes, Peacock and McDonald, Division Street Grill, Hudson Room, Gleasons, Birdsell House, Iron Vine, Rubens and the Quiet Man. The event is sponsored by D. Bertoline & Sons and the Peekskill Business Improvement District. Those in holiday garb and/or wearing a Peekskill Makes Me Merry pin are eligible for specials and discounts at among participating restaurants.

December is full of holiday entertainment including live stage performances of The Fantasticks presented by EMBARK Peekskill and the Flatz. Directed by Katie Schmidt Feder, the show features a diverse cast of professionals, emerging and community performers and will be performed at the Flatz, a beautiful historic building located at 1008 Main Street. Performances begin the night of the tree lighting, Saturday, December 5 at 8 p.m. and continue, Sunday, December 6 at 3 p.m., Friday, December 11 at 8 p.m. and a Special Holiday Gala Performance and Party on Saturday, December 12 from 7 p.m.-midnight! For tickets visit brownpapertickets.com. More information embarkpeeskill.org.

In addition to a full schedule of holiday performances at the Paramount Hudson

Valley (visit www.paramounthudsonvalley.com), everyone is encouraged to ring in the New Year at the Second Annual Peekskill New Year's Eve Ball Drop. All participating restaurants will be offering New Year's Eve pricing and seating in cooperation with the Paramount Hudson Valley's performance of "Rock of Ages." Reduced packaged ticket prices to the show are available through participating restaurants with the purchase of dinner.

Daisy Jopling Band to Perform at Paramount

continued from page 5
son," said Jopling.

Jopling's holiday concert will be a scintillating mixture of classical, world and rock music, spanning original compositions to new spins on beloved holiday songs. In addition to Jopling on the violin, her band mates include Brian Taylor on flute, Brian Marsella on piano/keyboards, Lavondo Thomas on bass and Matt Zebroski on drums. Local talent is being showcased, including Joni Blondell, Gabrielle Sansone, Yahli Hilah, Jerry Cruz, Brian Taylor, Westchester Youth Choirs and the Tom Thumb Pre-School Choir.

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Global Touring at Film Festival

By Evelyn J. Mocbeichel

Last month we went to the Hampton International Film Festival (HIFF), which was a huge success, attended by thousands of enthusiastic movie goers during the five-day event. We enjoy movies, whether in the theatre, on television or borrowed from our public library. At a film festival visitors have a chance to see films that have yet to be released and are currently on a "film festival circuit". By the way there are film festivals around our area, notably the Tribeca Film Festival and The Big Apple Film Festival to name just two.

It was impossible to see all the movies, so we picked by subject and content. On the topic of subject, HIFF programmers select a wide variety of topics. Some people like movies about social issues, political topics, and controversial subjects or to just be entertained with good story telling and wonderful cinematography. The latter is our preference, but we enjoy documentaries and learning about cultures around the globe. With this thought in mind of global travel, here is an overview of some of the outstanding films we saw during the festival. Many of the HIFF films have just been released commercially or are soon to be released in theatres or on cable TV.

Brooklyn - Billed as a "Spotlight Film", this movie was both deeply engrossing and cinematically beautiful, directed by John Crowley. From Ireland/UK/Canada it is the story of a young girl, Eilis, (Saoirse Ronan) leaving her widowed mother and older sister in Ireland in the 1950's and heading to her American dream. She arrives in Brooklyn and stays at a boarding house arranged by her kind parish priest. Eilis finds work in an upscale department store, enrolls in night classes, but is lonely for home. That is until she meets Tony, a young Italian man. An unexpected tragedy forces Eilis to return home and the story line leaves the viewer on the edge of their seat to see if she decides to stay in Ireland or return to Tony who loves her and constantly writes love letters to say he is waiting. Emory Cohen (Tony) was one of Variety's 10 Actor's to Watch. When the movie ended the audience applause was unanimous in its approval.

Trailer: <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2381111/>

He Named Me Malala - This documentary was made in the USA and is about the life of Malala Yousafzai, a young Pakistani girl who is the youngest Noble Peace Prize recipient. The horrific shooting in 2012 by Taliban attackers and long recuperation process of this advocate for education for women and children's rights was only part of the story. Directed by Davis Guggenheim, the film delves into her family, they now live in England, and how she combines school and touring the world for her cause. Her father is a strong influence on Malala's life and their closeness and bond is a joy to behold. The entire world rallied around her and after her amazing recovery

she formed the Malala Fund to empower girls worldwide by facilitating access to education with the belief that "one child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world." This documentary was more than a remake of the news headlines, it was a warm storytelling and inside look of this 15-year-old and her courage, sense of humor and wonderful family. Some of the best moments of the film were when she was at home, just being a young teenager. Don't miss this one!

Sherpa - This documentary was one that was on my husband's list. This combined

Australia/Nepal made movie was in its East Coast Premiere. If you have never heard of or wondered what the Sherpa population goes through as guides on Mt. Everest, this film gives a harrowing, insiders peek. Just watching this film and the scary climbing involved assured me, this challenge will never be on my bucket list! Because of a 14,000 ton block of ice that barreled down the mountain in April 2014, 16 Sherpa guides were killed. In this worst tragedy on the mountain, the other Sherpa guides united to fight for respect and better working conditions as their share of profits are

not proportional to the risk and work they do. The story shows the tourist adventures, some paying as much as \$75,000 a person for the two month climb and what dangers await both climbers and guides. Director/Screenwriter, Jennifer Peedom captures the intensity of the climb, the tedious and precarious routes the Sherpa guides make to carry equipment, food and supplies for the tourists for the duration of the trip. The photography is breathtaking as is the footage of the dangers on the mountain. Viewers are drawn into the Sherpa life as the film shows the tiny village and those left

continued on page 14



**Peekskill
Makes Me Merry
2015**

IT'S HAPPENING HERE!

**Holiday Tree Lighting & First Annual
"Love Holds Life" Free Toy Give-a-Way***
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2015 at 4:30pm
At the Gazebo, Corner of Division & Park Streets, Peekskill, NY

LIVE MUSICAL PERFORMANCES BY:
Classical/Rock Violinist **Daisy Jopling**
Crooner **Doug Feron**
Pop/Rock/Soul Singer **Clayton Bryant**

Free toys will be distributed to Peekskill area children by **Love Holds Life Children's Cancer Foundation**

SPONSORED BY:
The City of Peekskill, Peekskill Business Improvement District, Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce,
The Kearney Realty & Development Group, Shades of Green and Westchester Tool Rentals

Jopling, Feron & Bryant are all performing at the Paramount Hudson Valley.
For tickets to these and other great holiday performances, visit: www.paramounthudsonvalley.com

*Supplies may be limited, one toy per child.

Global Touring at Film Festival

continued from page 13

behind as the men leave to earn enough to get the family through until the next tourists arrive on Everest.

Bolshoi Babylon – This UK documentary made its New York Premiere and was in both English and Russian, produced by Mark Franchetti. When we hear Bolshoi, immediately exquisite dancing and world famous artistry comes to mind because the Bolshoi is one of the most esteemed ballet institutions in the world. The competitive nature of the Bolshoi is a high stakes competition and the climb to the top is intense. Delving into the acid attack in 2013 against its creative director, Sergei Filin, by one of the company's dancers follows the outcome as if we are watching an absorbing television mystery of intrigue. Director, Nick Read, a British filmmaker known for making acclaimed observational documentaries, had unprecedented access and was allowed to follow the company's attempt to recover after the incident to redirect the focus back to the talent and artistic brilliance of the dancers.

A Royal Night Out – Another Spotlight Film, this was the North American Premiere, also a UK production, directed by Julian Jarrold. It's based loosely on a true story, about Princesses Elizabeth (Sarah Gadon) and Margaret (Bel Powley) and their one night away from the palace. (Bel Powley is also one of Variety's 10 Actors to Watch.) It was Victory in Europe Day in 1945 and the end of the war and the whole country was celebrating. Cheering could be heard in the streets and the young women wanted to be part of it. Their parents, the King and Queen of England relented and "only with two soldier bodyguards can you go out, but in disguise". Although given a curfew, the girls managed to elude their military chaperones and have an adventure that included drinking and romance. As part of the film's premiere at HIFF, distributors Atlas Distribution and Ketchup Entertainment hosted a delightful tea for press members. The "English Tea" was held at the charming Maidstone Inn's Living Room. From the Earl Grey tea, scones, clotted cream and finger sandwiches and desserts, it was an elegant setting to get in the mood before viewing this British based film.

Trailer: <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1837562/>

The Lady in The Van – A special nod to this other UK entry and U.S. premiere. It stars the delightful, witty, Maggie Smith and Alex Jennings, directed by Nicholas Hytner. Being a fan of Downton Abby, once I spotted Ms. Smith's name in the film catalog, I knew this film would be on my list. Based on a true story, by writer Alan Bennett's (The Madness of George III) Maggie Smith plays an elderly, eccentric high-born woman living out of her van because of an event that happened early in her life. She ends up parked, with permission, in Bennett's driveway, in order to have an "address to collect social welfare". This hilarious and witty story

shows how two strangers connect over the years that she remained in his driveway and a lasting friendship was created. Trailer: <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3722070/>

Special Thank You – It is an arduous five days covering events that take place during HIFF. I would like to thank Clare Ann Darragh and Lina Plath of Frank PR and their team for the help and support during the festival. Their assistance with information, updates and red carpet events were invaluable! For more info about HIFF visit: www.hamptonfilmfest.org

Local Students to Perform Musical

continued from page 5

is the choral assistant to DelCasale. She remarked, "With the popularity of the recent 'Peanuts' movie, and annual TV viewing of 'A Charlie Brown Christmas,' families can continue to enjoy the music of Vince Guaraldi's classics, along with some other jazz treats and holiday favorites. Benoit's performance at the piano is a perfect bridge for young children to learn to appreciate live music and for adults to admire. We are familiar with the Charlie Brown tunes from television, and now, we watch live musicians perform the recognizable tunes on stage. This will heighten

everyone's musical experience as these jazz greats improvise and create exciting renditions of familiar holiday tunes. This show is for the whole family to enjoy together!"

Tickets for the beloved "Peanuts" musical homage, "David Benoit's Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown," featuring vocalist Jane Monheit and the Hudson Valley All-Star Chorus can be obtained online at www.paramounthudsonvalley.com/events or by calling the box office at 914-739-0039. The box office, located on 1008 Brown Street in Peekskill is open Tuesdays through Fridays and Sundays, 1 to 6 and on Saturdays noon to 6 p.m.



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Happenings

The Northern Westchester Examiner We're happy to help spread the word about your community event. Please submit your information at least three weeks prior to your event and include the words "Happenings Calendar Submission" in your email subject line. Entries should be sent to Neal Rentz at nrentz@theexaminernews.com.com.

Wednesday, Dec. 2

Somers Library Teen Programs: Two programs for teens have been scheduled for this week at the Somers Library. Graphic Design for Teens - 3D Design with Sketch-Up will be held on Dec.2 from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. Learn how to draw in 3D dimensions to create graphical objects using your imagination. SketchUp is a free computer application, fit for future architects, video game designers and more. Once you have created a design, we will have the designs 3D printed and made available to you at a later date. The intended audience is youths in grades six through 12. Registration is required. Please call the library to register at 914 232-5717 or register online at www.somerslibrary.org. Funding for this event is provided by the Friends of the Somers Library. A Life Size Game of Clue for Teens will be held on Dec. 5 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Help solve this fun, life-sized 'murder' mystery. This program is intended for teens / tweens in grades six through 12. To register, which is required, call or visit the library on line.

Torah Studies Class: Chabad of Yorktown, 2629 Old Yorktown Rd., is proud to announce season one of the Torah Studies course that runs through Dec. 20. The program brings a series of stimulating text and discussion based classes that take place on a weekly basis. Our lessons will engage you in a multidimensional way by challenging you intellectually, spiritually and emotionally. They explore contemporary issues through a Torah perspective as well as tackling timeless questions in the Jewish tradition. The classes are open to all, whatever your level of learning may be. The fee for the full season (11 classes): is \$36, and includes the textbook. Each class is independent. For more information, to view the topics of the classes, or to register visit: www.ChabadYorktown.com, call 914-962-1111, or email info@ChabadYorktown.com.

Field Library Exhibit: The Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill, and the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art are presenting Sabrina Occhipinti: Doorways at the library through Dec. 31. Info: 914-737-1212, peekskill.org or visit the library's Facebook page.

Bingo Wednesdays: Come to First Hebrew for \$2,000 in total guaranteed bingo prizes, plus an average of \$1,000 awarded in specialty games. Doors open 5 p.m. and games begin 7:15 p.m. every Wednesday (except holidays - check First Hebrew's website calendar). First Hebrew is just west of the Beach Shopping Center at 1821 Main St., Peekskill. Info: 914 -739-0500 or www.firsthebrew.org.

Thursday, Dec. 3

Paramount Hudson Valley: Two events will be held this week at the Paramount

Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. A Charlie Brown Christmas is back by popular demand! Kick off your family's holiday season with a special return to the Paramount by legendary jazz musician David Benoit as he performs a mix of A Charlie Brown Christmas classics and original compositions on Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. David will be joined by the exquisite voice of American jazz vocalist, Jane Monheit and an all-star chorus featuring talented young singers

from the Hudson Valley including Peekskill and Haldane Middle schools and Cortlandt School of Performing Arts. Info: <http://paramounthudsonvalley.com/events/event/david-benoits-christmas-tribute-to-charlie-brown>. The Westchester All Stars Christmas for Wounded Veterans Project returns for the fourth annual concert to raise funds and awareness for our true American Heroes on Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. This year's lineup includes, our emcee actor/comedian Tony

Darrow (Goodfellas/The Sopranos/Analyze This), Rock & Roll Hall of Famer Gene Cornish (guitarist of The Rascals), legendary rock drummer Carmine Appice (Vanilla Fudge/Rod Stewart/Jeff Beck/Cactus), guitarist Earl Slick (David Bowie/John Lennon), Kristin Capolino, Vanesse Thomas, Jon Cobert, Chuck St. Troy, Joni Blondell, Tom Dudley the Blues Buddha, Duchess Di, Scott & Mia Staton, Bill Edwards, and more.

continued on page 19



PLAN TODAY FOR TOMORROW

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Passport For The Holiday Shop Hop In Cold Spring On Hudson December 5th & 6th, 2015

JOSEPH'S FINE JEWELRY 171 Main Street 10am-6pm	ONCE UPON A TIME 159 Main Street 10am-5pm	VINTAGE FINDS 153 Main Street 11-6pm	SIDE EFFECTS 137 Main Street Noon-6pm	ARCHIPELAGO 119 Main Street 10am-6pm	THE COUNTRY GOOSE 115 Main Street 10am-6.30pm
MOMMINIA 113 Main Street 11am-6pm	AMERICAN CREATIONS 103 Main Street 11am-6pm	THE COUNTRY TOUCH 97 Main Street 10am-6:30pm	JUAN ROSADO DECADES OF COLLECTIBLES 93 Main Street 11am-6pm	FRENCH LINKS 93A Main Street 11am-6pm	HEAVENLY TREASURES 93 Main Street 11am-6pm
COLD SPRING ANTIQUE CENTER 77 Main Street 11am-6pm	FOUNTAIN SQUARE ANTIQUES 104 Main Street 11am-6pm	THE GIFT HUT 86 Main Street 10am-6pm	COLLEEN KAVANA STUDIO GALLERY 82 Main Street 11am-7pm	POMA ROSA 82 Main Street 11am-6pm	INDIGO CHIC 80 Main Street 11am-6.00pm
KISMET AT CARYN'S 72 Main Street 8am-7pm	GALLERY 66 66 Main Street Noon-6pm	GO-GO POPS 64 Main Street 8am-7pm	THE BIJOU GALLERY 60 Main Street 11am-5pm	ELLEN HAYDEN GALLERY 40 Main Street 10am-6pm	SWING 65 Main Street 10am-6pm
OLD SOULS 63 Main Street 10am-6pm	COLD SPRING GENERAL STORE 61 Main Street 10am-6pm	CAPE COD LEATHER 49 Main Street 11am-6pm	COLD SPRING DEPOT RESTAURANT 1 Depot Square 11:30am-11pm	RINCON ARGENTINO 21 Main Street 9am-7pm	HAPPY HOPPING!

**Please Note
Hours Shops
are Open
and Plan
Accordingly!**

Your Passport will be verified by each store owner when you present it. No purchase necessary. Please return the completed Passport to **The Country Goose at 115 Main Street, The Country Touch at 97 Main Street or The Gift Hut at 86 Main Street.**

Name: _____
Phone #: _____
Email: _____

A Snowflake Christmas ornament will be awarded to the first 50 people who complete the Shop Hop. A Grand Raffle Gift Basket will be given to the person whose name is pulled out of the hat!

ShopHop is organized by the Cold Spring Merchants Association and the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.
www.explorecoldspringny.com



Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Work in the cutting room
- 5 Accused's need
- 10 Be a monarch
- 11 Kitchen light
- 12 De Niro & Liotta would score big at this
- Mahopac deli
- 14 Springsteen's birthplace in song
- 15 Flax yarn fabric
- 19 Ring
- 24 Uncle Sam, for one
- 25 Emerald Isle
- 26 Proust's "A la recherche du temps ____"
- 28 Lively
- 29 "The Matrix" hero
- 31 2015 film starring Olivia Wilde or Carmel auto dealership
- 38 Kicked off
- 39 Sphere
- 40 Healing juices
- 41 Moist in the morning

DOWN

- 1 Unit of work
- 2 Batman and Robin, e.g.

- 3 Worker bee interest group
- 4 Kennedy or Turner?
- 5 Makes like
- 6 Sachet scent
- 7 Not in good physical shape
- 8 Stole
- 9 "____ true!"
- 13 Kicks
- 15 Read or sync?
- 16 Rocks
- 17 "____ any drop to drink." - Coleridge
- 18 Terminal
- 20 Pronoun
- 21 Third in the family
- 22 Lady
- 23 Cry of mock horror
- 27 Excessive
- 28 ____-tie
- 30 Long stretches
- 31 C.E.O.'s degree
- 32 Snakelike fish
- 33 "Give it ____!" (2 words)
- 34 Boy
- 35 "You ____ the apple of my eye"
- Stevie
- Wonder
- 36 Unfamiliar
- 37 Work segment

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	
10					11					
12				13						
				14						
15	16	17	18			19	20	21	22	23
24							25			
26				27		28				
				29	30					
	31	32	33				34	35	36	37
	38						39			
40							41			

Solution on page 26



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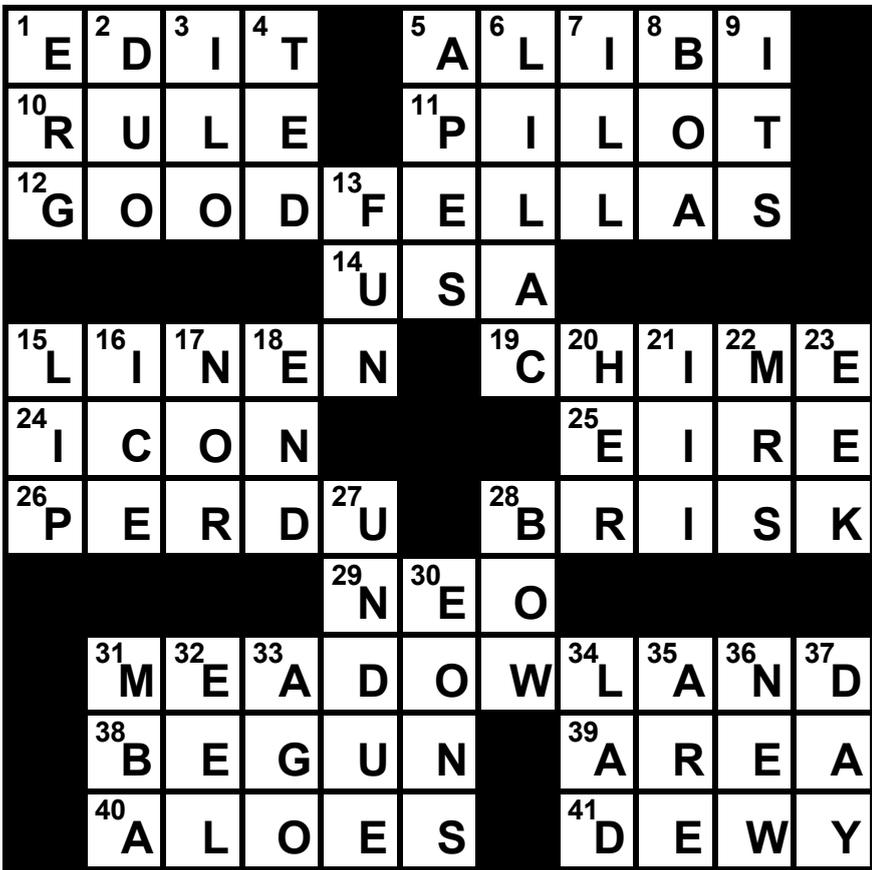
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Westchester Tool Rentals Earns Award

Westchester Tool Rentals at 1075 Washington Street in Peekskill (739-9000) has been selected to receive the prestigious American Rental Association President's Image Award for

remodeling, renovation, rebuilding project for 2015.

The award will be presented at The Rental Show in Atlanta Georgia on February 22 2016.

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Happenings

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All the proceeds will be donated to Veterans Adaptive Sports and The Bob Woodruff Foundation. Let this night of music and laughs become the start of your family's holiday season while helping our veterans. Tickets are \$40, \$55, or \$105 (including tax/fees) and are available at the box office, over the phone at 914-739-0039 (Ext. 2) or visit <http://paramounthudsonvalley.com/events/westchester-all-stars-christmas-for-wounded-veterans-concert/>.

Friday, Dec. 4

Peekskill Arts Boutique: The Peekskill Art's Alliance's Holiday Boutique will be held this weekend at the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, 1 S. Division St., Peekskill. The Holiday Boutique is a gift boutique, featuring fine handmade items perfect for gift giving. Featured will be small works of art and fine crafts by local artists, including jewelry, wearable art, pottery, small paintings, photos, prints, cards, and more. The boutique will be open on Dec. 4 from 5 to 9 p.m.; on Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Dec. 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. A reception will be held on Dec. 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. (after Peekskill tree lighting). Contact: Peg Taylor at crowsfeet7@gmail.com. Info: 914-980-3869 or <http://peekskillartsalliance.org>.

Ossining Tree Lighting: Santa and his elves will join the Village of Ossining at its annual tree lighting at Market Square, located at the intersection of Main and Spring Streets. The program begins at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy the spirit of the season with Christmas carols and refreshments coordinated by the Ossining Parks & Recreation Department in partnership with Senator David Carlucci's office and the Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce. The tree lighting will be held at 6:15 p.m. with Santa's arrival to follow via the Ossining Fire Department Express. Info: 914-941-3189 or www.villageofossining.org.

First Hebrew First Friday: Bring the family to the monthly First Friday at First Hebrew, 1821 Main St., Peekskill, just west of Beach Shopping Center. The program is set for the first Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Come for an interactive, meaningful, and entertaining Shabbat Service for school-age children, their families, and people of all ages interested in an engaging approach to welcoming the Sabbath. No charge or RSVP required. Info: call 914-739-0500, e-mail rabbi@firsthebrew.org or visit firsthebrew.org.

Old Mill Singers Concert: The Old Mill Singers (established in 1970) will present their annual Holiday Concert at 8 p.m. on Dec. 4 & Dec. 5, at The Clear View School, 480 Albany Post Rd., (Route 9), Briarcliff Manor. Raffle: \$1,000 prize. Adults \$15, Seniors \$12. Children under twelve \$5. Info: 917-318-8941, www.oldmillsingers.org or <http://www.facebook.com/groups/oldmillsingers>.

Saturday, Dec. 5

Montrose Holiday Boutique: A Holiday Boutique will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Montrose Fire House, 2143 Albany Post Rd. The event will feature vendors and raffles. The boutique is being sponsored by the Reformed Church of Cortlandtown and the Montrose Ladies Auxiliary.

Somers Library Programs: Two programs will begin in the coming days at the Somers Library. A Quick Holiday Needlework Gifts Workshop will be held on Dec. 5 & 19 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Make one or more quick holiday gifts at this workshop. The instructor will introduce the following projects in each class, which is open to all ages -- a printed quote for you to embellish with an embroidered heart to then frame. Three different styles of stitches will be taught. The blanket stitch, the running stitch and the flower stitch. Start a simple knitted scarf that can be completed in one afternoon. Crochet a Christmas ornament. You must bring your own supplies for each project. Details, supply list flyers and examples of finished projects will be on display in the library. Registration is required. Call the library to register at 914-232-5717 or register online at www.somerslibrary.org. Water-Soluble Oil Pastels and Water Colored Pencils, a six part workshop with Judika Lieberman, will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Dec. 7 and 21, Jan. 4, 11 and 25 and on Feb. 1. In the event of snow, make up days will be held on Feb. 8 and 22. Minimum supplies are needed to create dramatic results. You must bring supplies to the first class. Supply list will be available at the library. There is a \$20 fee that must be paid to the instructor on the first day of class. Bring cash or a check payable to: Judika Lieberman. Class size is limited and registration is required. To register, please call the library at 914-232-5717 or register online at www.somerslibrary.org.

Hebrew Congregation Programs: Two programs have been scheduled for this weekend at the Hebrew Congregation of Somers, located at Cypress Lane and Mervin Drive. A Shabbat service/Lunch & Learn, a lively discussion of the weekly Torah, will be held on Dec. 5 at 9:30 a.m. An adult education program will be held on Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m. Info: 914-248-9532.

Christmas Tree Sale: The Northeast Westchester Rotary Club in Somers, the Mount Kisco Rotary Club and the Bedford-Armonk Rotary Club is again collaborating in conducting the annual Christmas Tree Sale Fundraiser, which is underway. Money that is raised will help fund numerous local projects, some of which include: publication of the book, "On My Mind," a compilation of short stories and poems written by area and inner city high school students; donation of food to local food pantries; offering college scholarships and donation of special equipment to libraries. The tree sale is being

held at the Bedford Hills Memorial Park, 60 Haines Rd. Exit 39 off the Saw Mill River Parkway. The hours will be Tuesday-Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. There are a wide variety of high quality, reasonably-priced trees. We will assist you in finding the perfect tree, trim it to your specs, and load your tree onto your car. In addition, a business journal will be included with each purchase where local businesses can print a holiday greeting, offer coupons, etc. For more information visit www.NEWRotaryClub.org.

Holiday Train Display: The Holidays on the Hill train display on Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 and 20 from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, Route 35, Katonah. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children and no charge for children two and younger. Info: lasdonpark.org or 914-864-7263.

Holiday ShopHop: The Passport for the ShopHop will be held at several stores in Cold Spring on Dec. 5 and 6. Your Passport will be verified by each store owner when you present it. No purchase is necessary. Return the completed passport to -The Country Goose at 115 Main St., -The Country Touch at 97 Main St. or -The Gift Hut at 86 Main St. A snow-flake Christmas ornament will be awarded to the first 50 people who complete the ShopHop. A Grand Raffle Gift Basket will be given to the person whose name is pulled out of the hat. ShopHop is organized by the Cold Spring Merchants Association and the Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

Christmas In Vienna Concert: This year, the annual First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown Christmas Concert features Christmas in Vienna at 7:30 p.m. Enter a musical time machine and be led by your tour guide through an entertaining sparkling evening in old Vienna. Your tour guide will introduce you to the composers (hint: Mozart, Galuppi, Schubert and friends) who might have been performing during your visit. The concert will feature orchestra, choir, and invited musical guests, and will be conducted by Simona Frenkel. Join us for this musical tour of romantic old Vienna, and then join the performers for a reception of hot chocolate and cookies in Fellowship Hall. The church is located at 2880 Crompond Rd. The suggested donation is \$20. Info: www.fpcyorktown.org.

Sunday, Dec. 6

Gingerbread Festival: The Somers Historical Society has announced the Holidays at the Homestead Gingerbread Festival Decorating Contest. Create a gingerbread decoration or house utilizing food materials, affix to a base no larger than 12" x 12" in size, include an elephant somewhere in the design and deliver it to the Wright Reis Homestead today between noon and 12:30 p.m. The entry fee is a non-perishable food item for St. Luke's Episcopal Church Food Pantry. Entry forms will be available online at Somers Historical Society's Facebook page, Somers Historical Society, located on the 3rd floor of the Elephant Hotel, or in

the Somers Library's Jean Reidy Children's Room. This year's theme is The Elephant Rocks; Celebrating 190 Years of the Elephant Hotel. There will be several judging categories, based on age. There will be one "People's Choice" award in each category and one overall "Pastry Chef" award. Winning entries will be displayed in Somers Library from Dec. 14 through 30. In the event of inclement weather, the festival will follow the same schedule as the Town of Somers Holiday Tree Lighting Festivities. Non-winning entries must be picked up between 3 and 4 p.m. on Dec. 13. Winning Entries must be removed from Library by close of business on Dec. 30.

Healing Yoga: Yoga classes for women with breast cancer are held at 5 p.m. on Sundays at Hudson Yoga, 5 Old Post Rd. South, Croton-on-Hudson. Weekly classes are being conducted by rotating instructors. The suggestion is \$15. Info: Elisha Simpson at 914-319-4010 or send an e-mail to info@laughingheartsyoga.com

Yorktown Menorah Lighting: The Yorktown Public Menorah Lighting Ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. at the Jack DeVito Gazebo on Veterans Road (next to the Yorktown Stage). Enjoy an amazing fire juggling show. Traditional latkas, doughnuts, chocolate gelt and dreidels will be available. Free light-up Menorah necklaces will be given to all participants. No Charge. Come & bring a friend. For more information call 914-962-1111, or visit www.ChabadYorktown.com.

Somers Menorah Lighting: The Somers Public Menorah Lighting Ceremony will be held at 6 p.m., outside the Elephant Hotel, located on Routes 100 and 202. Traditional latkas, doughnuts, chocolate gelt and dreidels will be available. For more information e-mail Mitchel at NYC1Mitch@aol.com.

First Hebrew Hanukkah: Two Hanukkah programs have been scheduled for First Hebrew, 1821 Main St., Peekskill, just west of the Beach Shopping Center. Celebrate the beginning of Hanukkah on Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. for songs and a celebration as the first candle is lit on the giant outdoor menorah. No RSVP is necessary but call 914-739-0500 or e-mail fhc@firsthebrew.org for information. A Hanukkah Family Dinner with the Jewish Learning Experience will be held on Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. Bring the family for some delicious chicken (or vegetarian option), latkes, salad and desserts. Enjoy Hanukkah songs and games. Cost: \$18 per person or \$10 for children under 13. RSVP to rabbi@firsthebrew.org or call 914-739-0500. Visit www.firsthebrew.org for more information about the programs.

Russian Christmas Concert: A Taghkanic Chorale's Russian Christmas Concert featuring Russian choral music by classical masters Bortniansky, Katalysky, Stravinsky, Chesnokov, Rachmaninoff, Gretchaninoff and Taverner will be held at 4 p.m. at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 7 S. Highland Ave., Ossining. Adults: \$25. Seniors: \$22. Students: \$12. Children under 12 accompanied by an adult will be admitted for free. Info and tickets: 914-737-6707 or taghkanicchorale.org.

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2015

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LEGALS

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KEVIN KENNEDY PLLC filed with the Secretary of State of NY on September 9, 2015. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the PLLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **2020 Maple Hill Street #1113, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598. Purpose: any lawful activity.**

Notice of Formation of M&R Account Services LLC Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/14/2015. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **M&R Account Services LLC, 29 Scenic Dr Apt O, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520 Purpose: any lawful purpose.**

Notice of Formation of Frawley Coaching, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 9/4/15. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. **Purpose: any lawful activity.**

Notice of Formation of Dovetail DB LLC Arts of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/15/2015. Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail process to: 55 East 76th St., 1D, NY, NY 10021. **Purpose: any lawful activity.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF TTL Photography, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secy. Of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on 09/16/2015. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent whom process may be served and shall copy of process against LLC to principle business address: 1304 Midland Avenue, Ste. B-60, Yonkers, N.Y. 10704. **Purpose: any lawful act.**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WHOLESOME GROWTH LLC d/b/a Kumon of White Plains. Arts of Org filed with Scy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/27/2015. Office location: WESTCHESTER county. SSNY designated agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to: **476 SHELTON RD TRUMBULL, CT, 06611. Principal business address: 600 N BROADWAY WHITE PLAINS, NY 10603. Purpose: any lawful act.**

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The Northern Westchester
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Sports
Covering Putnam County and Northern Westchester Sports

December 1 - December 7, 2015

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION



Hanson Bros. Hockey!

Hen Hud Soph Tickles Twine Twice in 9-2 Win over Carmel

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Hen Hud sophomore Brett Hanson (20) absorbs a hit from Carmel's Tommy Langkafel, who found out quickly that the young gun Hanson can play the same "Old-Time Hockey" that the infamous Hanson Brothers did in the movie "Slap Shot", as the rugged forward scored twice and dished out some punishment in the process of a 9-2 win over Carmel last Friday night at the annual Thanksgiving Icebreaker Tournament at Brewster Ice Arena. Hanson (1G, 2A) went off again on Saturday in a 4-1 win over Pawling before the Sailors (2-0) were awarded second place in their division, losing out on a tiebreaker to champion SOMERS/NORTH SALEM (1-0-1). Emerging Hen Hud/Haldane was expected to get much better in the days ahead when Haldane freshman D Vladimir Siria and his vast skill sets joined the team next week. Siria is an impact player who has dazzled teammates in practice. **By Ray Gallagher**

Mahopac, Somers/NS Win Divisions at Icebreaker Tourney *Hen Hud Wins 2 Games, Loses Tiebreak with Somers; Carmel Drops Two*



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

Carmel's Nick Smith cuts into scoring position as Hen Hud's Alec Dalton gives chase.



Haldane's James Sherman (1G,1A) moves puck up ice in 9-2 win over Carmel at Icebreaker tourney last Friday.



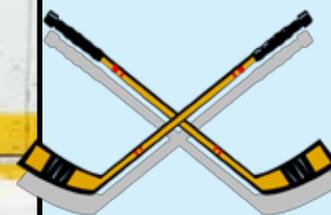
Hen Hud's Brett Hanson celebrates one of two goals he would score in 9-2 win over Carmel at Icebreaker tourney where Hen Hud/Haldane would place second behind Somers/NS based on a tiebreaker for goals allowed.



Carmel sophomore Steven Mount works the corner against Haldane's Anthony Percacciolo (1G,1A) in Rams' 9-2 loss in Icebreaker tourney where Carmel went 0-2.



Haldane's Michael Harmancin (1G) and Carmel's Alphonse Sicignano (1G) exchange pleasantries at Icebreaker Tourney last Friday night in 9-2 H-H win over the Rams.



Hen Hud's Tommy Cascone (1G) is hunted by Carmel's James Roberto in Hen Hud-Haldane's 9-2 win over Rams.

Somers F Jake Lanyi scores GWG in shootout vs. Jay. Will O'Leary tied the game for SNS, which went on to win their division after a 3-2 win over Greeley, in which Michael Garrity (1G,1A) led the way for the Sabers, who won their division at the Icebreak tourney.



Order on the Court! Hoops Tip-Off 2015-16

By Ray Gallagher
Examiner Sports Editor
@Directrays

There used to be a time when the eminence of the Westchester County Center was all that mattered for most Section 1 basketball teams; that was before basketball exploded into what has become the second most popular sport among varsity preps and fans nationwide (trailing only football in terms of popularity).

Nowadays, the County Center and Section 1 Final 4 are just part of the big picture, as most teams enter the season with a lofty Section 1 title in mind, or the chance to hoist the coveted gold ball. But the historic County Center remains the be-all and end-all, and getting there is still half the battle, but the gold ball is paramount. While those goals are delusions of grandeur for some, they are realistic in certain corners of the Northern Westchester/Putnam County region. Let's examine the possibilities below.

CLASS AA

Two-time reigning champion Mount Vernon, winners of nine of the last 10 gold balls, are once again the heavy favorites to repeat and represent Section 1 in the NYSPHSAA tournament. Semifinalists Saunders returns its top player, All-Section F Derrick Felder, and several others. Semifinalists Arlington and Clarkstown South come off their finest campaigns ever, and Fox Lane is totally legit this year, as are North Rockland and White Plains,



RAY GALLAGHER/RICKKUPERBERG PHOTOS

Yorktown senior captain Nick DeGennaro is a dynamic playmaker and finisher for the Huskers.

so reaching the Final 4 will be most difficult for the local squads, who would need to overachieve to do so.

MAHOPAC (6-13, lost Sect.1 outbracket)

No matter who you ask in Indian Territory, first-year Coach Matt Simone just feels like the right replacement for former veteran Coach Jim Harter, who was unceremoniously released just two weeks before the start of the season. Mahopac, you'll recall, made four consecutive trips to the Final 4 and one championship appearance from 2011-2014 under former Coach Kevin Downes, now a Yorktown. Three different coaches in three years is not the Mahopac way, and Simone won't have but a month with the unit

he has chosen to represent Mahopac, some of whom he coached as freshmen several years ago. But the coaching carousel at Mahopac has brought Simone back to the program he once played and coached the lower levels. Timing is everything in life, and Simone plans on sticking around.

His initial starting unit is very athletic and polished, as four of the five saw significant time last season under Harter, including senior G Christian Donahoe, senior F Dan Foley, senior G Aiden Hynes and 6'7" senior C Ryan Vitkus. Junior G Andrew Ryan is an athletic rookie who will run the point.

"This year we will rely on the athleticism of our players and will focus on the defensive end of the floor playing tough, hard-nosed defense,"

Simone said. "The senior leadership and experience of Foley, Hynes and Donahoe will set the tone for the rest of team. Vitkus will be an impact player for us. Andrew Ryan is a smart point guard who will look to run the offense."

Jonathan Jacklett, Connor Moloney, Matt Leonard, Dominic Iacuone, Zac Carlin, Mike Dimicco, Mike Pilgrim, Mike Cazarri and Tim Lopreato will play a role off the bench to open the season.

"We hope these guys will look to provide a spark off the bench," the coach said.

Mahopac would do well with this group to win a playoff game and become a most difficult quarterfinal out for some unsuspecting unit that might be looking past a team that had -- as recently as 2014 -- been a County Center regular.

CARMEL (7-13, lost Sect.1 opening round)

Coach John Venditto enters Year 3 with a big hole in the middle of his starting unit, with junior All-League C Josh Alexander moving on to Iona Prep of the CHSAA. After losing to top-seeded Arlington in the playoffs, Venditto had to feel good about the nucleus he expected to return, but the loss of a 6'7" post presence will be difficult, if not impossible, to fill.

All-League senior G Ryan Train will bear the burden of the loss, serving as the primary option in most sets. Train can drain from beyond the arc and can attack the rack with equal effectiveness.

Matt Haughney Sr., F/C, will take over for Alexander while sharpshooting Quinn Willman (Sr., G) will work the backcourt with Train as a top wing option. Other veterans include; Beau Kershaw, Sr., G; Isaiah Fredericks Sr., G; Ryan Sullivan Sr., F/C; Brenden Cody Jr, G/F; Joe Redendo Sr., G; and Dan Walsh Sr., G

Newcomers include; Brian Harlin Jr., G; Andrew Dileo Jr., F; Guy Cipriano Jr., F; Kyle Shilling Jr., G; and Matt Dougherty Jr., G/F.

"We will lean heavily on All-League player, Ryan Train, as well as, fellow starters Matt Haughney and Quinn Willman to provide scoring and leadership," Coach Venditto said. "With early season tournaments at Lakeland and Croton along with a tough non-league schedule we will strive to improve each and every game we play."

YORKTOWN (13-8, lost Sect. 1 Class A quarters)

Coach Kevin Downes' Huskers pretty much know what to expect from their veteran coach as he enters his second season at Yorktown after taking Mahopac to four-straight Class AA Final 4's and one championship appearance. Similarly, Downes knows that Yorktown athletes are very much like Mahopac athletes; in that they give a coach everything they've got if they respect you.

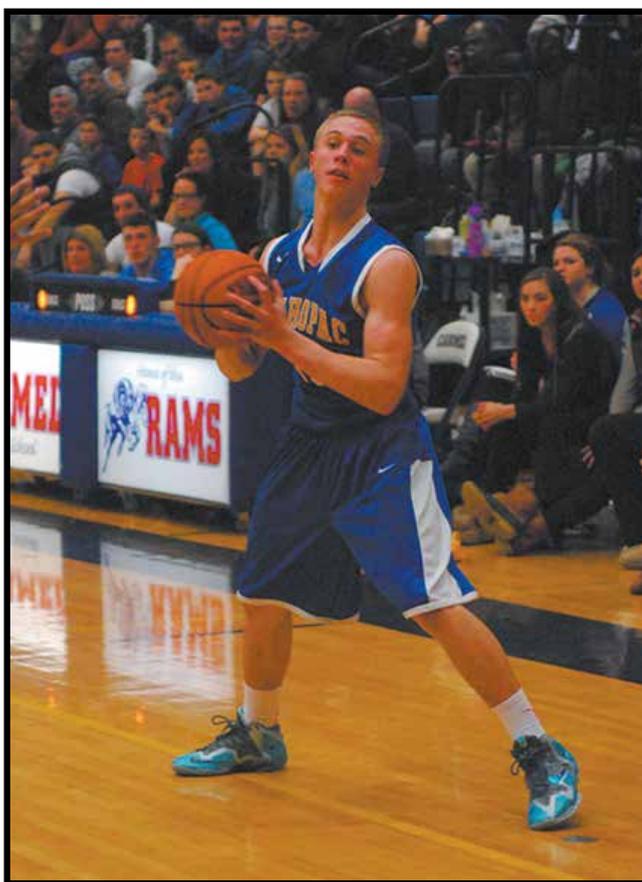
Downes channels mutual respect and the Huskers bought in last year, winning more games than they had the previous three years combined before falling in the playoffs to top-seeded Spring Valley, a state semifinalist.

"We're looking to build off of the success from a year ago," Downes said, noting it would be difficult with the Huskers moving to Class AA this season.

And with a decent chunk of starters returning for the 2016 season, expect Yorktown to be a tough team to beat in their league -- along with Somers, Greeley, Fox Lane, Brewster and John Jay CR -- who can each compete with anyone on any given night. But a Class AA Final 4 run for the Huskers will be extremely difficult.

Key returners include All-League senior sniper Nick DeGennaro, a 5'11" G who can deliver the goods. "Nick is a dynamic player who is poised for a great season," Downes said.

He'll be joined by veterans Jesse Bambach (6'5" Sr. F), Glen O'Loughlin (6'6" Sr. C), Ryan Hill (6'2" Sr. G), Trevor Bocian (5'10" Sr. G), Tim Martz (6'4" Sr. F), Ryan Curran (6'4" Sr. F) and Ben



Mahopac's Christian Donahoe will supply the giddy-up to the Indian attack this season.

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook



Ossining's AJ Stokeley (23) will lead a much-improved Pride team this season.



Lakeland senior C Nick Fazio will be a menacing presence in the paint this year.

Schmitz (6'4" Sr. F). That's five players who go 6'4" or better.

That number increases to six when you factor in newcomers Tyler Makar (6'4" Sr. F) and Tanner Dyslin (6'4" Jr. F), the kid brother of graduated All-Section swingman Mason Dyslin (Vassar College). When Lakeland hosts Yorktown on Dec. 16th there should be enough size and beef on the floor for an excellent game of bully ball in the paint.

Matt Severino (6'3" Jr. G) and Sol Barer (6'3" Jr.) round out what looks like a most competitive unit.

"Jesse Bambach and Glen O'Loughlin, 6'5" and 6'6", respectively, will take on the task of replacing Mason Dyslin," Downes said of his former leader in both scoring and rebounding. "They are both very good post players, defenders

who can also shoot the ball well. They should also get big help from newcomer, junior Tanner Dyslin. We will once again rely on rebounding and defense and should have a strong post presence with Bambach, O'Loughlin and Dyslin."

OSSINING (6-13, lost in opening round)

First-year Coach Mike Casey has some interesting pieces in place, including four top returning players in AJ Stokeley, 6'4", Sr.; Obadiah Toppin, 6'5", Sr.; Jay Criss, 6'1", Jr. and Nick Murdock, 6'3", Sr. The players are stoked to play for Casey, an exuberant coach with an up-tempo style that suits them well. Don't sleep on this Pride unit; they will be better than what we have seen in recent years, and the Pride are going to surprise some teams if it all comes together like we think it can.

The key newcomers include: Alan Griffin, a 6-4 sophomore, who is the real deal; trust us. He was rated one of the top 10th

grade players in the Chicago area before transferring to Ossining where he could shine for several years. His father, Adrian Griffin, starred at Seton Hall before a 9-year NBA career as an undrafted free agent, which he translated into a professional coaching career with the NBA's Orlando Magic, Chicago Bull and Milwaukee Bucks. Therefore, Alan Griffin is said to be coachable and fun to watch.

Other newcomers include Wes Rodgers, 6', Sr.; Kenny Fritz, 6'1", Jr.; KJ Trotter, 5'11", Jr.; Kyle Cristello, 6', Sr.; Shamar Holebrook, 5'11", Jr.; Richard Bautista, 6'6", Jr. and 8th-grade point guard Jakai Robinson-Sealy, a 6'1" prospect the Pride are high on.

"Needless to say I am very excited about this opportunity," Coach Casey said. "We have been working hard in the off-season. The majority of the players played summer and fall ball with me and we did relatively well. The kids have been working hard, and we just need to keep that going. We are long and athletic. Sharing the ball and improving defensively are our focus right now."

Rodgers is recovering an injury and is out a couple weeks, leaving Robinson-Sealy to run the point as a rookie 8th-grader, which should tell you plenty about his ability. This is a talented group that could sneak up on some teams who aren't quick to get the Pride on their radar.

"Jakai Robinson-Sealy is a great kid and a special athlete," Casey said. "AJ Stokeley and Obadiah Toppin are both very talented; both about 6'4" and very athletic. We should be a fun team to watch."

CLASS A

Reigning champion Spring Valley won its first sectional title since 1996 last year and the Tigers were the toast of the town, but they have been bumped back up to Class AA this season, leaving Eastchester, Tappan Zee as, Byram Hills and well-rounded, athletic Lourdes as teams you don't want to sleep on in Class A.

SOMERS (18-4, lost Sect. 1 semis)

What we know about Coach Chris DiCintio's Tuskers and what we don't know are the two things that make this team a puzzling call. We know that Somers is coming off its best season since 1992 and has graduated the core of what some are calling the best unit since Derek Hyra and Willy Dietrich graced the Tusker hardwood back in the wee 90s when Somers reach the finals.



Somers Coach Chris DiCintio has placed a ton of faith in seven sophomores he brought up to varsity this season.

What we don't know is whether or not this current group of assembled whippersnappers is ready for prime time this season, though they soon will be. DiCintio has taken seven sophomores under his wing this season, including his son, Chris, a 5'10" G, who has six classmates with the necessary gifts to become a solid unit in the future. Whether or not that happens this season remains to be seen, but the Tuskers are going to be thrown to the wolves (so to speak) in an effort to find out.

Juniors Matt Pires and Marc Maestri (F, 6'2", 185) will be joined by one lone senior, 6'4" C Reid Killeen, a bull in the paint who will be key to the development of these rookies in so many ways.

"As our lone senior, Reid is our captain and the only player returning that got significant minutes last season," Coach D said. "He's 6'4" and strong. He has a nose for the ball and is the heart and soul of this year's team. His leadership (done quietly) is going to be huge in trying to mentor the younger players.

"Matt Pires and Marc Maestri are captains with Reid," DiCintio added. "Marc is an extremely athletic kid. He has a lightning-quick release and is quick to the basket. He's a big baseball kid so he needs to get his rhythm going. Once that happens, he will be a major player for us this season. Matt Pires, on the other hand, has the potential to be an All-Conference point guard. He had an excellent off-season and looked great during the summer. Unfortunately, he broke his ankle during football and won't be ready until game four or five, hopefully. He's another kid that when he's healthy will be huge for us."

That leaves two spots and a ton of

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook



Carmel G Quinn Willman will need to extend opposing defenses with his dead-eye three-point range.

competition from a tight-knit group of sophs that DiCintio has been fruitfully coaching for many years along the AAU circuit.

"I'm the only coach some of them have ever known," DiCintio said, citing Lorenzo Bicknese, Chris DiCintio, Nick Gargiulo (6'5", 250), Jack Gilroy (6'2"), Justin Lancaster, Kevin Olifiers and Gio Tradito. "We are very young to say the least. The bright side is that the seven sophomores have been playing for me since the fourth and fifth grade. They are an extremely talented bunch with great chemistry and they know how to win. The future looks strong for this bunch, but there are a lot of question marks as to whether or not their inexperience at this level will hinder them from closing out games this year."

Juniors Ross Dietrich (6'3"), Ryan Maloney and Pearse Martin are three more rookies looking to contribute. DiDintio is preaching physical defense in a half-court man set while extending the defense at times with zone pressing and matchup zones.

"The key to competing this season is limiting our opponent's possessions by owning the boards each game," the coach said. "Unfortunately, I am concerned as to whether or not we can do that with such a young team."

As a result, Somers cannot get into track meets, allowing opponents to score at will.

The Tuskers lack proven scorers and hope to produce a go-to guy quickly, especially with Pires on the sideline until the quarter turn.

"The boys are definitely practicing hard, they are energized and they are ready to prove that Somers basketball is here to stay," DeCintio said.

We're all anxious to see if the Tuskers can sustain what has been a terrific run under DiCintio the last few seasons, or whether they'll need a year to reload and take aim at just their third trip to the County Center in nearly a quarter century.

HEN HUD (14-7, lost Sect. 1 quarters)

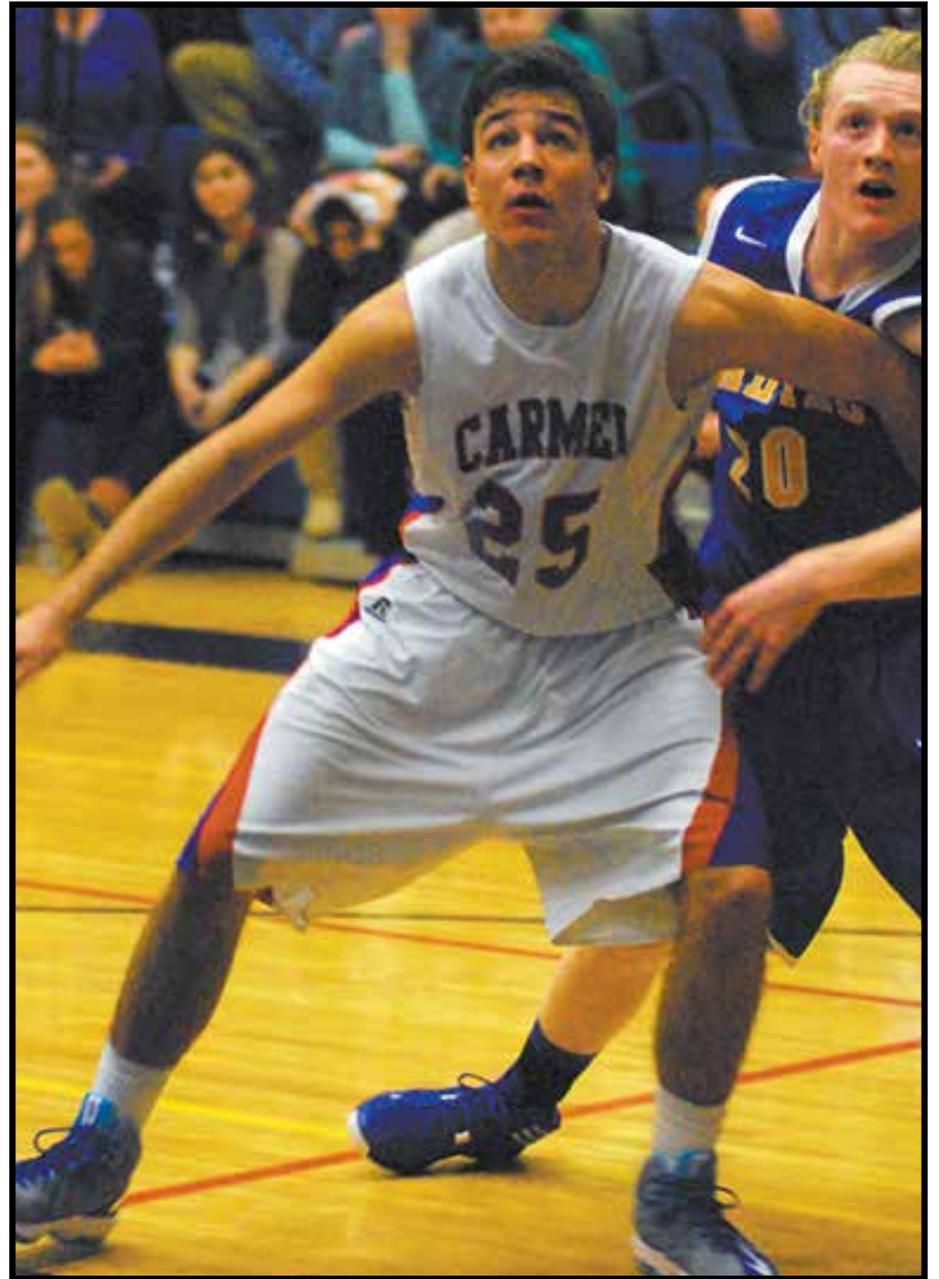
It had been a few years since the Sailors were relevant on the Section 1 hoops circuit, but they got themselves back on the map in last winter behind the exploits of Concordia-bound swingman Jesse Breeding. The senior torched the cords for an average of 16 PPG,

doing so with an array of nifty moves that helped the Sailors produce their first winning campaign in four seasons while guiding the 11th-seeded Sailors to the quarterfinals where they were finally eliminated by No.3 finalist Byram Hills, 50-49. It was Hen Hud's first quarterfinal appearance since 1999 when the then-9th-seeded Sailors lost No.1 Nyack.

"I love this team," said third-year Sailor skipper Jordan Hirsch, who hopes to lead the Sailors back to the County Center Final 4 for the first time since 1992. "I like what I'm seeing from a culture-building standpoint and from our response to adverse situations. Our scrimmages exposed a lot of things that we need to work on in every part of the game. It's a challenge that our coaching staff is really looking forward to."

Seniors Mike Smith and Nicky Marra figure to add to the athleticism to a fairly youthful unit that includes eight juniors and three sophomores, including juniors Greg Fuchek, Thomas Maloney, Dan Maloney, Jack Attinelly, Ray Morris, Dan Weimar, Pat McGovern and impactful sophomores Dylan Fraser, Austin Fraser and Kyle James.

"At this point we feel good about the competition in practice and we hope that it will translate into a deep roster where we can have some interchangeability,"



Carmel's Ryan Train and Mahopac's Aidan Hynes will battle the Dutchess powers for league supremacy.

Hirsh said. "With only three seniors we will rely a lot on them and the returners from last year to be great leaders. We will need everyone to add value in different ways to be successful. This group seems to have a real investment in each other, and I fully expect that they understand the expectation of daily work ethic that we hold to the highest priority. I'm really excited to continue to work with this group and see how they grow and mature as a team."

The Sailors believe they have legit chance to battle for the league title with Ossining and Lakeland figuring to do likewise.

PANAS (12-8, lost in Sect.1 opening round)

Two years removed from winning the Section 1 title, Coach Shawn Sullivan's Panthers will likely be in the same boat they were last year; figuring things out until the veteran coach can find the right mix and rotations that will eventually give opposing teams fits down the stretch.

Sullivan, who has quietly developed into one of the better coaches in the

region during his 14 years on the Panther sideline, will need to figure out who takes over the first and second options, now that Brandon Collins and Mike Evans – the top two rebounders and scorers from last season – are gone.

Several players who saw supporting roles last season are expected to have a major impact this season, including Brandon Hodge (G, 5'8", Soph.); Brandon Ramos (F, 6'0", Soph.); Shakiem White (C, 6'5", Sr.); David Reynoso (G, 5'10", Jr) and long Jeremy Keefe (C, 6'5", Sr.).

"I believe our returning players are ready to step up and take ownership of the team," Sullivan said. "Hodge should provide us with outstanding ball handling and passing. Reynoso and Ramos should give us scoring from the perimeter while Keefe and White should give us a strong inside game. These guys give us great versatility but it will all come down to whether or not we can rebound and defend."

Veterans Simmy Mann (6-0, Sr., G) and Brian Denault (6-0, Sr. G) will be joined by newcomers Kevin Dyckman (6-1, Jr.

Sports

Boys' Hoops Notebook

F); Stephan Reyes (5-11, Jr. G) and Nik Veloz (6-0, Jr. G) off the bench.

The unit will find out quickly how they measure up against the locals when the Panthers host the Walter Panas Holiday Tournament on December 11th and 12th when Lakeland, Mahopac and Brewster come knocking (First Round Dec. 11: 5 p.m. Brewster vs. Lakeland, 7 p.m. Panas vs. Mahopac). Prior to that, the Panthers will open up against visiting Yorktown (12/4) before visiting Class B heavyweight Putnam Valley (12/8).

LAKELAND (9-10, lost Sect.1 outbracket)

The Henry Weltman era is over and the Steve Fallo era begins. Fallo, the longtime girls' hoops coach for the Hornets, replaces Weltman, one of the winningest coaches in Lakeland hoops history and a fixture on the Lakeland sideline. Weltman oversaw one of the greatest periods in Lakeland history before stepping down at the end of last season, which was sub-par by Lakeland's standards; a No.16 seed and an outbracket loss to No.17 Nyack.

The transition began last season with Fallo serving as Weltman's assistant and it should be a smooth one. Fallo's first season will see the Hornets coming at the

opposition with one of the largest front courts in their history, including seniors PF Trevor McCarthy (6'2"), C Nick Fazio (6'8"), F/C Nick Jarosz (6'4") and C/F Kyle Peterson (6'4").

For all the size the Hornets have, the key will be the play of guards Eric Pombo (PG, 5'11, Sr.) and Tim Fallo (6'0" G, Jr.). John Mule' (5'11", G, Soph), Pat Morelli (5'11", F Jr.), Jaz Burton (6'1", Jr.), Griffin Shiland (5'11" F, Jr.) and David Kale (6'2", G, Jr.) should all figure prominently in Fallo's rotations. Kyle Harrison, Peterson, Matt Tuite and Matt O'Dair are also in the mix.

Lakeland knows what to expect from its front court, but the development of the back court will determine whether or not the Hornets are legit players on the Class A circuit. After opening the season with 2015 Final 4 foe Somers, the Hornets will be tested in their own tournament against Class AA Carmel and Class AA Greeley/Class B Putnam Valley winner the first weekend of December. It should provide a solid early-season test.

"Our goal is to compete and improve every night we play," said Fallo, who had about as much success as any Class A girls' coach in Section 1 since the late 80s. "We have good size, athleticism and experienced

players, with four returning starters from last year. Senior leadership will be very important to our success. Nick Fazio and Nick Jarosz can be game changers inside. Eric Pombo and Trevor McCarthy will provide us with the leadership and the competitive drive we will need to be successful.

"We have to be an inside-out team with the bigs making good decisions when to kick it out," Fallo added. "If we can limit our turnovers and make shots from the outside we could be hard to defend."

PEEKSKILL (6-13, lost Sect.1 outbracket)

The mighty had fallen hard last winter when the 22nd-seeded Red Devils were bounced from the post-season in an

outbracket loss to Hen Hud, thus ending what was a trying first season for rookie Coach Tony Turner, who, like anyone would, found the shoes of NYS Hall of Fame Coach Lou Panzanaro tough to fill. The Red Devils never got any traction last season and were unable to string together any form of consistency. It'll be on the shoulders of sophomore swingman CJ Redd to restore the pride of Peekskill. Redd, a 6'4" slashing wing who can drill the trey or pull up on the elbow, is Peekskill's primary option, and for good reason. Redd, who was injured in April and had surgery in June, is hoping to be sharp for the season opener.

"Promise you're gonna be good this year," said Redd. "We don't have much height but we got speed. I'm just preparing myself and making sure that I'm ready myself. I'll be healthy by the season opener, just don't know if I'll be in shape. I'm working my hardest to get back into tip-top shape!

We got a speedy scrappy team this year, and we should be fun to watch."

Peekskill's second option behind Redd should be his cousin Chihe Williams, a recent transfer and solid addition to the Red Devil backcourt. Peekskill won the last of its five-straight Section 1 titles way back in 2009, and the dry spell and recent run of mediocrity have people wondering what it's going to take to get the Red Devils back in the mix of contenders.

CLASS B

Two-time defending Section 1 champion Woodlands, last year's state runner-up, will have to start from scratch this season, having graduated all but one starter. That said, the door is open for three-year bridesmaid Putnam Valley to come bashing in to the County Center as one of the Class B favorites this season, though Briarcliff is also loaded and Class B is as open as it's ever been with emerging clubs like Valhalla, Pleasantville, Westlake and Blind Brook all gunning for Woodlands.

PUTNAM VALLEY (15-7, lost Sect.1 semis)

After a dozen or so years of toiling near or at the very bottom of the Class B basement from 2001 to 2011, nobody ever expected to type the following: The Putnam Valley Tigers are seeking a fourth consecutive trip to the Westchester



Putnam Valley's Joey Spinola (L) and Harrison Deegan will be two of the top players in Class B this season.



Peekskill's CJ Redd should demonstrate above average skill sets for the Red Devs this winter.

County Center, as part of Section 1 Final 4 this season. The Tigers have gone 49-15 the last three years with many of those wins coming against larger A and AA schools.

The former cellar dwellers are now among the upper echelon of the Class B scene, having lost to the eventual champion in each of the past three seasons, but cracking the upper crust has been difficult in the 2013 semis (loss to Lourdes), 2014 finals (loss to Woodlands) and 2015 semis (loss to Woodlands).

And while the likes of former All-NYS players like Zach Coleman, Jelani Bell-Isaac and Ryan Basso have come and gone, the Tigers may have their best chance to secure their first sectional championship under third-year Coach Mike McDonnell.

"I feel that this group is the most balanced and cohesive group I've had," the coach said. "They are talented, tough and tireless in their quest to be champions. I absolutely love coaching these kids."

Senior Joe Spinola, a 6'5" C/F, will be one of the central figures on opposing coach's minds, as the three-year veteran brings some swag and the potential to average a double-double. If Spinola can steer clear of foul trouble, he can post some monster numbers this season, averaging anywhere between 12 to 16 PPG and 10 boards, if he willingly works the glass the way only he can on this team.

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Spinola is joined by 6'1" three-year point guard Kevin Gallagher, who will guide the attack and supply the spunk on defense. Gallagher will need to pull the trigger from beyond the arc to open things up inside for Spinola and slashing senior G Ander Spittal, who showed flashes of excellence last season but will need to be the model of consistency this year. Senior swingman Harrison Deegan is playing above the rim this season. At 6'2", Deegan, among the most improved players in the section, is an X-factor opposing teams will have to counter. The Tigers need double digits from Deegan on a regular basis. Charlie Pagani, a 6'2" F, will round out the starting five as a fifth player who can drop 6-8 points on any given night.

Get freshman Darnell Shillingford on your radar, because the 6' small forward has the potential to be one of the program's finest player yet. He'll come off the bench early and often, a bench that lacks the key ingredient that could hold

will be hard to outcoach. With over 600 games under his belt and a 386-238 career record, Coach Thom knows his stuff and last year's 13-7 record resulted in No.7 and a quarterfinal loss to No.2 Briarcliff.

Thom will turn to Captains Frank Addeo (Sr. 6'2"), Sam Roth (Sr. 5'9") and Eli Reyer (Sr. 6'1") to lead a cast of strong returnees, including shifty Charlie Goldberg (Jr. 6'0"), Garrett Lynch (Sr. 6'3"), Mike Matalavage (Sr. 6'0"), Conor Moore (Sr. 6'0"), Rory Parker (Jr. 5'11") and Kevin Sherry (Sr. 6'0").

Newcomers Eric De La Cruz (Jr. 5'9"), Justin Kargbo (Jr. 6'0"), Austin Rago (Jr. 6'2"), Graham Webster (Soph. 6'2"), Matt Minett (Soph. 5'9") and Peter Genarelli (Jr. 5'11") are expected to add to what Thom termed a strong team chemistry and work ethic, which has been exceptional to date.

The coach cited a lack of experience as a potential weakness.

"We've worked hard to date," Thom said. "It will be interesting to see how the

Coach Joe Virgadamo's 10th season was the best in the history of the program, one that resulted with a run to Glens Falls for the Blue Devils' first NYS Final 4 appearance behind All-NYS swingman Peter Hoffmann (Hamilton). "The Hoff" set records along the way and Haldane lost to eventual champ Lake George in the semifinals, leaving the Blue Devils with a new era with which to approach.

Senior Will Zivic, a 6'5" F and the kid brother of Action Jackson Zivic (Oneonta), will lead the way with two-plus years of vast experience.

Other returning veterans include Tucker Beachak, 6'1" Sr., G; Nick Chiera, 6'2", Sr., F; David Rotando, 5'9", Sr., G; Eric Rizzi, 5'10", Sr., G; and Aidan Siegel, 5'11", So., G.

Newcomers include: 6'4" junior Blaine Fitzgerald, the kid brother of All-Section center Edmund, and good looking rookie Kyle Sussmeier, Fr., 6-1, G.

The Blue Devils will be looking to earn a trip back to the Westchester County Center for the seventh year in a row, which won't be easy given all they've lost. Still, the Virgadamo Brothers know no other way, and the preparation they put in, coupled with the commitment they command, should be enough to light the way.

Boys' basketball Coaches are strongly encouraged to contact sports editor Ray Gallagher at Raygallaghersports@gmail.com with positive comments, stats and box score info after each game or no later than Sunday mornings for inclusion in the Examiner's weekly Boys' Hoops Notebook.

Putnam/NWE Top 5 Pre-Season Hoops Poll

(Remember, this is a meaningless, speculative, pre-season account of local teams with very little to actually go on)

No.1 PUTNAM VALLEY – Sounds like a homer call here (being involved at the rec. level and all) but what's not to like; five experienced seniors and a freshman phenom off the bench, three-straight trips to County Center... I'm all in.

No.2 OSSINING – The Griffin kid is a stud and Robinson-Sealy is going to



Croton's Eli Reyer will be a force for the Tigers this season.



Haldane F Will Zivic will need to be more than a complimentary player this season; he'll need to be 'The Man'.

the Tigers back; proven depth. Senior Justin Tompkins, 6-1, F, is also expected to make a contribution after taking last year off.

Key newcomers include: Marc Zadrima, 6-0, Jr., G; J.T. Montaldo, 6-2, Jr., F; and Justin Acosta, 5-10, Jr., G.

CROTON (13-7, lost Sect.1 quarters)

With 31 years of experience on the Croton sideline, Tigers Coach Bill Thom

season progresses."

The Tigers will host the second annual "Hoops for Heroes" event to honor those who have and are serving the U.S. military on Saturday, January 23, 2016. The event will include five varsity games. The Tigers will play in the Putnam County Challenge on January 2nd against Dobbs Ferry.

CLASS C

HALDANE (18-5, lost NYS Semis)

be a special player as he matures, leaving Coach Casey with a nice nucleus of young rooks and solid experience in Stokeley and Toppin.

No.3 HEN HUD – The Jesse Breeding Show will be spectacular times, but who's going to emerge as the No.2 option. Love me some Frazier boys.

No.4 LAKELAND – Jarosz is a tough son of gun and Fazio can impose his will, defend the basket and finish around the rim, so if the guard play can measure up, Fallo's first year could be a good one.

No.5 MAHOPAC – There's just too much athleticism between Donahoe, Foley and Hynes for this unit to have another sub-par campaign like the last one, which was really tough to watch after 4-straight Final 4's.

No.5A YORKTOWN – DeGennaro and Bambach are more than enough to ensure the Huskers are competitive in this neck of the woods.

LOCAL LEAGUE ALIGNMENTS

Conference I-A

Arlington, Carmel, John Jay EF, Mahopac, Lourdes, RCK

Conference I-B

Beacon, Hen Hud, Lakeland, Ossining, Peekskill, Panas

Conference I-C

Haldane, North Salem, Pawling, Putnam Valley

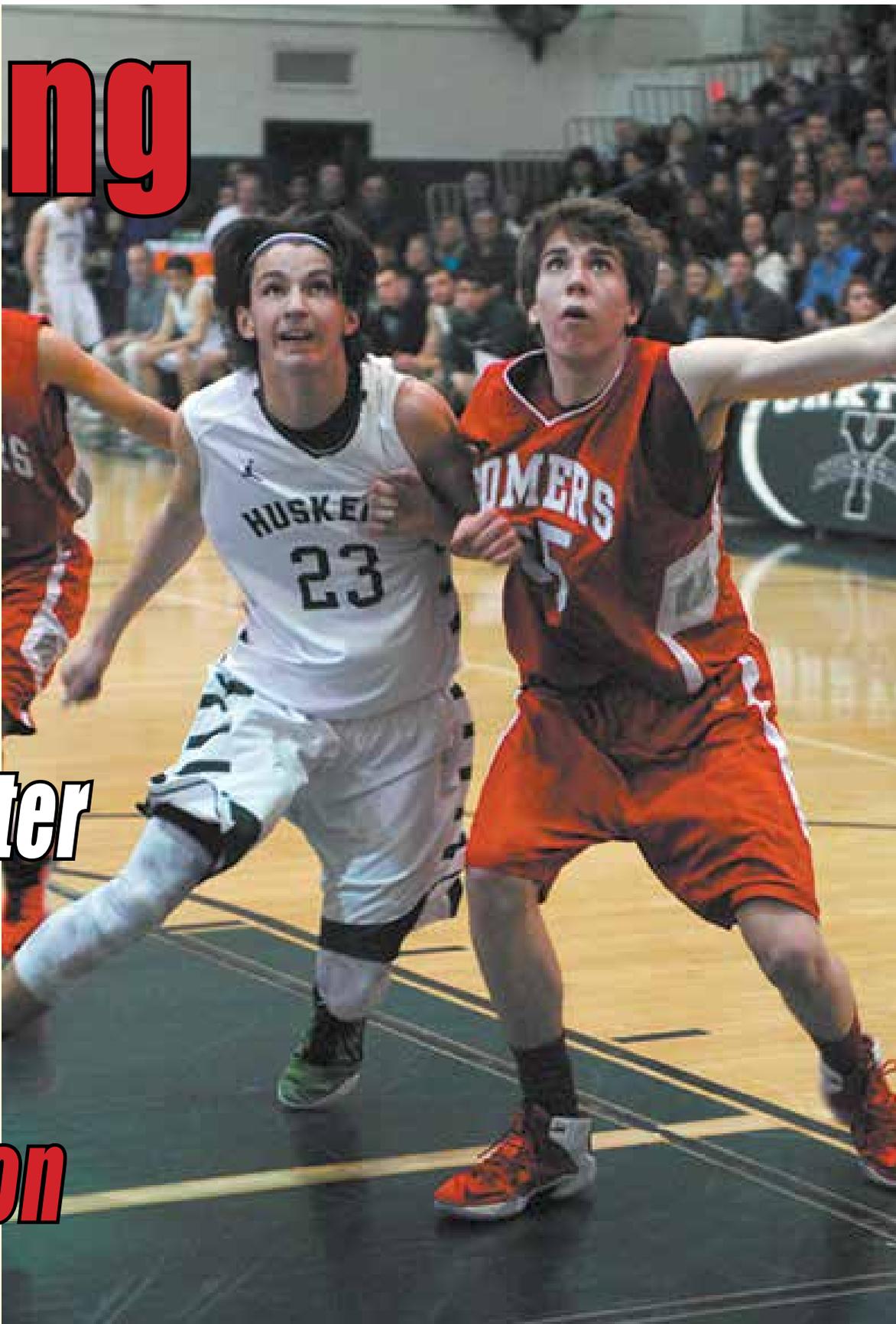
Conference I-D

Brewster, Fox Lane, Greeley, John Jay CR, Somers, Yorktown

Beasting Boyz!

Fight For Your Right, to Party... at County Center

2015-16 Boys' Hoops Preview Edition



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Yorktown senior F Jesse Bambach (L) and Somers senior F Reid Killeen are just two of the beasting ballers in the Northern Westchester area with visions of the Westchester County Center and the Section 1 Final 4 dancing in their heads this winter. But the road to the fabled venue will be one with many twists and turns as the locals -- from Ossining to Lakeland and all points in between -- hope to establish themselves with difficult crossovers, tournaments and league schedules in the days ahead... see Boys' Hoops Notebook



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