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Exposition  
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# The NORTHERN WESTCHESTER Examiner

**See  
Sports**



Covering Yorktown, Somers, Cortlandt, Croton-on-Hudson, Buchanan, Ossining and Peekskill

August 2 - August 8, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 346

## Cortlandt Opposes Coast Guard Plan to Anchor Barges in Hudson

By Rick Pezullo

The Town of Cortlandt is opposing a plan by the United States Coast Guard to have commercial barges anchor off the shores of the Hudson River.

The Town Board unanimously voted July 19 to object to two of the 10 sites being considered by the Coast Guard: approximately 127 acres in the Montrose region that would accommodate as many as three vessels and approximately 98 acres between Tomkins Cove in Rockland County and Verplanck that would also handle up to three vessels.

Cortlandt Supervisor Linda Puglisi said the town has also requested the Coast Guard hold one of its public meetings on the project in Cortlandt.

"The anchors would be a detriment to the visual aesthetics

of the Hudson River that our residents enjoy on a yearly basis," Puglisi said. "The Town of Cortlandt government has spent millions of dollars to purchase property along this shoreline to add to the assets of the town. They include a recent purchase of 100 acres from Con Edison, Inc., a life estate with a property owner and a former marina. All of this land is now part of our landscape."

"Also, we have the Indian Point nuclear plants, the ongoing construction of the Spectra expanded gas line project going throughout our community from across the river and we now do not need anchors off our shores in the Hudson River," Puglisi added.

Councilman and Deputy Su-

*Continued on page 2*



PHOTO BY MICHAEL GIULIANO

### Meeting a Met

New York Mets second baseman Neil Walker visited Summer Trails Day Camp in Granite Springs last week, offering tips and words of advice to campers, while also posing for photos and signing autographs. For story and photos, see page 6.

## Yorktown Marks Purple Heart Designation with New Signs

By Rick Pezullo

It took U.S. Army veteran Eugene Lang 44 years after he was wounded in combat in Vietnam to receive a Purple Heart.

Many of those emotions associated with his time in service came flooding back for Lang last Wednesday at the unveiling of a sign in the downtown business district of Yorktown declaring Yorktown a Purple Heart Town, a distinction

the town actually received three years ago.

"Today is a reaffirmation of how proud I am to be a Yorktown resident," said Neil Gross, a retired U.S. Army lieutenant/colonel who also has a Purple Heart. "When kids come by and see that sign they might think to ask what a Purple Heart is."

Lang, a Yorktown resident, has been

steadfastly urging municipalities to approve necessary resolutions to receive the Purple Heart proclamation. To date, 21 towns and cities in Westchester have signed on, with the Town of Cortlandt being the first. In Putnam, Lang noted all six towns enthusiastically jumped on board within two months.

Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel, proud father of two West Point gradu-

ates, helped spearhead the effort in Yorktown.

"What matters in life is the integrity, compassion and sacrifice made by those who gave the ultimate sacrifice or those who were wounded serving to keep our freedoms alive," Patel said.

State Senator Terrence Murphy (R/Yorktown), Supervisor Michael Grace

*Continued on page 2*

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# Cortlandt Opposes Coast Guard Plan to Anchor Barges in Hudson

*Continued from page 1*  
pervisor Frank Farrell, who has owned Liberty Press near the river in Verplanck for 40 years, said the plan for the barges were another attempt to unload a potentially adverse impact on the community.

He also questioned what cargo would be on the barges and if local emergency responders would be equipped to deal with a major problem that could occur.

There is currently only one anchorage ground for vessels along a 100-mile

stretch in the Hudson River from New York City to Albany. The Coast Guard, which has noted the plan is only in an exploratory phase, has publicly stated the proposal was initiated by the Maritime Association of the Port of NY/NJ Tug and Barge Committee, the Hudson River Port Pilot's Association, and the American Waterways Operators.

Puglisi is encouraging residents to contact the Coast Guard and oppose the plan by visiting [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov).

# Solaris Sports Club to Host Group Exercise Instructor Career Event

Solaris is looking for experienced group exercise instructors for its upcoming fall schedule. Qualified candidates must possess current group exercise certification, CPR and the experience of an elevated group fitness environment.

WHEN: Wednesday, August 17  
11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

WHERE: Solaris Sports Club  
201 Veterans Rd, Yorktown, NY  
10598

To RSVP: Please respond to [echang@solarisclubs.com](mailto:echang@solarisclubs.com) with your availability, certification information and classes you are interested in being considered for and a manager will confirm your appointment.



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

Councilman Tom Diana poses with veterans in front of new Purple Heart Town sign at corner of Triangle in Yorktown.

# Yorktown Marks Purple Heart Designation with New Signs

*Continued from page 1*  
and Councilman Tom Diana all said the installation of the two signs (the other being on Route 6 near the Taconic State Parkway ramp) should have occurred a while ago.

"Any day you honor a veteran is a great

day in America," Murphy said.

Diana said the town will soon be setting aside some parking spots at town buildings, such as Town Hall and the Yorktown Community and Cultural Center, that will be reserved for combat wounded veterans.



## Taking Care of Shoulder Pain

What you should know about symptoms and treatment options...

### Ask the Doctor

**Evan H. Karas, MD, FAAOS**  
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Co-Director, Orthopedic &  
Spine Institute  
Northern Westchester Hospital

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[www.nwhorthoandspine.org/DrKaras](http://www.nwhorthoandspine.org/DrKaras)

**Q: I've been experiencing discomfort when I lift my arm over my head, most often brushing my hair and putting dishes in the cupboard. What could be wrong?**

**A:** Shoulder pain is often because of tendon inflammation or tear, dislocation, arthritis or a broken bone. If you feel pain when you put on your coat or reach into the back seat of the car from the front, you may have a rotator cuff injury. The rotator cuff is a cradle of muscles and tendons that lets you rotate your arm in a full arc. This intricate structure makes it possible for you to do everyday activities like reaching and lifting; you also rely on your rotator cuff while swinging a tennis racquet or golf club or throwing a ball. Injury can result from a fall or lifting something heavy – or it might just be overuse. I often see rotator cuff problems in patients older than 35, as tendons lose elasticity with age.

**Q: What should I do?**

**A:** If you're experiencing pain, it's important to see a doctor. A thorough examination is needed to determine the cause of your pain. An orthopedist will check for symptoms such as swelling, weakness, tenderness and any deformities. Additionally, imaging with MRI and X-ray will assist in a diagnosis. Treatment options will

vary. Most often rest, modified activities, and physical therapy will be needed. To reduce inflammation and pain, medication or injections, such as cortisone shots, may be used. Surgery will be required to resolve some shoulder problems.

**Q: What can I expect if I need surgery?**

**A:** If there is a tear, I'll recommend surgery to repair it. Using a minimally invasive arthroscopic technique, I'm able to repair a rotator cuff as an outpatient procedure and patients can expect to be home within a few hours. For more serious problems such as severe arthritis, degenerative joint disease, or chronic rotator cuff deficiency, shoulder replacement surgery is often necessary. Patients can expect to leave the hospital after one or two days. Arm movement is limited for about six weeks while the tissue around the new joint heals. Most patients return to normal activities after three months, and shoulder replacements typically last a lifetime.

### Did you know?

Each year, approximately **600,000** Americans have rotator cuff surgery.\*

\* American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

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# Private Talks of Deputy Engineer Job in Yorktown at Issue

By Rick Pezzullo

Discussions of hiring a deputy town engineer in Yorktown that have taken place by the Town Board behind closed doors several times in recent months should be held in front of the public, according to Councilman Vishnu Patel and former Supervisor and Councilwoman Susan Siegel.

Patel and Siegel insisted the board was violating the state Open Meetings Law and the instructions of a state Supreme Court judge by talking about the creation of a new position in private.

"You cannot create a job in closed session," Patel asserted. "This is bogus. How can they ask for a resume for a job that doesn't exist?"

Siegel, who was ousted from the board last year, filed a lawsuit in January alleging personnel decisions that will directly affect citizens must be discussed in an open forum. Specifically mentioned in the proceedings were town engineer and deputy town engineer.

When asked by state Supreme Court Justice Linda Jamieson if those positions would be discussed in an open meeting, Town Attorney Michael McDermott responded, according to court papers, "Of course, Judge. This is the assurance that we have been trying to give to Ms. Siegel."

Jamieson later reiterated staffing must be an open meeting item, instructing



RICK PEZZULLO/PHOTO

Councilman Vishnu Patel believes board is violating the law with closed door discussions on creating a new position.

Town Clerk Diana Quast it should appear on an agenda. "The discussion, it should be open to the public. If you are going to do something like that, that transfer, it affects everybody in that town in terms of their taxes and in terms of what is going on and what is going to happen in your town."

McDermott replied, "I completely agree with you, and I respect your opinion, your statement, rather. However, this has been our position all along."

Siegel maintained it was clear the board was "openly and flagrantly" violating the law and "defying" Jamieson.

"Once again, Supervisor Grace and his colleagues on the Town Board have violated our trust. They have shown contempt for the law, contempt for the courts and contempt for the people of Yorktown. We've had enough!" Siegel remarked.

However, Supervisor Michael Grace stated in an e-mail the position of deputy town engineer was a "pre-existing but unfilled position in the town." His contention seemed to be confirmed by the Westchester County Department of Human Resources, which noted on a "New Position Duties Statement" application filed by Yorktown Town Engineer

Michael Quinn on July 1, that there was no need to create the deputy town engineer position on the Civil Service roster since the "position already authorized."

"Previously the Engineering Department consisted of a town engineer and a deputy. Therefore, no "new" positions have been created," Grace explained. "Without violating the confidentiality of executive sessions last Tuesday (July 26), the board interviewed a candidate for potential employment that would report to the town engineer. That potential hiree's skill set was explored as it related to duties within the Engineering Department and to the handling of certain town matters within and without the Engineering Department."

"Mr. Patel launched protestations which can only come from a complete misunderstanding of a proper examination of a potential employee's skills as would relate to that person's potential employment with the town," Grace continued. "At times it is almost impossible to fathom what Councilman Patel's objections may be."

Patel said he was not convinced the deputy town engineer position existed and called on Grace to produce a public record of when it was approved by the Town Board.

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# Peekskill Man Gets 15 Years in Jail for Heroin Trafficking

By Rick Pezzullo

A Peekskill man was sentenced to 15 years in prison last week for distributing more than a kilogram of heroin in and around Westchester during 2014 that led to the overdose death of a 23-year-old Buchanan man.

Lakuan Rhyne, who pled guilty to felony charges in federal court in April, was also ordered by U.S. District Judge Nelson Roman to pay \$17,678 in restitution to the family of Thomas Coogan, the Buchanan resident who met Rhyne Janu-

ary 26, 2014 in the parking lot of a restaurant in Peekskill to receive a mixture of heroin and fentanyl. Later that night, Coogan died after using the fentanyl-laced heroin.

"Overdose deaths from opioid use have taken their toll in cities, small towns, and rural America," said Preet Bharara, the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York. "The fentanyl-laced heroin sold by Lakuan Rhyne resulted in one of those tragic deaths, but Rhyne continued peddling this poison even after that. For

his callous crime, he has received an appropriately heavy sentence."

According to Bharara, Rhyne, a/k/a "Rico," was the central participant in a drug trafficking ring where he and his associates conspired to distribute large quantities of heroin, crack and powder cocaine in Westchester. Rhyne and his associates allegedly sold their drugs out of cars, residences and on the streets. Some of the heroin distributed by Rhyne was laced with fentanyl, a synthetic opioid significantly stronger than ordinary

heroin and morphine.

Between February and July 2014, confidential informants acting on the direction of the FBI purchased more than 100 grams of heroin from Rhyne during the course of approximately 20 controlled transactions.

Besides the FBI and Westchester County Department of Public Safety, police officers from Peekskill, Croton-on-Hudson, Buchanan, Yorktown, Ossining, Mount Kisco and Bedford participated in busting Rhyne.

## Police Blotter

### State Police

**July 27** - Erik Contreras-Diaz, 26, of Mount Kisco, was charged with attempted rape, robbery and sexual abuse, all felonies, after troopers from Cortlandt were dispatched to investigate a reported sex offense at the Town Line Motel in Cortlandt. Following an investigation it was discovered Contreras-Diaz brought the female victim to the motel and subjected her to unwanted sexual contact. He also attempted to rape her. On numerous occasions the victim attempted to contact police for assistance but Contreras-Diaz prevented her from calling by taking the cell phone. The victim was able to exit the motel room subsequent to a brief struggle and contacted police. Contre-

ras-Diaz was arraigned in Cortlandt Town Court and remanded to Westchester County Jail in lieu of \$100,000 cash bail.

### Yorktown Police

**July 27- 6:58 p.m.** - Philip Twyman, 37, of Yorktown, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance and driving while ability impaired by drugs after police received a call about a male passed out in a vehicle in the parking lot of the Triangle Shopping Center. An investigation at the scene determined Twyman was driving with a suspended license, operating a vehicle while impaired by drugs and in possession of controlled substances. He is due in Yorktown Town Court September 1.



RICK PEZZULLO PHOTO

A car overturned on Sprout Brook Road in Cortlandt last Wednesday near the town's ball fields. No major injuries were reported.

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# Mets Second Baseman Offers Tips to Campers in Somers

Story and Photos by Michael Giuliano

New York Mets second baseman Neil Walker visited Summer Trails Day Camp in Granite Springs on July 26 and offered tips and words of advice to the campers, emphasizing the importance of hard work and perseverance.

Summer Trails, which was founded in 1974, offers both a baseball camp and a traditional camp. While the traditional camp offers a variety of over 60 different events and sports in its program, the baseball camp focuses solely on teaching the mechanics and drills of baseball.

Each camp also offers several special events throughout the season, and for the baseball camp that means a visit from a MLB player. Walker continued the tradition this year, following in the footsteps of baseball greats such as Jim "Catfish" Hunter, Lou Pinella, and Mel Stottlemyre.

Walker began by reinforcing the basic mechanics of fielding, from properly fielding a ground ball to turning a double-play. After performing several of the techniques himself, campers lined up to do the same under the watchful eye of Walker, who offered both praise and advice as they went. Still, for Walker this was more about play than actual work, and he seemed to be enjoying himself as the afternoon progressed.

"Coming up here and just getting out there, watching the kids play and enjoy their summer, is pretty important," Walker said in an interview. "You never know what kids are going through, and to leave a positive impact on [them] is something that sometimes gets lost in professional sports."

Jamie Sirkin, the director and owner of Summer Trails since 2003, praised Walker's attitude with the campers, calling him a "stand-up guy."

"He talked to the kids about how baseball is a game of endurance, and how you need to work hard to excel," Sirkin said. "[And] He talked about having fun. I always love when a professional athlete includes 'fun' in combination with perse-



verance and resilience."

After drills were finished, Walker sat down and signed autographs and took pictures with each camper (along with several counselors). One lucky birthday boy was even able to take a "selfie" with the baseball star, to the delight of his

peers.

A rained-out the game the night before forced a doubleheader against the Cardinals on Tuesday, so Walker had to leave camp earlier than scheduled. Still, after signing autographs and taking pictures for everybody he made sure to oversee

one last round of double-play training before leaving.

"It's not work for me," Walker said. "You come out here and see the whiffle ball field, the smaller dimensions, and it brings you back to childhood memories."

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 Daughter, Granddaughter  
 and to everybody  
 who knew her.  
 Lisa was taken  
 from us too soon.  
 We love you Lisa  
 and miss you.*

*P.S. Love you and miss you Lisa.  
 Love Gram*

*Lisa Head Doslop  
 12-26-80 to 07-31-15*

## Businesses of the Week

# The Dessertist Croton

By Neal Rentz

Croton resident Samantha Mittler had a specific reason for naming her new business The Dessertist.

"I've always been an artistic person," she said last week. "When I moved to New York I was strapped for space and I started to use my kitchen as my art studio and desserts became my medium."

"When I started doing more of this then I felt like I was a dessert artist," she said. "I just merged them together and became Dessertist."

Since January, The Dessertist, located on Maple Street in Croton, has served as a showcase for her various dessert creations. "Croton is such an amazing place where you have so many people who really appreciate artistic ability and the unique quality of product," she said. "Our ability to create the things we do is not like any bakery around here."

Mittler sells a variety of small bite desserts at her bakery and does extensive baking for carry out and catering orders.

Her dessert pizzas feature new toppings every day including caramel chocolate sweet cream and "The Munches," which includes a milk chocolate cream fudge, cookies and cream, house made caramel,



Croton resident Samantha Mittler opened The Dessertist in the village in January.

potato chips and pretzels.

Mittler's dessert tacos are chocolate chip cookie taco shells that hold such fillings as peanut butter, marshmallow, caramel, fudge, and creams. Her cake pops also come in a variety of flavors.

Mittler stressed that the small bite dessert selection changes daily.

The Dessertist features a flavor menu, consisting of over 100 flavors, which Mittler created and can be featured in nine types of desserts. "You can pick and choose what you want," Mittler said. "I can come up with a custom flavor just for you."

Catering is a major part of her business. Mittler can make anything from wedding and sheet cakes to assortments of a variety of her creations for groups from a few people to thousands of guests, Mittler said.

Though her forte is now dessert baking, Mittler has no formal training in the culinary arts. "Everything I learned was from my family," she said. But Mittler said she has honed her craft working "with a lot of incredible pastry chefs," adding she has taught at culinary schools.

Her professional life was originally devoted to business, working in finance on Wall Street, while baking on the side.

Even though she was not baking full-time, Mittler said her creations were becoming noted by people working in the culinary field. As a result, she became

involved with organizations, festivals and the Food Network, Mittler said. "I really started growing really fast which is why I was able to take that leap of faith last year and say 'All right, it's time to live my dream,'" she said.

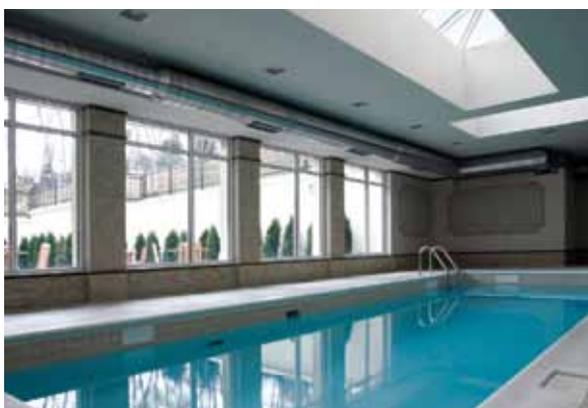
"That's the most satisfying part of this job is really just making people happy," Mittler said.

Mittler has baked for events put on by the Food Network. "It's exhausting but a lot of fun," she said. She is participating in the network's annual Food and Wine Festival, which is scheduled for August 13 through 16 in New York City.

Mittler said she enjoys working for the chefs featured on the Food Network. "They're fantastic. I've really been so lucky to be part of this group and to be recognized with this group where even still I look at them as such inspirational chefs," she said. "When it comes down to it, they're just real people."

Mittler's five-year-old daughter, Charley, also gets into the act at the bakery. "She has grown with this brand," Mittler said. Not yet six, Charley can bake a batch of cookies from scratch, Mittler said. "As a working mom I'm

*Continued on page 8*



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## Editorial

# Hudson Valley Exposition in Peekskill Should Not Be Missed

Kudos to the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, Executive Director Deb Milone, Peekskill Business Improvement District President Bill Powers, and everyone who has been working tirelessly to put together the Hudson Valley Exposition, a true community celebration taking place this Saturday from 1 to 9 p.m. at the Riverfront Green in Peekskill.

It was an event that was first held 70 years ago off Welcher Avenue where Key Food and McDonald's are located that Milone and the Chamber decided to bring back last year as part of the organization's 100th anniversary, and it turned out to be a great success with more than 5,000 people attending.

The Exposition is thankfully returning

for a second consecutive year and it looks to be bigger and better, something for everyone to learn and enjoy. (Be sure to check out the special 24-page pull-out section in this newspaper to read about all the details and activities planned.)

It's rare these days that a single event can bring together the past, present and future, but that's what the Hudson Valley

Exposition pulled off last year, and is aiming to duplicate again. With an assist from Mother Nature, plans are in place to make it another memorable day.

So don't miss out. Set aside Saturday to support local merchants on the shores of the Hudson River and take pride that you reside in a community rich in history and full of promise for tomorrow.

## Letters

# Inappropriate Behavior Demands An Apology in Yorktown

### To the Editor:

For the first time as a Yorktown Town Councilman, I was absolutely mortified by the inappropriate behavior of one of my fellow councilmen, Vishnu Patel, during an interview of a candidate for possible town employment; a matter clearly set for executive session pursuant to the NYS Open Meetings Law.

In order to ensure a candidate for employment is qualified for the duties for which he or she is being considered, it is necessary to interview the candidate and explore his/her skill set as it would pertain to actual town duties and projects in which the candidate would engage.

Remarkably and engaging in conduct unbecoming an elected official, during

this interview, Councilman Patel started yelling at members of the town board rambling on and claiming a violation of the open meetings law as the interview referenced the ability of the potential employee to apply his skills to actual town matters.

Mr. Patel eventually walked out in a huff, without the courtesy of an apology to the applicant. Mr. Patel stormed out of the board town room upon a reference to a town project brought up in the context of the potential employee's ability to bring his/her talents to the particular project.

Mr. Patel objected to the interview protocol as he mistakenly thought simple reference to a project to put into context the skills of the interviewee was a viola-

tion of the open meetings law, notwithstanding it was pertinent to the discussion of employment.

Mr. Patel refused to listen as other members of the board tried to explain the significance of the conversation to the potential job. He was yelling over members of the board and the town attorney, was very disruptive and unprofessional, was paranoid when spoken to and inexplicably wanted all of the people in the room, including the applicant, to surrender their phones.

After he finally settled down, he heard reference to yet another project pertinent to the employee's potential duties and then just walked out on the interviewee.

It appeared that the protestations of

Mr. Patel were merely pre-texts for undermining the interview process due to the confidentiality of executive session.

Proper applications of the Open Meetings Law prohibit me from identifying the applicant or offer any other details, but I was ashamed and embarrassed by this behavior of Mr. Patel.

I believe the inappropriate behavior of Mr. Patel demands an apology so I am offering one. This is not the way a healthy government is supposed to serve its citizens and definitely not behavior becoming a councilman. I would also implore Councilman Patel to apologize to this applicant as well.

**ED LACHTERMAN**  
Councilman

# Byrne Has Right Stuff to Serve in Assembly

### To the Editor:

Kevin Byrne is exactly the kind of person I want representing us in the State Assembly. He's running for Assembly to replace Steve Katz. I had a chance to speak with Kevin Byrne on several occasions. I helped interview him for the party's endorsement, I've seen him at numerous events, and he even came to my house going door to

door. He also showed up to our Circolo da Vinci event in Yorktown while he was on crutches! That was only two weeks after he was hit head-on in a violent car crash.

Kevin has shown real commitment, and I really liked what he had to say. In my opinion, he's just the right person to represent us in the Assembly.

Kevin knows just how our high tax-

es and clueless state government have forced so many people to leave our state and make it more difficult for the people who still live here to afford it.

Kevin also wants to use his experience as an EMT to combat the heroin crisis that cuts too many lives short. In addition, his experience on the Putnam Valley Planning Board will serve him well to help improve our quality of life

and create more opportunities in our towns.

I've been very impressed with Kevin Byrne and I would trust him as our next Assemblyman. Learn more about Kevin at his website [www.Byrne4NY.com](http://www.Byrne4NY.com)

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## The Dessertist Croton

*Continued from page 7*

really fortunate that I'm in a business that she can be a part in at such a young age and enjoy it," Mittler said.

Working with her daughter has influenced her to assist with children's events and charities, Mittler said. Mittler has been particularly interested in helping Cookies for Kids Cancer which she has been involved with for about three years.

"It's an amazing, amazing organization that became very close to my heart very quickly," she said. Mittler said she met personally with the founder of the

organization, Gretchen Witt, whose young son, Liam, died of cancer. All proceeds from donations, including funds collected from bake sales, go to fund pediatric cancer research. "One penny of every dollar" spent on cancer research goes for pediatric cancer studies, Mittler said. "Pediatric cancer is the number one killer among young children."

*The Dessertist is located at 50 Maple St. in Croton, next to the Wells Fargo bank branch. For more information, call 914-862-4016, send an e-mail to [info@thedessertist.com](mailto:info@thedessertist.com) or visit [thedessertist.com](http://thedessertist.com).*

# Obituaries

## Diana Modesitt

Diana Lea Modesitt, a resident of Yorktown, died July 27. She was 75. She formerly resided in Russellville, IN and Terre Haute, IN.

She worked as a teacher's aide with special needs children in Yorktown for 25 years. She previously enjoyed many years as a Team Mom with her kids' sports. She was born in Indianapolis, IN, to Embert and Louise Gardner. She was a 1959 graduate of Russellville High School



Diana Lea Modesitt

In 1962 she married Jon F. Modesitt at The Federated Church in Russellville, IN, Mrs. Modesitt will be remembered by her family and

friends for her compassion and kindness to those who entered and passed through her life

She was preceded in death by her two sons, Jeffrey and Eric. She is survived by her husband Jon Modesitt; daughter Michele Modesitt; granddaughter Nichole

Modesitt; brother Dan Gardner(Mary); brother-in-law Raymond Modesitt(Carol); sister-in-law Melinda Modesitt; and many nieces and nephews.

## Linda Groccia

Linda (Barry) Groccia, a resident of Yorktown, died peacefully July 26 after a courageous two-year battle with brain cancer, surrounded at home by her loving family and friends, smiling until the end. She was 53.



Linda Groccia

She was born October 25, 1962 in Peekskill, to Theresa "Lucy" and the late David M. Barry. She is survived by her devoted husband Joseph, loving children Kimberly,

Lauren, and Steven, her mother Lucy, and siblings; Loretta Rempe (David), Michael Barry, Kim Boenheim (John). She is also survived by her mother-in-law Carol Groccia, sisters-in-law; Patricia Ferreira (Robert) and Linda Lopresti (Philip), and many nieces, nephews, and godchildren.

Mrs. Groccia will always be remembered for her devotion to her family. She was the ultimate team mom. She was loved by everyone.

## Rose Marie Haight

Rose Marie Haight a former resident of Buchanan, died peacefully July 28, at the FASNY Firemen's Home in Hudson, New York after a courageous eight-year battle against Advanced Dementia (Alzheimers). She was 83.

She was born on Gallagher Street in Buchanan on December 11, 1932 to Roscoe Welsch and Mary E. (Donahue) Welsch. She was raised in Buchanan and Montrose, along with her late siblings Dorothy M. Welsch and William H. Welsch. She



Rose Marie Haight

graduated from Hendrick Hudson High School in 1950. She was married to Norman E. Haight on November 1, 1951 at the Reformed Church of Cortlandtown. Her

ex-husband Norman predeceased her in 2004.

Mrs. Haight worked at Singer Sewing Machine, Fleischmann's Distillery, Ruby's Infant to Teens, and Copy a Second, all in Peekskill. She also was a School Crossing Guard on South Street for the City of Peekskill, and a longtime employee of the Montrose V.A. Hospital, retiring in 2008. She was a longtime member of the Peekskill Fire Department's Centennial Hose Ladies Auxiliary and loved attending firemen's parades. She cherished the river and could be seen daily sitting at Verplanck's overlook. She enjoyed attending many local softball, volleyball, track and basketball games. She loved music, dancing, gardening, her community, and most of all, her family.

She is survived by her daughter Holly M. Haight of Verplanck and her son Norman E. Haight, Jr. of Peekskill, as well as many nieces and nephews. Holly and Norman wish to acknowledge the staff of FASNY Firemen's Home for providing such great care and love to their mom over the past several years.

## Joseph Rauschkolb

Joe Rauschkolb, formerly of Ossining, died July 28. He was 89.

*Continued page 15*

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scallop, broiled swordfish, soup or salad

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# Yorktown School District Launches New Website

The Yorktown Central School District has launched a redesigned website this month to further enhance its community-wide communication efforts. This new and improved site remains at [www.yorktown.org](http://www.yorktown.org), but has expanded news sections, photos and features that will make it easier to use and easier to view from any device.

The project was spearheaded by Amanda Burns, the district's Webmaster and Google expert, and uses industry cabest practices.

Superintendent Dr. Ralph Napolitano said he is very pleased with the fresh look of the Yorktown Schools page.

"I am thrilled. It will provide our parents and the community with more school news, events and important information in an improved design with easier navigation. I think everyone, those who are very computer savvy and those who are doing their best to stay current, will appreciate it for its beauty and accessibility," he said.

This marks the district's first major redesign since 2010. A mobile app will be ready later this summer.

Here are some features of note:

- The new design automatically formats

the site to a user's device whether a desktop computer, tablet or smartphone.

- Upcoming events are on a banner on the left side as is the frequently updated Google Calendar.

- Rotating slide show galleries to feature updated photos throughout the school year for each school.

- Each school can be quickly accessed

from the top of the page by clicking on "Select a School" so parents, students and staff can easily get to the correct page.

- Six headings on the district site offer selections of main areas -- Departments, Board of Education, Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, Community Links and For Staff.

- Important Links, such as Code of Conduct, YCSD Assessment and Child Nu-

tritional Programs are in the center of the homepage and easier to find.

- The District's Twitter feed and Facebook page are embedded on the left side. Also each school that has a Twitter account has their recent tweets fed to their school pages.

Feel free to browse the new website and send any feedback to [aburns@yorktown.org](mailto:aburns@yorktown.org) or [bnackman@yorktown.org](mailto:bnackman@yorktown.org).

## Westchester Ballet Center to Lunch with Seniors

Westchester Ballet Center for the Performing Arts, home of the Dance Theatre in Westchester, will be having lunch with the senior citizens of Yorktown at the Yorktown Cultural Community Center on August 3. It is with pleasure that Rose-Marie Menes, director of WBC and DTW, will present her junior students' special choreography workshop. The works have been choreographed by young children between the ages of 11 to 15, with special guests Isabella Bergamin, who attends the prestigious Point Park University Conservatory of Performing Arts as a dance major, and Miriam Rose, who attends the outstanding dance program at New York University, Tisch. Both Miriam and Isabella have trained with Rose-Marie Menes and her faculty from the age of 5 to age 18. On August 4, a complete program including Isabella and Miriam, plus guest dancers from New York City will perform at 7 p.m. at Yorktown Stage; it is open and free to the general public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Come and enjoy the performance!



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# Christian Cavaliere Claims 99th Met Junior Championship

An eagle and three consecutive birdies by Christian Cavaliere during a five-hole stretch of the championship match in the 99th Met Junior Championship sponsored by MetLife helped propel the Katonah native to the title at The Patterson Club on July 14. Cavaliere came out on top in every facet this week, earning medalist honors in the 36-hole stroke-play portion on July 12, then winning four matches to hoist the historic Mandeville Trophy.

Cavaliere faced an early two-hole deficit to his finals opponent Max Theodorakis of Danbury, Conn., after finding trouble on both the second and third holes. However, Cavaliere's momentum changed dramatically as he holed out for an eagle-2 from 92 yards on the fourth hole.

"I holed out on four, then that kind of jump started the rest of the round and I played well," explained Cavaliere.

After the pair halved the par-5 fifth, Cavaliere really found his swing, birdieing the next three holes. "I made a great shot on six to a foot, then had a two-putt birdie on seven, and I drained a nice 20-footer on eight," said Cavaliere, who will attend Boston College in the fall.

"In those stretches when I'm making putts, I just see the line and feel it in," Cavaliere remarked. In the span of five holes, Cavaliere was 5-under and turned a two-hole deficit into a two-hole advantage. After halves on Nos. 9 and 10, Theodorakis appeared to have an advantage on the dogleg-right, par-5 11th as Cavaliere's drive was pushed to the right. Theodorakis' approach came up just short of the putting surface, but Cavaliere found a hole in the tree line and sailed a long iron onto the back portion of the green. He two-putted from there for birdie while Theodorakis could not get up and down for par. A bogey halved the lengthy par-3 12th, then Cavaliere shut the door with strong par saves on Nos. 13 and 14, winning both holes for a 5&4 victory.

While Cavaliere may have faced a deficit to each of his match play opponents, the 18-year old never worried too much about whether his game could rally. "I've always tended to be a back nine player, so I wasn't too concerned," explained Cavaliere. "I knew my game was going to come around, so getting off to a little bit of a rough start is kind of normal for me. It would have been nice to not be trailing in every match, but I fought back."

Cavaliere is one of a group of top junior players coming out of Mahopac Golf and Beach Club, located in Mahopac. He grew up at MGBC and excelled at the game while honing his skills on the historic club's 6,523 yard 18 hole course located on the shores of Lake Mahopac. The course provided him with the ability to work on every shot in his bag to help prepare him for such a prestigious event and victory. The members of the club as well as the staff are proud of what he has



Christian Cavaliere takes a mighty swing.

accomplished so far and think he has a bright golf career ahead of him.

Mahopac Golf and Beach Club has become known for its top junior golfers. In July 2014, Luke Feehan of Mahopac won the 92nd Annual New York State Men's Amateur Golf Championship at Bellevue Country Club with a five-over par 289 four-round total to finish and force a tie breaker, winning in dramatic fashion. Again in 2015, Luke captured the Westchester Golf Association's Amateur Championship as well. The event was held at Rockrimmon Country Club in Stamford, Conn, where Feehan won with a score of 5 and 4 in the 36 hole match play final. The junior programming at Mahopac has helped develop some talented young golfers that have excelled in the regional spotlight.

The Met Junior is in its third year of a new format, as the area's top juniors played 36 holes of on-site qualifying and the top 16 seeds advanced to match play for the remainder of the event.

The Met Junior Championship Sponsored by MetLife is recognized as the nation's oldest junior championship, being founded in 1912, and has produced a quality list of champions, including Butch and Bill Harmon, Marc Turnesa, Andrew Svoboda, Mike Miller and Cameron Young.

The championship is open to juniors who have not started attending college, are not yet 19 by August 3 and who reside in the MGA territory. Players who advance to match play receive an invitation to the Carter Cup, the MGA's Junior Stroke Play event, which will be played at Winged Foot Golf Club on August 3.

About the Mahopac Golf and Beach Club:

pac, nestled on approximately 200 acres of rolling hillside just over the Westchester County border in beautiful Putnam County. The club serves as a lasting fixture in the Hudson River Valley promoting great golf with pristine conditions as well as private beach access to its members. The club began in 1893 when a short 6-hole course, designed by Thomas Bendelow, was built on the east shore of Lake Mahopac. Five years later, Mahopac Golf Club was formed. The course moved to the north shore of the Lake in 1900 as a 9-hole, 2,730 yard layout. In 1913 it was extended to a full 18-hole track designed by the famed Devereux Emmet, who is also credited with the design of Garden City Golf Club and Congressional Country Club. Today, the 6,523 yard course enjoys the distinction of offering a new challenge with every round where a premium is placed on golf course management and shot-making abilities. The course has earned the reputation for having some of the purest putting surfaces in the area. Well bunkered greens coupled with the varying hole designs require a range of shots inviting players to use every club in the bag throughout the 18 holes. The Mahopac Golf and Beach Club is proudly managed by KemperSports on behalf of its members.

Mahopac, NY- The Mahopac Golf and Beach Club was founded in 1898 and is one of the oldest golf and beach clubs within Metropolitan Area. The club is situated on the picturesque Lake Maho-

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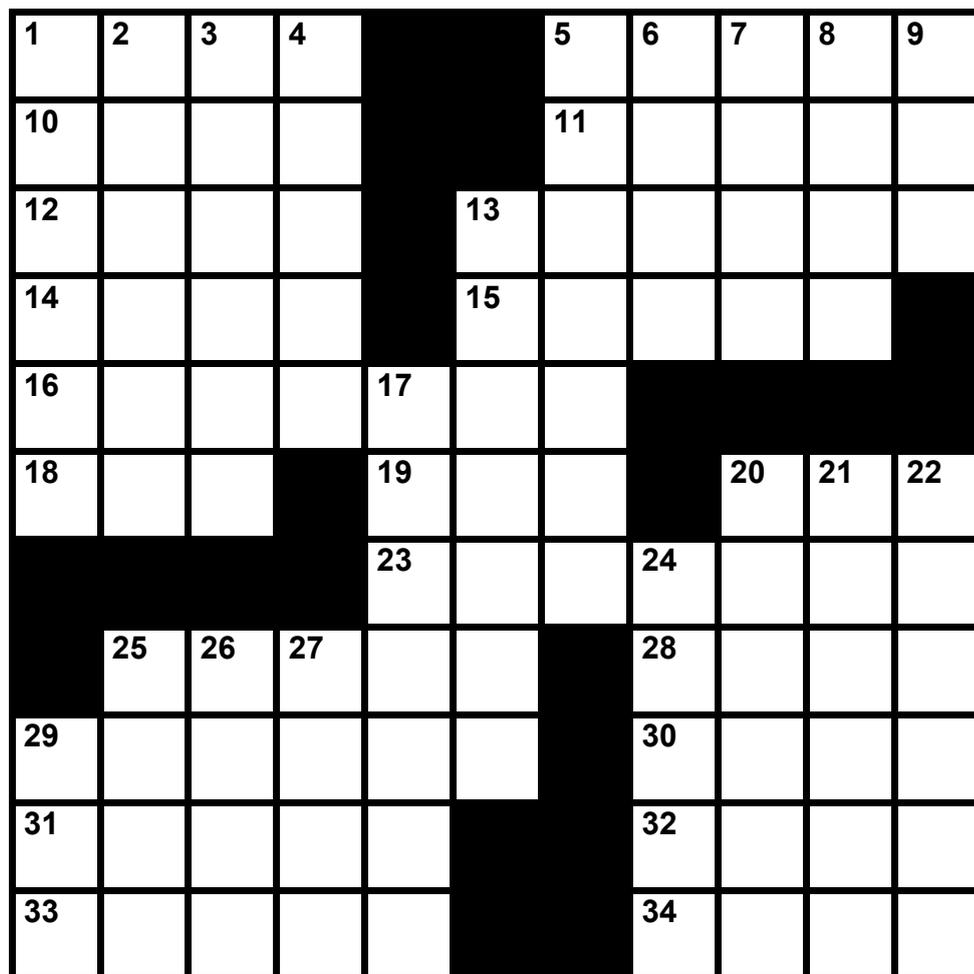
# Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Employee's package  
5 Politico Palin  
10 Tough test  
11 Phrasing  
12 Euro predecessor in Malta  
13 Judd, Olsen or Mahopac kitchen & bath  
14 Loads  
15 Eye issues  
16 Puget Sound capital  
18 Respectively  
19 "Gimme \_\_\_!" (start of an Iowa State cheer)  
20 Mauna \_\_\_  
23 Cursing  
25 Four-door car  
28 Bulldog's home  
29 Yorktown Asian cuisine  
30 Cut of beef  
31 Nice smell  
32 Aforetime  
33 More than one OK  
34 Welcome pieces

## DOWN

- 1 Slice of meat  
2 Baltimore athlete  
3 Joan of Arc became one  
4 Suffix for ecto-  
5 Bear the weight of  
6 Greyish  
7 Wheeze  
8 Long time  
9 Attention grabber  
13 Laughable  
17 Snooze-wear  
20 Gesture of thanks in New Zealand  
21 Enroll for service  
22 Operatives  
24 Plant tissue  
25 Address a King  
26 Amatory god  
27 Woman of rank  
29 Cow chow



Solution on page 20

## Old Superstitions About Houses Continue to Live on Today

In the early days of our nation, settlers brought to our shores many superstitions by which they lived their lives, many of which remain with us today. You don't put much stock in superstitions nowadays, you say? Well, when was the last time you didn't avoid passing under a ladder set up against the house to remove leaves from the gutter?

Today, many of those superstitions have become traditions and we don't think much about their origins. One of those lingering superstitions came to mind recently when I saw a porch ceiling painted a pale blue-green and wondered whether the owner originally hailed from the Deep South or if it was just a coincidence. Where I grew up in Virginia and further south in places like South Carolina, many porch ceilings are painted in what is known as "haint" blue, haint being another word for ghost.

In the founding days of our colonies, that color was thought to protect the homeowner from being "taken" by restless spirits of the dead who, for whatever reason, had not moved on from the physical world. It was thought that the ghostly spirits would think that the color was water and they would pass over it

rather than settle there. Use of the color became a tradition as it was passed from generation to generation.

There are other superstitions associated with the home beyond ladders and blue ceilings.



Earlier generations believed that when you move out of a house, the broom should be left behind because, along with the dust of the home, old brooms carried the negative aspects of your life. A new broom signified a fresh start.

Bread and salt were brought from the old house to a new one to keep evil spirits away.

According to a Jewish superstition, it's bad luck to place shoes on a dresser or table. In my mother's Italian tradition, the no-no was to place them on a bed. But wasn't that just a good housekeeping point?

Also, there persists a superstition to never open an umbrella inside. That seems to have originated in the belief that since umbrellas are used for protection from the sun, this would be an insult to the sun god.

There is a long-held belief that moving into a new home on a Friday, Saturday or rainy day is unlucky. According to Indian superstition, the luckiest moving day is

Thursday.

It is said that we should never pound nails after sunset or we'll wake the tree gods. Practically, won't we annoy the neighbors?

Mirrors have a multitude of superstitions attached to them. We always say to break one will result in seven years bad luck. The feng shui principle tells us that, placed at a doorway, a mirror will improve the flow of chi.

However, a mirror placed facing a bed is strictly taboo in that the spirit of your sleeping soul can enter into the mirror and you may be unable to return to your body when you wake. Scary stuff. I must confess I thought about that when placing a mirror in my bedroom, and I'm not normally superstitious.

During the first week that I owned a "new" 18th century home in Westchester, a descendent of the original owner, a woman in her early nineties, stopped by to introduce herself and fill me in on the house's history. She pointed to two large outcroppings of gnarled lilac bushes, one near the front door of the house and the other at the back door.

"They were planted by my father on my wedding day, 75 years ago," she said.

"Oh wow," I responded, "how great that will be in the spring with the aroma

of lilac wafting through the house?"

"It was not for the fragrance that he planted them," she said. "My father believed they brought good luck into the house and kept evil away."

I was stunned to hear her say that.

By the way, the superstition about the blue porch ceilings warding off ghosts does have a practical side to it in today's world. Some people swear that the blue paint also repels insects, theorizing that insects prefer not to nest on blue ceilings because they are "fooled" into thinking the blue paint is actually the sky.

A blue porch ceiling might be considered simply because of the way it makes the space look and feel. Blue is a calming color, so using it to paint an area of the house intended for relaxation makes sense. You can simply enjoy that rocking chair and not give a thought to avoiding any nasty spirits in the vicinity.

*Bill Primavera is a Realtor® associated with William Raveis Real Estate and Founder of Primavera Public Relations, Inc. (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.*

# 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.

## Tuesday, Aug. 2

**Mommy & Me:** The free Mommy & Me program is conducted every Tuesday, from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. at Lil' Sprouts Early Learning Center, a state-licensed daycare and nursery school for children 18 months and older. This non-sectarian and curriculum-based center is housed inside First Hebrew, just west of the Beach Shopping Center, at 1821 Main St., Peekskill. For more information, contact Director Dawn Gianatiempo at 914-739-0504.

**Somers Library Programs:** A series of programs are being held in August at the Somers Library. Coloring Club for Teens is being held every Monday through Aug. 22 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Relax, color, and socialize. Materials are provided, or you may bring your own. Registration is not required. This program is for teens entering sixth grade and up. An Anime Club is meeting every Tuesday through Aug. 23 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday, Aug. 19 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Join us for a chance to watch anime from Crunchyroll on our big screen TV. This program is for teens in seventh grade and up. Registration is not required. Magic the Gathering Club meets every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. and every Saturday through Aug. 27 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Bring your own cards or borrow a deck from the library. New members and beginners are always welcome. Info: 914-232-5717 or somerslibrary.org.

**Checkmate:** A chess program is held every Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave. It is held in the second floor conference room. Info: 914-941-2416 Ext. 336.

**Healthy Happy Hour:** Healthy Happy Hours are held on Tuesday nights in Mahopac and another location may be added. Take a 10-day vacation from processed foods. Are sugary, fatty, easy-to-prepare, addictive junk foods making you feel sick and tired? Then reset your metabolism and break your addictions to unhealthy foods. For more information, contact Diane at 914-843-8745.

**Hygeia Programs:** Two ongoing programs are being held on Tuesdays at Hygeia Integrated Health LLC, 3505 Hill Blvd., Suite K, Yorktown. Community Acupuncture is being held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$30. Come experience the beneficial effects of acupuncture in a group setting. Register: hyinhealth@gmail.com On the last Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Eating Disorder Support Group, led by LCSW and clinical nutritionist will be held. Discuss and resolve issues around relationships with food. Info/register: hyinhealth@gmail.com or www.hyin-

health.com.

## Wednesday, Aug. 3

**Seniors' Fitness Classes:** Free fitness classes are being offered to seniors who reside in Peekskill. The schedule is: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday – The WorkOut – 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday – Fall Prevention Class – 10 to 11 a.m. Friday – Zumba Gold – 11 a.m. to noon. Call Terri Dean at 914-734-4250 Ext.1 for more information. Classes are conducted at 4 Nelson Ave., downstairs from the library.

**POUND Program:** POUND™ Fitness Program, a 45-minute full-body cardio and stress relief jam session, fusing Pilates, cardio, plyometrics isometric movements and poses, is offered at Theatre and Dance Arts 131 Bedford Rd. Katonah. Drop in or weekly discount rates available. The program is being provided on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays at 11:45 a.m. Call Peggy for more information at 914 960-4097.

**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 of www.firsthebrew.org.

**Torah Studies:** Chabad of Yorktown, 2629 Old Yorktown Rd. is proud to announce season two (15 classes) of the Torah Studies course. The program brings you 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 full season fee of \$36 includes the textbook. Each class is independent. For more information, to view the topics of the classes, or to register visit: www.ChabadYorktown.com, or call 914-962-1111.

## Thursday, Aug. 4

**Stay Fit:** Stay Fit and Strong, a program presented by Mainstream and the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services, will be held on 14 Thursdays through Aug. 25 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Peekskill Senior Center, 4 Nelson Ave. No classes will be held on July 14, 21 and 28. The program will include exercises to improve balance, agility, cardiovascular endurance,

flexibility and strength. The free class is open to Peekskill seniors. Call the Center at 914-737-3400 for more information.

**Cancer Support Group:** A Breast and Ovarian Cancer Support Group meets on the first Thursday of the month, at 10 a.m. in the Yorktown offices of Support Connection. 40 Triangle Center, Suite100, Yorktown. Advance registration is required for all groups; call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290. For a complete calendar of groups at all locations, visit www.supportconnection.org

**Campus Ant Semitism:** College students, parents and grandparents can learn how to respond to the BDS boycott Israel propaganda which has been spreading across college campuses from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at First Hebrew Congregation, 1821 Main St., Peekskill, just west of the Beach Shopping Center. RSVP to president@firsthebrew.org or call 914-739-0500 or visit www.firsthebrew.org.

## Friday, Aug. 5

**Coloring For Adults:** It's not just for kids, and it's the latest craze. Join our adult coloring book club at the Somers Library Meetings will be held in the conference room every Friday from 10:30 am to noon. Relax, color, and socialize for free. Materials are provided or you may bring your own color pencils and coloring books. Registration is not required. Info: 914 232 5717.

**Job Hunting Help:** Free drop-in, hands-on assistance with online applications, resume writing, e-mail accounts and more is held on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the second floor conference room at the Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Ave. Assistance is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. This is not a computer class. Info: Cheryl at 941-2416 Ext. 315.

**Aqua Aerobics Class:** An Aqua Aerobics Class is being held every Friday through Aug. 26; weather permitting, at 10:15 a.m. at Depew Park in Peekskill. The program is free for Peekskill seniors. Bring a towel, sun screen and a bottle of water. To reserve a spot call 914-734-4250 Ext. 5.

**Jewish Center Services:** At the Yorktown Jewish Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. Friday night Sabbath services in the spring and summer will begin at 8 p.m. and Sabbath services on Saturdays will be held at 9:15 a.m. on most Saturdays, after the services Rabbi Sternstein conducts a learning session based on the Torah portion of the week. Light refreshments are served and everyone is invited to join us as we share in the warmth, knowledge and friendship within our congregation. Info: 914-245-2324 or yorktownjewish-

center.org.

**Paramount Hudson Valley Events:** Two performances have been scheduled for this weekend at Paramount Hudson Valley, 1008 Brown St., Peekskill. Dead on Live will perform on Aug. 5 at 8 p.m. Dead On Live celebrates the life and music of the Grateful Dead's spiritual leader Jerry Garcia, by presenting an evening of music that digs deep into to his incredible, stylistically-diverse career. WAR will perform on Aug. 6 at 8 p.m. WAR was the first and most successful musical crossover phenomenon that forever fused rock, jazz, Latin, and R&B. Info: 914-739-0039 Ext. 2 or boxoffice@paramounthudsonvalley.com.

**Relaxed Shabbat Summer Services:** Summer is a time for us to relax and kick back a little. Temple life can be the same. Every Friday evening over the summer, Temple Beth Am will create a relaxed atmosphere that is engaging and enjoyable. Our Friday services are designed to take in the ambiance of the season, creating a welcoming space for people to pray and mingle. All are welcome to our friendly sacred space. Temple Beth Am is located at 203 Church Pl., Yorktown. For information, please call our Rabbi at 914-962-7500 or e-mail him at rabbiw@optonline.net.

## Saturday, Aug. 6

**Shabbat Morning Services:** Chabad of Yorktown, 2926 Old Yorktown Rd., holds services on Saturday mornings. They are easy-to-follow services with Hebrew/English prayer books, a friendly environment and no affiliation is necessary. Kiddush luncheon follows the services. Services begin at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.ChabadYorktown.com or call 914-962-1111.

**Ossining Farmers Market:** The Ossining Down to Earth Farmers Market is being held outdoors every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the corner of Spring and Main Streets. Customers old and new will find delicious produce, pasture-raised meat, poultry, and eggs, breads, baked goods, and much more. For a full list of our markets and vendors, visit DowntoEarthMarkets.com.

**Antique Appraisal Day:** An Antique Appraisal Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 331 Route 100, Somers. The program, which will benefit the church, will be presented by Astor Galleries. Stephen Cardile, long-time appraiser and founder of Astor Galleries, will be bringing a team of recognized expert appraisers including Mara Dean (fine art appraiser),

Continued on page 15



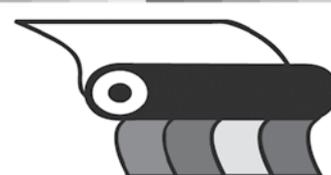
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# Happenings

Continued from page 13

and Alex Salazar (fine art consultant) to Somers for the first time. The experts will appraise all types of Antiques, Collectibles and Vintage Items. No appointments are made or necessary. Items will be appraised for just \$10 each (or \$25 for three items). By popular request, gold, silver, jewelry, flatware, and coins will be purchased. Astor Galleries may even offer to purchase on the spot certain antiques and collectibles. For more information, send an e-mail to [stephen@astorgalleries.com](mailto:stephen@astorgalleries.com) or call 800-784-7876.

**Yoga Program:** Support Connection announces a free weekly program Yoga: A Path toward Wellness will be held every Saturday in August from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Club Fit in Jefferson Valley. The program is open to people living with breast, ovarian and gynecological cancers. To learn more or to pre-register, which is required, call Support Connection at 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

**Visual Discussion:** Kahlil Koromantee: Engaging Hard to Reach Youth, A Visual Discussion is being presented through Aug. 6 at the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill. Engaging Hard to Reach Youth is a program and art

show based on Koromantee's books addressed to young people ("Message To a Youngblood," "Before You Fly Off" and "I'm Not Gay, I Just Mess With Guys Sometimes") as well as his experiences working with marginalized youth, including those who are incarcerated (or recently discharged), aging out of foster care, or placed in intervention programs -- and seeking out-of-the-box answers to out-of-the-box questions. Info: 914-737-1212.

## Sunday, Aug. 7

**Floral Walking Tour:** A walking tour with a horticulturist to discover perennials that provide colorful interest with minimal care will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. at Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, Route 35 in Somers. Info: 914-864-7268.

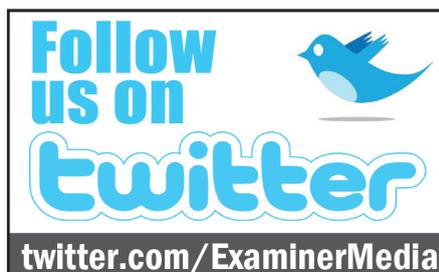
**Healing Yoga:** Yoga classes for women with breast cancer are held at 5 p.m. on Sundays at Hudson Yoga, 5 Old Post Rd. South, Croton-on-Hudson. Weekly classes are being conducted by rotating instructors. The suggestion is \$15. Info: Elisha Simpson at 914-319-4010.

**Bingo:** Bingo will be played tonight and on Aug. 28 at the Yorktown Jewish

Center, 2966 Crompond Rd. The doors will open at 5 p.m. and play begins at 6:30 p.m. There will be \$3,000 in prizes awarded during each Sunday session. Food will be available. Info: 914-245-2324 or [yorktownjewishcenter.org](http://yorktownjewishcenter.org).

## Monday, Aug. 8

**Vacation Bible Camp:** Kids will explore what it means to follow Jesus through dark times, participate in Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and dig into yummy treats and experience one of a kind Bible adventures during a vacation Bible camp that will be held at the Bedford Community Church, 160 Bedford Center Rd, Bedford Hills from Aug. 8 through 12th from 9 a.m. to noon. The free camp is intended for children entering first grade through the fifth grade. Register online at <http://bedfordcommunitychurch.org/ministries/cave-quest>. For more information, call Erin Bovee at 914-205-7664 or send an e-mail to [erin@bedfordcommunitychurch.org](mailto:erin@bedfordcommunitychurch.org).



## Obituaries

Continued from page 9

He was born January 10, 1927 in NYC to Ralph and Julia (Schmidt) Rauschkolb. He served in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged as a 1st Lieutenant. He received his Master's degree from NYU and worked for the Ossining School System, retiring as assistant principal at Ossining High School. Mr. Rauschkolb was a former Captain of OVAC, a former Captain of Independent Hose Co., and a former Battalion Chief with the Murrells Inlet Garden City SC Fire Department. He was an avid NY Giants and NY Mets fan.

He was predeceased by his son Scott and wife Vivienne. He is survived by his son Steven and wife Toni Ann of Chester, NJ, daughter Kim and husband Jim Flaherty of Newburgh, NY, grandchildren Julie Rauschkolb, Justin Rauschkolb and wife Barbara, Melissa Flaherty, and Jake Flaherty and five great-grandchildren; Leah, Emily, Charlotte, Benjamin, and Cooper.

## Death Notice:

John J. Hoffman, 76, of Jersey Shore, PA, died on Saturday, July 16. Born August 1, 1939 and a graduate of Hendrick Hudson High School in Montrose. Surviving is his wife of 58 years, Patti Hughes Hoffman, and three children.

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF AMY BALTER, THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/04/2016. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **2 Woodland Dr., Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LG CREATIVE ENTERPRISE, LLC. ARTS OF ORG** filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/25/2016. Office loc: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail process to the principal business address: **208 Harris Rd. Apt CA 1, Bedford Hills, NY 10507. Purpose: any lawful acts.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF: RUNWAY PRESTIGE, LLC. ART OF ORG.** filed with SSNY on 4/07/16. Office in Westchester County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **285 Rich Avenue, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF SANDANO TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on June 30, 2016. Office in Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: **Stefano Sandano 59 Kensington Road Apt 1A Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF JENN MANN INTERIORS, LLC. ARTS. Of Org.** filed with SSNY on 7/07/16. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to **Jennifer Mann, 11 Oneida Street Rye, New York 10580. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

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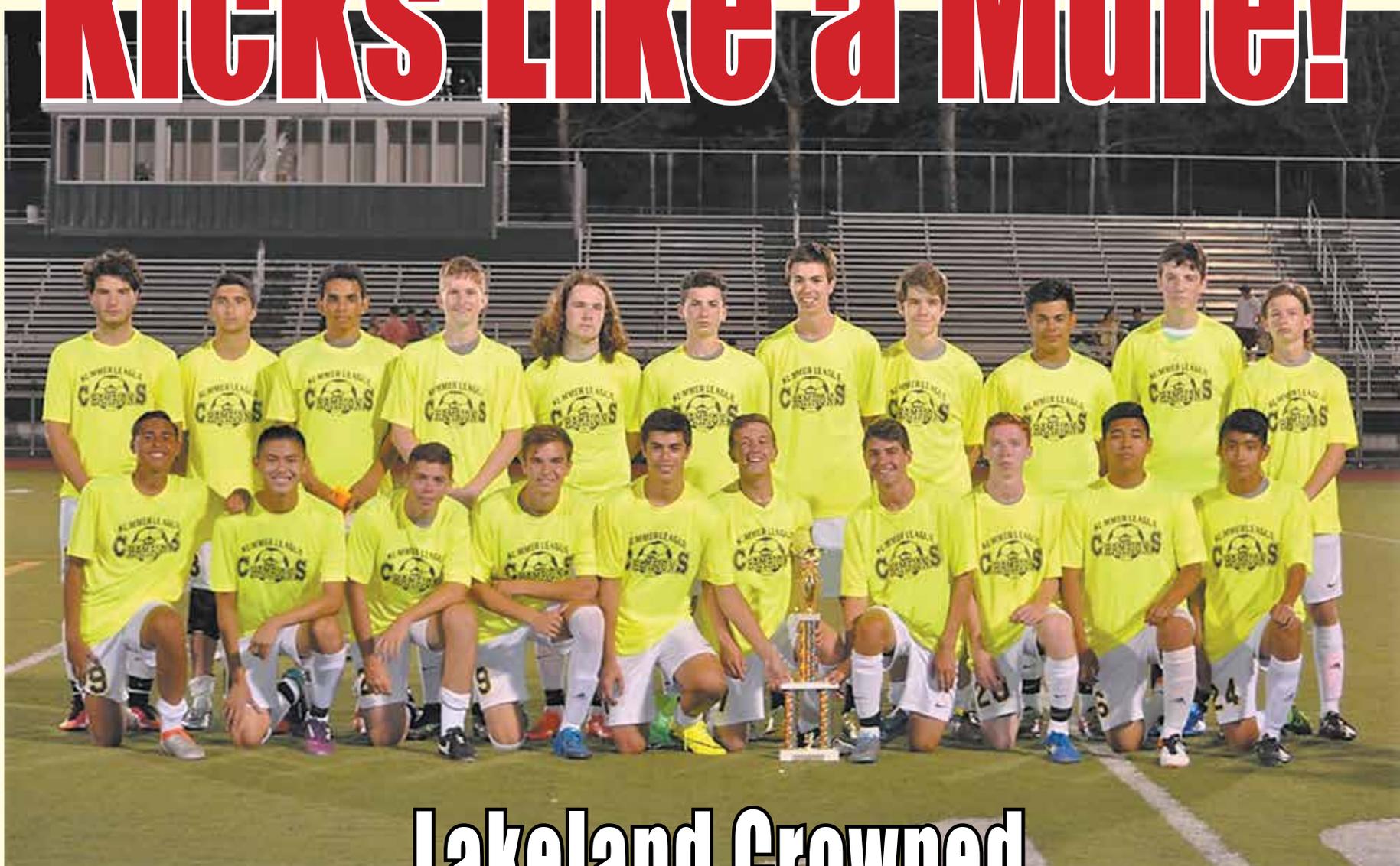
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August 2- August 8, 2016

SMALL NEWS IS BIG NEWS

SPORTS SECTION

# Kicks Like a Mule!



## Lakeland Crowned Summer League Soccer Champs

For a program that was down and out after last year's failed Class A playoff run and an off-field accident that didn't help matters, the Lakeland High soccer program wiped the slate clean and began its 2016 Section 1 championship quest by claiming the 9th annual Lakeland Summer League title last Wednesday at the Hive. Coach Tim Hourahan's Hornets (7-2-1 in summer action) pronounced themselves as legit Class A title contenders this fall when they tied Rye 1-1 in regulation, before prevailing on penalty kicks, 6-5. The unit is expected to pick up where they left off this September when (Top row from left to right) Arben Hoxhaj, Dhruv Girgenti, Nayer Guirgus, Chris McGovern, Kevin Allan, Luke Rapaport, Drew Thompson, Tommy Cuomo, Gerardo Hernandez, Ryan Mathis, Ryan Casey; (Bottom row left to right) Gabe Nieves, Julian Dimaranan, Matt Majdanski, Matias Prando (capt.), Nick Estrella, Jordan Fein (capt.), Nick Foci (capt.), Brandon Vellozzi, Andres Lopez and Matt Maja seek Lakeland's fifth Section 1 championship as the host school for the Section 1 championships in November of 2016. "This group has the makings of a championship contender, and we can't wait for the 'Drive for Five'," Coach Hourahan said of a potential fifth sectional title for the Hornets.

# Brewster's Guida: Excellence, On and Off the Field

By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports Editor  
@Directrays

The initial would-be tacklers were shed as quickly as they approached, and Brewster senior RB Jack Guida had now set his eyes on the second tier of John Jay defenders quickly approaching his 6', 180-pound frame. A juke here, a stutter-step there and Guida had alluded as many as five defenders in what seemed like the blink of an eye en route to a four-touchdown, 156-yard effort in a 52-51 double overtime win over the Indians last fall. While that Week 4 undertaking might have been the highlight-reel performance of a standout junior campaign, Jack Guida was just getting started.

With 4.56 speed in the 40 and significant, tackle-shedding strength, oftentimes the only thing standing between Guida and paydirt are a couple of wiry defensive backs who lack the muscle to bring the Brewster captain down. As the DBs hang on for dear life, the only hope is to slow him down enough so that a weak-side backer can angle him down for a minimal gain, which, last season, was generally in the 7-to-10-yard range with occasional bursts of 80 and 90 yards.

Guida averaged nearly seven yards per carry last season as Brewster's featured back while rushing for 15 touchdowns (and totaling 18 TDs for the year), leaving opposing defenders with a pretty good look at the back of No.44's jersey during the Bears' respectable 6-3 season; a year that ended in quarterfinal playoff defeat



Brewster senior Jack Guida reeled off 18 touchdowns last season and had good reason to celebrate as he and the Bears posted a 6-3 season, which they hope to build on in 2016 with Guida under center.

at the hands of Class A Yorktown. Except a visible rise in those numbers this fall, despite the fact the Bears have lost some key players on both sides of the ball, including All-Section QB Matt Catalano, who will be replaced under center this season by – you guessed it – Jack Guida.

"Personally, I've been focusing on lifting, my footwork and agility and my

speed," said Guida, who played QB on the junior varsity a few years back and has been to prospect camps up and down the east coast this off-season in the hopes of fine tuning his signal-calling skills. "I've got some really big shoes to fill. We have a really good group of guys with great chemistry coming off a strong season from last year. I've been going to a bunch of different prospect camps. We're going to have a great offensive and defensive line, which will allow our backs to do some awesome things this year. We've been working out together as a team and really have been coming together. Our goal is to build on what we did last year, and I know we're going to surprise some people this year."

Guida, a two-way workhorse who rarely gets a play off, is as driven in the classroom as he is on the field, which is why he drawing interest from several Ivy League schools, including Dartmouth, Princeton and Harvard and such highbrow institutions such as Fordham, Colgate, William & Mary and Villanova, where he spent last Sunday. Guida, who carries an A-average in the classroom, including five Advanced Placement courses in the past and three more this year, hopes to major in engineering at one of the above, but Dartmouth left a lasting impression.

"I really liked Dartmouth," said Guida, who studied Physics and World History his sophomore year and Macroeconomics, Stats and Calculus as a junior with Microeconomics, Calculus BC and Physics C on the docket this year. "It gets difficult

and stressful but it is definitely worth all the hard work and effort."

A class load like that would be enough to make most student athletes cave in, but Brewster football Coach Ed Mulvihill says Guida is anything but your typical student athlete.

"He's one of our best," Mulvihill said. "As a player I would describe Jack as explosive. He has top speed and accelerates out of cuts very quickly. On top of all of this he is an outstanding student and person. Jack has a great work ethic. He's the type of kid that goes top speed all the time. He doesn't take plays off. His teammates see this and then they work harder."

Opposing coaches like Hen Hud's Mike Lynch, have to work harder, too, and they know going in: Don't let Guida beat you. They caution their players and run scout teams built around his containment, but Guida's grind often wins out.

"He's an exceptional athlete," Lynch said. "Guida has the unique combination of both speed and power, and he has great hands out of the backfield. He can beat a defense in a number of ways and will certainly be the focal point of every defense he goes against this season. Every defensive coordinator in Section 1 will be scheming ways try and contain him. I wouldn't be surprised if you saw Jack taking some snaps at QB in the gun either this season. A talented athlete like that you want touching the ball as much as possible."

That's Football 101: Guida passed that class back in third grade.

## Mahopac 10-U Team Visits Hershey Park



The Mahopac 10-U team of Casey Brandstetter, Joe Luczkowski, Robert Dusovic, Tyler Castrataro, JT Ferguson, John Kearney, Kevin Dwyer, Steven Geraghty, Nevin Nystrom, Liam Scanlon, Joe Bally, Quentin Bally and coaches Dan Brandstetter, Jim Castrataro and Reid Nystrom enjoy a break from their grueling Greater Hudson Valley Baseball League schedule during an action-packed week of baseball and fun at Hershey Park in PA. The team locked up playoff berth in the GHVBL and was finally eliminated by top-seeded Bedford Hills in the semifinals.

## Sports

# You Can Come Home: Dini to Return to Putnam Valley

## Record-Setting All-NYS Guard Expected to Coach Lady Tigers' Hoops; More Grid-Bits



By Ray Gallagher  
Examiner Sports  
Editor

The age-old adage says, "You Can't Come Home Again", but Putnam Valley's Kristi Dini isn't big on proverbs. More to the point, Dini, a basketball coach and hoops junkie by trade, has ventured off the beaten path but never really left "The Valley". Last week it was informally announced

that Dini, who was unceremoniously dismissed as head coach of the Somers girls' basketball team last spring, will take over the reins of the Putnam Valley girls' program where she became the school's first 1,000-point scorer. She later garnered All-NYS honors back in 2005 before heading off to Boston University where she set the career, single season and America East conference record for 3-pointers made.

Dini, a two-time Section 1 League I-D Coach of the Year, guided Somers to their most successful campaign in program history last season after finishing 19-3, but there were some in Tuskerland - high-ranking administrators, mostly -- who couldn't cope with her style, which is more "throwback" than "coddler". She was blindsided by her dismissal at Somers (where she went 53-26 with

two league titles in 4 years), and Putnam Valley A.D. Brian Burrow saw this as an opportunity to pounce.

After Dini's brief dalliance with Peekskill back in June, Burrow and Dini connected and the end result looks like a one-year deal will be struck (pending PV School Board approval) and Dini will guide the Tigers this fall, inheriting a team that made the Section 1 Class B Final 4 last March for the first time in nearly a decade.

"I'm beyond excited to return to P.V.," said Dini, President and Founder of the New York Extreme Hoops AAU program. "This is where it all started for me. This is where my love for the game was cultivated; in camps with Mr. (Gerry) Carlin and with

athletic directors like Mr. (Bill) Conroy and coaches like Kelly Thompson. They taught me so much and now it's my turn to do the same for the youth of Putnam Valley. I can't wait to get started."

Dini knows that the shelf life for girls' basketball coaches at PV High is shaky at best, what with Linda Winchell, Kelly Thompson, Ed Wallach, Aldo Redendo and Nick Lenhard all coming and going for a variety of reasons over the past decade. Unfortunately, the only constant within the program has been change. The disastrous effects were evident for several years prior to the U-turn in 2015.

There hasn't been much continuity to speak of but the no-nonsense Dini views this as a fresh start after a raw deal at Somers. There's no reason why she can't develop some continuity and stick around for a few years as long as Dini keeps an even keel and understands that Putnam

the Sailors were on anyone's pre-season radar, but if some unsuspecting coach were to leave them off his locator this fall he might pay dearly for having done so.

Sailor WR Marquan Anderson will be a tough contain for any secondary, and will serve as QB Nick Cunningham's top option. Sailors Coach Mike Lynch, an up-and-coming spread-oriented mentor, expects big things from the dynamic duo, who scratched the surface last season when the

Sailors went 4-5.

"Nick and Marquan have developed a nice relationship from last season and into the summer," Coach Lynch said. "Nick feels and trusts Marquan where he knows he can put it up and Marquan will go get it.

Sailor TE/LB/DE Mike Fasolino is a

which fully expects to be 2-0 as the Sailors enter Week 3 against visiting Brewster in what should be a pretty good test for two Examiner-area locals who are banking on playoff success this season.

"We are excited about the mix of young and old talent we have coming back," Lynch said. "Our staff has already issued a challenge to our seniors to lead by example and push the younger players to play up to our expectations. We have talented playmakers and depth at our skill positions but as always we can only go as far as our big guys up front can lead us."

If these seniors can provide tangible measures of action, Hen Hud's time as a legit Class A contender could well be upon us...

MAHOPAC native and Stepinac FB/LB Antonio Giannico is about to break the bank this fall for the CHSFL state champion

## Direct Rays



Though her final game at Somers was a crushing quarterfinal setback at the hands of Pearl River, newly-minted Putnam Valley Coach Kristi Dini will give it everything she has as coach of the Lady Tigers for the 2016-17 season.

Valley girls cannot concentrate on only one sport; PV is too small to specialize in basketball, and attempting to force that issue is political suicide by alienation.

Putnam Valley, a small Class B school, needs to spread the wealth, and it student athletes are often multi-sport competitors. Imposing specialization would be detrimental to all parties, but giving Dini, who has high-level coaching aspirations, first crack at replacing Lenhard is a no-brainer...

**GRID-BITS, HEN HUD STYLE-**After a bowl win over Somers last season, I would suspect that few teams in Class A will be as improved as Hendrick Hudson will be this fall. It's been a few years since



RAY GALLAGHER PHOTOS

10th-grader who has drawn high praise, having been compared by some with former All-Section FB/LB Mike Pritts, an all-time Sailor great.

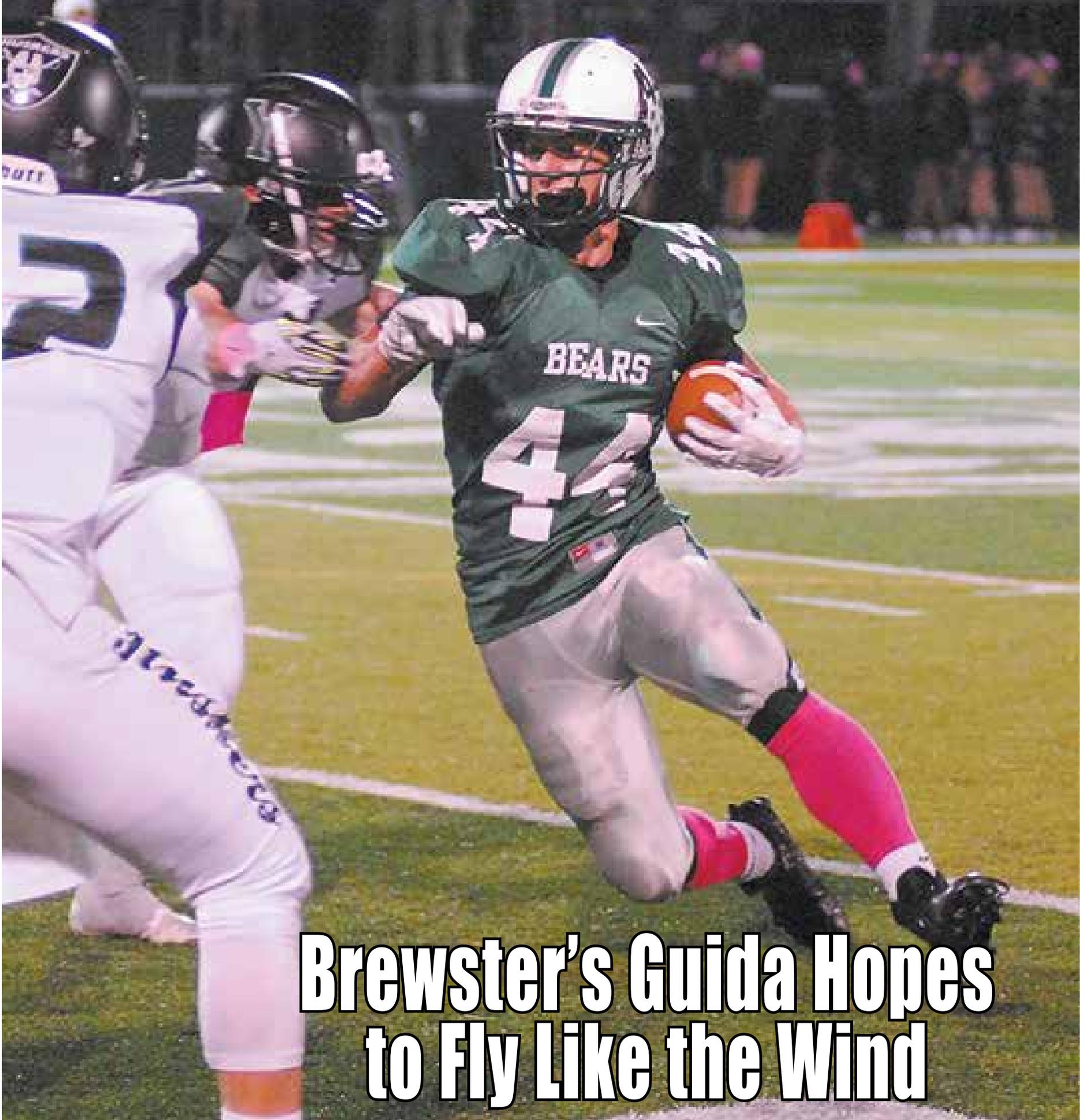
"If Mike continues to work hard and remain committed to the process, he has the potential to be one of the best football players that has ever walked through the doors of Hen Hud," Lynch said.

We've been hearing a lot about these incoming sophs, including strong-armed QB/DB Manny Carbone and RB/LB Jordan Grullon, and these rugged freshmen as they head up the pike and appear ready for the rigors of varsity ball. So, when you're ranking your top 10 Class A teams this summer, don't overlook Hen Hud,

Crusaders. A powerful, hurdling, beast of a runner, Giannico will make Mahopacians drool with envy this fall over what could have been had the 5'11", 200-pound senior played football for the Indians. As a featured back for the Crusaders this season, this kid is about to go viral on us provided he stays healthy #GodWilling.

**HEY SPORTS FANS, I'll be off to the beach next week so please send any and all sports submissions to David Propper (dgpropper915@gmail.com) and Rick Pezzullo (pezdynamicduo@optonline.net) as the human form of Shamu washes up on LBI for a week of fun in the sun.**

# Catch Me if You Can!



## Brewster's Guida Hopes to Fly Like the Wind

RAY GALLAGHER PHOTO

Brewster senior Jack Guida, an All-Section RB in 2015, will likely take over under center this fall for the playoff-hopeful Bears, who saw Guida score 18 TDs last season and expect more of the same from this exceptional student athlete... see Grid Profile in Sports